

2nd Annual Ajmera Transplant Research Day Conference

May 26th, 2023

Victoria University at the University of Toronto

Tolerance in Transplantation

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration
9:05 am – 9:10 am	Introduction by Stephen Juvet, MD, PhD, FRCPC Assistant Professor, Division of Respiriology and Toronto Lung Transplant Program, Department of Medicine, University Health Network CHAIR: Elmar Jaeckel, MD Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto Medical Director, Toronto Liver Transplant Program, Ajmera Transplant Centre
9:10 am – 9:55 am	Keynote Speaker <i>Protective and Pathogenic Functions of Innate Lymphoid Cells in Immune Homeostasis and Transplantation</i> Sarah Crome, PhD Scientist, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute (TGHRI) Assistant Professor, Department of Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
9:56 am - 10:07 am	Sinthuja Jegatheeswaran, MSc, PhD student Retinoic Acid-Related Orphan Receptor Alpha Expression Differentiates Distinct Populations of Human Group 2 Innate Lymphoid Cells
10:07 am - 10:18 am	Christina Lam, PhD student The Fibrinogen-like Protein 2 Molecule Influences the Development of Thymic Regulatory T Cells
10:18 am - 10:29 am	Jan Mossemann, PhD student Targeting Ninjurin-1-mediated Lytic Cell Death Limits Hepatic Ischemia-Reperfusion Injury
10:30 am – 10:45 am	Health Break

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Ajmera Research Fellowship Recipient Presentations (10 mins each Presentation + 2 mins Discussion)

- 10:45 am – 12:00 pm
CHAIR: Cynthia Tsien, PhD, MDCM, MPH, FRCPC
Assistant Professor, University of Toronto
Transplant Hepatologist, Education Director, Ajmera Transplant Centre
- 10:45 am – 10:57 am
Samrat Ray, MBBS, MS, DNB (GI and HPB surgery), Post-Doctoral Research Fellow – Expanding the Transplant Pancreas Donor Using a Porcine Normothermic Ex Vivo Perfusion Model
- 10:57 am – 11:09 am
Olivia Mekhael, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow – Assessment of Epithelial Cell Death in Airway Brushings from Lung Transplant Recipients (LTRs) with and without Chronic Lung Allograft Dysfunction (CLAD)
- 11:09 am – 11:21 am
Javier Tomas Solera Rallo, Clinical Fellow – Severity Of Covid-19 Omicron Variant And Omicron-Specific Immune Responses In Solid Organ Transplant Patients: A Prospective Cohort Study
- 11:21 am – 11:33 am
Sofia Farkona, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow – How Does Anti-Human Leukocyte Antigen Class I Antibody Signal in Human Glomerular Endothelial Cells to Increase LGALS1 Expression?

Posters & Lunch Break

11:35 am – 12:50 pm

Clinical Research in Transplantation

- 12:50 pm – 12:55 pm
CHAIR: Tereza Martinu, MD, MS
Assistant Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto,
Scientist, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute
- 12:55 pm – 1:25 pm
Clonal Hematopoiesis
Filio (Phyllis) Billia, Ph.D., MD, FRCPC
Senior Scientist, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute (TGHRI)
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Toronto
Medical Director, Mechanical Circulatory Support Program
Co-Director of the Peter Munk Cardiovascular Biobank
Faculty, School of Graduate Studies—Departments of Medical Biophysics, Physiology and Institute of Medical Science, University of Toronto
- 1:25 pm – 1:37 pm
Bonnie Chao, BAsC, Ph.D. Student
A Machine Learning Approach to Processing and Interpreting Ex Vivo Lung Radiographs Predicts Transplant Outcomes
- 1:37 pm – 1:49 pm
Xun Zhao, PhD Student
Machine Learning For Predicting Graft Survival Following Liver Transplantation
- 1:49 pm – 2:01 pm
Lakshmi Kugathasan, PhD, Clinical Fellow
Induction Therapy in Heart Transplantation: A Systematic Review and Network Meta-Analysis

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- 2:01 pm – 2:13 pm **Laura Walti, Clinical Fellow**
Donor Urease Producing Bacteria (DU) Detection and Serum Ammonium Screening for Hyperammonemia Syndrome (HS) Post-Lung Transplant: A Prospective Observational Study
- 2:13 pm – 2:25 pm **Luckshi Rajendran, M.D., M. Ed., Clinical Fellow**
The Toronto Management of Initially Unresectable Liver Metastases from Colorectal Cancer in a Living Donor Liver Transplant Program
- 2:25 pm – 2:37 pm **Shilpa Balaji, MSc, BMSc, Medical Student**
Deceased Donor Organ Procurement Workshop Improves Surgical Transplant Fellows' Confidence
- 2:37 pm – 2:49 pm **Wajiha Ghazi, Clinical Fellow**
Physical Function Impairment Among Patients on Dialysis and Kidney Transplant Recipients

