

“Towards an HIV Cure”  
Press Conference  
26 July 2012

# Speaker Biographies

# Asier Saez-Cirion

Assistant Professor at the Regulation of Retroviral Infections at Institut Pasteur and co-president of the French National Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis (ANRS) coordinated action AC32 “HIV reservoirs”. My work is currently focused on understanding natural mechanisms associated to control of HIV/SIV infection and progression to AIDS. I study the role of intrinsic and adaptive immunity and the impact of viral reservoirs in different models of spontaneous or induced control of viremia in the absence of antiretroviral therapy.

# Dan Kuritzkes

Daniel R. Kuritzkes, MD received his BS and MS degrees in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry from Yale University, and his MD from Harvard Medical School. He completed his clinical and research training in internal medicine and infectious disease at Massachusetts General Hospital, and was a visiting scientist at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research before joining the faculty at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Dr. Kuritzkes returned to Harvard Medical School in 2002, where he is Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of Infectious Diseases at Brigham & Women's Hospital.

Dr. Kuritzkes has published more than 250 research articles, reviews and book chapters on antiretroviral therapy and drug resistance in HIV-1 infection. He has chaired several multicenter studies of HIV therapy and is a member of the Department of Health and Human Services panel on guidelines for antiretroviral therapy. He has served on numerous NIH committees and editorial boards, and previously served as Chair of the HIV Medicine Association Board of Directors. He currently serves as Principal Investigator and Chair of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group, and as an Associate Editor of the Journal of Infectious Diseases. His research interests focus on antiretroviral therapy, drug resistance and HIV eradication.

# David Margolis

A professor of Medicine, Microbiology & Immunology, and Epidemiology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A graduate of Tufts University School of Medicine, he trained in medicine at the New England Medical Center, infectious diseases at the NIAID, and did post-doctoral research in the regulation of HIV gene expression at the University of Massachusetts Program in Molecular Medicine. His laboratory studies interactions between HIV and the host cell on the molecular level, with an eye to use these insights to improve the treatment of HIV infection, and the management of the HIV pandemic. Current work focuses on the molecular mechanisms that control the latent reservoir of HIV infection within resting T cells. The group has described selected members of the family of chromatin modifying enzymes, histone deacetylases, that act at the proviral promoter to enforce latency. The laboratory is attempting to test novel reagents that perturb latency in T cells obtained from HIV+ patients, followed by clinical experiments that attempt to deplete persistent HIV infection in small, proof-of-concept studies. Dr. Margolis is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Virology* and *AIDS*, and a member of the International AIDS Society, and the American Society of Clinical Investigation, and a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the Infectious Diseases Society of America.

# Françoise Barré-Sinoussi

*PhD, Professor at the Institut Pasteur, Research Director at the INSERM, France Nobel Prize of Medicine 2008*

Françoise BARRÉ-SINOUSSE, PhD, is the acting Director of the "Regulation of Retroviral Infections" Unit in the Department of Virology at the Institut Pasteur in Paris. She is involved in retrovirology research, since the early 1970's. She is recognized for her contributions to HIV/AIDS research, in particular as the first author of the publication that reported in 1983 the discovery of the cause of AIDS, a retrovirus, later named HIV. In 1988, she became responsible of her own laboratory at the Institut Pasteur and initiated research programs on viral and host determinants of HIV/AIDS pathogenesis. She has also been implicated in collaborative programs on HIV vaccine research, using primate models. Today, the research programs of her team are focused on mechanisms required to protect against HIV/SIV infections and/or against early pathogenic signals induced by HIV/SIV (regulation of viral replication and/or regulation of harmful T cell activation, in particular by components of the innate immunity).

Françoise Barré-Sinoussi has been strongly implicated in promoting integration between HIV/AIDS research and actions in resource limited countries, in particular through the Institute Pasteur International Network and the coordination of the ANRS research programs in Cambodia and Vietnam, according to her strong commitment in building capacity, training and technology transfers on site in Africa and Asia. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi is author and co-author of 270 original publications and of more than 120 articles in book reviews. She has been invited as a speaker more than 270 International meetings and/or conferences. Françoise Barré-Sinoussi has been (and is still) member of a number of French or international scientific committees and societies, including scientific committees of several International AIDS Conferences. In June 2006, Françoise Barré-Sinoussi was elected as an IAS Governing Council member in the European Region. Through her career, she received more than 10 national or international awards, including the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2008 together with Prof. Luc Montagnier for her contributions to HIV/AIDS. She was also awarded Doctor honoris causa of a number of universities. In february 2009 she was elected member of the French Academy of Science. She will be the next President of the IAS starting from July 2012.

# Sharon Lewin

Sharon Lewin is an infectious diseases physician and basic scientist.

She is Director of the Infectious Diseases Unit at The Alfred Hospital; Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Monash University; co-head of the Centre for Virology, Burnet Institute, Melbourne, Australia and an NHMRC practitioner fellow.

She is a past president of the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine; a member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmitted Infections, the peak advisory body to the Australian government on blood borne viruses; and a member of the International AIDS Society (IAS) international working group currently developing a global scientific strategy for HIV cure research.

Her laboratory focuses on understanding how HIV persists in patients on antiviral therapy, strategies to cure HIV infection and biological determinants of immune recovery following antiviral therapy.

# Steven Deeks

Steven G. Deeks, MD, is a Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. Dr. Deeks has been engaged in HIV research and clinical care since 1993. He is a recognized expert on the role of chronic inflammation in untreated and treated HIV disease. Dr. Deeks co-directs a large ongoing cohort study aimed at defining the immunopathogenesis of HIV (the SCOPE study), and routinely uses information obtained from this cohort to develop focused interventional studies aimed at either reversing HIV-associated inflammation or at accelerating the decay of the virus reservoir. He has published over 250 peer-review articles, editorials and reviews on these and related topics. He has been the recipient of several NIH grants, and is a PI of a multinational effort aimed at developing therapeutic interventions to cure HIV infection (the Martin Delaney Collaboration). He is a member of the Department on Health and Human Services Panel on Antiretroviral Guidelines for Adults and Adolescents and the NIH Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council. He co-chairs the International AIDS Society Working Group for a Global Scientific Strategy “Towards an HIV Cure”. He is also a member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). In addition to his clinical and translational investigation, Dr. Deeks maintains a primary care clinic for HIV infected adults.