Mini-symposium and Educational meeting

LIFE AND DEATH OF β CELLS

Lausanne, Switzerland, Friday, May 16, 2008

Auditoire Auguste Tissot (CHUV, BH08)

08:30-09:00 Coffee and croissants

WELCOME
09:00 Christian Widmann (Lausanne)

Session I
Chair Bernard Thorens (Lausanne)

09:15 Decio Eizirik (Bruxelles) : « Molecular mechanisms of β cell apoptosis in models of diabetes mellitus »

10:00 Philippe Halban (Geneva) : « Role of the islet microenvironment in β cell survival and death »

10:45-11:00 Break

Session II
Chair Gérard Waeber (Lausanne)

11:00 Thierry Brun (Geneva) : « A focus on the role of Pax4 in mature pancreatic isletbeta-cell expansion and survival in health and disease »

11:45 Chris Rhodes (Chicago) : « Balancing β cell life and death, and how to avoid the onset of type 2 diabetes »

12:30-14:00 Lunch
14 :30-17 :00

Workshops with the invited mentors and the students of the CVM PhD.

**Location**  Seminar rooms 3, 4 and 6 and seminar room DG (CHUV, BH08).

**Preliminary work** :

The students have to develop on one page their answer on one of the questions raised by the mentors (see the topics below).

**During the workshop** :

Present their views on the question in about 10 minutes and actively participate in the ensuing debate.

**Topic 1**  Mouse models of β cell mass regeneration : how useful are they for the development of new tools to treat diabetes ?

**Mentors**  **Chris Rhodes**

Member of the doctoral school performing the evaluation : **Christian Widmann**

Supporting article : Nir et al, JCI 117 :2553 (2007)

**Location**  seminar room 3

**Topic 2**  Fundamental differences between human and rodent islet physiology : how can we trick human islets to proliferate ?

**Mentors**  **Thierry Brun**

Member of the doctoral school performing the evaluation : **Romano Regazzi**


**Location**  seminar room 4

**Topic 3**  The unfolded Protein Response (UPR) – how can a physiological Response contribute for beta cell dysfunction and death in the Course of diabetes ?

**Mentors**  **Decio Eizirik**

Member of the doctoral school performing the evaluation : **Amar Aberrahmani**


**Location**  Seminar room 6

19 :00  Dinner

All speakers and students are invited to share a dinner at the MC’s restaurant