

International PSC Study Group (IPSCSG) Annual report

In Oslo June 2010 a total of 45 active PSC researchers from Norway, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Spain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, UK, Ireland, US and Canada met and established the International PSC Study Group (IPSCSG, www.ipscsg.org, password required). Entering 2013, the group includes researchers from 19 countries and more than 50 different institutions.

MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Prof. **Michael E. Manns**, Hannover, Germany
Prof. **Konstantinos N. Lazaridis**, Rochester, MN, US
Prof. **Michael Trauner**, Vienna, Austria
Prof. **Ulrich H. Beuers**, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Dr. **Luca Fabris**, Padua, Italy
Prof. **Martti Färkkilä**, Helsinki, Finland
Prof. **Tom Hemming Karlsen**, Oslo, Norway
(*coordinator/secretary*)

Representation in IPSCSG is based on active participation in ongoing studies and meetings are held biannually during the International Liver Congress™ (ILC™) by European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) and the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases (AASLD) conferences. During 2012 the group first met in Barcelona during the ILC™ April 20th and then in Boston during AASLD November 12th.

In addition, IPSCSG meets every second year for a two-day focus workshop, in 2012 hosted and sponsored by the Hamburg PSC research group of Prof. Christoph Schramm and Prof. Ansgar Lohse at the Hotel Hafen in Hamburg, June 11-12th. Four different working groups were held as parallel sessions, facilitating detailed discussions focusing particularly on development of the database for clinical studies and prospective biobanking, cholangiocarcinoma, the role of gut microbiota in PSC as well as further development of the basic research groups within the IPSCSG.

DURING 2012 THE GROUP HAS MADE PROGRESS ON SEVERAL TOPICS:

- Contributions to the ImmunoChip project completed (DNA from >4,000 PSC patients)
- Collection of clinical data from 7,500 PSC patients for a clinical descriptive review
- Multicenter study to evaluate the utility of Fibroscan in determining disease progression in PSC

- Multiple contributions to the pruritus GWAS study led by George Mells
- Multiple contributions to the US/UK GWAS meta-analysis
- Participation in clinical trials (Dilstent2, nor-ursodeoxycholic acid)

PLANNED MEETINGS IN 2013:

During the ILC™ in Amsterdam IPSCSG will have two meetings; Wednesday April 24th a joint workshop will be held within the official EASL ILC program and at Friday April 20th the biannual meeting will take place. The group will also meet in November during AASLD in Washington DC for the second biannual meeting. The next two-day meeting will be hosted and sponsored by the Amsterdam PSC research group (June 2014).

INTERNATIONAL PSC STUDY GROUP NETWORK

COUNTRIES

Australia	Norway	the Netherlands
Austria	Poland	UK
Belgium	Spain	US
Canada	Switzerland	
Finland	Sweden	
France		
Germany		
Ireland		
Iceland		
Italy		
Japan		



More information on: www.ipscsg.org