

## Press release

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### Basic information

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Department of: Biomedicine

Main supervisor: Prof. Trine H Mogensen

Title of dissertation: Studies on the Genetic Basis of Recurrent Lymphocytic Meningitis (Mollaret's Meningitis) Caused By Herpes Simplex-2 Virus

Date for defence: 13/03/2020 at (time of day): 10:00 Place: Eduard Biermann (Søauditorierne)

Press release (Danish)

### Invitation til ph.d.-forsvar

Projektets formål er at demonstrere en mulig genetisk baggrund for øget modtagelighed for tilbagevendende HSV-2 meningitis. Disse genetiske variationer medfører, at værten reagerer uhensigtsmæssigt på en viral infektion eller ikke er i stand til at undertrykke den virale replikation i tilfælde af reaktivering. Alon har med dette projekt identificeret værtsgenvarianter forbundet med tilbagevendende lymfocytisk meningitis i en kohorte af patienter diagnosticeret med tilbagevendende lymfocytisk meningitis. Efterfølgende er det medfødte immunrespons hos HSV-2-patienterne blevet funktionelt karakteriseret, hvilket eksperimentelt kan indikere, om den valgte genetiske variant forringer eller ændrer ekspressionen eller funktionen af genproduktet. Yderligere bidrager den funktionelle karakteristik til at etablere en årsagssammenhæng mellem den potentielt skadelige genotype og den kliniske fænotype. Endelig påvises det i projektet, at det har været muligt at redde den cellulære fænotype med en vildtype-allel. Projektet er blevet udført ved hjælp af avancerede teknikker til genotyping af patienter, der lider af tilbagevendende lymfocytisk meningitis, og på patientprøver ved brug af genetiske og translatoriske teknikker.

Forsvaret er offentligt og finder sted den 13/3/2020 kl. 10.00 i Eduard Biermann (Søauditorierne), Aarhus Universitet. Projektets titel er "Undersøgelser af den genetiske basis af tilbagevendende lymfocytisk meningitis (Mollarets meningitis) forårsaget af Herpes Simplex-2-virus". For mere information, kontakt ph.d.-studerende Alon Illy Schneider Hait, e-mail: [alon.schneider@biomed.au.dk](mailto:alon.schneider@biomed.au.dk), Telefon +45 28264848

### Bedømmelsesudvalg:

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Press release (English)

Invitation to PhD defense

The project aim is to demonstrate possible genetic background for susceptibility of recurrent HSV-2 meningitis. These genetic variations, causes the host to react inappropriately to a viral invasion, or to be unable to suppress viral replication in case of reactivation. In this project, Alon had identified host gene variations associated with recurrent lymphocytic meningitis among a cohort of patients, functionally characterize the innate immune system response to HSV-2 in patients suffering from recurrent lymphocytic meningitis, experimentally indicate whether the selected genetic variant impairs or alters the expression or function of the gene product and to establish a causal relationship between the candidate genotype and the clinical phenotype and rescued the cellular phenotype by a wild-type allele. This has been done using state-of the art genotyping techniques on patients suffering from recurrent lymphocytic meningitis, and on patient samples using genetic and translatory techniques.

The defence is public and takes place on 13/3/2020 at 10:00 in Eduard Biermann (Søauditorierne), Aarhus University.. The title of the project is "Studies on the Genetic Basis of Recurrent Lymphocytic Meningitis (Mollaret's Meningitis) Caused By Herpes Simplex-2 Virus". For more information, please contact PhD student Alon Illy Schneidr Hait, email: [alon.schneider@biomed.au.dk](mailto:alon.schneider@biomed.au.dk), Phone +45 28264848

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