

# LIVER DIGEST

A weekly update of PLRC happenings

March 18, 2021



[www.livercenter.pitt.edu](http://www.livercenter.pitt.edu)

*Please acknowledge support from the PLRC (NIH/NIDDK  
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### **The Next PLRC Virtual Seminar will be Tuesday, March 23 at 12:00pm**

The next PLRC Virtual Research Seminar will be held on **Tuesday, March 23 at 12:00 pm via Zoom**. Dr. [Meritxell Huch](#), the Lise Meitner Max Planck Research Group leader at the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics (MPI-CBG) in Dresden, Germany, will be presenting. The title of the talk will be, “**Exploiting liver organoid cultures to investigate liver regeneration and disease mechanisms.**”  
[Click here for Zoom Meeting ID](#)

[This seminar has been approved for AMA PRA Category 1 Credit\(s\)™.](#)

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## Dr. Reben Raeman Awarded R01

**Dr. Raeman** received NIH funding to study  $\alpha 4\beta 7+$  monocytes and CD4 T cells in promoting hepatic inflammation in NASH, the role of hepatic stellate cells in the regulation of immune cell recruitment to the NASH liver, and investigate the mechanisms regulating the  $\alpha 4\beta 7$ /MAdCAM-1 axis. This project is funded for 5 years through NIH, NIDDK. Congratulations!

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## New Slide Scanner Available for Use - ACTIC

The slide scanner is available beginning March 1, 2021 for use for one month's time. All Liver Center Members are invited to participate and use the services it offers. For more information on the slide scanner, [click here](#). The device is currently at CBI's room S207. If you have any questions, please reach out to **Dr. Donna Stolz**, director ACTIC ([Donna.Stolz@pitt.edu](mailto:Donna.Stolz@pitt.edu)) and copy Dr. Simon Watkins, director CBI ([Simon.Watkins@pitt.edu](mailto:Simon.Watkins@pitt.edu)).

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## GI Research Rounds on Friday, March 19 at 12pm

**Dr. Prithu Sundd**, Assistant Professor of Medicine & Bioengineering - Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine, and PLRC member, will be presenting his talk, entitled, "Thrombo-Inflammation in Sickle Cell Disease," virtually at GI Research Rounds on Friday, March 19, at 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Conference ID: 253 661 793#

[Click here for more information](#)

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## **AASLD Emerging Topic Conference - CHRONIC HEPATITIS B: FROM THE POPULATION TO NEW MOLECULES AND BACK**

A comprehensive and in-depth discussion of the most updated treatment strategies as well as data/care gap to prevent and manage the HBV population. A review of the preclinical and clinical frontiers of HBV cure molecules after a state-of-the-art review of novel molecular and immunologic HBV cure markers will be covered along with an assessment of HBV cure's impact on HBV epidemiology and population health. March 12-14.

**[Click here for more Information and to Register](#)**

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## **Keystone Symposium-Hepatobiliary Cancer: Pathobiology and Translational Advances**

Keystone Symposium will be held virtually March 22-24, 2021. Details for prospective attendees concerning Registration, Financial Aid, Abstract Submission, and Current Program are given at **[Keysym.us/VKSHepatoCancer21](https://Keysym.us/VKSHepatoCancer21)** (indicated in the flyer). #VKSHepatoCancer21

**ePoster / SciTalk Submission: March 11, 2021**

**Financial Aid Application: March 8, 2021**

**[Please click here for Registration](#)**

KEYSTONE SYMPOSIA  
**eSymposia**

Joint with: Fatty Liver Disease and Multi-System Complications

## Hepatobiliary Cancers: Pathobiology and Translational Advances

March 22-24, 2021 | 10:00AM EDT | 2:00PM UTC\*

\*Program is in development and subject to change

### SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZERS:

Alphonse E. Sirica, Gregory J. Gores and Lopa Mishra



Register at: [keysym.us/VKSHepatoCancer21](https://keysym.us/VKSHepatoCancer21)



