

**Neuropathology 2000 Pre-Congress Satellite Symposium  
Birmingham, UK.**

**Gene Therapy in Neuro-Oncology:  
Translational Issues - Animals to Man.**

**9.00am - 3.00pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2000**

**Summary:**

Gene Therapy offers the possibility of harnessing a molecular level approach to the treatment of cancer. Models of tumour behaviour and response have quite rightly concentrated on proof of principle, but at the expense of encompassing the complex non confluent structure, heterogeneous nature and varied environment in which tumour exist in their usual site. Not only must the gene therapy vector be safe, but as current practise indicates, we must prove that the expected mechanism is working in the clinical setting, before efficacy can be considered. In this meeting we wish to highlight the nature and complexity of the translational issues of taking this technology from laboratory to man. We will structure the meeting to enable our speakers, each one a noted expert in their field, to explain the issue and hopefully move towards some guidelines for structuring the transition process. The meeting will be in three parts: I. an assessment of vector systems and delivery in principle and practice. II. free papers. III. gene and promotor optimisation in target cells.

**Provisonal Programme:**

9.00am "Vectorology" : principles and strategies for development of the next generation of viral vectors.

Professor Laurence Young  
CRC Institute for Cancer Studies  
University of Birmingham

9.30am New Developments in Herpes Simplex viral vectors.

Professor Moira Brown  
Institute of Neurological Sciences,  
Glasgow University.

10.00am Coffee

- 10.30am Free presentations
- 11.30am Towards realistic long term neurological gene therapy using adenoviral vectors.
- Professor Pedro Lowenstein  
Department of Molecular Medicine,  
Manchester University Medical School.
- 12.00pm Lunch
- 1.00pm Clinical considerations for effective and safe gene therapy of brain tumours.
- Professor Garth Cruickshank  
Department of Neurosurgery,  
University of Birmingham
- 1.30pm Free Presentations and Final Discussion.
- 2.30pm Close