

### **OECE Board**

PRESIDENT: U. Ringborg

MEMBERS: D. de Valeriola, W. van Harten, A. Llombart-Bosch, C. Lombardo, K. Nilsson, T. Philip M. A. Pierotti, P. Riegman, M. Saghatchian, G. Storme, T. Tursz, D. Verellen

### **Allianza Contro il Cancro Board of Directors**

PRESIDENT: E. Garaci

DIRECTOR GENERAL: L. G. Spagnoli

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY: M. A. Pierotti

Members: A. Amadori, G. Alunni, F. Caligaris Cappio, F. Cornelio, P. De Paoli, M. Imbriani, A. Lanzavecchia, A. Mantovani, F. A. Manzoli, P. Muti, A. Paradiso, C. A. Redi, R. Rosso, A. Vecchione, U. Veronesi

### **GENOA 2008 Organising Committee**

CHAIRMAN: M. A. Pierotti

MEMBERS: P. Berninsone, S. Bertoglio, A. Costa, F. d'Alessandro, C. Lombardo

### **OECE Office**

Mariana Musat, MANAGER - Lutgarde D'Hauwers, SECRETARY - Pia Bulow, SECRETARY  
rue d'Egmont 11 - 1000 Brussels - Belgium

Tel +32 2 5120146 - [oece@skynet.be](mailto:oece@skynet.be)

[www.oece-eeig.org](http://www.oece-eeig.org)

### **Local Organising Secretariat**

Focal Point ACC

c/o  National Institute for Cancer Research

D. Albanese - T. Rondanina

Largo Rosanna Benzi 10 - 16132 Genoa - Italy

Tel.: +39 010 5737212 - Fax : +39 010 5737295 - [focalpoint.acc@istge.it](mailto:focalpoint.acc@istge.it)

[www.istge.it/fp\\_acc/index.htm](http://www.istge.it/fp_acc/index.htm)

BC Congressi srl

Via XX Settembre 14/4 - 16121 Genova

Tel +39 010 5957060 - Fax +39 010 5958548

[oece2008secretariat@bccongressi.it](mailto:oece2008secretariat@bccongressi.it)

[www.bccongressi.it](http://www.bccongressi.it)



# 2008

Scientific Conference and General Assembly



# Genoa

May 20 - 24, 2008

**General  
Programme**

## The OEI 2008 Scientific Week

IN COLLABORATION WITH



Alleanza contro il cancro

**UNDER THE AUSPICES OF:**



**PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI  
MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI  
MINISTERO DELLA SALUTE  
MINISTERO DELLA RICERCA**



**REGIONE LIGURIA**



**MARINA MILITARE ITALIANA**



**COMUNE DI GENOVA**



**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH**



**ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LA RICERCA SUL CANCRO**



**ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA DI ONCOLOGIA MEDICA**



**SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI CANCEROLOGIA**



**DISTRETTO SISTEMI INTELLIGENTI  
INTEGRATI E TECNOLOGIE**



**CENTRO REGIONALE RICERCA E INNOVAZIONE  
REGIONE LIGURIA**



# OECI welcome

We all know that the problem of cancer is on the rise both in Europe and worldwide. Parallel with a growing cancer burden, due both to the increase of incidence but also to patients living longer with a chronic cancer disease, the complexity in cancer care and research is escalating. European cancer research is often criticised because it is fragmented. To avoid such fragmentation, cancer research should be integrated into a research continuum, from basic through pre-clinical and clinical research to structured implementation and evaluation of new diagnostic and treatment methods in routine care. The ideal integration of the research process can be achieved through the comprehensive cancer centre (CCC), since this structure is the only one where all research components exist and integration with cancer care is natural. Further, education has a position in the CCC and is integrated with care and research. According to the OECI vision, a CCC should be a core element and build a virtual organisation to reach all patients in a defined geographic area. The individual CCC can offer a multidisciplinary approach in cancer care and integration of cancer research. However the critical mass for research is often lacking. Therefore we need to share resources and increase collaboration to reach the critical mass by formalising a network to harmonise the infrastructure of CCCs. The network will provide the scientific platform which can then be enlarged through the OECI collaboration. This will ensure the quality of cancer care outside the individual CCC and also make more patients available for cancer research. There are currently about 60 centres that are members of OECI. Europe probably needs around 100 CCCs to serve the population and to form a strong research structure. An important mission for OECI is to establish a relationship with basic and preclinical research centres in Europe. Integrating basic and clinical research centres with a network of CCCs will facilitate the development of personalised medicine as well as the development of new diagnostic and treatment methods.

*Prof. Ulrik Ringborg*  
*OECI PRESIDENT*

*Dr. Marco A. Pierotti*  
*OECI PRESIDENT ELECT*



# Host welcome

The pursuit of internationalisation policies is a must for Italy. They are fundamental for the promotion of the European Research Area on Cancer and for the development of translational processes. This makes it possible to attract the interest of the whole sector, export skills and ideas and invest in younger generations in order to further enhance Italian scientific expertise. Knowledge is at the centre of the Lisbon strategy, which sets as a goal transforming the European Union into the “most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world”. Thanks to the funds made available by the Ministry for Health, as provided for by Art. 3 of the Ministerial Decree dated 21 July 2006 (Istituto Superiore di Sanità - ISS on behalf of Alleanza Contro il Cancro - ACC), ISS and ACC are contributing to laying the foundations for an influential participation of Italy in the planning of European research. Special attention is being paid to the preliminary stages of creation of the European infrastructures for Biomedicine with reference in particular to translational research, biotherapies, biobanks and biomolecular resources, structural biology and bioinformatics.

This clearly shows how the awareness at national level of the need to overcome fragmentation – which results in a waste of energy and resources, both material and immaterial – is an essential condition to support the excellent Italian research expertise, while, at the same time, conveying a shared national position.

This process needs to be based on an international dimension, so as to establish an interaction process among the relevant European institutions in order to share programmes, funds and infrastructures.

This is why the OECI plays such an important role. Indeed, the organisation offers the major European Institutes for Cancer an opportunity to meet, exchange ideas and assess outcomes. At the same time it acts as an ideal context in which experts can join together in order to rapidly achieve objectives to improve the diagnostic approach and care. At the same time, they will offer new opportunities to establish links and attract the attention of businesses in the industry. In stressing once again the importance of the OECI annual meeting as a tool to further strengthen interaction among European stakeholders, we would like to thank all speakers, moderators and participants attending this event. We hope the “OECI 2008 Scientific Week of Oncology”, proudly hosted by Italy, will be able to achieve its objectives.

Dr. Giovanni Zotta  
Director General Innovation Department  
Ministero della Salute

Prof. Enrico Garaci  
President  
Alleanza Contro il Cancro

Prof. Luigi Giusto Spagnoli  
Director General  
Alleanza Contro il Cancro

# Introduction to the OECI

## HISTORY

The beginning of the OECI could be dated back to 1977 when, at the initiative of UICC (International Union against Cancer), sixty leading personalities in oncology from all over Europe assembled to discuss joint action for promoting greater cooperation among the world's cancer centres and institutes in the field of cancer collaborative research.

In 1980 the first meeting of the General Assembly of the "Organisation of European Cancer Institutes" took place and the first steps to work out structures for efficient cooperation to overcome the linguistic and traditional research heterogeneity of Europe were taken.

In step with the ongoing developments in Europe in 2005, 25 years later, the organisation was again remodelled merging it with the EEIG Liaison Network for Cancer to give origin to the OE-CI-EEIG (Organisation of European Cancer Institutes - European Economic Interest Grouping).

## ORGANISATION

The OECI is a continuously growing and developing network presently regrouping about 60 Comprehensive Cancer Centres across Europe dynamically working in crosscut projects supported by the OECI Working Groups.

## MISSION

"To bring together the cancer research and care institutions of the EU in order to create a critical mass of expertise and competence with the view of building and maintaining a consensus on the best models of oncology, developing concrete affordable and realistic solutions to effectively combat cancer, and to improve the quality of life for the patients in the EU".

## OBJECT

The ultimate objective of the Grouping is the development of oncology in Europe for reducing mortality and morbidity due to cancer and increasing the survival and quality of life of patients. Therefore, the model of oncology must be based on a global vision of the cancer problem emphasising the integration of research and education with diagnosis, prevention and care to promote the development of comprehensive and multidisciplinary organisation within the European Cancer Institutes.

With a view to simplifying and developing the scientific, educational and economic activities of its Members, to improving the conditions and increasing the outcomes, the object of the Group-

# Introduction to the OECl

ing is mainly: information, training, research, treatment, care, rehabilitation, drafting of guidelines, data storage and evaluation, cost-benefit, clinical and pre-clinical research, telematics applications, education, communication, accreditation, labelisation, translational research, epidemiology, ethical and social aspects in the cancer area. To this effect, the activities of the Grouping are in particular:

- to actively seek for funds in order to realise the object of the Grouping;
- to sign every agreement and, more generally, to co-ordinate and/or manage every project assigned by the European Commission or by any regional, national or international entity, public or private, including donations;
- to represent Members' interests with regard to European or international Institutions;
- to spread and exchange data and scientific and economic experiences;
- to assist its Members in carrying out their activities. The activity of the Grouping has to refer to the activities of its Members and shall be auxiliary to the members themselves.

