**Preliminary program of the 9th annual conference of the New Visby Network on Hepatitis C, March 31-April 4, 2012, St Petersburg, Russia**


**OPEN SESSIONS** start April 2, 2012 at 9.00 in the Institute of Cytology, address: Tikhoretsky prospect 4, St Petersburg, Russia; [http://www.cytspb.rssi.ru/](http://www.cytspb.rssi.ru/)

**SESSION I: HCV pathology, immunopathology, treatment**

**Part 1: HCV pathology, immunopathology**

PATHOGENESIS OF HCV AND HCV/HIV CO-INFECTION Elena Tsyganova (Moscow State University of Dentistry and Medicine, and Moscow Regional AIDS Center, Moscow, Russia)  
[TsyganovaElena@yandex.ru](mailto:TsyganovaElena@yandex.ru)

VIRAL HEPATITIS C AND PREGNANCY Maria Belopolskaya (Polyclinical Department, Botkin Infectious Diseases Hospital, St Petersburg, Russia).  
[belopolskaya.maria@yahoo.com](mailto:belopolskaya.maria@yahoo.com)

IMMUNE STATUS AND SPECIFIC CELLULAR IMMUNE RESPONSE IN CHRONIC HEPATITIS EVALUATED BY MULTIPARAMETRIC FACS Eugeniya Shmeleva (Moscow State University of Dentistry and Medicine, Moscow, Russia)  
[sh-mel@rambler.ru](mailto:sh-mel@rambler.ru)

REMISSION OF PULMONARY AND HEPATIC SARCOIDOSIS AFTER TREATMENT OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS C WITH PEGYLATED INTERFERON AND RIBAVIRIN: A CASE REPORT Vadim Brjalin (West Tallinn Central Hospital, Tallinn, Estonia).  
[vbrjalin@gmail.com](mailto:vbrjalin@gmail.com)

**Part 2: Treatment of HCV infection**

NEW DRUGS FOR HCV TREATMENT: SHORT OVERVIEW Tatjana Tallo (National Institute for Health Development, Tallinn, Estonia)  
[tatjana.tallo@tai.ee](mailto:tatjana.tallo@tai.ee)

CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL FEATURES OF THE NATURAL RECOMBINANT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS RF1_2k/1b Olga Kalinina (Pasteur Institute, St Petersburg, Russia)  
[olgakalinina@mail.ru](mailto:olgakalinina@mail.ru)

STRUCTURAL POLYMORPHISM WITHIN ENTIRE HCV NSSA REGION AS A POSSIBLE PREDICTOR OF TREATMENT RESPONSE IN ESTONIAN CHRONIC HCV 1B PATIENTS Tatjana Kuznetzova (National Institute for Health Development, Tallinn, Estonia).

STUDY OF DYNAMIC CHANGES IN QUASYSPECIES POPULATION OF HCV DURING ANTI-VIRAL TREATMENT Juris Jansons (Biomedical Research and Study Center, Riga, Latvia)  
[jansons@biomed.lu.lv](mailto:jansons@biomed.lu.lv)
SESSION II: HCV immunology and vaccine development

Part 1: Human vaccines

VACCINE CONCEPTS OF GENETIC VACCINES FOR CHRONIC VIRAL DISEASES Britta Wahren (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden) britta.wahren@ki.se (Opening lecture, 40 min)

DNA VACCINATION AGAINST HCV: FACING THE CHALLENGE OF CLINICAL TRIALS Liz Alvarez-Lajonchere (Center of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Habana, Cuba) liz.lajonchere@cigb.edu.cu

HIGH CURE RATE IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC HCV GT1 INFECTION RECEIVING SOC THERAPY AFTER PARTICIPATION IN A CLINICAL TRIAL OF THERAPEUTIC DNA VACCINATION Lars Frelin (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden) lars.frelin@ki.se

THE PILOT PRODUCTION AND QUALITY CONTROL OF HIV DNA VACCINE FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF CLINICAL TRIAL Dobrynin PV (State Research Center of Ultrapure Biopreparations and Biomedical Center, St Petersburg, Russia) contact@biomed.spb.ru

