



1st SGI International Summit Preterm Birth

November 10-12, 2005
Siena, Italy

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to welcome you to Siena for the 1st International SGI Summit on “Preterm Birth”. Fifty-two years after the founding of the SGI, the Society will sponsor a scientific meeting outside of North America. During the last few years, the SGI has aimed to increase its international base, and an elected international representative now serves on the SGI Council. The SGI membership from outside of North America now represents 1/6th of the total SGI membership, with members in 27 countries around the world. In the spirit of fostering further international participation, the SGI will inaugurate biannual Summits, with the goal of holding these theme-focussed meetings primarily outside of North America.

We are pleased to host the first Summit in Siena, a spectacular city surrounded by medieval walls in the heart of Tuscany and of the Chianti region. Siena is world famous for the Palio, a horse race held in a shell-shaped Square, il Campo, twice a year. Siena is also known for its bank, Monte dei Paschi di Siena, one of the oldest in the World; the Musical Academia Chigiana; and the University of Siena which was founded on 1270, one of the oldest seats of higher learning in Europe. The University of Siena will offer its hospitality to the first SGI Summit, to be held in the Convention Hall of the University Hospital. The local Secretariat will be sponsored by the University of Siena.

The topic of the first SGI Summit is Preterm Birth. This is a very important area of clinical and basic investigation that encompasses multiple scientific disciplines including obstetrics, endocrinology, immunology, infectious diseases, and pharmacology. Twenty plenary lectures will be presented along with ample time for poster presentations and discussion. A conference report including summaries of plenary lectures and contributed papers will be published in a special issue of the Journal of SGI.

I look forward to seeing you to Siena in November.

Felice Petraglia, M.D.
Summit Chairman



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Organizing Secretariat

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The SGI gratefully acknowledges Ferring Pharmaceuticals A/S (Denmark), Adeza Biomedical (USA), Schering SpA (Italy), Solvay GmbH (Germany), and Organon (Italy) for generous educational grants in support of the 1st International SGI Summit.

Meeting at a Glance

Thursday, November 10th

Session A

Preterm Labor: Mechanisms

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Afternoon Session

Session B

Preterm Labor: Mediators

2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, November 11th

Session C

Preterm Labor: Methods of Prediction
and Prevention

8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon Session

New Drug Development

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Meet the Experts

Poster Session

Oral Presentations

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Classical Music Concert

Orchestra a Plettro Senese

Church of Santissima Annunziata

7:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 12th

Session D

Preterm Labor: Current State of Interventions

8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 10, 2005

Session A - Preterm Labor: Mechanisms

Chairmen: P.L. Leppert (USA)

S.K. Smith (UK)

08:30 — Myometrial Function
(S. Lye, Canada)

09:15 — The Cervix (A. Word, USA)

10:00 — The Secretory Placenta/Membranes
(F. Petraglia, Italy)

10:45 — Coffee Break

11:00 — Stress (R. Smith, Australia)

11:45 — Infections (P. Bennet, UK)

12:30 — Conclusions

Working Lunch

Session B - Preterm Labor: Mediators

Chairmen: M. Seppala (Finland)

K.L. Thornburg (USA)

02:00 — The Prostaglandin Pathway
(J.R. Challis, Canada)

02:40 — Oxytocin (S. Thornton, UK)

03:20 — Signal Transduction Pathways
(C. Mendelson, USA)

04:00 — Coffee break

04:20 — Matrix Metalloproteinases and
Inflammatory Mediators
(J. Strauss, USA)

05:00 — Nitric Oxide (J. Norman, UK)

05:40 — Relaxin (G. Weiss, USA)

06:00 — Conclusions



Friday, November 11, 2005

Session C - Preterm Labor:

Methods of Prediction and Prevention

Chairmen: M. Mitchell (NZ)
M. Nelson (USA)

- 08:00 — Monitoring the High Risk Mother
(J. Gardosi, UK)
- 08:45 — Biochemical Markers
(C. Lockwood, USA)
- 09:30 — Molecular Insights
(R. Romero, USA)
- 10:15 — Coffee Break
- 10:30 — Biophysical Markers (R. Garfield, USA)
- 11:15 — Genetic Screening (K. Ward, USA)
- 12:00 — Conclusions
- Working Lunch

Session - New Drug Development

1:00 - 2:00 — TBD

Session - Meet the Experts

Chairman: F. Naftolin

- 1:00 — Socio-Economic Aspects of Preterm Birth
(J. Howse, USA - March of Dimes)
- 2:30 — Mytology and Preterm Birth
(M. Bettini, Italy - Classical Antropology)
- 3:00 - 5:00 — Poster session TBD
- 5:00 - 6:00 — Oral session TBD