# The OECl Board

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Ulrik Ringborg</b> - Sweden - Karolinska Institute
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Marco A. Pierotti</b> - Italy - Fondazione Istituto Nazionale per la cura dei Tumori Milano
<b>FORMER PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Thomas Tursz</b> - France - Institut Gustave Roussy
<b>EXECUTIVE SECRETARY</b>	<b>Guy Storme</b> - Belgium - Oncology Centre UZ Brussel
<b>ELECTED MEMBER</b> Treasurer	<b>Antonio Lombart-Bosch</b> - Spain - Fundacion Instituto Valenciano de Oncologia
<b>ELECTED MEMBER</b>	<b>Wim H. Van Harten</b> - The Netherlands - Netherlands Cancer Institute
<b>CO-OPTED MEMBERS</b>	
	<b>Claudio Lombardo</b> - Italy - IST Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro <i>Working Group Education Chairperson</i>
	<b>Peter Riegman</b> - The Netherlands - Erasmus Hospital <i>Working Group Pathobiology Chairperson</i>
	<b>Mahasti Saghatchian</b> - France - Institut Gustave Roussy <i>Working Group Accreditation Chairperson</i>
	<b>Philip Thierry</b> - France - Centre Léon Bérard <i>Working Group Guidelines Chairperson</i>
	<b>Dirk Verellen</b> - Belgium - Oncology Centre UZ Brussel <i>Working Group New Technology Chairperson</i>
	<b>Dominique de Valeriola</b> - Belgium - Institut Jules Bordet
	<b>Kenneth Nilsson</b> - Sweden - Uppsala Universitet



# The OECl membership

## Members and Associated Members

Institut Jules Bordet, Université libre de Bruxelles, BE  
Oncology Centre UZ Brussel, BE  
Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute, CZ  
Danish Cancer Society, Institute of Cancer Biology, DK  
Tartu University Hospital, EE  
Institut Curie, FR  
Institut Bergonié Centre Rég de Lutte contre le Cancer, FR  
Institut Sainte Catherine, FR  
Centre Léon Bérard, FR  
Institut Gustave Roussy, FR  
Centre Antoine Lacassagne, FR  
Centre Paul Papin, CRLCC, FR  
Deutsches Krebsforschungszentrum, DE  
University Cancer Center Dresden Carl Gustav Carus, DE  
Metaxa Cancer Hospital Of Piraeus, GR  
Anticancer Oncological Hospital of Athens 'Saint Savvas', GR  
Agiï Anargiri General Oncological Hospital of Kifissia, GR  
Centro di Riferimento Oncologico CRO Aviano, IT  
Fondazione San Raffaele del Monte Tabor - Milano, IT  
Istituto Oncologico Giovanni Paolo II - Bari, IT  
IST Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro - Genova, IT  
European Institute of Oncology - Milano, IT  
Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori - Milano, IT  
Istituto Nazionale Tumori Fondazione 'G.Pascalè' - Napoli, IT  
Istituto Superiore di Oncologia ISO, IT

# The OECI membership

Istituto Nazionale Tumori Regina Elena - Roma, IT  
Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment IRCC Candiolo - Torino, IT  
Institute of Oncology, Vilnius University, LT  
Rikshospitalet-Radiumhospitalet Medical Center, NO  
Wielkopolskie Cancer Center Poznan, PL  
Centro Regional de Oncologia de Coimbra, PT  
Instituto Portugues de Oncologia Centro do Porto, PT  
Cancer Institute – Lisboa, PT  
Clinical Cancer Centre Kazan, RU  
Blokhin Russian Cancer Research Centre, RU  
Institute for Oncology and Radiology of Serbia, YU  
Institute of Oncology Sremska Kamenica, Novi Sad, YU  
Slovak Comprehensive Cancer Centre, SK  
Institute of Oncology Ljubljana, SL  
Fundacion Instituto Valenciano de Oncologia (IVO), ES  
Institut Catalan d'Oncologia, ES  
Centro National de Investigaciones Oncologicas, ES  
Instituto Madrileño de Oncología, Fundacion Grupo (IMO), ES  
Umea University, SE  
Salgrenska University Hospital, SE  
Karolinska Hospital and Institute, SE  
The Netherland Cancer Institute, NL  
Erasmus MC Daniel den Hoed Cancer Centre, NL  
Dokuz Eylül University, Institute of Oncology, TR  
R.E. Kavetsky Institute of Experimental PATHOBIOLOGY, Oncology & Radiobiology, UA  
Christie Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, UK

*A minimum 8 New Members applications will be voted in Genoa by the General Assembly.*

## Alleanza Contro il Cancro - ACC

Alliance Against Cancer (ACC) is the Italian Association of Comprehensive Cancer Centres. It was created in 2002 with the task of promoting an active collaboration among Italian Cancer Institutes through the exchange of information, knowledge, data, scientific results and human resources and in order to respond, in an appropriate and harmonised way, to the building of the European Research Area for Cancer. In 2006, ACC received 30 million euro financial support from the Italian Ministry of Health under the programme called “Rete nazionale solidale e collaborazioni internazionali” (Joint national network and international cooperation initiatives). This amount has been allocated through specific calls for proposals to support cancer research including activities related to new approaches in cancer diagnosis, treatment and classification as well as to promote the international dimension of Italian cancer research and its relationship with the European 7<sup>th</sup> Research Framework Programme.

The final aim of ACC is to better support and harmonise cancer research promoting the transfer of results into clinical practice and to assure equal care to cancer patients across Italy, thus reducing health migrations. The studies on the Aetiology of cancer play an important role in the association’s planning of research activities.

ACC members have a total number of 1879 beds and 3780 scientists working on different topics related to cancer research. The President of ACC is the President of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italian National Institute of Health). A specific Focal Point for International Affairs was launched in 2007 in order to facilitate and improve the participation of ACC members in European and large international projects. ACC is financed mostly by public funds. All the funds provided by the Italian Ministry of Health have been allocated considering the 3 different goals to achieve as set out by the statute of the Association: strengthening translational research, building up networks of facilities, improving communication to reduce disparities.

The ACC network has the fundamental critical mass able to: help to strengthen qualified national cancer research; cope with the challenges emerging from research fragmentation and increasing globalisation of science and technology; implement a real sharing of knowledge, an adequate flow of young and skilled scientists and integrate research infrastructures into a network; coordinate research programmes in line with the European strategy foreseen by the Green Paper of the European Commission “The European Research Area: New perspectives”, 4 April 2007.

The long experience gained by Alliance Against Cancer and its members on large international cancer research programmes in the field of experimental and applied cancer research and related disciplines makes it the natural contact point for the Italian participation in the building of the European coordination actions aiming to reduce the existing fragmentation.

## ACC membership

**DIRECTOR GENERAL** Luigi G. Spagnoli

### MEMBERS

Dr. Gianni Amunni	(Conferenza Stato-Regioni)
Prof. Paola Muti	(IRE Istituto Regina Elena, Rome)
Prof. Alberto Amadori	(IOV Istituto Oncologico Veneto)
Prof. Federico Caligaris Cappio	(Fondazione San Raffaele, Milan)
Prof. Ferdinando Cornelio	(Istituto Neurologico Nazionale Carlo Besta, Milan)
Prof. Paolo De Paoli	(CRO Centro di Riferimento Oncologico di Aviano)
Prof. Marcello Imbriani	(FSM Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri, Pavia)
Prof. Antonio Lanzavecchia	(IDI Istituto Dermopatico dell'Immacolata, Rome)
Prof. Alberto Mantovani	(ICH Istituto Clinico Humanitas, Rozzano, Milan)
Dr. Angelo Paradiso	(Istituto Tumori "Giovanni Paolo II" di Bari)
Prof. Francesco Antonio Manzoli	(IOR Istituti Ortopedici Rizzoli, Bologna)
Dr. Marco A. Pierotti	(INT Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan)
Prof. Riccardo Rosso	(IST Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro, Genoa)
Prof. Carlo Alberto Redi	(Policlinico San Matteo, Pavia)
Prof. Aldo Vecchione	(Fondazione Giovanni Pascale, Naples)
Prof. Umberto Veronesi	(IEO Istituto Europeo di Oncologia, Milan)



# The OECI 2008 Scientific Week

On May 20 through May 24 2008, Genoa hosts the General Assembly and Scientific Conference of the Organisation of the European Cancer Institutes. This event marks the official handover of the Presidency of the European Economic Interest Grouping “Organisation of the European Cancer Institutes” (OECI) from the Swedish Prof. Ulrik Ringborg, Director of Karolinska Cancer Center, to the Italian Dr. Marco Pierotti, Scientific Director of the Fondazione IRCSS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori Milano and Scientific Secretary of Alleanza Contro il Cancro, the Italian oncology network created by the Ministry of Health and headed by the President of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità.

At the same time, Genoa hosts the OECI scientific conference titled: **“Discovering new worlds in medicine: towards nanoapplication in cancer prevention and treatment”** which gathers distinguished personalities of the scientific community as well as senior officials of the European Commission.

As briefly outlined below, other parallel events will take place during this week with the purpose of creating an opportunity to focus on specific issues of great interest for the fight against cancer.

## 20 May - Afternoon

Final International Meeting of “**Translational and Functional Oncogenomics**: From cancer-oriented genomic screenings to new diagnostic tools and improved cancer treatment’. Organised by the European Integrated Project “TRANSFOG”.

(restricted to members of the TRANSFOG consortium)

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA CAMINO

## 21 May - Full Day • 22 May - Morning

**Translational and Functional Oncogenomics**: From cancer-oriented genomic screenings to new diagnostic tools and improved cancer treatment’

International Meeting Organised by the European Integrated Project “TRANSFOG”.

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA DEL MINOR CONSIGLIO

## 22 May - Morning

**Biotherapy**: International Clinical Trials’ Day on Biotherapy of Cancer

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA CAMINO

## 22 May - Morning

Steering Committee Meeting of the OECI accreditation project for quality assessment and improvement (restricted to members of the Steering Group).

JOLLY MARINA HOTEL

## 22 May - Afternoon

**Biotherapy**: Workshop of European networks of bio-immunotherapy of tumors

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA CAMINO

## 22 May - Afternoon

**Training course on the OECI Accreditation** e-tool for quality assessment and improvement for Cancer Centres (registration required)

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA DEL MINOR CONSIGLIO

## 22 May - Afternoon

**Meeting of the OECI board**

JOLLY MARINA HOTEL

## 23 May

Scientific Conference “**Discovering new worlds in medicine: towards nanoapplication in cancer prevention and treatment**”

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

## 24 May

**General Assembly of the OECI** (Organisation of European Cancer Institutes)

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

PALAZZO DUCALE

### **TRANSFOG TRANSlational and Functional Onco Genomics.**

TRANSFOG is an EC-funded integrated project aimed at enforcing European leadership in the field of cancer genomics. To this aim, the project has integrated academic and industrial cutting edge groups to develop a joint effort towards systematic identification and functional characterization of novel cancer genes with high potential diagnostic and therapeutic value in breast, colon and lung cancer. The final goals of the present project are two: (i) to develop innovative cancer-specific molecular signatures based upon in-depth analysis and understanding at the genomic level of tumour development and metastatic spread, as a novel approach for the diagnosis and treatment of breast, lung, colon and possibly other epithelial cancer; (ii) identification of key genes controlling basic biological functions involved in cancer progression, and potentially exploitable as new molecular targets for innovative therapies. The results obtained in this project open new perspectives in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, with social impacts measurable as improved health, and reduction of health societal costs, including direct and indirect costs for patient assistance as well as loss of manpower. The project is based on the scientific excellence of the applicants, which have made major recognized contributions to the field and on the construction of shared technological platforms, including: (i) molecular profiling by DNA microarrays and proteomics of human tumours and of cell-based model of oncogenic progression; (ii) screening of epigenetic alterations by MeDIP-on-CHIP; (iii) Clinical validation by extensive microarray analysis, generation of monoclonal antibodies, digitalization and automatic evaluation of IHC analysis, generation of tissue microarrays containing human samples, TaqMan Low-Density Arrays; (iv) in-depth analysis of protein-protein interactions and oncogenic signal transduction; (v) systematic gain- and loss-loss-of function genetic screens in cellular models.

