CME credits for the Falk Workshop have been applied for at the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) – European Board of Gastroenterology (EBG). The number of credits awarded will be printed in the final program.
Liver Immunology has become one of the most important research areas in hepatology. The liver itself is part of the immune system and also target of various immune mediated liver diseases. Immune mechanisms play a crucial role in the pathogenesis of viral hepatitis, autoimmune liver disease, liver cancer as well liver transplantation. Today we understand more than ever that the liver is also part of the body’s own immune system. K.-H. Meyer zum Buschenfelde who celebrates his 80th birthday has been one of the pioneers’ in the field of Liver Immunology. This Workshop is devoted to his 80th Birthday in order to celebrate this outstanding pioneer of this important research area. World renowned experts will discuss their latest data describing the liver as an immune organ as well as the role of immune-pathogenesis in viral hepatitis, autoimmune liver disease, liver cancer and organ transplantation. Research in liver diseases over the past decades has demonstrated that the application of basic science technology such as immunology and molecular biology leads to discoveries that inevitably have an impact on new diagnostic procedures, vaccines and therapies. Examples are the discoveries of the 5 major hepatotropic viruses, the latest discovery was the hepatitis C virus exactly 20 years ago. Other examples are the identification of hepatocellular autoantigens as well as the elucidation of humoral and cellular immune reactions involved in the protection from, clearance of and immunopathogenesis of chronic viral hepatitis. The development of hepatitis A, B and D vaccination is another good example of translational research in hepatology and immunology with an enormous impact on the health system worldwide.

The organizers cordially invite you to attend this Workshop, take part in the discussions and to join us in the celebration of the 80th Birthday of K.-H. Meyer zum Bueschenfelde, a pioneer in the field of Immunology and Liver Disease.

Spring 2009

M. E. Gershwin, Davis, USA
A. W. Lohse, Hamburg, Germany
M. P. Manns, Hannover, Germany
D. Vergani, London, Great Britain
Immunology and Liver Disease

Maritim Airport Hotel Hannover

**Registration:**
Thursday, October 15, 2009
10.00 - 18.00 h
at the congress office

**Scientific Organization:**
M. E. Gershwin, Davis (USA)
A. W. Lohse, Hamburg (Germany)
M. P. Manns, Hannover (Germany)
D. Vergani, London (Great Britain)

**Congress Venue:**
Maritim Airport Hotel
Flughafenstr. 5
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Germany

**Information:**
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**Official Language:**
English

**Call for Posters:**
For details see page 10

**Publication date of final program:**
October 2009

The final program will be available on the homepage www.falkfoundation.org one week before.
Thursday, October 15, 2009

