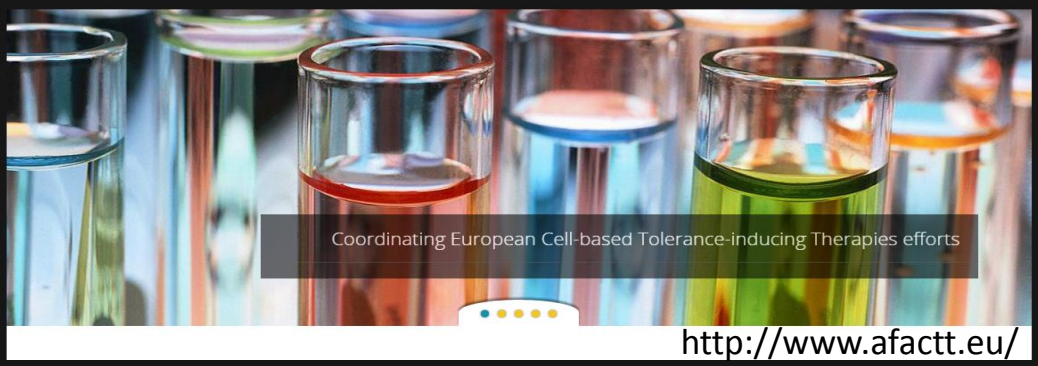
[COST] Action BM1305: Joint MC-WG Meetings III

FF.ULisboa, Main Building

Action to Focus and Accelerate Cell-based Tolerance-inducing Therapies

Europe's Biggest Research Network on CTT



WHY A FACTT?

The number of patients with autoimmune diseases and recipients of organ or stem-cell transplants is increasing worldwide. Currently, these patients require lifelong administration of immunosuppressive drugs. Often, these drugs are ineffective, expensive and show severe side-effects. More effective and safer therapies aimed at modifying unwanted immune responses permanently or for prolonged periods are needed.

Accumulating knowledge on mechanisms of immune tolerance has led to development of specific Cell-based Tolerance-inducing Therapies (CTT) with the specific objectives to restrain unwanted immune reactions long-term. For patients, personalised CTT will represent a breakthrough for healthcare and quality of life.

Clinical CTT studies are underway or starting in single European institutes. The used CTT products are diverse and the efficacy of therapy is monitored by different parameters. This creates the risk of redundancy in trials and suboptimal performance indicators for comparison of trial outcomes.

AIM of A FACTT

The main objective of A FACTT is to initiate a network that will coordinate European CTT efforts to minimise overlap and maximise comparison of the diverse approaches through establishment of consensus monitoring parameters. The A FACTT-Action will thus focus and accelerate the CTT field and ensure that the field will progress in an efficient, safe and cost-effective way.

Local organizer:

Joana Paiva Gomes Miranda
Department of Toxicology and Food Sciences/Chemical Biology and Toxicology Group
Faculty of Pharmacy/Research Institute for Medicines, University of Lisbon

EVENT SCHEDULE

FF.ULisboa, Main Building

April 23, 2015

10:00 – 11:00 Welcome

11:00 – 11:05 Agenda and update on WG1 activities
Catharien Hilkens (Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK)

11:05 – 11:10 Minimum information model for tolerogenic APC - MITAP
Catharien Hilkens (Newcastle University, Newcastle, UK)

11:10 – 11:20 Building a tolAPC catalogue
Paloma Riquelme (University Hospital Regensburg, Germany)
Maria-Cristina Cuturi (University of Nantes, Nantes, France)

11:20 – 11:40 Discussion: Route of administration for tolAPC: which is the preferred route and why, and how can tolDC migration in vivo be investigated in a clinical setting?
Chaired by WG1 leaders

11:40 – 12:00 Novosanis – development of a new injection device
Bart Verleije (Novosanis, Belgium)

12:00 – 12:30 **Coffee-break**

12:30 – 12:50 Horizon 2020 proposal: Cell-based tolerance-inducing therapies (CTT): the route to widespread administration
Nathalie Cools (Antwerp University Hospital, Antwerp, Belgium)

12:50 – 13:00 Discussion: how can H2020 proposal be improved?
Chaired by WG1 leaders

13:00 – 13:45 Discussion: Quality control of tolAPC products – towards recommended guidelines/ideas for innovation
Chaired by WG1 leaders

13:45 – 14:00 Next A FACTT meeting – what topics should be explored?

14:00 – 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 – 15:30 Update on UK clinical trials with Treg
Katie Lowe (King's College, London, UK)
Paul Harden (Oxford University Hospital, Transplant Center, Oxford, UK)

15:30 – 16:30 Developments in Treg expansion:

Clinical experience.
Manuela Battaglia (San Raffaele Institute, Milan, Italy)

New *in vitro* protocols.
Irma Joosten (*Radboud university Medical center, Nijmegen, Netherlands*)

16:30 – 17:00 **Coffee-break**

17:00 – 17:30 Challenges on the preclinical development of ATMPs.
Beatriz Lima (FF.ULisboa/iMed.Ulisboa, Lisbon, Portugal)

17:30 – 18:30 Discussion: Academic and Commercial clinical trials – similar or different?
Pjotr Trzonkowski (Medical University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland)

20:00 M**eeting Dinner**

April 24, 2015

9:00 – 10:00 A FACTT Management Committee Meeting

10:30 – 10:45 **WG3:** Welcome, meeting goals and update WG3 activities
Marieke van Ham (Sanquin Blood Supply, Amsterdam, Netherlands)

10:45 – 11:00 Harmonization versus standardization
Thomas Giese (University Hospital Hedeilberg, Heidelberg, Germany)

11:00 – 11:15 Fundamental aspects and problems with harmonizing flow data analysis
Stephan Schlickeiser (Institute of Medical Immunology-Charité, Berlin, Germany)

11:15 – 12:00 Discussion: towards a paper on harmonization of multiparameter flow data analysis
Chaired by Stephan Schlickeiser/James Hutchinson

12:00 – 12:15 **Coffee-break**

12:00 – 12:30 Subgroup Q-PCR/mRNA analyses: Update and questionnaire
Marc Martinez-Llordella (King's Collage London, London, UK)

12:30 – 13:15 Discussion: towards a paper on harmonization of Q-PCR analysis for immunomonitoring for tolerance-inducing therapies
Chaired by Thomas Giese/Marc Martinez-Llordella

13:15 – 13:30 Experiences and hurdles in immunomonitoring of a human Treg trial
Joanna Hester (University of Oxford, Oxford, UK)

13:30 – 13:45 Update of questionnaire "CFSE based assay to measure cytokine (e.g. IL-10/IFN-g/IL-17) production and cell division in PMBCs."
Anja ten Brinke (Sanquin Blood Supply, Amsterdam, Netherlands)

13:45 – 14:25 Discussion: towards a paper on harmonization of multi-parameter T cell effector function assay for immunomonitoring of tolerance-inducing therapies
Chaired by Anja ten Brinke/Irma Joosten/Marieke van Ham

14:25 – 14:30 Extra points, outlook and closure
Marieke van Ham (Sanquin Blood Supply, Amsterdam, Netherlands)

14.30 – 15:30 **Lunch**