

FOCUS ON P4 MEDICINE: AN IPC SYMPOSIUM

IPC symposium explores opportunities, challenges of P4 medicine, a personalized approach to healthcare

Global psoriasis experts from academia and industry convened in Munich, Germany, in September for an international symposium organized by the IPC to explore P4 medicine, a cross-disciplinary, personalized approach to healthcare. P4 medicine (predictive, preventive, personalized, and participatory) aims to improve patient care and outcomes through better diagnoses and targeted therapies and by involving patients in managing their own health.

Traditionally, medicine has taken a reactive, “one-size-fits-all” approach, treating disease rather than preventing it. P4 medicine focuses on the individual patient, emphasizing prevention and wellness over disease. P4 medicine uses advances in technology and genetics research to predict and prevent disease, stratify patients into disease endotypes to personalize treatment, and provide patients with information and tools that will help them improve their health and make lifestyle changes.

IPC’s symposium, which was part of the 46th annual meeting of the European Society for Dermatological Research (ESDR), focused on the opportunities and challenges of using the P4 approach to transform psoriasis care.

The discussion covered a wide range of topics, including:

- the use of Big Data (large consortium studies, genomic data sets, electronic health records) to reveal psoriasis disease trends and to predict treatment response and manifestation of co-morbidities;
- the need for sharing data, analysis code, and biobanking resources across multiple stakeholders to further progress in psoriasis research;
- the impact of early diagnosis, optimal treatment, and lifestyle changes as key measures for the prevention of psoriasis comorbidities (psoriatic arthritis, cardiovascular disease and metabolic syndrome);

- connecting appropriate data (complex gene expression profiles and complex analyses) for targeted drug development and drug repositioning within the industry.

Also discussed were rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus studies that demonstrated the value of the P4 medicine approach in optimizing care for patients with autoimmune and inflammatory diseases.

The IPC’s future research efforts and educational programs will incorporate the P4 approach with the launch of the new strategic plan for 2017-2022, said IPC Scientific Director Joelle van der Walt.

Serving as co-chairs for the P4 symposium were IPC Board President Professor Chris Griffiths, University of Manchester, United Kingdom, and Professor Catherine Smith, King’s College, London. Symposium topics were presented by Dr. Amy Foulkes and Professor Ian Bruce, University of Manchester; Dr. Brian Kirby, St Vincent’s Hospital, Dublin, Ireland; Professor Nick Reynolds, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals, United Kingdom; Professor Matthias Augustin, University of Hamburg, Germany; and Deepak Rajpal, GlaxoSmithKline, North Carolina, United States. ■



Symposium faculty from left to right: Amy Foulkes, United Kingdom; Rajesh Gupta, United States; Ian Bruce and Chris Griffiths, United Kingdom; Brian Kirby, Ireland; Nick Reynolds and Catherine Smith, United Kingdom; Matthias Augustin, Germany.