

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

15th Meeting of the European Society for Pigment Cell Research



Photo by Peter Grever, WWU Münster



September 20-23, 2009
Münster, Germany

Congress Venue
Castle of Westfalian Wilhelms University of Münster

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

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Local Organizing Committee

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Carsten Weishaupt (Germany)
Anja K. Bosserhoff (Germany)
Cord Sunderkötter (Germany)
Thomas A. Luger (Germany)

Scientific Committee

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Dirk Schadendorf (Germany)
Karin U. Schallreuter (UK, Germany)
Thomas Schwarz (Germany)
Alain Taïeb (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.

Preliminary Scientific Program ESPCR 2009 Meeting

Sunday, September 20, 2009

- 09:00 - 10:00** ESPCR Council Meeting I
- 10:00 - 11:00** International Program Committee Meeting 21th IPCC (Bordeaux 2011)
- 11:00 - 12:30** Vitiligo European Task Force (VETF) Meeting
- 11:00** **Registration opens**
- 13:00 - 16:30** **Symposium I:** Recent Advances in the Treatment of Pigmentary Disorders of the Skin
Chairs: M. Picardo, A. Taïeb
- 13:00 - 13:20** *K.U. Schallreuter:* Vitiligo still an enigma? 20 years experience in the field
- 13:20 - 13:40** *G. Leone:* What's new in UV phototherapy of vitiligo?
- 13:40 - 14:00** *A. Taïeb:* Cutaneous inflammation in vitiligo
- 14:00 - 14:20** *T. Passeron:* Topical treatments and combination approaches for vitiligo: new insights, new developments
- 14:20 - 14:40** *T. Anbar:* Treatment of "difficult" areas in patients with vitiligo
- 14:40 - 15:00** *D. Parsad:* Development of guidelines for vitiligo surgery
- 15:00 - 15:20** *D. Gawkrödger:* British guidelines for treatment of vitiligo: current status
- 15:20 - 15:40** *J.-P. Ortonne:* Pathogeny and treatment of melasma: un update
- 15:40 - 16:00** *D. Manstein:* Fractional photothermolysis - a novel therapeutic tool for pigmentary disorders
- Followed by short oral presentations
- 16:30 - 17:00** Coffee Break
- 17:00 - 18:50** **Symposium II:** Perspectives in Melanoma Treatment
Chairs: G. Ghanem, T.A. Luger
- 17:00 - 17:20** *L. van Kempen:* The tumor micro-environment is not an innocent bystander of melanoma progression
- 17:20 - 17:40** *A. Eberle:* Targeting of melanoma metastases with peptides
- 17:40 - 18:00** *D. Schadendorf:* Chemotherapy resistance of melanoma: mechanisms and solutions
- 18:00 - 18:20** *R. Dummer:* Novel therapeutic trends in molecular targeting of melanoma
- Followed by short oral presentations
- 19:00 - 19:15** **Opening Ceremony**
- 19:15 - 20:00** **Fritz Anders Memorial Lecture**
G. Barsh: On search for novel genes regulating coat colour
- 20:00 - 22:00** **Welcome Reception**

Monday, September 21, 2009

- 08:00 - 09:50** **Session I:** Developmental Biology of Pigment Cells
Chairs: F. Beermann, W. J. Pavan
- 08:00 - 08:30** **Highlight lecture**
R. Schöler: Stem cells – general overview and future directions
- 08:30 - 08:50** *L. Larue:* From neural crest cells to melanocytes: common multi-potent precursors in mice
- 08:50 - 09:10** *W. J. Pavan:* Genetic analysis of melanocyte development and disease
- 09:10 - 09:30** *T. Hochgreb:* Molecular mechanisms of neural crest cell formation
- Followed by short oral presentations
- 09:50 - 10:10** Coffee Break
- 10:10 - 11:40** **Session II:** Genetics of Pigmentation, *Chairs: R. Spritz, E. Healy*
- 10:10 - 10:30** *M. Scharf:* Pigmentation genes as tumor modifiers in the Xiphophorus melanoma model
- 10:30 - 10:50** *Y. Tomita:* The ADAR1 gene in dyschromatosis symmetrica hereditaria
- 10:50 - 11:10** *D.F. Gudbjartsson:* Genetic determinants of skin, hair and eye color and risk of skin cancer
- Followed by short oral presentations
- 11:40 - 13:00** **Poster Session 1**
- 13:00 - 14:00** ESPCR Council Meeting II
- 13:00 - 14:30** Lunch

Preliminary Scientific Program ESPCR 2009 Meeting

Monday, September 21, 2009

- 14:30 - 16:00** **Session III:** Melanins and Melanogenesis, *Chairs: J. Borovansky, M. Jimenez-Cervantes*
- 14:30 - 14:50** *M. d'Ischia:* Disentangling the eumelanin structure
- 14:50 - 15:10** *H. Decker:* Catecholoxidase and hemocyanin as tyrosinase-related enzymes
- 15:10 - 15:30** *F. Amblard:* Optical detection of melanin by controlled light absorption: principles and diagnostic applications

