



# The International Lung GVHD Consensus Conference 2026



*23-25 SEPTEMBER 2026*

*CAMPUS BIOTECH, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND*



Hôpitaux  
Universitaires  
Genève



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE

FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE

**Dear Colleagues,**

Over forty years ago, D. Ralph, E.D. Thomas and colleagues<sup>1</sup> reported a clinical syndrome of new onset severe airflow obstruction in association with chronic graft-versus-host disease in four young patients who had received marrow transplants for leukemia in Seattle, Washington. Lung biopsies revealed obliterative bronchiolitis, the fibrotic occlusion of small airways. Patients experienced debilitating breathlessness; treatment with corticosteroids did not provide objective benefit. Today, even in the era of improved prophylaxis and FDA-approved treatments for chronic GVHD, this original description of bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome - BOS - remains eerily cogent: we still do not have a cure for this highly morbid lung complication.

The impetus for a conference dedicated to lung GVHD arose out of a collective recognition that BOS is often diagnosed too late in its course for effective intervention. Since the landmark 2005 and 2014 NIH Chronic GVHD Consensus Conferences, our understanding of BOS and other potential forms of lung GVHD has grown, necessitating an updated clinical definition that would encourage early detection and treatment. Our ongoing discussions towards this update highlight how much we still need to learn about underlying disease processes and how to restore lung function.

To that end, we have convened critical mass of experts across the disciplines of pulmonary medicine, transplant hematology, immunology, infectious diseases, radiology, and statistical science, to review the current knowledge base and identify new avenues for investigation. Our goals in Geneva are i) to synthesize our understanding of lung GVHD disease pathogenesis, ii) update the definition of lung GVHD, and iii) establish an ideal clinical trial design for lung GVHD. Central to this conference is the critical work of the Lung GVHD Consensus Project Task Force: to propose an evidence-based revision of the NIH diagnostic criteria for lung GVHD that applies across the lifespan. We hope that this will promote rigorous clinical investigation, and more importantly, benefit HCT recipients around the world.

With the expanding global reach of allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation, understanding lung GVHD is more relevant than ever. We look forward to sharing three days of learning, insight, and fellowship that will extend beyond Geneva.

**The Scientific Steering Committee**

Anne Bergeron (Switzerland)

Daniel Wolff (Germany)

Joe Hsu (USA)

Sophie Paczesny (USA)

Corey Cutler (USA)

Steven Pavletic (USA/Croatia)

Guang-Shing Cheng (USA)

<sup>1</sup>Ralph D et al. Am Rev Resp Dis 1984;129:641-644



# DAY 1: PATHOGENESIS OF LUNG GVHD

Wednesday 23 September 2026

*GOAL: Synthesize preclinical understanding of the pathogenesis of BOS in the context of allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplant, identify translatable targets and key priorities for preclinical investigation*

Co-Chairs: [Joe Hsu](#) and [Sophie Paczesny](#)

**08:30 WELCOME PARTICIPANTS**

**08:45 Opening Remarks**

[Prof Antoine Geissbuhler](#), *Dean of the University of Geneva*

**08:50 Building on the ATS research statement and our understanding of the natural history of BOS**

[Guang-Shing Cheng](#), *Fred Hutch Cancer Center*

**09:05 Session 1: Knowledge Review**

09:05 Airway epithelial / endothelial injury [Jamie Todd](#), *Duke University*

09:25 Lung specificities of macrophages, cellular immunity, and alloimmune mechanisms [Julie Boiko](#), *Fred Hutch Cancer Center*

09:45 Viral infections and transplant alloimmunity [Louise Bondeelle](#), *University of Geneva*

**10:05 Coffee Break**

**10:15 Session 2: Knowledge Review**

10:15 Role of infection and microbiome in post-HCT lung injury [Matthew Zinter](#), *Univ of California San Francisco*

10:35 Dysbiosis and metabolomics in lung GVHD [David Michonneau](#), *University of Paris*

10:55 Cell-free DNA in lung transplant [Sean Agbor-Enoh](#), *NIH/National Heart, Lung, Blood Institute*

