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Top Reasons to Attend FOCIS 2021



The FOCIS Annual Meeting is the leading forum bringing together diverse translational immunologists to facilitate research innovations and cross-disciplinary networking opportunities that cannot be found at any other meeting.

Learn From World Class Keynote Speakers

Tuesday, June 8 - 7:00am PT | Tadatsu Taniguchi, PhD, University of Tokyo

Regulation of Tumor Immune Microenvironment by Damage-associated Molecular Patterns (DAMPs): Therapeutic Implications

Wednesday, June 9 - 7:00am PT | Adrian Hill, DM, FMedSci, FRS, University of Oxford

Viral Vectored Vaccines for COVID-19

Thursday, June 10 - 7:00am PT | Bruce Walker, MD, Ragon Institute

Harnessing Host Immunity for HIV Cure

Friday, June 11 - 7:00am PT | Arlene H. Sharpe, MD, PhD, Harvard Medical School

Multifaceted Functions of the PD-1 Pathway

Register Now

Gain Increased Access to Speakers and Attendees

Poster Talks - Autoimmunity

High-level Exposure

All posters will have the opportunity to present a 2-minute talk

FOCIS VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING

With a heightened emphasis on interactivity, presenters and attendees can expect an elevated virtual experience. From opportunities to chat via a site-wide text chat, to connecting virtually

with attendees and speakers alike through video conferencing, to designated networking hours, FOCIS 2021 is as close to an 'in-person' experience as you can get!

Get Connected

Save With Your FOCIS Member Rate. Save Even More With Group Registration!



FOCIS members already receive the best registration rate available. Compound your savings by recruiting your lab team or working group to register for FOCIS 2021 and take advantage of our group discount! You must have at least three or more members from the same organization that you will be registering to be eligible.

Learn more about eligibility requirements for FOCIS 2021 Group Registration [here](#). Group invoices are available upon request. Contact info@focisnet.org for additional details.

Start a Group Registration

Tap Into the Global Immunology Community



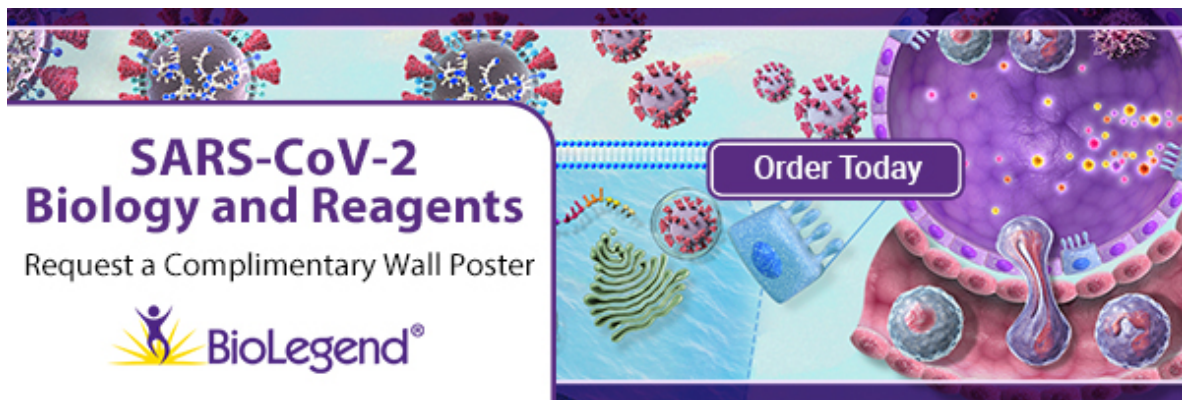
Included with your registration is access to the FOCIS 2021 Member Society Symposia, featuring 12 symposia representing 18+ Member Societies and partners with more than 60 presentations before the Scientific Program on Tuesday, June 8.

Select symposia will be recorded and available for on-demand viewing for 30 days. [View the FOCIS 2021 Member Society Symposia schedule.](#)

Get Access to the Member Society Symposia



BioLegend is a global trusted partner of premier research institutions, universities, industry associations, and biotech and pharmaceutical companies. Our cutting-edge, high-quality reagents and tools are developed by a team of expert scientists, giving researchers the confidence of delivering reliable and reproducible results in immunology, oncology, neuroscience, stem cells, and multiomics. From research to cure, BioLegend pushes the boundaries of innovation to enable legendary discoveries.



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FCE Spotlight



Get to Know FCE Director Deepak Rao, MD, PhD | Brigham and Women's Hospital

To introduce FOCIS members to Dr. Rao, we interviewed him about his career path, proudest achievements, involvement with FOCIS and his work with Brigham and Women's Hospital. Take a moment to read excerpts from that interview below, or listen to the full interview or read the transcript, [here](#).

How did you get started in immunology?

I started in immunology as a PhD student at Yale. I was in the MD, PhD program and I decided to do a

PhD in immunology because I thought it was a particularly dynamic field. It's a relatively young field. For people that are interested in medicine, it's a field that's universally applicable. There's no field of medicine where immunology isn't relevant. For MD PhD students who don't quite know what kind of doctor they would like to be, a dedicated study in immunology is going to be useful, regardless of whether you become a cardiologist or a rheumatologist or a surgeon, or in really any medical field.

Tell us about the research you're most proud of in your career to date.

I've been particularly excited and satisfied by the research that we've been doing in the past few years. We were trying to look in detail at the immune responses that are going on in our patients, who we see in clinic. I'm a rheumatologist. I see patients with autoimmune diseases. I've been frustrated with the idea that there are all of these patients that have a disease that's driven by an inappropriate activation of the immune system, yet we have very few tools to try and measure the active immune response that's going on in these patients that we see every

day. So we've really been trying hard over the past few years to be able to collect samples from patients that we see in clinic and look at the immune response in detail using increasingly sophisticated techniques – high dimensional flow cytometry, mass cytometry, RNA sequencing, now increasingly single cell RNA sequencing – to define the cell types that are activated, the pathways that are activated. And then we bring that back at the patient level to understand in this patient that we see today, in that patient that we saw yesterday, what pathways are most activated. And then how can we use that to decide how to better treat individual patients?

