



# INNOVATE

**INTERNATIONAL NEOADJUVANT  
IMMUNOTHERAPY ACROSS CANCERS**

**Naples, Royal Continental Hotel**

**July 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**THIRD EDITION**

**3PSOLUTION**

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF



## SCIENTIFIC RATIONALE

**Immune checkpoint blockade** (ICB) has revolutionized outcomes for patients with advanced cancers. Building upon this marked success, evaluation of ICB in patients with surgically resectable disease has been pursued across **multiple cancer types**. Improving the anti-tumor immune response, as measured by pathologic response, neoadjuvant immunotherapy continues to demonstrate correlation with improved risk of recurrence across many tumor types, resulting in **changes in standard of care**. Complete pathologic response to neoadjuvant treatment has previously been established a surrogate endpoint in some cancers, but data continue to emerge supporting evaluation of this understanding in the context of neoadjuvant ICB and outcomes associated with pathologic response to immunotherapy is actively being pursued across cancers. The accessibility of pre treatment and post treatment tissue in neoadjuvant studies offers the opportunity for **deep translational evaluation**. Taken together, neoadjuvant treatment serves as powerful drug development platform as it provides the opportunity to leverage translational insights to gain a deeper understanding the outcomes associated with pathologic response as well as insights into mechanisms of immunotherapy response and resistance across multiple cancer types and **opportunities for treatment personalization**.

Notably, the majority of these clinical advances and translational insights are evaluated within disease groups. Many efforts continue to work towards a convergence and harmonization in pathology standardization, trial design, and data aggregation in order to transcend traditional paradigms and **leverage the innovative potential** of the neoadjuvant platform in cancer immunotherapy. As immunotherapy and checkpoint inhibitors continue to advance for patients with advanced disease, further evaluation in the neoadjuvant setting plays a critical role in contextualizing clinical response with deep pathologic and biomarker evaluation. There is an increasing need to expedite insights and facilitate impact for patients through the evaluation of neoadjuvant immunotherapy across cancers.

In this scenario, the importance of early-stage breast and lung cancer is crucial, as it offers the best chance of successful immunotherapy treatment and improved outcomes. Detecting cancer in its early stages allows for less aggressive treatment options, higher survival rates and a better quality of life for patients. Early detection also reduces the risk of metastasis, which can make treatment more difficult and reduce survival rates.

With this in mind, we seek to organize a **global meeting** to bring together field and industry leaders in **neoadjuvant immunotherapy clinical and translational research** with the goal of highlighting clinical advances, innovative research approaches, as well as possibilities for collaboration and opportunities to **harmonize approaches across cancers**. With the unique advantage of immunotherapy, we collectively have the opportunity learn across disciplines and cancer types to accelerate the improvement of outcomes for patients with surgically resectable disease by harnessing the true potential of the neoadjuvant platform for drug development.

The meeting will take place over two days and will consist of invited speakers, and panel discussions. Topics will range from disease specific field overviews, pathology, biomarker discovery, treatment personalization, and opportunity for consensus development.

09:30 a.m. *Registration*

10:00 a.m. Opening remarks: summary of 2025 meeting and goals for 2026 meeting  
**P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton**

**10:15 a.m. - 12:00 a.m. | I SESSION | Updates in neoadjuvant therapy**

10:15 a.m. *Debate: Phase contribution assessment in perioperative oncology*  
**C.U. Blank vs T. Cascone**

10:45 a.m. Adjuvant post-neoadjuvant failure  
**P.A. Ascierto**

11:00 a.m. The neoadjuvant platform as an immuno-oncology drug development tool  
**H. A. Tawbi**

11:15 a.m. AI-Driven Multimodal Modeling to Personalize Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy  
**J. Wu**

11:30 a.m. Panel discussion: updates in neoadjuvant therapy  
**P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton, T. Cascone, H. A. Tawbi, J. Wu**

**12:00 p.m. - 01:00 p.m. | II SESSION | Biomarker and translational research in neoadjuvant studies**

*Session Chairs: P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton*

12:00 p.m. *Lecture: Strategies for biomarker development in neoadjuvant therapies*  
**E. M. Burton**

12:15 p.m. Gene Expression Profiling  
**D. Mallardo**

12:25 p.m. Research updates  
**M. Ottaviano**

12:35 p.m. Panel discussion: baseline biomarkers for neoadjuvant therapies  
**P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton, D. Mallardo, M. Ottaviano**

01:00 p.m. *Lunch*

**02:00 p.m. - 02:40 p.m. | III SESSION | Pathology and surgery updates**

*Session Chairs: A. Eggermont, M. T. Tetzlaff*

02:00 p.m. Tissue-based biomarkers: predicting and assessing pathologic response to neoadjuvant therapy  
**J. M. Taube**