## The TRANSFOG Partners

Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI), Belgium  
Institute for Cancer Research and Treatment (IRCC), Italy  
Spanish National Cancer Institute (CNIO), Spain  
German Cancer Research Centre (DKFZ), Germany  
Netherlands Cancer Institute (NKI), The Netherlands  
University Medical Centre Utrecht (UMCU), The Netherlands  
FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology (IFOM), Italy  
European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI), UK  
Biomedical Sciences Research Centre “Alexander Fleming” (Fleming), Greece  
Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research (FMI), Switzerland  
Agendia BV (Agendia), The Netherlands  
University of Innsbruck Institute of Pathophysiology (IPP), Austria  
Karolinska Institute (KI), Sweden  
King’s College London (KCL), UK  
Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research - Uppsala Branch (LICR-UPP), Sweden  
National Interuniversity Consortium Laboratory (LNCIB), Italy  
Max-Delbrueck-Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC), Germany  
The Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS), Israel  
ALTA Ricerca e Sviluppo in Biotecnologie (ALTA), Italy



May 20 - 22

## May 20 - afternoon

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA CAMINO

### Session restricted to TRANSFOG partners

14.00 - 16.00 **Scientific session on ongoing research and collaborations**

16.00 - 18.00 Final Consortium Assembly

**dinner at leisure**

## May 21

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

### 9.00-13.00 Session I:

**GUY STORME (OEI):** Welcome and opening

### Technologies for screenings, functional analysis and gene annotation

---

**CLAUDIO SCHNEIDER (LNCIB):** Isolation and manipulation of cancer stem cells from human ovarian carcinoma

**WALTER BIRCHMEIER (MDC):** Functional characterization of candidate genes involved in tissue migration and replication initiation.

**ENZO MEDICO (IRCC):** Screening for genes involved in anchorage-independent growth via a novel systematic gain-of-function approach

**Coffee break**

**RENE BERNARDS (NKI):** Functional genetic screens using complex mixtures of shRNA vectors

**STEFAN WIEMANN (DKFZ):** Tools and applications for functional cancer genomics at the DKFZ

**ROLF APPWEILER (EBI):** Sharing gene functional annotation via the Distributed Annotation System

**13.00 – 14.30 Lunch**

### 14.30 – 18.30 Session II:

### Systematic analysis of gene function and cancer signal transduction

---

**ANNE RIDLEY (KCL):** Screening for regulators of cancer cell migration and invasion

**JOHANNES BOS (UMCU):** Functional genomics of cell adhesion and cell junction formation

**GEORGE PANAYOTOU (FLEMING):** The role of dual-specificity phosphatases in JNK signaling

**STEPHAN GELEY (IPP):** Systematic identification and characterisation of cell cycle regulators

**Coffee Break**

**NANCY HYNES (FMI):** ErbB2 interacting proteins and their potential roles in cancer

**YOSEF YARDEN (WIS):** EGFR and HER2: control mechanisms and relevance to cancer treatment

**EDVARD SMITH (KI):** New candidates for BTK signaling

**CARL-HENRIK HELDIN (LICR-UPP):** Role of PDGF in transformation and angiogenesis

**20.00 Dinner****May 22**

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

**9.00 - 12.30 Session III:****From cancer-oriented genomic screenings to validation of molecular signatures**

---

**RENE BERNARDS (AGENDIA):** A gene expression signature for colon cancer prognosis

**MARCO A. PIEROTTI (IFOM):** Identification and validation of breast cancer progression signatures

**MIGUEL ANGEL PIRIS (CNIO):** Molecular signatures of cancer progression

**Coffee Break**

**ULRICH PFEFFER (IST):** Virtues and limits of prognostic signatures for breast cancer

**ENZO MEDICO (IRCC):** From cell-based models to clinically relevant gene expression signatures

**MANEL ESTELLER (CNIO):** Defining new epigenetic targets in cancer

General discussion

**Lunch**

### International Clinical Trials' Day on Biotherapy of Cancer

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA CAMINO

#### Morning session

The Italian Network for Tumor Biotherapy (NIBIT) celebrates the International Clinical Trials' Day on Biotherapy of Cancer under the auspices of ECRIN (European Clinical Research Infrastructures Network) and with the sponsorship of Alliance Against Cancer and the Istituto Superiore di Sanità. The International Clinical Trials' Day is a traditional yearly appointment for ECRIN partners, dedicated to the celebration of what can be considered the first documented randomized clinical trial in the history of medicine. In fact, on 20th May 1747, James Lind, while serving as naval surgeon on HMS Salisbury, carried out the first comparative trial on 12 sailors afflicted by scurvy. Lind gave the sailors in each group different additions to their basic diet: cider, seawater, a mixture of garlic, mustard and horseradish, and, spoonfuls of vinegar. The last group received oranges and lemons. Only the sailors fed citrus fruits experienced a remarkable recovery. Although the antiscorbutic effect of citrus fruits had been known at least since 1600, by conducting this clinical trial, Lind had definitively established the superiority of citrus fruits above all other 'remedies' and proved that citrus fruits cure scurvy. Lind's recommendation on the inclusion of fresh citrus fruits and lemon juice in the diet of seamen eventually resulted in the eradication of scurvy from the British Navy. Nowadays, randomized clinical trials are used world-wide to identify and validate novel diagnostic and therapeutic interventions.

Biotherapy of cancer holds great promise for its potential to lead to the identification of novel, selective, and effective treatments against cancer. The great expectations for the impact of biological and immunological interventions against cancer can only be met through the application of a clinical development paradigm best suited to address the peculiar and unique characteristics of biologics, and particularly of cancer vaccines and immunotherapeutic agents.

Alliance Against Cancer (ACC) and the Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS), within the framework of the programs provided for in Art. 3 of the National Program for Cancer Research launched by the Italian Ministry of Health in July 2006, have recently funded a project aimed at the promotion of clinical research in the field of cancer biotherapy and immunotherapy, through the creation of a national network of clinical cancer research centres and GMP facilities dedicated to the production of biological drugs and advanced medicinal products. This project involves the Italian Network for Tumor Biotherapy (NIBIT) and representatives of the Istituto Superiore di Sanità.

The European Clinical Research Infrastructures Network program is aimed at building an integrated, pan-European infrastructure able to provide support to clinical research in any medical field, and for any type of clinical research, and to the conduct of multinational studies in Europe. ECRIN is designed to bridge the fragmentation of clinical research in Europe through the interconnection

of national networks of clinical research centres and clinical trial units. A first phase of the ECRIN program helped identify bottlenecks to multinational cooperation. In the current second phase, transnational working groups are in charge of defining procedures and guidelines for multinational studies in the EU. The third phase of the program will consist of building an infrastructure for EU-wide clinical trials, as described in the FP7 ESFRI Roadmap. This distributed infrastructure, based on the integration of competence centres coupled to data centres and biotherapy facilities, will provide access to clinical research projects through a set of flexible services offered by ECRIN. These services are particularly relevant for academic clinical research and for clinical trials sponsored by biotechnology, drug, and device enterprises that may lack the capacity to conduct EU-wide studies. In addition, ECRIN will enable efficient implementation of the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) strategic research agenda, providing support and infrastructure for public-private partnership in EU-wide studies. Ultimately, ECRIN will stimulate EU research on prevention, diagnosis and treatment, hence improving healthcare delivery to patients and citizens.

The recent entry of the ISS as an ECRIN partner prompted the proposal of organizing, together with NIBIT, a satellite celebration of the International Clinical Trials' Day dedicated to biotherapy of cancer. The "OECD 2008 Cancer Week" represents an ideal forum where to introduce a general presentation of the NIBIT goals and activities, including those sponsored by ACC, to the public and patients' organisations and, at the same time, to launch a call for debate among scientists on the state of art and perspectives of cancer biotherapies, as well as on critical regulatory, ethical, and clinical development issues pertaining to these innovative therapeutic strategies.

The morning session will be introduced by Maria Ferrantini, organizer of the event and contact point of the ISS for ECRIN. Jacques Demotes-Mainard (INSERM), coordinator of ECRIN, will illustrate the past, present and future activities of the ECRIN program heading to the development of the pan-European infrastructure. Filippo Belardelli, coordinator for the ISS of the internationalization of the projects sponsored by ACC, will illustrate the role of ISS and ACC in the promotion of the Italian participation to the ESFRI Biology and Medical Science infrastructures. Giovanni Apolone (Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research) and Nicola Fabris (CIRM, Italian Consortium for Research in Medicine) will provide their contribution, as representatives of the two Italian institutions that joined the ECRIN project since its start, by respectively addressing some critical aspects of the clinical research in oncology and by illustrating the importance of up-to-date programmes of education and training in the general clinical research area.

Giorgio Parmiani, Chair of NIBIT, will provide an overview of the major achievements and of the perspectives in the field of cancer biotherapies. Enrico Proietti (Istituto Superiore di Sanità) will illustrate the potential therapeutic advantages of combining anticancer immunological interventions with standard therapies.

Roberto Camerini (Sigma-Tau) will address, from the industrial point of view, the critical issue of



the partnership between industry and academic institutions for the development of cancer biopharmaceuticals and biotherapy products.

