Organized by:
FALK FOUNDATION e.V.
Leinenweberstr. 5
79108 Freiburg
Germany
Telephone: +49-761-1514-125
Telefax: +49-761-1514-359
E-Mail: symposia@falk-foundation-symposia.org
www.falk-foundation-symposia.org

Symposium 221

IBD Management in the New Decade: Old Myths and New Realities

October 2-3, 2020
Megaron Athens International Conference Center
Athens, Greece

Please print or legibly stamp your name and professional address!

In case of cancellation a fee of EUR 20 will be deducted from the refundable amount. Information pursuant to Article 13 and Article 14 of the Regulation (EU) 2016/679 with respect to the use of your personal data are available at the website http://www.falk-foundation-symposia.org or by phone +49 (0)761 1514-0, via email to objection@falkfoundation.de or in writing to Falk Foundation e.V., Der Datenschutzbeauftragte, Leinenweberstr. 5, 79108 Freiburg.
CME credits for the Symposium 221 have been applied for at the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS). The number of credits awarded will be printed in the final program.
Preface

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is our great privilege and honor to invite you to the historical city of Athens, the birthplace of democracy and the cradle of philosophy, classical theater, fine arts, and harmony, for the occasion of the first IBD Symposium in Greece, “IBD Management in the New Decade: Old Myths and New Realities’.

In the past 50 years we have witnessed astonishing achievements in the field of inflammatory bowel diseases (ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease). Landmark studies have dramatically improved our knowledge regarding the aetiopathogenesis, the clinical manifestations, the diagnostic modalities, the prognosis and the therapeutic approaches of patients with these life-long incapacitating diseases. We have been able to diagnose the disease early, stratify better our patients into separate groups with different disease location and behavior, develop better markers to monitor the course of disease and prognose disease progression, establish highly specialized treatments to block individual pathways of inflammation, and identify better targets of treatment to avoid ominous long-term outcomes, such as surgeries, bowel insufficiency and somatic and functional disability. As a result, although curing the disease is still a distant dream, many of our patients, and especially those with more aggressive course of IBD, can run a nearly normal life.

These achievements have come after a long and sometimes painful battle of many cooperating disciplines against established dogmas and prejudices. The Athens IBD Symposium aims at reviewing the old myths critically and welcoming the dawn of the next decade and whatever new achievements it brings. The invited speakers, an interesting mixture of first-class scientists of different geographic representation, were selected in order to address these difficult topics not only by established evidence-based data but also by their personal experience in the countries they practice. These topics will cover a wide spectrum of disease constituents and we hope that speakers will shake those of the old myths who pose a burden to further investigation and treatment of IBD and will enlighten us with a critical appraisal of the new diagnostic and therapeutic modalities ending in a proposal for precision medicine therapeutics and patient stratification.

We, as organizing committee, are grateful to the FALK Foundation for granting us the honor to organize the first Hellenic IBD Meeting in a magnificent venue, the Athens Concert Hall (‘The Megaron’), and we hope to see you in the fascinating, relentlessly alert city of Athens next October.

G. J. Mantzaris M. Diculescu A. Dignass G. Rogler B. Vucelic
IBD Management in the New Decade: Old Myths and New Realities

October 2-3, 2020
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Athens, Greece

Start of Registration:
Thursday, October 1, 2020
16.00 - 21.00 h
at the congress office

Setting Up of Poster Session:
Thursday, October 1, 2020
16.00 - 21.00 h

Congress Venue:
Megaron Athens International Conference Center
Vass. Sofias & Kokkali
115 21 Athens
Greece

Symposium 221 is organized by Falk Foundation e.V.

Scientific Organization:
Dr. Gerassimos J. Mantzaris
Chief; Department of Gastroenterology
Evangelismos Hospital
45-47 Ypsilantou Street
Kolonaki
106 76 Athens
Greece
Telephone: +30-213-204-5223
Telefax: +30-213-204-1604
E-mail: gjmantzaris@gmail.com

Scientific Co-Organization:
M. Diculescu, Bucharest (Romania)
A. Dignass, Frankfurt (Germany)
G. Rogler, Zurich (Switzerland)
B. Vucelic, Zagreb (Croatia)

Official Language:
English

Call for Posters:
A poster session will take place.
For details see page 8

Publication Date of the Final Program:
September 2020

The final program will be available on
the homepage www.falk-foundation-symposia.org one week before the start of the symposium.
Friday, October 2, 2020

9.00 Welcome and introduction
G.J. Mantzaris, Athens

Session I
Etiopathogenesis

Chair: G. Bamias, Athens; G. Rogler, Zurich

9.10 East versus West: What have we learnt from epidemiology and how can we apply this knowledge in clinical practice?
J.M. Burisch, Hvidovre/Copenhagen

9.30 Lost in translation: What should the clinician know about genetics?
J. Halfvarson, Örebro

9.50 Microbiota and microbiome in IBD: Pathogenetic pillar, source of biomarkers, or therapeutic target?
H. Sokol, Paris

10.10 Of mice and men: New immunological pathways in IBD
J. Lee, Cambridge

10.30 Coffee break with poster session

Session II
Diseases mimicking and/or complicating IBD: Have we made any progress?

Chair: K.H. Katsanos, Ioannina; B. Vucelic, Zagreb

11.00 TB or not TB?
G.A. Watermeyer, Cape Town

11.20 Is it Behcet’s disease or Crohn’s disease?
M. Toruner, Ankara

11.40 CMV: A innocent bystander or a true pathogen?
B. Siegmund, Berlin

12.00 Microscopic colitis or early IBD?
A. Münch, Linköping

12.20 Lunch break with poster session
Friday, October 2, 2020

Session III
Advances in imaging and endoscopy

Chair: A. Eliakim, Tel Aviv; M.F. Neurath, Erlangen

14.20 What makes ultrasonography a reliable diagnostic and monitoring tool in IBD?  
C. Maaser, Lüneburg

14.40 The new CD-capsule endoscopy: A breakthrough?  
U. Kopylov, Tel Aviv

15.00 New modalities for identifying and treating precancerous lesions  
R. Kiesslich, Wiesbaden

15.20 State-of-the-Art Lecture:  
Can endoscopy predict the response to treatment?  
M.F. Neurath, Erlangen

15.40 Coffee break with poster session

Session IV
How do I optimize treatment with…

Chair: M. Diculescu, Bucharest; M.C. Dubinsky, New York

16.10 5-ASA  
H. Herfarth, Chapel Hill

16.30 Thiopurines  
P. Irving, London

16.50 Biologics  
S. Ghosh, Birmingham

17.10 State-of-the-Art Lecture:  
Can we predict the course of Crohn’s disease?  
M.C. Dubinsky, New York

17.30 Networking with light refreshments
Saturday, October 3, 2020

Session V
Case-based presentations: How do I treat this patient?
Chair: F. Gomollón, Zaragoza; G. Rogler, Zurich

9.00 A 16-year old girl with new onset moderate-to-severe Crohn’s disease
J. Lindsay, London

9.15 A 67-year old man with moderate-to-severe steroid-dependent colitis
A. López-Sanromán, Madrid

9.30 A 35-year old lady with Crohn’s disease on infliximab and azathioprine who became pregnant
C.J. van der Woude, Rotterdam

9.45 A 54-year old patient with antibiotic refractory pouchitis
P. Gionchetti, Bologna

10.00 Coffee break with poster session

Session VI
Biologics and beyond
Chair: G.J. Mantzaris, Athens; B.E. Sands, New York

10.30 Presentation of Poster Awards
M. Diculescu, Bucharest

10.45 Beyond anti-TNFα biologics
G. Rogler, Zurich

B. Vucelic, Zagreb

B.G. Feagan, London/Ontario

11.05 How should I choose the best biologic for my patient?
B.E. Sands, New York

R. Panaccione, Calgary

11.25 The new small molecules: A revolution or lost expectations?
P. Moayyedi, Hamilton

11.45 Fecal microbiota transplantation in IBD: Science or fiction?

12.05 Lunch break with poster session
Saturday, October 3, 2020

Session VII
Hitting the bullseye: Choosing new therapeutic targets in IBD
Chair: A. Dignass, Frankfurt; I.E. Kouroubakis, Heraklion

13.00 Is fecal calprotectin a validated therapeutic target?  E. Louis, Liège

13.20 Should we strive for transmural healing in Crohn’s disease?  F. Rieder, Cleveland

13.40 Histologic healing is not target in ulcerative colitis: Really?  F.J. Magro, Porto

14.00 Treat-to-target or treat-to-trough?  B. Verstockt, Leuven

14.20 Coffee break with poster session

Session VIII
Surgical therapy: Is it still the last therapeutic resort?
Chair: W.A. Bemelman, Amsterdam; I. Papaconstantinou, Athens


15.10 Old tricks and new surgical innovations for Crohn’s disease  P.G. Kotze, Curitiba

15.30 Robot-assisted surgery in IBD: Much ado about nothing or a new wonderful world?  M. Turina, Zurich

Session IX
State-of-the-Art Lecture:
IBD Management in the New Decade
Chair: J. Schölmerich, Hofheim; N. Tözün, Istanbul

15.50 IBD precision medicine therapeutics and patient stratification  C. Fiocchi, Cleveland

D. Iliopoulos, Torrance/Los Angeles

G.J. Mantzaris, Athens

A. Dignass, Frankfurt

16.20 Closing remarks
Poster Session

Posters will be exhibited on October 2-3, 2020. The authors will be in attendance during coffee and lunch breaks on both days. The setting up of the poster session starts on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 16.00 h. The authors are asked to mount their poster on Thursday.

