WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH

8.00 am – 10.00 am
SCHERING SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM - CHRONIC LYMPHOID MALIGNANCIES (CLM): THE NEXT CHAPTER
Chairman:  Fernando Bezares (Argentina)
Co-Chairman:  Raúl Gabús (Uruguay)

- Towards new standards in the treatment of CLL - Stefan Faderl, (USA)
- Campath®/Mab- Campath®:  combination therapy and minimal residual disease management - Thomas Elter (Germany)
- Radioimmunotherapy in the Lymphoma setting: Zevamab® for follicular, aggressive and transplantation - Pierre Laneuville (Canada)

The goal of the program is to provide hematologists / oncologists with an overview of a novel mechanism and targeting for cure in lymphoproliferative diseases such as chronic lymphocytic leukemia and non-Hodgkin lymphomas including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, radioimmunotherapy and non-ablative stem cell transplantation strategies

10.30 am – 12: 30 pm
NOVARTIS SYMPOSIUM - CHRONIC MYELOGENOUS LEUKEMIA (CML)
Chairman:  Eduardo Bullorsky (Argentina)
Co-Chairman:  Alicia Magariños (Uruguay)

- Monitoring CML. Quantification of BCR / ABL. Transcripts by RT – PCR and its correlation with suppressive action of IMATINIB. CML Group Argentina – Uruguay.  Isabel Giere (Argentina)
- Mechanisms of resistance to IMATINIB  Raquel Bengió (Argentina)
- Bone Marrow Transplantation in the IMATINIB Era - Eduardo Bullorsky (Argentina)
- Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia Treatment – Michel Mauro (USA)

CML accounts for 15-20% of newly diagnosed leukemia in adults. It has been studied in great detail, and the molecular and cytogenetic abnormalities that are the hallmarks of the disease are well characterized. Dr. I. Giere will tell us about the ongoing study of the Argentinian-Uruguayan group that monitors CML responses. In that sense Dr. R. Bengió will show the results of a similar study focused on resistance mechanisms. Dr. E. Bullorsky will talk about bone marrow transplantation as treatment in the Imatinib era. M. Mauro will update us on novel therapies in CML.

12.45 – 2.00 pm
JANSSEN CILAG SYMPOSIUM - NEW THERAPEUTIC OPTIONS IN HEMATOLOGICAL MALIGNANCIES - Proteasome Inhibition in Daily Practice
Chairman:  Jesús San Miguel (Spain)
Co- Chairman:  Enrique Bódega (Uruguay)

- Sergio Giralt (USA)
- Jesús San Miguel (Spain)

In 2004 Aaron Ciechanover, Avram Hershko and Irwin Rose won the Novel Prize in Chemistry for the discovery of ubiquitin/proteasome-mediated protein degradation. Their research has led to an understanding of the proteasome pathway and has directly contributed to the development of a new type of drug for the treatment of cancer patients: VELOCADE(tm) (bortezomib), the first and only proteasome inhibitor to be approved for the treatment of patients with multiple myeloma. The main objective of the symposium is to discuss that nowadays a new and sophisticated mechanism of action such as the proteasome inhibition could be applied in daily practice.
3.00 pm – 5.00 pm
GSK SYMPOSIUM - ARIXTRA

5.30 pm – 7.30 pm
ROCHE SYMPOSIUM - NON HODGKIN LYMPHOMA (NHL)
Chairman: Julie Vose (USA)
Co-Chairman: Lem Martinez (Uruguay)

- Large B cell lymphoma - Julie Vose (USA)
- Follicular lymphoma - Emili Monserrat (Spain)
- Maintenance Therapy with Mabthera in Follicular NHL - Eva Kimby (Sweden)

More than ever, the heterogeneity of the non-hodgkin lymphomas is apparent. We are challenged to understand their complex and diverse biology and to translate the newest developments into clinical advances to benefit our patients. This symposium will provide a critical update in the diagnosis and treatment of follicular and aggressive lymphomas.

