



# 5th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON AUTOIMMUNITY

SORRENTO, ITALY

NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 3, 2006



## SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

[www.kenes.com/autoim2006](http://www.kenes.com/autoim2006)

Deadline date for receipt of abstracts: **June 20, 2006**



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**Pier Luigi Meroni**, Italy  
**Yehuda Shoenfeld**, Israel

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**Dear Colleagues,**

*The 5th International Congress of Autoimmunity has become established as one of the major meetings in the field of immunology. The lectures and discussions during this Congress will cover every aspect of basic research attempting to clarify etiology or pathogenesis, and will also bring forth the latest innovations in biological and other modes of treatment.*

*As in the previous Congress on Autoimmunity, where three of the leaders of the field of autoimmunity (Donato Alarcon-Segovia, Ian R. Mackay, Noel R. Rose) were awarded with the Aesku Prize for Life Contribution to Autoimmunity – so, similarly, three other eminent scientists will receive this year's Aesku Prize, and be acknowledged as path finders.*

*We aim to make the surrounding conditions of the Congress of a high standard, so that participants will enjoy spending all the days of the Congress in the lecture halls. However, yielding to the attractions and the enticing beautiful area of Sorrento and its vicinity – daytime excursions and relaxing cultural events in the evenings will also be arranged.*

*It is our sincere hope that the assembly of hundreds of physicians and researchers interested in autoimmunity in Sorrento, will create new collaborations and pave the road for new and bold breakthroughs in research – serving the purpose of assuring better care of autoimmune diseases, or even finding the ultimate cure.*

*The Congress will be covered by the following journals: "Autoimmunity Reviews", "Developmental Immunology", "Autoimmunity" and "Ann NY Acad of Science".*

*We will be happy to see you among the participants of the 5th Congress on Autoimmunity, which will cater to your needs with both a romantic atmosphere and wonderful Italian food.*

*Sincerely yours,*

**Yehuda Shoenfeld, MD, FRCP | Pier Luigi Meroni, MD | Takao Koike, MD**



## 5th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON AUTOIMMUNITY

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## TIMETABLE

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2006

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10:30 -19:00	Registration and distribution of material
13:30 -15:30	Satellite Symposium
16:00 -18:00	Satellite Symposium <i>sponsored by Bio-Rad</i>
Evening	Opening Session followed by Get Together Reception

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2006

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All Day	Registration (continued) Sessions
Evening	Social Event

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2006

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All Day	Sessions
18:00-20:00	Satellite Symposium

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2006

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All Day	Sessions
Evening	Farewell Dinner (optional)

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2006

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Morning	Sessions
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#### **Prize for life contribution to autoimmunity**

Three prizes for life contribution to autoimmunity will be awarded to three eminent scientists, *kindly provided by Aesku Diagnostics*



# LECTURE TOPICS

## 1. ETIOLOGY AND PATHOGENESIS

- Somatic hypermutation in human autoantibodies
- Innate autoimmunity and adoptive autoimmunity
- Toll-like receptors in autoimmunity
- Apoptosis and autoimmunity
- Molecular signalling in apoptosis of T cell subsets
- Vascular injury: insights gained through proteomics and genomics
- Tracking CD4+ T cells in the pathogenesis of human autoimmune diseases
- Effectors of autoimmune tissue injury
- Autoimmune epitopes: autoepitopes
- Pathogenic mechanisms involving cytokines
- The role of interferons in the pathogenesis of lupus
- Neurotransmitters and immunology interactions
- Infections as a cause of autoimmune diseases
- Role of infection in vascular injury
- Pathogenesis of autoimmune cardiomyopathy
- Pathogenic potential of ANCA
- Tissue factor and autoimmunity
- Complement and autoimmunity
- Origins of rheumatoid arthritis

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## 2. GENETICS

- Genetics of autoimmune diseases (CD4/CD25 regulatory T cells)
- Autoimmunity predisposing genes
- Genes involved in tolerance and autoimmunity
- Gene expression in multiple sclerosis
- Express yourself! Gene expression profiling in rheumatic diseases
- Immunoglobulin gene regulation in autoimmunity
- The genetics of SLE
- Immunogenetics of autoimmune thyroid diseases
- Genome wide SNP analyses on rheumatoid arthritis
- TCR gene transfer for controlling autoimmunity



