

Name of Workshop: The Role of the International Lipidomics Society (Lipids & Lipidomics)

Date: Tuesday, June 3, 2020

Presiders: Kim Ekroos and Michal Holcapek

Approx. attendance: 40-60

Summary of program and discussion

The workshop style we adapted was to invite four lipidomics researchers that are members of the Interest Group steering committees focusing on lipidomics standardization, reference materials and biological reference ranges, instrumental and methodological developments, and clinical lipidomics. I opened the workshop and introduced the newly founded International Lipidomics Society covering the aim, goals and structure of the society. This followed by each speaker given approximately 10 min to present, followed by approximately 30 min of community questions and discussion.

The field of lipidomics is rapidly evolving and offers new opportunities for studying the roles of lipids in cellular biology as well as in health and disease. However, the number of lipidomics users, variety of non-standardized applications and methods is rapidly growing, risking to further extend the discrepancies in data reporting and study irreproducibility. Michal and I aimed to invoke a discussion around role of the International Lipidomics Society, its role in the lipidomics and connecting communities, and the current and future needs. The four speakers invited and title, were Gerhard Liebisch (Institute of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine, University of Regensburg, Germany) " Lipidomics standards initiative", Federico Torta (Singapore Lipidomics Incubator (SLING), Department of Biochemistry, YLL School of Medicine, National University of Singapore) "Reference materials and biological reference ranges", Xianlin Han (Barshop Institute for Longevity and Aging Studies, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, TX USA) "Instrumental and methodological developments", and Peter Miekle (Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute Metabolomics Laboratory) " Clinical lipidomics". Overall, in my opinion, the speakers and audience were very engaged and there was a great discussion from the audience. There were many questions answered and many attendees provided excellent feedback, as for instance "Thank you for your presentations, this forum and the discussion - love the fundamental chemistry answers!". Considering the circumstances on presenting online, we had 40-60 attendees present throughout the workshop. In my opinion this shows a very high interest in and importance of this workshop. I think we accomplished what we intended to accomplish.