



The International Lung GVHD Consensus Conference 2026

23-25 SEPTEMBER 2026

CAMPUS BIOTECH, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND



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FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE

Dear Colleagues,

Over forty years ago, D. Ralph, E.D. Thomas and colleagues¹ reported a clinical syndrome of new onset severe airflow obstruction in association with chronic graft-versus-host disease in four young patients who had received marrow transplants for leukemia in Seattle, Washington. Lung biopsies revealed obliterative bronchiolitis, the fibrotic occlusion of small airways. Patients experienced debilitating breathlessness; treatment with corticosteroids did not provide objective benefit. Today, even in the era of improved prophylaxis and FDA-approved treatments for chronic GVHD, this original description of bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome - BOS - remains eerily cogent: we still do not have a cure for this highly morbid lung complication.

The impetus for a conference dedicated to lung GVHD arose out of the collective recognition that BOS is often diagnosed too late in its course for effective intervention. Since the landmark 2005 and 2014 NIH Chronic GVHD Consensus Conferences, our understanding of BOS and other potential forms of lung GVHD has grown, necessitating an updated clinical definition that would encourage early detection and treatment. Our ongoing discussions towards this update highlight how much we still need to learn about underlying disease processes and how to restore lung function.

To that end, we have convened a critical mass of experts across the disciplines of pulmonary medicine, transplant hematology, immunology, infectious diseases, radiology, and statistical science, to review the current knowledge base and identify new avenues for investigation. Our goals in Geneva are i) to synthesize our understanding of lung GVHD disease pathogenesis, ii) update the definition of lung GVHD, and iii) establish an ideal clinical trial design for lung GVHD. Central to this conference is the critical work of the Lung GVHD Consensus Project Task Force: to propose an evidence-based revision of the NIH diagnostic criteria for lung GVHD that applies across the lifespan. We hope that this will promote rigorous clinical investigation, and more importantly, benefit HCT recipients around the world.

With the expanding global reach of allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation, understanding lung GVHD is more relevant than ever. We look forward to sharing three days of learning, insight, and fellowship that will extend beyond Geneva.

The Scientific Steering Committee

Anne Bergeron (Switzerland)

Daniel Wolff (Germany)

Joe Hsu (USA)

Sophie Paczesny (USA)

Corey Cutler (USA)

Steven Pavletic (USA/Croatia)

Guang-Shing Cheng (USA)

¹Ralph D et al. Am Rev Resp Dis 1984;129:641-644



GOAL: Synthesize preclinical understanding of the pathogenesis of BOS that occurs in the context of allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplant, identify translatable targets and key priorities for preclinical investigation

Co-Chairs: [Joe Hsu](#) and [Sophie Paczesny](#)

08:15 Welcome participants

08:30 Opening Remarks [Prof Antoine Geissbuhler, Dean of the University of Geneva](#)

08:35 Building on the ATS research statement and our understanding of the natural history of BOS [Guang-Shing Cheng, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

08:50 Session 1: Knowledge Review

08:50 Beyond the small airways: Mapping allo-immune and transplant-related lung injury after HCT [Anne Bergeron, University of Geneva](#)

09:05 Heterogeneity of airway pathology in clinical BOS: insights from microCT investigations in HCT, LT, and PIBO [Stijn Verleden, University of Antwerp](#)

09:25 Airway epithelium as disease nexus in alloimmune lung injury [Jamie Todd, Duke University](#)

09:45 Peripheral helper T cells, B cells, and tertiary lymphoid structures in CLAD: do these pathways translate to lung GVHD? [Stephen Juvet, University of Toronto](#)

10:05 The role of macrophages, cellular immunity, and alloimmune pathways in chronic GVHD [Julie Boiko, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

10:25 Discussion

10:35 Break

10:45 Session 2: Knowledge Review

10:45 Role of infection and microbiome in post-HCT lung injury [Matthew Zinter, University of California San Francisco](#)

11:05 Dysbiosis and metabolomics in lung GVHD [David Michonneau, University Paris Cité](#)

11:25 Respiratory virus as a trigger for HCT-BOS [Louise Bondeelle, University of Geneva](#)

11:45 Lessons from bronchiectasis: phenotypes, endotypes, and treatable traits [Alan Barker, Oregon Health and Science University](#)

12:05 Discussion

12:15 Lunch

13:15 The Patient Perspective [Andreas Mall, Germany](#)

13:20 Session 3: Pro/Con Debate: Are early pulmonary inflammation and endothelial injury risk factors for LONIPC or BOS [Kenneth Cooke, Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center and Ajay Sheshadri, MD Anderson Cancer Center](#)

13:50 Discussion

14:00 Session 4: Pathways of Fibrosis Across Medical Contexts

14:00 Multiple pathways towards fibrogenesis in idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis [Bruno Crestani, Université Paris Cité](#)

14:20 Risk and mechanisms of CLAD [John Belperio, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California Los Angeles](#)

14:40 Targeting pulmonary fibrosis in chronic GVHD mice with lung dysfunction [Bruce Blazar, University of Minnesota](#)

