



# Spring Immunology Symposium 2025

COMMUNICATING IMMUNOLOGY

OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup> - 3<sup>RD</sup> 2025

Location and time:

**October 1st - 8:00 AM-6:00 PM:** Auditorio Principal, Centro de Innovación Anacleto Angelini, 1st Floor. Av Vicuña Mackenna, Macul, Santiago.

**October 2nd - 8:00 AM-6:30 PM:** Salón de Honor, Padre Hurtado, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 2 Floor. Av. Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 340, Santiago, Chile

**October 3rd - 8:00 AM-13:00 PM:** Auditorio Manuel José Irarrázabal, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, 1 Floor. Av. Libertador Bernardo O'Higgins 340, Santiago, Chile

## REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://forms.office.com/r/jyGR1RHuK6>

Organized by: School of Biological Sciences, Communications and Medicine - Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile; Institute of Biomedical Sciences - Universidad de Chile; Faculty of Marine Sciences and Biological Resources - Universidad de Antofagasta; Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy; Biomedical Research Consortium Chile; Group MIMCYT-FCB.

# Overview

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The Spring Immunology Symposium has been held for over 10 years, with the support of the Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy and other institutions. It brings together outstanding national and international scientists in the fields of immunology, infectious diseases, and biomedical sciences.

Annually held in Santiago, Chile, with over 250 attendees, this symposium encompasses basic to translational scientific perspectives and approaches, bringing together scientists, universities, and high school students from Chile and abroad.

# Scientific Organizing Committee:

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**Dr. Alexis Kalergis**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Alexis Cruz**

PhD(c), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



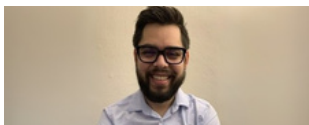
**Dr. Christian Palavecino**

Universidad Central



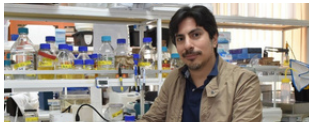
**Dr. Gabriel Bastías**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



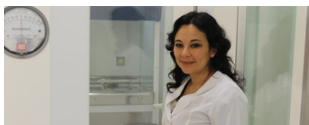
**Dr. Hernán Peñaloza**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Dr. Leandro Carreño**

Universidad de Chile



**Dr. Margarita Lay**

Universidad de Antofagasta



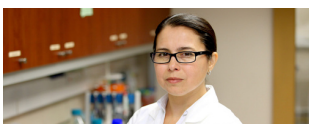
**Dr. Pablo González**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Dr. Sergio Godoy**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Dr. Susan Bueno**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

# Scientific Organizing Committee:

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**Omar Vallejos**

PhD(c), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Catalina Andrade**

PhD(c), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Abel Soto**

PhD(c), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Gerardo Ortiz**

PhD(c), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile



**Dr. Carolina Serrano**

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

# Program

## OCTOBER 1st

8:00 – 8:30

### Registration and Reception

Registration

8:30 – 10:00

### Welcome Remarks

Welcoming words from authorities, event organizers, the Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy, and Clinical-Molecular Biomedical Research Consortium.

## Investigation and Biomedical Transfer I (10:00–11:00)

10:00 – 10:30

### Dr. Pablo González

#### ***cGMP capacities in Chile for vaccine production.***

Associate Professor, School of Biological Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

10:30–11:00

### ANID–FOVI Sponsored Lecture: Dr. Alba Grifoni

#### ***Focusing on conserved immunogenic regions results in broad breath of beta-coronavirus virus T cell recognition.***

Research Assistant Professor, Center for Vaccine Innovation, La Jolla Institute for Immunology (LJI), San Diego, CA, USA.

11:00 – 11:30

## Coffee Break

## Investigation and Biomedical transfer II (11:30–13:00)

11:30 – 12:00

### Dr. Janet Lee

#### ***Stabilizing the Early Provisional Matrix in Lung Injury.***

Chief, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Selma and Herman Seldin Distinguished Professor in Medicine, Professor of Pathology and Immunology, Washington University, Saint Louis, MO, USA.

