

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
MDAnderson  
Cancer Center

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FONDAZIONE  
FRIULI



# Houston Pordenone

September 19-20

Piazza del Portello, 2 - Pordenone (PN)

Sala Convegni di Confindustria

First Annual CRO-MDA  
Symposium Cancer Biology and Precision Oncology

# UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF

Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia



Comune di Pordenone



Italian Cancer Society (SIC)



Associazione Italiana Oncologia Medica



Università degli studi di Trieste



Università degli studi di Udine



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# First Annual CRO-MDA Symposium on Cancer Biology and Precision Oncology

19-20 September 2023

## SCIENTIFIC COORDINATORS

Gustavo Baldassarre

Alessandra Bearz

Silvia Franceschi

Giulio Draetta

Raghu Kalluri

Andrea Viale



## LOCAL SCIENTIFIC AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Dall'Acqua Alessandra      Researcher at Translational Research Laboratory of Women's Cancers (TReWoT) and at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression, CRO Aviano
- Muraro Elena                 Researcher at Immunopathology and cancer biomarkers, CRO Aviano

## FACULTIES Speakers

- Al-Lazikani Bissan          Professor, Department of Genomic Medicine, Division of Cancer Medicine  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
- Belletti Barbara             PhD, Senior Researcher and PI of TReWoT Lab Unit of Molecular Oncology  
Department of Cancer Research and Advanced Diagnostics
- Brisotto Giulia              Researcher at Immunopathology and cancer biomarkers, CRO Aviano
- Caligiuri Isabella          Researcher at Pathologic anatomy with a focus on oncology, CRO Aviano
- Caravagna Giulio          Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics and Geoscience, University of Trieste
- De Re Valli                  Executive biologist at Immunopathology and cancer biomarkers, CRO Aviano
- Draetta Giulio                Senior Vice President, Chief Scientific Officer, and Professor, Genomic Medicine, Division of Cancer Medicine  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
- Fanetti Giuseppe          Medical executive at radiation oncology, CRO Aviano
- Ge Yejing                     Assistant Professor, Department of Cancer Biology, Division of Basic Science Research  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
- Genovese Giannicola      Associate Professor, Department of Genitourinary Medical Oncology, Division of Cancer Medicine  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Hart Traver	Associate Professor, Department of Bioinformatics and Computational Biology The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Kalluri Raghu	Professor, Department of Cancer Biology, Division of Basic Science Research The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Kim Betty	Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Division of Surgery The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
McAllister Florencia	Associate Professor, Department of Clinical Cancer Prevention, Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Mongiat Maurizio	Executive biologist at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression, Cro Aviano
Morris Van	Associate Professor, Department of Gastrointestinal (GI) Medical Oncology, Division of Cancer Medicine The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Pellarin Ilenia	Master Degree in Functional Genomics, PhD in Molecular Biomedicin, Post-Doc Researcher at the IRCCS CRO Aviano
Pozzo Federico	Postdoc Researcher at Clinical Experimental Oncohematology, CRO Aviano
Pucillo Carlo	Full Professor in General Pathology and Immunology - University of Udine
Sanguinetti Guido	Full Professor of Applied Physics at the International School of Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste
Schoeftner Stefan	Associate professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Trieste, in the Department of Life Science
Spizzo Riccardo	Medical executive at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression and Laboratory of Noncoding Regions of the Tumor Genome (Noncoding RNA Lab) , CRO Aviano
Viale Andrea	Associate Professor Department of Genomic Medicine, Division of Cancer Medicine, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX
Zucchetto Antonella	Hematology Oncology Unit, CRO Aviano

