Aim of the conference

Disorders of fatty acid oxidation and of the carnitine cycle are an important cause of morbidity and mortality. With the introduction of expanded newborn screening, many of these conditions can be diagnosed and treated at birth, preventing several of the complications.

The aim of the conference is to make the audience familiar with recent advances in the diagnosis and treatment of disorders of fatty acid oxidation and the carnitine cycle. The conference will discuss the proper diagnostic interpretation of laboratory testing, development of new therapeutic strategies, and the role of newborn screening in preventing complications.

Target audience

The INFORM organizing committee cordially invites pediatricians, internists and specialists in inherited metabolic diseases, dietitians and nutritionists, genetic counselors, scientists, INFORM members, family members, and all other healthcare professionals involved in diagnosing or managing disorders of the carnitine cycle and of fatty acid oxidation to attend this year’s annual symposium.

Learning objectives

After attending the conference, participants will be able to:

1. Identify disorders of the carnitine cycle and of fatty acid oxidation.
2. Be familiar with biochemical and molecular technology used to confirm the diagnosis of fatty acid oxidation disorders.
3. Identify markers that enable pre-symptomatic diagnosis by newborn screening of fatty acid oxidation disorders.
4. Understand controversies in the management of disorders of the carnitine cycle and of fatty acid oxidation.

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Symposium Sessions and Lectures

(Day 1) Monday, May 9, 2016

Session 1: Disease Modeling Human and Animal Cells
  • Keynote: VLCAD and Cardiomyopathy
  • Cells as a Model System for FAODs
  • Metabolic Reprogramming in FAO Disorders
  • Panel Discussion Patient Issues and Needs

Session 2: Mechanisms of Cellular Damage
  • The Role of Protein Complexes in Energy Metabolism
  • Nitrosylation and FAO

Session 3: Protein Modification
  • Novel Protein Modifications and FAO
  • Regulation of FAO by Acylation

(Day 2) Tuesday, May 10, 2016

Session 4: Auxiliary Enzymes in Fatty Acid Oxidation
  • Keynote: Metabolomics and FAO Defects
  • Disorders of FAD Intracellular Metabolism
  • Disorders of Ketone Body Synthesis
  • Panel Discussion Patient Issues and Needs

Session 5: Fatty Acid Oxidation in Common Diseases
  • Energy Metabolism and Diabetes
  • Severe Obesity: Is There a Metabolic Program, and can Exercise Help?

Session 6: Poster Session
  • Attended Poster Session
  • Reception & Dinner, New England Aquarium

(Day 3) Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Session 7: Update on Clinical Trials
  • Keynote: Pharmacological Approaches to Restore Mitochondrial Function
  • A Clinical Trials Database for FAODs
  • Triheptanoin
  • Network Infrastructure and Patient Registries

Questions? Please contact:
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I look forward to seeing you there!
Dr. Jerry Vockley, MD, PhD
INFORM Co-Chair and Scientific Organizer

University of Pittsburgh
School of Medicine

Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh
Center for Rare Disease Therapy

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