Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee it is my very pleasure to invite you to participate in the 15th Meeting of the European Society for Pigment Cell Research (ESPCR) to be held in Münster, Germany, September 20-23, 2009.

Devoted to the promotion of interdisciplinary knowledge and research on the pigmentary system including both normal and pathological conditions, the ESPCR 2009 meeting will provide an ideal forum for scientific interaction by bringing together clinicians and basic researchers from various disciplines including developmental biology, biochemistry, cell and molecular biology, immunology, pharmacology, chemistry and physics.

The combination of plenary sessions with invited lectures, specific symposia, workshops, free communications and poster sessions will provide many opportunities to share perspectives and gain new insight.

Moreover, it is our vision to further promote the visibility of our growing society and to build bridges between basic researchers and clinicians with a discussion platform for both internationally renowned senior investigators and young scientists dedicated to pigment cell biology.

We wish that the participants of the 15th Meeting of the ESPCR will thoroughly enjoy the scientific and social program as well as the unique atmosphere of an old university town.

Welcome to Münster, we look forward to seeing you there in September 2009.

Sincerely,

Markus Böhm, MD

Topics

Plenary sessions
- Developmental biology of pigment cells
- Genetics of pigmentation
- Melanins and melanogenesis
- Signal transduction in melanocytes and melanoma cells
- Melanocortin peptides, pigment cells and beyond
- Oxidative stress and pigment cells
- The melanocyte under the sun
- Epidermal melanocytes and their neighbours
- Pigment cell biology of the hair follicle
- Albinism and extracutaneous melanin
- Vitiligo and other pigmentary disorders
- Molecular biology of melanoma and nevi

Special symposia
- Perspectives in melanoma treatment
- Recent advances in treatment of pigmentary disorders of the skin

Short oral communications
Short oral presentations selected from the pool of submitted abstracts will follow the above sessions and symposia.

Fritz Anders Memorial Lecture
Established by the ESPCR in remembrance of the prestigious German Scientist Fritz Anders this lectureship will be held by an invited person with outstanding contributions to our current understanding of pigment cell biology.

Workshops
Entitled “Experimental approaches in melanoma research” this practically oriented session aims at bridging basic pigment cell research with melanoma research
About Münster

As a university city and key cultural centre, Münster is located in the heart of the Münsterland region in Northern Germany. In close proximity to the Netherlands and Germany’s Ruhr Area, Münster combines the cultural and infrastructural advantages of a modern science and service community with the beautiful countryside. The Münsterland region is famous for its many castles and internationally renowned bicycle paths.

In Münster you find everything you can wish for during an exciting short stay: A city with plenty of history as well as shopping opportunities and green spaces for cycling, inline skating or golfing. And not least, a unique supply of activities to enjoy art and culture alongside with other pleasures. In fact, Münster has been awarded the title of „World’s most livable city“ (LivCom Award 2004, category: 250,000 to 700,000 inhabitants).

Visit www.muenster.de for a complete guide to Münster, including maps, restaurant information, shopping guide and more.

Accommodation

For your convenience we have arranged a limited contingent of hotel rooms at a special congress rate in two major hotels in Münster (Hotel Mövenpick and Hotel Agora Aasee) in a short walking distance to the congress venue. Please contact the congress website for further details.

Congress Venue

Castle of Westfalian Wilhelms University of Münster, Münster, Germany.

Meeting Language

The official language of the meeting will be English.

Registration

Registration and abstract submission will be via our congress homepage starting on Feb. 01, 2009.

Important time lines

Abstract submission: Feb. 01 - May 31, 2009
Early registration: Feb. 01 - Jul. 31, 2009
Late registration: Aug. 01 - Sep. 15, 2009
On-site registration: Sep. 16 - Sep. 23, 2009

Please check our congress website regarding registration fees.

Travel Grants

Like in previous ESPCR meetings there will be a limited number of travel awards for students and young investigators. Please contact our congress homepage for application.

Meeting Secretariat

Mrs. Tanja Böhm
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Local Organizing Committee

Markus Böhm (Organizer, Germany)
Meinhard Schiller (Germany)
Athanasios Tsiarikas (Germany)
Carsten Weishaupt (Germany)
Anja K. Bosserhoff (Germany)
Cord Sunderkötter (Germany)
Thomas A. Luger (Germany)