Quality Improvement and Nursing in Transplantation

- 2:50 pm – 2:55 pm **CHAIR: Nikki Marks, MN, NP**
Toronto Lung Transplant Program, Ajmera Transplant Centre,
University Health Network
Adjunct Lecturer, Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto
- 2:55 pm – 3:04 pm *Co-Design and Acceptability Evaluation of a Bundled Communication Intervention for use in the Adult Intensive Care Unit*
Laura Istanboulian, Ph.D., RN
Michael Garron Hospital
- 3:04 pm – 3:13 pm *Increasing Donor Heart Utilization: a Local QI Initiative*
David Belzile, MD, FRCPC
- 3:13 pm – 3:22 pm *Back to Basics: Improving Quality of Lung Transplantation Through a Technical Skills Simulation Program for Surgical Lung Transplant Fellows*
Laura Donahoe, MD, MSc, FRCSC
- 3:22 pm – 3:31 pm *Enhanced Recovery After Surgery in Living Donor Kidney Transplantation (ERAS-LDKT): Increasing Value for Patients and UHN*
Sonia Rodriguez-Ramirez, Clinical Fellow
- 3:31 pm – 3:40 pm *Building a Robust Hybrid Lung Transplant Rehabilitation Model to Optimize Participation and Functional Outcomes*
Lisa Wickerson, PT, PhD.
Affiliate Scientist, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute,
Ajmera Transplant Centre
- 3:40 pm – 3:45 pm **Nursing Awards Presentation**

Health Break

- 3:45 pm – 3:55 pm Health Break

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3:55 pm – 4:00 pm	<p>CHAIR: Stephen Juvet, MD, PhD Assistant Professor, University of Toronto, Clinician-Scientist, University Health Network</p>		
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm	<p><i>The Past, Present, and Future of Diagnostics in Lung Transplantation</i> Andrew Sage, PhD, MSc Assistant Scientist, Toronto General Hospital Research Institute Toronto Lung Transplant Program, University Health Network Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto</p>		
4:15 pm – 5:00 pm	<p>State of the Art Lecture <i>Treg Cellular Therapy in Kidney Transplantation from Bench to Bedside</i> Fadi Issa, DPhil FRCS(Plast) Associate Professor of Plastic Surgery, Nuffield Department of Surgical Sciences, Medical Sciences Division, University of Oxford Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, United Kingdom</p>		
5:00 pm – 5:12 pm	<p>Sarah J. Colpitts, MSc, PhD student Cell Therapy with Group 2 and Group 3 Innate Lymphoid Cells Prevents Rejection in Humanized Models of Islet Transplant</p>		
5:12 pm – 5:24 pm	<p>Martin L. Mak, PhD student Defining Protective and Pathogenic Resident Immune Cells In Kidney Transplantation</p>		
5:24 pm – 5:36 pm	<p>Kumi Mesaki, Surgical Research Fellow, PhD student CRISPR-based Donor Organ Engineering to Improve Lung Transplant Outcomes</p>		
5:37 pm – 5:52 pm	<p>Award Presentations</p>		
5:52 pm – 6:00 pm	<p>Concluding Remarks (5 – 10 mins) Shahid Husain, MD, MS, FECMM, FRCP(Edin) Professor of Medicine, University of Toronto Research Director, Ajmera Transplant Centre Division of Infectious Diseases, University Health Network</p>		
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	<p>Wine & Cheese with Poster Discussions</p> <p>Poster Discussants <i>Basic Science and Clinical Oral Posters (10)</i></p> <table><tr><td><p>Basic Science Stephen Juvet, MD, PhD Victor Ferreira, PhD Anna Konvalinka, MD, PhD</p></td><td><p>Clinical Science Mamatha Bhat, MD, PhD Shahid Husain MD, MS Tereza Martinu MD, MS</p></td></tr></table>	<p>Basic Science Stephen Juvet, MD, PhD Victor Ferreira, PhD Anna Konvalinka, MD, PhD</p>	<p>Clinical Science Mamatha Bhat, MD, PhD Shahid Husain MD, MS Tereza Martinu MD, MS</p>
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