



GIORNATE DEL DOTTORATO NAZIONALE

Innovazione nella diagnosi, prevenzione e terapia delle infezioni a rischio endemico-pandemico

13-17 maggio 2024

Certosa di Pontignano, Siena

Programma

Monday – 13th May

12.30 – 14.00 Networking lunch and registration

14.00 – 14.30 OPENING SESSION

Roberto Di Pietra

Magnifico Rettore, Università di Siena

Donata Medaglini

Pro Rettrice Vicaria, Coordinatrice Dottorato Nazionale, Università di Siena

Marco Montorsi

Presidente Fondazione Biotecnopolis Siena

Andrea Garulli

Delegato Dottorati di Ricerca, Università di Siena

Jacqueline Irene Müller,

Responsabile Ufficio Dottorato di Ricerca, Università di Siena

Session 1

Viral infections

Chairs: Mirko Cortese, Mauro Pistello, Annalisa Santucci

14.30 – 15.30

*Advanced microscopy technologies to study virus
infectious cycle*

Mirko Cortese

Università della Campania
"Luigi Vanvitelli"

15.30 – 15.50

*Small molecules: advanced antiviral therapies in the
fight against emerging viruses*

Maria Rita Leccese

Sapienza Università di Roma

15.50 – 16.10

*Identification of host factors required for SARS-CoV-2
replication as potential target for development of
broad-spectrum antivirals*

Federica Camerota

Università della Campania
"Luigi Vanvitelli"

16.10 – 16.40

Coffee break

16.40 – 17.40

Emerging virus of pandemic potential

Mauro Pistello

Università di Pisa

17.40 – 18.00

*Antiviral drug development to counteract vector-borne
emerging and re-emerging infections*

Chiara Paletti

Università di Siena

18.00 – 18.20

*Development of potent and broad-spectrum antiviral
compounds against respiratory viruses with both
epidemic and pandemic potential*

Alessia Zago

Università di Padova

18.20 – 18.40

*Synthetic approaches to novel peptidomimetic SARS-
CoV-2 protease inhibitors*

Maria Chiara Pieroni

Università di Siena

19.30

Dinner at Certosa di Pontignano



Tuesday- 14th May

Session 2

Virus-host interaction

Chair: Lucia Nencioni, Eliana Coccia, Francesco Dotta

08.30 – 09.30

Investigating the complex network of virus - host interactions to develop cell-targeted approaches against influenza virus infection

Lucia Nencioni

Sapienza Università di Roma

09.30 – 09.50

HSPGs involvement in viral infections

Giulio Bonucci

Università di Siena

09.50 – 10.10

Further studies on Torque Teno Virus (TTV) as a marker of immune status

Lilia Cinti

Sapienza Università di Roma

10.10 – 10.30

N-acylethanolamine metabolism and Flavivirus: definition of novel antiviral targets for pan-flavivirus therapy

Giulia Sciandrone

Università di Pisa

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

Session 3

Bacterial physiology and new drug targets

Chair: Pietro Alifano, Agnese Magnani, Luisa Bracci

11.00 – 12.00

The complementary roles of applied and basic research: how the study of industrial microorganisms can shed light on basic cellular physiology

Pietro Alifano

Università del Salento

12.00 – 12.20

Exploring the function of new Rid family members to find new targets for antibacterial therapy

Andrea Giuliano

Università del Salento

12.20 – 12.40

Characterization of new drugs against Mycobacterium tuberculosis

Enrica Campagnaro

Università di Padova

12.40 – 13.00

Anti-microbial activity from natural sources 11

Roberta Barletta

Università di Siena

13.00 – 14.20 Lunch

Session 4

Animal infection models

Chairs: Marco Rinaldo Oggioni, Elena Pettini

14.20 – 15.20

Use of Animal Models in Preclinical Research and Italian Legislation

Elena Pettini

Università di Siena

15.20 – 16.20

Translational models of infection

Marco Rinaldo Oggioni

Università di Bologna

16.20 – 16:50

Coffee break

16.50 – 17.10

Characterization of a mouse model of invasive Non-Typhoidal Salmonella disease for the evaluation of new iNTS vaccine candidates

Valentina Mocci

Università di Siena

17.10 – 17.30

Ex-vivo perfusion: analysis of multispectral images of human spleen sections

Giulia Cattabriga

Università di Bologna

20.00

Dinner at Certosa di Pontignano



Wednesday- May 15, 2024

Session 5

Antimicrobial resistance and new antibiotics

Chairs: Gian Maria Rossolini, Arianna Tavanti

08.30 – 09.30

La complessità evolutiva dell'antibiotico-resistenza dal punto di vista biologico e clinico"

Gian Maria Rossolini
Università di Firenze

09.30 – 09.50

Enhancing the efficacy of bacteriophages for the treatment of infections caused by Multidrug-Resistant bacteria

Sara Bolognini
Università di Pisa

09.50 – 10.10

Exploring the unsolved questions about ceftobiprole resistance in Enterococcus faecalis through an in-depth analysis of PBPs and peptidoglycan remodeling

Paola Conti
Università di Catania

10.10 – 10.30

Metagenomic analysis for the characterization of resistant pathogens carried by healthy residents or migrants from Latin America rural communities

