Breaking boundaries in osteoarthritis: lessons from novel biomarkers, imaging, genomewide associations, and signaling pathways

1st February 2010, London

PROGRAMME

Royal College of Physicians
11 St Andrews Place Regents’s Park
London NW1 4LE
Dear participant,

The TreatOA consortium would like to thank you for your participation in this symposium.

Osteoarthritis is the most common joint disorder, and its prevalence is expected to climb as the age of the population increases. Our current knowledge regarding the molecular pathogenesis indicates that there are several molecules that are candidates for therapeutic intervention and for genetic variation at them to affect disease risk.

The TreatOA EU is a large-scale collaborative, integrated, trans-disciplinary project to address the need for better treatment and diagnostics for osteoarthritis, the most common cause of disability in Europe. The gene driven approach aims to provide new therapeutic targets as well as tools to select patients which will be most likely to respond to those therapies effectively. It will also deliver a comprehensive technology platform with a focus on gaining new insights into the development and progression of human OA. The goal is to identify diagnostic and prognostic genetic markers for disease risk and progression and potential therapeutic targets.

This symposium aims to review recent developments of molecular pathways and genetics of OA, and developments in the epidemiology, biochemical markers and clinical management of the disease.

We look forward to your participation in this symposium and we hope that you find it interesting.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Spector

Ana Valdes
PROGRAMME

08.30-09.00 Registration

09.00-09.10 Tim Spector: 
The TreatOA consortium, welcome Address

**Session 1: Biology of molecular signaling pathways**

9:15-9:35 Frank Luyten: 
From gene discovery to osteoarthritis susceptibility: a tale of GDF5 and FRZB

9:35-9:55 Francesco Dell'Accio: 
Wnts in osteoarthritis: lessons from an injury model

9:55-10:15 Maripat Corr: 
Wnt and inflammation in osteoarthritis

10:15-10:35 Rik Lories: 
Wnts and Wnt antagonists in (osteo)arthritis: for better or worse?

10:35-10:55 Nancy Lane: 
Wnts and Wnt antagonists as biomarkers for bone and joint disease

11.15-11.35 COFFEE BREAK

**Session 2: Human genetics and biomarkers of OA**

11:35-11:55 Ingrid Meulenbelt: 
From linkage analyses to the finding of the thyroid pathway’s involvement in OA, the DIO2 gene”

11:55-12:15 Frances Williams: 
Genetics of spine OA

12:15-12:35 Joyce van Meurs 
Genomewide association studies in OA
12:35-12:55  Morten Karsdal / Anne Bay-Jensen
Biomarkers for OA and other forms of arthritis

12:55 – 13:50  LUNCH

Session 3: Epidemiological and clinical aspects of OA

13:50-14:10  Antonio Gonzalez
How OA definition criteria affects epidemiological research

14:10-14:30  Nigel Arden
From individual radiographic features to disease outcomes in OA

14:30-14:50  Stefan Lohmander
Old knees in young patients: what the study of post-traumatic OA can teach us about OA pathogenesis

14:50-15:10  Michael Doherty:
The “placebo” response in osteoarthritis and its implications for clinical practice

15:10-15:30  Tim Spector:
Conclusion / Discussion

15:30 – 17:00  COFEE BREAK
Breakout sessions posible

Thank you for your attendance