International Workshop on
ENDOCANNABINOIDS
IN ENDOCRINOLOGY,
METABOLISM AND
CARDIOVASCULAR
DISEASES
Scientific background and
clinical perspectives

Padua (Italy), July 5TH-7TH, 2007

Aula Magna “Galileo Galilei”
Palazzo del Bo’
University of Padua

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
SIO  Italian Society of Obesity
SIE  Italian Society of Endocrinology
SID  Italian Society of Diabetes
SIC  Italian Society of Cardiology
SIMI Italian Society of Internal Medicine
SISA Italian Society for the Study of
Atherosclerosis
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www.sio-triveneto.it/endocannabinoids.html
Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to welcome you to Padua for the International workshop on “Endocannabinoids in Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases”.

The workshop is organized by the Universities of Bologna and Padua which established the first example of Gymnasion Omnium Disciplinarum - an educational model that can now be seen all over the world. Padua University was founded in 1222, when a number of professors and students left the University of Bologna in search of greater “academic freedom”. The origin of students and teachers - together with the similarities in their Statutes - reveal that Padua placed a certain importance on this link with Bologna, the oldest university in the world.

The research on endogenous cannabinoids of the last 15 years has opened promising scenarios for the therapeutic use of drugs modulating endocannabinoid-related mechanisms in many disorders. The meeting will focus on the multiple physiological functions of the endocannabinoid system that are just beginning to be fully appreciated.

The workshop brings together scientists to present and discuss the most recent cutting-edge findings related to the role of endogenous cannabinoids in the regulation of energy metabolism, their influence on endocrine axes and on cardiovascular function and disorders.

The endocannabinoid system plays a major role in controlling energy balance, possibly targeting the central mechanism and a variety of peripheral organs. The endocannabinoid system is also involved in immune control, neuroprotection, regulation of blood pressure and cardiac function, dependence on alcohol, and liver lipid metabolism. Each of these functions may be a target with potential therapeutic implications. In addition, recent pharmacological advances point out that our understanding of this system is far from being complete. Updating our knowledge will pave the way to designing innovative molecules for targeting major disease.

We have done our best to offer high quality lectures and research reports ranging from basic sciences to clinical and patient-oriented research. The stimulating environment of one of the world’s most ancient Universities will generate fruitful discussions between established leaders in this field and young scientists.

By coming to the International Workshop on “Endocannabinoids in Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases” in Padua you will enjoy not only the qualified scientific programme, but also the numerous attractions that Padua offers in a stimulating environment that combines art and science, modernity and tradition.

A warm welcome in Padua.

Roberto Vettor Renato Pasquali

PRESENTATION
12:30 Registration

13:00 Lunch

14:00 WELCOME ADDRESS
   Chairman:
   R. Vettor - Italy

OPENING LECTURE
Present and future of research on endocannabinoids
R. Mechoulam - Israel

ENDOCANNABINOIDs: FROM STRUCTURE TO FUNCTION
Chairmen:
M. Carruba - Italy
G. Enzi - Italy
Discussant:
A. Catapano - Italy

14:45 Endogenous cannabinoids: structure and metabolism
   T. Bisogno - Italy

15:25 The cannabinoid receptors
   K. Mackie - USA

16:05 New cannabinoid compounds
   A. Leon - Italy

16:45 Coffe Break

ENDOCANNABINoids IN ENDOCRINOLOGY (I)
Chairmen:
F. Mantero - Italy
A. Colao - Italy
Discussants:
G. Forti - Italy
M. Maggi - Italy

17:00 Central and peripheral regulation of the endocannabinoid system within
   the framework of energy metabolism
   V. Di Marzo - Italy

17:40 Endocannabinoids, hormone-cytokine networks and human fertility
   M. Maccarrone - Italy

18:20 Endocannabinoids and male reproductive function
   M. Rossato - Italy

19:00 Closing remarks

Thursday, July 5th, 2007
**ENDOCANNABINOIDS IN ENDOCRINOLOGY (II)**

Chairmen:
R. Pasquali - Italy  
C. M. Rotella - Italy  

Discussants:
E. Arvat - Italy  
M. Boscaro - Italy  

8:30 The role of endocannabinoids in the first periods of life  
E. Fride - Israel  

9:10 Endocannabinoids and the HPA  
D. Cota - USA  

9:50 Endocannabinoids and the regulation of bone metabolism  
I. Bab - Israel  

10:30 Coffee Break  

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**ENDOCANNABINOIDS AND METABOLIC REGULATION**

Chairmen:
M. Muggeo - Italy  
S. Del Prato - Italy  

Discussant:
A. Avogaro - Italy  

10:50 The cannabinoid system and insulin sensitivity  
R. Nogueiras - USA  

11:30 Endocannabinoids in the control of adipocyte and beta-cell function  
I. Matias - Italy  

12:10 Endocannabinoids and liver diseases  
P. Caraceni - Italy  

12:50 Effect of CB1 antagonists poorly penetrating the blood-brain barrier  
F. Rodriguez de Fonseca - Spain  

