



EUROPEAN HISTAMINE
RESEARCH SOCIETY

Established 1971

Newsletter

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1st Joint meeting of the
European & Japanese
Histamine Research
Societies
hosted by Prof Rob Leurs



Website
www.ehrs.org.uk

Welcome

Dear Histaminologists,

Welcome to the first EHRS newsletter, the brainchild of our current Council member, Dr **Katerina Tiligada**. The idea of this newsletter is to inform the society of exciting new developments on histamine research and act as a vehicle for all members, including Early Stage Researchers (ESRs), to voice their opinions about the EHRS and the histamine field. Members are asked to contribute short news items or research pieces to advertise their interests and capabilities. New job and studentship opportunities will be advertised and networking opportunities highlighted. We plan this to be published twice a year in the first instance.

This first issue has some exciting news relating to clinical developments for the H₄ histamine receptor field and notice of new publications and Esteem indicators for members of the Society. Council members, Drs **Arianna Rosa** and **Vanina Medina** explain their plans for the Society ESRs for the coming year and I would encourage you to engage in these exciting activities.

Enjoy the first issue and please let us know if you have any ideas for items in the next issue.

À bientôt

Paul L Chazot, PhD FBPharmS
President, EHRS

Members' News

Honorary Doctorate to Prof Holger Stark



Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. **Holger Stark** (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany) receives the Honorary Doctorate of the University of Niš, Serbia (June, 2016)

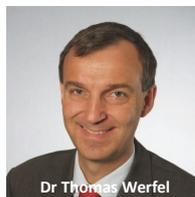
First H₄ receptor antagonist drug named



Dr **Robin Thurmond** (Janssen Research & Development, LLC, CA, USA) described the derivation of the name for the first H₄ receptor

antagonist drug, **Toreforant**, at the 45th EHRS conference in Florence, Italy, in May 2016. The 'Torrey' pine, *Pinus torreyana*, is a rare tree pine species found in the La Jolla, close to the Janssen Research facility in California. 'For' refers to the H₄ receptor and the 'ant' refers to its 'antagonist' pharmacology, hence Toreforant which is pretty neat.

H₄ receptor antagonist in clinical trial



Dr Thomas Werfel



Dr Steve Liu

Dr **Thomas Werfel** (Hannover Medical School, Germany) with Dr **Steve Liu** (Ziarco, UK), both members of the EHRS, report a strongly positive Phase 2a trial of ZPL-3893787 (ZPL 389), a histamine H₄ receptor antagonist, for atopic dermatitis.

This adds to the growing and compelling evidence base for this as a validated new target for this indication.

Novartis has now officially taken over Ziarco based on this successful clinical trial.

Watch the presentation from Thomas here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJJa2O6n_mTA&feature=player_embedded

Special issues in International Journals



Many of our members contributed to the following special issues:

- 'Histamine Receptors' *Neuropharmacology* (2016) 106, 1-164 edited by long-term EHRS members, Professors **Helmut L Haas** (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, Germany) and **Pertti Panula** (University of Helsinki, Finland)
www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00283908/106
- 'The challenge of histamine and histamine receptor pharmacology and therapeutics in the 21st century' *Pharmacological Research* (2016) edited by Dr **Katerina Tiligada** (Medical School NKUA, Athens, Greece)
www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/10436618/vsi/10VGC8T9T7S

PhD and Job Opportunities

Histopathological effect(s) of histamine in diabetic kidney

Project Description

Diabetic nephropathy represents the third cause of End-Stage-Renal disease, for which renal transplantation and dialysis are the only treatment options currently available. The renal dysfunction of diabetic patients parallels the onset of unique structural lesions. Therefore, a better understanding of the mechanism(s) leading to the morphological alterations of the kidney should contribute to the identification of new effective therapeutic approaches. The literature has recently pointed out at histamine as a neglected amine in diabetic nephropathy. This study will employ a combination of state-of-the-art morphological, genetic, pharmacological approaches, aiming at correlating the different histopathological changes to the specific features of the functional impairment and ultimately providing a rationale for the identification of new therapeutic targets. Successful candidates will benefit from full technological and academic support from the research group of Dr Pini, as well as access to the vast array of expertise and tools provided by Dr. Pini's established international network. More details of scientific interest and publications from Dr Pini can be found at:

<http://www.unifi.it/p-doc2-2015-0-A-2c3039313b2f-1.html>

Further information <http://www.unifi.it/vp-10285-phd.html>

Allergies? Let's stop it!

Lab searching for a motivated **Ph.D./Post-doc (or direct Ph.D. track Student)** for a challenging project in the field of Allergy and targeted Antibody-mediated therapy.

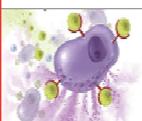
Project interests:

1. Mechanisms underlying the pathophysiology of **skin and airway allergic diseases (Atopic dermatitis and asthma)**
2. Resolution processes of Allergic inflammation

Lab work includes Immunological, molecular biology and biochemical methods, as well as mouse models.

For more information please contact:

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Anti-histamines?

Books on Histamine Receptors



Histamine Receptors Preclinical and Clinical Aspects

Patrizio **Blandina**, Maria Beatrice **Passani** (Eds)

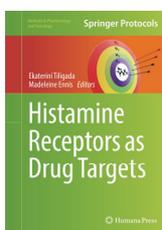
Humana Press (2016)

Springer International Publishing Switzerland

DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-40308-3

<http://www.springer.com/br/book/9783319403069>

A comprehensive and detailed overview of the current state of preclinical research on histamine and histamine receptors. Part of the book focuses on novel approaches to the study of histamine receptors such as polymorphism, genetic linkage, and computational analysis, and on the use of new histaminergic ligands in diseases such as asthma and dermatitis. Several chapters will be devoted to the role of histamine in the control of homeostatic and behavioral responses such as the sleep-wake cycle, regulation of the blood brain barrier, food intake, alertness, itch, and memory formation and consolidation.



Histamine receptors as drug targets

Ekaterini **Tiligada**, Madeleine **Ennis** (Eds)

Humana Press (2017)

Springer Science+Business Media LLC

DOI 10.1007/978-1-4939-6843-5

<http://www.springer.com/us/book/9781493968411>

This book illustrates the current state-of-the-art in histamine research, with a focus on the appropriate methodologies to investigate the pharmacological properties and the therapeutic exploitation of HRs and their ligands. In addition, the range of techniques described provides an introduction to complementary cross-methodological disciplines beyond these fields. Authoritative and thorough, it seeks to aid pharmacologists, biochemists, drug discovery researchers, molecular biologists, chemists, toxicologists, lab scientists, medical doctors, principle investigators, research scientists, lab directors and technicians, as well as graduate students around the world in pursuing the study of this vital scientific area.

Meetings



The 46th EHRs conference in Amsterdam (11-13 May 2017) hosted by Professor Rob Leurs (*new O/2 research building of the Vrije Universiteit*) will be joint with the Japanese Histamine Research Society (JHRS) - Programme: www.histamine2017.nl

Dear ESR Member

The Amsterdam Meeting is coming and we are glad to invite you to join a workshop entitled '**Scientific poster presentations**' by Professor Madeleine Ennis (QUB) scheduled on **Thursday 11th May 2017** during the Poster session (5pm onwards - specific time to follow).

We are also happy to invite you to join us for a **convivial informal moment** (a drink in the city) after the poster session.

Arianna Rosa and Vanina Medina