Finally, Ingrid Kössler (Europa Donna), Francesco De Lorenzo (F.A.V.O. – AIMaC), and Louis J. Denis (Europa Uomo) will illustrate and discuss the point of view of patients' organisations concerning the potential impact of the clinical development of cancer biotherapies, as well as important aspects of clinical research in cancer patients and needs in patients' care

### Scientific Programme

- Welcome and opening address  
**MARIA FERRANTINI**
- The ECRIN programme: heading to the development of the pan-European infrastructure  
**JACQUES DEMOTES-MAINARD**
- The role of ISS and ACC in the promotion of the Italian participation to the ESFRI Biology and Medical Science Infrastructures  
**FILIPPO BELARDELLI**
- Clinical trials in oncology: for patients or for industry?  
**GIOVANNI APOLONE**
- CIRM: a research consortium for education and training  
**NICOLA FABRIS**
- Biotherapy of cancer: reality and perspectives  
**GIORGIO PARMIANI**
- The promise of combining chemotherapy and immunotherapy  
**ENRICO PROIETTI**
- The public-private partnership in the field of cancer biotherapies  
**ROBERTO CAMERINI**
- The Europa Donna point of view on the impact of biotherapy for the treatment of cancer patients  
**INGRID KÖSSLER**
- Clinical Trials: what cancer patients need to know  
**FRANCESCO DE LORENZO**
- From Patient to Partner: Barriers to overcome in European Health Care  
**LOUIS J. DENIS**

## Workshop of European networks of bio-immunotherapy of tumors

PALAZZO DUCALE – SALA CAMINO

### Afternoon session

Representatives of national networks operating in the field of cancer biotherapy and immunotherapy in different European countries will exchange and discuss their experiences. This type of interaction and collaboration is of fundamental importance for an optimal use of the existing knowledge in the field and, therefore, for a more rapid and rational development of effective therapies for cancer. As for the NIBIT, Michele Maio will illustrate the role of this network in the Italian landscape and perspectives concerning biotherapy of tumors, and Paola Queirolo will present the network activities concerning current trials of biotherapy of cancer in Italy. Francesco Marincola (National Institutes of Health, USA) will illustrate the goals of the International Society for Biological Therapy of Cancer (iSBTC) in the USA, as well as the reasons of the iSBTC will to establish a partnership with European counterparts. Christof Huber and Thomas Wölfel (Johannes Gutenberg-University of Mainz) will respectively introduce the German network of immunotherapy of tumors, describing the major scientific interests of this network, and will illustrate relevant findings obtained in melanoma patients. Claudio Bordignon (MolMed) will present recent results concerning the activity of a biological drug developed at MolMed, a biotech company specialized in the research and development of novel cancer biotherapies. Leif Hakansson, in his capacity of Vice Chairman of the Biotherapy Development Association (BDA), a cooperative group whose primary focus is to develop targeted cancer therapies using biological agents, will address the challenging aspect of cancer-related immunosuppression. Maria Ferrantini will close the workshop illustrating ongoing and future initiatives at the European level that can have a favourable impact on the progress of the cancer biotherapy field, through the realization of infrastructures and coordination activities supporting both the translational and the clinical research.

### Scientific Programme

- NIBIT and the Italian biotherapy of tumors  
**MICHELE MAIO**
- Ongoing Italian biotherapy trials: the experience of NIBIT  
**PAOLA QUEIROLO**
- A call for a global network of cancer biotherapy researchers  
**FRANCESCO M. MARINCOLA**

- The German network for immunotherapy of tumors  
**CHRISTOPH HUBER**
- T-Cell responses to human melanoma are highly individual  
**THOMAS WÖLFEL**
- Arenegyr (NGR-TNF): a novel tumor vasculature-targeting agent for the treatment of cancer  
**CLAUDIO BORDIGNON**
- Cancer-Related Immunosuppression  
**LEIF HAKANSSON**
- Pan-European coordination and infrastructural activities: an opportunity for cancer biotherapy  
**MARIA FERRANTINI**

### OECI Accreditation Project Presentation

The OECI Accreditation Project is a Process to Evaluate and Improve Quality in European Cancer Centres.

The OECI helps health care professionals and Cancer Centres to improve the organisation of cancer care. To this end, the OECI accreditation working group has developed norms, criteria and has incorporated them in an electronic self-evaluation tool.

By using this tool, cancer centres can find out whether the organisation of their cancer care fulfils the quality standards of the OECI.

The tool forms the basis for self evaluation and peer review visits. The aim is to reach an optimum quality of comprehensive care, encompassing professional, organisational and relational aspects.

To help achieve this, the OECI Accreditation Project offers health care professionals and cancer centres support in their organisation and services through the following components of the tool:

- a quantitative database of cancer centres in Europe, with exhaustive questions on resources and activities (for prevention, care, research and education as well as production of health care and research);
- a qualitative comprehensive accreditation questionnaire for cancer centres, taking into account management, screening, primary prevention, health education, patient care, research, innovation, education and networking. The questionnaire is a series of standards translated into criteria. The PDCA cycle is an integral part of the qualitative questionnaire. The centres can thus check their degree of fulfilment of the different quality criteria.

### Thursday 22 May - Morning Session (10.00 to 13.00)

JOLLY MARINA HOTEL

Meeting of the OECI Accreditation group steering committee  
(Closed session upon invitation only)

### Thursday 22 May - Afternoon Session (14.00 to 17.30)

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

Training session on the OECI accreditation e-tool

Registration required, please contact the OECI office: [oeeci@skynet.be](mailto:oeeci@skynet.be)

The OECI Working Group Accreditation decided to launch a series of practical training courses on the experimental Accreditation e-tool to train the European Cancer Centres on the accreditation electronic process of self-evaluation through the quantitative and qualitative questionnaires. This third interactive course scheduled during the annual meeting of the OECI will allow great opportunities of interaction with the OECI centres interested in the “exercise”.

## Programme

- 14.00** Welcome and introduction:  
The Accreditation project: objectives, status and future plan of activities  
**MAHASTI SAGHATCHIAN** - Chairwoman OECI Working Group Accreditation,  
Institut Gustave Roussy - Paris, France
- 14.20** Cancer Quality Management System  
**HENK HUMMEL** - OECI Accreditation project manager,  
Comprehensive Cancer Centre Northern Netherlands, Groningen Netherlands
- 14.40** Technical description of the tool  
**BERT KOOT** - Compusense Leiden, Netherlands
- 15.00** **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15.15** Practical exercise (all)
- 16.45** Discussion and conclusion

The expected participants are scientists or administrative staff personnel working in Cancer Centres. A maximum of 35 participants will be accepted.

**Participants are requested to bring their own laptop with WiFi access.**

Space allowing, the course will be open to non-OECI Member participants.



# **General timetable**



# General timetable

	Tue 20 May	Wed 21 May	
Morning		<b>TRANSFOG</b> PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO	<b>TRANSFOG</b> PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO
	<b>TRANSFOG LUNCH</b> FOYER	<b>TRANSFOG LUNCH</b> FOYER	<b>STEERING COMMITTEE</b>  <b>BIOETHICS</b>
Afternoon	<b>TRANSFOG</b> PALAZZO DUCALE SALA CAMINO	<b>TRANSFOG</b> PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO	<b>OECI BOARD</b> CONGRESS ROOM JOLLY MARINA HOTEL
Evening		<b>TRANSFOG DINNER</b>	<b>OECI BOARD</b>

# General timetable

Thu 22 May		Fri 23 May	Sat 24 May
<p><b>BIOTHERAPY International Clinical Trials' Day on Biotherapy of Cancer meeting</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA CAMINO</p>	<p><b>Accreditation Steering Committee</b></p> <p>CONGRESS ROOM JOLLY MARINA HOTEL</p>	<p><b>SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO</p>	<p><b>OEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY Opening and WG presentations</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO</p>
<p><b>ACCREDITATION LUNCH + BOARD LUNCH</b> JOLLY MARINA HOTEL</p> <p><b>BIOTHERAPY and TRANSFOG LUNCH</b> PALAZZO DUCALE</p>		<p><b>SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE LUNCH</b> FOYER</p>	<p><b>GENERAL ASSEMBLY LUNCH</b> FOYER</p>
<p><b>BIOTHERAPY Workshop of European networks of bio-immunotherapy of tumors</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA CAMINO</p>	<p><b>Accreditation Training Course</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO</p> <p>dinner at leisure</p>	<p><b>SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO</p> <p><b>Mayor Reception</b> PALAZZO TURSI</p>	<p><b>OEI GENERAL ASSEMBLY Legal &amp; Financial</b></p> <p>PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO</p>
<p><b>BOARD &amp; BIOTHERAPY DINNER</b> VILLA SPINOLA</p>		<p><b>GALA DINNER</b> TUNNEL PRIVATE CLUB</p>	<p><b>OEI DINNER</b> ON BOARD THE M/S PALINURO</p>

**THE OECD 2008 SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	U. Ringborg
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	D. de Valeriola
	W. van Harten
	A. Lombart Bosch
	C. Lombardo
	K. Nilsson
	T. Philip
	M. A. Pierotti
	P. Riegman
	M. Saghatchian
	G. Storme
	T. Tursz
	D. Verellen

**ACC NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	E. Garaci <i>President Alleanza Contro il Cancro (ACC)</i>	
<b>DIRECTOR GENERAL:</b>	L. G. Spagnoli	
<b>SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY:</b>	M. A. Pierotti	
<b>HEAD FOCAL POINT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:</b>	C. Lombardo	
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	A. Amadori	F. A. Manzoli
	G. Alunni	P. Muti
	F. Caligaris Cappio	A. Paradiso
	F. Cornelio	C.A. Redi
	P. De Paoli	R. Rosso
	M. Imbriani	A. Vecchione
	A. Lanzavecchia	U. Veronesi
	A. Mantovani	

**LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

<b>CHAIRMEN:</b>	R. Rosso and C. Lombardo
<b>MEMBERS:</b>	S. Bertoglio
	A. Costa
	F. d'Alessandro
	C. Rosano

PALAZZO DUCALE - SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

## **Discovering new worlds in medicine: towards nanoapplication in cancer prevention and treatment**

Nanoscience offers a chance to make a significant progress in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. Interacting with normal and cancer cells at molecular and cellular scale in real time is being applied in two broad areas: the development of nanovectors for drug (or imaging agents) delivery to cancer cells and the design of nanosensor devices for early detection of cancer biological signatures.

The 2008 OECD Scientific Conference aims to explore coming forms of personalised medicine in which an early detection and better comprehension of the disease will define more appropriate and effective treatments of cancer.

The first years of the third millennium have witnessed a rapid development of studies in the field of nanoscience as well as an increased optimism that these studies, applied to medicine, could bring in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases. "Nanomedicine" aims to monitor, control, repair all the human biological systems at a molecular level, to preserve and to improve human health using molecular tools and atomic-scale knowledge of the human body.

Nanotechnologies are being applied to oncology in two broad areas: the development of nanovectors for drug (or imaging agents) delivery to cancer cells and the design of nanosensor devices for early detection of cancer biological signatures. New imaging agents, new diagnostic chips and new targeted therapies will come together to facilitate a new form of personalised medicine in which early and more accurate detection of the disease will lead to a rapid and effective initiation of the treatment. Eventually, as nanomedicine evolves, extreme caution should be exercised in terms of its safety that - consequently - has to undergo a thorough investigation."