Call for Posters

Please submit your poster abstract before **June 1, 2020.** Only one-page abstracts not exceeding 300 words, written in English will be accepted.

Abstracts must be submitted via our Internet Abstract Submission System (https://poster.falkfoundation.com) 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 2020.**

Contact address for further information on the poster session:

Falk Foundation e.V.
Congress Department
Leinenweberstr. 5
79108 Freiburg
Germany
Telephone:  +49-761-1514-125
Telefax:  +49-761-1514-359

Web address for submitting poster abstracts:
https://poster.falkfoundation.com

For the **first author** of an accepted poster, expenses for accommodation (October 1-4, 2020) and fees for the scientific program will be covered during Symposium 221. Travel expenses will not be covered.

Poster Awards

Three prizes will be awarded for the best poster presentations. **For the presentation of poster awards, award winners will be asked to give a short presentation (2–5 minutes) of their poster.** Award winners will be presented with a certificate and prize money of €1,500, €1,000 and €500. Travel expenses will additionally be covered for the first author of an awarded poster.
List of Speakers, Moderators and Scientific Organizers

Prof. Dr. George Bamias
Associate Professor of Gastroenterology
GI Unit, 3rd Academic Department of Internal Medicine
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
Sotiria Hospital
Mesogeion Av. 152
115 27 Athens
Greece
gbamias@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Willem A. Bemelman
Department of Surgery
Tytgat Institute for Liver & Intestinal Research
University van Amsterdam
Meibergdreef 9
1105 AZ Amsterdam
The Netherlands
w.a.bemelman@amc.uva.nl

Dr. Johan M. Burisch
Gastrounit, Medical Division
Hvidovre University Hospital
Kettegårds alle 30
2650 Hvidovre
Denmark
johan@burisch.dk

Prof. Dr. Mircea Diculescu
Department of Gastroenterology
& Hepatology
Fundeni Clinical Hospital
Sos. Fundeni 258
022328 Bucharest
Romania
mmdiculescu@yahoo.com

Prof. Dr. Axel Dignass
Medizinische Klinik I
AGAPLESION
Markus Krankenhaus
Wilhelm-Epstein-Str. 4
60431 Frankfurt
Germany
axel.dignass@fdk.info

Marla C. Dubinsky, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics
The Susan & Leonard Feinstein IBD Clinical Center
17 East 102nd Street, 5th Floor ,Area D
New York, NY 10029
USA
marla.dubinsky@mssm.edu

Prof. Dr. Abraham Eliakim
Department of Gastroenterology
& Hepatology
Chaim Sheba Medical Center
2 Sheba Road
52621 Tel Hashomer
Israel
abraham.eliakim@sheba.health.gov.il

Dr. Brian G. Feagan
c/o Roberts Clinical Trials Inc
100 Dundas Street, Suite 200
London, Ontario N6A 5B6
Canada
brian.feagan@robartsinc.com

Claudio Fiocchi, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
Department of Inflammation and Immunity / NC2
Lerner Research Institute
The Cleveland Clinic Foundation
9500 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44195
USA
fiocchc@ccf.org

Prof. Dr. Subrata Ghosh
Institute of Translational Medicine
University of Birmingham
Birmingham B15 2TT
Great Britain
s.ghosh@bham.ac.uk
Prof. Dr. Paolo Gionchetti  
Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences  
Emilia-Romagna IBD Regional Referral Center  
S. Orsola-Malpighi Hospital  
University of Bologna  
Via Massarenti 9  
40138 Bologna  
Italy  
paolo.gionchetti@unibo.it

Dr. Fernando Gomollón  
Hospital Clínico Universitario  
Losano Blesa  
Avenida San Juan Bosco 15  
50009 Zaragoza  
Spain  
fgomollon@gmail.com

Prof. Dr. Jonas Halfvarson  
School of Health and Medical Sciences  
Campus USÖ  
Örebro University  
70182 Örebro  
Sweden  
jonas.halfvarson@regionorebrolan.se

Hans Herfarth M.D. PhD  
Professor of Medicine  
Gastroenterology and Hepatology  
University of North Carolina  
4151 Bioinformatics Bldg.  
130 Mason Farm Road  
Chapel Hill NC 27599-7080  
USA  
hans_herfarth@med.unc.edu

Dimitrios Iliopoulos, PhD MBA  
President & CEO  
Athos Therapeutics Inc.  
1124 W Carson St MRL Building, 3rd floor  
Torrance, CA 90502  
USA  
diliopoulos@athostx.com