## Chairs

Silvia Franceschi	Director at Scientific Management, CRO Aviano
Maura Sonogo	Researcher at Laboratory of Cell Invasion and Growth Control Systems (SCICC) Researcher at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression, CRO Aviano
Erika Tissino	Researcher at Clinical Experimental Oncohematology, CRO Aviano
Milena Nicoloso	Medical executive at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression and Responsible at Laboratory of Noncoding Regions of the Tumor Genome (Noncoding RNA Lab), CRO Aviano
Milena Nicoloso	Researcher at Pathologic anatomy with a focus on oncology, CRO Aviano
Manuela Santarosa	Researcher at Clinical Experimental Oncohematology, CRO Aviano
Elisabetta Fratta	Researcher at Immunopathology and cancer biomarkers, CRO Aviano
Valter Gattei	Director at Clinical Experimental Oncohematology, CRO Aviano
Alessandra Capuano	Researcher at Matrix, Migration and Metastasis Laboratory (3M Lab) and at Molecular Oncology and Preclinical Models of Tumor Progression, CRO Aviano
Monica Schiappacassi	Reference at Molecular Diagnostics of Solid Tumors (DMTS) Researcher at Laboratory of cellular invasion and growth control systems (SCICC) and at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression, CRO Aviano
Riccardo Bomben	Executive biologist at clinical experimental oncohematology, CRO Aviano
Luca Sigalotti	Executive biologist at Oncogenetics and functional oncogenomics, CRO Aviano
Vincenzo Canzonieri	Director at pathologic anatomy with oncology focus, CRO Aviano
Fabio Del Ben	Medical executive at Immunopathology and cancer biomarkers, CRO Aviano
Paola Spessotto	Responsible at Matrix, migration and metastasis laboratory (3M Lab) Executive biologist at Molecular oncology and preclinical models of tumor progression, CRO Aviano

# PROGRAM AT GLANCE

		Tuesday September, 19th 2023	
			Sala Convegni Confindustria Pordenone
08.30	09.00		Registration
09.00	10.00		Welcome
10.00	10.30	Open Coffee	Session 1 Tumor microenvironment
10.30	11.00		
11.00	11.30	Open Coffee	Session 2 Mouse Model of Cancer
11.30	12.00		
12.00	12.30		Lunch
12.30	13.00		
13.00	13.30		Lunch
13.30	14.00		
14.00	14.30	Open Coffee	Session 3 Optimizing drug response in cancer treatment
14.30	15.00		
15.00	15.30	Open Coffee	Session 4 Tumor progression & drug resistance: from epigenetics to clonal evolution
15.30	16.00		
16.00	16.30		
16.30	17.00		
17.00	17.30		
17.30	18.00		
18.00	18.30		
18.30	19.00		
19.00	19.30		
19.30	20.00		
20.00	20.30		
20.30	21.00		
21.00	21.30		

		Wednesday September, 20th 2023	
			Sala Convegni Confindustria Pordenone
08.30	09.00		
09.00	09.30		
09.30	10.00	Open Coffee	Session 5 Microbiome and Tumor immunology
10.00	10.30		
10.30	11.00	Open Coffee	Session 6 Tumor heterogeneity, evolution and functional genomics
11.00	11.30		
11.30	12.00		Lunch
12.00	12.30		
12.30	13.00		Lunch
13.00	13.30		
13.30	14.00	Open Coffee	Session 7 New targets in cancer therapy
14.00	14.30		
14.30	15.00	Open Coffee	Session 8 Biomarkers of treatment response
15.00	15.30		
15.30	16.00		
16.00	16.30		
16.30	17.00		
17.00	17.30		Closing remarks
17.30	18.00		
18.00	18.30		
18.30	19.00		
19.00	19.30		
19.30	20.00		
20.00	20.30		
20.30	21.00		

# First Annual CRO-MDA Symposium on Cancer Biology and Precision Oncology

Sala Convegni di Confindustria Alto Adriatico, Pordenone  
19th - 20th September 2023

## September, 19th 2023

**8.30-9.00** Registration

**9.00-10.00** Opening Address and Welcome from local Authorities

*Introduction by Silvia Franceschi, Raghu Kalluri, Gustavo Baldassarre, Alessandra Bearz, Andrea Viale*

**10.30-11.30** Open Coffee

### **10.00-11.30 Session 1 Tumor Microenvironment**

*Chairs: Valter Gattei and Alessandra Capuano, CRO Aviano*

New insights into the tumor microenvironment and treatment of pancreatic cancer

*Raghu Kalluri, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Multimerin-2, a gatekeeper of vascular stability

*Maurizio Mongiat, CRO Aviano*

VLA-4 in CLL: a molecule with multiple regulation layers

*Antonella Zucchetto, CRO Aviano*

## **11.30-13.00 Session 2 Mouse Models of Cancer**

*Chairs: Paola Spessotto and Alessandra Dall'Acqua, CRO Aviano*

Chromatin erosion awakens ancient virions in adult stem cells

*Yejing Ge, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Preclinical models of breast cancer to capture tumor heterogeneity