- 02:10 p.m.** Surgical considerations  
**J. E. Gershenwald**
- 02:20 p.m.** Panel discussion: pathology and surgery updates  
**A. Eggermont, J. E. Gershenwald, J. M. Taube, M. T. Tetzlaff**
- 02:40 p.m. - 04:00 p.m. | IV SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant therapy: breast**  
*Session Chairs: P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton*
- 02:40 p.m.** Neoadjuvant in breast cancer: what are the gaps and what is next?  
**G. Curigliano**
- 02:50 p.m.** Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy  
**M. Kok**
- 03:00 p.m.** Combination  
**M. De Laurentiis**
- 03:10 p.m.** Targeted/ADC  
**L. Emens**
- 03:20 p.m.** Specific updates & discussion in breast  
**P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton, G. Curigliano, M. De Laurentiis, L. Emens, M. Kok**
- 04:00 p.m.** *Coffee break*
- 04:00 p.m. - 05:10 p.m. | V SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant therapy: lung**  
*Session Chairs: E. M. Burton, T. Cascone*
- 04:00 p.m.** Neoadjuvant and perioperative immunotherapy in NSCLC: present and future  
**P. Forde**
- 04:10 p.m.** Neoadjuvant and perioperative targeted therapy in NSCLC: clinical updates and next steps  
**A. Russo**
- 04:20 p.m.** Tissue- and blood-based biomarkers in resectable NSCLC: implementation and challenges  
**C. Rolfo**
- 04:30 p.m.** Specific updates & discussion in lung  
**E. M. Burton, Tina Cascone, A. Cortellini, P. Forde, C. Rolfo, A. Russo**
- 05:10 p.m.** Closing day 1

**08:40 a.m. - 09:40 a.m. | VI SESSION | Global Perspectives in Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy**

*Session Chairs: P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton*

**08:40 a.m.** SITC  
**L. Emens**

**09:00 a.m.** ESMO  
**F. André**

**09:20 a.m.** ASCO  
**TBD**

**09:40 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | VII SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant therapy: melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer**

*Session Chairs: P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton*

**09:40 a.m.** Neoadjuvant immunotherapy in melanoma: what next?  
**G. V. Long**

**09:50 a.m.** IO mono therapy  
**S. Patel**

**10:00 a.m.** Combination  
**R. N. Amaria**

**10:10 a.m.** Neoadjuvant immunotherapy in non melanoma skin cancer  
**N. Gross**

**10:20 a.m.** Specific updates & discussion in melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer  
**R. N. Amaria, P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton, N. Gross, G. V. Long, E. A. Martinez Castaneda, J. M. Mehnert, S. Patel, I. Pires Da Silva**

**11:00 a.m.** *Coffee break*

**11:20 a.m. - 12:40 p.m. | VIII SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant therapy: GU**

*Session Chair: O. Hamid*

**11:20 a.m.** Renal Cell Carcinoma: IO mono therapy and combination  
**G. Facchini\***

**11:30 a.m.** Targeted therapies in Renal Cell Carcinoma  
**G. Procopio**

**11:40 a.m.** Prostate: IO mono therapy and combination  
**G. Facchini**

**11:50 a.m.** Bladder cancer: IO mono therapy and combination  
**S. Scagliarini**

*\*Invited - pending confirmation*

- 12:00 p.m.** Specific updates & discussion in GU  
**G. Facchini, O. Hamid, G. Procopio, S. Scagliarini**
- 12:40 p.m.** Lunch
- 01:40 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. | IX SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant therapy: GI**  
Session Chair: **O. Hamid**
- 01:40 p.m.** CRC  
**M. Chalabi**
- 01:50 p.m.** Gastric and esophageal  
**A. Avallone**
- 02:00 p.m.** Pancreas  
**M. Besselink\***
- 02:10 p.m.** Specific updates & discussion in GI  
**A. Avallone, M. Besselink\*, M. Chalabi, O. Hamid**
- 02:50 p.m. - 04:10 p.m. | X SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant therapy: head & neck and sarcoma**  
Session Chairs: **P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton**
- 02:50 p.m.** Neoadjuvant immunotherapy in head & neck  
**R. Ferris\***
- 03:00 p.m.** IO mono therapy and combination in head & neck  
**P. Bossi**
- 03:10 p.m.** What's new in sarcoma  
**R. Sanfilippo**
- 03:20 p.m.** IO mono therapy and combination in sarcoma  
**P. Casali**
- 03:30 p.m.** Specific updates & discussion in H&N and sarcoma  
**P. A. Ascierto, P. Bossi, E. M. Burton, P. Casali, R. Ferris\*, R. Sanfilippo**
- 04:10 p.m. - 05:30 p.m. | XI SESSION | Building consensus - "Where do we go from here?"**  
Session Chairs - **P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton**
- Summary of key points, panel discussion and agreement  
**P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton**
- 05:30 p.m.- 05:45 p.m.** Closing remarks  
**P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton**

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## REGISTRATION

The event registration is free for healthcare professionals.

To register [CLICK HERE](#)

For more information:

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