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### Workshop for GSBC users on Next Generation Sequencing

**Dr. Silvia Liu**, Manager of GSBC will be presenting in part a Next-Generation-Sequencing Workshop hosted by the CRC.

Important links to get more information on the workshop and for registering:

<https://crc.pitt.edu/CRC-Spring-2021-Next-Generation-Sequencing-Workshops>

<https://crc.pitt.edu/crc-spring-2021-ngs-workshop-trainer>

<https://crc.pitt.edu/NGS-Spring-2021-Workshops-Register>

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Community Liver Alliance Liver Journal Club

The Community Liver Alliance invites you to join for the 2021 Virtual Liver Journal Club on March 29, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. The topic is “**Recent clinical trials on HCC and PBC management.**” Our Liver Journal Club Directors are [David Geller, MD](#), liver center member with the UPMC Liver Cancer Center and **Michael Babich, MD** with the AHN Center for Digestive Health and Nutrition. The first Liver Journal Club will feature the following presentations outlined in the agenda below. There will be a 15-minute presentation and 15-minute discussion by faculty, per article. The program will educate hepatologists, gastroenterologists, oncologists, primary care physicians and other health care providers involved in the management of patients with liver disease.

Please register in advance before Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup> using link [here](#). A Zoom link will be sent to registrants

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### **Drug-Induced Liver Injury Meeting (Co-sponsored by AASLD & FDA)**

Held virtually **April 20-22, 2021**. The website below contains links for attendee **Registration** and an **Agenda** of planned sessions, speakers and panel discussions, as well as information for the submission of poster abstracts by attendees.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Topics covered:

- Latest developments in the field of hepatotoxicity
- Innovative tools for diagnosis and assessment
- Liver injury in patients with cancer or underlying liver disease
- Drug induced liver injury during the COVID Pandemic.

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### **Lab Manager, part-time - Dr. Kiani and Dr. Ebrahimkhani lab**

The laboratories of Dr. Samira Kiani and Dr. Mo Ebrahimkhani at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and Pittsburgh Liver Research Center seek a qualified candidate for a part-time Laboratory Manager. The incumbent will maintain the labs' daily operation and work closely with the PIs. The labs' day-to-day operation includes planning orderings, filing inventories, tracking ongoing orders, perform onboarding training, coordinate lab functions and orderliness, organizing lab to comply with the IACUC, biosafety, and biohazard standards.

**For more information, click here**  
**Click here to apply**

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### **Post-Doc Position Available - Dr. Duncan Lab**

A postdoctoral research position is available in the laboratory of Dr. Andrew Duncan in the Department of Pathology and McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. We are looking for a highly motivated individual to participate in an NIH-funded project related to liver pathobiology. Polyploidy is a defining feature of the liver where polyploid hepatocytes represent half of hepatocytes in humans and as many as 90% in mice. Although polyploid hepatocytes have been recognized for over 100 years, the functional role of these cells is poorly understood. Ongoing projects explore (a) how diploid and polyploid hepatocytes respond to acute injury; (b) the role of cell polarity in regulation of mitotic fidelity; and (c) mechanisms of liver adaptation to chronic injury .

**Click here for more information**

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### **Update Information**

*Please continue to share your relevant accolades (grants, manuscripts, other news) with us, as it relates to PLRC mission, so we can share with all members. Please visit [PLRC website here](#). Contact AJ Singh ([singha16@upmd.edu](mailto:singha16@upmd.edu)) if you have specific questions or suggestions.*

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### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **EFSD/Boehringer Ingelheim European Research Programme on "Multi-System Challenges in Diabetes"**

European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes (EFSD)

European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)

#### **Project and Simulation/Education Grants**

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA)

**To see all NIH Grants sorted by week, please visit: NIH Guide: 2021**

For Weeks Ending:

- [March 19](#)
- [March 12](#)

**[Click here](#) for all current NIDDK Funding opportunities**

*Please acknowledge support from the PLRC (NIH/NIDDK P30DK120531) in your publications and presentations.*

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