

## The baton of World Congress on Inflammation 2009 (WCI09) has been handed over to JSIR: Meeting Report of WCI07 and Preparation for WCI09

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### Summary

The 8th World Congress on Inflammation (WCI) was held in Copenhagen from June 16th through 20th, 2007 (President: Ian Ahnfelt-Ronne, Denmark). Around 700 scientists attended to the meeting including 30 attendants from Japan. Japanese Society of Inflammation and Regeneration (JSIR) organized a sponsored symposium entitled Inflammation-associated Tissue Damage, Repair and Regenerative Medicine. The baton of WCI09 has been handed over to JSIR now. This will be a joint meeting with JSIR Annual Meeting, and co-organization with Science Council of Japan. The main theme of the meeting will be Innovative Research of Inflammation, Repair and Regenerative Medicine.

The 8th World Congress on Inflammation (WCI) was held in Copenhagen from June 16th through 20th, 2007 (President: Ian Ahnfelt-Ronne, Denmark, Picture 1). Around 700 scientists attended to the meeting including 30 attendants from Japan. There were five Plenary Lectures. Jules Hoffmann (France) did a historical overview from the discovery of the pivotal role of Toll-like receptor in a *Drosophila* system to the establishment of the importance of the one in a mammalian system. He often mentioned the discussion with late C.A. Janeway in his lecture. He also cited the works by B. Beutler on the identification of CD14 as a re-ceptor for LPS and gene-targeting studies by S. Akira. Lars Fugger (Denmark) did a lecture entitled Genetic Environmental Risk Factors in Multiple Sclerosis introducing their MS model using humanized mice. Andreas Radbruch (Germany) did a very timely lecture on long-lived plasma cells in Immunity and Inflammation, because of clinical application of anti-CD20 antibody. Salvador Moncada received Life Time Honorary Award for his pioneer work on the regulation of circulation and blood pressure by prostanooids and NO.

Among general presentations, K. Koch (Array BioPharma, USA) reported their development of a novel p38 MAP kinase inhibitor with improved pharmacokinetic and low permeability to brain, which showed negligible toxicity in phase I. Several pharmaceuticals reported their development of MEK1/2 inhibitor, ROCK2 selective inhibitor, PI3 kinase inhibitor and PKC theta inhibitors. T. Schall described their very promising phase II clinical trial of CCR9 chemokine receptor antagonist targeting inflammatory bowel diseases.

On the second day of the meeting, Japanese Society of Inflammation and Regeneration (JSIR) organized a sponsored symposium entitled Inflammation-associated Tissue Damage, Repair and Regenerative Medicine. K. Yoshizaki (Osaka University) introduced successful clinical development of anti-IL 6 R antibody and molecular insight into the mechanisms of the intervention of IL 6 R pathway. T. Wada (Kanazawa University) reported the critical role of chemokines and their receptor system in

renal fibrosis mentioning the regulation of fibrocytes (newly identified progenitor cells for myofibroblasts) by chemokines. A. Luster (USA) described a pivotal role of lysophosphatidic acid in bleomycin-induced pulmonary fibrosis using receptor gene-targeted mice. O. Lindvall (Sweden) and H. Okano (Keio University) did excellent lectures on Inflammation and Neurogenesis.

On the third day, there was Congress Dinner at Restaurant Langelinie Pavillon near Little Mermaid, and the fourth day the Mayor of Copenhagen invited all attendants to the Banquet at the City Hall (Picture 2). These were very impressive, memorable dinners in the special atmosphere of the evening of rich, historical north Europe (Scandinavia).



Picture 1. Steering Committee Members of International Association of Inflammation Societies

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Picture 2. Dinner at City Hall, Copenhagen



Picture 3. The baton for WCI09 was handed over from Ian Ahnfelt-Ronne, President of WCI07 at Congress Dinner

The baton of WCI09 has been handed over to JSIR now (Picture 3). This will be a joint meeting with JSIR Annual Meeting (President: Kazuhiko Yamamoto), and co-organization with Science Council of Japan. Organizing Committee Members and Scientific Advisory Board Members have been appointed, and the tentative program including Keynote Speakers have been made. The main theme of the meeting will be Innovative Research of Inflammation, Repair and Regenerative Medicine. We, Organizing Committee Members highly appreciate your active participation in organizing Workshops as well as in making suggestions on the program and speakers.

#### WCI 2009 Tentative Program

##### July 6

17:00-21:00 Opening Address K. Matsushima  
Keynote Lecture-1 T. Kishimoto  
**Welcome Reception**

##### July 7

9:00-9:50 Keynote Lecture-2 T. Taniguchi  
10:00-12:00 MS-1 Molecular Basis of Inflammation and Innate Immunity  
12:00-13:00 Luncheon Seminar 1-3  
14:00-16:00 Industry Sponsored Symposium-1  
Society Sponsored Symposium-1 USA  
Society Sponsored Symposium-2 Canada  
Society Sponsored Symposium-3 Australia  
16:30-18:30 Industry Sponsored Symposium-2 and Workshop-1-3  
19:00-21:00 Poster View

##### July 8

9:00-9:50 Keynote Lecture-3 (A. K. Abbas)  
10:00-12:00 MS-2 Inflammation-associated Tissue Injury, Repair and Regeneration  
12:00-13:00 Luncheon Seminar-4-6  
14:00-16:00 Industry Sponsored Symposium-3  
Society Sponsored Symposium-4 UK  
Society Sponsored Symposium-5 DK  
Society Sponsored Symposium-6 France  
16:30-18:30 Industry Sponsored Symposium-4 and Workshop-4-6  
19:00-21:00 Evening Seminars Asian session/ Natural Products  
Poster Discussion with Wine and Cheese

##### July 9

9:00-9:50 Keynote Lecture-4 (R. M. Perlmutter)  
10:00-12:00 MS-3-1 New Strategy for The discovery of Anti-inflammatory Drugs (JSIR Sponsored Symposium)  
MS-3-2 Regenerative Medicine (JSIR Sponsored Symposium)  
12:00-13:00 Luncheon Seminar-7-9  
14:00-15:30 Young Investigator Award Contest  
15:40-16:40 Woman Scientist Award Lecture  
17:00-18:00 Life Time Honorary Award Lecture  
19:00-21:00 **Banquet**

##### July 10

9:00-9:50 Keynote Lecture-5 R. M. Nerem  
10:00-12:00 MS-4-1 Novel therapeutic approaches (JSIR-Sponsored Symposium)  
MS-4-2 Regenerative Medicine (JSIR-Sponsored Symposium)  
12:10 Closing Remarks