
STEFAN JANSSENS

CV

PARTICIPANT AT:

UNSOLVED PROBLEMS IN HEART REPAIR

**November, 28th-, 29th and 30th, 2012, Barcelona**

Stefan Janssens, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

MD: Univ. of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium, 1984. PhD: Univ. of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium, 1992. Research Fellow at MGH, Harvard Univ., Boston, USA, 1989-92. VIB Group leader until 31/12/2010. Research interests: Both acute and chronic rodent models of pulmonary hypertension have been used to test the efficacy of aerosol gene transfer with genes encoding vasodilatory, antithrombotic and antiproliferative gene products. Different NO-synthase isoforms were overexpressed in the lungs to inhibit hypoxic pulmonary hypertension, as well as pulmonary vascular remodeling associated with chronic hypoxia. He will next investigate whether gene transfer strategies are able to reverse established pulmonary hypertension (deremodeling studies). Recently, he has also explored the role of cytochrome P450 epoxygenase, which mediates production of arachidonic acid metabolites with NO-independent vasomotor effects via hyperpolarization of smooth muscle cells. In the years to come, he will investigate the potential of endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) and of multipotent adult progenitor cells (MAPCs) to home in on hypertensive and remodeled pulmonary vessels to alter the imbalance between vasodilatory and vasoconstrictor mediator release. To this end, he is characterizing new rodent models of monocrotaline pyrrole-induced pulmonary hypertension.

B-DEBATE IS AN INITIATIVE OF:

