

WORKSHOP “IMMUNOTOXICOLOGY AND IMMUNOPATHOLOGY: “INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY”

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During the last years, accumulating evidence occurred that potential immunotoxicity might be associated with significant increase in incidence and severity of clinical side effects. The Scope of this IFSTP/ESTP Workshop "Immune-Toxicology and Immune-Pathology" is to present different aspects, views and issues of the current state of the art of this important field, also by giving specific examples. The awareness of immunotoxicology has led to an intensified and controverse discussion within the different Guideline Committees to address this important field adequately in preclinical studies. In his talk, titled “Status of Implementation and Impact of Guidelines on Immunotoxicology and -pathology”, Dr G.Bode will address these current discrepancies between the different Guidelines. Specialised animal models and modified study designs in preclinical immunotoxicology studies are of increasing importance. Their difficulties especially their limitations in interpretation are the topic of Dr.J.Descotes presentation: “Importance of Immunotoxicology on Safety Assessment: A Toxicologists View.” Dr.D.Germolec is contributing the toxicological pathologists` view in her talk about “Improving the Sensitivity and Predictability of Current Testing Strategies for Immunotoxicology.” Pathologists are playing an increasing role with their interpretation of immunotoxic effects. An international pathology working group report with its results is pointing to the usefulness of extended pathological contributions. The value of immunization studies, including analysis of antibody formation under immunosuppression, is presented and discussed in the two case studies from Dr.D.Roman & Dr.P.Ulrich. Finally, in the panel discussion we will try to figure out future development trends in the assessment of new drugs as well as open and emerging issues in immunotoxicology. The result of this discussion will be also included in the full Summary of the Workshop.