

Continuation of a great tradition for exchange of ideas and results on botulinum neurotoxins in an informal and collaborative setting



## Mechanism to Medicine

18th Annual Botulinum  
Research Symposium

**2024**

Institute of Advanced Sciences



## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Botulinum Research Symposium, 2024

### Program

#### Wednesday, August 14, 2024

1- 4 PM Arrival and check-in at hotels of general delegates

4:00 PM Registration and Welcome, **Wamsutta Club**, 427 County Street  
New Bedford, MA

6:00 PM Social and dinner

Welcome to the evening program

Entertainment – **Magic show**, Professor Timothy Su, Department of  
Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

**Lab Concert** – Rishi Singh, John Bogdan

Sharing of **Online experiences**

#### Thursday, August 15, 2024, Wamsutta Club, First Floor Conference Room

8:00 AM Registration and Continental breakfast

9:00 AM *Introduction*, **Bal Ram Singh**, Botulinum Research Center

#### Session I Session Chair –

9:30 AM **Inaugural Symposium Speech**

Botulinum neurotoxin type A hijacks polysialoganglioside-Synaptotamin1-SV2  
surface nanocluster to sneak in synaptic vesicles

- **Frederic Meunier**, Queensland Brain Institute and School of Biomedical  
Sciences, The University of Queensland, St Lucia campus, QLD, 4072,  
Australia

10:15 AM Q&A

10:30 AM **Coffee/Tea break**

**Session II** **Session Chair** – Karen Bunting, **IPSEN** Bioinnovations Ltd, UK

11:00 AM *Evaluating combination treatment strategies for BoNT/A poisoning*, **Patrick McNutt**, Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC, USA

11:30 AM *Evaluation of the Mass Spectroscopy Assay for Botulinum Toxins*, **Eric Johnson**, Professor (Retired), Madison, WI, USA

12:00 PM Intermission

12:15 PM **Lunch Banquet**

**Session III** **Session Chair** – **Klaus Fink**, MERZ, Germany

1:00 PM Banquet - **Lifetime Achievement Award Speech**

*Recollection of Antitoxin Story*, **James Marks**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Anesthesiology, University of California, San Francisco, CA, USA

2:00 PM **Group Photo**

2:15 PM Break, Social and free mingling, and meetings

3:00 PM Whaling Museum and Area Walking Tour

6:00 PM Informal dinner, Wamsutta Club

7:00 PM **Dinner Speech – Botulinum therapy for macular disease**, **Gary Borodic**, Harvard Medical School, USA

## **Friday, August 16, Wamsutta Club, First Floor**

7:30 AM **BRC Board** of Advisors meeting

8:00 AM Breakfast

**Session IV Session Chair – Dr. Michael Adler**, US Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense

8:30 AM **Dr. B.R. DasGupta Memorial Lecture – *Intracellular trafficking of Botulinum neurotoxin Light Chain/A1 to cleave SNAP-25***, **Joe Barbieri**, Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI

9:15 AM Q/A

9:30 AM *A novel platform for therapeutic utility of Clostridial proteins*, **Raj Kumar**, Botulinum Research Center, Institute of Advanced Sciences, Dartmouth, Massachusetts, USA

10:00 AM **Coffee/Tea break**

**Session V Session Chair – Shuowai Cai**, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

10:15 AM *Immunogenicity of botulinum toxin drugs: what do we know?*, **Dirk Dressler**, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, Germany

10:45 AM *Growing product development with government funding*, **John Bogdan**, Valaria Technical Consultants, LLC, Westminster, MD, USA

11:15 AM *From Novel to Known: Exploring the Landscape of Botulinum Toxin Homologs*, **Travis Wentz**, Wake Forest Institute of Regenerative Medicine, Salem, NC, USA

11:45 AM BoNT/DC Blocks Melanin Production, **Birgitte Sondergaard**, Abbvie/Allergan, USA

12:15 PM Lunch

**Session VI Session Chair – John Bogdan**, Valaria Technical Consultants, LLC, Westminster, MD, USA

1:15 PM **Panel Discussion: *Medical Avenues of BoNT Therapeutics***  
Karen Bunting, **IPSEN** Bioinnovations Ltd, UK  
Klaus Fink, **MERZ**, Germany  
Birgitte Sondergaard, **Abbvie/Allergan**, USA  
Frederic Meunier, **University of Queensland**

2:15 PM Symposium conclusion, lunch, networking, departure

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