THE 2016 RESPIRATORY HEALTH SUMMIT

ABSTRACTS

24TH – 26TH MAY 2016
London, UK
This international event will discuss the latest research related to the science of respiratory health (social, economic, health and environmental). In an informal academic setting this three-day event will bring together those working in all aspects of respiratory health and research. From infection and pathology to treatment and pharmacology; this summit will cover all aspects of respiratory health.

This event has CPD accreditation

This abstract book will be finalised two weeks before the event


#Resp2016
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Invited Speakers Abstracts

Work Associated Irritable Larynx Syndrome
Dr. Jennifer Anderson, St. Michael’s Hospital, Toronto, Canada
Work associated Irritable Larynx Syndrome (WILS) is a hyperkinetic laryngeal disorder associated with occupational irritant exposure. Clinical symptoms are variable and include dysphonia, cough, dyspnea and globus. Laryngeal centered upper airway symptoms secondary to airborne irritants is documented in the literature under a variety of diagnostic labels including WILS, vocal cord dysfunction (VCD), laryngeal hypersensitivity and laryngeal neuropathy and others. The underlying pathophysiology is poorly understood however the clinical scenario suggests a multifactorial etiology. More recent literature indicates that central neuronal plasticity, inflammatory processes, and psychological factors are all likely contributors.
Treatment options for WILS include environmental, medical and behavioural therapy.

Novel mechanisms in airway smooth muscle affecting corticosteroid therapy in severe asthma
Dr. Yassine Amrani, University of Leicester, Leicester, United Kingdom
10% of asthma patients poorly respond to corticosteroid therapy which results in persistence of symptoms, intermittent attacks and increase risk of death. The purpose of the presentation is to update the current evidence describing the existence of corticosteroid resistant pathways in airway smooth muscle in asthma. Different molecular mechanisms will be discussed with a special emphasis on pathways affecting the function of corticosteroid receptor such as its phosphorylation on key serine residues and its ability to induce of anti-inflammatory proteins. Targeting these different pathways may therefore lead to novel potential therapeutic alternatives for the treatment of severe patients.

ECMO in refractory respiratory failure
Dr Lars Broman, Karolinska University Hospital
Extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) is expanding in the adult population as last resort in refractory respiratory failure. May that be Veno-venous, or Veno-arterial ECMO if required. Indications/contra-indications, techniques, the complexity of transferring on ECMO, and outcome are discussed.

Electronic Cigarettes and Quitting Smoking
Dr Jon O. Ebbert, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA
The learning objects of this presentation are to: 1) Understand the mechanics of Ecigarettes; 2) Summarize the data regarding Ecigarette nicotine delivery; 3) Define the known health risks of Ecigarettes; 4) Identify how cigarette smokers use Ecigarettes; and 5) Cite evidence regarding the efficacy of Ecigarettes for smoking cessation.

Volatile organic compounds in exhaled breath from tobacco cigarette and electronic cigarette smokers: Comparison with the emitted smoke composition.
Professor Joan O. Grimalt, Institute of Environmental Assessment and Water Research (IDAEA, Barcelona, Spain
The effect of cigarette smoke on the developing airway
Dr. Christina Pabelick, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, United States
Premature infants are at increased risk of developing bronchopulmonary dysplasia and future airway hyperreactivity (AHR) due to frequent exposure to mechanical ventilation and supplemental oxygen. Environmental tobacco smoke exposure may further exacerbate AHR. AHR involves increased intracellular Ca2+ ([Ca2+]i), increased contractility, and airway smooth muscle (ASM) hyperplasia. Data from our lab and others has shown that plasma membrane invaginations, termed caveolae, play an important role in ASM through interference with [Ca2+]i regulation leading to increased contractility and proliferation. These effects are further enhanced in the presence of cigarette smoke.

