Cystinosis Research Foundation Board Chair Nancy Stack recently announced that Corinne Antignac, MD, PhD, Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, Paris, France; Stéphanie Cherqui, PhD, University of California, San Diego; Julie Ingelfinger, MD, Harvard Medical School; and Elena Levchenko, MD, PhD, University Hospital Leuven, Belgium, who served as co-chairs for the 2012 conference, have agreed to serve as co-chairs for the 2014 symposium.

Anna Maria Cuervo, MD, PhD will be the keynote speaker for the 2014 conference. Dr. Cuervo is on the faculty at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City.

She is co-director of the Einstein Institute for Aging Research, and a member of the Einstein Liver Research Center and Cancer Center. In 2001 she started her laboratory at Einstein, where she studies the role of protein-degradation in aging and age-related disorders, with emphasis in neurodegeneration.

Dr. Cuervo is considered a leader in the field of autophagy – the process by which cells recycle their waste. The Barcelona native is also an expert on the molecular biology of aging. Dr. Cuervo has been quoted in numerous publications, including The New York Times and The Scientist. She is co-editor-in-chief of Aging Cell and associate editor of Autophagy and has served on various NIH advisory panels and study sections.

The CRF’s International Research Symposium is held every two years and is only open to invited researchers and clinicians. The approximately 65 invitees are experts in their fields, and on some aspect of the care and treatment of cystinosis. They are from leading international universities and research institutions.

The conference takes place on Thursday, March 6 and Friday, March 7, 2014, and will again be held at the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Center of the National Academies of Science and Engineering in Irvine, California.

The symposium has become known for the openness of the attendees, and for their willingness to share ideas and collaborate. Past attendees have commented that the conference fosters synergy, rare in the scientific community, which has played a key role in their individual and group success.

For more information about the symposium, contact Cystinosis Research Foundation Chair Nancy Stack at 949-223-7610 or nstack@cystinosisresearch.org.