



WORK PACKAGE 5: BASIC SCIENCE PRE-CONFERENCE MEETING

(Update July 2018)

Background

Since 2012 a few CF patient organizations are organizing, jointly with ECFS, a pre-conference meeting to the ECFS Basic Science meeting. These meetings were highly appreciated by the participants and during last two years led to a report in the JCF.

Aims

Offering an annual pre-conference meeting to the ECFS Basic Science meeting on a “hot topic” with high interest to CF patients. The meeting should foster networking between basic researchers, clinicians and patient organizations on the selected topic with the goal to initiate international co-operations in order to speed up the development of new CF therapies and diagnostic tools.

Activities

- Selection of the “hot topic” by the patient organizations and the ECFS. Developing of the scientific program of the pre-conference meeting together with 2 co-chairs and jointly with ECFS, through telephone conferences, starting in September.
- General information on the pre-conference meeting to CF research community.
- Individual information and invitation of topic-relevant working groups.
- The meeting should allow only a limited number of participants (50) related to the topic, to enable interactive discussions and the development of future research ideas.
- A report on the recent meetings was published in the JCF:
 - o **CFTR functional measurements in human models for diagnosis, prognosis and personalized therapy:** Report on the pre-conference meeting to the 11th ECFS Basic Science Conference, Malta, 26-29 March 2014. (J Cyst Fibros. 2014 Jul;13(4):363-72.)
 - o **Finding new drugs to enhance anion secretion in cystic fibrosis: Toward suitable systems for better drug screening.** Report on the pre-conference meeting to the 12th ECFS Basic Science Conference, Albufeira, 25-28 March 2015 (J Cyst Fibros. 2015 Nov;14(6):700-5)
 - o **Biobanking: towards increased access of biomaterials in cystic fibrosis.** Report on the pre-conference meeting to the 13th ECFS Basic Science Conference, Pisa, 30 March-2 April, 2016. (J Cyst Fibros. 2017 Sep;16(5):616-621)
 - o **Gene editing & stem cells.** Report on the pre-conference meeting to the 14th ECFS Basic Science Conference, Algarve, 29 March-1 April 2017 (J Cyst Fibros. 2018 Jan;17(1):10-16)
- Topic of the most recent meeting in 2018: “**Lung and gut microbiome: what has to be considered for CF?**”, chaired by Geneviève Héry-Arnaud and Stuart Elborn. <https://www.ecfs.eu/greece2018/pre-conference-seminar>



Deliverables

- Annual pre-conference meeting to the ECFS Basic Science meeting, highly appreciated by the participants.
- Publication of a meeting report in the JCF
- the initiation of co-operations and speeding up the development of new CF therapies and diagnostic tools

Countries involved

Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, UK

Work package leader

Sylvia Hafkemeyer (Germany)

Budget

€ 8000 (room, technical facilities, extra night hotel participants, travelling and housing)