12.30 Welcome lunch
13.45 Welcome and Laudatio K.-H. Meyer zum Bueschenfelde M. P. Manns, Hannover

Session I – Liver immunology I

Chair: V. Desmet, Leuven; S. W. Schalm, Rotterdam

14.00 Keynote lecture
HCV – 20 years after discovery M. Houghton, Emeryville

14.30 Immune responses mediated by endothelial cells P. A. Knolle, Bonn

14.50 NKT cells within the liver M. G. Swain, Calgary

15.10 Regulatory T cells induced within the liver J. Herkel, Hamburg

15.30 Immune responses mediated by hepatocytes P. Bertolino, Newton

15.50 Coffee break with poster session

Session II – Liver immunology II

Chair: H. C. Thomas, London; E. Schrumpf, Oslo

16.10 Factors influencing liver specific immune responses K. Lang, Duesseldorf

16.30 Lymphocyte homing to the liver D. H. Adams, Birmingham

16.50 Monitoring immunosuppression after transplantation S. Meuer, Heidelberg

17.10 New strategies in cancer immunology A. Knuth, Zurich

17.30 Pathology of liver mediated immune responses H. P. Dienes, Cologne

18.00 End of afternoon session
Friday, October 16, 2009

Session III – Autoimmunity I

Chair: G. Ramadori, Goettingen; H. Ring-Larsen, Copenhagen

8.30 Adaptive immunity in autoimmune hepatitis
   D. Vergani, London

8.55 Old and new animal models of AIH
   E. Jaeckel, Hannover

9.20 Cytochrome P450 2D6 as a model autoantigen
   U. Christen, Frankfurt

9.45 New transgenic models of AIH
   M. Zierden, Cologne

10.10 Mouse models for inflammatory liver diseases
    G. Tiegs, Hamburg

10.35 Coffee break with poster session

Session IV – Autoimmunity II

Chair: G. Gerken, Essen; A. L. Lohse, Hamburg

11.05 Role of liver in oral tolerance
      K. Klugewitz, Berlin

11.30 Therapeutic options to treat AIH in 2009
      C. P. Strassburg, Hannover

11.55 New insights into autoimmune cholangitis by animal models
      M. Trauner, Graz

12.20 The etiology of autoimmunity and the lessons of primary biliary cirrhosis
      M. E. Gershwin, Davis

12.50 Lunch break with poster session
Session V – Immunology of viral hepatitis I

Chair: A. Alberti, Padua; C. Trautwein, Aachen

14.00 Occult hepatitis B virus infection: Diagnosis and significance
W. H. Gerlich, Giessen

14.20 Innate and adaptive immune responses in HBV infection
M. Maini, London

14.50 Immune responses in HDV infection
H. Wedemeyer, Hannover

15.15 Clinical spectrum and therapeutic options in HDV infection
M. Rizzetto, Turin

15.45 Presentation of poster prizes
M. P. Manns, Hannover

16.15 Coffee break with poster session

Session VI – Immunology of viral hepatitis II

Chair: R. Thomssen, Goettingen; C. Trepo, Lyon

16.45 Apoptosis in immune mediated liver diseases
A. Canbay, Essen

17.10 Immune responses in HCV infection
C. Ferrari, Parma

17.35 Immune responses in HCC
T. F. Greten, Hannover

18.00 End of meeting
**Poster Session**

Posters will be exhibited on October 15–16, 2009, at the Maritim Airport Hotel Hannover. The authors will be in attendance during coffee and lunch breaks on both days.

**Call for posters**

Please submit your poster abstract before **June 30, 2009**. Only one-page abstracts not exceeding 250 words, written in English and saved in Microsoft Word format will be accepted.

Abstracts must be submitted via our Internet Abstract Submission System (http://www.falkfoundation.com/poster) where further information regarding the submission format and the submission process is available.

The abstracts will be selected by the scientific organizers, preference being given to those thematically related to one of the sessions of the program.

The accepted abstracts will be printed and distributed to the participants of the congress together with the documents of the meeting.

The authors will receive notification about acceptance and further instructions in **July 2009**.

Contact address for further information on the poster session:
- Falk Foundation e.V.
  P.O. Box 6529
  79041 Freiburg/Germany
- Telephone: +49 (0) 761 / 15 14 - 0
- Telefax: +49 (0) 761 / 15 14 - 359
- Web address for submitting poster abstracts: http://www.falkfoundation.com/poster

For the **first author** of an accepted poster, expenses for accommodation (October 14–16, 2009) and fees for the scientific program and evening activities will be covered during the Falk Workshop. **Travel expenses are not covered.**

**Poster prizes**

Three prizes will be awarded for the best presentations.

Prize winners will be presented with a prize certificate and cheques for € 1.500,-, € 1.000,- and € 500,- respectively.

Travel expenses will be covered additionally for the first author of prize winning posters.
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General Information

Prior to the opening of the congress in Hannover

Falk Foundation e. V.  
Congress Division  
Leinenweberstr. 5  
P.O. Box 6529  
79041 Freiburg/Br. (Germany)

Congress Office

During the Falk Liver Conference

Maritim Airport Hotel  
Flughafenstr. 5  
30669 Hannover  
Germany

Opening Hours:
Thursday, October 15, 2009  
10.00 – 18.00 h
Friday, October 16, 2009  
8.00 – 18.00 h
Saturday, October 17, 2009  
8.00 – 18.15 h
Sunday, October 18, 2009  
8.00 – 17.00 h

Congress Fees

Scientific program of the Falk Workshop  
€ 150,-
Students and residents  
€  75,-

* * * OR * * *

Half day ticket, October 15, 2009  
€  60,-
Students and residents  
€  30,-

Day ticket, October 16, 2009  
€120,-
Students and residents  
€  60,-

The congress fees include:
- Refreshments during coffee breaks
- Lunch on October 15 and 16, 2009
- A copy of the abstract volume
Registration

Congress registrations must reach the Falk Foundation e.V. by August 15, 2009 at the latest. Congress fees may be paid by cheque payable to the Falk Foundation e.V. or by bank transfer to Volksbank Freiburg e.G., Germany, Bank No. 68090000, Account No. 1452010. (IBAN DE33 6809 0000 0001 4520 10, BIC Genode 61 FR1. Please mark bank transfers with „Falk Liver Conference“.

To ensure correct registration, participants are asked to send in their registration and the fee remittance together.

After receipt of registration form, each participant will be provided with confirmation of his registration. On presentation of this confirmation at the Congress Office in Hannover participants will receive the congress folder containing name badges, admission tickets and the abstract volume.

In the event of registration cancellations, a handling fee of € 20,- will be deducted from the refund. All participants will receive a written confirmation of attendance at the end of the meeting.

Admission to Scientific Events

For admission to scientific events your name badge should be clearly visible.

Hotel Accommodation

Please send the hotel reservation form by August 15, 2009 at the latest to

Hannover Marketing & Tourismus GmbH
Zimmervermittlung
Prinzenstrasse 6
30159 Hannover
Germany

Phone: +49(0)511/12 34 55 55
Fax: +49(0)511/12 34 55 56
E-mail: hotels@hannover-tourismus.de
Website : www.hannover.de/hotels

The hotel reservation will be confirmed directly by the Hannover Marketing and Tourismus GmbH.
**Congress Report**

The official congress report of the Falk Workshop “Immunology and Liver Disease” will be published in English in the first half of 2010 by Karger Publishers, Basel, Switzerland. Orders for this book at a reduced subscription price of € 30,- can be placed at the Congress Office during the congress in Hannover.

**Congress Short Report**

The congress short report of Falk Liver Conference will be published by the Falk Foundation e.V. with number FSK 171 in the first half on 2010.

Orders for this short report, free of charge, can be placed with the Falk Foundation e.V.

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