

- ❖ Name & Designation : Dr. Rashmi Kumari, Ph.D. Student
- ❖ Address : Dept. of Virology Group, Dr. Sunil K Lal's ICGEB, New Delhi-110067.
- ❖ Name of the International Conference/ Seminar/Symposium/ Workshop : 4th International Influenza Meeting-2014
- ❖ Title of the abstract accepted : The non-structural protein 1 of influenza a virus interacts with the transcription factor C/EBP beta and downregulates RIG 1 promoter activity during viral infection.
- ❖ Date & Venue : 21-23rd September 2014. Munster, Germany.
- ❖ Money sanctioned : ₹ 71,605/-
- ❖ Money reimbursed : ₹ 71,820/- (Due to hike the fare of air travel an additional ₹ 215/- were sanctioned)
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Participation Report

Organization of the conference

The Fourth International Influenza Meeting was an international conference organized by fluresearch net and german research platform for zoonosis .As the main topic of conference was Influenza virus there were representatives from all over the world working on Influenza, either giving an oral presentation or poster presentation. The meeting was divided into seven different sessions each chaired by eminent scientist of that field. The keynote speakers gave an in depth view of their research which was very helpful in better understanding of Influenza biology.

Academic highlights of the conference

All the topics which were mentioned in the sessions were covered very nicely but the session on host pathogen interactions stood out. This is very important topic in present scenario where the Influenza virus is developing drug resistance evry now and then because of the capacity of the virus to mutate. Considering this a better idea would be to target the evolutionary conserved host proteins for therapeutic interventions. People from different labs came up with new interesting interactors of influenza A virus which had important physiological relevance in virus life cycle and can serve as very promising drug target in near future.

Moreover,system biology approaches were also applied in few of the studies and meta analysis of genome wide screens for host factor was done in order to fish out the common factors among all the screens based on a minimum score. This I found very interesting and was a new development in the field.Apart from this Innate Immunity against Influenza virus was also discussed in detail. There was one session which was devoted industrial research. This was very helpful because it's focus was to channelize the researcher's towards industry for translational work of research and development of new drugs to cure this disease.

Participant's contribution to the conference

The poster which I presented "The Nonstructural protein 1 of Influenza A virus interacts with the transcription factor C/EBP Beta and downregulates RIG I promoter activity during viral infection" covered the aspects of two of the sessions of the conference, both host pathogen interactions as well as innate immunity. My poster got appreciated by the scientist over there and by discussing with them I got important inputs to improve my work. Students from different parts of world very involved in fruitful discussions and I was actively involved in them. It was very good platform for the exchange of ideas and the benefits derived were mutual.