Section of Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics

Working report 2012

The major activity of the Section of Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics was to co-organize the 2nd Latin-American Pharmacogenomics and Personalized Medicine Congress, 27-29 June 2012 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This conference was essentially organized by Prof. Guilherme Suarez-Kurtz, Instituto Nacional de Câncer, Brazil, who is a member of the Section and represents the Brazilian Pharmacogenomics Network (Refargen). The Section of Pharmacogenetics is grateful for the support of IUPHAR and the Clinical Division of IUPHAR.

The conference was attended by almost 200 participants, mostly from Brazil, but also from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador and Mexico. The contribution of the IUPHAR section started on June 29 with a brilliant keynote lecture “Pharmacogenomic and pharmacopeigenomic biomarkers for drug therapy” given by Magnus Ingelman-Sundberg. The symposium “Recent progress in the pharmacogenomics of drug transporters” consisted of three excellent lectures given by Deanne Kroetz on “Genetic Variation in the Control of Transporter Expression”, Ingolf Cascorbi on “Epigenomics of drug transporters: Role of microRNA” and Matthias Schwab on Epigenomics of drug transporters: Role of DNA-modification”. Overall, the presentations were well taken and were followed by lively discussions of the majorly young participants. Before, the section members Guilherme Suarez-Kurtz introduced the Brazilian network Refargen, a consortium of 18 research groups with the mission to provide leadership in Pharmacogenetics research and education in Brazil and Adrean Llerena described the Iberian American Network of Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics, a consortium of 16 Latin American countries, Spain and Portugal.

According to the aims of the Section of Pharmacogenetics, this meeting clearly promoted the exchange of pharmacogenetic knowledge and contributed to the evaluation of the clinical impact of pharmacogenetics. A full conference report was published by Guilherme Suarez-Kurt in “Pharmacogenomics 2012:13;1449-1452” that is freely available.

On September 19, 2012 the Chairman of the Section had the honour to represent IUPHAR at an International Conference to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology in Budapest, Hungary. In his short welcome speech at the Hungarian Academy of Science, Ingolf Cascorbi conveyed the warm greetings of the IUPHAR board of directors and gave subsequently a scientific lecture on “Pharmacogenomics and epigenomics of drug resistance”.

From October 30 – November 2, 2012, the chairman took part at the 6th Santorini Conference on prospective biology running under the topic “Systems biology and personalized health, science and translation” that was essentially organized by Gérard Siest, University of Nancy, France, president of the European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Theranostics (ESPT). ESPT and the IUPHAR Section agreed to cooperate at future meetings.
Plans for 2013

From September 26-28 2013 there will be the 2nd Conference of the European Society of Pharmacogenomics and Theranostics taking place in Lisbon Portugal. This conference running under the title “Pharmacogenomics: From Cell to Clinic” will be held under the auspices of the IUPHAR Section of Pharmacogenetics and Pharmacogenomics and four of its members will give presentations.

From October 30 to November 3 2013 the 5th International Congress on Psychopharmacology (TAP-ICP) will be held in Antalya, Turkey. As in 2011, the section was asked by Prof. Feyza Aricioglu, Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey to organize a symposium on personalized medicine in psychiatry and the congress will run also under the auspices of the section.

Plans for 2014

In preparation of WorldPharma2014 in Capetown, South Africa, we have jointly proposed together with the IUPHAR section on Drug Metabolism and Transport a large stream on “Drug safety and efficacy” consisting of six separated symposia with three lectures each. Moreover our section has proposed a short workshop on “Global PGx-based personalized medicine” including contribution of a large number of section members providing the different views to this topic. The decisions on acceptation are expected by the end of February 2013.

Ingolf Cascorbi, MD, PhD
Section Chair

Members of the Section

Ingolf Cascorbi, Kiel, Germany (Chair)  J. Steven Leeder, Kansas City, MO, USA
Laurent Becquemont, Paris, France  Adrian Llerana, Badajoz, Spain
Kim Bresen, Odense, Denmark  Vural Ozdemir, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Ingolf Cascorbi, Kiel, Germany  Matthias Schwab, Stuttgart, Germany
Ann Daly, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom  Toshiyuki Someya, Niigata, Japan
K. Ingelman-Sundberg, Stockholm, Sweden  Andrew Somogyi, Adelaide, Australia
Deanna Kroetz, San Francisco, CA, USA  Julia Stingl, Bonn, Germany
Guilherme Suarez-Kurtz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil