



# Guest Editors

Pavel Strnad

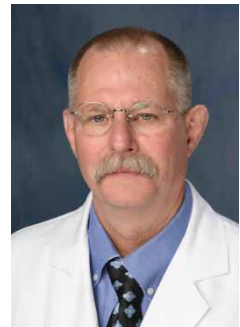
Pavel Strnad is an Associate Professor and Senior Physician at the University Hospital Aachen, Aachen, Germany. He received his medical and research training at the University of Mainz, Mainz, Germany, and at Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA. His research interests include clinical and experimental hepatology, with a focus on intermediate filaments, iron metabolism and AATD. In 2016, he was named a Rising Star by United European Gastroenterology (UEG).



Pavel Strnad currently leads a European initiative for the study of AATD-associated liver disease. He is a member of the editorial boards of several journals, including *Gastroenterology*, *PLoS ONE* and *Digestive Diseases and Sciences*. He is also reviewer of rare diseases for the the European Association for the Study of the Liver.

Mark L. Brantly

Mark L. Brantly is a Professor of Medicine and Chief of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology in the Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine at the University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville (FL, USA), where he is also the Alpha-1 Foundation Research Professor.



Mark L. Brantly earned his medical degree from the University of Florida College of Medicine. He completed a residency in internal medicine at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk (VA, USA), where he was also Chief Medical Resident, and a research fellowship in pulmonary disease at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda (MD, USA). Mark L. Brantly was a senior scientist at NIH for 13 years in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Human Genetics Branch and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Pulmonary Branch.

Mark L. Brantly's clinical and research interests include AATD and lung inflammation and the molecular basis of lung and

liver disease. He has published more than 160 papers and book chapters. He is a member of the American Thoracic Society (ATS) and the American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB); an editor of *Genetic Testing and Molecular Biomarkers* and a former editor of *CHEST*; and is a reviewer for many journals, including *CHEST*, the *American Journal of Respiratory and Molecular Cell Biology*, *Hepatology*, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the *Journal of Clinical Investigation* and the *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*.

## Robert Bals



Robert Bals studied medicine and biology at the Ludwig-Maximilian University Munich (Munich, Germany). He obtained doctoral degrees in both areas and worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA, USA). Back in Germany, he continued his career as physician–scientist with board certifications in internal medicine, pulmonology, intensive care medicine, allergology, emergency medicine and sleep medicine. After spending 10 years at the Philipps University Marburg (Marburg, Germany), he was appointed director of the Saarland University’s Department of Pulmonology, where he focuses on teaching, research and patient care. In the research area, he covers preclinical and clinical research, and has contributed to 250 papers and several books. His research areas are inflammatory lung disease, asthma, COPD and infection. In the basic science laboratory, Robert Bals and his team investigate how the lung interacts with the environment, including smoke, allergens and microorganisms, with a focus on stem cell biology and regeneration. In clinical research, he performs investigations in COPD, asthma, pneumonia and cystic fibrosis.

Robert Bals established and manages the German AAT Registry and is member of the steering committee of COSYCONET.

Robert Bals is a former Chief Editor of the *ERS Monograph*.

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