

Dear Colleague,

2013 has been an exciting year for HIV research. From what appears to be the first ever functional cure of a baby born with HIV¹ to the encouraging experience of two Boston patients following bone marrow transplants,² we have seen a series of tantalising indications of what may one day be possible in HIV treatment.

But how close to cure are we, really? And do we yet know what practical cure treatments will look like?

In this symposium, being held as part of Bristol-Myers Squibb's 'Partnering for Cure' medical education programme, you will help decide the answers to these questions. We are putting HIV cure research on trial, and we need you to be the jury.

Our expert international faculty will present the evidence for and against the success of cure research. For the defence, Giuseppe Pantaleo and Carlo Federico Perno will present evidence that cure is possible in virological disease. For the prosecution, Georg Behrens and José Alcamí will highlight the biological and practical challenges facing HIV cure research. In a concluding session, the audience will have a chance to cross-examine the whole faculty, and will ultimately reach a verdict.

We hope you can join us for what promises to be a challenging and enjoyable symposium – and for a discussion that will only become more important in the coming years.

Christine Katlama

1. Persaud D, et al. CROI 2013. Abstract 48LB.
2. Henrich TJ, et al. J Infect Dis; 2013;207(11):1694–702.

Agenda

- 13.30–13.40 **Judge's opening remarks**
C Katlama
- 13.40–14.30 **The evidence**
- 13.40–13.50 **Defence: Virology cure success in HCV**
CF Perno
- 13.50–14.00 **Prosecution: The biological challenges of HIV**
J Alcamí
- 14.00–14.10 **Defence: New approaches to HIV cure**
G Pantaleo
- 14.10–14.20 **Prosecution: Cure in principle but not in practice**
G Behrens
- 14.20–14.25 **Defence closing argument**
G Pantaleo
- 14.25–14.30 **Prosecution closing argument**
G Behrens
- 14.30–14.55 **Cross-examination**
Q&A/discussion session
All (moderated by judge)
- 14.55–15.00 **Verdict and summary**
C Katlama

About Partnering for Cure

Partnering for Cure is a new European medical education programme developed as part of Bristol-Myers Squibb's ongoing commitment to research, education and support to transform clinical outcomes for patients with chronic viral diseases.

The programme provides a forum for discussion of research into novel virologic cure strategies and offers education and support for physicians and researchers on this topic. Among other activities, educational meetings are being held at national congresses and regional centres throughout the autumn.

Gold Hall, SQUARE: Brussels Meeting Centre | Brussels | Belgium
Wednesday 16 October | 13.30–15.00

HIV cure on trial: hype or hope? A courtroom drama

Chair: Professor Christine Katlama, Department of Infectious Diseases, Hôpital Pitié-Salpêtrière, Paris

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PARTNERING FOR
CURE



Bristol-Myers Squibb

THE CHAIR



Christine Katlama

Christine Katlama is Professor of Infectious Diseases at the Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris, France, and Head of the AIDS clinical care unit and Co-Director of HIV clinical research at INSERM U943. Professor Katlama is also actively involved in the ANRS (French National Agency for HIV Research) and heads their antiretroviral strategy group. In addition, she runs the COREVIH Ile de France Centre body, which liaises with three major hospitals in Paris in charge of over 10,000 patients.

Professor Katlama has worked in HIV since 1982 and was involved in the HIV-2 discovery in 1986. Her group first demonstrated the impact of HAART on immune reconstitution and works extensively in the field of new drugs, viral resistance, novel antiretroviral strategies and HIV cure. In 2001, she founded ORVACS, an international network for research in immune strategies, including HIV cure.

Professor Katlama is actively involved in the NEAT European Network and, since 2011, in the IAS HIV cure initiative. She is founder and president of SOLTHIS, a non-governmental organisation which supports access to HIV care in West Africa, and in 2009, she also founded AFRAVIH (Francophone alliance of healthcare stakeholders against HIV). As President of AFRAVIH, she organised the francophone conferences in Paris, Casablanca and Geneva in 2007, 2010 and 2012, respectively.

Professor Katlama is a past President of EACS and is currently in charge of the EACS educational programme, organising the EACS Advanced HIV Course and the ECRECO Clinical Research Course.

She is a member of numerous international HIV advisory boards for pharmaceutical companies and is on the editorial boards of several journals, including HIV Medicine and AIDS, with over 400 articles on HIV clinical science to her name.

THE DEFENCE



Giuseppe Pantaleo

Giuseppe Pantaleo is Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Immunology and Allergy and of the Laboratory of AIDS Immunopathogenesis at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois (CHUV), University of Lausanne, Switzerland. He is also Executive Director of the Swiss Vaccine Research Institute.

Professor Pantaleo has made seminal contributions in the field of the immunopathogenesis of HIV infection, demonstrating that HIV disease is active and progressive during the period of clinical latency. He has also made substantial contributions to the characterisation of virus-specific T-cell responses.

