LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF HEALTH
RESEARCH DEDICATED TO LIFE

LECTURE SERIES & WORKSHOPS
INFECTION & IMMUNITY

27
APRIL 2017
Thursday

LECTURE
Lycée Technique d'Esch/Alzette
Salle de Projection *
11.00 am - 12.00 pm

MEET & EAT *
light lunch provided
House of BioHealth,
Room Françoise Barré-Sinoussi
12.30 - 2.00 pm

9   10   11   12   1   2   3   4

*Please register sending a mail to
florence.henry@lih.lu

SPEAKER
Prof. Stephen DURHAM
Head of Section for Allergy and Clinical Immunology at NHLI, Imperial College and Professor of Allergy and Respiratory Medicine at Royal Brompton Hospital, London, United Kingdom

HOST:
Department of Infection and Immunity

RESPONSIBLE LIH SCIENTIST:
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ALLERGEN IMMUNOTHERAPY: A MODEL OF HUMAN ANTIGEN-SPECIFIC TOLERANCE
ABSTRACT

Allergen immunotherapy is highly effective in patients with severe seasonal hayfever. Both subcutaneous and sublingual routes of administration are effective when given for 3 years and have been shown to induce long-term tolerance for at least several years ythereafter. The mechanism of immunotherapy has been shown to involve suppression of local tissue eosinophilia and decreases in the IgE-dependent activation of mast cells and basophils through the induction of 'protective' long-lived memory T cell and B cell responses. In a recent single centre Immune Tolerance Network NIAID-funded double-blind placebo-controlled clinical trial (n=106), we showed that whereas 2 years grass pollen SLIT and SCIT were highly effective, 2 years was insufficient for long-term tolerance. There were coordinated effects observed on all 3 arms of the immune response with suppression of local and systemic effector cells, a decrease in antigen-specific Class II tetramer-positive T cells and increases in 'functional' IgG blocking antibody responses that paralleled the clinical response to treatment. (Scadding G et al., JAMA 2017;317;615-25).

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