



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

March 21-22, 2025

Symposium 239

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



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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 Geary, 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 Geary, Christchurch

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

SESSION II

IBD strategies & assessments

Chairs: *Richard Geary, 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 Geary, 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**

LIST OF SPEAKERS, MODERATORS AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZERS

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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
Australia

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.

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are illiterate has increased from 500 million to 700 million.

There are many reasons for this. One is that the population of the world is growing so fast that the number of people who are illiterate is increasing. Another reason is that the quality of education is so poor that many people who are literate are unable to read and write. A third reason is that many people who are literate are unable to use their skills in a way that is useful to them.

There are many ways to improve the quality of education. One way is to invest more money in education. Another way is to improve the quality of the teachers. A third way is to make education more relevant to the needs of the community.

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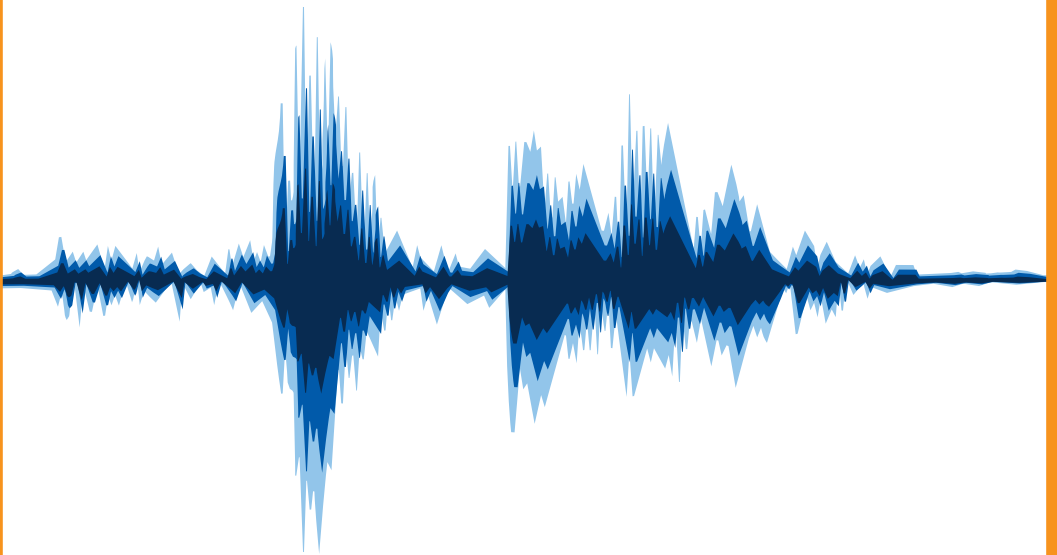
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**Registration via www.falkfoundation.org
or simply scan and register.**



Together we know more. Together we do more.

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