12:00–12:30

### Dr. Alejandro Bruhn

#### ***ePRONE: A randomized clinical trial of extended prone positioning in acute respiratory distress syndrome.***

Full Professor, Department of Intensive Medicine, Director of Research and Postgraduate, School of Medicine, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

12:30–13:00

### Dr. Waldo Cerpa

#### ***Faculty of Biological Sciences: Integrating Research and Teaching for the Training of People***

Associate Professor, Research and Planning Director, School of Biological Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

13:00 – 14:30

## Cocktail

# Program

## OCTOBER 1st

### Molecular Biomarkers of Health and Disease (14:30–16:15)

14:30 – 15:00

**Dr. Ferdinand von Meyenn**

***Epigenetic Clocks and how they record and predict your health.***

Assistant Professor. Lead of the Laboratory of Epigenetics, Nutrition and Metabolism, Department of Health Sciences and Technology (HEST), ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

15:00 – 15:30

**Dr. Claudia Riedel**

***Linking gestational hypothyroxinemia to inflammatory mechanisms: Implications for offspring health.***

Full Professor, Faculty of Biological Sciences and Faculty of Medicine, Universidad Andrés Bello. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

15:30 – 16:00

**Dr. Paz Reyes**

***Revolutionizing Flow Cytometry: Step into the Future of Science with BD FACSDiscover S8.***

Field Applications Specialist. BD LifeScience. Santiago, Chile.

16:00 – 16:15

**PhD Student Abel Soto**

***Role of pseudouridine synthase 7 over the replication cycle of HSV-1 in a neuronal cell line.***

PhD student in Biological Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

16:15 – 16:30

## Coffee Break

### Advances in critical care Immunology (16:30–18:00)

16:30 – 17:00

**Dr. Matthew Rosengart**

***A Light recipe to enhance circadian immunity in sepsis.***

Professor of Surgery, Section of Acute and Critical Care Surgery, Division of General Surgery, Washington University, Saint Louis, MO, USA.

17:00 – 17:30

**Dr. Flavio Salazar**

***From Neutrophils to T Cells: Mechanisms of Protective Immunity Induced by the TRIMELVax Melanoma Vaccine.***

Full Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile. Santiago, Chile.

17:30 – 18:00

**Dr. Leandro Carreño**

***NKT cell modulation for the treatment of inflammatory diseases.***

Associate Professor and Alternate Director, Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy Immunology Program, Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile. Santiago, Chile.

# Program

## OCTOBER 2nd

8:00 – 8:30

**Registration and Reception**  
Registration

### Scientific Communication Research (8:30–10:30)

8:30 – 9:00

**Dr. Claudia Lagos**  
*Ethics of care when thinking about communicating and reporting science, particularly vaccines.*  
Departamento de Comunicación Social, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile.

9:00 – 09:30

**MA. Macarena Rojas**  
*Inhabiting knowledge: Scientific communication as a situated and political practice.*  
Comunicación de la Ciencia, Periodismo & Medio Ambiente, Universidad Católica – Universidad San Sebastián.  
Presidenta ACHIPEC y Directora Ejecutiva EVE. Santiago, Chile.

09:30 – 10:00

**Greet Hendrickx and Emilie Karafillakis**  
*Vaccine confidence and communication.*  
Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination (CEV), Vaccinopolis, University of Antwerp. Antwerp, Belgium.

10:00 – 10:30

**Dr. Cristian Huepe**  
*Unveiling Vaccine-Related Narratives and Interactions in Social Media Networks.*  
Adjunct Professor, Northwestern University, Chicago, USA & SoL-UC Chile.

10:30 – 11:00

### Coffee Break

### Virology Insights (11:00–12:45)

11:00 – 11:30

**Dr. Marcelo López Lastra**  
*Subversion of host RNA-Binding proteins by viral mRNA; the role in protein synthesis.*  
Full Professor, Department of Infectious Diseases and Pediatric Immunology, School of Medicine, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

11:30 – 12:00

**ANID-FOVI Sponsored Lecture: Dr. Christiane Wobus**  
*Intestinal Organoids: A new frontier in studying enteric viruses.*  
Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Chair Institutional Biosafety Committee, University of Michigan, USA.

12:00 – 12:30

**Dr. Ricardo Soto-Rifo**  
*The complexity of immune activation during active HIV-1 replication in human microglia.*  
Full Professor, Instituto de Ciencias Biomédicas, Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

12:30 – 12:45

**PhD Student Gerardo Ortiz**  
*Role of Heat Shock Factor 1 in Herpes simplex virus infection.*  
PhD student in Biological Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

# Program

## OCTOBER 2nd

12:45 – 14:00

### Lunch Break

### Programa Ciencia Frontera (Frontier Science Program) (14:00–15:45)

14:00 – 14:30

**Dr. Hilde Harb.**

***Photodynamic Therapy – a light and oxygen-based strategy for the control of infection and cancer.***  
Assistant Professor, Facultad de Física, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