7.30 pm – 9.30 pm
SANOFI AVVENTIS SYMPOSIUM - VENOUS THROMBOEMBOLIC DISEASE (VTED)
Chairman: Ana Maria Otero (Uruguay)
Co-Chairman: Ernesto Novoa (Uruguay)

- Risk factors – Adriana Sarto (Argentina)
- Diagnosis of VTED – Paula Guggiari (Paraguay)
- Endovascular procedures in VTED – Alfredo Prego (Uruguay)
- VTED in immune disorders – Mary Carmen Amigo (Mexico)
- Treatment of VTED – Mercedes Mijares (Venezuela)

Venous thrombosis disease is an important cause of morbidity and mortality. Incidence is low in young people but increases with age to 1% per year in the elderly and increases when risk factors are associated. In a small proportion of cases, venous thrombosis leads to pulmonary embolism, which can be fatal. Each year millions of patients will die from blood clots that obstruct blood flow to their lungs (pulmonary embolism). The tragedy is that most of these problems could be avoided by simple, cost-effective measures. Use of modern methods of DVT prophylaxis will reduce the incidence of DVT during the postoperative period by two-thirds and will prevent death from pulmonary embolism in 1 patient out of every 200 major operations.
THURSDAY 23 MARCH

8.00 am – 9.30 am
AUTOLOGOUS BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION (ABMT)
Chairman: Mary Horowitz (USA)
Co-Chairman: Benjamin Koziner (Argentina)

- ABMT in Acute Leukemias – Mary Horowitz (USA)
- ABMT in Follicular Lymphoma – Julie Vose (USA)
- ABMT in Aggressive Lymphoma – Benjamin Koziner (Argentina)

This educational meeting will raise and analyze some controversies in the field of autologous bone marrow transplant. Dr. M. Horowitz will focus her presentation on ABMT in acute leukemias. Dr. J Vose and Dr. B Koziner will discuss current controversies on ABMT in Non Hodgkin Lymphoma.

9.30 – 10.00 am
CONFERENCE: UNRELATED BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION
Mary Horowitz (USA) - Alfredo Pavlovsky Award

10.30 am – 12.00 am
ALLOGENEIC BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION
Chairman: Emin Kansu (Turkey)
Co-Chairman: David Gómez-Almaguer (Mexico)

- Introduction – Emin Kansu (Turkey)
- Non-myeloablative Transplantation - Sergio Giralt (USA)
- Chronic Graft Versus Host Disease – Daniel Couriel (USA)
- Acute Graft versus Host Disease - Daniel Couriel (USA)

This round table will focus on the "State of the Art" of both acute and chronic graft versus host disease, as well as the outcome of non–myeloablative transplantation.

12.00 am – 2.00 pm
CLAUSEN SYMPOSIUM - ISH- SHU- Clinical Review - IMMUNOMODULATION
Chairman: Jorge Milone (Argentina)
Co-Chairman: Pablo Muxí (Uruguay)

- Introduction – Jorge Milone (Argentina)
- Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura - Peter Wiernik (USA)
- Factor VIII Inhibitors – Raul Perez Bianco (Argentina)
- Aplastic Anemia - Ricardo Pasquini (Brazil)

Different immunomodulatory drugs are used in Hematology. This Symposium, sponsored by Laboratorios Clausen S.A., will focus on the use of immunomodulation in three different hematological diseases in an interactive session with case presentation. Immunomodulation in Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura, Factor VIII inhibitors and Aplastic Anemia will be reviewed by renowned experts.

3.00 pm – 3.30 pm
CONFERENCE: STEM CELL PLASTICITY
Roberto De Bellis (Uruguay)
3.30 pm – 5.00 pm
CELL THERAPY
Chairman: Gregory Hale (USA)
Co-Chairman: Roberto De Bellis (Uruguay)

- Cellular Therapy in Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation from mismatched family member donors - Gregory Hale (USA)
- Stem cells in myocardiopathies – Juan Paganini (Uruguay)
- Therapeutical Angiogenesis in arterial limb ischaemia - Ernesto Novoa (Uruguay)
- Overview of stem cell plasticity - Martin Korblin (USA)

New aspects of stem cell therapy will be seen. The discussed applications include hematological and cardiovascular among others. The goal is disease management and quality of life of patients. Dr. G. Hale will talk about Cellular Therapy in Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation from mismatched family member donors. Dr. J. Paganini will discuss the results of stem cells in myocardiopathies and Dr. E. Novoa will present therapeutical angiogenesis in arterial limb ischaemia in Uruguay. Dr. M. Korblin will give us an overview of stem cell plasticity.