13:30 Lunch  

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Friday, July 6th, 2007
ENDOCANNABINOIDS AND OBESITY (I)
Chairmen:
F. Rohner-Jeanrenaud - Switzerland
V. Di Marzo - Italy
Discussants:
E. Nisoli - Italy
G. De Pergola - Italy

15:00 Endocannabinoids and nutrition
H. Hansen - Denmark

15:40 The endocannabinoid system in the physiology and pathophysiology of the gastrointestinal tract: focus on feeding behaviour
A. Izzo - Italy

16:20 How CB1 ko mice may help to understand the role of endocannabinoids in the regulation of metabolism and food intake
U. Pagotto - Italy

17:00 Coffee Break

ENDOCANNABINOIDS AND OBESITY (II)
Chairmen:
A. Tiengo - Italy
S. Cinti - Italy
Discussant:
F. Santini - Italy

17:20 Endocannabinoids and the regulation of adipose tissue function in humans
C. Pagano - Italy

18:00 Dysregulation of the peripheral and adipose tissue endocannabinoid system in human abdominal obesity
S. Engeli - Germany

18:40 CB1 blockade and its impact on cardiometabolic risk factors
A. Scheen - Belgium

19:20 Closing remarks
ENOCANNABINOIDS IN INFLAMMATION AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (I)
Chairmen:
S. Iliceto - Italy
E. Agabiti Rosei - Italy
Discussants:
A. Zambon - Italy
F. Di Virgilio - Italy
8:30 Endocannabinoids and the immune system
O. Ullrich - Germany
9:00 Cannabimimetic control of mast cell mediator release: new perspectives in chronic inflammation
T. Iuvone - Italy
9:30 Endocannabinoids in atherosclerosis
S. Steffens - Switzerland
10:00 Endocannabinoids and the heart
R. Sarzani - Italy
10:30 Coffee Break

ENOCANNABINOIDS IN INFLAMMATION AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (II)
Chairmen:
E. Mannarino - Italy
A. Mezzetti - Italy
Discussant:
L. Sechi - Italy
10:50 Endocannabinoids and the cardiovascular system
S. Batkai - USA
11:25 Effect of rimonabant on blood pressure: evidence from clinical trials
G. Grassi - Italy
12:00 ROUND TABLE
THE FUTURE OF ECS IN ENDOCRINOLOGY, METABOLISM AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE: THE EFFICACY/SAFETY BENEFITS OF CB1 BLOCKADE IN PATIENTS
Participants: A. Scheen - Belgium, G. Grassi - Italy, U. Pagotto - Italy, R. Pasquali - Italy
13:00 Closing remarks
R. Vettor - Italy
R. Pasquali - Italy
13:30 Lunch
E. AGABITI-ROSEI
Dept. of Medical and Surgical Sciences,
University of Brescia - Italy

E. ARVAT
Dept. of Internal Medicine,
University of Turin - Italy

A. AVOGARO
Dept. of Clinical and Experimental
Medicine, University of Padua - Italy

I. BAB
Bone Laboratory,
Hebrew University of Jerusalem - Israel

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National Inst. of Health, Laboratory of
Physiologic Studies, Bethesda - USA

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Metabolic Diseases, University of
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Endocrinology, Polytechnic University of
Marche - Italy

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University of Verona - Italy

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University of Bologna - Italy

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Research on Obesity,
University of Milan - Italy

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University of Milan - Italy

S. CINTI
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Anatomy, University of Ancona - Italy

A. COLAO
Dept. of Molecular and Clinical
Endocrinology and Oncology, Section of
Endocrinology, University of Naples
‘Federico II’ - Italy

D. COTA
Dept. of Psychiatry,
University of Cincinnati - USA

S. DEL PRATO
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University of Pisa - Italy

G. DE PERGOLA
Dept. of Emergency and Organ
Transplantation, Internal Medicine,
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University of Bari - Italy

J.P. DESPRES
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Research Centre, Quebec - Canada

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Pozzuoli, Naples - Italy

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Medicine, Section of General Pathology,
University of Ferrara - Italy

S. ENGELI
Franz Volhard Clinical Research Center,
University Clinic Charite Campus Buch,
Humboldt University of Berlin - Germany

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Dept. of Medical and Surgical Sciences,
University of Padua - Italy

FACULTY
G. FEDERSPIl
Dept. of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Internal Medicine, University of Padua - Italy

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Dept. of Clinical Pathophysiology, University of Florence - Italy

E. FRIDE
Dept. of Behavioural Sciences, College of Judea and Samaria, Ariel - Israel

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Dept. of Clinical Medicine and Prevention, University of Milano-Bicocca - Italy

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Dept. of Biopathology and Internal Medicine, University of Rome - Tor Vergata - Italy

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Research & Innovation, Padua - Italy

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Biomedical Dept. of Internal and Specialistic Medicine, University of Palermo - Italy

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Dept. of Clinical Pathophysiology, University of Florence - Italy

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R. NOGUEIRAS  
Dept. of Psychiatry, Genome Research Institute, University of Cincinnati - USA

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Fundacion IMABIS, Neuropharmacology, Hospital Carlos Haya, Malaga - Spain

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Dept. of Internal Medicine, Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease Section, University of Ancona - Italy

