2nd Liver Immunology Meeting

The “Liver Immunology” AISF – SIICA Joint Meeting of AISF (Italian Association for the Study of the Liver) and SIICA (Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology) has been organized with the purpose of bringing together clinicians and research scientists to debate on the medical advances, from the laboratory to the clinic, in the field of liver immunology.

The liver is considered as “an immunological organ” having unique immunological properties, including induction of immune tolerance, strong innate immunity, and poor adaptive immune response versus overreactive autoimmune. In addition, we are understanding that the liver health is strongly related to the gut being constantly exposed to a wide variety of bacterial products, environment toxins and food antigens.

The role of the immune system in many liver diseases, such as acute and chronic hepatitis B and hepatitis C virus infections, is still enigmatic but recent acquisitions on many basic, clinical and therapeutic aspects and on a number of key open questions have been reported.

All of these topics will be examined in depth by national and international speakers who will explain the latest advances in their fields.

Day 1 (16 March 2017)

h. 15:30 Registration
h. 16:45 Welcome | P. Invernizzi
h. 17:00 State-of-the-art Lecture | Chairman: G. Missalle
Liver inflammation in HBV | A. Bertoletti
h. 18:00 Welcome Cocktail

Day 2 (17 March 2017)

Basic Liver Immunity
Chairs: M. Strazzabosco, D. Mavilio
h. 08:30 Innate immune response to liver injury | T. N. Crispie
h. 09:00 Trafficking of CD8+ T cells within the liver | L. Guidetti
h. 09:30 Biliary tree and the immune microenvironment: a peculiar relationship | L. Fabris
h. 10:00 Coffee break
h. 10:30 Mechanisms of immune mediated liver injury | D. Adams
h. 11:00 Gut-liver axis: enterocytes drive liver protection against inflammation fibrosis and cancer | A. Moschetta
h. 11:30 Crosstalk between liver fibrosis and immune system | F. Marra
h. 12:00 Three short selected presentations from submitted abstracts (not accredited CME)
12:45 Lunch and poster viewing

Infection and Liver Cancer
Chairs: M. Mendioli, S. Abruignani
h. 14:00 NK cells good or bad for chronic HBV infection | M. Malivgi
h. 14:30 Novel immunotherapeutic strategies for HBV infection | C. Ferrari
h. 15:00 Immunotherapeutic strategies for chronic HCV infection | A. Polgi
h. 15:30 DAAs for HCV infection which role for the immune system | R. Thimme
h. 16:00 Coffee break
h. 16:20 Hepatocellular carcinoma: protective mechanisms of T-cell response | V. Barrasba
h. 16:50 NK cells in hepatocellular carcinoma | G. Missalle

h. 17:20 Immunotherapy of hepatocellular carcinoma: immunomodulation with monoclonal antibodies | J. Melero
h. 17:50 New insights into pathogenesis and treatment of HCV-related B cell disorders | V. Rabinelli
h. 18:20 Three short selected presentations from submitted abstracts (not accredited CME)

Day 3 (18 March 2017)

Autoimmunity | Chairs: E. Kraus, A. Tanaka
h. 08:30 Geographical differences in autoimmune liver diseases | X. Mi
h. 09:00 Role of interferons in autoimmune liver diseases: lesson from animal models | D. Young
h. 09:30 Primary biliary cholangitis | M.E. Gershwin
h. 10:00 Coffee break
h. 10:20 Risk stratification in primary biliary cholangitis | C. Juevas
h. 10:50 Unmet clinical needs in autoimmune hepatitis | C. Schrann
h. 11:20 Unmet clinical needs in primary sclerosing cholangitis | C. Juevas
h. 11:50 Three short selected presentations from submitted abstracts (not accredited CME)
12:35 Round table: Novel therapeutic approaches for pediatric and adult autoimmune liver diseases
Chairman: P. Invernizzi
Discussants: A. Foresti, L. Muratori, A. Tanaka
h. 13:30 Lunch and poster viewing
h. 14:30 State-of-the-art Lecture | Chairman: A. Biondi
Gut-liver axis in liver disease | M. Resconi