

Welcome and Opening Remarks

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Welcome to HIV & Liver Disease 2008

- The second bi-annual multidisciplinary conference designed to address the increasingly prevalent clinical issues and challenges associated with HIV and liver disease
- The conference features internationally renowned experts and clinicians from a variety of disciplines, including hepatology and infectious diseases
- The faculty will present and discuss the most current and clinically relevant information pertinent to improving the outcomes of patients with HIV and liver disease
- Additionally, selected abstracts representing new information in the field of HIV and liver disease will be presented as oral or poster presentations

Organizing Committee Members

- Kenneth E. Sherman, MD, PhD – Program Chairperson
- Margaret J. Koziel, MD
- Vincent Soriano, MD, PhD

Program Format

- The format of the HIV & Liver Disease 2008 Conference provides a unique opportunity for both formal and informal exchange of information through:
 - General Sessions
 - Meet-the-Professor Lunch Roundtable Discussions
 - Oral Presentations
 - Poster Presentations
- Pre- and post-conference activities allow for informal interaction and idea-sharing in a tranquil setting

Conference Aims

- To bring together national and international thought leaders to present current and clinically-relevant information that promotes the understanding of liver disease in the setting of HIV monoinfection and coinfection with HBV and HCV
- To provide a unique educational opportunity for trainees and Young Investigators/Fellows to interact with leading experts in the field of HIV and liver disease in a focused and intimate setting
- To develop a summary of the conference proceedings in the form of a comprehensive review article, in order to expand the reach of the conference information to the broader audience of hepatologists, gastroenterologists, and infectious diseases specialists worldwide

Needs Assessment

- Over the past decade, the treatment of HIV infection has improved dramatically with the introduction of HAART
 - Morbidity and mortality caused by AIDS have decreased
 - HIV-infected individuals are experiencing prolonged life expectancy
- However, this unparalleled success has been accompanied by the emergence of liver disease as an important cause of morbidity and death in patients infected with HIV
 - Coinfection with hepatitis B and C
 - Hepatotoxicity associated with ART
 - Opportunistic infections associated with liver and biliary tract injury

Needs Assessment (cont'd)

- Significant needs for education across key physician specialties involved in the care of patient with HIV and liver disease
 - Few liver specialists have an adequate understanding of the current issues involved in the management of HIV monoinfection and coinfection with HBV and HCV
 - Similarly, infectious diseases specialists generally lack the requisite knowledge in the areas of hepatic physiology and pathology
 - Annual meetings hosted by professional societies fail to bring together individuals from other disciplines to address the issues of HIV and liver disease
- This conference represents the first focused national and international forum on HIV and liver disease