

10th Anniversary of the ROTRF: Early Morning Workshop

Sydney Convention Centre Darling Harbour
Sydney, Australia
Bayside Auditorium B
Wednesday, August 13, 2008, 07:15 – 08:15



Mechanisms of Graft Rejection and Acceptance: Pathways to a New Clinical Era

Moderators: **Robert B. Colvin**, *Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA*
Gerhard Opelz, *University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany*

07:15–07:20 **Introduction**
Robert B. Colvin

07:20–07:35 **Cell-Mediated Rejection: An Expanding Definition**
Allan D. Kirk, *Emory University, Atlanta, USA*

07:35–07:50 **Antibody-Mediated Rejection: The Next Frontier**
Philip F. Halloran, *University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada*

07:50–08:05 **Identification of Operational Tolerance
in Clinical Liver Transplantation**
Alberto Sanchez-Fueyo, *Hospital Clinic Barcelona,
Barcelona, Spain*

08:05–08:15 **Closing Remarks**
Gerhard Opelz

This workshop is CME accredited through the XXII International Congress of the Transplantation Society.
No pre-registration is required for attending this workshop.
For further information on the ROTRF and the workshop, please visit our information booth #125
or www.rotrf.org.

Mechanisms of Graft Rejection and Acceptance: Pathways to a New Clinical Era

- The goal of this workshop is to present new insights into the mechanisms of graft rejection and acceptance that have potential relevance to clinical practice. The three speakers will link molecular pathways to pathological features in biopsies and in turn to their clinical consequences.
- Although much progress has been made in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of T-cell-mediated acute graft injury, recent evidence points to other components, such as the innate immune system, that contribute to graft rejection both by direct injury and by promoting an alloresponse. Full understanding of these alternative pathways will likely lead to innovative therapies.
- Over the last several years, alloantibodies have finally been recognised as a major barrier to successful organ transplantation, not only in terms of acute rejection in presensitised patients, but more broadly in all patients for long-term graft survival. The pathological and clinical features of early and late antibody-mediated rejection will be described and complemented with new molecular markers that reveal potential pathogenetic mechanisms through microarray detection of gene expression in biopsies.
- The long-standing goal of clinical transplantation to control mechanisms of graft rejection by harnessing immunoregulatory processes will be the third topic of this workshop. The emerging lessons from mouse and human studies will be discussed with particular reference to liver transplantation and the search for a non-invasive diagnostic signature capable of predicting tolerance before drug withdrawal.