Saturday, November 12, 2005

Session D - Preterm labor: Current State of Interventions

Chairmen: S. Gabbe (USA)

- K. Okamura (Japan)
- 08:00 — Calcium Blockers and Beta Mimetics
(J. Morrison, Ireland)
- 08:45 — Oxytocin and Prostaglandin
Antagonists (A.Lopez Bernal, UK)
- 09:30 — Coffee Break
- 09:45 — Progestational Agents and Labor
(P. Meis, USA)
- 10:30 — Antenatal Steroid Treatment
(J. P Newnham, Australia)
- 11:15 — Monitoring the High Risk Fetus
(GH Visser, NL)
- 12:00 — Conclusions

GENERAL INFORMATION

Symposium venue

Centro Didattico Policlinico "S. Maria alle Scotte"
Viale Bracci
53100 Siena, Italy
www.unisi.it/eventi/centrodidattico

The Centro Didattico Policlinico "S. Maria alle Scotte" is 5 km from the center of the city. It can be reached by taxi or bus in 15 minutes. Bus # 8, 10, 77, 17, 3 leave P.za del Sale - P.za Gramsci in the city center for the congress venue. Three and four stars hotels are available within walking distance of the congress site as well as in the center of Siena. Please indicate your hotel preference on the Hotel Registration Form.

Registration/Hospitality /Information Desk

These services will be provided at the symposium venue as follows:

- Thursday, November 10th,
from 7:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Friday, November 11th,
from 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, November 12th,
from 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Each registrant will receive a kit containing a program, abstract book, name badge, invitation to the social events, and other symposium material. (please visit the SGI web site <http://www.sgionline> for Summit updates)

Language

The official language of the meeting will be English

Exhibition

The exhibition will be situated in the hall and in the corridor adjacent to the auditorium. Exhibits will be open throughout the meeting.

Poster

Posters of 70 cm/ 27" width and 100 cm / 39" height should be prepared in advance and should be brought in person by the participant. Do not mail your poster. Ideally a poster should be self-explanatory, clear and specific, and should present the material logically and legibly.

VISA

Italy is part of the European Union. Citizens of member states of the European Union only need an ID or passport and do not need visas. Congress delegates who require a visa can obtain one from the Italian Embassy in their home country. An official letter of invitation to attend the congress can be forwarded to any participant upon request for obtaining a visa. However, this invitation implies no obligation, financially or otherwise.

Currency, Bank, and Post Office

The official currency is Euro.

Banks are generally open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, with a break for the lunch between 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. There is a bank at the symposium site which is open from 8:20 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday to Friday with a break for lunch between 1:15 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. Post Offices are open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. A post office is open at the symposium site from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Most hotels and shops accept major credit cards.

Internet Room

An Internet point will be located in the Room 3, close at the Convention Hall and will be operational from Thursday November 10 to Saturday November 12 from 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. E-mail service will be available in the Internet room.

Attendance Certificates

A certificate of attendance will be given to all registered participants.



Smoking Policy

Participants will be kindly requested to refrain from smoking in the lecture hall.

Time zone and weather

Italy is one hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. The temperature usually varies between 7-10°C at night and 10-15°C during the day. Rain is not unexpected. It is recommended to bring a raincoat and a sweater.

Transportation

Special symposium buses will take you to the symposium site from the hotels each morning as well as to the social events and return you to your hotels in the evenings.

A city bus services from the symposium site to centre of Siena is also available.

REGISTRATION & SESSION FEES

Member, Associate Member,
Non-Member: €280 (Euros)

In-Training: €130 (Euros)

*The In-Training category is for: Residents and Ph.D. Students. If you register as In-Training, you must send a sponsor letter from your University with your registration form and payment.

The registration packet includes: Badge, Bag, Abstract Book, and a Complimentary Ticket to a Classical Music Concert.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Siena Hotels Promotion

Piazza M. Teresa di Calcutta 5

53100 Siena, Italy

Tel: +39 0577 288084

Fax: +39 0577 280290

congressi@hotelsiena.com

Please use the hotel registration form to make a reservation (see enclosed form)

HOW TO REACH SIENA

<http://www.unisi.it/raggiungeresiena.htm>

By Air

<http://www.safnet.it/>

Amerigo Vespucci Aereoport - Firenze

Galileo Galilei Aereoport - Pisa

<http://www.pisa-airport.com/>

Leonardo Da Vinci Aereoport - Fiumicino, Roma

<http://www.adr.it/>

Shuttle buses will be organized from the Florence Airport on November 9, according to requests received by the Organizing Secretariat (corsir@unisi.it).

