

FONDAZIONE MICHELANGELO  
avanzamento dello studio e cura dei tumori



FONDAZIONE  
GIANNI  
BONADONNA

## Joint International Conference

# Promises and challenges of developing new drugs in oncology

Chairman: Luca Gianni, Milan I

## July 4-5, 2019

Congress Centre Palazzo Stelline

Corso Magenta, 61 – Milan

Meeting room: Leonardo (ground floor)

### Endorsements

**ASCO**  
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[www.newaurameeting.it](http://www.newaurameeting.it)

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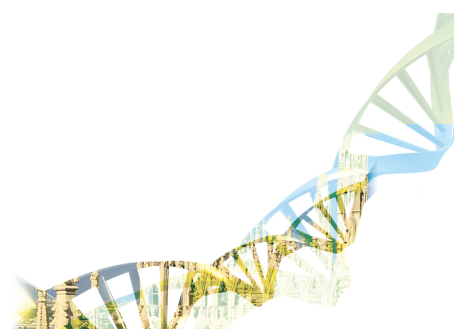
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The growth of therapeutic opportunities for cancer patients is driven by the deep understanding of tumor molecular biology and the clinical implementation of formidable technologies such as next-generation sequencing. At the same time, the transformative potential of immunotherapy concurs in providing unprecedented opportunities and new challenges in cancer therapy.

A faculty of leading international experts has been invited to present and discuss the ongoing revolution in cancer therapy and shape the scenarios of what we should expect in the future from the most promising areas of research.

It is well known that tumour cells are dependent and sometimes addicted to specific molecular alterations. Until recently, targeted therapy was only registered by target identification restricted to a specific tumor histology. The current knowledge of the molecular pan-cancer landscape has prompted a conceptual shift and led to the design of trials based on the genomic alteration rather than the site of origin of the tumors (i.e. basket trials). This is resulted in the identification and commercialization of "agnostic" therapies irrespective of organ site and histology, as in the case of NTRK fusion-positive or mismatch repair deficient cancers. Other new promising therapeutic targets such as MET or RET will be discussed in this context as well as the evolving opportunities provided by liquid biopsy and ctDNA assessment for personalized medicine. The capability to characterize the molecular features of individual tumor has also brought to the development of novel anticancer compounds such as antibody-drug conjugates and personalized cancer vaccines.

Immunotherapy is no longer hope or promise, but a revolutionary opportunity to treat almost all cancer types. However, the unquestionable clinical benefit of immunotherapy is so far restricted to a minority of patients. During the conference, we will discuss how combinations might overcome resistance, the most promising therapeutic approaches beyond immune checkpoints, and the definition of promising biomarkers for treatment tailoring. The implementation of immunotherapy in the neoadjuvant setting as an efficient and powerful approach for drug development will also be discussed.

Finally, as in all past editions of the Conference, the Gianni Bonadonna Prize for new drug development in oncology will be awarded to a young and talented clinical researcher.

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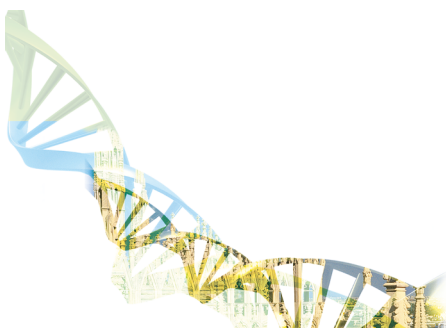
### **Gianni Bonadonna Prize for New Drug Development in Oncology**

On the occasion of the Joint International Conference on "Promises and challenges of developing new drugs in oncology" the Fondazione Gianni Bonadonna is proud to announce the "Gianni Bonadonna Prize for New Drug Development in Oncology", aimed to promoting and improving clinical research on the development of novel compounds. The prize of € 20.000,00 will be assigned for an original oncology clinical research project for the development of novel compounds and it is addressed to researchers up to 40 years of age.

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### **Poster Presentation**

Poster display on Thursday July 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday July 5<sup>th</sup>.



**Day 1, Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 2019**

13.30 - 14.30	<b>Registration &amp; welcome coffee</b>
14.30 - 14.40	<b>Welcome</b>
	<i>MAIN LECTURES</i>
14.40 - 15.25	<b>Anti-CD47 as a new "immune checkpoint": present status and prospective</b> Ravi Majeti (Stanford, CA, USA)
15.25 - 15.35	<b>Discussion</b>
15.35 - 16.20	<b>Cell therapy: challenges and strategies for targeting solid tumors</b> Chiara Bonini (Milan, I)
16.20 - 16.30	<b>Discussion</b>
16.30 - 17.30	<b>Gianni Bonadonna Prize</b> <b>Presentations of the three selected projects</b> <b>Report of the 2017 awardee</b> Nicola Fenderico (Utrecht, NL - Barcelona, ES)

**Day 2, Friday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 2019**

	<i>IMMUNOTHERAPY</i>
9.00 - 9.30	<b>Oncolytic viruses: promises and challenges</b> John C. Bell (Ottawa, ON, Canada)
9.30 - 10.10	<b>Combinations using checkpoint blockade as one means to address resistance</b> Antoni Ribas (Los Angeles, CA, USA)
10.10 - 10.40	<b>Neoadjuvant immunotherapy for the treatment of high-risk resectable cancers: a paradigm shift?</b> Michele Teng (Brisbane, Australia)
10.40 - 11.15	<b>Biomarkers for precision immunotherapy: elusive hope or forthcoming reality?</b> Giampaolo Bianchini (Milan, I)
11.15 - 11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
	<i>NEW DRUGS</i>
11.30 - 12.00	<b>ADCs: a tip of an iceberg</b> Ahmed Sawas (New York, USA)
12.00 - 12.30	<b>Synthetic lethal therapies for cancer: what's next after PARP inhibitors?</b> Stephen Pettitt (London, UK)
12.30 - 13.00	<b>MET oncogene in cancer: a coherent approach to targeted therapy</b> Paolo Comoglio (Turin, I)
13.00 - 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
	<i>BIG DATA</i>
14:00 - 14:35	<b>Strategies to use big data for improving drug development</b> Astrid Kiermaier (Basel, CH)
	<i>TARGET COME FIRST: AGNOSTIC REGISTRATIONS</i>
14.35 - 15.10	<b>Rank genomic alterations as targets for precision medicine: the ESMO Scale for Clinical Actionability of molecular Targets</b> Lajos Pusztai (New Haven, CT, USA)
15.10 - 15.40	<b>NTRK fusion-positive and RET-altered cancers</b> Alexander Drilon (New York, USA)
15.40 - 16.30	<b>Gianni Bonadonna Prize</b> <b>(The Award Ceremony)</b>

**Conference Venue**

**Congress Centre Palazzo Stelline**

Corso Magenta, 61 – Milan

Meeting room: Leonardo (ground floor)

Underground: MM1/MM2 Cadorna,

MM1 Conciliazione, MM2 S.Ambrogio

Train: FNM Stazione Cadorna

Tram: 16 - 19

Bus: 50 - 58 - 67 - 94

**Dates of the Conference**

**From Thursday, July 4 to Friday, July 5 2019**

**Official Language**

The official language of the Conference is English.

No translation will be provided.

**Application**

Attendance is free of charge, however application is compulsory until June 28, 2019

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

to submit your application

**Accommodation**

To require hotel accommodation in Milan, please fill in the registration form online; for further information, contact the Organizing Secretariat to

**[michelangelo@newaurameeting.it](mailto:michelangelo@newaurameeting.it)**

**Acknowledgements**

The Scientific Committee and Secretariat wish to thank the following Companies for their unrestricted support:

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