gutflix
GI learning, personalised

Summary

Identifying new therapeutic targets

Kai Markus Schneider

UEG Week Barcelona 2026 | Presentation

Mechanisms & Personalised Medicine | Surgery | IBD | Hepatobiliary

October 19, 2026

The speaker reviewed emerging therapeutic targets in primary sclerosing cholangitis, emphasizing that PSC pathophysiology and optimal targets evolve across disease stages, from early autoimmune processes to advanced fibrosis.

KEY POINTS

- Cholic acid recently showed positive phase three results meeting a combined histological and biochemical primary endpoint, with European approval anticipated soon, while the phase three trial of the PPar agonist Elafibranor is ongoing.
- The speaker stated that bile acid synthesis is suppressed in advanced PSC and strongly correlates with transplantation-free survival, suggesting that patient selection based on intact bile acid synthesis may be important for bile-acid-targeted therapies.
- Claudin-1 was identified as a potential target, with expression increasing during disease progression and neutralization reducing inflammation and fibrosis in three mouse models of sclerosing cholangitis.
- The FXR agonist Cilofexor phase three trial was stopped for early futility, which the speaker hypothesized may reflect enrollment of patients with already suppressed bile acid synthesis.
- Targeting IBD does not clearly improve PSC outcomes, as infliximab, vedolizumab, and colectomy with pouch showed no effect, though colectomy with ileostomy showed a signal, and the largest randomized vancomycin trial did not meet its primary endpoint of ALP normalization.
- The speaker highlighted imidazole propionate as a microbiota-derived metabolite linked to transplantation-free survival that induced portal inflammation and fibrosis in a mouse model, illustrating gut-liver axis mechanisms.

VIEW THIS CONTENT ON GUTFLIX

https://gutflix.eu/search/d/12ddec86-d150-11f1-93c2-daaa6dbee0a2

AI-generated summary

This summary was generated by an AI large language model based on the content transcript. It is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a substitute for clinical judgment. Always rely on your professional expertise and the full clinical context when making clinical decisions.