

WELCOME ADDRESS

Welcome Address for the 19th Annual Congress of the German Transplantation Society (*Deutsche Transplantationsgesellschaft, DTG*) in Hamburg 2010

It is a great pleasure to welcome members and guests of the 19th annual meeting of the DTG 2010 to Hamburg.

The DTG-congress is undoubtedly the foremost scientific and educational event in the fields of basic and clinical transplantation in Germany. The theme of this year's meeting is "**Joint Action in Transplantation**". Transplant surgeons are important members of the team together with all the various subspecialties of physicians who are involved in the care of transplant patients. Furthermore, could any transplant program run without the work and attentiveness of nurse coordinators, and recent lab work attempting to unravel the secrets of humoral responses to the graft, immunologic tolerance, drug development, or opportunistic infections?

This year, the DTG is featuring several new and exciting programs, while preserving the successful format of previous years. The theme for this annual meeting of the DTG is "**Improving outcome of organ transplantation in the sensitized patient**".

Recognizing the need for focused coverage of "hot" topics in transplant medicine, we proudly offer a new feature, an expanded "**Master Class**" with five sessions covering important actual issues of transplantation medicine specially dedicated to medical education for young researchers, residents, fellows and leaders in the field to

learn, listen and discuss the latest developments in areas of transplantation.

Thursday will begin with a **plenary State-of-the-Art lecture** given by Professor Paul Terasaki from UCLA dedicated to his lifelong experience with the humoral antibody response in transplantation.

Also, the newly designed "**Industry Symposia**" will offer the opportunity to learn about the latest trends in immunosuppression and pipeline products. These symposia will be held either at breakfast or lunch time and will add extra time for discussion and exchange in the scientific meetings and poster viewings.

The DTG-meeting is also a wonderful occasion to **celebrate the awardees** of this year *Rudolf Pichlmayr Preis, Astellas Forschungspreis, Preis zur Förderung der Organspende, Genzyme Forschungspreis* and *Poster-Preis*.

Hamburg with its abundant sunshine in autumn, sparkling harbour and world-class attractions is a premier location! The **Convention Center Hamburg** and surrounding hotels are located in the city center with panoramic views of Alster. We would like to cordially welcome you to join us for a memorable event, celebrating the 19th anniversary of the DTG!

We are looking forward to welcome you in Hamburg.

Björn Nashan, MD, PhD and Hermann Reichenspurner, MD, PhD, Congress Presidents

Friedrich Thaiss, MD and Florian Wagner, MD, Congress Secretaries