The 3rd EFIS Forum on innate immunity in Sterile Inflammation, Autoimmunity, and their Resolution (iiSIAR)

Welcome to Vilnius

May 11-13, 2026 | Hilton Garden Inn, Vilnius, Lithuania

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

DAY 1 (Monday, May 11)

11:00-13:00 ***Registration, welcome coffee***

13:00-14:00 **Plenary session 1**
Key Effectors in the Resolution of Inflammation
Chairs - Amiram Ariel and Adriano Rossi

13:00-13:30 Annexin A1: from the control of neutrophil reactivity to a pro-resolving therapy in Phase II
Mauro Perretti (London, UK)

13:30-14:00 Role of MS4A tetraspans in macrophage activation.
Massimo Locati (Milan, Italy)

14:00-15:55 **Session 1**
Innate Immunity in Sterile Inflammation
Chairs - Amiram Ariel and Adriano Rossi

14:00-14:20 The BiST of Burden: Harnessing biased STING agonists to enhance the resolution of inflammation and limit tissue fibrosis
Amiram Ariel (Haifa, Israel)

14:20-14:40 Eyes that tell stories: visualising inflammation in the zebrafish eye
Adriano Rossi (Edinburg, UK)

14:40-14:55 Extracellular succinate as a novel DAMP-like signal in the central nervous system that regulates microglial inflammatory and mitochondrial responses
Andis Klegeris (UBC, Canada)

14:55-15:25 ***Coffee break***

15:25-15:40 Macrophages rescue cells from ferroptotic death
Jacob Rachmilewitz (Jerusalem, Israel)

15:40-15:55 Uncoupling Mitochondria and Bacteria-Induced NETosis by selective FPR1 agonism
Emil Becka (Bratislava, Slovakia)

15:55-17:45 **Plenary session 2**
Key Effectors in Immunity of Cancer
Chairs - Jo Van Gindreachter and Sven Brandau

15:55-16:25	Metabolic and epigenetic control of cancer immunity *Massimiliano Mazzone (Leuven, Belgium)*
16:25-16:45	Depleting IL1R2+ tumor-infiltrating regulatory T cells with an ADCC-prone nanobody construct boosts the efficacy of anti-PD-1 immunotherapy. *Jo Van Ginderachter (Brussels, Belgium)*
16:45-17:00	TAM reprogramming with CD5L blockade overcomes chemotherapy resistance *Rodney Macedo Gonzales (Badalona, Spain)*
17:00-17:15	The innate immune receptor Formyl Peptide Receptor 1 exploits the cholesterol biosynthetic machinery to sustain resolution of inflammation in gastric cancer cells *Nella Prevete (Naples, Italy)*
17:15-17:30	A combined experimental–computational platform to characterize the dynamics of tumor-macrophage cell interaction using 3D cultures *Qiaoling Ye (Badalona, Spain)*
17:30-17:45	Soluble PD-1/PD-L1 as biomarkers in prostate cancer: innate immune landscape, potential cellular contributors, and clinical utility *Margarita Žvirblė (Vilnius, Lithuania)*

17:45-18:30 **Flash talks (3 min each)**

18:30-18:45 **The update on iiSIAR activities.**
Amiram Ariel (Haifa, Israel)

19:00-22:00 ***Welcome reception***
(restaurant Neringa, Gedimino av. 23)

DAY 2 (Tuesday, May 12)

9:00-11:00 **Session 2**
Innate Immunity in Autoimmunity
Chairs - Zeinab Abdullah and Marzena Garley

9:00-9:30 Type 1 IFN autoantibodies in autoimmunity
Pärt Peterson (Tartu, Estonia)

9:30-9:50 Intranasal immunotherapy with Fc-fused antigens for the treatment of type 1 diabetes and allergy
Sylvaine You (Paris, France)

9:50-10:10 It takes two TLRs to drive autoimmunity in HIV
Zeinab Abdullah (Bonn, Germany)

10:10-10:30 From defense to dysregulation: The pleiotropic role of neutrophils in autoimmunity
Marzena Garley (Bialystok, Poland)

10:30-10:45 Spatially-resolved functional maps of synovial macrophages and structural cells in remission and arthritis
Janine Lueckgen (Ljubljana, Slovenia)

10:45-11:00 Targeting extracellular traps with CIT-013: Linking ET inhibition, immune cell reprogramming, and therapeutic potential in rheumatoid arthritis
Annemarie Kip (Cytril, Netherlands)

11:00-11:30 ***Coffee break***

11:30-13:00 **SBL Mini-symposium 1**
Neutrophils in Innate Immunity
Chairs - Elodie Segura and Tal Burstyn-Cohen

