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Summary

Best of UEG Week 2024 with Pilar Acedo Nunez and Juozas Kupcinskas on "Bench to Bedside"

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Podcast Episode

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UEG Week 2024 in Vienna showcased advances in translational gastroenterology research, emphasising microbiome science, spatial biology techniques, and emerging Kras inhibitor therapies, with plans for an expanded basic science programme in Berlin 2025.

KEY POINTS

- A plenary study from the Netherlands profiled antibody responses in nearly 170,000 individuals and found altered responses against viruses and bacteria appear before IBD diagnosis in 178 new-onset cases, potentially identifying disease mechanisms.
- Sessions highlighted microbiome research using metagenomics and metabolomics across large cohorts, extending beyond bacteria to mycobiota and virome in IBD, cancer, and pancreatitis, though clinical diagnostic applications remain under development.
- Presentations on Kras inhibitors in pancreatic cancer reported lower-than-expected side effects in ongoing trials, with future strategies combining inhibitors with chemotherapy and genetic testing to address resistance mechanisms.
- Spatial biology techniques were presented for in-situ proteomics and transcriptomics in patient tissues, and organoid models allow testing therapies on patient-derived tissue to predict individual responses.
- The 2025 Berlin meeting will feature a Digestive Disease Mechanism Summit with a basic science conference on GI carcinogenesis and expanded sessions on nutritional interventions, cancer vaccines, and metabolic syndrome therapies.

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