PGDIS Newsletter, August 2025

Announcement of the 23rd International Conference on Preimplantation Genetics, Shanghai, China, April 24-27, 2026

This 23rd PGDIS conference will be held in The Shanghai Expo Center, Shanghai, China. Shanghai is an exciting city in mainland China and visitors will be enthralled at how lively and bustling the city is. This will be the first time that China has hosted PGDIS and we are sure that all attendees will be amazed at how this region has expanded the use of both IVF and Preimplantation Genetic Testing (PGT), as well as exploring the science underlying embryo development and embryo selection. As with all previous PGDIS conferences, there is a theme that underlies the event and in 2026 it will be "New Technologies and Quality Control in PGT".

During the conference we will explore new technologies, genetic testing and analysis, quality assurance, laboratory management as related to PGT (biopsy, sample handling, analysis), non-invasive PGT (niPGT) as well as delving into the genetics of embryos and aspects of PGT applications. We are pleased to say that there will be both a host of renowned local and regional experts as well as many foreign international experts discussing these and other topics.

Continuing from PGDIS 2025, key speakers will discuss the population consequences of recessive disorders- this is an important area on the application of PGT-M and highlights its utility in complementing government health initiatives around the world.

The clinical value of PGT-A will be critically discussed - an area of controversy but one where rapid expansion and utilization necessitates a better understanding of its overall value in IVF practices. Technology never stops progressing and developments in the integration of genotype and chromosomal anomaly detection further enhances its clinical value.

Recently, focus has shifted from traditional known pedigree application to identifying carrier couples in the population to prevent even a first occurrence. Expanded carrier screening has shed further light on reproductive issues. As technology advances, the opportunity to investigate the whole embryo genome is becoming a reality and with it, the potential to identify both inherited and de novo mutations. With this expanded knowledge about an embryo, the possibility of looking at multi gene interactions is revealed. This is a contentious area in PGT with robust debate around its technical limitations, clinical applications and socio-ethical implications.

As technologies develop, their uptake into areas such as PGT, will keep raising challenges but will also improve the knowledge of the underlying biology and offer better embryo selection processes leading to improved overall success in IVF.

With easier access than ever before, this is a must attend event for clinicians, counselors, embryologists and scientists- in fact for everyone that works in the field of IVF and PGT. For both the knowledge available and the city itself, Shanghai will be a conference to remember.

To stay informed of key events, details of scientific program, timetables, registration and submission deadlines, please consult PGDIS website: www.pgdis.org

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