Scientific Committee

Zalfa Abdel-Malek (USA)
Dorothy Bennett (UK)
Friedrich Beermann (Switzerland)
Markus Böhm (Germany)
Anja K. Bosserhoff (Germany)
Carlos José García-Borrón (Spain)
Ghanem Ghanem (Belgium)
Colin Goding (UK)
Vincent J. Hearing (USA)
Jean Krutmann (Germany)
Lionel Larue (France)
Lluís Montoliu (Spain)
Alessandra Napolitano (Italy)
Mauro Picardo (Italy)
Dirk Schadendorf (Germany)
Karir U. Schallreuter (UK, Germany)
Thomas Schwarz (Germany)
Alain Taieb (France)

Congress Website

Please visit our congress website www.espcr2009.de with further details on the scientific program, invited guest speakers and chairs, the social program and useful information on travel to and accommodation in Münster.
### Sunday, September 20, 2009

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>ESPCR Council Meeting I</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>International Program Committee Meeting 21th IPCC (Bordeaux 2011)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 12:30</td>
<td>Vitiligo European Task Force (VETF) Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Registration opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 16:30</td>
<td>Symposium I: Recent Advances in the Treatment of Pigmentary Disorders of the Skin Chairs: M. Picardo, A. Taieb</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 13:20</td>
<td>K.U. Schallreuter: Vitiligo still an enigma? 20 years experience in the field</td>
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<td>13:20 - 13:40</td>
<td>G. Leone: What’s new in UV phototherapy of vitiligo?</td>
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<td>13:40 - 14:00</td>
<td>A. Taieb: Cutaneous inflammation in vitiligo</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 - 14:20</td>
<td>T. Passeron: Topical treatments and combination approaches for vitiligo: new insights, new developments</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:20 - 14:40</td>
<td>T. Anbar: Treatment of &quot;difficult&quot; areas in patients with vitiligo</td>
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<td>14:40 - 15:00</td>
<td>D. Parsad: Development of guidelines for vitiligo surgery</td>
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<td>15:00 - 15:20</td>
<td>D. Gawkrodger: British guidelines for treatment of vitiligo: current status</td>
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#### 15:40 - 16:00
**D. Manstein:** Fractional photothermolysis - a novel therapeutic tool for pigmentary disorders

Followed by short oral presentations

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<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:00 - 18:50</td>
<td>Symposium II: Perspectives in Melanoma Treatment Chains: G. Ghanem, T.A. Luger</td>
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<tr>
<td>17:00 - 17:20</td>
<td>L. van Kempen: The tumor microenvironment is not an innocent bystander of melanoma progression</td>
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<td>17:20 - 17:40</td>
<td>A. Eberle: Targeting of melanoma metastases with peptides</td>
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<td>17:40 - 18:00</td>
<td>D. Schadendorf: Chemotherapy resistance of melanoma: mechanisms and solutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>18:00 - 18:20</td>
<td>R. Dummer: Novel therapeutic trends in molecular targeting of melanoma</td>
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Followed by short oral presentations

### Monday, September 21, 2009

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:00 - 09:50</td>
<td>Session I: Developmental Biology of Pigment Cells Chairs: F. Beermann, W. J. Pavan</td>
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<tr>
<td>08:00 - 08:30</td>
<td>Highlight lecture R. Schölner: Stem cells – general overview and future directions</td>
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<td>08:30 - 08:50</td>
<td>L. Larue: From neural crest cells to melanocytes: common multipotent precursors in mice</td>
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<td>08:50 - 09:10</td>
<td>W. J. Pavan: Genetic analysis of melanocyte development and disease</td>
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<td>09:10 - 09:30</td>
<td>T. Hochgreb: Molecular mechanisms of neural crest cell formation</td>
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<td>09:50 - 10:10</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:10 - 11:40</td>
<td>Session II: Genetics of Pigmentation, Chairs: R. Spritz, E. Healy</td>
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<td>10:10 - 10:30</td>
<td>M. Schartl: Pigmentation genes as tumor modifiers in the Xiphophorus melanoma model</td>
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<td>10:30 - 10:50</td>
<td>Y. Tomita: The ADAR1 gene in dyschromatosis symmetrica hereditaria</td>
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<td>10:50 - 11:10</td>
<td>D.F. Gudbjartsson: Genetic determinants of skin, hair and eye color and risk of skin cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:40 - 13:00</td>
<td>Poster Session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>ESPCR Council Meeting II</td>
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<td>13:00 - 14:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Monday, September 21, 2009

08:00 - 09:50  **Session V:** Oxidative Stress and Pigment Cells  
Chairs: K.U. Schallreuter, N. Smit

08:00 - 08:20  M. Picardo: Reactive oxygen species and anti-oxidative defense mechanisms: an overview

08:20 - 08:40  S. Pavel: Oxidative stress in melanogenesis: friend or foe?

08:40 - 09:00  S. Meierjohann: Oxidative stress in melanocyte senescence

09:00 - 09:20  C. Kerkhoff: NADPH oxidase(s): Novel "radical" players in pigment cell biology?