14:30 – 14:45

**PhD Student Catalina Andrade**

***IL-6 neutralization prevents blood-brain barrier permeability and behavioral alterations due to respiratory infection by the human metapneumovirus.***

PhD student in Biological Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

14:45 – 15:15

**Dr. Ignacio Bordeu**

***Self-organisation in living matter: from cells to organs.***

Assistant Professor, Departamento de Física, Facultad de Ciencias Físicas y Matemáticas, Universidad de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

15:15 – 15:45

**Dr. Hernán Peñaloza**

***Uncovering novel mechanisms that guide the production of IL-10 by lung neutrophils during acute pulmonary bacterial infection.***

Assistant Professor, Facultad de Ciencias Biológicas and Facultad de Medicina, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

15:45 – 16:00

### Coffee Break

### Viral Pathogenesis and Vaccines (16:00–18:30)

16:00 – 16:30

**VRI-Sponsored Lecture Dr. Nicholas Luckas**

***Early life Immunity: Viral Infections, Allergy, and Microbiome.***

Professor of Research Pathology, Scientific Director, Mary H. Weiser Food Allergy Center, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.

16:30 – 17:00

**Dra. Bárbara Pahud**

***The role of maternal vaccination and the research experience of RSVpreF and the hexavalent Group B Streptococcus vaccine.***

Director of Pfizer, USA.

17:00 – 17:30

**Dr. Mauricio Caballero**

***The Shifting Landscape of RSV Disease Among Children in Argentina.***

Director del Centro Infantil de Medicina Traslacional (CIMeT), Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

17:30 – 18:00

**Gabriela Olivares**

***Biopatents: Protection of inventions associated with living organisms through patents.***

Patent Specialist, Carey. Santiago, Chile.



# Program

OCTOBER 2nd

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18:00 – 18:30

**Dr. Mohammad Arabpour**

***SNA01 a Novel RSV-Neutralizing Antibody with Enhanced Resilience to Clinical Mutations.***

Strategic R&D Lead, Vaccines & Immunotherapy. Sinovac Life Science Co.

# Program

## OCTOBER 3rd

8:00 – 8:30

### Registration and Reception

Registration

### Bacterial pathogenesis (8:30–10:45)

8:30 – 9:00

**Dr. Eric Brown**

***Starving bacteria to find new antibiotics.***

Distinguished University Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences, McMaster University, Canada.

9:00 – 9:15

**PhD Student Omar Vallejos.**

***Role of Carbon Monoxide-Producing Probiotics in Reducing the Severity of Inflammatory and Infectious Diseases.***

PhD student in Biological Sciences, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

9:15 – 9:45

**Dr. Masanori Toyofuku**

***Explosive cell lysis as a mechanism for the biogenesis of bacterial membrane vesicles and biofilms.***

Associate Professor, Faculty of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan.

9:45 – 10:15

**Dr. Gerardo Cárcamo**

***Deciphering the Role of Human-Derived Extracellular DNA in Biofilm Formation and Antibiotic Tolerance of Pseudomonas aeruginosa.***

Assistant Professor, Facultad de Ciencias Biológicas and Facultad de Medicina, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Santiago, Chile.

10:15 – 10:45

**Dr. Doug Hinerfeld**

***Uncovering novel biomarkers with NULISA: an ultra-sensitive proteomics platform for profiling biofluid samples.***

Senior Director, Application Support. Alamar Biosciences, Fremont, CA, USA.

10:45 – 11:00

### Coffee Break

### (Mis) Communicating health issues (11:00–12:30)

11:00 – 11:15

***The IA-induced “pathological loop” and other communicational pathologies in health communication.***

Dr Sergio Godoy, School of Communications UC; Dr Miguel A. Carrasco, Co- Researcher “Google vs. Doctor” Project UC/UACH; Dr Gabriel Bastias, School of Public Health UC.

11:15 – 11:30

***How accurate is the portrayal of physicians in the media?***

Isabel Mora, Coordinadora del área de Extensión del Departamento de Medicina Familiar, Escuela de Medicina UC. Rayén Condeza, Facultad de Comunicaciones UC.

Jorge López, Departamento de Medicina Familiar, Escuela de Medicina UC.

11:30 – 11:45

**PhD Student Alexis Cruz**

***Promoting trust in vaccination: the case of S-VR.***

PhD student in Communications, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Millennium Institute on Immunology and Immunotherapy. Santiago, Chile.

# Program

OCTOBER 3rd

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11:45 – 12:30

**Q & A**

12:30

**Closing remarks and Cocktail**