5.30 pm – 6.00 pm
CONFERENCE: NATIONAL RESULTS IN BMT
Martha Nese (Uruguay)

6.00 pm – 6.30 pm
CONFERENCE: THROMBOPHILIA IN CHILDREN
Pedro de Alarcón (USA)

6.30 pm – 7.00 pm
CONFERENCE: PROGNOSTIC FACTORS IN MULTIPLE MYELOMA
Guillermo Conte (Chile)

7.00 pm – 7.30 pm
CONFERENCE: NOVEL THERAPIES IN MULTIPLE MYELOMA
Jesús San Miguel (Spain)
FRIDAY 23 MARCH

8.00 am – 8.30 am
CONFERENCE: UNSOLVED ISSUES IN CLL BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT
Guillermo Dighiero (France)

8.30 am – 10.00 am
CHRONIC MYELOPROLIFERATIVE DISORDERS
Chairman: Julio Sánchez Ávalos (Argentina)
Co-Chairman: Cecilia Guillermo (Uruguay)

- Novel therapies in CML - Michael Mauro (USA)
- Polycythemia Vera – Julio Sánchez Ávalos (Argentina)
- State of the art management of CMD: Implications of Current Pathogenic Breakthroughs - Ruben Mesa (USA)

After the impact of the tyrosine inhibitor Imatinib, the treatment of CML has continued to rapidly evolve. Dr. Michael Mauro will analyze the development and clinical results of new drugs in CML. The understanding of pathogenesis of the chronic Philadelphia chromosome negative myeloproliferative disorders (MPDs) has been significantly impacted by the discovery of the activating mutation (JAK2 V617F), in the vast majority of patients with polycythemia vera (PV), and about half of those with either essential thrombocythemia (ET) and myelofibrosis with myeloid metaplasia (MMM). Dr. J. Sánchez Ávalos will update the evaluation and treatment of Polycythemia Vera, and Dr. R. Mesa will provide a review of the current pathogenic breakthroughs and the management of these disorders. In his presentation Dr. Mesa will discuss the evolution, and current clinical management of the MPDs and the potential that the upcoming wave of pathogenetically designed therapies (i.e. JAK2 inhibitors) may have for these patients.

10.30 am – 11.00 am
CONFERENCE: BIOTECHNOLOGY ADVANCES IN THE TREATMENT OF BLOOD DISEASES
José Luis Pico (Amgen Latin America)

11.00 am – 12.30 pm
BONE MARROW FAILURE
Chairman: Ricardo Pasquini (Brazil)
Co-Chairman: Ana María García (Uruguay)

- Nocturnal Paroxysmal Hemoglobinuria – Alberto Orfao (Spain)
- Fanconi’s Anemia - Ricardo Pasquini (Brazil)
- Myelodysplastic Syndrome - Ruben Mesa (USA)

Advances in understanding disorders that produce Bone Marrow Failure will improve their management. Dr. A. Orfao will discuss the role of immunophenotyping in the diagnosis of Nocturnal Paroxysmal Hemoglobinuria. Dr R. Pasquini will focus his exposition in Fanconi’s Anemia and Dr R. Mesa will review the advances in the management of Myelodysplastic Syndromes.

12.30 pm – 2.30 pm
LATIN AMERICAN COOPERATIVE ONCOLOGY HEMATOLOGY GROUP- LACOHG - clinical experiences
Chairman: Carmino de Souza (LACOHG – President - Brazil)
Co-Chairman: Antonio Carrasco (LACOHG – Perú)

- Welcome – Carmino de Souza (LACOHG President)
- IgVH mutational status in CLL patients as prognostic marker – Raúl Gabú (Uruguay)
- Latin American experience in CLL treatment – Fernando Bezares (Argentina)
- Fludarabine based regimen for indolent NHL – Brady Beltrán (Perú)
- Campath®/Mab - Campath® in T-cell lymphomas – Luis Palmer (Argentina)
- Non-myeloablative stem cell transplantation: The Mexican Approach – Guillermo J. Ruiz – Argüelles (Mexico)
- Radioimmunotherapy in the Lymphoma setting: Zebamad® for follicular and aggressive lymphoma – Roberto Cacchione (Argentina)
- Questions and answers