Followed by short oral presentations

09:50 - 10:10  Coffee Break

10:10 - 11:40  **Session VI:** The Melanocyte under the sun  
Chairs: V. Hearing, T. Schwarz

10:10 - 10:30  A. Napolitano: Red hair photochemistry

10:30 - 10:50  M.-D. Galibert: USF and the UV-response in skin

10:50 - 11:10  F. Meyskens: Is phosphorylation and subsequent degradation of MiTF required for cell survival after UV radiation?

Followed by short oral presentations

11:15 - 12:45  **Session VII:** Melanocortin peptides, pigment cells and beyond  
Chairs: A. Eberle, M. Böhm

11:15 - 11:30  M. Böhm: Novel facets of α-MSH-mediated cytoprotection against UVB-induced stress

11:30 - 11:50  Z. Abdel-Malek: The melanocortin 1 receptor: paving a new road to DNA repair pathways

11:50 - 12:10  J.-C. García-Borrón: New insights into post-receptor signaling of MC1R

Followed by short oral presentations

12:30 - 14:00  Poster Session 2

14:00 - 16:10  **Session VIII:** Epidermal melanocytes and their cellular neighbours  
Chairs: R. Paus, Z. Abdel-Malek

14:00 - 14:20  A. Slominski: Melanin and epidermal cell homeostasis

14:20 - 14:40  R. Halaban: Receptor kinases and activated signaling intermediates in melanomas and their relevance to therapy

Followed by short oral presentations

15:00 - 16:00  Guided City Tour

16:00 - 18:00  Dinner ESPCR Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

08:00 - 09:50  **Session V:** Oxidative Stress and Pigment Cells  
Chairs: K.U. Schallreuter, N. Smit

08:00 - 08:20  M. Picardo: Reactive oxygen species and anti-oxidative defense mechanisms: an overview

08:20 - 08:40  S. Pavel: Oxidative stress in melanogenesis: friend or foe?

08:40 - 09:00  S. Meierjohann: Oxidative stress in melanocyte senescence

09:00 - 09:20  C. Kerkhoff: NADPH oxidase(s): Novel "radical" players in pigment cell biology?

Followed by short oral presentations

09:50 - 10:10  Coffee Break

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Followed by short oral presentations

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Followed by short oral presentations

15:00 - 16:00  Guided City Tour

16:00 - 18:00  Dinner ESPCR Council Meeting
### Wednesday, September 23, 2009

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session IX: Pigment Cell Biology of the Hair Follicle</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session XI: Vitiligo and other Pigmentary Disorders</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00 - 09:20</td>
<td>D.J. Tobin: Molecular Mechanisms of hair greying</td>
<td>11:40 - 13:20</td>
<td>Highlight lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20 - 13:20</td>
<td>F. Beermann: Hair greying in mouse models</td>
<td>12:10 - 12:30</td>
<td>R.A. Spritz: Recent advances in genetics of vitiligo</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 - 13:20</td>
<td>Followed by short oral presentations</td>
<td>12:30 - 12:50</td>
<td>M.C. Seabra: Mechanisms of melanosome transfer and keratinocyte processing</td>
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#### Workshop: Experimental Approaches in Melanoma Research
- **Chairs:** A. Slominski, S. Commo
- **Time:** 08:00 - 09:20
- **Speaker:** D. Peeper: Oncogene-induced cell senescence and its relevance for melanoma

#### Session X: Albinism and Extra-cutaneous Melanin
- **Chairs:** L. Montoliu, B. McKay
- **Time:** 09:20 - 11:20
- **Speaker:** T. Sarna: Retinal pigment epithelial melanin - a protective supermolecular system: implications in human physiology and pathobiology
- **Followed by short oral presentations**

#### Session XI: Vitiligo and other Pigmentary Disorders
- **Chairs:** J. Lambert, J.P. van der Veen
- **Time:** 11:40 - 13:20
- **Speaker:** O. Gaide: Inflammamasomes - master switches of innate and autoimmunity
- **Followed by short oral presentations**

### Workshop: Experimental Approaches in Melanoma Research
- **Chairs:** A. Bosserhoff, L. Larue
- **Time:** 16:10 - 18:00
- **Speaker:** D. Bennett: Melanocyte and melanoma cell culture: any chance of standardization?

#### Session XII: Molecular Biology of Melanoma and Nevi
- **Chairs:** D. Bennett, M. Schartl
- **Time:** 14:20 - 15:50
- **Speaker:** D. S. Peeper: Oncogene-induced cell senescence and its relevance for melanoma
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