



Daily Report of ISPAD Science School in Hannover

- **Day 1**

On Sunday, June 15th, the 24. ISPAD Science School for physicians started in Hannover, Germany. 23 participants from all continents were chosen out of 75 applicants.

The first day's faculty was former ISPAD President Prof. David Maahs from Stanford University, showing the participants the mission and achievements of ISPAD, the efforts in under-resourced countries, and the benefits of membership.

The first-round discussion covered the topics of help in under-resourced countries and the opportunities to have research support, with highly valued contributions by Breakthrough T1D officers Sanjoy Dutta and Prof Thomas Danne, who was also the convenor of the first ISPAD science school in 2025.

- **Day2**

Fantastic lectures have been held to the participants:

Sanjoy Dutta, Chief scientific officer of Breakthrough T1D explained the vision, successes and funding possibilities in by BreakthroughT1D, formally known as JDRF. Furthermore, he explained clearly important key points for a publication.

Thomas Danne, convenor of the first science school in 2000, BULT hospitals' former Chief physician and now chief medical officer, international in BreakthroughT1D, reported on milestones in diabetology in the past and provided a vision of coming therapies as immunotherapeutics and cell therapies.

Prof. Julia Mader, Professor for Diabetes Technology in Graz showed the participants how large-scale trials work, and gave practical recommendations on how to find appropriate collaborators.

From the Hannover Team, convenor Professor Kordonouri reported upon therapeutic goals and the importance of a common team philosophy.

Felix Reschke, head of scientific program in Hannover, led a discussion on the idea of early detection, participants intensively discussed pros, cons, and possible hurdles, while in general, all agreed on the necessity to find a way to implement a system.

Prof Lenka Drnkova from Prague University showed, together with convenor Dr. Torben Biester the course of investigator-initiated trials and gave examples of how to identify potential issues.

After lectures, the participants had the chance to present their own research ideas in break-out groups to the mentors Prof. Klemen Dovc, Dr. Claudia Piona, Prof. Agata Chobot, and Prof Lenka Drnkova, who led peer discussion in the groups on how to potentially improve the ideas.

To learn about Hannover, the group visited the Royal Baroque Garden of Herrenhausen and ended the evening in a local brewery restaurant.



- **Day3**

A busy 3rd day at science school started with Biologist Dr. Karsten Bode, who shared his experience as a study coordinator on how to calculate a study budget. He highlighted to not forget running costs by an example of a possible new drug.

Dr. Heike Saßmann, a psychologist from Hannover Medical School, explained the value of person-related outcomes, how to use evaluated questionnaires, and where to find appropriate surveys for their own research.

Dr Felix Reschke once again reported on immune intervention trials in T1D, and again, an intensive discussion was held by the participants.

Dr Claudia Piona from Verona, former leader of ISPAD special interest group JENIOUS showed the origin and progress of JENIOUS, ongoing projects and encouraged participants to use the opportunity to interact and collaborate with other early-stage researchers.

Prof. Maria do Ceu Patrao Neves, Professor of Ethics on the Acores Islands and Member of the European Parliament gave an enthusiastic and interactive speech on ethics in pediatric trials, which led to an active discussion with the whole audience.

After the next mentoring session, where the other half of participants received feedback on their projects by peers and mentors, the group went throughout a tour to the city of Hannover.

A fantastic view with clear blue sky from the top of the new city hall's dome, which can be reached by a diagonal elevator, showed the participants the skyline of the city, including the largest in-city forest in Europe.

The same guides as the days before showed some spots from Hannover's older and younger history, from medieval to baroque and the times after WW2. The tour ended with a group photo in front of the Nanas, modern artist Niki de Saint-Phalle's most famous works. The participants went into Hannover's evening "unobserved".

- **Day 4**

The last day of lectures started with Dr. Frank Roloff from the Hannoverian Team, going into the depth of sampling and storing of specimens in trials. Sarah Biester, Diabetes educator and study nurse, emphasized their role in education, e.g., in tech trials, keeping participants on line, and also recruitment, as letting their own kids participate in a trial forces a big amount of trust by parents.

Dr. Stephanie Lanziger, head of DPV registry in Ulm explains the character and worth of real-world data, taken out of national and international registries, and the impact of that data beyond clinical trials. Together with convenor Prof Kordonouri and AI-generated slides, Prof. Ulrich Baumann, pediatric immunologist from Hannover Medical School, showed with easy-to-understand graphs and examples, how a presentation can keep the audience's interest.

The faculty presentations ended with Prof Klemen Dovc and Prof Agata Chobot, both ISPAD science school alumni and both ISPAD young investigator /early career awardees. They showed by examples how the impact of science school and collaboration led their career.

The afternoon of day 4 belonged to the participants, as they presented their research ideas to the whole plenary of participants and mentors. The faculty was impressed by the variety and high-class ideas and



the work already put into the research proposals. Lots of these were already updated after the group discussions.

After the first round of study proposal presentations by participants, some hours of free time in Hannover were provided, before the group met for the final dinner in a Greek restaurant, selected by the Greek origin convenor, Prof. Kordonouri.

- **Day 5**

After the second part of the participants gave their presentations, 5 selected cases were presented on AID in a very small kid, steroid-induced diabetes, post-transplantation diabetes, Hamman's syndrome, MODY3 with liver adenomas, and Rahman syndrome with diabetes.

All cases led directly into an interactive exchange of experience, with too little time for all of them.

Finally, every participant received their certificate of participation and a cup with the logo of the 24th ISPAD Science School in Hannover.

As reported by participants, all made their way home without bigger issues.

The convenors would like to say "thank you" to the tremendous faculty, the very interested and interactive participants, the ISPAD office for their help, and the ISPAD EB for the opportunity to make this stimulating and joyful event take place in Hannover.