In Orlando (USA), during December 2001 the First Latin American Advisory Board in Onco-Hematology was held. The initial aim was to propose, implement, conduct and publish regional studies that will answer incoming medical questions in Onco-Hematology across the region in three main fields: chronic lymphocytic leukemia, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma & non-ablative stem cell transplantation. In December 2002 this group changed its name to LACOHG (Latin American Cooperative Onco-Hematology Group) with an initial participation of 8 countries.

This symposium is programmed to show the 4 years experience in clinical trials made by LACOHG.
3.00 pm – 4.30 pm
HODGKIN LYMPHOMA
Chairman: Santiago Pavlovsky (Argentina)
Co-Chairman: Hugo Isaurralde (Uruguay)

- Molecular Biology in Hodgkin’s Lymphoma - Miguel Angel Piris (Spain)
- Treatment in Advanced Disease – Peter Borchmann (Germany)
- Pet Scan to evaluate early response, future therapy and prognosis – Santiago Pavlovsky (Argentina)

Advances in diagnosis, evaluation and treatment of Hodgkin Lymphoma will be discussed in this session. Dr M. Piris from Spain will analyze the new pathological concepts developed in Hodgkin Lymphoma, Dr P. Borchmann from the German Hodgkin Study Group will compare treatments in advance disease, and Dr S. Pavlovsky will focus his lecture in the role of positron emission tomography (PET) in therapy decisions.

5.00 pm – 6.30 pm
INFECTIONS IN IMMUNOSUPRESSED PATIENTS
Chairman: Luis Ma. Aguado (Spain)
Co-Chairman: Eduardo Savio (Uruguay)

- Early diagnosis in fungal infections and therapeutic advances – Luis Ma. Aguado (Spain)
- AIDS Treatment in hematology - Olga Hernández (Uruguay)
- Management of endovascular catheter infections - Julio Medina (Uruguay)

New therapies, solid organ transplantation, stem cells transplantation, and AIDS create the substrate for opportunistic infections and development of lymphoproliferative diseases. Fungal infections are serious complications of solid organ transplantation. Dr L. Aguado will provide a review of diagnosis and treatment of these infections. Impaired cellular immunity in AIDS predisposes to the development of lymphoproliferative diseases; systemic Non Hodgkin Lymphoma accounts for the great majority of AIDS-related lymphomas. Dr O. Hernández will review AIDS treatment and AIDS-related lymphomas. Central venous catheters are increasingly used in oncology patients; infection of central lines remains a major problem. Dr Julio Medina will review different approaches to the treatment of this complication.

6.30 pm – 7.00 pm
CONFERENCE: ADVANCES IN THE TREATMENT OF CYTOMEGALOVIRUS INFECTION
Luis Ma. Aguado (Spain)

7.00 pm – 8.30 pm
ITP Symposium sponsored by Cangene
Chairman: Bernadette Garvey

Overview of ITP – Bernadette Garvey
Secondary ITP (HIV and Hep C) – Howard Liebman
Mechanisms of action of various treatments – Dufort
Dengue and ITP – Maurice Genereux
SATURDAY 24 MARCH

8.00 am – 10.00 am
YOUNG HEMATOLOGISTS
Chairman: Carlos Ponzinibbio (Argentina)
Co-Chairman: Norman Maldonado (Puerto Rico)

- Rituximab in Lymphoproliferative disorders and immunologic conditions. – Norman Maldonado
  • Argentina - Brazil - Mexico - Chile - Uruguay

10.30 am – 12.00 am
ACUTE LEUKEMIAS
Chairman: Peter Wiernik (USA)
Co-Chairman: Lilian Diaz (Uruguay)

- Acute Myeloblastic Leukemia - Peter Wiernik (USA)
- Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia in children - Silvia Brandalise (Brazil)
- Molecular considerations in the treatment of acute leukemias – Robert Gallagher (USA)
- The IC-APL project to implement clinical networks on APL in developing countries – Francesco Lo Coco (Italy)

Dr. P. Wiernik will review the current status and results of treatment of acute myeloblastic leukemias. Dr. S. Brandalise will provide a review of the last strategies in the treatment of leukemia in children. Dr. R. Gallagher will discuss the role of molecular biology in the understanding of the pathogenesis of acute leukemias and the impact of the discovery of new molecular oncogenic mutations. Dr. F. Lo Coco will discuss the IC-APL project to implement in developing countries for the treatment of APL.

