

ECI Satellite symposium

Advancements in Tolerance-inducing cellular therapies - an update by AFACTT (EU COST action to focus and accelerate cellular tolerance-inducing therapies)

Sunday, September 2, 10:00-14:00

RAI Amsterdam, Room: G102-103

PROGRAM

- 10:00 **Welcome**
Chairs: Anja ten Brinke (Sanquin, Amsterdam, the Netherlands) & Eva M Martinez Cáceres (Germans Trias I Pujol Hospital, Autonomous University Barcelona, Spain)
- 10:15 **The ONE Study - clinical trials testing immune cell therapy in kidney transplant recipients**
Edward K. Geissler (University Hospital Regensburg, Germany)
- 10:45 **Tolerogenic mesenchymal stem cells in corneal transplantation- from bench to bedside**
Thomas Ritter (National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland)
- 11:15 *Interactive workshop: Minimal information Models on cell-based tolerogenic therapies: 'MITAP/MITREG and beyond'*
Phillip Lord and Catharien Hilkens (Newcastle University, UK) and Piotr Trzonkowski (Medical University of Gdansk, Poland)
- 12.15 **Lunch break** (*sponsored by TXcell*)
- 13.00 **Stability of Regulatory T cells for tolerance inducing immunotherapy**
Irma Joosten (Radboud University Medical Center, Nijmegen, the Netherlands)
- 13.30 Selected abstract: **Targeting of tolerogenic dendritic cells towards heat-shock proteins: a novel therapeutic strategy for autoimmune diseases**
Manon Jansen (Utrecht University, the Netherlands)
- 13:45 Selected abstract: **Modulation of the CD27/CD70 co-stimulatory pathway in human regulatory T cells for enhanced immunotherapy**
Rebeca Arroyo (Oxford University, United Kingdom)

Background:

The number of patients with autoimmune diseases, allergies and recipients of organ or stem-cell transplants is increasing worldwide. Currently, these patients require lifelong administration of immunosuppressive drugs. Often, these drugs are ineffective, expensive and show severe side-effects. More effective and safer therapies aimed at modifying unwanted immune responses permanently or for prolonged periods are needed.

Accumulating knowledge on mechanisms of immune tolerance has led to development of specific Cell-based Tolerance-inducing Therapies (CTT) with the specific objectives to restrain unwanted immune reactions long-term. For patients, personalised CTT will represent a breakthrough for healthcare and quality of life.

Clinical CTT studies are underway or starting in European institutes. The main objective of AFACTT was to establish a network to coordinate European CTT efforts to minimise overlap and maximise comparison of the diverse approaches to focus and accelerate the CTT field and ensure that the field will progress in an efficient, safe and cost-effective way.