



14th Annual Host Cell Protein Conference

May 27-29, 2026

Hybrid Conference
Boulder, Colorado

Day 1: Workshops | Wednesday, May 27

(In-Person Attendees Only)

7:30 Check-In for In-Person Attendees

8:30 Welcome & Logistics
Kevin Van Cott, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Morning Workshop:

From Basic Analytics to Advanced Analytical Characterization: Tackling the “Bad Actors” for a Systematic HCP Risk Control and Exploring Opportunities to Update USP <1132>

Leaders: *Fengqiang Wang, Merck | Ying Zhang, BEBPA | Lisette Coye, Coye CMC Strategies*

9:00 Introduction and Audience Survey
Kevin Van Cott, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

9:15 Fundamentals of HCP Analytics
Fengqiang Wang, Merck & Co., Inc

9:30 Advanced Analytical Characterization of HCPs
Ying Zhang, BEBPA

9:45 Regulatory Expectations for HCP Control
Lisette Coye, Coye CMC Strategies

10:00 Interactive Deep Dive into HCP Challenges with Case Studies
Workshop Leaders

10:45 Connection Break ☕

11:15 Group Discussion & Panels Q&A
Workshop Leaders

12:00 Wrap-up: Systematic Approach to HCP Risk Control

12:15 Workshop Adjourns

12:15 Hosted Lunch 🍴

Afternoon Workshop:

Streamlining Immunogenicity Assessment of Host Cell Proteins (HCPs): Insights and Case Studies

Leaders: *Anne De Groot, EpiVax | Ben Gabriel, EpiVax | Marla Abodeely, Sanofi | Vibha Jawa, EpiVax*

1:45 Introduction and Audience Survey
Kevin Van Cott, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

1:55 Naming and quantifying HCP: The strengths and weaknesses of LC-MS approach
Kevin Van Cott, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

2:15 Players, Sources and Strategies (Driving Immunogenicity): Overview of Core Principles Affecting the Immunogenicity Outcome
Anne De Groot, EpiVax

2:35 Orthogonal Tools for Measuring and Validating Immunogenicity Risk: ISPRI-HCP and In Vitro Assays - Methods and Alternatives
Ben Gabriel, EpiVax

2:55 Trends in HCP Mitigation (Columns, Gene editing, LC-MS)
Marla Abodeely, Sanofi

3:15 Connection Break ☕

3:45 Why it Matters - FDA perspective on HCP
Vibha Jawa, EpiVax

4:05 Case Studies: Biologic Vaccine: Were HCP the culprit in the Adenoviral-vectored COVID vaccine story?
Anne De Groot & Ben Gabriel, EpiVax

4:35 Q&A Group Discussion

5:00 Conference Day Adjourns



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Day 2: Podium | Thursday, May 28

(All Attendees Welcome)

7:30 Check-In for in-Person Attendees

Session 1

Session Chair: Florian Semmelmann, Roche

8:30 Welcome and Logistics

8:45 Session Chair Introduction and Audience Survey

9:00 HCP Characterization Toolbox for Efficient Risk Control
Erika Friedl, Senior Quality Expert, Paul-Erlich-Institut

9:30 Host Cell Protein Control Strategies in Antibody Processing: Review and Recommendations
Younghoon Oh, Sr. Scientist, J&J Innovative Medicine

10:00 The Maturation of an HCP Method - Or How to Ensure a Development Assay Can Survive in a QC Environment
Catherine Shoemaker-Ramsey, Associate Director, Biogen

10:30 Q&A Panel Discussion

10:45 Connection Break ☕

11:15 Quality Attributes of Adeno-Associated Virus Vectors with Heterogeneous Nature and Their Possible Impact on Immunogenicity
Susumu Uchiyama, Professor, U of Osaka

11:45 HCP Analysis for a Moss Expression System: Harnessing the Competence of Orthogonal Methods for Host Cell Protein Analysis During Early-Stage Process Development
Paulina Dabrowska-Schlepp, Director AS&T & Nonclinical Development, Eleva GmbH

12:15 Q&A Panel Discussion

12:30 Hosted Lunch 🍴

Session 2

Session Chair: John Maddalena, Medexus

2:00 High-Throughput Characterization of Product-Specific Host Cell Protein Hitch-Hiking in Protein A Eluates
Speaker To Be Announced

2:30 Impacts of Reducing HCPs by Chromatographic Solutions on Process Efficiency and Product Quality
Andrew Vail, Bioprocess Development Specialist, Thermo Fisher Scientific

3:00 Q&A Panel Discussion

3:30 Connection Break ☕

4:00 Elucidation of Proteoforms of Chinese Hamster Ovary (CHO) Phospholipase B-Like 2 (PLBL2) Captured From a Monoclonal Antibody
Vishnu Priya Mohan, Scientist, Takeda Pharmaceutical

4:30 A Data-Driven, Fit-for-Purpose Analytical Strategy for PLBL2 Risk Assessment and Control During Biologics Development
Jingbo Wang, Senior Scientist, Merck & Co., Inc

5:00 Q&A Panel Discussion

5:30 Platinim Exhibitor Introduction
TotalLab Ltd.

5:45 Platinim Exhibitor Introduction
Cygnus Technologies

6:00 Conference Day Adjourns

6:00 Welcome Mix & Mingle Reception



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Day 3: Podium | Friday, May 29

(All Attendees Welcome)

7:30 Check-In for in-Person Attendees

Session 3

Session Chair: Catherine Shoemaker-Ramsey, Biogen

8:30 Session Chair Introduction and Audience Survey

8:45 New MS Based Technologies for HCP Characterization in Vaccines
Speaker To Be Announced

9:15 Multivariate Regression Modelling and Data-Independent Acquisition Enable Reliable Absolute Quantification of Host Cell Proteins in Recombinant Vaccines
Speaker To Be Announced

9:45 Q&A Panel Discussion

10:00 Connection Break ☕

10:30 From Early to Late Phase: Winning Strategies in Host Cell Protein Management for In-Licensing Products
Bharathi Govindarajan, Associate Director, Sanofi

11:00 Method Suitability Assessment and Method Bridging of a Platform HCP ELISA for an In-Licensed Program
Jing Shang, Senior Principal Scientist, Pfizer

11:30 Q&A Panel Discussion

11:45 Hosted Lunch & Learn 🍴

Session 4

Session Chair: To Be Announced

1:15 Modernization of a Platform CHO HCP ELISA Through SME-Driven Automation on Hamilton STAR Systems
Chahan Shah, Analytical Development Scientist, Biogen

1:45 Implementing MAM for HCP Characterization and Release Testing
Da Ren, Founder & CEO, BioTherapeutics Solutions

2:15 Application of USP <1132.1>: Development and Optimization of an Untargeted LC-MS Workflow for CHO Host Cell Protein Profiling
Derrick Zhang, Senior Scientist II, USP

2:45 Q&A Panel Discussion

3:15 Connection Break ☕

Session 5

Session Chair: Kevin Van Cott, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

3:45 USP <1132> Group Discussion
Lead By:

Regina Kufer, Roche
Veronia Resigner, Novartis
Florian Semmelmann, Roche
Kevin Van Cott, Uni. Nebraska - Lincoln
Fengqiang Wang, Merck & Co., Inc.
Ying Zhang, BEBPA

4:30 Conference Closeout Summary

5:00 Conference Day Adjourns