

**WHO Annual Meeting on Buruli ulcer
23 to 24 March 2010
WHO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland
Room C**

PROVISIONAL AGENDA – RESEARCH

EACH SPEAKER HAS 15 MINUTES PLUS 5 MINUTES FOR QUESTIONS

TUESDAY 23 MARCH

14:00 - 15:40

***M. ulcerans* in the environment and transmission to humans (I)**

Chairperson: Dr Eric Benbow

1. Dr Sara Eyangoh (14:00 – 14:20)

Risk factors for Buruli ulcer in Bankim, a newly endemic area in Cameroon

2. Professor Julien Doannio (14:20 - 14:40)

Biological diversity and possible implication of aquatic hemiptera in *Mycobacterium ulcerans* transmission to humans in Côte d'Ivoire (West africa)

3. Professor Pamela Small (14:40 - 15:00)

A Matter of Scale: Demography, Micro-geography, *M. ulcerans*, and Buruli ulcer in the hamlets of a Buruli Ulcer endemic village in Benin

4. Dr Heather Williamson (15:00 - 15:20)

Presence and abundance of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* in 25 Buruli ulcer endemic and nonendemic villages in Benin

5. Dr Lies Durnez (15:20 – 15:40)

The role of terrestrial small mammals as a reservoir of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* in Benin

TUESDAY 23 MARCH

16:00 - 18:00

***M. ulcerans* in the environment and transmission to humans (II)**

Chairperson: Dr Anthony Ablordey

1. Dr Janet Fyfe (16:00 – 11:20)

M. ulcerans colonizes the gastrointestinal tracts of mammals: what is the evidence?

2. Dr Christina McCowan (16:20 - 16:40)

Systemic natural infections with *M. ulcerans* in Australian marsupials.

3. Dr Eric Benbow (16:40 - 17:00)

The role of climate-environmental-human interactions for predicting Buruli ulcer emergence in Victoria, Australia

4. Dr Ryan Kimbirauskas (17:00 - 17:20)

Benthic macroinvertebrate metrics associated with *Mycobacterium ulcerans* in Ghana, West Africa: can invertebrate communities indicate the probability of pathogen occurrence?

5. Dr Mollie McIntosh (17:20 – 17:40)

Spatial variation of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* within an endemic water body

6. Dr Stephanie Miller (17:40 – 18:00)

Diatom-indicated characteristics of aquatic plant biofilms associated with *Mycobacterium ulcerans*

WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH

09:00 - 10:40

***M. ulcerans* pathogenesis and host response (I)**

Chairperson: Dr Janet Fyfe

1. Dr Lydia Mosi (09:00 – 09:20)

Experimental infection of medaka (*Oryzias latipes*) with *Mycobacterium ulcerans*: a model for transmission, pathogenesis and toxicity to fish

2. Professor Julien Doannio (09:20 – 09:40)

Study in laboratory of biology and behaviour of *Diplonychus* sp (Belostomatidae, Hemiptera), potential vector of *Mycobacterium ulcerans*, pathogenic agent of Buruli ulcer in Côte d'Ivoire (West africa)

3. Dr Paul Converse (09:40 - 10:00)

BCG protection against experimental Buruli ulcer: role of mouse and *M. ulcerans* strains

4. Dr Laurent Marsollier (10:00 – 10:20)

Protective effect of water bug saliva against *M. ulcerans* lesion development

5. Dr David Coulibaly-N'Golo (10:20 – 10:40)

Description of a specific strain of *Mycobacterium ulcerans* isolated in Côte d'Ivoire: identification using MIRU-VNTR and sequencing.

WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH

11:00 – 12:40

***M. ulcerans* pathogenesis and host response (II)**

Chairperson: Dr Rachel Simmonds

1. Professor Masamichi Goto (11:00 – 11:20)

Comparison of murine and human histopathology of *M. ulcerans* infection after chemotherapy

2. Professor Jorge Pedrosa (11:20 – 11:40)

Study of the impact of cell death on the immune response during experimental *Mycobacterium ulcerans* infection

3. Dr Laure Guenin-Macé (11:40 – 12:00)

Modulation of T lymphocyte trafficking by mycolactone

4. Ms Estelle Marion (12:00 – 12:20)

High throughput screening for identification of mycolactone targets : Relations between *M. ulcerans* and the nervous system

5. Professor Sven Britton (12:20 – 12:40)

Let there be light - a novel approach to the assisted healing of Buruli ulcers