

NEWS RELEASE

New Therapeutic Directions in Managing Allergic Conditions and Asthma Are the Focus of the 2013 WAO Symposium on Immunotherapy and Biologics

Chicago, USA – 13 December. The World Allergy Organization (WAO) commences the *2013 WAO Symposium on Immunotherapy and Biologics* in Chicago from December 13 to 14 to synthesize what is known about emerging areas of personalized treatment of the allergic patient. A faculty of 40 internationally recognized experts will report on therapeutic advances, clinical breakthroughs, and research needs related to the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of allergic diseases and asthma which now affect 30-40% of the world's population.

Dr. Stephen J. Galli, of Stanford University School of Medicine, will deliver a keynote address on the opportunities and challenges of precision medicine and how these will impact research in allergy and immunology. Symposium Chairs, Professor Ruby Pawankar (WAO President) and Dr. Lanny J. Rosenwasser (WAO President-Elect), will lead plenary sessions on the cellular and biological basis of the allergic response, allergen immunotherapy and tolerance, biologic targets for immunotherapy treatment, and new techniques for successful treatment with allergen immunotherapy.

Experts will also elaborate in-depth on topics in personalized medicine in allergy and asthma during sessions of the "Biologics Track" and the "Immunotherapy Track". The 365 delegates from 40 countries will also have the opportunity to attend a special lecture on molecular mechanisms and the treatment of hereditary angioedema and receive information about key documents nearing publication including the 2013 update of the "Sublingual Immunotherapy: World Allergy Organization Position Paper", the 2013 update of the *WAO White Book on Allergy*, and an update on the Urticaria Guidelines presented by WAO and the American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology. The scientific program will also feature two poster sessions, presenting 50 accepted abstracts. More information about the individual sessions and the symposium is available at: www.worldallergy.org/program.

About the World Allergy Organization:

The *World Allergy Organization (WAO)* is an international alliance of 94 regional and national allergy, asthma and immunology societies. Through collaboration with its Member Societies WAO provides a wide range of educational and outreach programs, symposia and lectureships to allergists/immunologists around the world and conducts initiatives related to clinical practice, service provision, and physical training in order to better understand and address the challenges facing allergists/immunologists worldwide.

Contacts:

Katie Komassa, Associate Director of Meetings (kkomassa@worldallergy.org)
Samantha Machart, Communications Manager (smachart@worldallergy.org)
World Allergy Organization
555 E. Wells Street, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3823 USA
Tel: +1 (414) 276-1791 Fax: +1 (414) 276-3349
Email: info@worldallergy.org
Website: www.worldallergy.org