

CÁTEDRA SANTIAGO GRISOLÍA
FUNDACIÓN CIUDAD DE LAS ARTES Y LAS CIENCIAS

International Symposium on
USHER SYNDROME and RELATED DISEASES

May 27 - 29, 2010. Valencia, Spain.

www.fundacioncac.es/catedrasg

About the symposium

Usher syndrome was firstly described by Albrecht von Graefe in 1858 although its heritability was established by Charles H. Usher in 1935. It is a rare disorder defined by the association of sensorineural hearing loss and visual impairment due to retinitis pigmentosa and, sometimes, vestibular dysfunction. In the last decades, a high clinical and genetic heterogeneity has been shown and at least nine genes have been demonstrated to be involved in the disease. Usher syndrome is the most common cause of inherited deaf-blindness and has an enormous impact on the quality of life. Hearing and vision are essential for communication and to remain oriented within the environment. Loss of both hearing and vision often leads to a loss of independence. Also, individuals with the syndrome are at a disadvantage in their work environment which nowadays often requires intense use of communication skills and information technologies.

The aim of the symposium is to make an update of the current and future clinical and molecular diagnostic of the disorder, to provide insights into the molecular pathogenesis of the syndrome and into the complex mechanisms that underlie hearing and vision .The symposium will emphasize on the current advances and strategies for rehabilitation and therapy.

Preliminary program

Session 1: Therapy, today and tomorrow

Paul Sieving. University of Michigan, Kellogg Eye Center. Michigan, USA.
Phase 2 CNTF trials on retinitis pigmentosa and Usher tyep2

Nicolás Cuenca. Departamento de Fisiología, Genética y Microbiología,
Universidad de Alicante. Alicante, Spain.
*Neuroprotective effect of antiapoptotics and antioxidants as a therapeutic option
for retinitis pigmentosa*

Tamar Ben-Yosef. Rapaport Faculty of Medicine. Haifa, Israel.
The use of aminoglycosides and their derivatives as a therapy for Usher syndrome

David S. Williams. Jules Stein Eye Institute, UCLA School of Medicine School.
Los Angeles, CA, USA.
Gene therapy for MYO7A

Uwe Wolfrum. Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Institute of Zoology
Cell and Matrix Biology. Mainz , Germany.
USH1C therapy strategies in the retina

Thomas B. Friedman. National Institute for Deafness and Communication
Disorders, National Institutes of Health (NIDCD/NIH). Rockville, MD, USA.
Gene therapy for CDH23

Peter Francis. Degeneration Center, Casey Eye Institute. Oregon, USA.
Stem cell therapy for Usher 2a

David A. Saperstein. Department of Ophthalmology, University of Washington.
Washington, USA.
Gene therapy forUSH3

Session 2: Natural History studies

Richard Weleber. Oregon Health Sciences Center, Casey Eye Physicians and
Surgeons. Oregon, USA.
Automated Static perimetries

Sten Andréasson. Department of Ophthalmology, University of Lund. Lund,
Sweden.
Development of the ERG in the first five years of life

Samuel G. Jacobson. Scheie Eye Institute, University of Pennsylvania.
Philadelphia, PA, USA.
Retinal Disease Expression in the Usher syndromes

Margaret Kenna. Department of Otolaryngology, Children's Hospital.
Massachusetts, USA.
Vestibular dysfunction in Usher syndrome

Session 3: Population genetics and Epidemiology

William J. Kimberling. Departments of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and Otolaryngology, University of Iowa Carver School of Medicine. Iowa City, USA and Boys Town National Hospital. Omaha, USA.
Screening and early diagnosis

Anne-Françoise Roux. Institut Universitaire de Recherche Clinique. Montpellier, France.
The utility of databases

Carmen Ayuso. Fundación Jiménez Díaz, Clínica Ntra. Sra. de la Concepción. Madrid, Spain.
Epidemiology of Usher syndrome

Richard Smith. Department of Otolaryngology, University of Iowa. USA.
Newborn screening

Session 4: Development of Animal models

Nicholas Katsanis. School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University. Maryland, USA.
Modifiers of ciliary disease

Robert Mullins. Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Iowa. Iowa, USA.
Mouse models of retinal degenerations: therapeutic interventions and clinical correlations. Part 1

Arlene Drack. Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Iowa. Iowa, USA.
Mouse models of retinal degenerations: therapeutic interventions and clinical correlations. Part 2

Session 5: Molecular and biochemical aspects

Hannie Kremer. Department of Human Genetics, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre. Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
The Usher protein network in the retina

Hanno Bolz. Institute of Human Genetics, University Hospital of Cologne. Köln, Germany.
New strategies/technologies to identify new genes

Ulrich Mueller. Department of Cell Biology, The Scripps Research Institute. La Jolla, CA, USA.
The Usher protein network in the inner ear

Session 6: Diagnostic

Roser González-Duarte. Departament de Genètica. Universitat de Barcelona. Barcelona Spain.

