2nd International Workshop on
Ankylosing Spondylitis:
Tales of Molecules and Patients

October 12–13 2023
BIOS+ Seminar room
Institute for Research in Biomedicine
Bellinzona, Switzerland

Supported by Fondazione Ceschina
Thursday, October 12

8.30 Arrival of the participants

9.00 Welcome addresses
   Davide Robbiani, Director IRB
   Franco Porzio, Fondazione Ceschina

9.15 Opening Lecture
   Chair: Costantino Pitzalis
   Dennis Mc Gonagle – Leeds Institute of Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal
   Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and Health, Leeds, United Kingdom
   “Enthesitis in SpA: mechanisms and treatment”

9.45 Rheumatology
   Chair: Angelo Manfredi
   10.00 Stephen Sansom – Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology,
       University of Oxford, United Kingdom
       “Cross-tissue single-cell analysis of spondyloarthritis”
   10.30 Costantino Pitzalis – William Harvey Research Institute, Queen Mary
       University, London, United Kingdom
       “Dissecting convergent and divergent molecular pathways in RA and SpA:
       towards precision medicine”

11.00 Coffee break

Bone and matrix remodelling
   Chairs: Valentina Cecchinato and Angelo Manfredi
   11.30 Rik Lories – Department of Development and Regeneration, KU Leuven,
       Belgium
       “Bone disease in axial Spondyloarthritis”
   12.00 Veronica Martini – IRB, Università della Svizzera italiana,
       Bellinzona, Switzerland
       “The role of chemokine receptors in Ankylosing Spondylitis”

12.30 Lunch

SpA as the model MHC-I-opathy
   Chairs: Maria Teresa Fiorillo and Rosa Sorrentino
   14.00 Maxime Breban – Inserm, Université de Versailles-Paris-Saclay,
       Montigny-le-Bretonneux, France
       “Interplay between HLA-B27 and microbiota in the context of SpA
       susceptibility”
   14.30 Geraldine Gillespie – Nuffield Department of Medicine,
       University of Oxford, United Kingdom
       “Microbial and self-antigens: a pathogenic role in HLA-B*27-associated
       disease”
   15.00 Valentina Tedeschi – Department of Biology and Biotechnology
       “Charles Darwin”, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
       “Hypermotility of CD8+ T cells in SpA: a link to immunosenescence”

15.30 Coffee break

Immunity & chronic inflammation
   Chairs: Mariagrazia Ugucioni and Andreas Ziegler
   16.00 Simon Jones – Systems Immunity Research Institute, University of Cardiff,
       United Kingdom
       “How do cytokines instruct disease progression?”
   16.30 Martin Herrmann – Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg,
       Germany
       “Extracellular chromatin drives maladaptive tissue repair and autoimmunity”

19.00 Dinner

Friday, October 13

Adaptive responses in autoimmunity
   Chairs: Rosa Sorrentino and Mariagrazia Ugucioni
   9.00 Claudia Mauri – Centre for Rheumatology Research,
       University College London, United Kingdom
       “Regulatory B cells in autoimmune disease”
   9.30 Davide Robbiani – IRB, Università della Svizzera italiana,
       Bellinzona, Switzerland
       “Autoantibodies regulating chemokine activities”
   10.00 Valentina Cecchinato – IRB, Università della Svizzera italiana,
       Bellinzona, Switzerland
       “Autoantibodies in autoimmune diseases”

10.30 Concluding remarks
   Franco Porzio, Angelo Manfredi and Mariagrazia Ugucioni

11.00 End of the meeting, toast and departure