



International Retreat  
of PhD Students in Immunology  
*7<sup>th</sup> Edition*



Otranto - Palazzo Civico  
20-22 May 2024

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### **Acknowledgments**

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**INTERNATIONAL RETREAT  
OF PHD STUDENTS IN IMMUNOLOGY  
May 20-22, 2024  
*Otranto, Italy***

**PROGRAM**

## **MAY 20**

### **12.30-15.30 ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION. WELCOME BUFFET**

Palazzo Civico, Piazza Alcide De Gasperi - Otranto

### **15.30-15.50 WELCOME ADDRESS**

- Marco Antonio Cassatella (SIICA President)
- Francesco Bruni (Sindaco di Otranto)
- Angelo Vacca (University of Bari, Italy)

### **15.50-16.40 INNATE IMMUNITY: LECTURE**

Chairpersons: Marcello Chieppa and Federica Laudisi

#### **Prof. Eduardo Villablanca**

(Karolinska Institutet, Sweden)

*"Decoding cellular circuits in intestinal inflammatory disorders"*

### **16.40-17.30 TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY I: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

16.40-16.50: "Functional regulation of lymphoid cells by IL-1R8 targeting in cancer" – **ROBERTO GARUTI**, *Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

16.50-17.00: "3D models of tissue organ culture to study the role of immune system and postbiotics in Colorectal cancer" – **CATERINA TREVISAN**, *University of Udine (Italy)*

17.00-17.10: "Expression analysis and functional characterization of CD25 on conventional dendritic cell in liver cancer" – **AURORA GAZZILLO**, *Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

17.10-17.20: "Understanding the role of mast cells in colorectal cancer progression" – **ALESSIA CARNEVALE**, *Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

17.20-17.30: "Dissection of neutrophil heterogeneity in glioblastoma" – **LUCIA ZOTTI**, *Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

### **17.30-17.50 COFFEE BREAK**

### **17.50-19.00 INNATE IMMUNITY: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Chairpersons: Gaia Codolo and Silvia Tonon

17.50-18.00: "Phenotypic and functional analysis of a novel macrophage population expressing a membrane-bound form of IL-18" – **CHIARA VITALE**, *University of Genoa (Italy)*

18.00-18.10: "ANGPTL3 deficiency-induced hypolipidemia triggers spontaneous IFN response" – **ALESSANDRA PINZON GRIMALDOS**, *Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

18.10-18.20: "Strengthening the cGAS/STING pathway to promote Natural Killer cell-mediated clearance of multiple myeloma" – **CHIARA CASSONE**, *Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

18.20-18.30: "The Origin and Function of CD103+ Tissue-Resident NK Cells in human lung cancer" – **AMIRHOSSEIN GAEINI**, *University of Genoa (Italy)*

18.30-18.40: "Effector differentiation of murine intestinal ILC1" – **ARIANNA MARIA CANDELOTTI**, *Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

18.40-18.50: "Neutrophil aging contributes to the immunometabolic response to high fat diet" – **ANNA PAROLINI**, *University of Milan (Italy)*

18.50-19.00: "RNA Polymerase I Inhibition and activation of Nucleolar Stress Response in the anticancer activity of Natural Killer cells against Multiple Myeloma" – **ELENA SPROVIERO**, *Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

### **19.00-20.00 POSTER SESSION I (from P01 to P13)**

Chairpersons for Poster walk: Federica Laudisi, Silvia Tonon, Marcello Chieppa and Manolo Sambucci

### **20.00 SPEAKERS DINNER/FREE DINNER/ JUNIOR FACULTY DINNER**

Speakers dinner: Restaurant Arbor vitae, Via G.M. Laggetto 38, Otranto

Junior Faculty dinner: Restaurant Pizzeria Cala dei Normanni, Lungomare Terra d'Otranto 51, Otranto

**MAY 21**

**9.10-10.00 ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY: LECTURE**

Chairpersons: Alessio Grimaldi and Eleonora Timperi

**Prof. Giuseppe Matarese**

(University of Napoli Federico II - Italy)

*"Mechanisms of loss of immunological self-tolerance"*

**10.00-10.50 TUMOR IMMUNOLOGY II: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

10.00-10.10: "The role of complement in pancreatic cancer: from complement activation triggering and effector mechanism/s to combination with therapy" – *MONICA DAMBRA, Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

10.10-10.20: "Connective tissue-like Mast Cells accumulate during Colorectal Cancer progression" – *CATERINA MARANGIO, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

10.20-10.30: "Rafoxanide negatively modulates STAT3 and NF- $\kappa$ B activity and inflammation-associated colon tumorigenesis" – *TERESA PACIFICO, Tor Vergata University of Rome (Italy)*

