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**EEA Norway-Romania SmartVac project**

**Ist annual meeting**

**Time:** August 20-21, 2020**, Videoconference**

**Thursday, August 20th**

**Chair: Dr. Norica Nichita**

**14:00-14:10** Opening address

**14:10-15:15** WP1: Design and cloning novel (“smart”) HBV/HCV antigens with improved immunogenic properties.

**14:10-14:30** Dr. Olivia Dobrica (IBRA)**,** *Updates on HBV cloning and screening (A1.1, A1.2)*

**14:30-15:00** Dr. Ionut Popescu (IBRA),*Updates on HCV cloning and screening (A 1.3-1.7)*

**15:00-15:15** *Discussions on WP1, future planning*

**15:15-16:15** WP2: Production of the designed HBV and HCV vaccine antigens in N. benthamiana and lettuce plants using plant transient expression system

**15:15-16:00** Andre van Eeerde, *Updates on viral antigens expression in N. benthamiana and L. sativa**(A.2.1-2.4).*

**16:00-16:15** *Discussions on WP2, future planning*

**16:15-17:15** WP3: Production of the designed HBV and HCV vaccine antigens in microalgae

**16:15-16:30** Ralph Bock (MPI-MP), *Updates on optimization of microalgal transformation/expression protocols (A3.1*)

**16:30-17:00** Alexander Hammel (MPI-MP), *Updates on viral protein expression in microalgae (A3.2*)

**17:00-17:15** *Discussions on WP3, future planning*

**Friday, August 21st**

**Chair: Dr. Jihong Liu-Clarke**

**10:00- 11:00 WP4: Characterization of HBV/HCV antigens produced in alternative expression systems (mammalian cells, plants, algae)**

**10:00-10:20** Dr. Olivia Dobrica (IBRA), *Updates on molecular and functional characterization of HBV antigens produced so far (A 4.1, 4.2)*

**10:20-10:40** Lia-Maria Cucos (IBRA)**,** *Updates on molecular and functional characterization of HCV antigens produced so far (A 4.3, 4.4).*

**10:40-11:00** *Discussions on WP4, future planning*

**11:00-12:15 WP5: Comparative evaluation of the immunogenic properties of HBV/HCV antigens produced in alternative expression systems**

**11:00-11:15** Ana-Maria Pantazica (IBRA), *Updates on purification of HBV antigens (A 5.1)*

**11:15-11.30** Lia-Maria Cucos (IBRA), *Updates on purification of HCV antigens (A 5.2)*

**11:30-12:00** Crina Stavaru/ Catalin Tucureanu, INCDMM Cantacuzino , *Updates on “in vitro” evaluation of the immunogenicity of HBV and HCV vaccine candidates and adjuvants. (A 5.3)*

**12:00-12:15** *Discussions on WP5, future planning*

**12:15-12:30 WP7: Project management, capacity building and results dissemination**

**12:15-12:30** Drs. Norica Nichita & Jihong Liu-Clarke, *Updates on management activities, discussions (A 7.1-7.6).*

**12:30-13:00 Roundtable conclusions and closing remarks**