**11:15 Session 3: Pro/Con Debate: Idiopathic pneumonia syndrome is a risk factor for lung GVHD**

[Ken Cooke](#), *Johns Hopkins University* and [Ajay Sheshadri](#), *MD Anderson Cancer Center*

**11:45 DISCUSSION**

**12:00 LUNCH**

**13:00 The Patient Perspective** [Andreas Mall](#), *Germany*

**13:05 Session 4: Pathways of Fibrosis Across Medical Contexts**

13:05 Interstitial lung disease [Bruno Crestani](#), *University of Paris-Diderot*

13:25 Lung transplant [John Belperio](#), *University of California Los Angeles*

13:45 BOS and cGVHD [Bruce Blazar](#), *University of Minnesota*

14:05 Discussion

**14:15 Session 5: Airways pathology in bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome**

14:15 Are large airways involved in HCT or GVHD? [Anne Bergeron](#), *University of Geneva*

14:35 Heterogeneity of airways pathology in clinical BOS: insights from microCT investigations in HCT, LT, and PIBO [Stijn Verleden Lab](#)

14:55 Lessons from bronchiectasis: phenotypes, endotypes, and treatable traits [Alan Barker](#), *Oregon Health Sciences University*

15:15 Discussion

**15:25 Coffee Break**

**15:35 Session 6: Translational approaches to studying lung GVHD**

15:35 Murine models of OB and transplant pulmonary fibrosis [Joe Hsu](#), *Stanford University*

15:55 BOS lung organoids [Carla Kim](#), *Harvard University*

16:15 Ex vivo human lung samples BOS vs. CLAD [Patrick Mellors](#), *Dartmouth University*

16:35 Discussion

**16:45 Session 7: Plenary Discussion**

[Sophie Paczesny](#) and [Joe Hsu](#)

**17:15 ADJOURN Day 1**

**18:30 Networking Reception**

*GOAL: To derive a consensus revision of the HCT-BOS definition based on up-to-date evidence*

**Co-Chairs:** [Guang-Shing Cheng](#) and [Anne Bergeron](#)

**08:00 Introduction. Why an NIH definition for lung GVHD? The Rationale for a Revision**

08:00 From BO to BOS: Defining Lung GVHD [Anne Bergeron, University of Geneva](#)

08:05 Historical context of the lung chronic GVHD definition and response criteria [Steve Pavletic, NIH](#)

08:15 Considerations of practice heterogeneity on the landscape of cGVHD and lung disease [Daniel Wolff, University of Regensburg](#)

08:25 The diagnostic framework and introduction of working proposal [Guang-Shing Cheng, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

**08:30 Session 1: Diagnostic Elements: Lung Physiology** Chair: [Guang-Shing Cheng](#)

08:30 Basics of PFTs: spirometry, lung volumes, DLCO, and current interpretative strategies [Jane Turner, McMaster University](#)

08:45 Patterns of airflow obstruction, small airways disease, and 'reversibility' relevant to clinical BOS [Gerald Weinhouse, Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard University](#)

09:00 Alternatives to conventional PFTs: handheld spirometry, oscillometry, and MBW [Paul Robinson, University of Queensland, Australia](#)

09:15 Gaps, controversies, and recommendations [Guang-Shing Cheng, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

**09:30 Session 2: Diagnostic Elements: Chest Imaging** Chair: [Husham Sharifi](#)

09:30 Chest imaging correlates of airflow obstruction [Okka Hamer, University of Regensburg](#)

09:45 Quantitative CT, MRI, and novel approaches to imaging for lung GVHD [Greg Yanik, University of Michigan](#)

10:00 Gaps, controversies, and recommendations [Husham Sharifi, Stanford University](#)

**10:15 Coffee Break**

**10:30 Session 3: Diagnostic Elements: Necessary Conditions and Exclusions** Chair: [Ajay Sheshadri](#)

10:30 Pro/Con Debate: Do we need bronchoscopic or surgical lung biopsies? [Clare Sander, Cambridge University Hospital and TBD](#)

10:50 Should absence of infection be a requirement for a diagnosis of lung GVHD? [David Epstein, Stanford University](#)

11:05 Requirements for the cGVHD clinical context and the need for histology [Catherine Lee, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

