

ERN Support and Training programme- WP17- EJP RD

Report Workshop “Young Investigator Workshop on Basic Science and Translational Immunology in PSC”

Date/Venue/Format

25 and 26 of May, 2023/ Pier3 Hotel Hamburg (GER)/ Workshop with presentations, poster sessions and expert advice, discussions

Numbers (participants, speakers, ERNs represented, patient representatives)

25 participants, 8 speakers, 5 ERNs represented, 1 patient representative

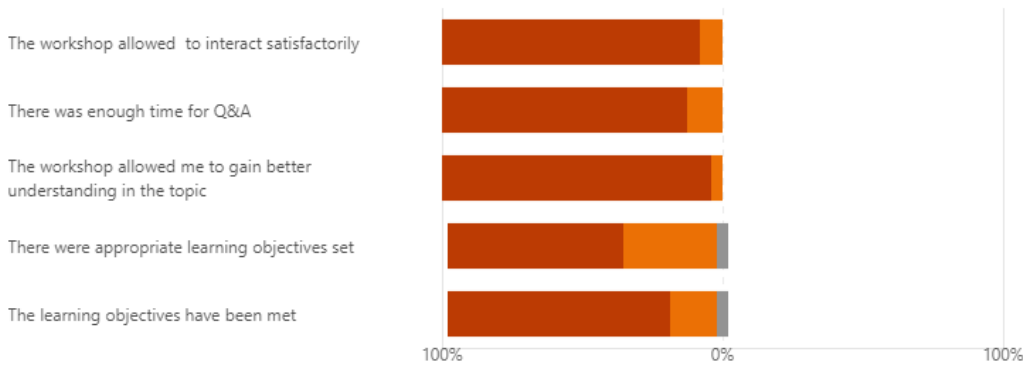
Analysis of the workshop satisfaction survey

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/AnalysisPage.aspx?AnalyzerToken=05Jp6e4rVvYhW6PnhbzVSU9MxGhJqKn&id=AcQ6OB2ia0KAcI90w2twk7MI29AgBS5ikOG9NTHGnPtUMFJMUzI1WUxHUEZRTFpMNFMRMSEVBUIUy4u>

24 answers were received for the online satisfaction survey (n=24), most of the participants indicated the ERNs, that they are involved in (ERN RARE-LIVER in 71%, n=17). Overall the answers were very positive. The participants that filled in the survey were overall satisfied with the quality of the workshop (96%, n=23, indicated the answer excellent from multiple answer possibilities). 100% rated the workshop highly useful, which is the highest possible answer. The training contents are rated just right by 23 of the users, only one person indicated, that the contents were too difficult. Most participants were very satisfied or satisfied with different aspects of the workshop (Date and time, Connection process, speakers, organisation, structure of the programme, workshop location). 23 participants would like to follow face-to-face meetings in the future. The format of the workshop was rated overall positively with the highest satisfaction level in gaining better understanding of the topic and the lowest satisfaction level in the setting of appropriate learning objectives (see graph below).



Strongly agree Agree Neither agree nor disagree Disagree Strongly disagree



The majority of participants indicated that they will use the contents learned during the workshop regularly (n=20, 83 %).

In the answers to the questions what participants liked about the workshop, the participants especially pointed out the interactive format with discussions and poster sessions as well as presentations, good networking opportunities and a comfortable atmosphere. There was only one answer to the questions of what participants disliked about the workshop and five suggestions for improvement: brainstorming a problem in a group and then discussion with the whole group, explanation of laboratory innovative techniques, more opportunities for student postdocs to present, grouping projects into their area of expertise and other skill training. The importance of CME points was rated neutral or irrelevant by most of the survey participants.

The results from the survey were overall excellent which shows that the format of the workshop works very well and enables networking, discussion and learning. Therefore, it is recommended to use the same or similar format for upcoming workshops.

There is room for improvement in setting appropriate and clear learning objectives, which can be realized by announcing concrete learning objectives at the beginning of the workshop or beforehand in the workshop information documents. By summarizing and presenting key points at the end of the workshop, contents learned may be used even better in everyday work.

2-3 participants' testimonials

- 1) "It was a very pleasant, stimulating atmosphere with a lot of room for interesting discussions and great talks. For me everything was perfect."
- 2) "Presentation of scientific knowledge of high quality; informal meeting that facilitates the process of networking; perfect time-balance between lectures and face-to-face activities (poster sessions, social



programme). I think the organizers did a great effort in putting this workshop together. I don't have any specific comments for improvement, I would rather suggest to keep on organizing future workshops because I believe this will have a major impact on future collaborations."

- 3) "[I liked] The interactive nature of the poster sessions and the broad range of topics covered in the talks. I must say that I didn't find anything to be improved in the workshop. The overall experience was highly valuable and enjoyable. The organizers did an excellent job in planning and executing the event. The content was engaging, and the presenters were knowledgeable. The workshop activities were well-structured and provided ample opportunities for interaction and learning. The venue and logistics were well-managed, ensuring a smooth and comfortable experience for all participants. Overall, I had a positive experience throughout the workshop, and I am grateful for the opportunity to attend."

If applicable a main result of the workshop

International experts like Fotios Sampaziotis from Cambridge, UK, and Tom Karlsen from Oslo and many more supported the workshop with brilliant talks about the mechanisms of immune tolerance in the liver or about what genetics teach us about PSC. Furthermore, Martine Walmsley from PSC Support UK presented the results of the UK-wide survey on unmet needs as seen from the patient's perspective.

Altogether four hours of detailed poster discussions including the experts completed this one-and-a-half-day workshop which was rated very valuable and fruitful by both, young investigators as well as the experts, like Tom Karlsen. PCS is a disease with a high unmet need and this workshop fostered science in PSC. One of the main results of this workshop is the network that was started between young investigators, but also between young investigators and experts in the field. This network will be fostered by inviting all participants to future meetings of IPSCSG and to ERN working groups.

A real challenge in the field of PSC is to launch laboratory-based collaborations. The workshops showed that a lot of laboratory-based translational research is being conducted in PSC and that especially young people are involved in this research assuring high level science also in the future.

Conclusions, lessons learned, best practice to keep in mind.



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On the Young Investigator Workshop on Basic Science and Translational Immunology in PSC on 25 to 26 May in Hamburg, young researchers fruitfully discussed the latest cutting-edge research and ideas at a joint meeting with the International PSC Study Group.

The structure of this workshop was future-oriented with flash talks of all young participants introducing themselves, their career history and the field of their research showing two slides in only three minutes.

As the answers to the survey confirm, the structure and format of the workshop was very well received and led to a lot of knowledge exchange, discussion and networking. Including poster presentations with enough time for discussions was a key to success and should be followed in future events.

