

INTRODUCTION

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From biochemical analysis to targeted Therapies

Petro E Petrides^{1*}, David Brenner²

From Fibroproliferative disorders: from biochemical analysis to targeted therapies
Frauenchiemsee, Germany. 25-30 September 2010

Introduction

Abnormal fibrogenesis is a process which in practically every organ of our body can contribute to disease. In contrast to its paramount importance, too little is known about the pathophysiology of this process and therapeutic ways to interfere with this process.

In order to spark progress in the field our idea was to bring together a small group of leading experts of tissue fibrogenesis to focus on this topic by investigating different tissues and diseases. Cross fertilization through intense discussion should allow us to work out general principles and develop new strategies for targeted therapies.

For the venue we chose the beautiful island of Frauenchiemsee in Upper Bavaria where international meetings on various topics had been held over the last decade. Leading experts had met to discuss the role of peroxidases (1998), chronic myeloproliferative disorders (2000), iron metabolism (2003) and thrombus formation (2005). For details the interested reader is referred to www.innova-med.de.

On this secluded island in beautiful surroundings a group of 30 experts (see Figure 1) in the field came together in fall 2010 for a few days to catalyze interpersonal communication, to stimulate the fruitful exchange of ideas and foster future collaborations.



Figure 1 Group photo.

¹Hematology Oncology Center & Ludwig Maximilians University Medical School, Munich, Germany

Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

The meeting started with basic concepts, continued with fibrosis in various organs, and went on to the reversibility of this process and the development of antifibrotic therapies. Although each organ is unique, all fibrotic diseases share core pathogenic pathways. For this publication in *Fibrogenesis & Tissue Repair* all authors have updated their presentations.

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We hope that the reader will enjoy these proceedings and gain some inspiration for the research in his/her own area of interest.

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Author details

¹Hematology Oncology Center & Ludwig Maximilians University Medical School, Munich, Germany. ²University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, USA.

Competing interests

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