

The VIII Siena Think Tank
A Vision of I-O: call for actions

The Think Tank is promoted by the NIBIT Foundation in collaboration with the Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy and the World Immunotherapy Council

October 3-5, 2024

Rationale

The VII Think Tank of the Italian Network for Tumor Bio-Immunotherapy (NIBIT) Foundation is focused on sharing with the enlarged scientific community the research findings and initiatives of the **NIBIT Foundation** research team in the context of the rapidly evolving field of cancer immunotherapy worldwide. A great opportunity of professional exchange and scientific update for all participants.

As for the past editions, the Meeting is organized in collaboration with **The Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy (PICI)** in San Francisco and the **World Immunotherapy Council (WIC)**.

During the event world-wide acknowledged scientists in the field of cancer immunotherapy will debate about pre-selected scientific, translational and clinical research topics, engaging the attendees in highly interactive discussions.

Aims of the meeting will be:

1. Sharing the vision on highly selected I-O topics
2. Implementing new collaborations (pre-clinical/clinical/educational) among participants and with the organizational (and financial) support of the scientific Co-Organizing entities
3. Presenting research projects/ideas by pre-selected (also through WIC) young investigators in the identified topics of the meeting to be discussed and eventually hosted in Institutions participating to the Think Tank.
4. Generating a white paper manuscript

October 3rd

17:30-18:00 Welcome to the VII Siena I-O Think Tank

Michele Maio (Siena, Italy) *, Bernie Fox (Portland, USA)*, Ramy Ibrahim (San Francisco, USA) *

18:00-20:00 The Investors decision making process in non-profit research

Chairs: Ramy Ibrahim (San Francisco, USA)* and Michael Lahn (Geneva, Switzerland)*

18:00-18:15 The PICI - John Connolly (San Francisco, USA)*

18:15-18:30 The NIBIT Foundation - Michele Maio (Siena, Italy)*

18:30-18:50 The Analyst - Asthika Goonewardene (New York, USA)*

18:50-19:40 Round Table Led by Ramy Ibrahim (San Francisco, USA)*

Panelists: All speakers and Chairs, and Bernie Fox, and John Connolly*

20:30 Wine and Cheese

October 4th

SESSION 1 - 08:45 - 13:00 Focus on the PICI and NIBIT Foundation research: opportunities for joint actions?

08:45 - 09:00 *Chairs:* 3 Chairs: *Barbara Seliger (Halle, Germany) **, Harold Keer (Astex Pharmaceuticals, USA), *and Pedro Romero (Lausanne, Switzerland)*

09:00 - 09:30 PICI: Dual functioning antibodies - Samir Kleif (Washington, USA)*

09:30 - 10:00 PICI: Cell therapy across PICI portfolio Companies - John Connolly (San Francisco, USA)*

10:00 - 10:30 PICI: Prostate Cancer as a Paradigm of IO Resistance - Sumit Subudhi (Houston, USA)*

10:30 - 11:00 *Coffee*

11:00 - 11:30 The EPICA Consortium: Epigenetically-driven prognosis and survival of Stage III/IV melanoma - Andrea Anichini (Milan, Italy)*

11:30 - 12:00 NIBIT Foundation: Epigenetically-driven response to ICI therapy of melanoma and lung cancer - Anna Maria Di Giacomo (Siena, Italy)*

12:00 - 12:30 NIBIT Foundation: Epigenetically-driven response to ICI therapy of pleural mesothelioma - Luana Calabrò (Ferrara, Italy)*

12:30 - 13:00 Conclusions and call for actions - Chairs

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch

SESSION 2 - 14:30 - 18:45 A future beyond ICI or ICI-based?

14:30 - 14:45 *Chairs: Patrick Garcia (Merck Darmstadt, Germany)*, Roberto Camerini (Rome, Italy)*, and Bernie Fox (Providence, USA)**

14:45-15:15 The achievements of 15 years of ICI - Alexander Eggermont (Utrecht, The Netherlands)*

15:15-15:45 Bispecific antibodies in development - Kim Young (Terrytown, USA)*

15:45 - 16:15 Novel antibody-cytokine fusions - Dario Neri (Zurich, Switzerland)*

16:15 - 16:45 Cancer Dark Matter Vaccine: Clinical Responses - Rom Leidner (Portland, USA)*

16:45 - 17:15 Tea

17:15 - 17:45 Leveraging mRNA Technology for Antigen Based Immuno-Oncology Therapies - Wei Zheng (Cambridge, USA)*

17:45 - 18:15 BMS: Early development - Cosimo Paga (Rome, Italy)*

18:15 - 18:30 Conclusions and call for actions - Chairs

18:30 - 19:15 The NIBIT Foundation Annual Lecture: Keep your eyes on the prize: adventures in drug development - Renzo Canetta (Madison, USA)*
Introduced by Lorenzo Moretta

20:30 - Dinner

October 5th

SESSION 3 - 09:00 - 12:45 Novel technologies to dissect the tumor-host ecosystem: single-cells, spatial transcriptomics and AI

09:00 - 09:15 Chairs: *Zlatko Trajanoski (Innsbruck, Austria)*, Michele Ceccarelli (Miami, USA)*, and Catherine Sautes-Fridman (Paris, France)**

09:15 - 09:45 Analyzing tumor microenvironment - Wolf Hervè Fridman (Paris, France)*

09:45 - 10:15 The spatial transcriptomic landscape of experimental inflammation-induced colorectal cancer Eduardo Villablanca (Stockholm, Sweden)

10:15 - 10:45 Leveraging anatomical scales to understand tissue biology and organ architecture in health and disease - Andre Rendeiro (Wien, Austria)*

10:45 - 11:15 *Coffee*

11:15 – 11:45 Artificial Intelligence-based biomarkers for immunotherapy - Marta Ligeró (Dresden, Germany)* :

11:45 - 12:15 Mapping the spatial architecture of the TME in lung tumour evolution
Mihaela Angelova (London, UK)*

12:15 - 12:45 High resolution single-cell atlases in cancer - Zlatko Trajanoski (Innsbruck, Austria)*

12:45 - 13:00 **Conclusions and call for actions - Chairs**

13:00 - 13:30 **SESSION 4 - The IX Siena I-O Think Tank 2025**

Chairs: Michele Maio (Siena, Italy), Bernie Fox (Portland, USA), Ramy Ibrahim (San Francisco, USA)

Ideas and topics for the IX Siena 2025 Think Tank (October 2-4, 2025)

***Confirmed speakers**

FACULTY 2024

- Mihaela Angelova (London, UK)
- Andrea Anichini (Milan, Italy)
- Luana Calabrò (Ferrara, Italy)
- Roberto Camerini (Rome, Italy)

- Renzo Canetta (Madison, USA)
- Michele Ceccarelli (Naples, Italy)
- John Connolly (San Francisco, USA)
- Anna Maria Di Giacomo (Siena, Italy)
- Alexander Eggermont (Utrecht, The Netherlands)
- Bernie Fox (Portland, USA)
- Patrick Garcia (Merck Darmstadt, Germany)
- Asthika Goonewardene (New York, USA)
- Wolf Hervè Fridman (Paris, France)
- Ramy Ibrahim (San Francisco, USA)
- Harold Keer (San Francisco, USA)
- Samir Khleif (Washington DC, USA)
- Michael Lahn (Geneva, Switzerland)
- Rom Leidner (Portland, USA)
- Marta Ligerò (Dresden, Germany)
- Michele Maio (Siena, Italy)
- Lorenzo Moretta (Rome, Italy)
- Dario Neri (Zurich, Switzerland)
- Cosimo Paga (Rome, Italy)
- Rino Rappuoli (Siena, Italy)
- Andre Rendeiro (Wien, Austria)
- Pedro Romero (Lausanne, Switzerland)
- Catherine Sautes-Fridman (Paris, France)
- Barbara Seliger (Brandenburg, Germany)
- Sumit Subudhi (Houston, USA)
- Zlatko Trajanoski (Innsbruck, Austria)
- Eduardo Villablanca (Stockholm, Sweden)
- Kim Young (Terrytown, USA)

INVITEE FACULTY (To be updated)

- Gregorio Aversa (Vancouver, Canada)
- Daniele Banfi (Milan, Italy)
- Jennifer Burbea (Rome, Italy)
- Elisabetta Calabrese (Bristol Mayer Squibb, Italy)
- Francesca Colizzi (Aviano, Italy)
- Sandra Coral (Siena, Italy)
- Giorgio Costacurta (Pordenone, Italy)
- Alessia Covre (Siena, Italy)
- Fillipo Debraud (Milan Italy)
- Elisabetta Ferretti (Rome, Italy)
- Elisabetta Fratta (Aviano, Italy)
- Massimo Guidoboni (Meldola, Italy)
- Katia Lo Rizzo (Philogen, Italy)

- Daniela Massi (Florence, Italy)
- Marco Merlano Turin Italy)
- Mauro Merlo (Pierre Fabre, Italy)
- Luigi Nezi (Milan, Italy)
- Paola Nisticò (Rome, Italy)
- Andrea Paolini (Toscana Life Science, Italy)
- Ulrich Pfeffer (Genoa, Italy)
- Francesco Rao (Bristol Mayer Squibb, Italy)
- Gaetano Romano (Philadelphia, USA)
- Florian Schuster (Bit Bio, United Kingdom)
- Luca Sigalotti (Aviano, Italy)
- Michael Smith (Milan, Italy)
- Cevi Wang (Sciclone, Shanghai)

SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZERS

- **Michele Maio** - University of Siena and Center for Immuno-Oncology, Siena (Italy)
- **Bernie Fox** - Robert W. Franz Cancer Center, Earle A. Chiles Research Institute, Providence Cancer Institute, Portland (USA)
- **Ramy Ibrahim** - Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy, San Francisco (USA)