Microbes & Alzheimer's: Bridging Silos to Accelerate Innovation

July 27th, 2024
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine
4170 City Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19131

In-person and Virtual Symposium

8:00am – 9:00am  Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15am  Dr. Brian Balin, Nikki Schultek, IDSA
Opening remarks

9:15 – 9:35am  Nikki Schultek, AlzPI
“Unraveling the role of infections in Alzheimer’s through patient-led, global interdisciplinary collaboration”

9:35 – 10:00am Dr. Brian Balin, PCOM & AlzPI
“Evaluating infection in Alzheimer disease pathogenesis”

10:00 – 10:25am Dr. Garth Ehrlich and Dr. Michiko Thwe, Drexel
“Application of a species-specific, trans-pan-domain molecular diagnostic to Alzheimer disease (AD) brains reveals AD pathobiomes that are distinct from age-matched controls.”

10:25 – 10:45am  Dr. David Corry and Lynn Bimler, Baylor
“A ubiquitous Candida albicans-based polymicrobial human brain infection causes Alzheimer’s Disease-like changes in mice”

10:45 – 11:00am  Questions & BREAK

11:00 – 11:22am  Dr. Ruth Itzhaki, Oxford
“Repetitive concussive injury, like cumulative infections, causes Alzheimer’s disease-like phenotypes via reactivation of HSV-1 in a 3D human brain tissue model”

11:20 – 11:40am  Dr. Elizabeth Bradshaw and Dr. Zena Chatila, Columbia
“Pathogens, Microglia and Alzheimer’s Disease”

11:40 – 12:00pm Dr. Edward Breitschwerdt and Dr. Janice Bush, NC State
“Bartonella henselae, Neurobartonellosis and Alzheimer Disease: Is there a link?”

12:00 – 12:20pm  Dr. Or Shemesh and Vanesa Hyde, B.A., Univ. of Pittsburgh
“Alzheimer’s Disease pathologies are pathogen-driven and cell protective”

12:20 – 1:15pm  Lunch

1:15 – 1:45pm  *Keynote* Dr. Wenyuan Shi, Forsyth Institute
“Exploring the connection between oral microbiome and Alzheimer’s disease”

1:45 – 2:05pm  Dr. Kevin Zwezdaryk and Sara Morris, Tulane
“Intermittent CMV infection promotes mitochondrial dysfunction contributing to Alzheimer’s Disease progression”

2:05 – 2:25pm  Dr. William Eimer, MGH and Harvard
“Amyloid Beta and Tau: Exploring the antimicrobial connection between pathogens and Alzheimer’s disease”

2:25pm – 2:45pm  Dr. Laura Cox, Harvard
“The role of Bacteroides in Alzheimer’s disease.”

2:45 – 3:05pm  Dr. Monica Embers, Tulane
“Borrelia Infection in the Genesis of Dementia”

3:05 – 3:20pm  Questions & BREAK

3:20 – 3:40pm  Dr. Lavinia Alberi, VitalizeDx and AlzPI
“Oral-host pathogen interactions, from early non-invasive diagnostics to timely therapeutics for Alzheimer’s Disease”

3:40 – 4:00pm  Dr. Michael Detke, Lighthouse Therapeutics
“Phase 1 SAD/MAD data and Phase 2 study design for LHP588, a second-generation gingipain inhibitor for the treatment of P. gingivalis-positive Alzheimer’s dementia”

4:00 – 4:30pm  *Keynote* Col. Nicole Malachowski (ret.), USAF
“Breaking Barriers”

4:30 – 5:00pm  Pioneer’s Panel Discussion:
Dr. Brian Balin, Dr. Ruth Itzhaki, & Dr. George Perry

5:00 – 7:00pm  Cocktail Hour & Networking in the Lobby