



2026

**EXPLORING the FUTURE of INHALATION
DRUG DELIVERY**



**UNIVERSITÀ
DI PARMA**

PITCH CONTEST in RESPIRATORY DISEASE

11th September 2026 | Parma, IT

PITCH DAY SCHEDULE

10:00 – Opening Remarks

Francesca Buttini (Pitch Contest Chair, University of Parma)

Daniel Milanese (TTO Representative, University of Parma)

Maria Paola Chiesi (President Chiesi Farmaceutici)

10:30 – 11:00 Keynote Talk

“Creating Things That Matter: The Journey from Scientific Ideas to Real Impact”

David Edwards (SC Therapeutics, US)

11:00 – 11:15 Locking viral entry through host receptor-targeting DNA aptamers

Jessica Dellavedova (University of Milan, PhD Student)

11:15 – 11:30 A Mechanically Adaptable Device for Personalized Airway Management

Antonio Maria Vizioli (Fraido, IT, Startup)

11:30 – 11:45 Revolutionizing Lung Cancer Therapy with SELF-assembling PROdrugs of Anticancer Agents and Antimicrobial Peptides, Powered for MICrobiota

Camille Menier (MINT lab, University of Angers, PhD student)

11:45 – 12:00 AI-Powered Respiratory Intelligence Platform for Inhaler Technique, Home Monitoring and Real-World Evidence

Massimiliano Lotronto (Indaco Health Srl, IT, Startup)

12:00 – 12:15 A patient-centric dry powder inhalation platform for pulmonary levofloxacin therapy

Lomass Soliman (Institute of Pharmaceutical Technology and Regulatory Affairs, University of Szeged, PhD student)

12:15 – 12:30 Reclaiming respiratory health using an inhaled live biotherapeutic product

Aur lie Crabb  (Ghent University, Researcher)

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch Break

Enjoy lunch while networking throughout the conference venue

14:00 – 14:15 Inhalable Bispecific Antibody Conjugates for Targeted Treatment of Asthma

Zeina Kassem (University College London, PhD student)

14:15 – 14:30 NIVOL-LONI – Smart Remote Monitoring for Long Term Home Oxygen Therapy

Gerard Evers (Vivardis, FR, Startup)

14:30 – 14:45 Overcoming Low Glass Transition Temperature to Develop a Stable Spray-Dried Sumatriptan Formulation for Nasal Delivery

Lucy Goodacre (King's College London, PhD student)

14:45 – 15:00 COV-AID™ – A Dual-Asset Approach to Upper Respiratory Tract Infections

Adedapo Adesokan (FamaMedic Inc, US, Startup)

15:00 – 15:15 Holtair: a wearable platform for personalized exposure monitoring in chronic respiratory diseases

Pietro Massone (Politecnico di Milano, PhD student)

Jointly organized with



15:15 – 16:15 Round Table

“What It Takes to Attract Investment: Perspectives from Investors and Entrepreneurs”

Maddalena Adorno (BioInnovation Institute)

Pietro Puglisi (Clarix Ventures)

Giovanni Rizzo (IndacoBio Fund)

Silvio Traversa (Sintica Biotech)

Moderator: Carmelida Capaldi (Chiesi Farmaceutici)

16:15 -16:30 Closing Remarks and Award Ceremony

Valeria Brambilla (Deloitte)

Fabrizio Conicella (Chiesi Farmaceutici)

Francesca Buttini & Pier Luigi Marchini (University of Parma)

16:30-18:00 Drink Reception

The Evaluation Panel



Francesca Buttini
Professor in Pharmaceutical
Technology, University of
Parma



Fabrizio Conicella
Head of Center for Open
Innovation & Competence,
Chiesi Farmaceutici



Pier Luigi Marchini
Professor in Accounting and
Business Administration,
University of Parma



Marco Perrone
Senior Partner | Innovation & Ventures, Deloitte
Advisory Srl S.B.



Silvio Traversa
CEO and Founder, Sintica Biotech

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