



Scientific Symposium

Genetics of Complex Diseases

March 28th, 2012 Basel, Switzerland

Initiated and hosted by the Chronic Disease Epidemiology Unit of the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute – SwissTPH

Location: **Hotel Bildungszentrum 21**
Missionsstrasse 21
4003 Basel
+41 61 260 21 21
www.bildungszentrum-21.ch

Registration: Please register for the symposium by sending back the coupon or by e-mail to: ivan.curjuric@unibas.ch. The symposium is free of charge.

Background:

Genome wide association studies (GWAS) have uncovered many new, previously unknown genetic determinants of common chronic disease conditions such as overweight, diabetes mellitus type 2 or coronary heart disease. They offer the potential to discover key etiological pathways which may ultimately open new therapeutic options for disease control and treatment.

However, for technical reasons GWAS focused on genetic variants found commonly in the population up to date, the complexity of analysis models was limited to facilitate meta-analysis across large international consortia, and stringent multiple testing correction was applied to minimize the rate of false positive results and avoid costly replication genotyping.

As a consequence, the genetic variants identified by GWAS have explained only a few percent of phenotype variability for most complex diseases to date. New design and analytic approaches are thus required for a more comprehensive understanding of complex disease development.

Aim of the Symposium:

The aim of the symposium is to present the potential inherent to genome-wide association studies of complex disease, as well as current efforts to advance our understanding of complex disease causation making use of genome-wide data. These include studying gene-environment interaction, common genetic background of complex diseases as well as the contribution of variants with low population frequency to disease causation.

Programme:

SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM: GENETICS OF COMPLEX DISEASES

14:00-17:30 March 28th, 2012

Time

14:00 - 14:15 **Opening**

Prof. Nicole Probst-Hensch The Public Health Perspective of Genetics
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

14:00 - 15:30 Presentation Block 1

14:15 - 14:45 **Prof. Wolfgang Berger** Genetic Contribution to Onset and Therapeutic Outcome
Institute of Medical Molecular Genetics, University of Zürich, Zürich in Age-related Macular Degeneration

14:45 - 15:15 **Dr. Medea Imboden** Gene - Air Pollution Interactions in Respiratory Health
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

15:15 - 15:45 **Dr. med. Ivan Curjoric** The Role of the Environment in the Changing Genetic
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel Picture of COPD

15:45 - 16:15 **Coffee-Break**

16:15 - 17:30 Presentation Block 2

16:15 - 16:45 **Prof. Dirkje S Postma** Genetic Pleiotropy and the Common Genetic Grounds of
University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands Asthma and COPD

16:45 - 17:15 **Prof. Florian Kronenberg** The Role of Rare Genetic Variants: Effects on Lipoprotein
Innsbruck Medical University, Division of Genetic Epidemiology, Innsbruck, Austria Levels

17:15 - 17:30 **Symposium Closing**

Prof. Nicole Probst-Hensch Wrap-up: Future Directions
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel

Symposium Location:	Hotel Bildungszentrum 21, Lingua Franca Saal Missionsstrasse 21, 4003 Basel
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Symposium “Genetics of Complex Diseases”,
at Hotel Bildungszentrum 21, Basel
March 28th 14.00-17.30

I/we would like to confirm participation at the symposium

yes

no

No of participating persons _____

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Send back to:

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Or register by e-mail:

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