### 3. MECHANISM

- Penetration of autoantibodies into living cells
- Role of dendritic cells in the induction of tolerance/autoimmunity
- Chemokines and their receptors in autoimmune diseases
- Cell adhesion molecules in arthritis and autoimmune diseases
- Food antigens and autoimmunity
- Environment versus genetics in autoimmunity
- Migration of autoimmune T cells
- Autoimmune B cells
- B lymphocytes in autoimmune diseases
- BlyS and anti-BlyS
- Fc-gamma receptors
- Immunological homunculus
- The role of MHC/peptide tetramers for tracking autoreactive T cells
- Mast cells and autoimmunity
- Anti-receptor autoantibodies
- Intrathymic expression of self-antigens
- T cell receptor antagonism
- Angiogenesis in arthritis
- Anti heat shock protein 60 immunity and atherosclerosis
- Signals for T cell activation and regulation
- Role of innate V/S acquired autoimmune responses in human cardiomyopathies
- Primary epitopes for MHC restricted autoimmune disorders
- Regulatory T cells in rheumatic diseases – from bench to bedside
- Antibody affinity maturation
- Multiple pathways of apoptosis in naïve and memory lymphocytes
- Regulation of cytokine production by PI3K
- Human NK cells: their surface receptors and function
- Atherosclerosis, angiogenesis, and autoimmunity and gamma delta T cell
- Complement and kidney disease
- Innate autoreactivity
- Neutrophil alteration in autoimmune diseases
- Molecular signaling of apoptosis in aging and autoimmunity
- Structure, function and pathogenetic significance of Ro ribonucleoproteins
- NKT cell biology; their mechanisms in disease control
- Antiendothelial cell antibodies, with special emphasis on HSP-60





## 4. TOLERANCE

- Mechanisms of immune tolerance
  - Mechanisms and promise of immune tolerance in therapy of SLE
  - Tolerance deficits that are of most relevance to human autoimmunity
  - Mucosal tolerance for the treatment of autoimmune diseases
  - Natural autoimmunity
  - Differences in tolerance mechanisms in the T and B cell compartments
  - Susceptibility/resistance to autoimmunity
  - Nuclear molecules as mediators of inflammation
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## 5. DIAGNOSTICS

- Peptides as autoantigens
  - Novel recombinant autoantigens
  - Micro-array technology for probing the immune system
  - Tetramers for detection of autoreactive T cells
  - New technologies in the detection of autoantibodies especially antigen arrays and addressable laser beads
  - Novel autoantigens in neurological diseases: diagnostic and pathogenic considerations
  - Challenges for the clinical autoantibody laboratory
  - Algorithms in autoimmunity diagnostics
  - Immune informatics
  - Definition of autoimmune epitopes
  - Prediction and prevention of type 1 diabetes
  - Antinucleophosmin antibodies in murine and human SLE
  - Anti-glycan approach
  - IBD/MS indications
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## 6. HORMONAL

- Autoimmunity and pregnancy
- Pregnancy and lupus/antiphospholipid syndrome
- Sex-based differences
- The role of glucocorticoid hormones in T cell differentiation and selection
- Pregnancy and connective tissue diseases



## 7. INFECTION

- Infectious components and autoimmunity and/or mucosal immunity and autoimmunity
  - Microbial B cell super antigens and their potential to cause inflammation
  - Vaccination and autoimmunity
  - Adjuvant and autoimmunity
  - Coxsackie viruses and autoimmune epithelitis
  - The role of commensal bacteria in inflammation and autoimmunity
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## 8. ANIMAL MODELS

- Animal models of vasculitis and glomerulonephritis
  - New knockout mice
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## 9. DISEASES

