

28th Symposium on Glycosaminoglycans

September 27th – 29th, 2021



Organizers:

Giangiaco­mo Torri and Annamaria Naggi
"G. Ronzoni" Institute for Chemical and Biochemical Research,
Milan, Italy

Job Harenberg and Roland Krämer
University of Heidelberg, Germany

Welcome to San Servolo Island 2021!

Following the interruption last year due to the pandemic, the series of annual Symposia resumes with the 28th edition, which will take place on San Servolo Island, in Venice Lagoon. Eminent specialists from all over the world are invited to discuss both current and emerging topics of interest in the fields of chemistry, biochemistry, biology, pharmacology, and in the clinical applications of heparin and other glycosaminoglycans. In particular, sessions devoted to COVID-19 and Glycosaminoglycan Research, as well as others covering both basic and applied research aspects have been considered. The subjects of interest cover biosynthesis, structural characterization and protein interactions, biological functions, pharmaceutical and clinical aspects including anti-inflammatory and anti-tumor activity.

The symposium will have a hybrid character, allowing both in-presence and virtual participation. However, as per tradition, participation is only by invitation.

Keynote speakers will outline state-of-the art, research and advances in each field and present novel results and future perspectives. A sufficient time will be allotted for in-depth discussion. The informal, workshop-like character of the symposia and the pleasant surroundings of San Servolo will stimulate the traditional after-session interactions among participants as in the past twenty-seven editions.

Job Harenberg

Giangiaco Torri

Scientific board

Job Harenberg, Giangiaco Torri, Roland Krämer, Ram Sasisekharan, Annamaria Naggi, Marco Guerrini, Gerd Bendas, Martin Götte.

Scientific Secretary

Antonella Bisio

Monday, September 27th 2021

13.30 – 14.30 **Lunch**

15.00 – 15.10 **Welcome address, Job Harenberg and Giangiacomo Torri**

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND GLYCOSAMINOGLYCAN RESEARCH

Moderator: **Edwin Yates**

15.10 – 15.30 **Jeffrey Esko**, San Diego
SARS-CoV-2 infection depends on cellular heparan sulfate.

15.30 – 15.50 **Mark Skidmore**, Keele
Heparin inhibits cellular invasion by SARS-CoV-2.

15.50 – 16.10 **Marco Guerrini**, Milan
First insights into the molecular recognition mechanisms of SARS-CoV-2 spike protein and glycosaminoglycans.

16.10 – 16.30 **Discussion**

16.30 – 16.50 **Coffee and tea**

COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND GLYCOSAMINOGLYCAN RESEARCH

Moderator: **Giangiacomo Torri**

16.50 – 17.10 **Benilde Cosmi**, Bologna
Low molecular weight heparin for thromboembolic complication of COVID-19.

17.10 – 17.30 **Job Harenberg**, Heidelberg – **Alejandro Gonzalez-Ochoa**, San Luis Rio Colorado – **Jawed Fareed**, Chicago.
Oral sulodexide reduces the adverse outcomes in COVID-19 infections.

17.30 – 17.50 **Jeremy Turnbull**, Liverpool
Synthetic heparan sulfate mimetic pixatimod (PG545) potently inhibits SARS-CoV-2 by disrupting the spike-ACE2 interaction.

17.50 – 18.10 **Discussion**

20.00 **Welcome cocktail**

20.30 **Dinner**

Tuesday, September 28th 2021

THE MULTIFACETED ROLES OF HEPARANASE

Moderator: **John Gallagher**

- 9.00 – 9.20 **Jin-ping Li**, Uppsala
Heparanase overexpression impedes perivascular clearance of amyloid- β from murine brain. Relevance to Alzheimer's disease.
- 9.20 – 9.40 **Giuliana Cassinelli**, Milan
Targeting heparanase/heparan sulfate proteoglycans in sarcomas.
- 9.40 – 10.00 **Noemi Veraldi**, Geneva
Targeting Heparanase to decrease lysosomal accumulation of heparan sulfate fragments in Sanfilippo syndrome.
- 10.00 – 10.20 **Israel Vlodavsky**, Haifa
Role of heparanase-2 (Hpa2) in tumor suppression and normal development.
- 10.20 – 10.40 **Maurice Petitou**, Milan
Some approaches towards heparanase inhibitors.
- 10.40 – 11.00 **Discussion**
- 11.00 – 11.20 **Coffee and tea**

