

Current trends in Biomedicine

Germ cell-soma interactions in gonadal development and germ cell tumours

2008

Workshops

Organized jointly by the

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i **Universidad Internacional de Andalucía**

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Scope

Germ cell differentiation is linked to the differentiation of the somatic cells of the gonad. In mammals, testis development is orchestrated by signals from Sertoli cells, and any alteration in their differentiation/proliferation can have consequences for germ cell development.

Altered Sertoli cell differentiation during foetal life has been observed in different testicular disorders and it has been hypothesized is the cause of what is known as testicular dysgenesis syndrome, which includes alterations like cryptorchidism, hypospadias, low sperm counts and testicular germ cell tumours (TGCTs).

Testicular germ cell tumours are the most common cancer among men aged 17-45 years in Western industrialized countries. The existing evidences indicate that the precursor of almost all testicular germ cell tumours, the carcinoma in situ cell (CIS), originate during embryonic development, likely as result from basic breakdown of germ line-soma communication in the embryo. On the other hand, the rise in the incidence of TGCT observed in the last 50 years in developed countries clearly points to environmental factors, including endocrine disruptors, as risk factors for this and other anomalies in the male reproductive system.

To date, the mechanisms underlying TGCTs are not known. This workshop will improve the understanding of normal and anomalous testis development by covering germ cell biology and gonadal development together with research on gonadal pathologies in general and in testis germ cell tumours in particular. In this way we will improve our understanding of the aetiology of testicular tumours of germ cells and present new options for prevention, diagnosis and management of these cancers.

Format of the Workshop

The workshop will bring together 17 speakers and a maximum of 50 participants (including speakers). The scientific programme will start in the morning of Monday, October 20, and will end around noon on Wednesday, October 22. Ample time for informal discussion will be reserved. Participants will be invited to present a poster.

Venue of the Workshop

The workshop will be held in Baeza, at the "Sede Antonio Machado", a XVII century building turned into a Conference

and the



Sponsored by:



CBD

ARC Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology & Development

Centre of the Universidad Internacional de Andalucía (UNIA). This Seat includes a recently restored residence, where participants will be accommodated. Baeza is a World Historic Heritage town, renowned for its Renaissance and Gothic buildings.

Organized by:

Mónica Bullejos. Universidad de Jaén. Jaén, Spain.

Peter Koopman. Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland. Brisbane, Australia.

Niels E. Skakkebak. Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital. Copenhagen, Denmark.

Speakers

Mónica Bullejos. Departamento de Biología Experimental, Facultad de Ciencias Experimentales, Universidad de Jaén. Jaén, Spain.

Anne Grete Byskov. Laboratory of Reproductive Biology, Juliane Marie Centre, Section 5712, Rigshospitalet. Copenhagen, Denmark.

Blanche Capel. Department of Cell Biology, Duke University Medical Center. Durham, NC, USA.

Héctor E. Chemes. Laboratorio de Fisiología y Patología Testicular, Centro de Investigaciones Endocrinológicas, CEDIE-CONICET, División Endocrinología, Hospital de Niños. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Shinichiro Chuma. Department of Development and Differentiation, Institute for Frontier Medical Sciences, Kyoto University. Kyoto, Japan.

Massimo De Felici. Section of Histology and Embryology, Department of Public Health and Cell Biology, University of Rome Tor Vergata. Rome, Italy.

Jesús del Mazo. Departamento de Biología Celular y del Desarrollo, Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas, CSIC. Madrid, Spain.

Gary R. Hime. Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, University of Melbourne, ARC Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology and Development. Melbourne, Australia.

Peter Koopman. Institute for Molecular Bioscience, The University of Queensland. Brisbane, Australia.

Leendert H.J. Looijenga. Department of Pathology, Erasmus MC-University Medical Center Rotterdam, Daniel den Hoed Cancer Center, Josephine Nefkens Institute. Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

Kate L. Loveland. Monash Institute of Medical Research, Monash University, The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Biotechnology and Development. Clayton, Australia.

Horacio Merchant-Larios. Departamento de Biología Celular, Instituto de Investigaciones Biomédicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). México D.F., Mexico.

Kathleen Molyneaux. Department of Genetics, Case Western Reserve University. Cleveland, OH, USA.

Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts. Department of Growth and Reproduction, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital. Copenhagen, Denmark.

Richard M. Sharpe. MRC Human Reproductive Sciences Unit, Centre for Reproductive Biology, The Queen's Medical Research Institute. Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Niels E. Skakkebak. Department of Growth and Reproduction, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen University Hospital. Copenhagen, Denmark.

Michael K. Skinner. Center for Reproductive Biology, School of Molecular Biosciences, Washington State University. Pullman, WA, USA.

Baeza, Spain
20-22 October 2008

Deadline:
5 September 2008

Venue:

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More information and

application:
<http://www.unia.es/biomedicineworkshops/workshops2008.htm>