11:30-12:00 Advancing our knowledge on human immunosuppressive neutrophils
Marco Cassatella (Verona, Italy)

12:00-12:30 Targeting the cytosolic scaffold of PCNA (Proliferating Cell Nuclear Antigen) in neutrophils to promote the resolution of inflammation
Veronique Witko-Sarsat (Paris, France)

12:30-13:00 Intratumoral biology of neutrophils
Sven Brandau (Essen, Germany)

13:00-14:00 ***Lunch (Hilton Garden Inn)***

14:00-15:30 **IRA Mini-symposium**
Therapeutic Targets in Acute and Chronic Inflammatory Memory
Chairs – Veronique Witko-Sarsat and Marco Casatella

14:00-14:30 Innate immune exhaustion and rejuvenation in the treatment of disease
Liwu Li (Virginia Tech, VA, USA)

14:30-15:00 Targeting eNAMPT/TLR4 signaling to modulate persistent innate immunity dysregulation in the lung
Joe "Skip" Garcia (UF Scripps, FL, USA)

15:00-15:30 The Galectin-3 Dichotomy in Macrophages: From Secreted Pro-atherogenic Mediator to Intracellular Guardian of Lysosomal Function
Babak Razani (Pittsburg, PA, USA)

15:30-16:00 ***Coffee break***

16:00-17:05 **Session 3**
Innate Immunity and metabolism
Chairs - Annabel Valledor-Fernandez and Sylvaine You

16:00-16:20 The pathway in immune regulation: novel insights from the LXR-CD38 axis
Annabel Valledor-Fernandez (Barcelona, Spain)

16:20-16:35 Immune stimulation can change the phenotype and function of hematopoietic stem cells
Roi Gazit (Be'er Sheva, Israel)

16:35-16:50 Neutrophils and NETs induce a pro-inflammatory and matrix-degrading phenotype in cardiac fibroblasts
Razvan Macarie (Bucharest, Romania)

16:50-17:05 CD5L inhibition drives metabolic and immune reprogramming of human macrophages
Jana Vázquez (Badalona, Spain)

17:05-17:35 **Plenary session 3**
Innate immune development
Chairs - Annabel Valledor-Fernandez and Sylvaine You

17:05-17:35 Transcriptional control of the macrophage repair program
Elodie Segura (Paris, France)

17:35-18:00 **Flash talks (3 min each)**

18:00-20:00 ***Guided tour to Vilnius University courtyards, the bell tower of St.John's church and the Old-town***

20:00-22:00 ***Meeting dinner (Hilton Garden Inn)***

DAY 3 (Wednesday, May 13)

9:00-10:00 **Plenary Session 4**
Innate Immunity in Precision Medicine
Chairs - Maciej Kurpisz and Janusz Marcinkiewicz

9:00-9:30 *Eicosanoid Research Foundation speaker- Valerio Chiurchiu (Rome, Italy)*

9:30-10:00 Innate Immune Checkpoints Revisited: Alternative Splicing, Novel Targets and the Glycan Dimension
Angel Porgador (Be'er Sheva, Israel)

10:00-11:10 **Session 4**
Innate Immunity in the Clinic
Chairs - Maciej Kurpisz and Janusz Marcinkiewicz

10:00-10:20 Local cytokine network and its implication in male reproductive failure
Maciej Kurpisz (Poznan, Poland)

10:20-10:40 Macrophages: sentinels, guardians, soldiers, and saboteurs of the immune system
Janusz Marcinkiewicz (Krakow, Poland)

10:40-10:55 Dysregulated immunometabolism in SLE neutrophils is reversible with anifrolumab therapy
Gina Leisching (Dublin, Ireland)

10:55-11:10 Neutrophils and monocytes research parameters as initial evaluation of innate immune response in common variable immunodeficiency (CVID) and hypogammaglobulinemia.
Elżbieta Rutkowska (Warsaw, Poland)

11:10-11:55 ***Coffee break***

11:55-14:40 **Session 5**
The Future of Innate Immunity (short talks)
Chairs – Angel Porgador and Valerio Chiurchiu

11:55-12:10 Toll-like receptor 9 activation contributes to Alzheimer`s disease pathology
Bénédicte Manoury (Paris, France)

12:10-12:25 Reframing neurodegeneration: Protein aggregation as a maladaptive antimicrobial response
Esther Silberberg (Jerusalem, Israel)

12:25-12:40 CRISPR-Cas9 screening in human iPSC-derived microglia identifies novel drivers of microglial health and CNS disease susceptibility
Larisa Janzic (Ljubljana, Slovenia)

12:40-12:55 Targeted delivery of specialized pro-resolving mediators reduces atherosclerosis and induces durable innate immune reprogramming
Maria Anghelache (Bucharest, Romania)