11:20 Gaps, controversies, and recommendations [Ajay Sheshadri, MD Anderson Cancer Center](#)

**11:35 DISCUSSION of Revision Part 1**

[Guang-Shing Cheng, Husham Sharifi, Ajay Sheshadri](#)

**12:00 LUNCH**

**13:00 Session 4: Considerations for Special Populations and Scenarios** Chair: [Kirsten Williams](#)

13:00 Consideration of preexisting lung disease and the impact of aging on lung function [Hemang Yadav, Mayo Clinic](#)

13:15 The impact of growth on lung function [Shiv Shanthikumar, University of Melbourne](#)

13:30 Specific pediatric considerations for lung function testing, chest imaging, and invasive diagnostic testing [Stella Davies, Cincinnati Children's Hospital](#)

13:45 Recommendations for minimum diagnostic criteria if no diagnostic testing can be obtained [Kirsten Williams, Emory University](#)

14:00 Discussion

**14:15 Session 5: Mixed Phenotypes and Non-BOS Lung Entities** Co-Chairs: [Jeff Sturek](#) and [Anne Bergeron](#)

14:15 Mixed physiology and non-parenchymal restriction [Jeff Sturek, University of Virginia](#)

14:30 Organizing pneumonia and Interstitial lung disease entities [Julie Lai, Stanford University](#)

14:45 Pro/Con: Should CLAD-RAS criteria be applied to HCT Lung GVHD? [Saskia Bos, University of Leuven](#) and [Anne Bergeron](#)

15:00 Recommendations and discussion: Include non-BOS as GVHD, and which entities? [Jeff Sturek, University of Virginia](#)

**15:15 Coffee Break**

**15:30 Session 6: Implementation Panel** Chair: [Daniel Wolff](#) with an introduction by patient representative [Guy Livneh](#)

Panelists: [Yves Chalandon, University of Geneva](#); [Danielle Stahlbaum, University of Michigan](#); [Anna DeSalvo, National Marrow Donor Program](#); [Sam Goldfarb, University of Minnesota](#); [Paul Carpenter, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#); [Najla El-Jurdi, NIH/National Cancer Institute](#)

**16:30 Session 7: Plenary Discussion--Addressing Areas of Controversy**

[Guang-Shing Cheng](#) and [Anne Bergeron](#)

**17:15 ADJOURN Day 2**

# DAY 3: CLINICAL TRIALS FOR LUNG GVHD

Friday 25 September 2026

*GOAL: Establish an ideal clinical trial design and identify clinical trial readiness gaps for Lung GVHD after HCT*

**Co-Chairs:** [Anne Bergeron](#) and [Guang-Shing Cheng](#)

## **08:00 Introduction**

Why we need BOS-specific clinical trials [Corey Cutler, Dana Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard University](#)

## **08:10 Session 1: Current Therapeutic Landscape for HCT-BOS**

[Chair: Anne Bergeron](#)

08:10 Guidelines versus the reality [Hélène Schoemans, University of Leuven](#)

08:25 FDA-approved cGVHD agents for BOS: a pulmonologist's perspective [Anne Bergeron, University of Geneva](#)

08:40 Antifibrotics and the pulmonary drug pipeline [Katrín Hostettler, University of Basel](#)

08:55 Alternative therapies (e.g. ECP) and cGVHD drug pipeline [Daniel Wolff, University of Regensburg](#)

09:10 Q&A / Panel Discussion

## **09:25 Coffee Break**

## **09:30 Session 2: Clinical Trial Design Elements**

[Chair: Guang-Shing Cheng](#)

09:30 When it's OK to be out of line – modeling continuous data as a non-linear function [Ted Gooley, Fred Hutch Cancer Center](#)

09:45 How to Improve the Level of Evidence of Single-Arm Phase 2 Trials. [Sylvie Chevret, University of Paris/Hopital St. Louis](#)

10:15 Biomarkers for Lung GVHD: how do we get there, and how do we test? [Sophie Paczesny, Medical College of South Carolina](#)

10:30 Innovative trial designs in interstitial lung diseases: adaptive, umbrella, basket [Toby Maher, University of California Los Angeles](#)