### Morning session

- Welcome by the authorities
- Welcome and opening  
**ENRICO GARACI AND ULRIK RINGBORG**
- Innovation of cancer care in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – the role of European collaboration  
**UMBERTO VERONESI**
- Opportunities in the 7<sup>th</sup> FP and the Nanomedicine Platform  
**RENZO TOMELLINI**
- Nanotechnologies: an overview  
**MAURO FERRARI**

### SECTION 1: APPLICATION TO CANCER PREVENTION AND DIAGNOSIS

**CHAIR: U. RINGBORG AND D. DE VALERIOLA**

- Optical biopsy of cancer: nanotechnological aspects  
**RICARDAS ROTOMSKIS**
- Nanopore devices and nanoscale microscopies for genomics  
**UGO VALBUSA**
- Point-of-care systems for rapid DNA quantification in oncology  
**MARCO BIANCHESI**
- MR and iron magnetic nanoparticles: imaging opportunities in preclinical and translational research  
**CARLO EMANUELE NEUMAIER**

### Coffee break

### SECTION 2: APPLICATION TO CANCER TREATMENT - 1<sup>st</sup> Part

**CHAIR: T. TURSZ AND G. STORME**

- Drug Design: an overview on modern structure-based drug design  
**TOM BLUNDELL**
- ABCD nanoparticles for the delivery of therapeutic nucleic acids and imaging agents to tumour  
**ANDREW MILLER**
- Apoptosis chip for testing of drugs on breast cancer cells  
**ALBERT VAN DEN BERG**

### Lunch

## Afternoon Session

### SECTION 2: APPLICATION TO CANCER TREATMENT- 2<sup>nd</sup> Part

**CHAIR: A. LOMBART-BOSCH AND K.NILSSON**

- Drug Delivery: application of liposomal drugs to neuroectodermal cancer treatment  
**MIRCO PONZONI**
- siRNA nanoformulation is efficient in mouse xenografted tumors expressing human junction oncogenes  
**CLAUDE PAUL MALVY**
- Transformation of novel nanomaterials to clinically viable nanomedicine tools: the case of carbon nanotubes  
**KOSTAS KOSTARELOS**
- Nanoparticles for tumor imaging and tumor gene delivery  
**DANIEL SCHERMAN**
- Use of Nanoparticles for Cerebral Cancer  
**JORG KREUTER**
- Therapeutic reactive oxygen generation using fullerenes  
**PETER SCHARFF**

### Coffee break

### SECTION 3: TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

**CHAIR: W. VAN HARTEN**

- Assessment of new early phase nano-technologies  
**W. VAN HARTEN**
- Nanoparticles: potential cancer risks and research needs  
**RICHARD MOORE**

### CONCLUSIONS

**MARCO A. PIEROTTI**



# OECI General Assembly

May 24

PALAZZO DUCALE SALA MINOR CONSIGLIO

The OECI General Assembly gathers the main European Cancer Institutions members of OECI and represents an important forum to meet regularly, exchange opinions, and formulate working proposals by planning and establishing cooperation initiatives.

Like every year, the activities of the Working Groups (Accreditation, Education and Training, Guidelines, New Technology, Pathobiology) will be presented by each chairperson and discussed for feedback and future planning with the representatives of the OECI members participating.

The General Assembly will vote the application for affiliation received during the last year from several institutes in Europe and welcome the new members to OECI. All the applicants are expected to participate and present their institutes.

And finally the 2008 GA will discuss the strategic development of OECI for the coordination of cancer research in Europe by linking national and European funds together, in order to tangibly implement an European Research Area for Cancer capable of reducing fragmentation and of leading more rapidly to results of excellence that may be used both for industrial purposes and to improve prevention initiatives and treatment of cancer patients.

## Morning session

Presentation of the WGs activities and future plan

- 08.30** Welcome and opening by the President  
Constituency of the General Assembly  
Approval of the Agenda  
Minutes of the May 2007 General Assembly (approval)
- 08.45** Transfog Project - **GUY STORME AND ENZO MEDICO**
- 09.15** Pathobiology - **PETER RIEGMANN**
- 09.45** New Technologies - **DIRK VERELLEN**
- 10.00** Guidelines - **BEATRICE FÉRVERS**
- 10.30** Education and Training - **CLAUDIO LOMBARDO**
- 10.35** **Coffee Break**
- 11.05** Accreditation - **MAHASTI SAGHATCHIAN**
1. Introduction: Accreditation and labellisation for OECI members, **U. RINGBORG**
  2. Quality assessment in Europe and in Canada, **R. OTTER** and Canadian expert
  3. The OECI Accreditation project and future plans, **M. SAGHATCHIAN**
  4. The OECI quality assessment and improvement tool, **H. HUMMEL**
  5. Comprehensive Cancer Centres, the OECI definition for Europe, **W. VAN HARTEN**
  6. Collaboration with other organisations: initial steps, **D. DE VALERIOLA**
  7. Potential benefits for OECI Cancer Centres:  
Quality improvement tackling comprehensiveness, **T. TURSZ**
  8. Conclusions (panel discussion), "Questions and answers" session

Approval of the WGs future plans

**Lunch**

# General Assembly Agenda

May 24

## Afternoon Session

Administrative and future strategy topics

- 14.00**
1. 2007 Financial Statement presented by the Treasurer (approval)
  2. 2008 Provisional Budget presented by the Treasurer (approval)
  3. Membership update, 2008 membership fee (approval) and affiliation of new members
  4. New Board – (approval)
  5. Next General Assembly: May 2009  
**CHRIS HARRISON**, Christie Hospital NHS Foundation, Manchester, UK

**15.45 Coffee Break**

**16.15** OEI Future Strategies, funding and development of inter organisational collaboration

**17.30** Closure of the General Assembly

**Dinner**

## Working Group **ACCREDITATION** (WGA)

Chairperson: **Mahasti Saghatchian**

The mission of the Organisation of European Cancer Institutes (OECI) is to serve as a linking organisation, coordinating interdisciplinary cancer treatment and improving the quality of cancer care. This can be achieved by integrating cancer prevention, research and development and cancer education, thereby serving a critical mass population in Europe.

A major problem with cancer care in Europe is that care and research are fragmented. Moreover, whilst technological and scientific progress in the field of cancer research over the past few decades has been unparalleled, research has had a rather limited effect on diagnostic procedure and cancer care so far, and this effect is unevenly distributed within Europe. There is a need to integrate research into healthcare and to provide equity of access of patients to such high quality care.

**Oncology is a speciality, which thus seemed to be particularly in need of quality standards and accreditation at European level.** Based on a multidisciplinary concept, healthcare networks, evaluated therapeutic protocols, oncology involves the management of patients who are often frail, and sometimes in advanced distressed states. The success of therapeutics in cancer is owed to the multidisciplinary treatment strategies, providing a synergy between surgery, radiotherapy, drug treatment, and follow-up care. The search for quality, imposed respect of procedures, the evaluation of results and integration of research are the only guarantees of the efficacy of these treatments and the therapeutic progress.

**Consequently, the OECI launched the Accreditation Project in September 2005.**

**The WGA's purpose** was to review existing options in order to complete the creation of a European accreditation programme and consensually choose the quality credentials and criteria pertaining to improving of cancer care throughout Europe.

**The WGA objective** is to promote cancer centres that ensure a rapid translation of results from research into daily practice and total quality management, with an aim to improve and guarantee qualitatively good oncological care during the lifetime of the cancer patient in order to optimise quality of life and increase survival.

**The WGA project** is designed to recognise and define quality, in order to provide the best quality cancer care.

# The OECI working groups

May 24

The WGA is producing:

- standards and criteria for quality multidisciplinary cancer care delivered in cancer centres throughout Europe;
- a process allowing to survey the cancer centres in order to assess compliance with those standards;
- a tool to collect standardised and quality data from approved cancer centres, to measure treatments patterns and outcomes.

Eventually, the data could be used to evaluate cancer centre provider performance and develop effective systems and interventions that will allow us to improve cancer care outcomes at the national and European level.

In addition, OECI's accreditation process may also be used as a labelling or certification tool regarding the level of comprehensiveness and excellence attained by a comprehensive cancer care centre, organised centrally or as a network.

**The WGA plan** is to build a long-term complete and voluntary process with external and internal added value. It should become an active process of sharing information and experience. It is important to define common tools for auto evaluation that are not daunting and have been created with a set of guidelines agreed by peers and colleagues.

The definition and scoring of the various types of Cancer structures will help improve the status of all participating Centres.

With this background, the WGA will also develop a **labellisation system of the different cancer institutes / centres and for Comprehensive Cancer Centres of Excellence.**

At this stage, the following key issues will be addressed: are the centres only focused on treatment? Do they participate in education, basic research and translational research with a continuum of clinical and basic research?

There needs to be agreement on the quality of the research process and its integration into the daily activities of the centres. Clinical research and participation in clinical trials and the evaluation of the quality of the data is also part of the quality process.

As the networking process is very important, efforts will be made to facilitate the sharing of expertise between the accredited centres of reference and other centres and hospitals.

For the accredited centres to maintain their status and to give the opportunity to other centres to improve and/or become a partner in the networking process, the **WGA will organise the appropriate educational and dissemination activities.**

Moreover, a communication strategy will be set up to inform the authorities, public and the patients about the results of the process.

With all the topics and areas involved in the WGA programme, collaboration with external partners is needed. Therefore, the WGA has enlisted **the help of other organisations in Europe as partners** such as ESMO (European Society of Medical Oncology), EORTC (European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer), ESTRO (European Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology) and many others, especially patient's organisations.

To illustrate OECI's work towards completing its accreditation programme, the WGA will make several presentations during the General Assembly both from within the OECI group and international experts.

A Special focus will be provided to the OECI electronic accreditation tool.

OECI WGA Steering Committee members:

Pr **WIM VAN HARTEN**, Amsterdam

Pr **RENÉE OTTER**, Gröningen

Pr **ULRIK RINGBORG**, Stockholm

Dr **MAHASTI SAGHATCHIAN**, OECI WGA Chairwoman, Villejuif

Pr **THOMAS TURSZ**, Villejuif

Dr **DOMINIQUE DE VALERIOLA**, Brussels

OECI WGA Project Manager: Mr **HENK HUMMEL**, Groningen

OECI Accreditation e-tool designer and webmaster: Mr **BERT KOOT**, Compusense

OECI WGA secretary: Mrs **CECILE TABLEAU**, France

**Recent and major advances in the progress of the work of the WGA should allow to start OECI accreditation process for all OECI members in November 2008.**

**The 2008 Genoa OECI General Assembly is thus a unique opportunity for the WGA to present and discuss the Accreditation Programme designed for OECI members!**

**For more information please visit <http://www.oeci-eeig.org>**



### Working Group **EDUCATION and TRAINING**

Chairperson: **Claudio Lombardo**

The Working Group Education and Training (WG E&T) has been set up by the OECI in order to stimulate the international mobility of young scientists, improve research and development capabilities and promote continuing education for experienced scientists and clinicians.

The main goal of the E&T WG is to stimulate a better relationship among members of the GEIE-OE-CI (the Group) while, at the same time, defining a better connection with related external bodies.