- Atherosclerosis and autoimmunity
- Vasculitis
- Sjögren's disease
- Monoclonal thyroid stimulating antibodies and thyroid autoimmunity
- The cellular and molecular basis of primary biliary cirrhosis
- Antiphospholipid Abs in reproductive failure/infertility
- Antiphospholipid antibody and mechanism of the thrombus formation
- Rheumatoid arthritis as a paradigm of new therapies for autoimmune disorders
- The role of the thymus in myasthenia gravis
- Autoimmune hepatitis
- Pemphigus vulgaris
- Autoimmune bullous dermatoses
- Systemic autoimmune diseases presenting with skin symptoms
- Borderline, ligand diseases between autoimmunity and different fields of dermatology
- Allergy and autoimmunity
- The associations between different autoimmune diseases
- Multiple sclerosis and regulatory cells
- Neuroimmunology
- Early microvascular changes in scleroderma
- The role of antibody and B cells in rheumatoid arthritis
- Autoimmunity associated with immune deficiency diseases
- Paraneoplastic autoimmunity



- Type 1 diabetes
- Immunology of cardiovascular disease
- The role of thrombin in autoimmune neurological disease
- Autoimmunity to HSP and ox-LDL in atherosclerosis/vasculitis
- Cognition and autoimmunity
- Therapy of ANCA-associated vasculitis
- Inflammatory clearance of apoptotic cells in vasculitis and lupus
- Immunoendocrine changes in healthy subjects and SLE patients during pregnancy
- Pulmonary hypertension in scleroderma
- Autoimmunity in the central nervous system
- Autoimmunity to endothelial cells – from scleroderma to atherosclerosis
- Cardiovascular involvement in rheumatic diseases
- B cells and primary biliary cirrhosis
- B cell clonality in Sjögren's Syndrome: histopathological analysis and response to rituximab
- Snow white duodenum as an underlying disease in autoimmune
- Immune reactions against silicone implants

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## 10. THERAPY

- IVIG
- Gene therapy and autoimmune disease
- Wheat as a source of compounds against cancer and autoimmune diseases
- Peptide therapy for autoimmune disease
- Adoptive cellular gene therapy of autoimmune disease
- Immunopoiesis, transplantation and the treatment of autoimmunity
- Remodelling in systemic autoimmune diseases by differentiated stem cells or gene therapy
- Clinical and management aspects of SLE
- Therapeutic vaccines for autoimmune disease, T cell vaccination, drug-vaccines against
- myasthenia gravis, drugs-vaccines against lupus
- Statins in treatment of autoimmune disease
- Novel biologics in autoimmune disorders
- Cellcept – an advance in the treatment of lupus nephritis
- Use of monoclonal therapy for the treatment of uveitis
- Leflunomide-induced lung injury
- Therapeutic strategies in systemic necrotizing vasculitis



## 11. PROGNOSIS

- Predicting autoimmunity
- Preventive measurements in autoimmunity
- Clinical activity indexes

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## 12. CANCER

- Tumor-associated autoantibodies as indicators of cancer development
- Nutraceuticals in supportive treatment of cancer and autoimmune diseases
- Lymphoma and autoimmune rheumatic diseases

### PATIENTS SESSION

A special session for patients will take place with lectures by experts in various fields of autoimmune diseases.

*Supported by American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association (AARDA) and Associazione Patologie Autoimmuni Internazionale (APAI).*





## CALL FOR PAPERS

Participants are requested to submit an abstract to the Secretariat

**NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2006**

together with the registration form and fees. Abstracts will be reviewed and assigned to appropriate sessions.

Authors will be notified regarding Abstract acceptance. Accepted abstracts will be printed in the Book of Abstracts that will be distributed at the Congress. Only a very limited number of abstracts will be scheduled for oral presentation. Please indicate if you are submitting your abstract for oral or poster presentation. Authors will be notified of the method of presentation.

### ***ABSTRACTS OF INVITED SPEAKERS***

Speakers are requested to submit an abstract of their talk as per the instructions. These abstracts should clearly indicate the category of presentation.

#### **METHOD OF SUBMISSION**

Abstracts should be submitted via this website  
[www.kenes.com/autoim2006](http://www.kenes.com/autoim2006)

If you have no access to the internet, please contact the Secretariat

### ***GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION***

1. The abstract should be as informative as possible:
  - a) state specific object of study
  - b) state method used, if pertinent
  - c) summarise results obtained
  - d) state conclusions reached
2. Standard abbreviations may be used.
3. Inclusion in the Scientific Program and Book of Abstracts is dependent on payment of registration fees.
4. Abstracts should be submitted in good English.
5. Abstract length should not exceed 250 words. Having an image may reduce the number of words allowed in your text.