Buses will leave from outside the Arrival Terminal at the following times:

3 p.m.

5 p.m.

7 p.m.

9 p.m.

By Train

Please check Ferrovie dello Stato's official timetable to find the possible trains combinations for a trip between FS stations or towns linked to FS stations by trains owning to private railways companies.

The official timetable from Ferrovie dello Stato S.p.A.

By Bus

Direct lines from Florence, Rome, Milan

Information:<http://www.unisi.it/orariautobus.htm>

Tel: +39-0577-204245

By Car

Coming from North- Florence, Bologna: it is advisable to leave the A1 highway at Florence Certosa exit and proceed in the other motorway - Florence-Siena

Coming from South- Rome: it is advisable to leave the A1 highway at Val di Chiana exit and proceed until reaching Siena - Grosseto: motorway Siena-Grosseto



Abstract submission

Abstract submission for oral presentations and poster session deadline is June 15, 2005. The instructions for completing the Abstract Form can be found on the SGI Web Site <http://www.sgionline.org>.

Instructions for Completing the Abstract Form

This form is for online submission of your completed abstract. Unlike the online submissions program for the SGI annual meeting, this form cannot be edited or retracted. Once you have entered information into this form, you must submit the form. Please be sure that the information that you type into this form is in its final version before submitting it.

1. Your abstract should contain (a) a sentence stating the study's specific objectives, unless this is given by the title, (b) a brief statement of the methods, if pertinent, (c) a summary of the results (d) a statement of the conclusions. (d) should be prefaced by a subheading (e.g. Objective: or Hypothesis: Methods: Results: Conclusions:). It is not satisfactory to state, "The results will be discussed."
2. Add codes for any special formatting. Verify that your abstract is correct.
3. Submit Abstract, but only when you are sure that your abstract is complete and in final form. Please verify that your abstract is correct before submitting.

4. Please note: you must submit your abstract electronically prior to mailing your hard copy for your submission to be valid.
5. If your abstract contains a figure, immediately upon submission you must mail an unfolded copy of your abstract submission with the figure affixed in the designated space markers to: SGI Summit Abstracts, c/o Organizing Secretariat, Servizio Congressi, Università, Via Banchi di Sotto, 46, 53100, Siena, Italy.
6. You will receive a confirmation number via e-mail indicating that your abstract was received. Reference this number in any written correspondence or telephone conversations regarding your abstract submission.

SGI 1st International Summit Abstracts c/o
Organizing Secretariat
Servizio Congressi
Università di Siena
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53100, Siena, Italy
Phone: +39-0577-232132
Fax: +30-0577-232134
E-mail: corsir@unisi.it

Deadline: All abstracts must be submitted by June 15, 2005, 11:59 PM, Eastern Standard Time.

If not submitted by this date and time, your abstract will not be accepted.

**1ST SGI INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT
PRETERM BIRTH
Siena (Italy), November 10-12, 2005**

HOTEL REGISTRATION FORM

To be sent to:

SIENA HOTELS PROMOTION

Piazza M.T. di Calcutta, 5 - 53100 Siena, Italy

Fax: +39 0577 280 290 - E-Mail: congressi@hotelsiena.com - Tel: +39 0577 288 084

Surname: _____

First Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail _____

I WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE:

No _____ single room/s with bath

No _____ double room/s with bath

No _____ double room/s used as single

Date of arrival _____ Date of Departure _____ (No of nights _____)

Notes/Special Requests _____

Luxury Hotel
Double room from € 200,00 to € 340,00
Double room used as single from € 160,00 to € 250,00

Four Stars Hotel
Single room from € 100,00 to € 120,00
Double room from € 110,00 to € 150,00
Double room used as single from € 105,00 to € 125,00

Three Stars Hotel
from € 60,00 to € 80,00
from € 85,00 to € 105,00
from € 70,00 to € 95,00

All prices include tax, service, breakfast, and are to be considered per day. The hotels have very few single rooms and will be satisfied in order of arrival. If single rooms are not available, double rooms as single rooms will be reserved.

The sum of one night's stay, plus 10,00 € service charge must be sent as deposit before October 1st, 2005.