The Mission of the OECI E&T WG is to promote:

TOP DOWN ACTIVITIES – (support to the other WGs)

- OECI-partners bottom-up initiatives
- OECI-industry partnership initiatives
- Fixed-term and permanent staff positions
- Fellowships and return grant programmes

Key Goals:

- Training and international mobility for young scientists and clinicians
- Continuing education for experienced scientists and clinicians

Through the plan of activities of the E&T WG the OECI hopes to give a tangible answer to the Lisbon goals, in order to tackle the fragmentation of training and to share knowledge and facilities among CCCs.

Last but not least, the OECI considers Education and Training as an essential instrument to create a spirit of belonging to the same Grouping.

The OECI members should be seen as users or providers of knowledge and therefore training activities could be addressed to members or third interested parties.

E&T activities are organised “in house” and participation is normally supported by the Group, while “alumni” only cover travel and accommodation expenses.

## Working Group **GUIDELINES**

Chairperson: **Thierry Philip / Béatrice Fervers**

### Mission Statement:

The translation of pertinent research results into consistent patient-oriented strategies is a key endeavour of Cancer institutes to help improve cancer practices and patient outcomes.

The pertinent and timely translation of new knowledge is all the most important given the ever increasing body of cancer research results: over 6500 publication and 250 cancer clinical trials per month (vs. 1700 and 2-3 in 1970). It is estimated that overall 30-40% of patients do not receive treatment according to the best available evidence. Despite tangible improvements in diagnosis and treatments, survival rates differ markedly across European regions [Annals of Oncology 2007] demonstrating inequalities in cancer practices.

Guidelines are important tools in an evidence-based approach to transfer new research results into cancer practice. Yet, although they have shown their capacity to improve clinical practice and outcome of patients with cancer, the effects are not as marked as could be hoped. Indeed, the development, updating and implementation of high quality guidelines that are effectively used require substantial time, expertise and resources. Less formal guideline entities such as hospitals and clinician groups can subsequently be overwhelmed by the requirements needed to create these tools. To provide a collaborative response to the current challenges European Cancer Institutes have to face, the key goals of the guidelines working group are:

- The improvement of the quality and efficiency of clinical practice guidelines
- The reduction of unnecessary duplication of effort
- The mutualisation of expertise among OECI members

Benefits foreseen by this working group toward the OECI community are the support for OECI members and their networks in delivering appropriate, high quality care to patients with cancer. In order to fulfil its aim, the working group guidelines participates in international groups developing tools and activities of added value for OECI members (e.g. ADAPTE and CoCanCPG).

During the first semester of 2007, a survey was performed (cf. pdf for main survey results) with-in OECI members with the objectives of:

- Knowing about guideline activities of OECI members
- Identifying the needs and scope of the OECI guideline workshop
- Refining the strategy of the working group Guidelines
- Identifying specific needs of OECI members
- Determining priorities
- Assessing training and information needs

### Working Group **NEW TECHNOLOGY**

Chairperson: **Dirk Verellen**

The primary objective of the Working Group New Technologies aims at creating a network within the OECI centres to co-ordinate individual efforts from European Cancer Institutes in the development of new technologies in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer and to establish a more integrated and coherent approach. The aims being:

- to encourage the development of evidence-based guidelines for good clinical practice and improve public health strategies by accelerating the translation of new innovative technology and existing research results into clinical applications;
- to coordinate clinical research, particularly clinical trials, aimed at validating new and improved interventions;
- to bring basic knowledge and new technological applications in clinical practice;
- to disseminate the experience.

### Working Groups **PATHOBIOLOGY**

Chairperson: **Peter Riegman**

The OECI Working Group Pathobiology has the task to standardise and harmonise Pathobiology in European cancer centres. A further essential task is that of disseminating innovative knowledge amongst the pathobiology departments of OECI members.

The program started with the implementation of TuBaFrost. TuBaFrost is a complete infrastructure for a European Tumor Tissue Bank ([www.tubafrost.org](http://www.tubafrost.org)). The network was developed in a three-year fifth-framework program of the European Commission involving OECI members as participants as well as the EORTC and a Dutch law firm.

OECI members can now utilise this virtual tissue bank to share their frozen tumor tissue collections with the other OECI members and perhaps even with external institutes with the intention to stimulate cooperation through the build up of a sufficient critical mass for multi-centre translational cancer research. Special care has been taken in the access rules including incentives for the collecting institutes. Governance over the samples as well as the samples stays at the collecting institute. The institute can decide using their normal procedures to join or reject a request from the network. It allows local negotiations on cooperation, co publication or compensation in costs.

In spring 2007 this working group organised an OECl workshop on European tissue banking with a focus on TuBaFrost for the introduction of this program.

Plans are under development to set up an OECl platform for innovative, interesting and difficult histology cases using Virtual Microscopy to present the complete histology for every case on the Internet complete with an Internet discussion forum to discuss the different cases on a European level. Cases that have been thoroughly discussed, which is to be decided by the moderator of the case and in yearly meetings, can be preserved and will serve as a reference set which can be used for education purposes.

There is also a need for harmonisation of Molecular Pathobiology. We hope to attract a European project in FP 7 to set up a proper exchange program for molecular diagnostic personnel of OECl members and perhaps a material exchange program for the implementation of European quality control in the different OECl molecular pathobiology labs to improve the overall outcome.

# Genoa: general information

*Coming to Genoa, you will find an imperious city, crowned by harsh mountains, proud of her people and her city walls, mistress of the sea, so wrote Petrarch, the Italian poet who nicknamed Genoa 'La Superba' (The Proud).*

Genoa's history goes back to ancient times. Its name is believed to derive from Genua, founded by the two-headed god Janus, protector of ships and coins. Genoa, as well as being full of mythical origins, has always been a crossroads of traffic and culture, between continental Europe and the Mediterranean, thanks to its natural position and the spirit of initiative of its inhabitants. The great, powerful and prosperous sea commerce of Genoa started during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries when the city expanded as a Maritime Republic and its influence spread across the Mediterranean in competition with Pisa and Venice. Genoa's participation in the Eastern Crusades, as well as responding to religious needs, made the city a valued importer of riches and new products. In 1098, the merchants took over the commercial district of Antiochia, and the 'Compagna' was set up the next year, as the first communal associative institution, giving life to a mixed, ruling class of aristocratic, feudal and mercantile origin.

The historic centre - the oldest and widest in Europe - was divided into eight districts whose boundaries were marked by porticoed houses. These are still visible in Via di Sottoripa, in front of the renewed old port.

The "Barbarossa" walls were built from 1155 to 1160, of which remain the main city gates, including Porta Soprana and Porta dei Vacca. Between 1320 and 1347 the new boundary wall was built, which was then developed and extended along the coast during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. These walls are largely preserved and are still visible in some areas. The bulwark which defended the city from the sea dates back to the same period, as is the Porta Siberia. The last and best preserved walls are the so-called 'New Walls', built between 1626 and 1633, which form a triangle to protect the city and run all along the surrounding hills. The 13 kilometres walls going further into the inland are still dotted with doors, bastions, and 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century forts. Genoa increased its mercantile power both to the north and to the east and, after defeating Pisa in the famous naval battle of Meloria in 1284, gained control of the Tyrrhenian Sea. In the late 13<sup>th</sup> century the first merchant fleet from Genoa arrived in Bruges, and made the Belgian port the main link to the Mediterranean trade, making Genoa the first city in history to open a diplomatic office in another country.

Genoa played a lead banking role in the early part of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, when the Bank of Genoa, or House of St. George, was established, especially for the management of the public debt. The bank also performed all such services as were required by the existing wants of trade, at a time when the city was commercially the centre of Europe.

## Genoa: general information

Genoa's financial and seafaring power was fostered by its aristocratic merchant families during the 'Genoese Golden Age' in the 16th and 17th centuries, whose wealth and prominence is displayed in the magnificent Renaissance and Baroque palaces along the so-called 'new streets' (Strade Nuove), Via Garibaldi and Via Balbi. The Strade Nuove and the system of the Palazzi dei Rolli was included in UNESCO's World Heritage list in 2006. The Rolli palaces were private residences whose owners were obliged to host state visits, thus contributing to the dissemination of knowledge of an architectural model and a residential culture which attracted famous artists and travellers, and of which a significant example is a collection of drawings by Peter Paul Rubens. Among the major palaces along Via Garibaldi are the Palazzo Rosso (now a museum), Palazzo Bianco, Palazzo Grimaldi and Palazzo Reale. Not far from this site, on Genoa's most elegant square Piazza de Ferrari, is the Palazzo Ducale, one of the city's symbols. Once the seat of the city's rulers, called "The Doges", it is now its cultural centre, and has been chosen as the venue for some of the events scheduled for OECE 2008. The construction of the historic Palace of the Doges - today the property of the municipal council - began in 1298 during the flourishing Republican period of the city's history, when Genoa was consolidating its economic power throughout the Mediterranean. It was not until 1339 and onwards that the Palace was called "Ducale" when it became the seat of the first Genoese Doge, Simon Boccanegra. The central part of the Palace was destroyed by fire in 1777 and reconstructed in the neo-classical style as can be seen today in the splendid Salone del Maggiore Consiglio (Great Council Hall) and the Sala del Minor Consiglio (Minor Council Hall) which, because of its position facing north, is also known as the Summer Council Hall. The most recent restoration work was concluded in 1992 which returned the building to its original splendour. The impression of magnificence, grandeur and wealth through the decoration and celebratory commitment that the Palace creates is best seen in the majestic Salone del Maggior Consiglio, where the Genoese nobility who held power in the Republic conducted their deliberations. Today, the Palazzo Ducale is a cultural centre which houses among others, the Historical Archives of the City of Genoa and the Ligurian Society of National History.

In 2004 Genoa was designated European Capital of Culture by the European Union, and many special events were staged around the city's old port (Porto Antico), including art exhibitions and a retrospective of the work of Genoese architect Renzo Piano – known for his conceptual modern buildings, such as the Pompidou Centre in Paris. In the 1990s, Genoa entrusted Renzo Piano with the task of redeveloping the old port area for the 500th anniversary celebrations of Christopher Columbus's voyage to America. Genoa was indeed home to the great explorer and the celebrated musician and violinist Niccolò Paganini, after whom a famous international violin competition which is held every two years in the city's Opera Theatre, Carlo Felice, is named. The Italian maestro's violin, named Il Cannone, which is kept in the city Town Hall, is played on very special occasions such as during the Premio Paganini by the winner of the contest.



# Genoa: general information

At the port of Genoa is the oldest, still working lighthouse in the world, called 'La Lanterna', which is the city's landmark. Genoa also hosts one of the largest aquariums in Europe located in the above-mentioned old port.

