

## Session Title

Advances in Lymphatic and Lymphedema Research  
**Plenary Session: Saturday, October 24 at 8:30am**  
**Learning Stream: 1, 2 and 3**

## Session Summary

I will present the lab and the lymphatic imaging suite and present progress we are making in getting a better understanding of the mechanisms of lymphatic vessels functions. In particular we are getting a better grasp on how lymphatic function and in particular the ability of lymphatic vessels to drain lymph is modified in inflammatory situations and diseases. I will demonstrate the relevance of these studies to lymphedema, because inflammation is present in the edematous limb and is a critical player in driving the condition towards a chronic disease. I will finally present the lymphedema research and education program we are developing in Calgary and what it may mean to lymphedema patients.



**Pierre-Yves von der Weid**, PhD, is Associate Professor in the Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, where he studies the roles and functions of the lymphatic vessels in health and disease. He graduated with a diploma degree and a PhD in Biological Sciences from the university of Geneva, Switzerland. He then spent his postdoctoral fellowship time in Newcastle, Australia, Strasbourg, France and Geneva, before obtaining a Faculty position in Calgary.

The particular interest of his research group is to investigate the functions of the lymphatic vessels and the influence inflammation has on these functions. He is currently leading the Lymphedema Research and Education Program in the Snyder Institute for Chronic Diseases at the University of Calgary, an Alberta initiative philanthropically supported by the Dianne and Irving Kipnes Foundation.