Combination pharmacological treatment for smoking cessation and weight gain prevention
Dr Ryan Hurt, Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, USA
Some individuals smoke with the perception that smoking helps control body weight. Smokers gain an average of as much as 10 pounds in the months following smoking abstinence, with heavier and more dependent smokers gaining more weight. Mean weight gain may be as much as 6 kilograms at 1 year and 10 kilograms over 5 years. Actual weight gain following smoking abstinence has been commonly associated with smoking relapse. The current talk will review the use of pharmacologic agents to address weight concerns in smokers.

Does fear of lung disease motivate smokers to quit
Dr John Nichols, University of Surrey, UK
Researchers have shown that the imminence of a health threat is the most important factor in a smoking cessation motivator. Spirometry with an explanation of lung age can improve quit rate. In our research, we have used a lung cancer risk score which is based on a combination of a genetic test (11 single nucleotide polymorphisms and a deletion mutation) and clinical criteria (history of COPD, family history of lung cancer and age) from which a lifetime risk of lung cancer can be estimated. This was only an effective motivator if lifetime risk was 50% or more.

Acute-on-Chronic disease: The role of Cigarette Smoke-induced COPD for Acute Lung Injury
Dr. Peter L. Radermacher, University of Ulm, Ulm, Germany
The clinical course and outcome of trauma patients with multiple injuries is significantly influenced by the coincidence of blunt chest trauma and consecutive lung contusion, which results in acute lung injury (ALI) with intrabronchial and intraalveolar bleeding, pulmonary capillary leakage with subsequent interstitial edema, and an enhanced systemic inflammatory response. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is characterized by hypoxemia, chronic pulmonary and systemic hyper-inflammation, and both oxidative and nitrosative stress. Cigarette smoke consumption is the most important cause of COPD, but scarce data are only available on the impact of cigarette smoke-induced COPD on the course of trauma-induced ALI. This talk will summarize the available epidemiological, clinical and experimental data on the impact of COPD on ALI, the mechanisms involved, as well as possible therapeutic approaches.

Targeting neutrophilic inflammation in pneumonia
Dr. Ricardo Jorge Paixao Jose, University College London, London, United Kingdom
Pneumonia is associated with an exaggerated neutrophilic inflammatory response that may lead to lung injury, increased morbidity and mortality despite current therapies. Currently novel therapeutic strategies are required to attenuate the inflammatory response without compromising host defence. This presentation will detail new evidence for the role of thrombin-PAR1 signalling in mediating neutrophilic inflammation in pneumonia. Additionally, it will present data on neutrophil chemokine receptor switching in community-acquired pneumonia.
Smoking cessation in Lung cancer patient, is it worth it?
Miss Rachel Roberts, Portfolio Research Coordinator, Hywel Dda University Health Board, Clinical Research Centre, Prince Philip Hospital, Llanelli
Despite advances in radiology and chemotherapy, the 5-year survival for Lung Cancer (LC) remains at under 10%. Studies suggest that continued smoking after a diagnosis of LC independently worsens quality of life and shortens life expectancy but these are small, retrospective studies where smoking was self-reported and only at baseline.
We have conducted a UK multicentre trial (NCT01192256) where we followed patients with newly diagnosed LC for up to 12 months. Self-reported smoking status was verified by serial exhaled carbon monoxide levels. All were offered smoking cessation and standard treatments according to best practice. Results have shown that smoking cessation affects survival, complication rate and impacts quality of life. This is the first prospective study to show people who quit smoking within 3 months of LC diagnosis have increased survival compared to those who continue to smoke. Findings to date indicate that stopping smoking is associated with significantly better prognosis in patients newly diagnosed with LC.

Cigarette smoking and risks of acute respiratory distress syndrome
Dr. Murali Shyamsundar, Queen’s University, Belfast, Belfast, United Kingdom
Tobacco smoking has been shown to be associated with an increased risk of developing acute respiratory distress syndrome.
This talk will present the current evidence on smoking associated ARDS secondary to various aetiologies. Results from a recently published trial investigating the mechanism for this increased risk using an inhaled lipopolysaccharide model in healthy volunteers will be presented. This talk will finish with the presentation of an ongoing research project exploring the effects of e-cigarette on pulmonary inflammation and epithelial-endothelial barrier function.

