IMMUNE-MEDIATED DISEASES OF THE GI TRACT – TREAT TO TARGET APPROACH

March 21-22, 2025

Symposium 239

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

APPLICATION FOR CME CREDITS SUBMITTED

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CME CREDITS

An application has been made to the UEMS EACCME® for CME accreditation of this event. The number of credits awarded will be printed in the final program.

PREFACE

It is with great excitement and anticipation that we extend a warm invitation to the 2025 Sydney Falk Foundation Symposium on “Immune-Mediated Disease of the GI Tract - Treat to Target Approach.” As we gather in the vibrant city of Sydney, we reflect on the remarkable strides made in understanding and treating immune-mediated diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, including eosinophilic esophagitis, inflammatory bowel disease, and microscopic colitis.

This year’s symposium promises to be a landmark event, building on the foundational discussions and insights from previous gatherings. The landscape of gastrointestinal immunopathology continues to evolve, with new discoveries and therapeutic advancements shaping our clinical practice. We bring forth the well-established paradigm of treat-to-target in inflammatory bowel diseases and extend this to other immune mediated conditions. Our program has been meticulously crafted to provide a comprehensive exploration of new ideas, featuring a blend of expert lectures and interactive sessions.

We will delve into cutting-edge research on pathophysiological mechanisms, the role of diet, the impact of environmental factors and new medical treatments. Current management strategies and innovative treatment options will be thoroughly examined, with an emphasis on their practical implications for patient care. Additionally, we will address treating beyond symptoms and appropriateness of this approach in GI immune diseases beyond inflammatory bowel disease.

Sydney, with its dynamic atmosphere and rich cultural heritage, offers an ideal backdrop for this symposium. We eagerly anticipate engaging discussions, collaborative learning, and the opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and friends from across the globe.

We look forward to welcoming you to Sydney for what promises to be an educational and inspiring event.

Warm regards, Professor Rupert Leong on behalf of the organising committee

Jane Andrews Axel Dignass Richard Gearry
Rupert Leong Gerhard Rogler

IMMUNE-MEDIATED DISEASES OF THE GI TRACT – TREAT TO TARGET APPROACH

March 21-22, 2025

Scientific Organization:
Prof. Jane Andrews, Adelaide (Australia)
Prof. Dr. Axel Dignass, Frankfurt (Germany)
Prof. Richard Gearry, Christchurch (New Zealand)
Prof. Rupert Leong, Sydney (Australia)
Prof. Dr. Gerhard Rogler, Zurich (Switzerland)

Congress Venue:
Hyatt Regency Hotel Sydney
161 Sussex Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Australia

For admission to scientific events your name badge should be clearly visible.

Accompanying persons are not permitted during the conference at any time.

Call for Posters:
An ePoster session will be held.
For details see page 14.

Start of Registration:
Thursday, March 20, 2025
16:00 - 20:00 h
at the congress office

Publication Date of the Final Program:
March 2025

The final program will be available on the website www.falkfoundation.org one week before the start of the symposium.

Friday, March 21, 2025

9:00 Welcome and opening remarks
Rupert Leong, Sydney

SESSION I

Is treat-to-target the ideal strategy in immune-mediated GI diseases (IBD, EoE, microscopic colitis)? Debate

Chairs: *Gerald Holtmann, Brisbane; Michael A. Kamm, Melbourne*

9:10 Pro
Axel Dignass, Frankfurt

9:30 Con
Peter Gibson, Melbourne

9:50 **Panel discussion**
Moderation: Lena Thin, Murdoch
Discussants: Axel Dignass, Peter Gibson, Gregory Moore, Dan Turner

10:10 Adjudication: Audience voting via smartphone

10:15 Summary
Richard Gearry, Christchurch

10:30 **Coffee break with ePoster session**

SESSION II

IBD strategies & assessments

Chairs: *Richard Gearry, Christchurch, Ailsa Hart, London*

11:00 Holistic patient assessment: Depression, fatigue, pain, social integration - how does it impact therapy?
Akhilesh Swaminathan, Christchurch

11:15 Trajectory modeling in IBD patients: A help to stratify treatment decisions?
Stefan Schreiber, Kiel

Friday, March 21, 2025

11:30	IUS and calprotectin: Greater cost effectiveness over MRE and colonoscopy? *N. N.*
11:45	Early surgery in Crohn's disease: Underused? *Willem A. Bemelman, Amsterdam*
12:00	**Panel discussion** Discussants: Willem A. Bemelman, Richard Gearry, Ailsa Hart, Stefan Schreiber
12:30	**Lunch break with ePoster session**