IMMUNOLOGICAL CORRELATES OF PHASE I TRIAL OF A PROPHYLACTIC HIV-1 DNA GAG-POL-ENV-NEF VACCINE IN ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA Akulova E (State Research Center of Ultrapure Biopreparations and Biomedical Center, St Petersburg, Russia) contact@biomed.spb.ru

Part II: Vaccine candidates and prototypes

A SYNTHETIC CODON-OPTIMIZED HCV NON-STRUCTURAL 5A DNA VACCINE PRIMES POLYFUNCTIONAL CD8+ T CELL RESPONSES IN WILDTYPE AND NSSA-TRANSGENIC MICE Fredrik Holmström (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden) Fredrik.Holmstrom@ki.se

INDIVIDUALIZED ANTI-HCV/HBV VACCINE PROTOTYPE Irina Sominskaya (Biomedical Research and Study Center, Riga, Latvia) Irina@biomed.lu.lv

DNA-IMMUNOGEN BASED ON A CONSENSUS INTEGRASE OF HIV-1 SUBTYPE A Olga Krotova (WA Engelhardt Institute of Molecular Biology, and DI Ivanovsky Institute of Virology) oakrotova@inbox.ru

POSTER: PRESENTATION OF INDIVIDUAL HEPATITIS C HIPERVERSIBLE REGION 1 ISOLATES ON HEPATITIS B CORE VIRUSE LIKE PARTICLES Gunita Sudmale (Biomedical Research and Study Center, Riga, Latvia).

POSTER: NONSTRUCTURAL PROTEIN 1 OF TICK-BORNE ENCEPHALITIS (TBE) AS GENE-IMMUNOGEN Yulia Kuzmenko & Elizaveta Starodubova (W.A. Engelhardt Institute of Molecular Biology RAS, Moscow, Russia) estarodubova@yandex.ru
SESSION III: HCV Epidemiology & Diagnostics

Part 1: HCV surveillance

HEPATITIS C ANTIGEN TEST AND BEYOND: NEW PROMISING MARKERS IN HCV Anders Widell (Clinical Microbiology, Malmö University Hospital, Lund University, Malmö Sweden) Anders.Widell@med.lu.se

A POPULATION-BASED SURVEILLANCE STUDY FOR HEPATITIS C IN ESTONIA Kari Mansberg (University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia) kairimansberg@gmail.com

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF HEPATITIS C IN UNITED STATES Jan Drobeniuc (Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, USA) jgd6@cdc.gov

Part 2: Nosocomial infection with HCV

HOSPITAL ENVIRONMENT – SOURCES OF NOSOCOMIAL VIRAL INFECTION Maria Isaguliants (Microbiology, Tumor and Cell Biology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm; and Ivanovsky Institute of Virology, Moscow) maria.issagouliantis@ki.se

HCV INFECTION IN HEALTH CARE WORKERS AND METHODIC APPROACHES TO IDENTIFY HCV CONTAMINATION Tatjana Amvrosieva (Republican Research and Practical Center for Epidemiology and Microbiology, Minsk, Belarus) amvrosieva@gmail.com

ROUTES OF NOSOCOMIAL TRANSMISSION OF HCV Valentina Liakina (Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University, Vilnius, Lithuania) valentina.liakina@santa.lt

METHODS TO MONITOR VIRAL NUCLEIC ACIDS IN AIR AND WATER Tatyana Grebennikova (D.I. Ivanovskiy institute of Virology, Moscow, Russia) t.grebennikova@mail.ru

FEATURES OF IMMUNE STATUS AND IMMUNE RESPONSE TO HCV IN HEALTHY MEDICAL PERSONELL WORKING IN INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL Natalia Fedoseeva (DI Ivanovsky Institute of Virology, and Moscow State University of Denistry and Medicine, Moscow, Russia) febris1@yandex.ru

SESSION IV: Molecular virology of HCV, HCV-linked carcinogenesis

HEPATITIS C VIRUS INDUCED METABOLIC REPROGRAMMING AND PATHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES Birke Bartosch (INSERM, Lyon, France). Birke.Bartosch@inserm.fr

HCV ALTERS POLYAMINE METABOLISM IN HUH7 CELLS Olga Smirnova (WA Engelgardt Institute of Molecular Biology, Moscow, Russia) o.smirnova.imb@gmail.com

