



University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, MA
Current Trends in Botulinum Assays Workshop
August 18-19, 2010

Wednesday, August 18, 2010

- 08:00 – 08:45 – Registration
- 08:45 – 09:00 – **Session 1: Chairman - Dr. Kodumudi Venkateswaran**
Inauguration of the Workshop by Professor Bal Ram Singh
- 09:00 – 09:45 – “Molecular testing of bacterial cultures producing botulinum toxins”
Dr. Brain Raphael, CDC
- 09:45 – 10:30 – “Detection methods for the quantification of botulinum neurotoxin
activity” Dr. Ward Tucker, BioSentinel Pharmaceuticals, LLC
- 10:30 – 10:50 – Coffee / Tea Break
- Session 2: Chairman – Dr. Shuowei Cai, UMASS**
- 10:50 – 11:35 – “Using Cleavage Sensitive Antibodies and Imaging to Measure
Botulinum Neurotoxin Proteolytic Activity in Cell Based Assays”
Dr. Jon Nuss, USAMRIID
- 11:35 – 12:00 – “Ultrasensitive Botulinum detection by ALISSA” Dr. Karine
Bagramyan, Beckman Research Institute, City of Hope
- 12:00 – 12:25 – “Safety Briefing” Mr. Paul Lindo, UMASS
- 12:25 – 12:45 – “Rapid UPLC based assays for BoNT/A, BoNT/B and BoNT/C
endoprotease activities” Dr. Ashraf Ahmed, USAMRIID
- 12:45 – 13:45 – Lunch
- 13:45 – 18:00 with 30 minute break at 3:30 to 4:00
- Laboratory Demonstration 1: “ALISSA” by Dr. Karine Bagramyan
- Laboratory Demonstration 2: “Novel Botulinum Activity Assay” by Dr. Ward Tucker
- Laboratory Demonstration 3: “Field Portable Molecular and Immuno detection of
Botulinum Toxins” by Ms. Sheila Diepold



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Session 3: Chairman - Dr. Ashraf Ahmed, USAMRIID

08:45 – 09:00 – Introduction to the workshop Day 2

09:00 – 09:45 – “Embryonic stem cell-derived neurons provide a biologically relevant, sensitive platform for cell-based BoNT/A and /E research”
Dr. Patrick McNutt, USAMRICD

09:45 – 10:30 – “Mice activity wheel bioassay for botulinum– Is it a substitute or additional exercise to undertake for compliance!” Dr. Ravichandran Easwaran, UMASS Dartmouth

10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee / Tea Break

11:00 – 12:30 – Laboratory Demonstration 4: Mouse Wheel Assay by Dr. Ravichandran Easwaran

12:30 – 14:00 – Lunch

Session 4: Moderators Dr. Kodumudi Venkateswaran and Dr. Ashraf Ahmed

14:00 – 15:30 Panel Discussion on “Reagents, Technologies and Issues in botulinum neurotoxin assays and detection”

Dr. Dave Hodge

Dr. Brian Raphael

Dr. Zeytin, F. Naomi

Dr. Anup Singh

Dr. Nancy Stover

Dr. Suzanne Kalb

Dr. Klaus Fink

Dr. Mark Johansen

Ms. Karen Perrow