SESSION III

Old and new drugs in IBD

Chairs: *Maria T. Abreu, Miami; Aviv Pudipeddi, Concord*

13:30	5-ASA optimisation & combination oral/topical *Britta Siegmund, Berlin*
13:50	The case for thiopurines (including thioguanine) *Mark Ward, Melbourne*
14:10	JAKi and S1P: Efficacy and safety *Silvio Danese, Milan*
14:30	Anti-IL23 (including reimbursement barriers in Australia) *Taku Kobayashi, Tokyo*
14:50	Microbial therapies: Prebiotic, postbiotic and FMT *Damjana Bogatic, Adelaide*
15:10	**Coffee break with ePoster session**

Friday, March 21, 2025

SESSION IV

IBD into the future

Chairs: *Jane Andrews, Adelaide; ~~N. N.~~*

15:40	Epidemiology: Compounding prevalence *Charles N. Bernstein, Manitoba*
16:00	How to deal with the tsunami of drug use/resource utilization *Johan Burisch, Hvidovre*
16:20	Models of care, innovations (remote) in IBD and non-IBD *Sang H. Park, Seoul*
16:40	Treatment options, treatment changes: What, when, why *Remo Panaccione, Calgary*
17:00	**Closing remarks**

Saturday, March 22, 2025

SESSION V

Eosinophilic esophagitis

Chairs: *Yoon-K. An, Brisbane; Susan Connor, Sydney*

8:30	The role of AI in endoscopy of EoE *Helmut Messmann, Augsburg*
8:50	EoE symptoms: Inflammation versus fibrostenosis *Santosh Sanagapalli, Sydney*
9:10	EoE therapy: Steroids versus biological agents *Luc Biedermann, Zurich*
9:30	EoE diet: Role of diet in EoE therapy? *Emma Halmos, Melbourne*
9:50	Maintenance therapy: Treat to target? *Hamish Philpott, Adelaide*
10:10	**Case discussion (local faculty)**
10:30	**Coffee break with ePoster session**

SESSION VI

Diarrhea & microscopic colitis: Treat-to-target paradigm

Chairs: *Matthieu Allez, Paris; Rupa Banerjee, Hyderabad*

11:00	The diarrheal world: Causes & diagnostic approach *Gillian Watermeyer, Cape Town*
11:20	Microscopic colitis: Epidemiology, risk factors, treatment *N. N.*

Saturday, March 22, 2025

11:40	Eosinophilic enteritis & colitis *N. N.*
12:00	**Presentation of poster awards**
12:20	Checkpoint inhibitor colitis *Andrew D. Buckle, Launceston*
12:40	**Cases & discussion presented by registrars**
13:00	**Lunch break with ePoster session**

SESSION VII

Strictures in Crohn's disease

Chairs: *Raja Affendi Raja Ali, Selangor; Gerhard Rogler, Zurich*

14:00	Clinical, imaging and biomarker assessment of Crohn's disease strictures and applying a treat-to-target approach *Florian Rieder, Cleveland*
14:20	Treatment of strictures in Crohn's disease 2025 - from anti fibrotics to diet *Iris Dotan, Petah Tikva*
14:40	Endoscopic approaches to strictures and combination with advanced therapy *John Chetwood, Melbourne*
15:00	Strictureplasty versus resection – which one and how? *Christianne J. Buskens, Amsterdam*
15:20	**Coffee break with ePoster session**

Saturday, March 22, 2025

SESSION VIII

Other opportunities to optimize; Comorbidities in IBD

Chairs: *Marla C. Dubinsky, New York; Rupert Leong, Sydney*

15:50	Obesity (including management) *Patricia Kaazan, Adelaide*
16:10	Cardiovascular comorbidities and how to assess them *Ashwin N. Ananthakrishnan, Boston*
16:30	Mortality in IBD: Cancer, clots, infections *Kate D. Lynch, Adelaide*
16:50	Primary sclerosing cholangitis *Vineet Ahuja, New Delhi*
17:10	Anemia *Jane Andrews, Adelaide*
17:30	Fatigue *N. N.*
17:50	**Closing remarks**

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POSTER SESSION

ePosters will be exhibited on our ePoster screens on March 21-22, 2025. The authors will be in attendance during coffee and lunch breaks on both days.

CALL FOR POSTERS

Please submit your poster abstract before December 1, 2025.

Abstracts must be submitted via our Internet Abstract Submission System (https://poster.falkfoundation.com) where further information regarding the submission format and the submission process is available.