12.00 am – 12.30 pm
CONFERENCE: BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTATION: A SIMPLE WAY TO DO IT - AN URGENT NEED IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Guillermo Ruiz-Argüelles (Mexico)

12.30 pm - 2.30 pm:
GSK SYMPOSIUM (THROMBOPAG) - IMMUNE THROMBOCYTOPENIC PURPURA: ASSESSING RECENT EVIDENCE FOR PROGRESS IN MANAGEMENT
Chairman: Professor Francesco Rodeghiero (Italy)
Faculty: Gregory Cheng, Professor Adrian Newland (UK)

- Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura: Assessing Recent Evidence for Progress in Management
- Session Overview and Interactive Knowledge Assessment: Delineating the Problems of Treating Chronic ITP. ITP will be distinguished from other thrombocytopenias
- Epidemiology, Pathogenesis, and Efficacy of First-line ITP : Therapies, Epidemiology and pathogenesis of ITP will be explained along with the rationale for current therapeutic strategies
- The Continuing Challenges of Refractory ITP - Clinical sequelae of untreated or refractory ITP and current treatment strategies will be described
- Taking on Chronic ITP: Rationale for and Appraisal of Emerging Approaches - Current and emerging treatment options for the long-term control of ITP will be assessed
- Integrating New Agents into Evolving Management Paradigms: Case Study Series and Interactive Discussion
- Recognition of the clinical impact of ITP disease and therapy on patient, care giver and quality of life will be discussed via case studies

Understanding of the pathogenesis of ITP — including causes of platelet destruction and also of compromised platelet production — has in part led to the development of novel agents that may be associated with improved safety in the treatment of chronic and/or refractory ITP. Recent clinical trial data suggest that alternatives to currently available options may soon be available. This symposium will explore the causes, current treatments, side effects and guidelines for ITP, as well as the potential future for the treatment of ITP. Using an interactive approach and relevant case studies, participants will have the opportunity to put into a practical framework the data presented.
3.00 pm – 3.30 pm
CONFERENCE: CORD BLOOD TRANSPLANTATION IN JAPAN
Hidehiko Saito (Japan)

4.00 pm – 5.30 pm
BLEEDING DISORDERS
Chairman: Raúl Pérez Bianco (Argentina)
Co-Chairman: Adriana Cardeza (Uruguay)

- Diagnosis of Congenital Coagulopaties in Latin America – Arlette Ruiz de Sáez (Venezuela)
- Acquired hemophilia – a diagnostic and therapeutic challenge - Miguel A. Escobar (USA)
- Von Willebrand Disease - Maria Lazzari (Argentina)

Dr. A. Ruiz de Saez will discuss the relevance of the main steps in the laboratory diagnosis of congenital coagulopathies in Latin America; mainly hemophilias and other blood coagulation factor deficiencies. Dr. M. Escobar will focus his presentation on acquired hemophilia, the diagnosis and new strategies for an effective treatment. Dr. Maria Lazzari will review the most prevalent congenital coagulopathy, von Willebrand’s disease, updating the diagnosis and treatment. Dr. Ana Maria Otero will update the evaluation and treatment of ITP.
COURSES

WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH
PATHOLOGY
NURSING

THURSDAY 22 MARCH
PATHOLOGY
NURSING
MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

FRIDAY 23 MARCH
FLOW CYTOMETRY - IV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE GRCF - IMMUNOHEMATOLOGY COURSE

SATURDAY 24 MARCH
FLOW CYTOMETRY - IV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE GRCF - COURSE ON HEMAPHERESIS

