

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP NO-CANCER 2026

from cancer cell biology to personalized therapy

Novara, October 27-28, 2026



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

TUESDAY **27TH OCTOBER**

1.30 – 2.30 PM

REGISTRATION OF ATTENDEES

2.30 – 3.00 PM

OPENING CEREMONY

Greetings from the Authorities

3.00 – 7.15 PM

FIRST SESSION

Chairs: John DiGiovanni (USA) – Camelia Munteanu (Romania)

3.00 – 3.30 PM

Title: Splicing Out Cancer: Therapeutic Targeting of UCA1-Driven RNA Splicing in Ovarian Cancer (KL)

Danny N. Dhanasekaran

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, USA

3.30 – 3.55 PM

Title: Understanding the Metabolic Signature of Cancer Cachexia (IL)

Fabio Penna

University of Torino, Italy

3.55 – 4.20 PM

Title: Overactivation of Stress-adaptive Signaling Exposes Ferroptosis Vulnerability in Melanoma (IL)

Mara Gagliardi

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

4.20 – 4.50 PM	<p>Title: Spatial and Multimodal Analysis of Clinical Samples- a Systems Biochemistry Approach (KL)</p> <p>Stefan Kempa Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Berlin, Germany</p>
4.50 – 5.15 PM	<p>Title: NKX3-2/P53/Autophagy Axis: Implications for Ovarian Cancer Progression and Prognosis (IL)</p> <p>Alessandra Ferraresi Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy</p>
5.15 – 5.40 PM	<p>Title: Dihydroartemisinin Suppresses Cholangiocarcinoma Xenograft Growth through Autophagy-associated Cell Death and Metabolic Reprogramming (IL)</p> <p>Suyanee Thongchot Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand</p>
5.40 – 5.52 PM	<p>Title: Cathepsin D Proteolysis as a Driver of Autophagy and Lysosomal Biogenesis: a Mechanistic Link to Neuroblastoma Metastasis (OC)</p> <p>Chiara Lualdi Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy</p>
5.52 – 6.04 PM	<p>Title: Discovery and Analysis of Autophagy Regulators in Cancer Dormancy (OC)</p> <p>Nehir Dalgic Koc University, Turkey</p>
6.04 - 6.34 PM	<p>Title: Direct Isolation of Cancer Hallmark-Driving Cells from Intact Tumors Using Spatial Laser Sorting (KL)</p> <p>Amos Lee Meteor Biotech, Co. Ltd., Republic of Korea</p>
6.34 – 6.46 PM	<p>Title: An <i>IL6/TENM3/DIRAS3</i> Gene Signature Drives Tumor Microenvironment Remodeling and Stratifies Metastatic Risk in Ovarian and Breast Cancer (OC)</p> <p>Uthman Walusimbi Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy</p>
6.46 – 7.16 PM	<p>Title: The CTLH Complex is a System-Level Coordinator of Resource Allocation and Cellular Functions (KL)</p> <p>Vincenzo Coppola The Ohio State University Medical Center, USA</p>
7.20 – 9.00 PM	WELCOME PARTY

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER

9.00 – 11.00 AM **SECOND SESSION**

Chairs: Riccardo Moia (Italy) – Maria Luisa Chiusano (Italy)

9.00 – 9.12 AM Title: Plasma Metabolomics and ctDNA Analysis in Newly Diagnosed Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma: an Exploratory Study (OC)

Mohammad Almasri

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

9.12 – 9.24 AM Title: Acute Myeloid Leukemia: a Key Role of DGK α and DGK ζ in Cell Viability (OC)

Elisa Gorla

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

9.24 – 9.36 AM Title: Myeloid-Derived Carbon Monoxide Orchestrates Tumor Chemoresistance (OC)

Giulia Ballerini

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

9.36 – 9.48 AM Title: Extracellular Vesicle-Associated Jagged Ligands Orchestrate Tumor Microenvironment Remodeling in Multiple Myeloma (OC)

Domenica Giannandrea

University of Milan, Italy

9.48 – 10.00 AM Title: Notch-Regulated Extracellular Vesicle Cargo Impairs Osteoblast Differentiation in Multiple Myeloma (OC)