Payment for deposit and service charge should be made by :

Check made out to "Siena Hotels Promotion"

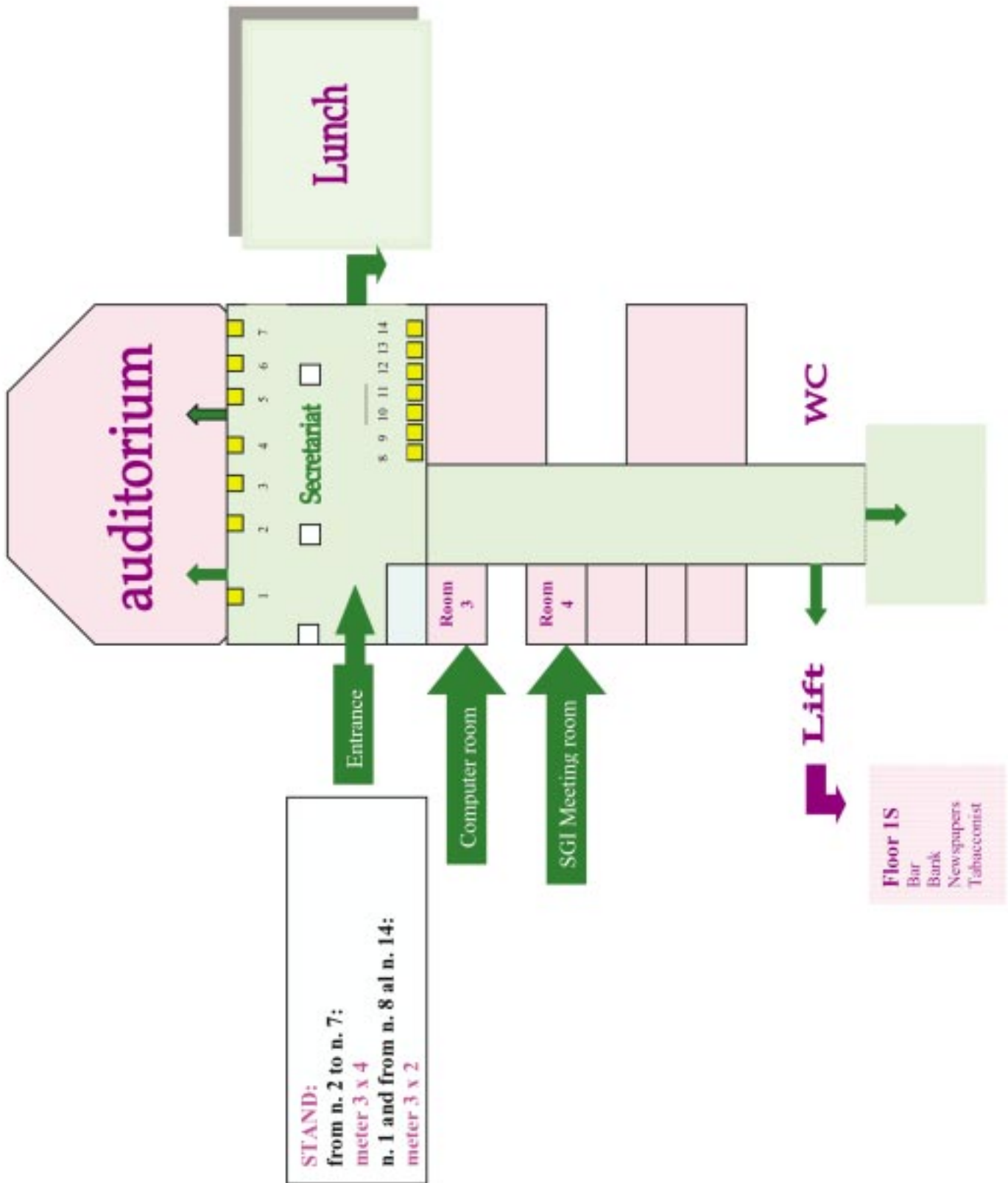
by credit card VISA MASTERCARD AMERICAN EXPRESS DINERS CLUB

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

CANCELLATION POLICY

Should your payment not be received on time, your reservation will be cancelled. Do not send any payment to the hotel. Any reservation changes or cancellations must be made in writing to Siena Hotels Promotion. If your hotel reservation is cancelled before October 25th, 2005 the deposit will be refunded less 40,00 € handling fee. If you cancel your hotel reservation after October 25th, 2005 or if you arrive later than on the dates indicated on your reservation form, no refunds can be made.

Date: _____ Signature: _____



1st SGI International Summit Preterm Birth



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