A. SCHEEN  
Dept. of Medicine, Division of Diabetes, Nutrition and Metabolic Disorders and Division of Clinical Pharmacology, University of Liege - Belgium

L. SECHI  
Dept. of Internal Medicine, University of Udine - Italy

S. STEFFENS  
Dept. of Medicine, Division of Cardiology, University of Geneva - Switzerland

L. TAVAZZI  
Dept. of Cardiology, IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo, Pavia - Italy

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Dept. of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, University of Padua - Italy

O. ULLRICH  
Inst. of Immunology, University of Magdeburg - Germany

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Dept. of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Endocrine-Metabolic Lab, University of Padua - Italy

R. VIGNERI  
Dept. of Internal and Specialistic Medicine, Division of Endocrinology University of Catania - Italy

A. ZAMBON  
Dept. of Medical and Surgical Sciences, University of Padua - Italy
CME CREDIT
The International Workshop on “Endocannabinoids in Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases” has been accredited by the C.M.E. Regional Health System for the following professionals:
- Medical doctor, 7 C.M.E. credits
- Biologist, 7 C.M.E. credits

Participants are asked to fill in the questionnaire and return it to the Workshop Secretariat (registration desk) when they collect their certificate of attendance.

FACULTY
For Invited Speakers, Chairmen and Discussants, a dedicated counter will be located in the Workshop Secretariat area.

SLIDE PREVIEW ROOM
The slide preview room will be located in the “Sala della Basilica”, Palazzo del Bo’.

All Workshop Speakers should hand in their presentation (on CD, disk, USB memory device) to the slide preview room at least two hours before the scheduled time of their presentation.
WORKSHOP VENUE
The International Workshop on “Endocannabinoids in Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases” will be held from Thursday, July 5th to Saturday, July 7th, 2007 at the Aula Magna “Galileo Galilei”, Palazzo del Bo’, University of Padua.

Address:  
Palazzo del Bo’ - University of Padua  
Via VIII Febbraio 1848, 2 – 35122 Padua  
www.unipd.it

LANGUAGE
The official language of the Workshop will be English.

OPENING SCHEDULE
Thursday, July 5th
Registration 12:30 - 14:00  
Working sessions 14:00 - 19:00

Friday, July 6th
Working sessions 08:30 - 19:20

Saturday, July 7th
Working sessions 08:30 - 13:00

REGISTRATION
Participation at the International Workshop on “Endocannabinoids in Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular diseases” is on invitation only.
Confirmation of participation will be provided only via e-mail to the address indicated and should be exhibited at the registration desk on the first day of the Workshop.

BADGES
Registration badges will be required for admission to all Workshop functions and scientific sessions.

Badge colour code:  
Delegates: BLUE  
Faculty: RED

INSURANCE
The Organizers of the International Workshop on “Endocannabinoids in Endocrinology, Metabolism and Cardiovascular diseases” do not accept liability for any injury, loss or damage, arising from accidents or other situations during, or as a consequence of the Workshop. Participants are therefore advised to arrange for health and accident insurance prior to travelling to the Workshop.

GENERAL INFORMATION
HOW TO REACH PADUA AND THE WORKSHOP VENUE

By plane
The nearest airport is the Venice International Airport “Marco Polo” (www.veniceairport.it) located 30 km from Padua and connected to several destinations by direct flights. Intercontinental flights connect via Rome, Milan or other European gateways.

Assistance: coinciding with your flight arrival time, you will find our hostess at the “ARRIVALS” hall who will take care of your transfer.

By train
“Padova” Railway Station on the train line Milan-Venice and Bologna-Venice. There are several daily connections. Trenitalia web site: www.trenitalia.it

By car
- Motorway A4 Milan-Venice exit “Padova-Est”
- Motorway A13 Bologna-Venice exit “Padova-Sud”
Follow traffic signal to “Padova Centro”
TRANSFER SERVICE
The Organizing Secretariat will provide the following private transfer services:

Airport:
- From Venice International Airport “Marco Polo”
  A private shuttle taxi will be provided: it will take you directly to the Padua’s assigned Hotel.

Railway station:
- From Padua Railway Station
  A private shuttle taxi will be provided: it will take you directly to the assigned Hotel.

Hotels/Workshop venue:
All selected Hotels are situated at walking distance from the Workshop venue. Therefore no shuttle service will be necessary.
An hospitality desk will be set up at the reception hall of each selected Hotel (Thursday 5th of July from 10.00 to 13.00 – from 19.30 to 21.30 / Friday 6th of July from 19.30 to 21.00 / Saturday 7th of July from 13.00 to 16.00). Each participant will be given assistance in order to find the Palazzo del Bo’ independently.

CLIMATE
The climate in July in Padua is usually hot. We would advise you to bring light clothing!

SMOKING POLICY
In adherence to Italian Law, smoking in public facilities is prohibited.

HOTEL ACCOMODATION
The Organizing Secretariat has foreseen Hotel accommodation in four star Hotels situated in the historical center of Padua, walking distance from the Workshop venue.

HISTORICAL CENTRE OF PADUA

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GENERAL INFORMATION
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