MECHANISMS OF REGULATION OF OXIDATIVE STRESS BY HCV CORE PROTEIN Inna Karpenko (WA Engelhardt Institute of Molecular Biology, Moscow, Russia) ilkzkil@gmail.com

HCV GENETIC AND PHENOTYPIC VARIATION IN THE CONTEXT OF PATHOLOGY Maurin Donlin (Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Missouri, US) donlinmj@slu.edu

POSTER: CONSTRUCTION OF REPORTERIZED HIGH-YIELD HCV VECTORS Viru Liane (Institute of Technology, University of Tartu, Estonia) lianeylper@gmail.com
POSTER: EXPRESSION OF HCV GENOME FRAGMENTS BY ALPHAVIRUS REPLICON VECTOR Ekaterina Alekseeva (Biomedical Research and Study Center, Riga, Latvia; kate@biomed.lu.lv)

SESSION V: HCV Bioinformatics

THE USE OF PHYLODYNAMIC METHODS IN EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDIES Patrik Medstrand (Department of Laboratory Medicine, Department of Infectious Diseases, and Rega Institute, Katholieke University, Leuven, Belgium) patrik.medstrand@med.lu.se

AMINO ACID COVARIANCE ANALYSIS OF RNA-DEPENDENT RNA-POLYMERASE OF HCV Stefan Petkov (Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden) stefan.petkov@stud.ki.se

POSTER: INTEGRATED DESKTOP SOFTWARE FOR MANAGEMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS (HCV) DATA Johanna C Craig (Genalysis Inc., Newport, VA, US) j craig@atacallc@gmail.com

TUTORIAL: PRACTICAL ASPECTS OF HCV GENETIC ANALYSIS. Wednesday, April 4 17:00 – 18:40 Maureen J. Donlin (Saint Louis University School of Medicine, Missouri USA) donlinmj@slu.edu

SESSION VI: Diverse HCV-related studies

HEPATITIS E – CLINICAL AND EPIDEMIOLOGICAL FEATURES, INFECTION RISK FACTORS Elena Malinnikova (M.P. Chumakov Institute of Poliomyelitis and Viral Encephalites, Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, Moscow region) malinacgb@mail.ru

SEROPREVALENCE OF HEPATITIS E VIRUS IN ESTONIA, 1994 TO 2006, A PILOT STUDY Valentina Tefanova (National Institute for Health Development, Tallinn, Estonia) valentina.tefanova@tai.ee

KHATANGA VIRUS - A NEW MEMBER OF CALIFORNIA ENCEPHALITIS SEROCOMPLEX WIDELY SPREAD FROM FAR EAST TO SCANDINAVIA Alexei Prilipov (DI Ivanovsky Institute of Virology, Moscow, Russia) a_prilipov@mail.ru

NOVEL PYRIMIDINE DERIVATIVES AS NONNUCLEOSIDE INHIBITORS OF HIV REPLICATION Alexander Ivanov (WA Engelgardt Institute of Molecular Biology, Moscow, Russia) aivanov@yandex.ru

POSTER: SURVEY OF LITHUANIAN ADOLESCENT SUBSTANCE USE AS CO-FACTOR OF HIV AND HEPATITIS INFECTION Caplinskas Saulius (Centre for Communicable Diseases and AIDS, M. Romeris University, Vilnius, Lithuania) U lac@ulac.lt
OPEN LECTURE COURSE “HEPATITIS ABC” AT ST PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY

Lecture course "Hepatitis ABC" on April 5, 2012

10.00-10.45 “Hepatitis A” by Prof. Anders Widell (Malmo University hospital, Lund University, Malmö, Sweden)

10.50-11.35 “Hepatitis B” by Dr. Tatjana Tallo (National Institute for Health Development, Tallinn, Estonia)

12-12.45 - Hepatitis C (pending)

14.00-14.45 - "Hepatitis D" by Prof. Mikhail Mikhailov (Institute of Polyomyelitis and Viral Encephalitis, Moscow, Russia)

14.50-15.35 - “Hepatitis E” by Dr Jan Drobeniuc (Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA, USA)