15:00 Discussion

15:10 Break

15:20 Session 5: Translational approaches to studying lung GVHD

15:20 Cell-free DNA: sensitive predictive biomarker for pulmonary GVHD / CLAD risk [Sean Agbor-Enoh, NIH/NHLBI](#)

15:40 Murine models of bronchiolitis obliterans and transplant pulmonary fibrosis [Joe Hsu, Stanford University](#)

16:00 Modeling HCT-BOS with patient bronchoalveolar lavage fluid-derived organoids [Carla Kim, Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School](#)

16:20 Multi-omic analyses of human lung explants in HCT-BOS and CLAD [Patrick Mellors, Dartmouth University](#)

16:40 Discussion

16:50 Session 6: Plenary Discussion

17:20 ADJOURN Day 1

18:30 Networking Reception

GOAL: To derive a consensus revision of the HCT-BOS diagnostic criteria and conceptual framework for defining lung chronic GVHD.

Co-Chairs: [Guang-Shing Cheng](#) and [Anne Bergeron](#)

08:20 Session 1: Introduction of the Lung cGVHD Framework

Rationale for a revision of the 2014 NIH Definition of BOS: Why do we need this now? [Anne Bergeron, University of Geneva](#) and [Daniel Wolff, University Hospital Regensburg](#)

The historical context of the NIH cGVHD Consensus Project [Steven Pavletic, NIH](#)

The diagnostic framework and introduction of the working proposal [Guang-Shing Cheng, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

08:50 Session 2: Diagnostic Elements of BOS: Lung Physiology and Chest Imaging

08:50 Lung Physiology [Guang-Shing Cheng \(Lead\)](#)

The natural history of BOS [Guang-Shing Cheng, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

Current interpretative strategies and PFT change metrics across the lifespan [Hemang Yadav, Mayo Clinic](#)

Pathologic correlations with lung physiology and defining pulmonary impairment [Gerald Weinhouse, Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard University](#)

Patterns of airflow obstruction, small airways disease, and 'reversibility' in BOS [Jane Turner, McMaster University](#)

Current and future alternatives to conventional PFTs: MBW, oscillometry and home spirometry [Paul Robinson, University of Melbourne](#)

09:30 Discussion [Nicola Adderley, Paul Robinson, Matthew Rutter, Hélène Salvator, Jane Turner, Gerald Weinhouse, Hemang Yadav, Guang-Shing Cheng](#)

09:50 Chest Imaging [Husham Sharifi \(Lead\)](#)

Chest imaging correlates of airflow obstruction [Okka W. Hamer, University of Regensburg](#)

The future: Quantitative CT, MRI, and novel approaches to imaging for lung GVHD [Gregory Yanik, University of Michigan](#)

10:10 Discussion [Edward Castillo, Julien Cohen, Craig Galban, Jörg Halter, Okka W. Hamer, Jonathan H. Rayment, Gregory Yanik, Husham Sharifi](#)

10:30 Break

10:45 Session 3: Diagnostic Elements of BOS: Necessary Conditions, Exclusions, and Considerations for Special Populations

10:45 Conditions [Ajay Sheshadri \(Lead\)](#)

Requirements for the presence of extrapulmonary cGVHD to diagnose BOS [Catherine Lee, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

Should absence of infection be a necessary requirement? [David Epstein, Stanford University](#)

The need for lung biopsy to diagnose lung cGVHD [Clare Sander, Cambridge University Hospital and Alicja Sadowska-Klasa, Medical University of Gdansk](#)

11:05 Discussion [Louise Bondeelle, David Epstein, Samuel Goldfarb, Matthew Hensley, Catherine Lee, Alicja Sadowska-Klasa, Clare Sander, Ajay Sheshadri](#)

11:25 Pediatrics and Special Populations [Kirsten Williams \(Lead\)](#)

The impact of growth on lung function and diagnostic considerations in children after HCT [Shiv Shanthikumar, University of Melbourne](#)

The minimum diagnostic criteria if no diagnostic testing can be obtained [Kirsten Williams, Emory University](#)

11:40 Discussion [Shiv Shanthikumar, Stella Davies, Véronique Houdouin, Anita Lawitschka, Kirk Schultz, Hemang Yadav, Kirsten Williams](#)

12:00 LUNCH

13:00 Session 4: Non-BOS Lung cGVHD

[Jeff Sturek and Anne Bergeron \(co-Leads\)](#)

13:00 Restrictive physiology, extrapulmonary cGVHD, and mixed phenotypes [Jeff Sturek, University of Virginia](#)

Interstitial lung disease including organizing pneumonia, NSIP [Yu-Kuang Lai, Stanford University](#)

13:30 Discussion

Non-BOS Lung Disease Group: [Mark Barash, Saskia Bos, Geoff Cuvelier, Katrin Hostettler, Joe Hsu, Yu-Kuang Lai, Steven Pavletic, Jeffrey Sturek and Anne Bergeron](#)

14:00 Session 5: Screening and Implementation Recommendations Panel Discussion [Daniel Wolff and Group Panelists with an introduction by Guy Livneh, Palo Alto, CA](#)

