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WAO Symposium Will Address Food Allergy and Multi-System Effects of the Human Microbiome

Two-day Program Will Facilitate Bench-to-Bedside Evaluation of Food Allergy and Microbiome

Milwaukee, WI. November 24, 2015 – About 350 scientists and physicians specializing in allergy and clinical immunology from around the world will gather in Miami from December 5-6, 2015 for the WAO Symposium on Food Allergy and the Microbiome, hosted by the World Allergy Organization (WAO). The program will focus on current understanding of food allergy as well as the microbiome from a life course perspective in relation to health and disease.

“This Symposium will highlight recent advances including sublingual immunotherapy, pre- and probiotics, nutrition in early life, and other forms of allergic disease prevention that will have an impact on the current and future management of allergies,” according to Dr. Lanny Rosenwasser, President of the World Allergy Organization and Symposium Chair. “The program, with its food allergy track and microbiome track, will also encourage the exchange of new insights that will identify research priorities in these areas.”

Presentations by 26 international experts will include discussion of research that will be used to improve treatment and prevention strategies including prevention of food allergy. “Food allergy is an emerging clinical area because of the increasing prevalence as well as the novel pathophysiological approaches and development of prevention and therapy,” according to Dr. Harald Renz of Philipps University Marburg in Germany. He will present on “Pre-and Postnatal Microbial Exposure and Allergy Development and explore the role of epigenetics in linking environmental exposures to disease development.

“The microbiome is one of the most important environmental drivers of immune maturation and has implications for all aspects of health,” according to Dr. Susan Prescott of Princess Margaret Hospital in Perth Australia. “It is also a rapidly evolving area, with new technologies, and has provided new perspectives on health and human interface with the environment.” Dr. Prescott will present on “The Role of the Gastric and Intestinal Microbiome in Local and Systemic Disease.”

Other highlights from the scientific program include a presentation on “Routes of Food Allergen Sensitization” by Dr. Gideon Lack of Kings College London and Guy’s & St. Thomas’ NHS Foundation Trust in London. Dr. Alessandro Fiocchi, of Bambino Gesu Pediatric Hospital in Rome, will discuss the “Guidelines for Allergic Disease Prevention (GLAD-P)” and the value of probiotics and prebiotics. Dr. Anna Nowak-Wegrzywn of Mount Sinai Hospital in New York will present the latest insights in “Sublingual (SLIT) and Epicutaneous (EPIT) Immunotherapy.”

For a complete list of topics and sessions, view the Scientific Program at: https://wao.confex.com/wao/2015symp/webprogram/start.html

About the World Allergy Organization

The World Allergy Organization (WAO) is an international alliance of 97 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. (www.worldallergy.org)

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