What advice would you give to young researchers just starting out in the field?

There's always a worry about picking the topic. What topic do you think is most interesting or most exciting, but really if we're being fair, there are so many interesting things to work on in immunology that there isn't a right decision on that one. There are too many interesting things going on. I think that the two things that have worked well for me –one was choosing an environment and, in particular, a mentor, in an environment that really fosters your growth and where you feel comfortable that it's a rich learning opportunity. And the other is the chance to get involved with some new technologies or emerging technologies, ones that you think are exciting that you can point towards an interesting question. Those opportunities don't always come along. They don't come along every time that you need them, but the chance to pick up a new technology and play with it – try to take advantage of that early on in your training.

[Listen to the full interview or read the transcript here.](#)



FOCIS Welcomes its Newest FCE: Marseille Immunopole Profiling Platform (MI-PP)

FOCIS is proud to announce the newest addition to the FOCIS Centers of Excellence (FCE) community: the Marseille Immunopole Profiling Platform (MI-PP), bi-located at the Immunology Center of Marseille-Luminy (CIML) and at the Assistance Publique Hôpitaux de Marseille (AP-HM) in La Timone campus in Marseille, France.

The FCE will be jointly led by Eric Vivier, DVM, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer at Innate Pharma and a Professor of Immunology at Aix-Marseille University and at the Public Hospital of Marseille, and Frederic Vély, PharmD, PhD. Professor Vivier has published over 350 scientific articles and is on the list of the most cited researchers. Dr. Vély is Associate Professor of

Immunology at Aix-Marseille University and at the Public Hospital of Marseille. [Read the complete announcement.](#)

View the FCE Network Directory



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FOCIS Celebrates Successful 2021 Virtual Advanced Course

FOCIS' popular Advanced Course in Basic and Clinical Immunology was held live and virtually on March 1-3, 2021, with over 700 registrants. Course organizers shared the overall positive feedback on the Zoom-based platform, highlighting the two new women faculty, faculty camaraderie, international attendance and increased interactivity between faculty and attendees. [Read the post-event highlight.](#)

Advanced Course 2022 - San Diego - **CONFIRMED**

Experience the Advanced Course for yourself in 2022! Join the list of more than 2,200 clinicians, researchers, and trainees who attended the course since it was first offered in 2007. The 2022 U.S. Advanced Course will be held from March 3-6, 2022 at the Estancia La Jolla in San Diego, California, USA. Online registration will open in fall 2021.



Join us in
redefining the future
of immunology.

[Click here to view our open positions today.](#)

janssen  **Immunology**

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At Janssen, we are relentlessly dissatisfied with the status quo. As a company, we are working to create a future where disease is a thing of the past. Within Janssen Immunology, our focus is on redefining care by delivering transformational therapies and regimens to patients living with autoimmune disease.

Tackling Today's Unmet Needs

Unmet patient need drives us in our work every day. Across the US, Canada, Japan, and the EU5, nearly 30 million people are diagnosed with moderate to severe forms of immune-mediated disease. Of these 30 million, just five million receive advanced treatments, and only two million achieve clinical remission. Treatment is often inadequate and, in fact, for many of

these diseases, it is nonexistent. Clearly, there is a need for further innovation in types of treatments available and patient access to care.



Blazing a Path to Innovative Drug Discovery

We believe transformational thinking drives transformational science. Whereas the old paradigm of drug discovery took a disease-centric approach, treating disorders of various organ systems as distinct and in isolation, research has since revealed that many immune-mediated diseases share cellular and molecular pathways.

Janssen has made significant strides in the search for new therapies by taking a holistic, pathway-focused approach to developing new treatments, considering the commonalities among disease mechanisms.

Our strategy gives us the space for innovation in modulating the diverse drivers of disease, with targets spanning the innate and adaptive immune systems, pro-inflammatory and pro-resolution pathways, and tissue-specific signals.

Considering treatments through a pathways lens, we believe combination therapies targeting complementary pathways that together contribute to immune cell dysfunction may represent a promising avenue for achieving remission. We envision fit-for-purpose regimens and approaches based on the unmet needs in distinct patient populations. Deep expertise is needed here, as we try to restore balance to the immune system by combining an accelerator with a brake mechanism, without tipping the scale out of balance.



Redefining the Industry, Again

Janssen's immunology expertise runs deep. We were an early leader in developing antibody therapies, developing the first anti-TNF-alpha therapy. We have since led the industry in finding innovative solutions for neutralizing dysfunctional immune-modulating signals with monoclonal antibody therapies targeting IL-12 and/or IL-23, together with our anti-TNF-alpha therapies.

Janssen Immunology employs world-class discovery and translational medicine teams and works in close collaboration with partners all over the world to bring innovative ideas and therapies from the lab into the clinic. We strive to advance the science and development of novel therapeutics to help patients in need, to achieve a world free from immune-mediated disease.

If you're interested in joining our team, apply today at careers.jnj.com.



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The British Society for Immunology has a proud history, and an even more exciting future. We have over 4,200 members spread across the world; we publish three peer reviewed journals, supporting our members in transforming the field and their careers; and we organize scientific meetings and webinars to connect immunology groups and affinities across the UK. Our flagship event, BSI Congress, is always a social and scientific highlight and returns this November. Visit www.immunology.org to sign up today.



Federation of Clinical Immunology Societies

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