

Strategic Goal of iSBTc Workshops:

To advance the field of **Biological Therapy of Cancer** by developing recommendations on methods of clinical and translational investigations.

(Inherent problem of methodology of developing biological therapies in contrast to cytotoxic agents)

Strategic Goal of Current Workshop:

To Advance the Field of **Immunotherapy** of Cancer by Providing Recommendations on How to Integrate Modern Immune Monitoring Into Clinical Development Strategies.

History: First iSBTc workshop 2001
inaugurated by Michael Atkins

Topic: Immune monitoring

Goal: Develop recommendations to
guide the immune monitoring of cancer
vaccine clinical trials. Concentration on
technical aspects of assays.

Achievements:

Recommendations on the performance of ex-vivo assays, assay validation, and on which assay to use in which situation were made.

Recommendations have been well received, and an increasing number of clinical studies, which used two of the three 1^o recommended assays (Elispot, CFC, Tetramer), has emerged.

Goals for the Current Workshop :

Build on the Results of the 2001
Workshop and Discuss the Next Steps

- Technical and Methodological
Advances

- Immune Monitoring in Clinical
Vaccine Trials

Workshop methodology

State of the field lectures:

- Provide a summary in order to provide all attendees a similar level of background knowledge
- summarize the topic for the breakout sessions

Breakout sessions:

- Define the state-of-the-art
- Develop recommendations based on current knowledge,
- Define specific research questions important to achieve the overall goal

Plenary session (simultaneous):

- Oral presentation of selected submitted abstracts to include novel findings.
- Summary of recommendations of last years workshop on Cancer Biometrics

Reporting session:

- Summarize breakout session results to plenum for critical discussion
- General Discussion