NEW ANALYTICAL APPROACHES

Moderator: **Gerd Bendas**

- 11.20 – 11.40 **Pierre Mourier**, Vitry sur Seine
Specific non-reducing ends in heparins from different animal origins: building blocks analysis using reductive amination tagging by sulfanilic acid.
- 11.40 – 12.00 **Elena Vismara**, Milan
Heparin engineered super paramagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles for theranostic applications.
- 12.00 – 12.20 **Jawed Fareed**, Chicago – **Roland Krämer**, Heidelberg
Absolute quantification of heparin and related glycosaminoglycans by heparin red and LC MS methods.
- 12.20 – 12.40 **Discussion**
- 13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch**

Tuesday, September 28th 2021

NEW ANALYTICAL APPROACHES

Moderator: **Martin Götte**

- 14.30 – 14.50 **Richard Karlsson**, Copenhagen
Towards comprehensive analysis of 3-O-sulfation in heparin and heparan sulfate.
- 14.50 – 15.10 **Andrew Hook**, Nottingham
Whole molecule analysis of glycosaminoglycans (GAGs) by secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS), detecting GAG contaminants within heparin.
- 15.10 – 15.20 **Discussion**

PHARMACEUTICAL AND REGULATORY ASPECTS

Moderator: **Marco Guerrini**

- 15.20 – 15.40 **Sandra Blome**, Greifswald - Insel Riems
African swine fever and its impact on products derived from pigs.
- 15.40 – 16.00 **Jawed Fareed**, Chicago
An update on bovine, ovine and porcine heparin and enoxaparin.
- 16.00 – 16.20 **Coffee and tea**
- 16.20 – 16.40 **Ali Al-Hakim**, Gaithersburg
General considerations for diversifying heparin drug product by improving the current heparin manufacturing process and reintroducing bovine sourced heparin to the US market.
- 16.40 – 17.00 **David Keire**, St. Louis
Clearance of prion infectivity through bovine heparin processing.
- 17.00 – 17.20 **Lorenzo Montrasio**, Strasbourg
Access to treatments in a context of scarce resources.
- 17.20 – 17.40 **Discussion**
- 20.00 **Dinner**

Wednesday, September 29th 2021

GLYCOSAMINOGLYCAN INTERACTIONS

Moderator: **Carl Kirchmaier**

- 9.00 – 9.20 **Jacob van den Born**, Groningen
GAGs as inhibitors of the complement system. A special focus on the MASP-2 protease.
- 9.20 – 9.40 **Kay Grobe**, Münster
Two binding sites are required for direct Hedgehog morphogen relay from one heparan sulfate chain to the next.
- 9.40 – 10.00 **Susanne Alban**, Kiel
New insights into fucoidans from brown algae.
- 10.00 – 10.20 **Discussion**
- 10.20 – 10.40 **Coffee and tea**

HEPARIN AND OTHER GLYCOSAMINOGLYANS IN MALIGNANCY

Moderator: **Job Harenberg**

- 10.40 – 11.00 **Martin Götte**, Münster
Role of the heparan sulfate proteoglycan Syndecan-1 in the tumor microenvironment.
- 11.00 – 11.20 **Gerd Bendas**, Bonn
The potency of synthetic heparin mimetics to inhibit tumor-host cell interaction.
- 11.20 – 12.10 **General discussion**
- 12.10 – 12.20 **Closing remarks: Giangiacomo Torri and Job Harenberg**
- 13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch**

Location of the Symposium

Centro Congressi San Servolo
Isola di San Servolo
30124 Venezia

Tel.: +39-041/2765001
Fax: +39-041/2765402
E-mail: sanservolo@servizimetropolitani.ve.it
Internet: <https://servizimetropolitani.ve.it/>

Organisers

Dr. Giangiacomo Torri &
Dr. Annamaria Naggi
Istituto di Ricerche Chimiche e
Biochimiche "G. Ronzoni"
Via G. Colombo, 81
20133 Milano, Italy
Tel: +39/02-70641624
E-mail: torri@ronzoni.it
naggi@ronzoni.it
Internet: www.ronzoni.it

Prof. em. Dr. med. Job Harenberg
University of Heidelberg
Email: job.harenberg@medma.uni-heidelberg.de
&
Prof. Roland Krämer
Inst of Inorganic Chemistry Ruprecht-Karls
University of Heidelberg
Im Neuenheimer Feld 270
69120 Heidelberg, Germany
Tel: +49 (0)6221-548438
Fax: +49 (0)6221-548599
E-mail: Roland.Kraemer@urz.uni-heidelberg.de

Scientific Secretary

Dr. Antonella Bisio
Istituto di Ricerche Chimiche e Biochimiche "G. Ronzoni"
Via G. Colombo, 81
20133 Milano
Italy

Tel: +39/02-70641630
Fax: +39/02-70641634
E-mail: bisio@ronzoni.it

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