



Dear Delegates,

On behalf of the International Society for Vaccines (ISV) and of the journal *Vaccine* and its publisher, Elsevier – the organizing partners for this 8th Vaccine and ISV Annual Global Congress –, it is our pleasure as co-Chairs of this 8th Vaccine & ISV Congress to welcome all the delegates, invited speakers, presenters of oral and poster abstract presentations, exhibitors, the press, and other participants. We are looking forward to three days of exciting vaccine science and research.

From the historical Philadelphia, the City of the Brotherly Love, we welcome you. Philadelphia is the largest city in the Commonwealth of the state of Pennsylvania, the fifth-most-populous city in the United States. Located at the confluence of the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, Philadelphia is the economic and cultural center of the Delaware Valley. In 1682, William Penn founded the city to serve as capital of Pennsylvania Colony. Philadelphia is home to the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, where the U.S. Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776 and the Constitution in 1787. Philadelphia is known for its arts and culture; and please enjoy a cheesesteak or soft pretzel while you are here.

We have put together a very exciting program of invited speakers and oral and poster presentations. We want to thank the members of the scientific advisory board and all our invited speakers and presenters for his/her participation. This would not have been possible without the contribution of all of you. We also want to thank the Elsevier staff for helping with the scientific organization and logistics of this meeting. We hope you find the Congress useful and productive in informing you of progress in your field, sharing your work with others, and meeting colleagues in the vaccine enterprise.

ISV will have its annual general meeting on Monday, 27 October at 2pm and non-ISV members are also welcome to attend.

We hope you enjoy the congress and we hope to see you again at the 8th Vaccine and ISV Congress.

Sincerely,

Adolfo García-Sastre, *Professor at Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, USA*

Ted M. Ross, *Professor at the Vaccine & Gene Therapy Institute of Florida, USA*