Followed by short oral presentations

- 16:00 - 16:20** Coffee Break
- 16:20 - 17:50** **Session IV:** Signal Transduction in Melanocytes and Melanoma Cells
Chairs: J. Garcia-Borrón, R. Halaban
- 16:20 - 16:40** *J. Krutmann:* The arylhydrocarbon receptor pathway in human melanocytes
- 16:40 - 17:00** *I. Behrmann:* Signal transduction in melanoma via Jaks, STATS and SOCS
- 17:00 - 17:20** *R. Halaban:* Receptor kinases and activated signaling intermediates in melanomas and their relevance to therapy

Followed by short oral presentations

- 18:15 - 20:15** **Guided City Tour**
- 20:30** 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
- 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

- 11:40 - 13:00** **Poster Session 2**
- 13:00 - 14:00** Lunch

- 14:00 - 16:10** **Session VII:** Melanocortin peptides, pigment cells and beyond
Chairs: A. Eberle, M. Böhm
- 14:00 - 14:20** *M. Böhm:* Novel facets of α -MSH-mediated cytoprotection against UVB-induced stress
- 14:20 - 14:40** *Z. Abdel-Malek:* The melanocortin 1 receptor: paving a new road to DNA repair pathways
- 14:40 - 15:00** *J.-C. García-Borrón:* New insights into post-receptor signaling of MC1R
- 15:20 - 15:40** *T. Brzoska:* MSH tripeptides and derivatives: Biochemistry, skin pharmacology, and a future potential in pigment cell biology?

Followed by short oral presentations

- 16:10 - 16:30** Coffee Break
- 16:30 - 17:40** **Session VIII:** Epidermal melanocytes and their cellular neighbours
Chairs: R. Paus, Z. Abdel-Malek
- 16:30 - 16:50** *A. Slominski:* Melanin and epidermal cell homeostasis
- 16:50 - 17:10** *J. Lambert:* Molecular motors of melanosomal transfer: from bench to bedside

Followed by short oral presentations

- 17:40 - 18:40** ESPCR General Assembly
- 19:45 - 23:30** **Gala Evening**

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

08:00 - 09:20	Session IX: Pigment Cell Biology of the Hair Follicle <i>Chairs: A. Slominski, S. Commo</i>	11:40 - 13:20	Session XI: Vitiligo and other Pigmentary Disorders <i>Chairs: J. Lambert, J.P. van der Veen</i>	16:10 - 18:00	Workshop: Experimental Approaches in Melanoma Research <i>Chairs: A. Bosserhoff, L. Larue</i>
08:00 - 08:20	<i>D.J. Tobin:</i> Molecular Mechanisms of hair greying	11:40 - 12:10	Highlight lecture <i>O. Gaide:</i> Inflammasomes - master switches of innate and autoimmunity	16:10 - 16:30	<i>D. Bennett:</i> Melanocyte and melanoma cell culture: any chance of standardization?
08:20 - 08:40	<i>R. Paus:</i> Neuroendocrinology of the hair follicle: Can we create the magic cocktail for reactivating follicular melanocytes?	12:10 - 12:30	<i>R.A. Spritz:</i> Recent advances in genetics of vitiligo	16:30 - 16:50	<i>K. Hoek:</i> Expression analysis in melanoma using chip technology: problems, solutions, and future directions
08:40 - 09:00	<i>F. Beermann:</i> Hair greying in mouse models	12:30 - 12:50	<i>M.C. Seabra:</i> Mechanisms of melanosome transfer and keratinocyte processing	16:50 - 17:10	<i>S.W. Schneider:</i> In vitro models of melanoma vessel interaction
Followed by short oral presentations					
09:20 - 11:20	Session X: Albinism and Extra-cutaneous Melanin <i>Chairs: L. Montoliu, B. McKay</i>	Followed by short oral presentations		17:10 - 17:30	<i>T. Tüting:</i> Choosing experimental mouse models for melanoma research: a tumor immunologists perspective
09:20 - 09:40	<i>T. Sarna:</i> Retinal pigment epithelial melanin - a protective supermolecular system: implications in human physiology and pathology	13:20 - 14:20	Lunch	End of the ESPCR 2009 Meeting	
09:40 - 10:00	<i>L. Zecca:</i> Melanic Pigments in the human brain	14:20 - 15:50	Session XII: Molecular Biology of Melanoma and Nevi <i>Chairs: D. Bennett, M. Scharf</i>		
10:00 - 10:20	<i>B. McKay:</i> L-Dopa as the endogenous ligand for the OA1 receptor	14:20 - 14:40	<i>A. Bosserhoff:</i> Melanoma and microRNA		
10:20 - 10:40	<i>K.P. Hoffmann:</i> Role of cation-chloride co-transporters in ocular albinism	14:40 - 15:00	<i>N. A. Gruis:</i> (Atypical) nevus susceptibility genes		
10:40 - 11:00	<i>V. Schiaffino:</i> Characterisation of OA1 phenotype: emerging news	15:00 - 15:20	<i>D. S. Peeper:</i> Oncogene-induced cell senescence and its relevance for melanoma		
Followed by short oral presentations					
11:20 - 11:40	Coffee Break	15:50 - 16:10	Coffee Break		