

European Mucosal Immunology Group 2014

October 9-12, 2014

Glasgow, UK

The European Mucosal Immunology Group (EMIG) meeting takes place every other year and is attended by a wide variety of scientists and clinicians from the field of mucosal immunology. As all sessions are held in one lecture hall it is an exciting conference to be able to interact with the-leading scientists in the field of mucosal immunology. The 9th meeting of the EMIG was held in Glasgow and consisted of both oral and poster presentations. My data was selected for a poster presentation in the daily poster sessions. As my research focusses on the potent, but often overlooked mucosal NF- κ B inhibitor SLPI, I was pleasantly surprised to find a lot of interest at my poster. I had great discussions with several leading scientists about possible new investigatory lines concerning SLPI, amongst which was Professor Chuck (Charles) Elson from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the United States.

The subject matter of the different sessions was very relevant to what is current in the field and the invited speakers were all authoritative in their respective fields. As such Chuck Elson gave a nice overview on his work in the field of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and the ability of bacterial flagellin proteins to activate the immune system in IBD patients as well as healthy controls. Bill Agace who is an expert in the field of dendritic cell subsets, gave an excellent overview on IRF-4 and -8 dependent dendritic cell populations studied in his lab. The lecture by Gunnar Hansson was especially exciting, as he made the complex interaction between the mucus layer lining the gut and the microbial flora come to life with his wonderful animations.

Suffice to say that the scientific level of all presentations was excellent and the EMIG provided me the opportunity to present my data to a wide audience and discuss them in relation to the most current data in the mucosal immunology field at the moment. Therefore, I am grateful to the Dutch Society for Immunology for financially supporting this visit.