Report World Transplant Congress 2014 San Francisco

Ruud Meijers
PhD Student
Erasmus MC – Internal Medicine, division of Nephrology and Transplantation

The World Transplant Congress (WTC) was organized from July 26th till July 31st 2014 in San Francisco, USA. It is an large international congress in which both basic science as clinical aspects on the field of transplantation are presented. The congress was opened by the opening ceremony, following by a reception including the first poster presentations.

During this congress I presented my research in the form of a poster. My poster was titled: Thymic output prior to kidney transplantation is associated with the risk for acute rejection and at the end of the day there was a guided poster session in which I explained my data to some interested people.

Each day started with a sunrise sessions in which different topics were discussed while enjoying a small breakfast. The session in which the senescence of transplanted organs was discussed I liked the most because it suited the best with the topic of my research which is senescence of the immune system in kidney transplant recipients. Each sunrise session was followed by a plenary session where the best submitted abstracts were presented. During the state of the art session there was a very interesting presentation by Nobel prize winner Dr. Shinya Yamanaka who gave an update about the use of Induced pluripotent stem (iPS) Cells as regenerative medicine.

Next where the parallel sessions. Most of the parallel sessions that I visited had an immunological topic. For example regulatory T cells therapy in transplant recipients instead of immunosuppressive medications. The congress closed on Thursday with the what's hot what's new session in which the congress was summarized.

I would like to thank the NVVI for the travel grant which enabled me to participate in this important meeting within the field of transplantation. It was a great opportunity to present my data here. Furthermore it broaden my knowledge