The abstracts will be selected by the scientific organizers, with preference being given to those thematically related to one of the sessions of the congress. The accepted abstracts will be published in the final program of the meeting

Poster authors will receive notification about acceptance and further instructions in January 2025.

For the first author of an accepted poster, accommodation expenses (March 20-23, 2025) and fees for the scientific program will be covered during Symposium 239. Travel expenses will not be covered.

POSTER AWARDS

Three prizes will be awarded for the best poster presentations. Winners will be asked to give a short presentation (2 – 5 minutes) of their poster during the award ceremony.

Award winners will be presented with a certificate and prize money of EUR 3000, EUR 2000 and EUR 1000.

Travel expenses will also be covered for the first authors of the three winning posters.

REGISTRATION

You can register for the event via our homepage:
www.falkfoundation.org
Registration is only possible online.

You will receive an automatic confirmation of registration by e-mail. Please transfer the congress fee to the bank account listed in the e-mail within two weeks.

CONGRESS FEES

Scientific Program of Symposium 239	EUR 300
Students (copy of student ID required)	EUR 150

The congress fees include:
- Pre-Opening and Welcome on Thursday, March 20, 2025, 19 h
- Refreshments during coffee breaks
- Lunch on Friday, March 21 and on Saturday, March 22, 2025
– A copy of the final program

CONGRESS OFFICE AND REGISTRATION

Opening Hours:

Thursday, March 20, 2025	16:00 - 20:00 h
Friday, March 21, 2025	08:00 - 17:30 h
Saturday, March 22, 2025	08:00 - 18:15 h

The Falk Foundation will take pictures during the meeting. Additionally, parts of the meeting might be recorded. By participating all attendees consent and agree with the recording and the photo shoots.

ARRIVAL

Hyatt Regency Hotel Sydney
161 Sussex Street
Sydney NSW 2000
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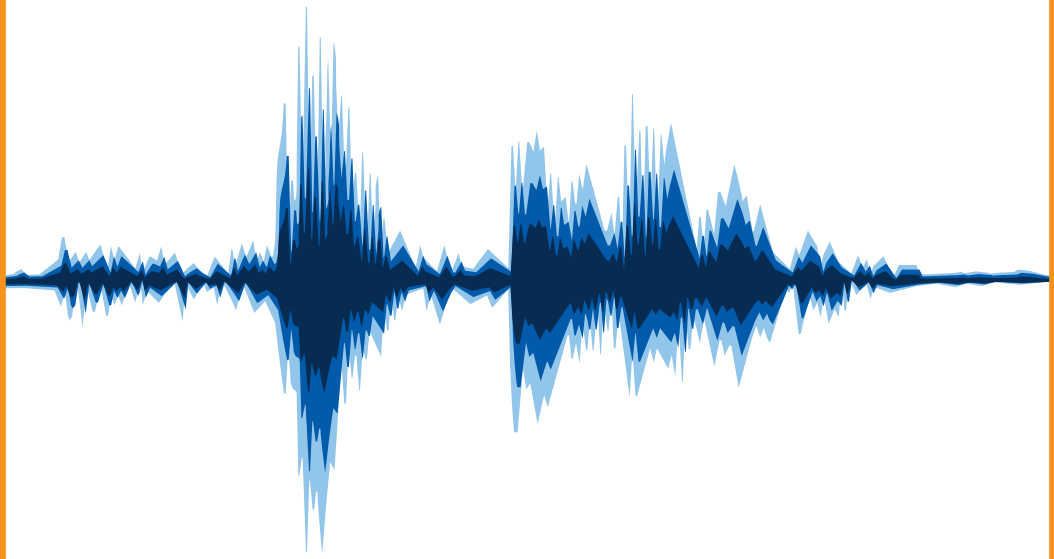
By plane
The Hyatt Regency Sydney is located adjacent to Darling Harbour, about 8 km from Sydney Airport (SYD). You can either take a taxi (20-25 minutes in light traffic (45-55 AUD) or take public transportation (train) to Town Hall Station in 16-25 minutes, with one change at Central Station.

By train
Town Hall Train Station is just 650 m away (10 min walking distance).

By car
For self-drive visitors, there is a Wilson Parking directly opposite the hotel (please note there are two entrances at 383 Kent Street or 168 Sussex Street). Please park your car and keep hold of your ticket. Then, contact the concierge desk to obtain a 24-hour, multi-entry, self-parking ticket for the car park at Hyatt Regency Sydney rates.

Registration via www.falkfoundation.org or simply scan and register.



Together we know more. Together we do more.
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