

28TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PHARMACEUTICAL AND BIOMEDICAL ANALYSIS
(PBA 2017)

This year PBA symposium took place on 2nd to 5th July 2017. The Conference was organized with a great success by the Center of Metabolomics and Bioanalysis (CEMBIO), led by Professor Coral Barbas at San Pablo CEU University in Madrid (Spain).

This was the 30th anniversary since the first edition which was held in September 1987 in Barcelona organized by Professor Emilio Gelpí with a two years gap. Along this time the Conference has addressed different aspects of modern Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis. This edition the main topics included METABOLOMICS and PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY CHALLENGES, including Biopharmaceuticals.

The PBA Conference counted with the participation of 29 invited speakers from all over the world. About 200 attendees from different universities, laboratories, and hospitals met to exchange their experiences and knowledge about the main advances in the field of analytical techniques within the pharmaceutical industry and biomedical laboratories.

On Sunday, the Conference started and the first session was given by Professor Irving Wainer, who talked about novel bioanalytical approaches in the field of neuropsychopharmacology. Later on, Professor Utpal Tatu explained his work in the integration of the *omics* sciences in the analysis of the sexual stage development in Malaria.

On Monday morning, Professor Elaine Holmes explained her work on the characterization of the xenometabolome, which is a hot topic in the field. After this keynote lecture, two parallel sessions began. On the one hand, Xu Guowang, José Luis Gómez Ariza and Joanna Godzien, talked about their original research work in the metabolomic platforms and their applications in different diseases. On the other hand, Bezhan Chankvetadze, Jacques Crommen and Emmanuelle Lipka, presented three different projects about new methodologies to separate chiral compounds. Following the coffee break, two more parallel sessions started, the session on metabolomics focused on different tools and strategies to employ in metabolomic data treatment. The presentations were given by Michal Markuszewski, Isabel García-Pérez, Serge Rudaz, Danuta Dudzik and Xiaohui Lin. The other session was about new bioanalysis techniques such as Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy and ion mobility coupled to mass spectrometry. This was given by Jun Haginaka, Zhengjin Jiang, Robert Wills, Quezia Cass and Natalia Moskaleva. After lunch, a special event consisting of a session where 13 promising YOUNG RESEARCHES explained their exciting projects was hold and different awards were given.

On Tuesday, the day started with two plenary talks about HPLC detection methods. The first one was held by Ulrike Holzgrabe and the next one by Maria Kristina Parr. After coffee break, there were two parallel sessions. In one of them, the session focused on new platforms for drug discovery hosted by Alfonso Espada, Joachim Jose, Jiejun Wu and Emily Armitage. In the other, the topic of the plenary presentation was the role of

metabolism in clinical diagnosis and was held by M^a Cruz Moreno, Pilar Marco, Fernando De Andrés and M^a José Campos Molina. Later on, Luigi Colombo presented a debate entitled 'Quality control of biotechnological products: routine or real science?'. The venue continued with three parallel sessions. As young researchers, we found the career development session very interesting because experimented researchers talked about their experience in the science field and what they advised us to do for our future. One of the other presentations was centered in the characterization of biotechnological products by MS. They were shown by Sandra Koen, Gabriela Massolini and Kelly Zhang. The last block of talks was focused on new applications for metabolomics in the field of biomedicine done by Federica Pellati, Marina Tavares and Li Shujuan. Finally, the day ended up with the last two parallel sessions. The first one was about new strategies to detect small molecules by Bernd Diehl and Vladimir Ioffe. The second one was based on applications to monitor drug kinetics. They were presented by Cristina Minguillon and Susana Amézqueta.

The last day of the conference started with another two parallel sessions. One of them was related to new biomedical instrumentation and was given by Stephan Hann, Enrica Calleri, Marianne Fillet and Isidre Masana. The other one, focused on different applications to evaluate diseases prognosis, was performed by Elzbieta Skrzydlewska, Michal Ciborowski, Marina Naldi and Laura Mercolini. After the coffee break, the last parallel sessions took place. The first one was centered in chemometrics performed by Yulia Monakhova and Sandra Furlanetto, the other one was based on LADME processes by Hai-Bing Zhou and Tung-Hu Tsai. The last lecture of all the conference was held by Professor Neven Zarkovic about oxidative stress.

In addition, the poster sessions took place on Tuesday and Wednesday during coffee breaks. Agilent Technologies rewarded two best posters: the first to Miguel Fernández and the second to Marta Katarzyna Karazniewics-lad. Lilly company also rewarded the first and second place for the best young research presentation to Balazs Bobaly and Andrea Tedesco, respectively. In summary, the conference was composed of 7 main sessions, 46 parallel sessions and 160 posters.

Last, but not least, social activities promoted a friendly environment necessary for networking and to keep a good memory of these days.

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