Genoa lies right in the middle of its region, Liguria, a long and narrow stretch of coastline extending from Ventimiglia in the west to Portovenere in the east and comprising two areas: the Riviera di Ponente, and the Riviera di Levante. The Ponente is home to the fancy seaside resort of Sanremo and evokes its commercialised French counterparts to the west, while the Levante is home to smaller villages and a rockier coastline with glittering jewels of its own, like Portofino and the famous walkers' destination of Cinque Terre.

Genoa has a host of delicacies that sum up the very best of Italian cuisine. Genoa is also famous for pesto, a basil sauce usually served over trenette or trofia pasta cooked with potatoes and green beans. Being a sea-faring town, Genoa's cuisine naturally places a high emphasis on seafood dishes such as the fish stew buridda, stoccafisso (dried cod), and baccalà (salted cod served in a delicious sauce). A true masterpiece of Ligurian cuisine is the cappon magro a very elaborate dish made of various kinds of fish and boiled vegetables, and seasoned with a sauce of herbs and pine nuts. Among the various meat dishes is the cima alla Genovese, a pocket of veal breast stuffed with various ingredients, then served cold, in slices. Other Genoese specialties are the simple and delicious foods like the traditional breads, focaccia (flatbread often stuffed with cheese or topped with different herbs) and the farinata (a lightly fried specialty made from chickpea flour). Among the desserts, one of the most distinctive is pandolce, a treat found on every table at Christmas time.

Liguria offers a wide range of high quality wines, including especially the red Rossese, and the whites Pigato and Vermentino. Another famous and hard to find white wine is the Sciacchetrà which, with its satisfyingly sweet and unforgettable flavour, makes it a perfect accompaniment to desserts.

# Registration

The registration form should be used. Completed forms should be sent to the appropriate Congress Secretariat.

**For online registration please connect to: <http://www.oeci-eeig.org>**

## TRANSFOG

**TRANSFOG Consortium Session** May 20 - Palazzo Ducale upon invitation

**TRANSFOG Public Session** May 21 - 22 - Palazzo Ducale

Free of charge, participants outside the TRANSFOG Consortium will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

## BIO THERAPY

**Biotherapy** May 22, morning - Palazzo Ducale

**Biotherapy** May 22, afternoon - Palazzo Ducale

Fee € 50,00 morning - Fee € 50,00 afternoon

ACC members - registration fee € 50,00 supported by ACC

## OECI

**Accreditation Steering Committee Meeting** May 22, morning - Jolly Marina Hotel  
Upon invitation

**OECI Board** May 22, afternoon - Jolly Marina Hotel - Upon invitation

**Accreditation Training Course** May 22 - Palazzo Ducale

Free of charge for a maximum of two participants from each OECI member and/or associated member

Fee € 200,00 for non-members

**OECI Scientific Conference** May 23 - Palazzo Ducale

Free of charge for the legal representatives of OECI members or associated members.

Fee € 60,00 for other participants

ACC members - registration fee € 60,00 supported by ACC

**OECI General Assembly** May 24 - Palazzo Ducale - Upon invitation

## Registration packages

All participants to the above mentioned events are entitled to:

- admission to the scientific sessions
- congress kit
- final programme
- certificate of attendance
- coffee and lunch during breaks

# Social events

## **TRANSFOG Dinner** Wednesday May 21

Free of charge for Transfog members

€ 55,00 for other participants and/or accompanying person

## **OECI Board & Biotherapy Dinner** Thursday May 22

Villa Spinola

Free of charge for OECI Board

€ 55,00 for other participants and/or accompanying person

## **OECI Reception by the Mayor of Genoa** Friday May 23

City Hall

Invitation required

## **OECI Gala Dinner** Friday May 23

Tunnel Private Club

Free of charge for OECI registered participants and their accompanying persons

Invitation required

€ 55,00 for other participants and/or accompanying persons

## **Dinner on board the m/s Palinuro** Saturday May 24

Free of charge for OECI registered participants and their accompanying persons

€ 55,00 for other participants and/or accompanying persons

Invitation required

## **PAYMENT**

- by credit card (Mastercard - VISA - American Express)
- by bank transfer in EURO (with no costs for the beneficiary)
- account name: **BC Congressi srl**
- Account number: 4217743
- Bank name: UNICREDIT BANCA
- IBAN code: IT06Z0200801411000004217743
- CIN code: Z ABI code: 02008 CAB code: 01411
- BIC SWIFT code: UNCRITB 1111

## **Cancellation policy**

All cancellations must be made in writing to the registration office BC Congressi. No refund will be made after April 30, 2008.

## **Confirmation**

Upon receipt of the registration forms with the appropriate fees, confirmation will be sent together with a receipt of payment.

# General information

## Travel information

Genoa is easily accessible by all means of transport:

**by car:** The motorway exit is “Genova Ovest” (from A7-A10-A12-A26 motorways); follow the signs for the City Centre or the Palazzo Ducale.

**by train:** from all major European cities.

**by plane:** Genoa “Cristoforo Colombo” airport is located in the north-west area a few kilometres from the city centre; transfer time is about 20 minutes. VOLABUS runs one bus every hour throughout the day into central Genoa. The ticket costs € 4,00 and is on sale on board. The first bus leaves Genoa Airport at 6.05 am, the last one at 11.20 pm; first service from Principe railway station is at 5.45 am, last service at 11.40 pm.

Delegates can ask BC Congressi for assistance in arranging their travel:

**BC Congressi** - Via XX Settembre, 14/4 - 16121 Genova, Italy

Tel +39 010 595 70 60 - Fax +39 010 595 85 48 - [oei2008secretariat@bccongressi.it](mailto:oei2008secretariat@bccongressi.it)

## Local information

**Climate** In Genoa the weather in May is mild with possible sunny days and an average daily temperature of 22°C.

**Car parking** Car parking is available by the Conference Venue.

**Taxis** Taxis cannot be booked but easily found by calling 010 5966.

## Congress-specific information

**Language** The official language of the Congress is English. No simultaneous translation in other languages will be provided during the sessions.

**Badges** Congress badges should be worn by all participants at all times during the meeting.

**Lunches and refreshments** Breaks and lunches are organised in the congress venue.

**Insurance** The Organising Committee cannot accept any liability. Participants should make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance.

# Hotel accommodation

## Hotel accommodation

Through the Congress Secretariat, BC Congressi, hotel accommodation can be reserved in the hotels mentioned below.

Preference may be indicated on the enclosed reservation form. Reservations will be treated on a first-come first-served basis. If there are no more vacancies in the category of your choice, we will do our best to find an alternative.

**For all information** on your hotel reservation please contact

**BC Congressi** Via XX Settembre, 14/4 - 16121 Genova, Italy

Tel +39 010 595 70 60 - Fax +39 010 595 85 48 - [oeeci2008secretariat@bccongressi.it](mailto:oeeci2008secretariat@bccongressi.it)

## How to book

Hotel reservation may be made by completing and returning the hotel accommodation form to BC Congressi no later than **May 2, 2008** as the number of rooms available for the Congress is limited and hotel accommodation cannot be guaranteed after this date.

## Payments and booking confirmation

The hotel reservation should be guaranteed **only by a Credit Card**.

BC Congressi is making the reservation on your behalf, therefore the contract and the payment is effected between the hotel and the guest.

Written confirmation will be sent to you after receipt of your hotel reservation form and number of your credit card.

## Cancellation and refund

All cancellations must be sent in writing and addressed to BC Congressi.

For cancellations received before April 30, 2008, no fee will be charged.

After this date one room night will be charged to your credit card.

All refunds will be made after the Congress.

**For online registration please connect to: <http://www.oeeci-eeig.org>**

# Hotel accommodation

## Congress Hotels

List of hotels, stars, prices (in €) for double room (DWB), double for single use (DUS). Prices are per room and night including breakfast and tourist tax and are for your information only.

HOTEL	DESCRIPTION	MAP N.	DWB	DUS
JOLLY MARINA 4*	New hotel in the Porto Antico Area, just in front of the Aquarium	2	220	180
BEST WESTERN CITY 4*	Renovated hotel right in the elegant shopping central area of the city	3	185	165
BRISTOL 4*	Elegant old-style hotel in the main street of the city centre	4	195	165
JOLLY PLAZA 4*	Elegant hotel right in the city centre. Few minutes away from Brignole railway station	5	181	155
LOCANDA CICALA 4*	Charme hotel, situated inside the historical Palazzo Cicala. Few rooms available	8	234	179
MODERNO VERDI 4*	Renovated hotel in the centre of the city, in front of Brignole railway station	7	175	150
METROPOLI 3*	Completely renovated hotel in the old financial centre of Genoa	10	142	135
ASTORIA 3*	Comfortable hotel just a few minutes from Brignole railway station	6	145	115
EUROPA 3*	Comfortable hotel just a few minutes from Principe railway station	1	120	90
VIALE SAULI 3*	Comfortable hotel just a few minutes from Brignole railway station	9	/	100

## See map

The organising secretariat is at your disposal to find alternative and cheaper solutions for your accommodation: b&b (approx. cost € 35,00 - 50,00 per person), hostel (off-centre location, room sharing-approx. € 17,00 per person)

NOTE: LIMITED AVAILABILITY



# Excursions and tours

## **Guided City Walk May 22-23 (09.00 – 12.30)**

This city guided tour will make you discover and enjoy Genoese art and culture, old treasures and beautiful landscapes. Bright frescos, facades and treasure-filled palaces are only some of the fascinating aspects of this tour that shows how the verticality of Genoa's terrain, trapped between the mountain and the sea, has long been exploited to create dramatic urban backdrops. **Free of charge. Booking through registration form.**

*All optional excursions and tours will be organised for a minimum of 20 participants*

## **Genoa "La Superba" May 24 (09.00 – 14.30)**

Via Garibaldi and Galleria Nazionale di Palazzo Spinola di Pellicceria

Half-day walks in the historic city centre of Genoa recognized by the UNESCO World Heritage List. Its history goes back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, when wealthy noble families of bankers, linked to the most important European royal courts, competed with one another to build their splendid palaces, now turned into modern banks, offices and museums. One of them, Galleria Nazionale di Palazzo Spinola di Pellicceria, a museum still containing the original frescoes, paintings, decorations and original furniture of the golden age of Genoa's artistic production, the 17<sup>th</sup> century, will be visited to give a closer look to the rich society of the time. An exclusive traditional lunch will be served in the historical kitchen of the museum. **Fee: € 65,00**

Full-day excursions (by coach)

## **The eastern Riviera and Portofino May 25 (lunch included 9.00 - 17.00)**

The Portofino coast is one hour bus ride from Genoa and is one of the most celebrated areas of natural beauty in Italy. This fascinating and exclusive coast with its lively, colourful fishermen's villages, enchanting promontories, sheltered bays and little coves is given further charm by a real gem: the Benedictine Abbey of San Fruttuoso (end of 10<sup>th</sup> century) that lies in an amazing bay that can be reached only by sea. In order to make it more enjoyable, this tour - by coach and by boat - will be organised in groups that will be able to walk through the villages and admire the coastline from the boat (in case of bad weather or rough sea the visit to San Fruttuoso will be cancelled). The tour will end in Portofino. Lunch will be served in a small village restaurant.