10.30-10.40: "Dissecting the heterogeneity and plasticity of neutrophils in cancer" – *GIOVANNA GRIECO, Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

10.40-10.50: "An organoid-based model to study innate lymphoid cells in colorectal cancer" – *LORENZO LUCANTONIO, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

10.50-11.20 COFFEE BREAK

**11.20-12.50 TISSUE IMMUNOLOGY: KEYNOTE LECTURE**

Chairpersons: Marco Antonio Cassatella and Roberta Castriconi

Round Table guided by SIICA Junior Faculty

**Prof. Mala Maini**

(University College London, UK)

*"Tissue T cells: Lessons from Life in Lockdown"*

12.50-14.00 LUNCH

**14.00-15.10 IMMUNOLOGY AND DISEASE: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Chairpersons: Manolo Sambucci and Mattia Laffranchi

14.00-14.10: "Development of primary human airway models with peripheral blood mononuclear cells cultured at air-liquid-interface to evaluate anti-inflammatory drug effects" – *GIULIA RIPARI, University of Brescia and Chiesi Farmaceutici S.p.A. (Italy)*

14.10-14.20: "Autosomal recessive CADINS disease caused by novel compound heterozygous variants in CARD11" – *LORENZO SALVATI, University of Florence (Italy)*

14.20-14.30: "Characterization of the genetically modified IDO1 H350A mouse model expressing a loss-of-function mutant of Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase 1 enzyme" – *SARA AMBROSINO, University of Perugia (Italy)*

14.30-14.40: "Phenotypical and functional characterization of circulating immune cells in systemic mastocytosis patients" – *STEFANIA FRANCALANCI, University of Florence (Italy)*

14.40-14.50: "Selective over-expression of Smad7 in intestinal epithelial cells results in barrier dysfunction and ileitis" – *LORENZO TOMASSINI, Tor Vergata University of Rome (Italy)*

14.50-15.00: "Cyp11a1 deficiency endows Type-2 dendritic cells with immunoregulatory functions" – *ALESSANDRO PINZI, University of Perugia (Italy)*

15.00-15.10: "Characterization of B cells in Multiple Sclerosis patients treated with Ocrelizumab: Role of postbiotics in the resetting of the B cell compartment" – *CAROLINA RICCI, University of Udine (Italy)*

## 15.10-15:30 Meet the SIICA JUNIOR FACULTY

### 15:30-16.00 Career Development Session

**"CV and motivation letter: tips and advice for a successful application" - Eduardo Villablana**

## 16.00-16.30 FLASH TALK PRESENTATIONS

Chairpersons: Federica Laudisi and Silvia Tonon

16.00-16.02: "Children with perinatally acquired HIV exhibit distinct immune responses against 4CMenB vaccine" – *ALESSIA NERI, Tor Vergata University of Rome (Italy)*

16.02-16.04: "Zeaxanthins promote anti-inflammatory and neuroprotective effects by Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor activation" – *BENEDETTA PIERONI, University of Perugia (Italy)*

16.04-16.06: "Flow cytometric characterization of circulating T and B cells in patients with CTLA-4 deficiency" – *FRANCESCA MATANI, University of Florence (Italy)*

16.06-16.08: "In vitro modelling of NK cell trans-differentiation into ILC1-like population driven by tumor-experienced macrophages" – *CHIARA D'AQUINO, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

16.08-16.10: "Engineering stem cells for immunomodulatory cell therapy of cardiovascular diseases" – *ARIANNA MORETTI, University of Milan (Italy)*

16.10-16.12: "Exploring the Functional Role of Factor VIII in Dendritic Cells: Implications for Immune Regulation?" – *FRANCESCO SARNARI, University of Perugia (Italy)*

16.12-16.14: "Linking the genotype to the immunophenotype: preliminary data on a COVID cohort with TAC1C104R mutation" – *LUCIA BARTOLI, University of Florence (Italy)*

16.14-16.16: "Dissecting the mechanisms involved in the accumulation of atypical CD21 low T-bet pos CD11c pos B-cells in immune mediated disorders" – *FRANCESCA LA GUALANA, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

16.16-16.18: "Molecular basis of CCRL2-Chemerin interaction: unveiling the mechanism of leukocyte recruitment regulation" – *ARIANNA MIGLIORINI, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

16.18-16.20: "Macrophages regulate immune checkpoints expression and function of ILC2 in the tumor microenvironment" – *CECILIA CIANCAGLINI, Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù, Rome (Italy)*

16.20-16.22: "Antibody-dependent Natural Killer (NK) cell activation and functions after recombinant Herpes Zoster (HZ) Vaccine in immunodeficient patients" – *DANIEL CIUTI, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)*

