

**Preliminary Agenda for Circumpolar Viral Hepatitis Meeting: Co-Chairs:
Anders Koch and Brian McMahon**

Tuesday 16 October 2007

9:00 AM

Welcoming statement: Brian McMahon and Anders Koch
Greeting: Andrei Lobanov WHO Europe

9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Monitoring HBV infected persons and Treatment in the Arctic
Co-Chairs: Andrei Tulisov and Gerry Minuk

9:00 to 9:20 AM: Current Guidelines on Managing Chronic Hepatitis B Infection
Brian McMahon

9:20-10:30

Plans in the Arctic for Monitoring and Treatment of Hepatitis B: Current Programs
and Future Plans

Alaska: Brian McMahon

Canada: Isaac Sobol: Nunavut, Bryce Larke: Yukon Territories and John Morse:
Northwest Territories

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:00

Greenland: Karin Ladefoged and Allan Gelvan

Russia: Andrei Tulisov, Vladimir Chulanov, Elena Fast and Larisa Abryutina

12:00 PM-1:00 PM: Lunch

1:00 PM -2:00 PM

Hepatitis B Vaccination Programs in the Arctic

Co-Chairs: Bryce Larke and Jim Williams

Update of Hepatitis B Vaccination Programs and future plans in the Arctic

Alaska: Jim Williams

Canada: Isaac Sobol, John Morse, Bryce Larke

Russia: Andrei Tulisov

Greenland/Denmark: Flemming Stenz

2:00 PM-2:30 PM: Break

2:30 PM- 4:00 PM

Current Hepatitis B Research Activities in the Arctic

Co-Chairs: Anders Koch and Vladimir Chulanov

Alaska: Brian McMahon

Discussion

Greenland: Anders Koch, Malene Borresen, Henrik Krarup

Discussion

4:00 PM-5:30 PM

Canada: Gerry Minuk, Julia Uhanova and Carla Osiowy

Discussion

Russia: Vladimir Chulanov, Andrei Tulisov and others

Discussion

6:30 PM - : Conference Dinner at restaurant TBA

Wednesday 17 October:

9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Planning for International Polar Year Collaborative Projects on Hepatitis B in the Arctic:

Chaired by Anders Koch, Gerry Minuk and Brian McMahon

Possible Ideas for collaborative research projects in Hepatitis B

1. Comparison of HBV Genotypes in Greenland, Russia, Alaska and Canada
 - a. Molecular comparison of genotypes/subgenotypes (Carla Osiowy, *Vladimir Chulanov*)
 - b. Evolution and mutation rates of HBV genotypes in the Arctic (*Gerry Minuk, Malene Børresen*)
 - c. Comparison of hepatitis delta (HDV) strains in Greenland and Siberia (*Vladimir Chulanov, Malene Børresen*)
2. HBV genotypes and subgenotypes in the Arctic and associated outcomes of active liver inflammation (elevated aminotransferase levels/and/or liver biopsy inflammation and fibrosis and HBV DNA levels), cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma (Brian McMahon, *Malene Børresen* and others)
3. Intervention Programs
 - a. Design of HBV treatment programs in the Arctic based on current Practice Guidelines and Consensus Statements (American Association for the Study of the Liver (AASLD), Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver (CASLD) and European Association for Study of Liver (EASL).
 - b. Results and Impact of Treatment Programs

Possible ideas for future collaboration for other forms of viral hepatitis and liver disease (*Brian McMahon, Anders Koch, Gerry Minuk and others*)

4. Hepatitis A
5. Hepatitis C
6. Hepatocellular Carcinoma due to all causes
7. Other Liver Diseases

10:00 AM-10:30 AM: Break

10:30 AM-12:30 AM

Planning for International Polar Year (IPY) Collaborative Projects on Hepatitis B in the Arctic (continued)

1. Conducting research in remote communities: Logistics problems, Motivating Community providers and residents to participate, IRB and Ethical Concerns (Anders Koch)
2. Establishing Chronic Hepatitis B surveillance systems and registries in the Arctic (Michael Bruce, Anders Koch, Andrei Tulisov)
 - a. Access, confidentiality, content

12:30 PM-1:30 PM: Lunch

1:30 PM- 3:00 PM

Planning for International Polar Year (IPY) Collaborative Projects on Hepatitis B in the Arctic (continued)

3:00 PM-3:30 PM: Break

3:30 PM-4:30 PM

Possible funding sources for IPY activities:

Planning for Working Group Meetings in 2007 and 2008

Nominations for Chairman for Arctic Hepatitis Working Group for 2008.

4:30 PM-5:30 PM

Roundtable discussion