

# Cellular Therapy in Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases

Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2026

Virtual Congress



## Symposium Overview

In light of the current situation, we are transitioning the congress to an online event. This digital symposium remains a premier venue for exploring breakthroughs in CAR T-Cell Therapy, Stem Cell Transplantation, and Immune-Targeted Strategies.

Chaired by Prof. Doron Rimar and Prof. Merav Lidar, the event features a distinguished panel of international guest speakers alongside leading researchers from Israel's top medical and academic institutions.

## Congress Organizers:

**Prof. Doron Rimar**, Bnai Zion M.C., Israel

**Prof. Merav Lidar**, Sheba M.C., Israel

## Schedule

09:00-09:10	Opening Remarks Chairs: <b>Prof. Doron Rimar &amp; Prof. Merav Lidar</b>
09:10-09:30	Current International Guidelines for Cellular Therapy in Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases Guest Speaker: <b>Prof. Dominique Farge</b> , ISCT Regional Vice-President- Elect, Europe Internal Medicine, St Louis Hospital, Paris-Cité University, France
09:30-09:50	Long term results after Autologous Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (AHSCT) in SSC Guest Speaker: <b>Prof. Jörg Henes</b> , Head of the Rheumatology Department, Senior Physician of the Department of Medical Clinic II, University of Tübingen, Germany
09:50-10:10	CAR T as Salvage Therapy After AHSCT Failure in Systemic Sclerosis & in Poly-Refractory PAN Vasculitis <b>Prof. Doron Rimar</b> , Senior Physician, Director of the Rheumatology Daycare Center, Bnai Zion M.C., Israel
10:10-10:20	Break
10:20-10:40	CAR T-Cell Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis: Current Evidence and Future Directions <b>Prof. Merav Lidar</b> , Director of Rheumatology at Sheba M.C., Israel & Head of the Israeli Society of Rheumatology
10:40-11:00	CAR T-Cell Therapy for Myositis: Translating Mechanistic Insight to Clinical Benefit Guest Speaker: <b>Prof. Rohit Aggarwal</b> , Co-Director, UPMC Myositis Center. Program Director, UPMC Myositis Fellowship Program, USA
11:00-11:20	Mesenchymal Stromal Cells in the treatment of SLE and Lupus Nephritis <b>Prof. Haim Putterman</b> , Professor of Medicine; Azrieli Faculty of Medicine, Bar-Ilan University, Zefat, Israel
11:20-11:30	Break
11:30-11:50	Adverse Events in CAR T-Cell Therapy for Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases: Recognition and Management Guest Speaker: <b>Prof. Fabian Müller</b> , Head of Research Group in Molecular Immunotherapy, University Hospital Erlangen, Germany
11:50-12:10	Off-the-shelf CAR T Cell Therapy: Allogeneic CRISPR-Cas9 Engineered Zugocabtagene Geluecel (Zugo-Cel) in Autoimmune Diseases <b>Noa Schwartz, MD, MS</b> , Director, Clinical Development at CRISPR Therapeutics, USA
12:10-12:40	T-Cell Engagers (TCEs) in Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases: Expanding the Therapeutic Landscape Guest Speaker: <b>Prof. George Schett</b> , Vice President of Research & Head of Department of Internal Medicine, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany
12:40-12:50	Break
12:50-13:20	Panel Discussion: "The Future of Cellular Therapy in Autoimmune Rheumatic Diseases: Integration, Challenges, and Opportunities"

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