16.22-16.24: "Microbiota-driven immune regulation in colorectal cancer progression: insights from gut microbes, tumor-associated macrophages, and epithelial cells interactions" – *SOFIA GIACOMETTI, University of Padua (Italy)*

16.24-16.26: "Development and progression of colorectal cancer in a mouse model of obesity: role of CD300e" – *STEFANIA VASSALLO, University of Padua (Italy)*

16.26-16.28: "Analysis of mechanisms of immune evasion in liver cancer" – *CAMILLA VOLPONI, Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

## 16.30-17.30 POSTER SESSION II (from P14 to P26)

Chairpersons for Poster walk: Eleonora Timperi, Gaia Codolo, Alessio Grimaldi and Mattia Laffranchi

## 17.30-19.00 Guided visit in Otranto, by ProLoco Otranto

Pick-up: Piazza De Gasperi

Language: English and Italian

Tour: Cathedral, Saint-Peter Basilica, historical city center

## 19.00-20.00 SCIENCE COMMUNICATION EVENT FOR CITIZEN (Prof. Antonella Viola) / free time

## 20.00 SOCIAL DINNER

Resort Hotel Vittoria, Via Catania, Otranto



**MAY 22**

**09.00-09.30 SCIENCE AND SOCIETY: SHORT SEMINAR**

Chairpersons: Massimo Locati and Eleonora Timperi

**Prof. Antonella Viola**  
(University of Padova, Italy)  
"Sex, gender and immune responses"

**9.30-10.30 ADAPTIVE IMMUNITY + VIRAL IMMUNOLOGY: ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

9.30-9.40: "EOMES+ Tr1-like cells suppress the cytotoxic anti-tumor T-cell responses via IL-10" – **ELENA CARELLI**, *University of Milan - INGM (Italy)*

9.40-9.50: "A novel strategy to overcome T cell exhaustion by modulating mitochondrial dynamics in the TME" - **MARTINA ATTANASIO**, *Tor Vergata University of Rome (Italy)*

9.50-10.00: "Development of MBL as a therapeutic strategy against SARS-CoV-2 infection" – **VIRGINIA CIANCHI**, *Humanitas University, Pieve Emanuele (Italy)*

10.00-10.10: "An in vitro Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cell (PBMC)-based model to study functional diversification of innate immune cells in course of acute SARS-CoV-2 infection" – **GIADA CAIRO**, *Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome (Italy)*

10.10-10.20: "Anti-CD94-induced expansion of highly functional adaptive NKG2C + NKG2A – CD57 + selfKIR + NK cells from CMV-seropositive healthy donors" - **CHIARA GIORDANO**, *University of Genoa (Italy)*

10.20-10.30: "Humoral and cellular immune response reactivation induced by SARS-CoV-2 fourth vaccine dose in people living with HIV (PLWH)" – **GIULIA LAMACCHIA**, *University of Florence (Italy)*

**10.30-11.00**



**SPONSORED SESSION: SHORT SEMINAR**

Chairpersons: Gaia Codolo and Manolo Sambucci

**Prof. Matteo Iannaccone**  
(San Raffaele Institute - Milan, Italy).  
"Immune surveillance of the liver"

**11.00-11.15 FAREWELL AND PRIZES**

**11.15 LEAVE TO MONOPOLI**



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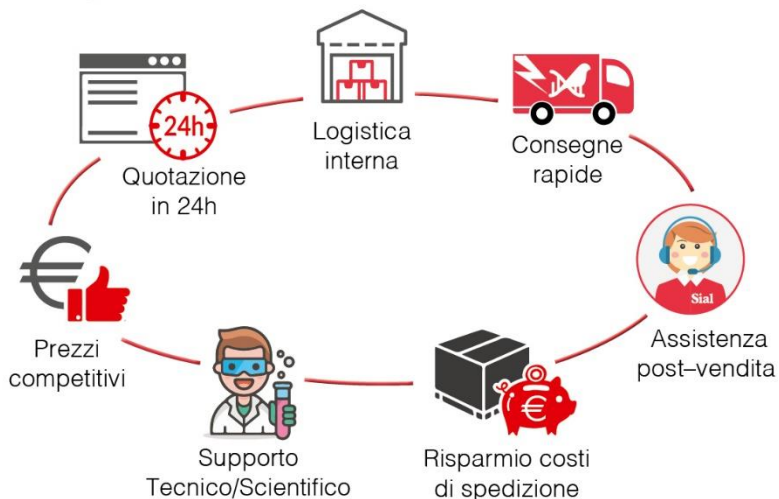
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Gamma completa di centrifughe da banco



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