

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



- **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**

*Lessons learned and friendships made engineering botulinum antibodies*, **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  
Sharing of **Online experiences**

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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