

ESOT Masterclass

From Liquid Biopsy to Tissue Gene Expression: The Impact of New Technologies on Clinical Practice in Solid Organ Transplantation (SOT)

Date: 14 – 15 June, 2024

Location: **Mercure Hotel Stare Miasto
Krakow, Poland**

Advancements in molecular biology technology allowed the development of promising biomarkers, such as Peripheral blood gene expression profiling (GEP) and cell-free DNA (cfDNA), for minimally invasive diagnosis and characterisation of allograft rejection.

The use of circulating GEP and cfDNA may offer advantages over invasive tissue biopsy as a quantitative measure for detection of transplant rejection, immunosuppression optimisation and follow-up after treatment. However, there is no standard recognition of the usage of this new technology.

With the intention of fostering awareness around this topic, during the TLJ 3.0 Consensus conference held in Prague, November 2022, a panel of experts developed guidelines on the use of Molecular Biology testing for Non-Invasive Diagnosis of Allograft Rejection pertaining to the [Kidney](#), Heart & Lung, and [Liver](#). These guidelines were submitted in the form of three papers and have been published on Transplant International.

This masterclass was designed based on the outcomes of these guidelines. It will cover all the cutting-edge technologies that are about to revolutionise the transplantation field, including cell-free DNA, new plasma, urinary and immune function biomarkers, gene-expression profiling, as well as recent advances on HLA and non-HLA antibodies.

Learning Objectives:

After attending this masterclass participants will be able to:

- Gain insight into all the cutting-edge technologies in the transplantation field;
- Learning the ESOT recommendations on testing for non-invasive diagnosis of SOT rejection;
- Put recent discoveries into clinical context.

Target Audience:

Solid Organ Transplant professionals, who are within 5 years of senior appointment.

Professional Background: Nephrology, Cardio Thoracic, Scientist, Allied Health Care Professionals

Grant applications:

This masterclass is open to 25 participants and it is by application only. Registration is provided upon application approval.

Successful candidates will receive a **300 EUR** grant covering travel expenses. **Accommodation will be provided** by the Organisers at the venue of the Masterclass. For more information on how to apply, please visit the website [at this link](#).



Scientific Organisers:

David Cucchiari (Spain)

Dilan Dabare (UK)

Luciano Potena (Italy)

Confirmed Faculty:

Marta Jimenez Blanco-Bravo (Spain)

David Cucchiari (Spain)

Eric Epailly (France)

Guido Moll (Germany)

Andriana Nikolova (US)

Bianca de Nicolo (Italy)

Sook Hyeon Park (US)

Luciano Potena (Italy)

Gianluigi Zaza (Italy)

*This project is possible thanks to the kind support of **CareDX** and **Eurofins***

ESOT Headquarters

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Preliminary Scientific Programme – 14 June 2024

Session 1 Introduction of ESOT Guidelines on Biomarkers (14:30 – 16:00)

Moderator: Luciano Potena (Italy)

14:30	Welcome Address	5 min	David Cucchiari (Spain)
14:35	Overview of Biomarkers in Transplantation: What to expect?	25 min	Name to be confirmed
15:00	Guidelines Presentation: Kidney <i>'European Society of Organ Transplantation Consensus Statement on Testing for Non-Invasive Diagnosis of Kidney Allograft Rejection'</i>	20 min	Sook Hyeon Park (US)
15:20	Guidelines Presentation: Heart & Lung <i>'European Society for Organ Transplantation Statement on the use of non-invasive biomarkers for cardiothoracic transplant rejection surveillance'</i>	20 min	Andriana Nikolova (US)
15:40	Discussion	20 min	

Coffee Break: 16:00 – 16:30

Session 2 Donor derived cfDNA (16:30 – 18:00)

Moderator: Gianluigi Zaza (Italy)

16:30	Challenges of setting up of cfDNA assay	25 min	Bianca de Nicolo (Italy)
16:55	cfDNA in Kidneys & Pancreas	25 min	Louise Benning (Germany)
17:20	cfDNA in Heart & Lung	25 min	Luciano Potena (Italy)
17:45	Panel Discussion	15 min	Moderator: Gianluigi Zaza (Italy) Panellists: Bianca De Nicolo Luciano Potena (Italy) Louise Benning (Germany)

Preliminary Scientific Programme – 15 June 2024

Session 3 Other Biomarkers (09:00 – 10:40)

Moderator: Name to be confirmed

09:00	Urinary	20 min	Gianluigi Zaza (Italy)
09:20	Gene expression	20 min	Name to be confirmed
09:40	Cardiac biomarkers	20 min	Marta Jimenez Blanco-Bravo (Spain)
10:00	Immune function biomarkers	20 min	Name to be confirmed
10:20	HLA and non-HLA donor specific antibodies	20 min	Guido Moll (Germany)

Coffee Break: 10:40 – 11:00

Session 4 Clinical Case Discussion (11:00 – 12:00)

Format: Participants will be divided into two groups. Clinical case studies will be presented and discussed during the parallel sessions.

11:00	Parallel discussion: Kidney	30 min	Moderators: David Cucchiari (Spain) Louise Benning (Germany)
11:00	Parallel discussion: Thoracic	30 min	Moderators: Marta Jimenez Blanco-Bravo (Spain) Luciano Potena (Italy)
11:30	Biomarker application in clinical practice & what can we expect in the future?	20 min	Luciano Potena (Italy)
11:50	Closing Remarks	10 min	David Cucchiari (Spain) Luciano Potena (Italy)

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