10:45 Q&A / Discussion

**11:00** Insights from the Facebook BOS group: What patients are willing to do to participate in a clinical trial. [Guy Livneh, Palo Alto, California](#)

## **11:15 Session 2: Clinical Trial Partnerships Panel Discussion**

[Co-Chairs: Daniel Wolff and Steve Pavletic](#)

The logistics of establishing multicenter / international collaborations

[Panelists: Val Bhatt \(Incyte\), Katherine Ecsy \(Sanofi\), Jason Chien \(Mozart Therapeutics\), Gino Cortopassi \(Buto Corp.\), Madhuri Vusirikala \(Therakos\), FDA, EMA TBD](#)

## **12:00 LUNCH**

## **13:00 Session 4: Clinical Trial Design Brainstorming Session**

13:00 Small group breakouts: 1) Overall Trial Design, 2) Trial Inclusion and Endpoints, 3) Agents to test, 4) Correlative studies, 5) Recruitment and retention

13:45 Group reports and discussion

## **14:30 Session 5: Plenary Discussion: White Board Proposal for the Ideal Clinical Trial**

## **15:30 SUMMARY and ADJOURN Day 3 and Meeting**

[Guang-Shing Cheng and Anne Bergeron](#)

# Thank you to our Lung GVHD Consensus Project Participants

Nicola Adderly, MD<sup>^</sup> University of Calgary, Canada  
 Sean Agbor-Enoh, MD, PhD<sup>^</sup> NIH/NHLBI, USA  
 Mark Barash, DO<sup>#</sup> Medical College of Wisconsin, USA  
 Alan Barker, MD<sup>#</sup> Oregon Health Sciences University, USA  
 Anne Bergeron, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Geneva, Switzerland  
 John Belperio, MD<sup>#</sup> University of California Los Angeles, USA  
 Julie Boiko, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA  
 Louise Bondeelle MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Geneva, Switzerland  
 Saskia Bos MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Leuven, Belgium  
 Bruce Blazar, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Minnesota, USA  
 Paul Carpenter MD, MBBS<sup>#</sup> Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA  
 Edward Castillo, PhD<sup>^</sup> University of Texas at Austin, USA  
 Yves Chalandon, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Geneva, Switzerland  
 Guang-Shing Cheng, MD<sup>#</sup> Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA  
 Sylvie Chevret, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Paris, France  
 Jason Chien, MD, MS<sup>#</sup> Mozart Therapeutics, Seattle, USA  
 Julien Cohen, MD, PhD<sup>^</sup> University of Geneva, Switzerland  
 Kenneth Cooke, MD<sup>#</sup> Johns Hopkins University, USA  
 Bruno Crestani, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Paris-Diderot, France  
 Corey Cutler, MD, MPH<sup>^</sup> Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Univ, USA  
 Geoffrey Cuvelier<sup>^</sup> Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation, Canada  
 Stella Davies MBBS, PhD<sup>#</sup> Cincinnati Children's Hospital, USA  
 Anna DeSalvo, MS, CGC<sup>#</sup> National Marrow Donor Program, USA  
 David Epstein, MD<sup>#</sup> Stanford University, USA  
 Najla El-Jurdi, MD<sup>#</sup> NIH/NCI, USA  
 Craig Galban, PhD<sup>^</sup> University of Michigan, USA  
 Ted Gooley, PhD<sup>#</sup> Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA  
 Sam Goldfarb, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Minnesota, USA  
 Okka Hamer, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Regensburg, Germany  
 Jörg Halter<sup>^</sup> University Hospital Basel, Switzerland  
 Matthew Hensley, MD<sup>^</sup> University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, USA  
 Katrin Hostettler, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Basel, Switzerland  
 Véronique Houdouin, MD<sup>^</sup> Robert-Debré University Hospital, France  
 Joe Hsu, MD, MPH<sup>#</sup> Stanford University, USA  
 Carla Kim, PhD<sup>#</sup> Harvard Medical School, USA  
 Julie Lai, MD<sup>#</sup> Stanford University, USA