Since 1998, Professor Pantaleo has been leading a European programme in the development of an HIV vaccine platform. He is also currently leading several international programmes supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the European Commission.

Professor Pantaleo is author and co-author of 290 publications in international scientific journals and has received several awards, including: FBM Award 2012 – The Translational Research Award, Cloetta – Award in Basic and Clinical Experimental Medicine (2000), Pfizer Research Prize in Clinical Research in Infectious Diseases (1999), National Institutes of Health NIH Director's Award (1996), Academia dei Lincei – Award in Basic and Clinical Virology (Guido Lenghi and Flaviano Magrassi Foundation) (1996), Public Health Service Special Achievement (1995), National Institutes of Health Award of Merit (1993).

Carlo-Federico Perno

Carlo-Federico Perno is Professor of Virology at the University of Rome 'Tor Vergata', Italy, and Director of the Unit of Molecular Virology at the Tor Vergata University Hospital, Rome. He also works as Consultant of Clinical Virology at the Spallanzani Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Rome. Professor Perno received his medical degree from the University of Rome in 1980, and qualified as a specialist in Oncology in 1983. From 1986 to 1989 he worked as a Research Fellow at the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, USA, where he collaborated in the discovery and clinical application of the first antiviral drugs used in the therapy of HIV infection, including zidovudine, zalcitabine, stavudine and didanosine.

Professor Perno is an expert in antiviral therapy, clinical interpretation and therapeutic application of antiviral resistance testing. He leads a group of internationally recognised researchers funded by numerous grants from Italian institutions, the European Community and private institutions. He has published nearly 400 international scientific articles, including peer-reviewed articles in highly ranked journals (Nature, Science, Lancet, Journal of Experimental Medicine, PNAS), mostly focussing on antiviral therapy.

In 2001 the European Community awarded Professor Perno the Descartes Award for excellence in the antiviral field.



THE PROSECUTION



Georg Behrens

Georg Behrens is Professor of T Cell Immunology at the Clinic for Immunology and Rheumatology at Hannover Medical School, Germany. He received his medical degree from Hannover Medical School in 1995, and in 1996 he completed his doctoral thesis at the Department of Clinical Immunology and Transfusion Medicine, Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Germany. He subsequently completed his clinical training in Internal Medicine in Hannover. From

2001 to 2003, he performed postdoc research at the Immunology Division of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research, Melbourne, Australia, before returning to Hannover as Professor of Immunology and establishing a research group.

Professor Behrens is an internationally acknowledged expert on HIV therapy and related metabolic side effects and has received several awards for his research in this area. In addition, his laboratory works on antigen presentation (e.g. cross-presentation), viral immunity and autoimmunity in transgenic mouse models. He has published numerous papers in journals such as the Lancet, the Journal of Experimental Medicine, the Journal of Clinical Investigation, Nature Immunology and the Journal of Immunology. His laboratory is supported by the German Research Foundation and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Professor Behrens is president of the German AIDS Society, a panel member for the European Guidelines on prevention and management of non-infectious co-morbidities in HIV, a member of the Excellence Cluster 'REBIRTH – From Regenerative Biology to Reconstructive Therapy', and a faculty member of the Hannover Biomedical Research School (HBRS) Graduate School of Excellence. He is a regular reviewer for several international journals in immunology and infectious diseases and is on the editorial boards of several journals, including AIDS, Antiviral Therapy, and Experimental Biology and Medicine.

José Alcamí

José (Pepe) Alcamí is Associate Professor of Virology and Immunology at the European University of Madrid, Spain, and Visiting Professor for master's degrees at the universities of Madrid, Barcelona and Seville, Spain. He received his medical degree from the Autonomous University of Madrid in 1980 and went on to qualify



as a specialist in Internal Medicine from the Hospital 12 de Octubre, Madrid. He subsequently received his Fellowship in Immunology from the same institute and his Fellowship in Immunopathology from the Pasteur Institute, Paris, France. He currently leads the Molecular Pathology Department and the AIDS Immunopathogenesis Unit at the National Microbiology Centre, Instituto de Salud Carlos III in Madrid.

Professor Alcamí coordinates the Spanish AIDS Research Network (RIS) and is a member of the European Networks of Excellence (EUROPRISE and CHAARM) for vaccine and microbicides development.

Author of more than 130 original articles in the field of HIV pathogenesis, Professor Alcamí is an expert in the study of the mechanisms leading to HIV latency and reactivation and has developed different strategies and drug compounds to target the HIV reservoirs. His laboratory has established collaborations with, among others, the Vaccine Research Center (National Institutes of Health, USA), the Pasteur Institute (Paris, France), the Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele (Milan, Italy) and the Institut de Génétique Humaine (Montpellier, France).