

Oral Medicine and Pathology Group

The group was well represented at the Durham BSDR/NOF meeting in April 2007, with seven presentations including three from Cardiff and four posters. A presentation by Ali Khurram from Sheffield was highly commended in the BSDR Senior Colgate Prize.

At the Group lunch the following officers were elected/re-elected:

President: Professor Paula Farthing, Sheffield, p.farthing@sheffield.ac.uk

Secretary: Dr Simon Whawell, Sheffield, s.whawell@sheffield.ac.uk

Member of Council: Dr Richard Cook, KCL, London, richard_james.cook@kcl.ac.uk
(underscore after Richard)

A number of suggestions were made for symposia to be hosted by the Group at the forthcoming PEF-IADR meeting in London in September 2008. The following was accepted by the organising committee:

Immune mechanisms in oral mucosal disease.

Understanding the mechanisms of immune regulation has advanced significantly in recent years and this has increased in our knowledge of the pathogenesis of several immune mediated oral diseases. In particular regulatory T cells which express $\alpha\beta 7$, dendritic cells, chemokines, and cell activation markers have been implicated to play an important role. This symposium will cover recent advances in these areas and discuss their roles pathogenesis of immunologically mediated mucosal disease.

1. Role of alpha beta7 integrin in muco-cutaneous disease.

Paula Farthing, University of Sheffield, UK.

2. Oral Ulceration and Behcets:

Role of cytokines and chemokines.

Professor Farida Fortune, Bart's and the London School of Medicine & Dentistry, UK

3. Lichen planus & lichenoid reactions:role of dendritic cells

Bengt Hasséus, University of Göteborg, Sweden

5. Sjogrens syndrome:regulation of B cell activation.

Constantino Pitzalis, Bart's and the London School of Medicine & Dentistry, UK.

Members are encouraged to attend this symposium and the group lunch, details of which will be in the meeting programme and online (<http://www.pefiadr2008.com/>)