

The Robert G. Townley Memorial Lectureship

2522 Exposure – Microbiome Interface in the Pathogenesis of Inflammatory Diseases
Saturday, February 25, 2023

Convention Center, Ballroom Level, Stars at Night B4, 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

Lecturer: Ian Myles, MD

Isocyanate Exposure Predicts Atopic Dermatitis and Disrupts Therapeutic Pathways in Commensal Bacteria

The Robert G. Townley Memorial Lectureship will be presented by Ian Myles, MD during 2522 Exposure – Microbiome Interface in the Pathogenesis of Inflammatory Diseases on Saturday, February 25th in Convention Center, Ballroom Level, Stars at Night B4, 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm (presentation at 12:55 pm)

Robert G. Townley, MD FAAAAI



Following completion of residency in Internal Medicine and Fellowship in Allergy Asthma and Immunology in Boston, MA, Dr. Robert G. Townley joined the faculty of Medicine and was Assistant Chief, Department of Asthma-Allergy, National Jewish Hospital, located in Denver, CO. Dr. Townley subsequently returned to Creighton University in Omaha, NE and started an allergy asthma and immunology division in the department of medicine and initiated their allergy fellowship training program.

Dr. Townley has helped train more than 50 fellows in allergy as well as 32 postdoctoral fellows from Japan, who had already finished their clinical training in allergy. He has helped initiate and carry out studies both in bench and animal research in allergy/immunology as well as clinical trials. His preclinical and clinical studies focused on airway hyperresponsiveness and inflammation. Five students have obtained their PhD with the allergy division. He has helped editor co-edit 3 textbooks pertaining to asthma and inflammation, airway smooth muscle, and Immunopharmacology of allergic diseases. He had also been successful in obtaining 3 NIH RO1 grants and an Allergic Disease Centre Grant.

Dr. Townley's allergy program was one of the clinical sites involved in the study of the IL-13 antagonist Lebrikizumab in the treatment in adults with asthma. This study was supported by Genentec and showed that the asthma subjects with high levels of the Periostin gene demonstrated significantly greater improvement in their FEV1 in those subjects treated with Lebrikizumab. (Corren, J., R.F. Lemanske et al 2011. Lebrikizumab treatment in adults with asthma. N. Engl. J. Med).

Sadly, with Dr. Townley's passing on Friday, September 9, 2016, this lectureship has been renamed the Robert G. Townley Memorial Lectureship. The lectureship will help to

preserve the memory of Dr. Townley and all his wonderful accomplishments and contributions during his lifetime.

Ian Myles, MD



Dr. Myles was born and raised in Colorado and completed an internal medicine residency at The Ohio State University prior to beginning fellowship training in allergy and clinical immunology at NIH. He is now the chief of the Epithelial Research Unit where his group focuses on the intersection between the microbiome, the immune system, and the environment.