ABSTRACTS OF THE THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL PATHOGENIC *NEISSERIA* CONFERENCE

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History of the Pathogenic *Neisseria* Meetings

In the 1970s a series of conferences were held dealing with issues of meningococcal epidemiology and vaccination. Some of these conferences were held in Milan, St. Paul de Vence, and Marseille. But the first official conference was held in San Francisco, California, 1978.

First International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1978, San Francisco, California, USA
Chair: G.F. Brooks

Second International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1980, Hemavan, Sweden
Chairs: S. Normark and D. Danielsson

Third International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1982, Montreal, Canada
Chair: I.W. DeVoe

Fourth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1984, Asilomar; California, USA
Chair: G.K. Schoolnik

Fifth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1986, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands
Chair: J.T. Poolman

Sixth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1988, Pine Mountaine, Georgia, USA
Chair: S.A. Morse

Seventh International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1990, Berlin, Germany
Chair: M. Achtman

Eighth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1992, Cuernavaca, Mexico
Chair: C.I. Conde-Glez

Ninth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1994, Winchester, England
Chairs: M.C.J. Maiden and I Feavers

Tenth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1996, Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Chair: C.E. Frasch

Eleventh International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
1998, Nice, France
Chair: X. Nassif

Twelfth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
2000, Galveston, Texas, USA.
Chairs: F. Sparling and P. Rice

Thirteenth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference
2002, Oslo, Norway
Chair: E. Wedege

13th International Pathogenic *Neisseria* Conference

Conference Organizing Committee
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Preface

The pathogenic *Neisseria* still cause major public health concerns world-wide. *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* has historically been a prominent human pathogen associated with sexually transmitted diseases. Although other sexually transmitted disease have been more in focus recently, control of gonococcal infections has been complicated by the development of antibiotic resistance. *Neisseria meningitidis* causes sporadic meningitis and focal outbreaks throughout most of the industrialised world. Large epidemics of meningococcal meningitis occur periodically in developing countries with devastating consequences.

In line with previous International Pathogenic *Neisseria* Conferences (IPNC), the goal of IPNC 2002 is to bring together investigators, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students from universities, public health organizations and pharmaceutical companies who are involved in the study of these pathogens and of the diseases that they cause. The aim of the meeting is to provide a forum for disseminating new research results on all aspects of neisserial infections and disease control through formal and informal discussions.

A total of 51 lectures and 313 posters will be presented at IPNC 2002. Oral presentations have been selected by an international scientific committee from a panel of 103 abstracts submitted by the participants. This book contains the abstracts of all the presentations. It provides a compendium of the latest development in neisserial research and is meant to serve as a reference book to cover the period up to the next conference. It is organized into the same subject headings as given in the scientific programme. The first part of the book contains the abstracts of the oral presentations, then follows the poster presentations, grouped by subject categories, in alphabetical order according to the name of the presenting author. The abstracts are printed essentially as they were submitted by the authors to the organizing committee via e-mail, except for typesetting in a uniform style and a limited amount of editing.

We thank the scientific committee for their valuable advices. We would also like to thank the numerous colleagues at the Division of Infectious Disease Control, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, for their contribution to the arrangement. Especially, we would like to name Dr L.O. Frøholm, who initiated the development of the Norwegian meningococcal vaccine, and Drs J. Holst, T. Michaelsen, L. Næss, F. Oftung, and E. Rosenqvist. Finally, we are grateful to Mrs S.A. Musæus for her excellent work in collecting the abstracts.

Dominique A. Caugant
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