

**Ataxia UK Research Conference
'Diagnosis and potential new treatments for the ataxias'**

Friday 15th September 2006 - University of Hertfordshire (de Havilland campus), Hatfield, UK

Programme

10 – 10.30 Registration and coffee

Morning sessions 10.30 -12.15

Welcome – Dr Barry Hunt, Chair of Ataxia UK's Scientific Advisory Committee

Research update on the ataxias – Professor Massimo Pandolfo, Service de Neurologie, Hôpital Erasme, Brussels

Sporadic ataxia: how much of it is truly idiopathic? – Dr Marios Hadjivassiliou, Department of Neurology, Sheffield Hallamshire Hospital, UK

From basic research to establishing potential treatments for dominant ataxias– Dr Antoni Matilla, University College London Institute of Child Health, London, UK

LUNCH

Afternoon sessions 1.15 – 4.30

Potential treatments for Friedreich's ataxia

- Idebenone trial for Friedreich's ataxia – Dr Thomas Meier, Santhera pharmaceuticals
- Cytokine recombinant human erythropoietin (rhuEPO) as potential therapy for Friedreich's ataxia – Dr Barbara Scheiber-Mojdehkar, University of Vienna, Austria

Rehabilitation for the ataxias – Dr Ewout Brunt, University Hospital Groningen, The Netherlands

Specialist Ataxia Centres: a model of care for people with ataxia – Dr Paola Giunti, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, London, UK

The potential for stem cells as future treatments for the ataxias – Dr Stephen Ray, Ribostem, UK

Conclusions

To register contact Dr Julie Greenfield (jgreenfield@ataxia.org.uk, Tel: 020 7582 1444)