Challenges of the genetic diagnosis of highly heterogeneous disorders. SNP chips for the diagnosis of Retinal dystrophies

Heidi L. Rehm. Laboratory for Molecular Medicine, Harvard Partners Center for Genetics and Genomics. Massachusetts, USA.

The Otochip

Bernhard Weber. Institute of Human Genetics, University of Regensburg. Regensburg, Germany.

The RetChip

Ilona Lind. Asper Biotech. Tartu, Estonia.

Asper's diagnostic tool for the Usher syndrome

Venue

The *International Symposium on Usher Syndrome and Related Diseases* will be held in the Auditorium Santiago Grisolia at the Science Museum Príncipe Felipe of Valencia (Spain). The museum, designed by Valencian architect Santiago Calatrava, and with an auditorium of 2.800 square metres, provides the perfect venue for this symposium.

These emblematic projects have turned Valencia, with its heritage of over two thousand years of history, into a most modern city. The city is easily accessible by road, rail, sea and air. Its culture, cuisine and academic tradition along with its location on the Mediterranean coast and its pleasant climate, make it an ideal setting for this symposium.

Auditorium Santiago Grisolia
Science Museum Príncipe Felipe
Av. Autopista del Saler, 7
46013 Valencia, Spain

Call for abstracts

Participants are invited to submit abstracts for short oral or poster presentations, the majority being presented as poster. Acceptance will be based upon the quality and relevance of the submissions.

Abstracts should be written in English and sent by e-mail to catedrasg@cac.es, before the **deadline** expires on **March 12th, 2010**.

Each abstract should not exceed one Din A4 page (font Times New Roman in size 12 and with single-spaced) and must include: title (in capital letters) and the names of the authors (the name of presenting author should be underlined). After the name of the last author the address of the institution or organization should be stated.

Abstracts will be reproduced in the same condition in which they are received for inclusion in the meeting documentation. They will not be subject to editing.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified from April 15th, 2010 onwards.

Organizing and scientific committee

William J. Kimberling

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Moorfields Eye Hospital
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Cátedra Santiago Grisolia

Fundación Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias – Comunitat Valenciana

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Travel & accommodation

To make your travel arrangements you can put yourself in contact with our travel agency *Viajes El Corte Inglés*. The agency has booked rooms in several hotels within walking distance from the venue. Shared rooms are available, as well. Information can be obtained from:

Ms. Paula Torres
Tel.: 0034 96 310 71 89
Fax: 0034 96 341 10 46
E-mail: congresos.valencia@viajeseci.es

Language

The lectures will be given in English.

Registration fee

Professionals: Up to April 12th: 200 €
After April 12th: 300 €

Students: 75 € (In order to obtain the special student fee, an approval letter signed by the head of the department must accompany the registration form.)

Registration fee for participants includes scientific sessions, coffee breaks and the symposium material.

A certificate of attendance will be given to all participants.

Payment

Payment of registration fee should be made in Euro by bank transfer:

Account name: Fundación Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias
Bank: BANCAJA. Av. Cataluña 6. 46021 Valencia, Spain.

Swift code for international bank transfers:

IBAN: ES48 2077 0737 74 3100345279
BIC: CVALESVXXX

Account number for Spanish bank transfers:

2077 0737 74 3100345279

Once the bank transfer has been made, a copy of the bank transfer must be sent by e-mail: catedrasg@cac.es or fax (0034 96 197 45 98) indicating the name of the participant before the symposium starts.

Registration form

Name:	Surname:	
Student: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	Topic:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	Profession:	
Centre:		
Department:		
Full mailing address:	Personal address <input type="checkbox"/>	Professional address <input type="checkbox"/>
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Postal code:	City:	
State:	Country:	
Telephone:	Fax:	
E-mail:		
I would like to present a communication: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Preliminary title of the presentation:		
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Please send the registration form to the symposium secretariat by mail, fax or e-mail. You can also register online through the website: www.fundacioncac.es/catedrasg
***Note: Your registration will be only considered upon receiving the full payment.**

In compliance with Act 34/2002, dated 11th July, on services for the Information Society and Electronic Trade and the Organic Act 15/1999, dated 13th December on Protection of Personal Data, we hereby inform you that your data will be included and processed in the I.T. File of the Fundación Ciudad de las Artes y las Ciencias with the purpose of being able to send information to you regarding our services, news and activities. At any time the user can exercise the rights of access, correction, cancellation and opposition to the use of personal data by sending an e-mail to catedrasg@cac.es or a fax to: 0034 96 197 45 98.

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