A new combined MTB complex and MTB Rifampicin / Isoniazid resistance detection test
Dr Ning Tang, Ph.D, Abbott Molecular Inc., Des Plaines, IL, USA
Tuberculosis (TB) specifically drug-resistant TB poses a serious threat to public health. Rapid and reliable diagnosis is crucial for correct management of tuberculosis. The Abbott RealTime MTB assay represents new real-time PCR assay for direct detection of M. tuberculosis-complex (MTB) DNA from respiratory samples. The MTB test can be followed by a reflex test for detection of MTB resistance to Rifampicin and Isoniazid using the same sample preparation eluent. The basic performance characteristics for MTB killing process, MTB complex detection and the reflex MTB resistance test will be described and evaluated in this presentation.

The 2014 US Nationwide Outbreak of Severe Respiratory Illness Associated with Enterovirus D68
Dr. Guiqing Wang, New York Medical College, Valhalla, United States
A nationwide outbreak of severe respiratory illness associated with enterovirus D68 (EV-D68) infection, with more than 1,000 confirmed cases and several death, was reported in the United States in 2014. The epidemiology, clinical features, diagnosis and control strategies of EV-D68 infections will be reviewed. Also, whole-genome sequencing data on a new clade of EV-D68 causing this outbreak and its pathogenicity, molecular characteristics and clinical implications will be presented.

P2Y receptors and airway inflammation
Professor KO Wing Hung, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
Autocrine or paracrine release of nucleotides is now recognized as an important biological and physiological process that may contribute to airway inflammation. Nucleotides released during the airway inflammatory processes (e.g. ATP, UDP) will activate cell membrane P2Y receptors, which will lead to further release of inflammatory cytokines. The secretion of cytokines and formation of such “cytokine networks” play important roles in prolonging airway inflammatory disease. This novel mechanism may represent an important cellular signalling pathway for regulating asthmatic inflammation in airway cells, and suggests that the P2Y receptor could be a therapeutic target for the development of anti-inflammatory strategies.
Novel Portable Nebulisation Platform for Next Generation Inhaled Macromolecular Therapeutics
Professor Leslie Yeo, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

We demonstrate a portable nebulisation platform for pulmonary drug, gene and stem cell delivery, particularly that of a DNA vaccine against influenza. The technology is also a rapid, efficient and straightforward means for synthesizing 100 nm biodegradable polymeric particles within which therapeutic molecules such as nucleic acids, proteins and peptides can be encapsulated. The low cost, particle size control, low power requirement, delivery efficiency, and miniaturisability makes the platform an attractive alternative to current nebulisers and inhalers, which we envisage could comprise the next-generation of devices that will revolutionise pulmonary drug and gene delivery for needle-free therapy.

Day 1:

Oral Presentation Abstracts
Oral presentations will be added after the submission deadline

Day 2:

Oral Presentation Abstracts

Day 3:

Oral Presentation Abstracts

Poster Presentation Abstracts
Poster abstracts will be finalised weeks before the event

KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE OF AUSTRIAN GENERAL PRACTITIONERS ABOUT/TOWARDS E-CIGARETTES
M. van Hove¹, F. Unterhofer¹, A. Gopfert², P. Wallner¹, H. Moshammer¹, H.-P Hutter¹

¹Institute of Environmental Health, Center for Public Health, Medical University Vienna, Austria
²Bristol Royal Infirmary, UK

Presenting author: Assoc. Prof. DI Dr. Hans-Peter Hutter, Institute of Environmental Health, CPH, MUVI, Kinderspitalgasse 15, A-1095 Vienna, Austria.

Background: Sales of e-cigarettes (EC) have increased exponentially in recent years with e-cigarettes often being marketed as a less harmful alternative to tobacco cigarettes. There is an ongoing debate about the potential advantages of uses as well as negative health effects of EC. The outcome of these discussions could have a significant impact e.g. on smoking cessation programs. Aim of this study is to investigate the knowledge of Austrian general practitioners towards e-cigarettes and to identify current practice regarding the use of EC.
Methods: A structured questionnaire consisting of 49 items was administered by experienced interviewers. Information was collected on the demographics of the participants and knowledge on the component materials and harmfulness of a variety of nicotine products. Furthermore, ratings of EC as a smoking cessation device are included.