Chiara Chilleri
Università di Firenze

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.00

Recent advances and challenges of biosensing in point-of-care bacterial detection

Arianna Tavanti
Università di Pisa

12.00 – 12.20

Development of Innovative Antibacterial Strategies Targeting Critical Priority Antibiotic-resistant Pathogens

Sacha Michele Idriss
Cancade
Università di Siena

12.20 – 13.10

Discovery and development of antibacterial drugs in the era of resistance

Jean Denis Doquier
Università di Siena

13.10 – 13.30

Bacterial-derived extracellular vesicles: new player in antimicrobial resistance"

Marco Catania
Università di Catania

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch

Session 6

Host response and vaccines (Part I)

Chair: Annalisa Ciabattini, Mario Milco D'Elios

14.30 – 15.10

The B cell response to vaccination

Annalisa Ciabattini
Università di Siena

15.10 – 15.30

Discovery and validation of biomarkers of the immune response associated with infections and vaccinations

Martin Mihula
Humanitas University

15.30 – 15.50

Development of Long Pentraxin PTX3 as an Infection Biomarker

Francesca Vaino
Humanitas University

15.50 – 16.10

Unravelling plant derived exosomes as novel, safe and efficient delivery systems for drugs and vaccines: isolation, characterization and labelling with MRI contrast agents

Chiara Romiti
Università di Torino

16.40

Visit to Siena Vaccines Centre

20.00

Dinner at Spadaforte Restaurant, Piazza del Campo

Thursday - 16th May

Session 7	Host response and vaccines (Part II) <i>Chairs: Rino Rappuoli, Cosima Baldari, Vincenzo Sorrentino</i>	
08.30 – 09.30	<i>Passive and active immunization for old and emerging infectious diseases</i>	Rino Rappuoli Fondazione Biotecnopolis Siena
09.30 – 09.50	<i>Longitudinal analysis of spike specific antibody and memory B cell responses in SOT recipients following SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccination</i>	Chiara Coppola Università di Siena
09.50 – 10.30	<i>Antigenic sin drives a convergent broadly neutralizing B cell response evaded by SARS-CoV-2JN.1</i>	Emanuele Andreano Fondazione Toscana Life Science
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break	
11.00 – 12.00	<i>Mechanisms of cytotoxicity mediated by T lymphocytes</i>	Cosima Baldari Università di Siena
12.00 – 12.20	<i>T-cells in Helicobacter Pylori infection</i>	Evangelia Asvestopoulou Università di Siena
12.20 – 12.40	<i>The immune synapse: an immune response biomarker to evaluate the efficacy of vaccination strategies</i>	Samuele Montano Università di Siena
12.40 – 13.20	<i>RNA sequencing for studying the vaccine immune response</i>	Francesco Santoro Università di Siena
13.20 – 14.20	Lunch	
Session 8	Monoclonal antibodies <i>Chairs: Luca Varani, Claudia Sala, Eliana Coccia</i>	
14.20 – 15.20	<i>Multispecific antibodies against infectious diseases</i>	Luca Varani Institute for Research of Bellinzona
15.20 – 15.40	<i>Development of functional assays for monoclonal antibody testing</i>	Ludovica Soldateschi Università di Siena
15.40 – 16.10	Coffee break	
16.10 – 16.50	<i>Human monoclonal antibodies against antibiotic-resistant bacteria</i>	Claudia Sala Fondazione Toscana Life Science
16.50 – 17.10	<i>Isolation of monoclonal antibodies against Klebsiella pneumoniae ST101</i>	Laura Capoccia Università di Siena
Session 9	Horizon Europe Research Programme and Intellectual Property Rights <i>Chair: Donata Medaglini</i>	
17.10 – 18.10	<i>Horizon Europe</i>	Donata Franzì Università di Siena
18.10 – 19.00	<i>Protection of Intellectual Property Rights</i>	Alessandra Romeo Università di Siena
20.00	Dinner at Certosa di Pontignano	



Friday - 17th May

Session 10

Infectious diseases and host response

Chairs: Alessandro Bartoloni, Guido Sebastiani

08.30 – 09.30

Neglected Tropical Diseases in Italy

Alessandro Bartoloni

Università di Firenze

09.30 – 09.50

Immunological features of post-COVID-19 lung sequelae: study and validation of novel non-invasive biomarkers

Irene Paggi

Università di Siena

09.50 – 10.10

Impact of antibiotic heteroresistance on the clinical outcomes of infections due to carbapenem-resistant Gram-negative bacteria and on the emergence and spread of resistance to new beta-lactams

Maurizio Guastalegname

Università di Firenze

10.10 – 10.30

A Novel Magnetic Resonance Imaging tool for the diagnosis and monitoring of infectious diseases

Chiara Papi

Università di Torino

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.00

Small non-coding RNAs as regulators of immune responses in autoimmune diseases

Guido Sebastiani

Università di Siena

12.00 – 12.20

Deciphering the role of Interferon Type 1 against Mycobacterium paratuberculosis infection and Human Endogenous Retroviruses reactivation

Alshiba Fayaz

Università di Sassari

12.20 – 12.40

Development of a city-level Digital Twin through non-invasive metagenomic sensing of epidemic dynamics

Federico Magnani

Università di Bologna

12.40 – 13.00

Conclusions

13.00

Farwell lunch and departures