

AUTOSOMAL RECESSIVE SPASTIC ATAXIA OF CHARLEVOIX-SAGUENAY

7th International Symposium

ARSACS

October 19 - 20 | Jeanne Timmins Amphitheatre

ARSACS AROUND THE WORLD

The Neuro, McGill University, Montreal, Québec *All times are EDT

Thursday, October 19, 2023

3:00

Opening Remarks

Sonia Gobeil, Ataxia Charlevoix- Saguenay Foundation

3:10

Session 1: From Biomarkers to Treatment in ARSACS

Chair: Anne McKinney, PhD, McGill University

Magnetic Resonance Imaging Biomarkers in ARSACS

Sirio Coccozza, MD, PhD, University of Naples, Italy

Mitochondria & Cytoskeletal Dysfunction in ARSACS

Mohan Babu, PhD, University of Regina, Canada

Exploring the Role of Genetic and Epigenetic Modifiers in ARSACS

Daniele Galatolo, PhD, University of Pisa, Italy

Charting the Molecular and Cellular Progression of ARSACS

Justin Wolter, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Question Period

4:25 Refreshment Pause

4:35 Keynote: SCA2: Preclinical Models and ASO Therapy Development

Stefan M Pulst, MD, PhD, University of Utah, USA

5:35 – 7:00 Cocktail & Poster session (onsite)

Friday October 20, 2023

8:00 Opening Remarks

Nicolas Dupré, MD, PhD, CHU de Québec-Laval University, Canada

8:15 Session 2: Cellular Dysfunction in ARSACS

Chair: Mohan Babu, PhD, University of Regina, Canada

Does ARSACS Degeneration Proceed Through a SARM1-Dependent Pathway?

Thomas Schwarz, PhD, Harvard University, USA

Restoring Calcium Homeostasis in Purkinje Cells Arrests Neurodegeneration and Neuroinflammation in the ARSACS Mouse Model

Francesca Maltecca, PhD, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Italy

The Role of Sacsin on Glial Cells

Federico Herrera, PhD, University of Lisbon, Portugal

Metabolic Rewiring in Cellular Models of ARSACS

Paul Chapple, PhD, Queen Mary University of London, UK

Question Period

9:15 Refreshment Pause

9:25 Session 3: Improvements in Treatment for ARSACS Patients

Chair: Nicolas Dupré, CHU de Québec-Laval University, Canada

How Natural History Studies Contribute to the Development and Assessment of Interventions

Cynthia Gagnon, PhD, Sherbrooke University, Canada

Development and Evaluation of the Efficacy of a Home Rehabilitation Program Aiming to Increase Motor Control, Balance, Mobility, Falls and Activities of Daily Living in People with ARSACS

Élise Duchesne, PHT, PhD. University of Quebec at Chicoutimi, Canada

A physiatrist guide to ARSACS.

Josée Larochelle, MD, paediatric physiatrist, CHU Ste Justine, Canada

New Developments in the Treatment of Communication Difficulties in Progressive Ataxias

Anja Lowit, PhD, Strathclyde University, Glasgow (Virtual)

Question Period

10:10 Refreshment Pause

10:30 Session 4: Question Period with ARSACS Patients, their Carers, and Partners

Chair: Cynthia Gagnon, PhD, Sherbrooke University, Canada

Betsy Trainor, ARSACS Foundation Board of Directors, Attorney, parent, Virginia, USA

Olivier Jérôme, CATALIS Québec, Canada

Claudia Maltais, ARSACS, Canada (virtual)

Kymerly Hoffman, ARSACS, USA

11:30 Keynote: Cerebellar Modelling using Human iPSCs

Esther Becker, PhD, MSc, University of Oxford, UK

12:30 Lunch Pause (onsite, lunch provided)

1:30 Session 5: The Biochemistry of Sacsin

Chair: Francesca Maltecca, PhD, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Italy

Towards Determining the Structure of Sacsin

Walid Houry, PhD, University of Toronto, Canada

Leveraging Proteomics to Understand Sacsin Biology

Nevan Krogan, PhD, University of California at San Francisco, USA (Virtual)

Understanding the Role of Metals in ARSACS

Graham George, BSc, DPhil, University of Saskatchewan, Canada

Question Period

2:15

Session 6: From Animal Models to Clinical Translation

Chair: Justin Wolter, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

Exploring and Treating Cognitive Dysmetria in a Mouse Model of ARSACS

Stefan Strack, PhD, University of Iowa, USA

Novel Therapeutic Approaches for ARSACS

Alanna Watt, PhD, McGill University, Canada

Sacsin: from Domains' Functions to Biomarkers and Therapy

Ana Buj Bell, PhD, Genethon, France

Benoit Gentil, PhD, McGill University, Canada

Question Period

3:00

Round Table – Summary & Next Steps

Discussion Leaders:

Nicolas Dupré

Federico Herrera

Anne McKinney

Betsy Trainor

Justin Wolter

3:30

Closing Remarks

Alanna Watt, PhD, McGill University, Canada