12:55-13:10 Impaired resolution of LPS-induced endothelial dysfunction: role of GPR18 receptor and systemic inflammatory response
Barbara Sitek (Krakow, Poland)

13:10-13:25 Neutrophil extracellular traps promote a pro-resolving macrophage phenotype characterized by inflammasome suppression and enhanced phagocytosis
Miruna Larisa Naie (Bucharest, Romania)

13:25-13:40	Can computational flow cytometry reveal specific immune resolution signatures during the resolution of intestinal inflammation? *Javier Conde Aranda (Santiago de Compostela, Spain)*
13:40-13:55	Tumor antigen presentation defects: Impact on immunotherapy response and strategies for pharmacologic modulation in preclinical models *Karolina Suveizdė (Vilnius, Lithuania)*
13:55-14:10	Fibronectin-targeted nanoparticles mediate accumulation of HSP90 inhibitors in the fibrotic heart with possible neutrophil contribution *Geanina Voicu (Bucharest, Romania)*
14:10-14:25	An image is worth a thousand words: Machine learning-assisted quantification of lung fibrosis *Shahar Levy (Haifa, Israel)*
14:25-14:40	Bioethical aspects of the development process of innate immunity *Serghei Sprincean (Chisinau, Moldova)*
14:40-16:15	***ySG - National coordinators lunch (Hilton Garden Inn)*** ***Lunch on your own for others***
16:15-16:55	**Joint iiSIAR-EU-RESOLVE presentation** PROS1-TAM Signalling in Microglia Regulate Microglia Development, Homeostasis and Sterile Inflammation *Tal Burstyn-Cohen (Jerusalem, Israel)*
16:55-17:10	**Closing remarks**
17:10	***Meeting departure***

FLASH TALKS (3 min each)

DAY 1 (Monday, May 11)
17:45-18:30

Chairs – Aurelija Žvirblienė and Martynas Simanavičius

Effects of plant-derived antioxidants and PUFAs on functional recovery following spinal cord injury in zebrafish	*Viktorija Povilionytė*
miR-210 modulates human macrophage innate immune response in sterile inflammation following myocardial infarction	*Cristina-Andreea Mihaila*
Nucleolin-targeted liposomes improve tumor delivery of dexamethasone and promote selective immunomodulation	*Delia Boteanu*
Donor baseline transcriptomic state shapes dendritic cell reprogramming across ovarian tumor immune subtypes	*Emiljia Paberalė*
Dietary prebiotic intervention modulates high-fat diet-associated microglial morphological alterations in aged mice	*Urtė Minkevičiūtė*
Innate Immune Responses to Acinetobacter baumannii: Modulation of Neutrophil Migration and NETosis	*Danas Ivanauskas*
Immune Signatures in Unexplained Infertility: A Precision Medicine Approach Using Peripheral Blood Cytometry	*Gabija Didžiokaitė*
miR-146a-5p Links Innate Immune Signaling to Mitochondrial and Metabolic Regulation in Neural Cells	*Greta Bertašiūtė*
Nonclassical Monocyte Depletion as an Indicator of Disturbed Innate Immune Response in Sarcoidosis and COVID-19	*Agata Raniszewska-Borys*
IFN-β and ACKR2 Modulate Tissue Fibrosis and Corresponding Macrophage Subsets in Early CCl_4-Induced Liver Injury	*Priya Goswami*

Dissecting Platelet-Activating Factor Signalling in Microbial Keratitis Using a Zebrafish Corneal Injury Model	*Kelvin KW Cheng*

DAY 2 (Tuesday, May 12)
17:35-18:00

Chairs – Aurelija Žvirblienė and Martynas Simanavičius

Flow Cytometric Comparison of Different Human Myeloid Cell Enrichment Strategies	*Simona Malmigė*
Association between the IFN-γ/IL-4 ratio in saliva and self-reported health status and factors affecting it in patients with Sjogren's disease	*Vilius Kontenis*
Characterization and application of monoclonal antibodies to human Calnexin	*Meda Pakėnaitė*
Molecular mechanisms of endometriosis: The involvement of endoplasmic reticulum aminopeptidases 1/2 (ERAP1/ERAP2) and cysteinyl aminopeptidase (LNPEP) in disease susceptibility and severity	*Patrycja Bochen*
Development and validation of sensitive immunoassays to quantify human serum C-reactive protein	*Ghodke Tanhaji Sandu*
Clinical case of Nijmegen breakage syndrome: diagnostic challenges in early infancy	*Nataliia Ipatii*
Investigation of Potential Biomarkers Predicting Acute or Chronic Progression of Inflammatory Diseases	*Mantė Butkevičiūtė*