PATHOLOGY

Small B-Cell NHL - Miguel Angel Píris (Spain)
Myelodysplastic Myeloproliferative Syndromes - Marina Narbaitz (Argentina)
Slide Seminar - Miguel Angel Píris (Spain)
Aggressive Lymphomas / Benign Lymphoid Proliferations / Differential Diagnosis
Morphologic Aspects of Multiple Myeloma and Dysproteinemias - Marina Narbaitz (Argentina)
T Cell NHL - Miguel Angel Píris (Spain)
Slide Seminar - Marina Narbaitz (Argentina)
Bone Marrow Lymphoid Infiltrates / Differential Diagnosis

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Myeloproliferatives syndromes:
Understanding the molecular basis of Mieloproliferative Disorders: genomic approaches - Irene Larripa (Argentina)
Update on Molecular Biology of CML - Isabel Giere (Argentina)

AML
Molecular characterization of AML and clinical correlates - Francesco Lo Coco (Italy)
APL: What can be learned from a near-cured disease? - Robert Gallagher (USA)

FLOW CYTOMETRY - IV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE GRCF

Multi Parametric Strategy Analysis with Flow Cytometry in the Normal Bone Marrow - Alberto Orfao (Spain)
Use of Labeling with Multiple Fluorochromes in Flow Cytometry at the Clinical Laboratory - Brent Wood (USA)
BD Space
Detection of Minimal Residual Disease with Flow Cytometry in Patients with Acute Leukemia. Application in Therapeutic Decisions - Jesús San Miguel (Spain) - Alberto Orfao (Spain) - Francesco Lo Coco (Italy)
Contribution of Immunophenotyping and Cytogenetics Evaluation to the Diagnosis of the Myeloproliferative and Myelodisplastic Syndromes - Brent Wood (USA) - Irene Larripa (Argentina)
UICC 2006- Course on Minimal Residual Disease: Presentation of Results
Identification and Phenotype Characterization of Chronic Lymphoproliferative Syndromes
Alberto Orfao (Spain)

Results of the “International Consensus on Flow Cytometry in Blood Malignancies” organized by the Clinical Cytometry Society, conducted at the NIH, Bethesda, Maryland (USA) July 2006. - Brent Wood (USA)

BD Space

Simultaneous Workshops - Anne Tierens - Ricardo Morilla

Participants’ Discussion of Each Individual Clinical Case - Alberto Orfao (Spain) - Brent Wood (USA)

IMMUNOHMATOLOGY COURSE

Chairman: Jorge Decaro (Uruguay)
Co-Chairman: Andrew Miller (Uruguay)

Extended Erythrocytic Typification in Blood Donors - Rosana Klapsos (Argentina)
Erythrocytic Aloimmunization in Pregnancy - Adriana Tiscornia (Uruguay)
Platelet Immunohematology - Marcelo Russo (Argentina)
Report by the National Immunohematology Reference Laboratory - Andrew Miller (Uruguay)
Intravascular Hemolysis - Jorge Decaro (Uruguay)
Clinical Case Presentation - Estela Lavalle and María de Lourdes Viano (Uruguay)

COURSE ON HEMAPHERESIS

Chairman: Jorge Decaro (Uruguay)
Co-Chairman: Diego Estol (Uruguay)

25 Years of Hemapheresis in Uruguay - Jorge Decaro (Uruguay)
Plasmapheresis in TTP - Susana Perdomo (Uruguay)
Platelet and Granulocyte Transfusion - Marcela Contreras (UK)
Obtaining Monocytes and Dendritic Cells by the Elutra System - Gunnar Kvalheim (Norway)
Therapeutic Leukapheresis - Wilson Franca (Uruguay)
Lymphocyte Collection and Transfusion - Mercedes Zamora (Uruguay)
Cell Selection in Leukapheresis Product for Haploidentical Transplant. - Silvia Pisano (Uruguay)
Peripheral Stem Cell Collection and Transplantation in Children under 15 kilos - Oscar López – Mario Figueroa (Argentina)
Stem Cell Collection in Poor Mobilisers - Gunnar Kvalheim (Norway)
Transfusion in the Immuno-Depressed Patient - Marcela Contreras (UK)