Anita Lawitschka, MD<sup>^</sup> Medical University Vienna and Children's Cancer Research Institute, Austria  
 Catherine Lee, MD, MS<sup>#</sup> Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA  
 Guy Livneh Palo Alto, California, USA  
 Toby Maher, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of California Los Angeles USA  
 Patrick Mellors, MD<sup>#</sup> Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, USA  
 David Michonneau, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Paris, France  
 John Murray, RGN, MSc<sup>^</sup> National Health Services, UK  
 Sophie Paczesny, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> Medical College of South Carolina, USA  
 Steven Pavletic, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> NIH/NCI Emeritus, USA and Croatia  
 Jonathan Rayment, MD, MSc<sup>^</sup> University of British Columbia, Canada  
 Paul Robinson, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Queensland, Australia  
 Matthew Rutter<sup>^</sup> Cambridge University Hospitals, UK  
 Hélène Salvator, MD, PhD<sup>^</sup> Hospital Foch, France  
 Alijca Sadowska-Klasa, MD<sup>^</sup> Medical University of Gdansk, Poland  
 Clare Sander, MD<sup>#</sup> Cambridge University Hospital, UK  
 Hélène Schoemans, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Leuven, Belgium  
 Kirk Schultz, MD, PhD<sup>^</sup> University of British Columbia, Canada  
 Christian Schulz, MD<sup>^</sup> University of Regensburg, Germany  
 Shiv Shanthikumar, MBBS, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Melbourne, Australia  
 Husham Sharifi, MD<sup>#</sup> Stanford University, USA  
 Ajay Sheshadri, MD, MSCI<sup>#</sup> MD Anderson Cancer Center, USA  
 Danielle Stahlbaum, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Michigan, USA  
 Jeffrey Sturek, MD, PhD<sup>#</sup> University of Virginia School of Medicine, USA  
 Jamie Todd, MD<sup>#</sup> Duke University, USA  
 Jane Turner, MD<sup>#</sup> McMaster University, Canada  
 Gerald Weinhouse, MD Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/Harvard Univ, USA  
 Hemang Yadav, MBBS<sup>#</sup> Mayo Clinic Minnesota, USA  
 Greg Yanik, MD<sup>#</sup> University of Michigan, USA  
 Matthew Zinter, MD<sup>#</sup> University of California San Francisco, USA

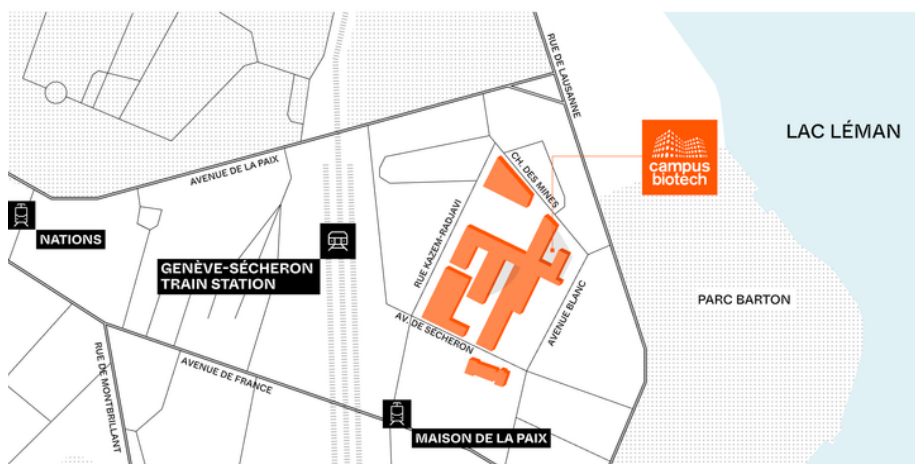
\* Chair / Task Force Lead  
 # Speaker / Panelist  
 ^Task Force Member

## Thank you to our Special Advisors:

Michael Boeckh, MD PhD Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA  
 Stephanie Lee, MD, MPH Fred Hutch Cancer Center, USA

and special thanks to Liz Curtis and Amélie Rivoira

**Campus Biotech**  
 9 Chemin des Mines, 1202 Genève



SCAN CODE TO REGISTER



## CONTACT

Amélie Rivoira  
 amelie.rivoira@hug.ch



**UNIVERSITÉ  
 DE GENÈVE**

FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE