

## **Program: ECMC-2025 (August 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>) Copenhagen**

### **Day 1 (Monday, August 18)**

**13.00-14.00** Arrival and registration

**14.00-14.15 Conference opening:** Mette M. Rosenkilde/Martin Gustavsson/Gertrud Hjortø (University of Copenhagen)

**14.15-16.00 Session I: Chemokines in the regulation of innate immunity**

14.15-14.45 Mia Philipsson (Uppsala University, Sweden) *"CXCL12-Dependent Mobilization of Proangiogenic Neutrophils from the Spleen Is Controlled by Sympathetic Signaling Following Ischemic Insult"*

14.45-15.15 Douglas Dyer (University of Manchester, UK) *"The endothelial and immune cell surface glycocalyx regulate chemokines in immune cell recruitment and function"*

15.15-15.30 TBD

15.30-15.45 Julia Gutjahr (Institute for Cell Biology and Immunology Thurgau, Switzerland) *"From Mice to Men: CXCR4 Trafficking and Signaling in Erythroblasts"*

15.45-16.00 Pedro Elias Marques (KU Leuven, Belgium) *"Autoantibodies against chemokines as new modulators of immunity"*

**16.00-16.30 Coffee**

**16.30-18.30 Session II: The chemokine system in cancer: mechanisms and therapeutic strategies**

16.30-17.15 Martine Smit (VU Amsterdam, Netherlands) *"Targeting constitutively active properties of oncogenic chemokine receptors"*

17.15-17.45 Antal Rot (Queen Mary University, London, UK) *"Altered tumour-host interface aggravates experimental prostate cancer in mice with the African rs2814778-like single-nucleotide polymorphism in the Ackr1 gene"*

17.45- 18.00 Gwendal Lazennec (CNRS, France) *"Crucial involvement of CXCR2 and neutrophils in breast cancer"*

18.00-18.15 Sofya Novikova (Ulm University Medical Center, Germany) *"GPR15LG and its derived peptides for the modulation of CXCR4 signaling"*

18.15- 18.30 Joshua Farber (NIAID, USA) *"Targeting CXCL9 for imaging T-cell activation in vivo"*

**18.30-21.00 Welcome reception on the top floor of the Maersk tower (and group photo)**

### **Day 2 (Tuesday, August 19)**

**8.00-9.00 Light breakfast** (in front of the Hannover auditorium)

**9.00-11.00 Session I: Chemokine receptor structure function**

9.00-9.45 Brian Volkman (Medical College of Wisconsin, USA)

9.45-10.15 Cherine Bechara (Montpellier University, France) *“Charged for Discovery: Mass Spectrometry Unlocks Chemokine Receptor dynamics and interactions”*

10.15- 10.30 Fernando Salgado Polo (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) *“Uncovering the molecular basis for the regulation of CXCR4 activity by cholesterol”*

10.30- 10.45 Thomas Lamme (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands) *“Signal termination of the chemokine receptor CCR9 is governed by an arrestin-independent phosphorylation mechanism”*

10.45-11.00 Shirsha Saha (Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur) *“Molecular basis of promiscuous ligand engagement, biased signaling and structural mimicry at chemokine receptors”*

#### **11.00-11.30 Coffee**

#### **11.30-13.00 Session II: Chemokine signaling and regulation by GAGs and modulators**

11.30-12.00 Rebecca Miller (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

12.00-12.30 Shoumo Bhattacharya (University of Oxford, UK) *“Bug to Drug: Chemokine network inhibitors from ticks”*

12.30- 12.45 Natalia Janowiak (VU Amsterdam, Netherlands) *“Defining the functional role of an underexplored CXCL12g isoform in a human ISPC-derived endothelial cell model”*

12.45- 13.00 Steve Matthews (Imperial College London, UK) *“Structural basis of CXCL8 inactivation by the Group A streptococcal anti-chemotactic protease SpyCEP”*

#### **13.00-14.30 Lunch and poster session**

#### **14.30-16.00 Session III: Signaling and cell migration**

14.30-15.15 Michael Sixt (IST, Austria)

15.15-15.45 Mario Mellado, (Centro Nacional de Biotecnología, Spain) *“Chemokine receptor oligomerization: a new paradigm in functional plasticity”*

15.45-16.15 Sudarshan Rajagopal (Duke University, USA) *“Biasing Chemokine Receptor Signaling”*

#### **16.15-17.15 Coffee and poster session**

#### **17.15-18.45 Session IV: Chemokine receptors and other GPCRs in Drug Discovery**

17.15-17.45 David Gloriam (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) *“Trends in GPCR drug discovery”*

17.45-18.15 Martin Gustavsson (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) *“RaPID discovery of cyclic peptides targeting chemokine receptors”*

18.15-18.30 Johan Lantto (Synklino A/S, Denmark) *“Ex vivo targeting of cytomegalovirus infection through the viral chemokine receptor US28”*

18.30-18.45 Christoffer Norn (Modulate, Denmark)

#### **19.00- Social event**

### **Day 3 (Wednesday, August 20)**

**8.00-9.00 Light breakfast** (in front of the Hannover auditorium)

#### **9.00-10.30 Session I: Chemokines in inflammatory and autoimmune diseases**

9.00-9.30 Sofie Struyf (KU Leuven, Belgium) *“Neutrophils, underestimated players in multiple sclerosis”*

9.30-10.00 Karl Balabanian (INSERM, France) *“CXCR4 signaling, a gatekeeper orchestrating the bone marrow ecosystem”*

10.00- 10.15 Charlie Joe Clark (University of Oxford, UK) *“Robust and redundant chemokine signalling networks drive immune cell trafficking in human immunoinflammatory disease”*

10.15-10.30 Fabio Beretta (KU Leuven, Belgium) *“Blocking the chemokine gradient formation prevents early hyperinflammation in severe influenza”*

#### **10.30-11.30 Coffee and poster session**

#### **11.30-13.00 Session II: Atypical chemokine receptors**

11.30-12.00 Martyna Szpakowska (Luxembourg Institute of Health)

12.00-12.30 Daniel Legler (Institute of Cell Biology and Immunology Thurgau, Switzerland) *“Mechanistic insights into chemokine scavenging by ACKR4”*

12.30- 12.45 Nikola Sobczak (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany) *“Tracking the drop: investigating erythroid ACKR1 in the duffy-null neutrophil mystery”*

12.45- 13.00 Noelia Santander Acerete (Centro Nacional de Biotecnología/CSIC, Spain) *“Atypical chemokine receptor 3 (ACKR3) oligomerization as a potential mechanism to modulate chemokine responses”*

#### **13.00-14.30 Lunch and poster session**

#### **14.30-16.00 Session III: Chemokines and their receptors in neuro-immunology**

14.30-15.00 Kristine Freude (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) *“Deciphering the Microglia Contribution to Sex Differences in Alzheimer’s Disease”*

15.00-15.30 Britta Engelhardt (Theodor Kocher Institute, Switzerland) *“The role of the brain barriers in neuroinflammation”*

15.30- 16.00 Nanna MacAuley (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) *“Inflammation drives CSF hypersecretion in posthemorrhagic hydrocephalus”*

#### **17.00- Excursion and conference dinner**

### **Day 4 (Thursday, August 21)**

**8.00-9.00 Light breakfast** (in front of the Hannover auditorium)

#### **9.00-11.00 Session I: Therapeutic strategies and druggable targets in the chemokine system**

9.00-9.45 Arun Shukla (Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur)

9.45-10.15 Andreas Kungl (University of Graz/Antagonis, Austria) *“Developing biologics which target the glycosaminoglycan-chemokine interface: an entrepreneurial view”*

10.15-10.45 Natalia Ortiz Zacarias (Leiden University, Netherlands) *“From Inhibition to Degradation: Targeting Chemokine Receptor CCR2”*

10.45-11.00 Una Ivkovic (KU Leuven, Belgium) *“Sustained delivery of CXCL12 through encapsulation in chitosan nanoparticles”*

**11.00-11.30 Coffee**

**11.30-13.00 Session II: New technologies in chemokine research/ B-ACTIVE doctoral network**

11.30-12.00 Steffen Goletz (Technical University of Denmark)

12.00- 12.30 Sofia de Oliveira (Albert Einstein College of Medicine, USA) *“Decoding Neutrophil Dynamics after Polytraumatic Injury: Mechanistic Insights from a Zebrafish Model”*

12.30- 12.45 Silvia Bergt (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) *“Distinct regulation of chemokine receptor function by O-glycosylation”*

12.45- 13.00 Clara Matteini (University of Graz /Antagonis, Austria) *“A potent CXCL8-HAS decoy as a promising biotherapeutic against chronic inflammatory diseases and cancer”*

13.00-13.15 Caroline Wouters (University of Copenhagen/Synklino, Denmark) *“The role of O-glycosylation in the viral chemokine receptor US28 and innovations in targeting CMV”*

**13.15-13.20: Conference closing**