*Barbara Belletti, CRO Aviano*

Cross species functionalization of the cancer genome

*Giannicola Genovese, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

**13.00-14.30** Lunch

**16.00-17.00** Open Coffee

## **14.30-16.00 Session 3 Optimizing drug response in cancer treatment**

*Chairs: Milena Nicoloso and Stefano Palazzolo, CRO Aviano*

Dissecting the role of CDK12 in the response to therapies in Epithelial Ovarian Cancer progression

*Ilenia Pellarin, CRO Aviano*

AI for uncovering hidden opportunities in cancer therapy

*Bissan Al-Lazikani, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Reappearance of CXCR4<sup>dim</sup>/CD5<sup>bright</sup> Proliferative Fraction Associates with BTK mutations and Anticipates Progression in Ibrutinib-Treated Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia

*Federico Pozzo, CRO Aviano*

## **16.00-17.30 Session 4 Tumor progression & drug resistance: from epigenetics to clonal evolution**

*Chairs: Manuela Santarosa and Elisabetta Fratta, CRO Aviano*

Investigating the role of conserved non coding regions of the human genome in Ovarian Cancer

*Riccardo Spizzo, CRO Aviano*

Immunoediting, tumor complexity and spatial clonal architecture in pancreatic cancer

*Andrea Viale, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Suppression of R-loops in repetitive DNA elements defends genome stability in cancer cells

*Stefan Schoeftner, University of Trieste*

## **September, 20th 2023**

**10.30-11.30** Open Coffee

## **9.30-11.00 Session 5 Microbiome and Tumor immunology**

*Chairs: Luca Sigalotti and Elena Muraro, CRO Aviano*

Tumor resident microbes: The new kids in the microenvironment block

*Florencia McAllister, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Tumor society: metabolism and reprogramming

*Carlo Pucillo, University of Udine*

Human leukocyte antigen (HLA) expression and chemokines influence relapse risk in young patients with Hodgkin lymphoma treated with the EuroNet-PHL-C2 protocol

*Valli De Re, CRO Aviano*

## **11.00-12.30 Session 6 Tumor heterogeneity, evolution and functional genomics**

*Chairs: Monica Schiappacassi and Riccardo Bomben, CRO Aviano*

Machine learning methodologies for single-cell 'omic data

*Guido Sanguinetti*

Advances in multiplex CRISPR technologies for genetic interactions in mammalian cells

*Traver Hart, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Computational modelling and inference to understand tumour evolutionary dynamics

*Giulio Caravagna, University of Trieste*

**12.30-14.00** Lunch

**15.30-16.30** Open Coffee

## **14.00-15.30 Session 7 New targets in cancer therapy**

*Chairs: Maura Sonogo and Erika Tissino, CRO Aviano*

Perspectives on translating discoveries into cures

*Giulio Draetta, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

A preclinical model of Pin-1 based-therapy in High-Grade Serous Ovarian Cancer

*Isabella Caligiuri, CRO Aviano*

Targeting phagocytosis against cancer and other human diseases

## 15.30-17.00 Session 8 Biomarkers of Treatment Response

*Chairs: Vincenzo Canzonieri and Fabio Del Ben, CRO Aviano*

Prognosis and toxicity in head and neck cancers after radiotherapy: emerging biomarkers and therapeutic challenges

*Giuseppe Fanetti, CRO Aviano*

Expanding liquid biopsies beyond ctDNA for colorectal cancer: profiling transcriptomic dynamics in BRAF V600E metastatic colorectal cancer

*Van Morris, MD Anderson Cancer Center*

A liquid biopsy approach to identify immune-oncological biomarkers for the management of oligometastatic prostate cancer patients treated with radiotherapy

*Giulia Brisotto, CRO Aviano*

## 17.00-17.30 Closing remarks

*Silvia Franceschi, Raghu Kalluri, Gustavo Baldassarre, Alessandra Bearz, Andrea Viale*

### **Partecipanti:**

140 con crediti ECM

**Crediti Assegnati:** 10.5

### **Responsabili Scientifici:**

Dott.ssa Alessandra Bearz  
Dott. Gustavo Baldassarre

### **Obiettivo Formativo:**

Obiettivo Nazionale N. 2