

Dear basic/translational and clinical gastroenterology and liver researchers,

I am writing to invite you to the **4th California DDRCC Network Symposium** which will take place virtually on **Friday, December 8 from 1 to 4 PM**. The purpose of the network is to connect basic/translational and clinical gastroenterology and liver researchers at all levels of experience—ranging from seasoned professor to first-year student—from UC San Diego, UC San Francisco, and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. A major goal of the symposium is to support junior investigators by highlighting their latest research findings and providing them with access to experienced investigators with knowledge relevant to career development. Specifically, we will have a **scientific program featuring brief presentations by basic/translational and clinical junior investigators** from each of the 3 institutions, followed by a **workshop focusing on networking and career development**.

As you can see from the **program outline below**, we will have an exciting group of speakers and experts and I hope you will make time to attend this important event.

Best,  
Holger Willenbring  
Associate Director  
UCSF Liver Center

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**4th California DDRCC Network Symposium**  
**December 8, 1 - 4 PM**  
**ZOOM LINK**

1:00 PM – 1:05 PM **Welcome**

**Ekihiro Seki**, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Karsh Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Cedars-Sinai Digestive Diseases Research Center (CSDDRC), Cedar-Sinai Medical Center

*Basic/Experimental Session*  
*Moderated by Holger Willenbring MD, PhD UC San Francisco*

1:05 PM – 1:25 PM **Hiromi Wettersten**, DVM, PhD, MPVM, Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology, UC San Diego

"Integrin  $\alpha\beta3$ : A double edged sword in pancreatitis"

1:25 PM – 1:45 PM **Aras Mattis**, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Pathology, UC San Francisco

"TM6SF2 regulation in MASLD pathogenesis"

1:45 PM – 2:05 PM **Vijay Pandyarajan**, MD, PhD, Instructor, Karsh Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (CSMC)

"Effects of fungal dysbiosis on steatotic liver disease "

2:05 PM – 2:15 PM **Break**

*Clinical/Translational Session*  
*Moderated by Dermot McGovern, MD, PhD, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center*

2:15 PM – 2:35 PM **Phillip Gu**, MD, Assistant Professor, Karsh Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center (CSMC)

"Leveraging radiology to inform prognosis in IBD "

2:35 PM – 2:55 PM **Jessica Rubin**, MD, MPH, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, UC San Francisco

"Pain and challenges of its management in patients with cirrhosis "

2:55 PM – 3:15 PM **Amanda Krause**, MD, Clinical Research Fellow, Division of Gastroenterology, UC San Diego

"Laryngeal hypervigilance and anxiety in patients with chronic laryngeal symptoms"

3:15 PM – 3:20 PM **Closing Remarks**

*Career Development/Networking Workshop*  
*Moderated by Lars Eckmann, MD, UC San Diego and Gil Melmed, MD, MS, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center*

3:20 PM – 3:40 PM Opportunity for junior faculty, postdocs, and fellows to get to know their peers, and to receive feedback on their scientific and clinical career. Participants are encouraged to introduce themselves and their work with 1-2 slides.

