



Bern VCA Symposium

Advancing the Frontier: Innovations and
Challenges in Vascularized Composite
Allotransplantation

13.01.2025

Inselhospital, Bern University Hospital, Switzerland

Speakers

Prof. Dr. Scott Levin. Chair Emeritus Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Co-Director Penn Nerve Center, Paul B. Magnuson Professor of Bone and Joint Surgery. University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Prof. Dr. Dietmar Ulrich. Chair Department of Plastic Surgery. Radboud University Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Prof. Dr. Patrik Lassus. Chair Department of Plastic Surgery. Helsinki University, Finland.

PD. Dr. Radu Olariu. Deputy Chair Department Plastic and Hand Surgery. Inselspital Bern University, Switzerland.

Prof. Dr Robert Rieben. Group Leader Rieben Lab. Department for BioMedical Research. Bern University, Switzerland.

Prof. Dr. Esther Vögelin. Co-Chair Department Plastic and Hand Surgery. Inselspital Bern University, Switzerland.

Prof. Dr. Faddi Issa. Consultant Department of Plastic, Reconstructive and Burns Surgery. University of Oxford, England.

Prof. Dr. Gerald Brandacher. Co-Director and Executive Vice Chair of Research, Department of Visceral, Transplant and Thoracic Surgery. Innsbruck Medical University, Austria.

Prof. Dr. Emmanuel Morelon. Chair Department of Transplantation, Nephrology and Clinical Immunology. Université Hospital of Lyon, France.

PD. Dr. Franka Messner. Consultant Department of Visceral, Transplant and Thoracic Surgery. Innsbruck Medical University, Austria.

Program

08:30-09:00 **Welcoming and Registration**

9:00-11:30 **Public defense MD/PhD Thesis** Isabel Arenas Hoyos: “Vascularized composite allotransplantation: A model for understanding graft rejection”

Thesis committee: Prof. Dr. Robert Rieben (CH), PD Dr. med. Radu Olariu (CH), Dr. Nicoletta Sorvillo (CH), Prof. Dr. Stefan Schneeberger (AT), Prof. Dr. L. Scott Levin (USA), Prof. Dr. Dr. med. Stephan von Gunten (CH).

11:30-12:30 Lunch break

Symposium section I. Chairs: Radu Olariu, Stefan Schneeberger

- 12:30-12:35 Symposium welcoming. **Radu Olariu**
- 12:35-13:00 Are there any changes since the first hand transplantation in 1998?
Esther Vögelin (CH)
- 13:00-13:30 Technical innovations in vascularized composite allotransplantation: from extracorporeal perfusion to 3D printing and smart rehabilitation. **Dietmar Ulrich (NL)**
- 13:30-14:00 VCA Upper Extremity and Face Transplantation: Long-Term Outcome.
Emmanuel Morelon (FR)
- 14:00-14:30 Current state of face transplantation. **Patrik Lassus (FIN)**

14:30-15:00 Coffee break

Symposium section II. Chair Robert Rieben

- 15:00-15:30 Molecular diagnostics in VCA – where next? **Fadi Issa (UK)**
- 15:30-16:00 Immunobiology and Rejection in VCA. **Franka Messner (AT)**
- 16:00-16:30 Cell-based Immune Modulation in Vascularized Composite Allotransplantation. Gerald Brandacher **(AT, USA)**

16:30-17:00 Coffee break

Symposium section III. Chairs: Radu Olariu, Robert Rieben

- 17:00-17:30 Ex vivo perfusion and local immunosuppression: Experimental VCA in Bern. **Robert Rieben**
- 17:30-18:00 VCA-The Highest Rung on the Orthoplastic Reconstructive Ladder. **Scott Levin**
- 18:00-18:30 Round Table. VCA in Switzerland. The patient perspective. **Robert Rieben, Scott Levin, Esther Vögelin, Daniel Sidler.**

Venue:
Conference Rooms 5-7
Anna-Seiler-Haus
Inselspital BernUniversity Hospital.

Registration



For more details contact bernvcasymposium@insel.ch

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