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**FAXED ABSTRACTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE**

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## REGISTRATION

	Until August 20, 2006	From August 21, 2006	On Site (from November 20, 2006)
Participants - Physicians and Scientists	€ 400	€ 470	€ 540
Residents*	€ 300	€ 340	€ 380
Accompanying Persons	€ 150	€ 150	€ 180
Farewell Dinner		€ 75	

\* Refers to non-tenured junior scientists. Registration form must be accompanied by a letter from their head of department confirming their status.

### Fees for PARTICIPANTS include:

- Participation in scientific sessions
- Entrance to the exhibition
- Get-together Reception on Wednesday
- Social Event on Thursday
- The printed material of the Congress

A new version of the textbook *Autoantibodies*, published by Elsevier, will be included in the congress bag of all registered participants.

**Editors:** Y. Shoenfeld, M.E. Gershwin and P.L. Meroni

### Fees for ACCOMPANYING PERSONS include:

- Get-together Reception on Wednesday
- Social Event on Thursday
- Two half-day tours, planned to coincide with the scientific sessions

### CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund of registration fees will be as follows:

Postmarked before August 20, 2006 - 100% refund (minus €50 handling fee)

Postmarked from August 21, 2006 - 50% refund

No refund on cancellations sent after October 29, 2006



## GENERAL INFORMATION

### LOCATION

Hilton Sorrento Palace  
Via S. Antonio 13  
Sorrento 80067  
Italy  
Tel: +39 081 878 4141  
Fax: +39 081 878 3933

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the Congress.

### DATES

November 29 – December 3, 2006

### PERSONAL INSURANCE

We recommend that all participants take out a personal travel and health insurance for their trip.

### CLIMATE

The weather in Sorrento in November/December is cool. Temperatures range from 10-13° during the day and 7-9° during the evening.

### CLOTHING

Informal for all occasions; please bring sunglasses and walking shoes.

### AIRPORT INFORMATION AND TRAVEL TO SORRENTO

Naples Capodichino Airport is located in the North-West side of the city. Daily flights link Naples to all parts of Italy and Europe. From Napoli Capodichino Airport you may reach Sorrento in different ways. The Capodichino Airport is connected to the Railway Station, located in Garibaldi Square, by the ANM buses (departures about every 25 minutes) and to Beverello Harbour,

located in the port of Naples, by CLP buses (departures about every 40 minutes outside the terminal on the Arrivals side).

You may reach Sorrento by sea, from the pier Molo Beverello of the port of Naples. Departures are every two hours (transfer will take about 30 minutes).

### EXHIBITION

A professional exhibition will be held concurrently with the Congress. For more details, please contact:

#### Michal Lelcuk

17 Rue du Cendrier  
P.O. Box 1726  
CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 22 908 0488  
Fax: +41 22 732 2850  
E-mail: mllelcuk@kenes.com

### CONGRESS ORGANIZERS

Please do not hesitate to contact the organizers if you require any additional information or assistance. Please address all correspondence to:

#### 5th International Congress on Autoimmunity



c/o Kenes International -  
Global Congress Organizers and Association  
Management Services  
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CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland  
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Fax: +41 22 732 2850  
E-mail: autoim06@kenes.com



## ACCOMPANYING PERSONS PROGRAM

All registered accompanying persons are invited to the social events of the Congress, as well as the following two half-day tours:

### **POMPEII**

**Thursday, November 30**

Pompeii holds an intense fascination for visitors today. Following the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the year 79 A.D., Pompeii lay buried and forgotten for hundreds of years.

The town is high on the list of Wonders of the World and the excavations begun in the 18th century are still being carried out today. The guide will take you slowly through some of the ancient streets of Pompeii where you can see the Baths, Forums and Villas built by the prosperous Romans in the year 80 B.C. Marvel at the fabulously preserved frescoes which adorned the walls and floors of the Villas. Even if your interests do not lie in history, this is an archaeological site that you cannot be failed to be impressed by.

### **NAPLES SIGHTSEEING**

**Friday, December 1**

Arrival in Naples at Piazza Municipio. There will be a walking tour to Piazza Plebiscito, pointing out Maschio Angioino, Galleria Umberto and Teatro San Carlo. In Piazza Plebiscito there are shops available on Via Roma, Via Toledo and Via Chiaia.