Valentina Citro

University of Milan, Italy

10.00 – 10.30 AM Title: Modeling Myeloma Progression and the Promise of Simvastatin (KL)

Michael Firer

Ariel University, Israel

10.30 – 10.42 AM Title: NAMPT and NNMT are Distinctive Features of BRAF Inhibitor Resistance in Melanoma, with Evidence of Nuclear Localization (OC)

Beatrice Ghezzi

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

10.42 – 10.54 AM Title: ICOS-Fc Potentiates CD8⁺ T-Cell Killing of Breast Cancer Spheroids After Tumour-Cell Immunization (OC)

Foteini Christaki

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

11.00 – 11.30 AM **COFFEE BREAK**

11.30 AM – 1.30 PM

THIRD SESSION

Chairs: Stefan Kempa (Germany) – Virginie Sottile (Italy)

11.30AM – 12.00PM Title: A Key Mediator of Tumor-Stroma Interactions as a Precision Medicine Target: Diagnostic and Therapeutic Applications (KL)

Devrim Gozuacik

Koç University, Turkey

12.00 – 12.25 PM Title: Autophagic Activity is Critical in the Decision of the Response to PDT and PTT in Cancer (IL)

Yunus Akkoc

Koc University, Turkey

12.25 – 12.37 PM Title: NAMPT: a Key Metabolic Component of the IFN- γ Response Network Shaping Tumor-Immune Interactions in Metastatic Cutaneous Melanoma (OC)

Irene Fiorilla

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

12.37 – 1.02 PM Title: Adipocyte-Ovarian Cancer Crosstalk- Reprogramming the Noncoding Transcriptome in Cancer Cells (IL)

Camelia Munteanu

University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine Cluj
Napoca, Romania

1.02 – 1.32 PM Title: FGFR2-Stat1-PD-L1 Signaling Axis as a Target for Prevention of Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma (KL)

John DiGiovanni

University of Texas at Austin, USA

1.30 – 2.30 PM

LUNCH

2.30 – 6.00 PM

FOURTH SESSION

Chairs: Devrim Gozuacik (Turkey) – Arnold Stern (USA)

2.30 – 2.55 PM

Title: Lung Cancer Cell Differentiation Downgrades Pathogenic Features in vitro and Reduces Metastatic Behaviour (IL)

Virginie Sottile

Università degli Studi di Pavia, Italy

2.55 – 3.07 PM

Title: Investigating the Molecular Landscape of Early-Onset Breast Cancer (OC)

Federico Tolino

Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy

3.07 – 3.32 PM

Title: 3D Bioprinted HNSCC Models for Electroporation-Assisted Drug Delivery: a Tumor-Relevant Platform for Electrochemotherapy (IL)

Silvia Pisani

Università degli Studi di Pavia, Italy

3.32 – 4.02 PM

Title: Towards the Utilization of Cannabinoids as Anticancer Agents in Glioma: from Molecular Mechanisms to the Development of Clinical Studies (KL)

Guillermo Velasco Diez

Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain

4.02 – 4.27 PM

Title: Functional Medicine in Oncology: Evidence, Challenges and Future Perspectives (IL)

Sara Damiano

University of Naples Federico II, Italy

4.27 – 4.39 PM

Title: A Novel mTOR-STAT3-IP3R3 Pathway at the ER Controls Ca²⁺ - mediated Apoptosis in TNBC (OC)

Daniele Viavattene

University of Torino, Italy

4.39 – 4.51 PM

Title: Selected Statins as Dual Antiproliferative-Antiinflammatory Compounds (OC)

Violet Kasabri

University of Jordan, Jordan

4.51 – 5.21 PM

Title: The Endocytic Protein Numb Connects Asymmetric Cell Division and Tumor Suppression in the Mammary Stem Cell Compartment (KL)

Pier Paolo Di Fiore

IFOM, University of Milan, Italy

1976-2026: My Scientific, Academic, and Humanistic Journey with Mentors, Students, and Colleagues

Prof. Ciro Isidoro

5.50 – 6.15 PM

AWARD CEREMONY and CLOSING CEREMONY

6.15 – 7.30 PM

FAREWELL PARTY

7.30 – 9.30 PM

SOCIAL EVENT by invitation only