

Greetings for the Second International Conference of Polyomaviruses and Human Diseases: Basic and clinical perspectives



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In the historical and beautiful medieval city of Florence, Italy, the First International Conference of Polyomaviruses and Human diseases was held in May 2003. The Conference was co-sponsored by the Center for Neurovirology and Cancer Biology at Temple University and the Don Gnocchi Foundation. The objective of the Conference, to develop cross-communication between basic scientists and clinicians, was overwhelmingly successful and established a foundation from which investigations for preventive therapies and clinical applications could be launched in the treatment of diseases associated with polyomaviruses. The research activities spawned by this meeting, along with a consensus among participants, indicated the need for a regular exchange of information between researchers and clinicians. Plans for another meeting

began immediately. The 2nd International Conference of Polyomaviruses and Human Diseases is organized as a joint symposium with the 4th International Symposium for Zoonosis Control and the 93rd Annual Meeting of Japanese Society of Pathology. This two-day conference will discuss the epidemiology, pathology, molecular pathogenesis, genetics and clinical information of JCV, BKV and SV40 as well as HIV, HTLV-I, and CMV. This meeting promises numerous presentations which will outline cutting edge research and treatments, along with fruitful discussions amongst the participants, leading to a general advancement in the understanding of human diseases associated with polyomaviruses.