Results: Data from 237 doctors (135 male, 105 female) were analysed (average age 49.8 years). 73.4% of participants rated their knowledge of e-cigarettes as "poor" or "very poor". E-cigarettes were recommended for smoking cessation by 7.2% of doctors; more often recommended were nicotine inhalers (20.3%), nicotine patches (59.9%) or medicines supporting smoking cessation (30.8%). 72.1% of participants considered Conventional nicotine replacement therapy were considered a suitable tool for smoking cessation by 72.1% of the participants, 30.9% thought e-cigarettes are suitable. Nearly three quarters of participants did not feel sufficiently informed to discuss the topic with patients.

Discussion: In light of the increasing use of EC in Austria, it is pertinent to note that general practitioners do not feel sufficiently informed to accurately answer patients' queries. Although several participants considered EC an effective tool for smoking cessation only few participants recommended their use. This discrepancy could highlight a lack of knowledge, and represent the uncertainty and contradictory research which currently exists on the topic. These findings demonstrate the need for further education of Austrian GPs on this topic. Considering the increasing demand for EC, evidence based recommendations on the toxicological aspects and addictive properties of EC are very important.

CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY ON NUCLEAR ANOMALIES IN BUCCAL CELLS OF E-CIGARETTE-USER IN AUSTRIA - FIRST RESULTS

F. Unterhofer¹, A. Nersesyan², S. Knasmüller², AAW Khan¹, M. van Hove¹, M. Kundi¹, H. Moshammer¹, P. Wallner¹, H.-P. Hutter¹

¹Institute of Environmental Health, Center of Public Health, Medical University of Vienna
²Institute of Cancer Research, Medical University of Vienna

Presenting author: Assoc. Prof. DI Dr. Hans-Peter Hutter, Institute of Environmental Health, CPH, MUVI, Kinderspitalgasse 15, A-1095 Vienna, Austria.

Background: An increasing trend towards e-cigarettes (EC) has instigated a discussion on this new form of nicotine consumption. Existing research allows only limited recommendations for public health measures as there is no long-term evidence on adverse effects and addictiveness. The aim of this study is to investigate genotoxic and cytotoxic effects of EC vapor on human buccal mucosa cells and the user behaviour of participants. In this article we describe the findings of a questionnaire conducted to explore these parameters.

Methods: Data was collected on the current health of participants and current and previous use of nicotine products. The Penn State Cigarette/Electronic - cigarette Dependence Indices were utilized to establish addiction levels of participants. The questionnaires were administered by trained interviewers. Mouth swabs were taken from 34 EC users and 36 tobacco smokers in order to establish the toxicological effects. 37 non-smokers were recruited as a control group. The buccal smears will be analysed for genotoxic and cytotoxic effects via Buccal Micronucleus Cytome-Assay (BMCA).

Results: The average age of participants was 39.5±6.3 years. Cigarette smokers consumed on average 25.4±12.4 cigarettes per day with an average nicotine content of 0.7±0.2 mg. EC users had been using their EC for an average of 16.6±13 months. With an average consumption of 11.0±6.1 ml of E-liquid per day. Around 63% of EC users identified themselves as heavy users. Before switching to EC, users smoked an average of 29.0±14.6 cigarettes per day and about 88% reported feeling healthier since switching. Evaluation of the Penn State Dependence Index demonstrated an average of “low dependence” (8.13±2.86) for e-cigarette users and “medium dependence” (10.50±3.13) for cigarette smokers.
Discussion: In line with several international studies most participants reported feeling healthier following a switch to EC. The participants used high-performance EC and had an above average EC consumption, which correlates with an elevated addiction profile. Nevertheless the addiction profile of EC users was lower than within the smokers group. These findings will, in combination with the BMCA, help to establish if a long-term use of EC has significant health effects.