Implementation Group: [Paul Carpenter, Yves Chalandon, Anna DeSalvo, Najla El Jurdi, Samuel Goldfarb, John Murray, Danielle Stahlbaum, Daniel Wolff](#)

15:00 Break

15:15 Session 6: Plenary Discussion: Addressing Areas of Uncertainty and Future Directions

16:45 ADJOURN Day 2

GOAL: Establish an ideal clinical trial design and identify clinical trial readiness gaps for Lung GVHD after HCT

Co-Chairs: [Anne Bergeron](#) and [Guang-Shing Cheng](#)

08:00 Introduction: Why we need lung chronic GVHD-specific clinical trials [Corey Cutler, Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard University](#)

08:10 Session 1: Current Therapeutic Landscape for HCT-BOS

08:10 Guidelines versus the reality [Hélène Schoemans, University Hospitals of Leuven](#)

08:25 Regulatory-approved cGVHD medications: a pulmonologist's perspective [Anne Bergeron, University of Geneva](#)

08:40 Antifibrotics and the pulmonary drug pipeline [Katrín Hostettler, University of Basel](#)

08:55 Alternative therapies and cGVHD drug pipeline [Daniel Wolff, University of Regensburg](#)

09:10 Discussion

09:25 Break

09:30 Session 2: Clinical Trial Design Elements

09:30 Current NIH response criteria, endpoints and limitations [Guang-Shing Cheng, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

09:45 When it's OK to be out of line – modeling continuous data as a non-linear function [Ted Gooley, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center](#)

10:00 How to Improve the Level of Evidence of Single-Arm Phase 2 Trials. [Sylvie Chevret, University Paris Cité/Hôpital St. Louis](#)

10:15 Biomarkers for Lung GVHD: how do we get there, and how do we test? [Sophie Paczesny, Medical College of South Carolina](#)

10:30 Innovative trial designs in interstitial lung diseases: adaptive, umbrella, basket [Toby Maher, University of Southern California](#)

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Insights from the Facebook BOS group: What patients are willing to do to participate in a clinical trial. [Guy Livneh, Palo Alto, California](#)

11:15 BREAK/LUNCH

11:45 Session 3: Clinical Trial Partnerships Panel Discussion

Co-Chairs: [Daniel Wolff](#) and [Steven Pavletic](#)

Panelists: [Val Bhatt \(Incyte\)](#), [Dawn Reichenbach \(Sanofi\)](#), [Jason Chien \(JWC Global Consulting LLC\)](#), [Gino Cortopassi \(Buto Corp.\)](#), [Madhuri Vusirikala \(Therakos\)](#), [Guy Livneh \(Patient Advocate\)](#)

12:55 Break

13:00 Session 4: Clinical Trial Design Brainstorming Session

13:00 Small group breakouts: 1) Overall Trial Design, 2) Trial Inclusion and Endpoints, 3) Agents to Test, 4) Correlative Studies, 5) Recruitment and Retention

Leads: [Greg Yanik and Jamie Todd \(1\)](#), [Najla El Jurdi and Guang-Shing Cheng \(2\)](#), [Catherine Lee and Bruno Crestani \(3\)](#), [Sean Agbor-Enoh and José A. Pérez-Simón \(4\)](#), [Hélène Schoemans and Danielle Stahlbaum \(5\)](#)

13:45 Group reports and discussion

14:30 Session 5: Plenary Discussion: White Board Proposal for the Ideal Clinical Trial

15:30 SUMMARY and ADJOURN Day 3 and Conference

Thank you to our Lung GVHD Consensus Project Participants

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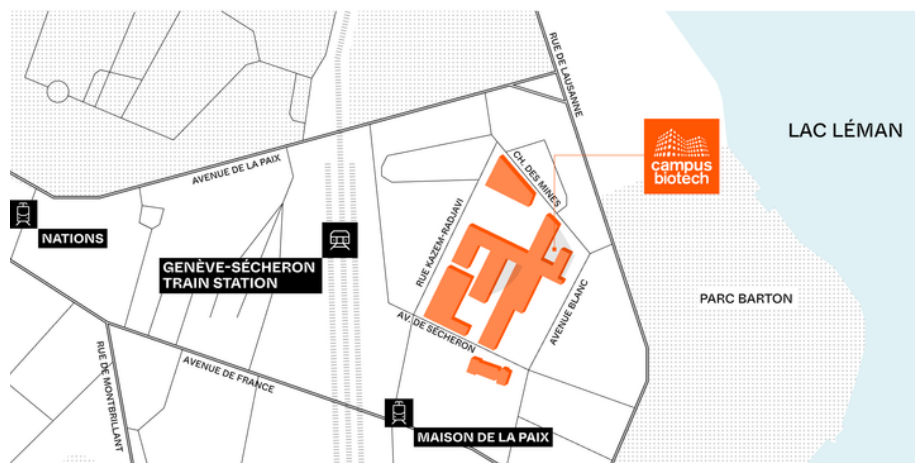
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 Brochure design: Maxine Liao, Stella Liao and Liz Curtis



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