**Fee: € 120,00**

Excursions and tours may be booked by completing and returning the appropriate form (Tours and excursions form) to BC Congressi no later than *May 2, 2008*.

Your booking and all payments will be confirmed in writing upon receipt of your form and payment.

**For online registration please connect to: <http://www.oeci-eeig.org>**

*In order to welcome all participants to the OECE 2008 Scientific Week, the Italian Navy have generously provided one of its most prominent training ships: the Palinuro. Guests are invited to visit the ship whilst moored in the Old Port of Genoa for this special occasion.*

## **Palinuro: the name, the legend, the history**

The “Palinuro” takes her name from the leading character of one of the most beautiful legends of the sea passed down through the centuries. In Virgil’s Aeneid, Palinurus is Aeneas’s “pilot” who is given the task of guiding the fleet of Trojan survivors through the Mediterranean to a new destiny, leaving behind the ruins of their still burning city.

The “Palinuro”, a three-masted barquentine, was launched at Nantes in Brittany in 1934 at the “Anciens Chantiers Dubigeon”. This shipyard, which still exists today, was renowned and a most prestigious shipbuilder during the sailing era.

With her almost 69 metre long 10 metre wide steel riveted hull, with a single deck, the “Palinuro” was originally named “Commandant Louis Richard” and used by the French “Société de peche Malouines” as a fishing vessel for carrying cod from the docksides at Newfoundland to Saint Malo.

It is not sure what happened to the “Commandant Louis Richard” during the Second World War. What is certain, however, is that her post-war activities on the Grand Banks were brief.

In 1947, she changed hands and was sent to fish the Indian Ocean for one or two seasons bearing the name “Jean Marc Aline”.

In 1950, she was sold to the Italian Navy who needed her as a training ship for boatswains.

These were hard times, and the transformation work at the Castellammare di Stabia shipyards took five years to complete. The conversion work, above all, involved extending her poop deck ten metres towards the bow, though this did not greatly alter her external profile.

The vessel finally entered service on the 16th of July 1955, with the new name “Palinuro” on her stern and on her bows the shining golden figurehead of Virgil’s hero still clutching the steering rudder.

And so from this time she started her new role as a training ship for leading seamen after completing studies at the “Mariscuola La Maddalena” (Sardinia).



**Today, the “Palinuro” is considered one of the most beautiful and efficient of all the world’s Tall Ships.**

# Acknowledgments

The OECI 2008 General Assembly, Scientific Conference and Related Events are made possible thanks to the contribution of OECI, ACC, EC funding for the TRANSFOG project, and to the generous support of public and private bodies herein acknowledged.



**Regione Liguria**



**Marina Militare Italiana**



**Comune di Genova**



**Comitato Nazionale per la Biosicurezza, le Biotecnologie e le Scienze della vita  
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri**



The **European Association for Cancer Research (EACR)** is the largest member society for cancer research in Europe and has a multi-disciplinary membership of over 7,000.

In seeking to advance cancer research, EACR supports its members through a wide range of activities, scientific meetings and other opportunities for communication and interaction.

Membership applications can be made online at [www.eacr.org](http://www.eacr.org).

To encourage participation, fees are just 30 Euro per annum and free to students for up to four years.



## The Italian Association for Cancer Research (AIRC)

Established in 1965. AIRC's mission is to promote cancer research also through financing research projects and to disseminate appropriate scientific information through publications, meetings, courses and fellowships.



**LILT (Italian Cancer League)** is an Italian public organization, which focuses on the fight against the tumours, over the entire national territory, under the direction of the president of the Republic of Italy and the control of the Italian Ministry of Health. Moreover is an active member of ECL (European Cancer Leagues) and UICC (International Cancer Union). Founded on February 25th 1922, with more than 80 years of constant activity, through its 103 provincial sections and 350 day clinics, LILT offers an important and widespread service in the fight against cancer with its activities in the area of prevention, research and formation and medical humanities.



## Fondazione italiana per la lotta al Neuroblastoma

The foundation provides funding and support at international level to the main groups involved in the research into Neuroblastoma and Paediatric Solid Tumours, as well as strengthening the Research Laboratory which is already a reality in Genoa.

# Acknowledgments

And with the kind support of:

## **Baxter**

**Baxter** is a global, diversified healthcare company that develops products and therapies to make a meaningful difference in the lives of people with life-threatening conditions such as haemophilia, kidney disease, immune disorders and other chronic and acute conditions.

Baxter is truly an international company with more than 75 years of experience, a strong global brand and broad geographic reach: More than 45,000 employees and 250 facilities worldwide - Products are sold in more than 100 countries and manufacturing presence in 27 markets.



**BioRep Srl**, Via Fantoli 16/15, Milan – Italy ([www.biorep.it](http://www.biorep.it))

BioRep ([www.biorep.it](http://www.biorep.it)) is an independent “SERVICE PROVIDER” organisation, offering biorepository services to public and private research institutes, to the highest standards of quality and safety. BioRep in collaboration with Coriell Institute for Medical Research USA ([www.coriell.org](http://www.coriell.org)), can offer Global Biorepositories services in the following areas: Cell and Tissue Repositories; Tissue Microarrays, Cell Biology, Molecular Biology and Cytogenetics, with an extensive Quality Control Program. BioRep is also involved in Stem Cell research programs financed by the EEC, and his ISO 9001:2000 Certified.

# Acknowledgments



**Celbio S.p.A.** ([www.celbio.it](http://www.celbio.it)) is a company, established in 1983 and located in Pero (Milano), selling reagents, consumables and equipment for the Healthcare and the Scientific Research market with a prevailing interest in the biomedical field. Celbio S.p.A. who belongs to the Euroclone S.p.A. ([www.euroclone.net](http://www.euroclone.net)) group of companies operates in the following fields: Biotechnology, Human Diagnostics, Agrofood and Veterinary Diagnostics, Surgery. Serving Science through innovation is the motto of the group whose presence in the Italian research community is very strong and is now growing also at European level.



The activities of the Nanobiotechnology and Medical Informatics - MEDINFO - laboratory (DIST - Department of Communication Computer and System Sciences, University of Genoa) relate to the following topics: nanobiotechnology, cell and tissue engineering, genomic and Proteomic, computer science application for medicine, biology and environment, imaging, signal and data analysis, computer base applications for scientific and cultural dissemination.



**Millipore (NYSE: MIL)** is a Life Science leader providing cutting-edge technologies, tools, and services for bioscience research and biopharmaceutical manufacturing. As a strategic partner, we collaborate with customers to confront the world's challenging human health issues. From research to development to production, our scientific expertise and innovative solutions help customers tackle their most complex problems and achieve their goals. Millipore Corporation is an S&P 500 company with more than 6,100 employees in 47 countries worldwide.



# Acknowledgments



Biomarkers analysis for FFPE & Blood samples.

As a solution to biomarker analysis, Panomics' QuantiGene 2.0 assays that measure RNA directly from FFPE samples, whole blood, or dried blood spots, are not affected by globin RNA, blood factors or poor quality of RNA. In addition, QuantiGene 2.0 assays for FFPE samples enable highly quantitative for retrospective and prospective studies of disease biomarkers that previously have been unreliable. The QuantiGene Reagent Systems direct-hybridization method for RNA quantification is relatively insensitive to RNA degradation and overcomes the current challenges of gene expression profiling for these challenging sample types.



**SIIT** (Intelligent Integration Systems technology) is a consortium including the most important companies of Liguria. Its main objectives are to encourage innovation technology inside local both LEs and SMEs to increase their efficiency and competitiveness; contribute to strengthen the collaboration between universities, research institutes and local both LEs and SMEs; exploit local scientific and technical resources; and act as a contact point for the promotion, enhancement and development of technology districts in Liguria.

# Acknowledgments



**Softeco Sismat SpA** is a Hi-Tech ICT company providing advanced solutions and products for the industrial and service market. In the e-health and medical systems sector, Softeco main solutions and development lines include advanced software systems for imaging and 3D graphics reconstruction applied to medical diagnosis and decision support, as well as semantic based e-health web portals for distribution of medical information.



With more than 55 years of activity, Casa di cura Villa Montallegro has become a center of excellence in the Italian private health sector thanks to the quality of the services provided. Constant updating with regard to training and technology offers the quality to the Guests of the Hospital.

The structure is organized in three main buildings covering 8000 sq. meters and 10000 sq meters of private parkland and parking.

Villa Montallegro is open 24+/365.



**Wichtig Editore** has been publishing independent, peer reviewed scientific journals since 1977. The dedicated staff within the Publisher proficiently deals with all issues related to the delicate process of scientific publishing, from language editing to reference proofing and professional handling of artwork. The Editorial Boards of all publications acknowledge the most important and well-known specialists in their area of interest, and through their continued support and dedication Wichtig Editore's journals are widely read and appreciated around the world. Most of its titles are indexed into important bibliographic databases among which Index Medicus/MEDLINE, Current Contents/Clinical Medicine, Embase/Excerpta Medica, Index Copernicus.

# Acknowledgments

Under the auspices of



**Ministero degli Affari Esteri**  
**Ministero della Salute**  
**Ministero della Ricerca**



**Centro Regionale Ricerca e Innovazione – Regione Liguria**



The **Italian Association of Medical Oncology (AIOM)** was established in Milan on 7 November 1973 by 20 founding members.

The purpose of the Association is to bring together specialists in Medical Oncology with the aims of promoting progress in the clinical, experimental and social welfare fields. In particular, the AIOM has the objective of contributing to the professional training of medical oncologists and healthcare workers. The current President is Prof. Francesco Boccardo, Head of Department of Medical Oncology B - Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro Genova.



The **Italian Cancer Society (SIC)**, established in 1952 by 32 charter members, is one of the most important Italian association of cancer researchers, dedicated to the experimental oncology. SIC headquarters has been situated in Milan since 1958, housed by the National Institute Cancer. The principal aim of the Society is to promote the improvement of oncology, integrating the experimental method with the social and clinical aspects. The current President is Dr. Adriana Albini, Head of Oncology Research - IRCCS Multimedica (Sesto San Giovanni - Milan).