Dr. Peter Irving  
London Digestive Health  
116 Harley Health  
London W1G 7JL  
Great Britain  
peter.irving@gstt.nhs.uk

Prof. Dr. Konstantinos H. Katsanos  
Division of Gastroenterology  
University of Ioannina  
P.O. 1186  
451 10 Ioannina  
Greece  
khkostas@hotmail.com

Prof. Dr. Ralf Kiesslich  
Klinik für Innere Medizin II  
Gastroenterologie, Hepatologie und Endokrinologie  
Helios Dr. Horst Schmidt Kliniken Wiesbaden  
Ludwig-Erhard-Str. 100  
65199 Wiesbaden  
Germany  
ralf.kiesslich@helios-gesundheit.de

Prof. Dr. Uri Kopylov  
Department of Gastroenterology  
Sheba Medical Center  
Derech Sheba 2  
52960 Ramat Gan  
Israel  
ukopylov@gmail.com

Dr. Paulo G. Kotze  
Catholic University of Paraná  
Av. Sao Jose, 300  
CEP 80050-35 Curitiba  
Brazil  
pgkotze@hotmail.com

Prof. Dr. Ioannis E. Koutroubakis  
Department of Gastroenterology  
University Hospital of Heraklion  
P.O. Box 1352  
711 10 Heraklion  
Greece  
ikoutroub@med.uoc.gr

Dr. James Lee  
Department of Medicine  
Addenbrooke’s Hospital  
University of Cambridge  
Hills Road  
Cambridge CB2 0QQ  
Great Britain  
drjameslee@gmail.com
**Bram Verstockt, M.D. PhD**  
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology  
University Hospitals Leuven  
Herastraat 49  
3000 Leuven  
Belgium  
bram.verstockt@kuleuven.be

**Prof. Dr. Boris Vucelić**  
Professor of Medicine (emeritus)  
Department of Medicine  
University Hospital Center Zagreb  
Kišpatičeva ul. 12  
10000 Zagreb  
Croatia  
vucelic.boris@gmail.com

**Dr. Janindra Warusavitarne**  
St. Mark’s Hospital  
Watford Road  
Harrow Middlesex HA1 3UJ  
Great Britain  
colorectal@btinternet.com

**Prof. Dr. Gillian Ann Watermeyer**  
Division of Gastroenterology  
Groote Schuur Hospital  
University of Cape Town  
Main Road  
Observatory  
7925 Cape Town  
South Africa  
gillian.watermeyer@uct.ac.za
General Information

Prior to the opening of the congress in Athens

Falk Foundation e.V. Congress Department
Leinenweberstr. 5
79108 Freiburg
Germany

Telephone: +49-761-1514-125
Telefax: +49-761-1514-359
Email: symposia@falk-foundation-symposia.org

Congress Office and Registration

During Symposium 221

Congress Office Telephone: +49-175-7795-327

Opening Hours:
Thursday, October 1, 2020 16.00 – 21.00 h
Friday, October 2, 2020 8.00 – 17.30 h
Saturday, October 3, 2020 8.30 – 16.30 h

Workshop Venue:
Megaron Athens International Conference Center
Vass. Sofias & Kokkali
11521 Athens
Greece

Congress Fees

Scientific Program of Symposium 221 EUR 300
Students (copy of student ID required) EUR 150

* * * OR * *
Day Ticket EUR 180
Students (copy of student ID required) EUR 90

The congress fees include:
- Pre-Opening and Welcome on Thursday, October 1, 2020
- Refreshments during coffee breaks
- Lunch on Friday, October 2 and on Saturday, October 3, 2020
- Snacks during scientific discussion on Friday, October 2, 2020
- A copy of the abstract volume
- A copy of the final program
Registration

Congress registrations must reach the Foundation e.V. by **July 1, 2020, at the latest.**

After receipt of the registration form, each participant will be provided with confirmation of his registration/invoice. On presentation of this confirmation at the congress office in Athens 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 EUR 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. Accompanying persons are not permitted during the conference at any time.

Arrival

By plane

Athens International Airport “Eleftherios Venizelos” is located in Spata, 33 km southeast of Athens and serves all international and domestic flights. The airport is easily accessible from MAICC and the city center via motorway, express bus or metro. An average journey by taxi from the airport to the city center should take approximately 40-50 minutes, depending on traffic.

By Metro

There is direct access from the airport and the city center to MAICC (metro station “Megaron Moussikis”) on metro line 3 (blue line). Please visit the Athens Metro website for detailed information at www.stasy.gr www.oasa.gr

By Bus

The following buses, express buses and trolley buses pass and stop near MAICC:

- Buses: 550, A5
- Express Buses: X95 (direct airport line), E14
- Cable „Trolley“ Buses: 3,10

For more information about the public transportation network in Athens please visit: www.oasa.gr
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Preliminary Program

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