



Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the International Society for Preimplantation Genetics (PGDIS), we warmly invite you to join us for the biannual meeting, which will take place at the Congress and Festival Centre (<http://www.festspielhausbregenz.at>) in the beautiful city of Bregenz on the shore of Lake Constance in Austria from 17th - 19th May. The meeting is being hosted and sponsored by IVF Zentren Prof Zech (<http://www.ivf.at>) and will be dedicated to the late Yury Verlinsky, pioneer and founder of PGDIS, and Sir Robert Edwards, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine 2010.

On July 15th, 2011, preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) came of age with the 21st birthday of the first twins to be born. Since then several thousand children have been born and the range of genetic conditions which can be tested has increased dramatically. But what of the future? Is 24 chromosome aneuploidy testing by array CGH the answer to improving pregnancy rates in different indications? What is the optimal stage to biopsy the embryo? With advances in non-invasive prenatal diagnosis aided by next generation sequencing, does PGD have a future? The theme for this year's meeting is therefore 'Where to next for PGD? From polar body to blastocyst - the evolving genome' and we have organised an exceptional programme of international speakers which blends basic science and clinical application on a broad range of topics including:

- Preconception screening by next generation sequencing
- Impact of new technologies on prenatal diagnosis
- Molecular aspects of meiosis
- Cell fate in the preimplantation embryo
- Non-invasive imaging
- Debate: Polar body, cleavage stage or blastocyst biopsy?
- Array CGH
- SNP arrays and genome wide analysis
- Next generation sequencing for single cell analysis
- Non-invasive prenatal diagnosis

There will also be three pre-congress workshops (limited attendance) on Wednesday, May 16, 2012: (1) Array CGH, (2) Gamete and embryo vitrification, (3) Time-lapse and blastocyst culture for embryo selection

For further details of the main programme and workshops, information on travel and accommodation, abstract submission and to register online. Please visit [www.pgdis-2012.com](http://www.pgdis-2012.com) or contact the conference organiser, Yasmin Haunold at [office@pgdis-2012.com](mailto:office@pgdis-2012.com)

Please note that abstracts must be submitted by February 15th 2012.

We look forward to welcoming you to Bregenz!

Nicolas H Zech, Congress President  
Alan H Handyside, Chairman, Scientific Committee