Symposium of the HLA Laboratory and Transplant Centre Zurich
“HLA antibodies in solid organ transplantation”

Thursday, May 10th 2012, 09.15–17.15,
University Hospital Zurich, Kleiner Hörsaal OST
Dear Colleagues,

In recent years re-transplantation has become common practice in solid organ transplantation not only for kidney, but also for liver, lung, pancreas, intestine and heart recipients. Therefore, HLA sensitization has become an increasing problem in the field of solid organ transplantation. The advent of novel solid phase assays allows precise determination of the specificity and strength of a given antibody. This in turn has led to a number of studies on pre- and post-transplant risk assessment in solid organ recipients providing guidance for immunosuppressive management.

In the first part of this symposium, we will discuss the role of HLA-C, -DP and MICA in solid organ transplantation and thereafter, address which antibodies and which MFI levels are relevant for clinicians. Technical problems such as the impact of the prozone effect and novel assays such as C1q binding will be highlighted. During the afternoon, we will focus on HLA antibody testing in kidney, pancreas, heart and multi-visceral transplantation.

Once again, this year will be another important one for the Zurich HLA Laboratory. In 2011 we were able to move the lab into a totally refurbished setting. The new rooms fulfil all technical criteria for EFI accreditation, which we applied for in 2012. We are confident that this symposium will highlight these important advancements. We are looking forward to welcome you as our guest on May 10th in Zurich.

With kind regards,

Thomas Fehr
Urs Schanz
Jens Brockmann
Barbara Rüsi

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Part I – Technical aspects of HLA antibody testing
Chair: Jean-Marie Tiercy, Geneva

09.15–09.55   HLA-C, -DP and MICA in organ transplantation
                Joannis Mytilineos, Ulm

09.55–10.35   The prozone effect in HLA antibody testing and other interference factors
                Nils Lachmann, Berlin

10.35–11.00   Coffee break (Dick&Davy)

11.00–11.45   What determines pathogenicity of an HLA antibody: MFI? C1q binding? Affinity?
                Peter Brescia, Los Angeles

11.45–12.15   EFI accreditation: critical issues
                Jean-Marie Tiercy, Geneva

12.15–13.30   Lunch (Dick&Davy)
(In parallel: HLA Lab visit for interested participants)

Part II – Clinical implications of HLA antibody testing

HLA antibodies in kidney transplantation
Chair: Thomas Fehr, Zurich

13.30–14.00   Pre-transplant risk assessment for kidney allocation: the Swiss cPRA project
                Jean Villard, Geneva

14.00–14.30   Is there a role for HLA antibody monitoring post kidney transplantation?
                Stefan Schaub, Basel

HLA antibodies in other solid organ transplants
Chair: Jens Brockmann, Zurich

14.30–15.00   Heart transplantation
                Thomas Fehr, Zurich

15.00–15.30   Coffee break (Dick&Davy)

15.30–16.00   Liver transplantation
                Philipp Dutkowski, Zurich

16.00–16.30   Pancreas/islet transplantation
                Diego Cantarovich, Nantes

16.30–17.00   Small bowel/multivisceral transplantation
                Andreas Pascher, Berlin

17.00–17.15   Closing remarks
                Thomas Fehr, Zurich

17.15         Apéro
**Speakers and Chairmen**

Peter Brescia  
International Division Manager One Lambda  
Canoga Park CA

PD Dr. Jens Brockmann  
Division of Visceral and Transplant Surgery  
University Hospital Zurich

Prof. Dr. Diego Cantarovich  
Division of Transplantation  
University Hospital Nantes

Prof. Philipp Dutkowski  
Division of Visceral and Transplant Surgery  
University Hospital Zurich

Prof. Thomas Fehr  
Transplantat Centre Zurich  
Division of Nephrology  
University Hospital Zurich

Nils Lachmann  
Scientific advisor BmT GmbH  
Meerbusch-Osterath

PD Dr. Joannis Mytilineos  
Division for Clinical Transfusion Medicine and Immunogenetics  
University Hospital Ulm

PD Dr. Andreas Pascher  
Division of Visceral and Transplant Surgery  
Charité – University Hospital Berlin

PD Dr. Stefan Schaub  
Division of Transplant Immunology and Nephrology  
University Hospital Basel

PD Dr. Jean-Marie Tiercy  
National Histocompatibility Reference Laboratory  
University Hospital Geneva

PD Dr. Jean Villard  
Immunology and Transplantation Unit  
University Hospital Geneva

Credits: requested by SGN, SGIM, SGC, SGH and SGA

**Location**

University Hospital Zurich  
Kleiner Hörsaal OST B  
(Please note the signposting)

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**Organization**

University Hospital Zurich  
Transplant Centre  
cc Kathrin Kocher  
Raemistrasse 100  
8091 Zurich  
Tel.: +41(0)44 255 10 87  
email: kathrin.kocher@usz.ch