

## 6<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL DRUG ABUSE RESEARCH SOCIETY (IDARS) MEETING

**Title:** Recent Frontiers and Advances in Drug Addiction

**Location and Dates:** Hotel Neptun/Hotel Ariston, Dubrovnik, Croatia,  
September 4-8, 2017

**Chairpersons:** Syed F. Ali (USA) and Barbara Mason (USA)

**Organizers:** Syed Ali (USA), Barbara Mason (USA), Nicholas Gilpin (USA), Jean Zwiller (France), J. Angulo (USA), Sulie Chang (USA), Emamnel Onaivi (USA), Ashraf Virmani (Netherlands), Zsolt Demetrovics (Hungary), Frederico Pereira (Portugal), Emilio Ambrosio (Spain), Alicia Brusco (Argentina); Mohan Sopori (USA), Michael Kuhar (USA) and George Koob (USA).

**Format:** The 6<sup>th</sup> International Drug Abuse Research Society (IDARS) meeting will bring together basic scientists and clinical investigators from the international community to share new conceptual insights into alcohol abuse, substance abuse, and addiction treatment. Addiction to drugs and alcohol is a global problem that is prevalent in rich and poor countries alike. Opiates, methamphetamine, alcohol, cocaine and MDMA are the most widely abused drugs in Europe, North and South America, and in Asian countries. These drugs are not only addictive, but they also cause neurotoxicity in humans and laboratory animals. The precise cellular and molecular mechanisms underlying addiction and drug-induced neurotoxicity remain unclear.

Ten sessions will accommodate 4-5 speakers, 20-30 minutes per presentation. An 11<sup>th</sup> session will be an open poster session followed by poster discussion that is designed to facilitate a "Workshop" atmosphere during the session.

This meeting will address the following (tentative) topics:

1. Extreme Binge Drinking
2. Novel Neurobiological Mechanisms in Opioid Addiction
3. Epigenetic, Proteomics and Metabolomics in Alcohol and Drug Addiction
4. Drugs of Abuse and Medication Development: Current Status of Dependence/Abuse Studies
5. Novel Neurobiological Targets for the Treatment of Alcoholism
6. Psychostimulants/Bath Salts/MDMA-Ecstasy/GHB/Designer Drugs
7. Drug of Abuse and Alcoholism: Imaging Brain Structure and Function
8. Marijuana/Cannabinoids
9. HIV-Drugs: Addiction/Organ Pathology
10. Tissue Injury and Addiction

**Partial List of Speakers/Attendees:** G. Koob (USA), M. Kuhar (USA), B. Mason (USA), E. Gardner (USA), F. Weiss (USA), M. Paule (USA), W. Slikker, Jr. (USA), G. Hanson (USA), J. Cadet (USA), A. Noronha (USA), M. Xu (USA), J. Angulo (USA), N. Gilpin (USA), S. Chang (USA), L. Chang (USA), X. Qin (USA), J. O'Callaghan (USA), D. Miller (USA), R. Moratalla (Spain), O. Prospero Garcia (Mexico), J. Woodward (USA), K. Shelton (USA), C. Wang (USA), J. Kanungo (USA), D. Ali (Canada), Z. Demetrovics (Hungary), F. Ono (Japan), K. Gysling (Chile), A. Brusco (Argentina), H.-C. Kim (S Korea), M. Sopori (USA), S. Buch (USA), S. Roy (USA), S. Schenk (New Zealand), A. Virmani (Netherlands), S. Dufour (France), J. Maher (USA), F. Pereira (Portugal), R. Sircar (USA), F. Carvalho (Portugal), C. Fontes Ribeiro (Portugal), P. Dodd (Australia), A. Stadlin (Australia), A. Yuri (USA), J. Mendelson (USA), D. Mash (USA), C. Jimenez-Rivera (Puerto Rico), E. Onaivi (USA), H. Ujike (Japan), E. Ambrosio (Spain), R. Westerink (Netherlands), Y. Tizabi (USA), P. Nagarkatti (USA), M. Nagarkatti (USA), J. Zwiller (France), and S. Ali (USA).

### **Other Information:**

Dubrovnik is a city in southern Croatia fronting the Adriatic Sea. It is known for its distinctive Old Town, encircled with massive stone walls completed in the 16th century. Its well-preserved buildings range from baroque St. Blaise Church to Renaissance Sponza Palace and Gothic Rector's Palace, now a history museum. Paved with limestone, the pedestrianized Stradun (or Placa) is lined with shops and restaurants.