For those who want to visit The National Museum, the walking distance to the museum is 15 minutes. Meet again at Piazza Plebiscito to walk back to the bus. Bus tour of Naples and the Posillipo with views of Naples.

Tours will depart from the Hilton Hotel at 09:00 and return at 13:30 (approximately).





## HOTEL ACCOMMODATION AND TOURS



Registration Department  
17 Rue du Cendrier  
P.O. Box 1726  
CH-1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 22 908 0488  
Fax: +41 22 732 2850  
E-Mail: [reg\\_autoimmunity@kenes.com](mailto:reg_autoimmunity@kenes.com)

Kenes International is the official (travel agent) for the 5th International Congress on Autoimmunity, and will be offering special reduced rates for accommodation and tours.

**Accommodation at special rates is available in the following categories.**

Hotel	Category	Hotel vs Congress centre	Single room	Double room
Hilton Executive rooms	**** Deluxe	Congress Venue	€ 270	€ 280
Hilton Standard rooms			Single room for single use - € 140 Double room for single use - € 210	€ 240
Antiche Mura	**** Deluxe	15 minutes walk	€ 170	€ 190
Bellevue	**** Deluxe	20 minutes walk	Garden view € 160 Sea view € 170	Garden view € 180 Sea view € 190
Conca Park	****	5 minutes walk	Single room for single use - € 140 Double room for single use - € 180	€ 200
Grand Vesuvio	****	5-10 minutes by car	€ 170	€ 190
Palazzo Guardati	****	15 minutes walk	€ 140	€ 160
Vila Maria Sorrento	***	5 minutes walk	Single room for single use - € 85 Double room for single use - € 105	€ 115

Rates shown are per room, per night and include VAT (as per date of printing) and breakfast. In the event of the VAT increasing, the resulting increase in hotel rates will be passed on to the client.



## BOOKING

In order to benefit from the special rates, please use one of the following booking methods:

- Send the enclosed Registration and Accommodation Form with the required deposit by FAX or MAIL at your earliest convenience
- Book your hotel accommodation through the congress website:  
<http://www.kenes.com/autoim2006/accom.asp>

We strongly advise all participants to reserve their hotel accommodation as soon as possible. Kenes International will not be able to guarantee rooms after October 16, 2006.

- Reservations will only be confirmed if credit card details are fully supplied; alternatively please forward a deposit of € 200 per room.
- Each participant will receive an individual confirmation, indicating the name and address of the hotel. The booking will be final upon receipt of the corresponding deposit.
- For hotel reservation made by a sponsoring company, the participant will receive the hotel confirmation from the sponsoring company directly.
- For block bookings (10 rooms and up) companies are requested to send their request by fax or e-mail to Kenes International. Different payment and cancellation policies will apply.

## PAYMENT

Please note, two weeks prior to your arrival in Sorrento, your credit card will be automatically charged for the balance of your hotel accommodation. Participants who have paid with a bank transfer or cheque, need to send this balance to Kenes International. Full prepayment is required for all hotel accommodations.

## CANCELLATION OF ACCOMMODATION

Cancellation received by August 20, 2006 – full refund less bank charges

Cancellation received by September 20, 2006 – first deposit will be charged (€ 200)

Cancellation received after October 29, 2006 – no refund

In the event of non-arrival, the hotel will automatically release the reservation, and the payment will be non-refundable.

## IMPORTANT NOTES

Kenes International, and their agents shall not be responsible for and shall be exempt from all liability in respect of any loss, damage, injury, accident, delay or inconvenience to any person, or his/her luggage or any other property for any reason whatsoever, for any tourist services provided. Personal travel and health insurance is recommended.

Official check-in time for the hotel is **15:00** hours and check out is **10:00** hours.



## MAP OF SORRENTO

### *Map of Sorrento Peninsula*



#### **To SORRENTO:**

from Positano	km 12	from Pompei	km 18
from Amalfi	km 31	from Roma	km 245
from Ravello	km 36	from Napoli (airport)	km 50
from Paestum	km 96	from Napoli (train station)	km 38
from Vesuvio	km 28	from Napoli (by sea)	km 14
from Massa Lubrense	km 5	from Capri	km 5
from Sant' Agnello	km 2	from Ischia	km 19



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