

**Participant 11: AKH-VIENNA-**

**Professor Hildegard Greinix**, Bone Marrow Transplantation Unit, University Hospital of Vienna, Austria

The stem cell transplantation Unit of the Department of Medicine I has the largest autologous and allogeneic stem cell transplant for adults within Austria. Extracorporeal photochemotherapy (ECP) has been established for the treatment of patients with acute and chronic GvHD and the results have been published in distinguished journals. Research is focused on reduction of transplant toxicities, pathophysiology of GVHD and GVL effects, tolerance induction, immunomodulation by ECP, biology and treatment of acute and chronic leukaemias and lymphomas. **Prof. Greinix** is Head of the Austrian Stem Cell Transplantation Group and an active member of the EBMT. She is a member of the EBMT Chronic Leukaemia Working Party and the IBMTR. She is Head of the Clinical Working Group of the World Marrow Donor Association and an assigned expert for the Austrian Government to the European Commission's directives on stem cells and tissues. Prof. Greinix's research is funded by several grants from Austrian research foundations and the TRANSEUROPE project. The Department of Dermatology, Division of Special and Environmental Dermatology together with the Division of Immunodermatology, have been actively involved in the assistance, management and care of cutaneous manifestations of GvHD for many years. The Department of Dermatology has maintained its leading position as a world reference centre for ECP up to the present time. In the process of establishing large multi-centre trials for evaluating treatment efficacy this centre has become one of the primary centres for teaching and establishing standards for evaluating skin involvement in GvHD as well as associated cutaneous diseases.

***Network team:***

**Professor Robert Knobler** is an Associate Professor of Dermatology and Director of the Vienna Photopheresis Centre, President of the European Society for Extracorporeal photochemotherapy, Chairman of the Cutaneous Lymphoma Task Force of the E.O.R.T.C. Major research interest lies in the areas of clinical and experimental aspects of photomedicine (extracorporeal photochemotherapy in particular), T-cell mediated diseases including cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, organ transplantation and autoimmune diseases. **Professor Franz Trautinger** is Associate Prof. of Dermatology and Venerology at the Division of Special and Environmental Dermatology, Head of the Inpatients Ward of the division, Head of the Ward for Cutaneous Lymphomas, and Head of the Experimental Research Laboratory of the division. His main research interests are clinically diagnosis and treatment of cutaneous lymphomas and photomedicine. His research involves photobiology of the skin, and investigation of the expression and function of heat shock proteins in the skin. **Professor Franz Karhofer** is Head of the Laboratory of Immunopathology and Head of the Inpatients' Ward at the Division of Immunology, Allergy and Infectious Diseases (DIAID) of the Department of Dermatology. He is Associate Professor of Immunology and Immunodermatology. Together with Dr. Achim Schneeberger he is in charge of the outpatient clinic for GVHD patients of the DIAID. His research interests are diagnosis and treatment of cutaneous autoimmune dermatoses and the characterization of disease specific parameters. Dr. Achim Schneeberger is a senior dermatology resident. He has been instrumental in establishing serological melanoma markers and immunization strategies (melanoma cell-based vaccines, dendritic cell-based vaccines) for the treatment of melanoma patients. His further interests are focused on the care of patients with GvHD. **Professor Gottfried Fischer** is Associate Professor of Blood Group Serology and Transfusion Medicine, Head of the Tissue Culture Laboratory and Member of the Board of the European Federation of Immunogenetics (EFI). The HLA laboratory of the Department of Blood Group Serology in the University Hospital of Vienna has been accredited by EFI for typing services for HSCT and solid organ transplantation (renal and non renal). The laboratory acts as reference laboratory for Austria. **-Additional experienced personnel involved: 6.** The team is based in a department of the University of Vienna Medical School with regular teaching and training seminars for medical students. Prof. Greinix **employs one early-stage researcher** (flow cytometry, mixed lymphocyte reactions, chimerism analyses by FISH or PCR, immunohistochemical and immunofluorescence techniques in skin biopsies) **and experienced researcher** for analysis of KIR gene polymorphism (serological HLA typing, the SSO and SSP technique as well as the nucleotide sequencing technique for HLA typing; for expression analysis of mRNA a Taqman approach).

**Relevant References**

**Prof Greinix**

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**Prof Tautinger**

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