

**Final Program**  
**International Conference on Myasthenia Gravis, Paris 2009**  
**Organized by the EuroMyasthenia Network**

**December 1, 2009**

*Etiological, genetic, and immunological aspects*

*Chairs: A. Vincent and R. Mantegazza*

**9h00: Plenary Lecture:** Aetiology of autoimmune diseases – **JF. Bach**

**9h30:** Is there a link between innate and autoimmunity in MG? – **R. Mantegazza**

**9h50:** Thymic changes in MG: Involvement of chemokines in thymic hyperplasia associated with an inflammatory environment – **R. Le Panse**

**10h10:** BAFF and autoimmune disease **S. Ragheb**

**10h30-10h50: Coffee break**

**10h50:** Immune regulation defect in MG – **S. Berrih-Aknin**

**11h10:** Genetic factors in autoimmune MG: present status and challenges – **H. J. Garchon**

**11h30:** Role of AIRE deficiency in thymoma-MG – **A. Marx**

**11h50:** Thymic changes in MG patients – **I. Leite**

**12h10-12h25:** Cytokine production of B-cell culture of MG patients – **V. Yilmaz**

**12h30-14h00: Lunch break**

*Muscle pathophysiology*

*Chairs: B. Eymard and S. Fuchs*

**14h00: Plenary Lecture:** Dok-7, Musk, and the development of the neuromuscular junction – **Y. Yamanashi**

**14h30:** The role of AChR associated proteins in autoimmune MG – **P. Martinez**

**14h50:** Pathogenic mechanisms underlying synaptic dysfunction in congenital myasthenic syndromes – **D. Beeson**

**15h10:** Identification of a mutation in agrin that causes congenital myasthenia and affects synapse function – **D. Hantai**

**15h30:** Anti-AChR antibodies increase IL-6 production by myoblasts and myotubes in vitro – **S. Bougoin**

**15h45-16h00: Coffee break**

*Experimental therapy*

*Chairs: S. Tzartos and H. Kaminski*

**16h00: Plenary Lecture:** Therapeutic approaches for MG studied in animal models – **M. Souroujon**

**16h30:** Complement-targeted therapy for MG – **E. Tuzun**

**16h50:** Mobilization of regulatory immune cells utilizing GM-CSF in EAMG – **M. Meriggioli**

**17h10:** Cholinergic anti-inflammatory signaling through  $\alpha 7$  nicotinic acetylcholine receptor – **T. Brenner**

**17h30:** Development of safe and effective oral tolerogen for MG – **S. H. Im**

*17h45-19h00: Poster session I*

**December 2, 2009**

*Diagnosis issues and clinical therapy*

*Chairs: M. De Baets and A. Melms*

**9h00: Plenary lecture:** An update on diagnosis issues – **A. Vincent**

**9h30:** Recombinant antigenic domains for the study, diagnosis and treatment of MG – **S. Tzartos**

**9h50:** Status of the Trial for Thymectomy in nonthymomatous MG Patients Receiving Prednisone (MGTX) – **H. Kaminski**

**10h10:** Mycophenolate Mofetil (MMF) in AChR-antibody Positive MG: Outcomes in 102 patients – **D. Sanders**

**10h30:** Refractory MG and rituximab: long term follow-up of three patients and the “FORCE” trial – **O. Benveniste**

**10h50:** Classifying seronegative MG: a population based study – **A. Carr**

*11h05-12h30: Poster session II with coffee break*

**12h30-14h00: Lunch break**

*Public Health aspects*

*Chairs: J. Verschuuren and A. Kostera-Pruszczyk*

**14h00: Plenary lecture:** Myasthenia Gravis: from functioning and disability evaluation towards new healthcare approaches – **A. Raggi**

**14h30:** Long-term treatment in MG: A review – **A. Evoli**

**14h50:** MG in the elderly – **J. Aarli**

**15h10:** A questionnaire for assessing the impact of socio-economic factors in MG – **A. Maniaol**

**15h30:** The EuroMyasthenia project: What has it brought to the MG community? – **N. Kerlero de Rosbo**

**15h50:** Clinical and serological analysis of 175 patients with MG in Hungary **Z. Illes**

**16h05-16h30: Coffee break**

*16h30-18h00: Session dedicated to interactions between clinicians, scientists and patients*

*Medical panel: A. Evoli, A. Kostera-Pruszczyk, D. Sanders and C. Tallaksen*

A medical panel will answer questions submitted by patients prior to the meeting through the conference website accessible via [www.euromyasthenia.org](http://www.euromyasthenia.org)