



## 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 – 13<sup>th</sup> May

14.00 – 14.30 OPENING SESSION

**Session 1** **Viral infections**

*Chairs: Mirko Cortese, Mauro Pistello, Annalisa Santucci*

|                      |  |   |
|----------------------|--|---|
| 14.30 – 15.30        | <i>Advanced microscopy technologies to study virus infectious cycle</i>  | <b>Mirko Cortese</b><br>Università della Campania<br>"Luigi Vanvitelli"     |
| 15.30 – 15.50        | <i>Small molecules: advanced antiviral therapies in the fight against emerging viruses</i>   | <b>Maria Rita Leccese</b><br>Sapienza Università di Roma                    |
| 15.50 – 16.10        | <i>Identification of host factors required for SARS-CoV-2 replication as potential target for development of broad-spectrum antivirals</i> | <b>Federica Camerota</b><br>Università della Campania<br>"Luigi Vanvitelli" |
| <b>16.10 – 16.40</b> | <b>Coffee break</b>  |   |
| 16.40 – 17.40        | <i>Emerging virus of pandemic potential</i>  | <b>Mauro Pistello</b><br>Università di Pisa                                 |
| 17.40 – 18.00        | <i>Antiviral drug development to counteract vector-borne emerging and re-emerging infections</i>   | <b>Chiara Paletti</b><br>Università di Siena                                |
| 18.00 – 18.20        | <i>Development of potent and broad-spectrum antiviral compounds against respiratory viruses with both epidemic and pandemic potential</i>  | <b>Alessia Zago</b><br>Università di Padova                                 |
| 18.20 – 18.40        | <i>Synthetic approaches to novel peptidomimetic SARS-CoV-2 protease inhibitors</i>   | <b>Maria Chiara Pieroni</b><br>Università di Siena                          |
| <b>19.30</b>         | <b>Dinner</b>  |   |

## Tuesday- 14<sup>th</sup> 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*

09.30 – 09.50

*HSPGs involvement in viral infections*

09.50 – 10.10

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

10.10 – 10.30

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

**Lucia Nencioni**

Sapienza Università di Roma

**Giulio Bonucci**

Università di Siena

**Lilia Cinti**

Sapienza Università di Roma

**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*

12.00 – 12.20

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

12.20 – 12.40

*Characterization of new drugs against Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

12.40 – 13.00

*Anti-microbial activity from natural sources 11*

**Pietro Alifano**

Università del Salento

**Andrea Giuliano**

Università del Salento

**Enrica Campagnaro**

Università di Padova

**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**

## 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**

## Thursday - 16<sup>th</sup> May

|                      |   |   |
|----------------------|---|---|
| <b>Session 7</b>     | <b>Host response and vaccines (Part II)</b><br><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>   | <b>Rino Rappuoli</b><br>Fondazione Bioteecnopolis 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> | <b>Chiara Coppola</b><br>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>                                      | <b>Emanuele Andreano</b><br>Fondazione Toscana Life Science |
| <b>10.30 – 11.00</b> | <b>Coffee break</b>   |   |
| 11.00 – 12.00        | <i>Mechanisms of cytotoxicity mediated by T lymphocytes</i>   | <b>Cosima Baldari</b><br>Università di Siena                |
| 12.00 – 12.20        | <i>T-cells in Helicobacter Pylori infection</i>   | <b>Evangelia Asvestopoulou</b><br>Università di Siena       |
| 12.20 – 12.40        | <i>The immune synapse: an immune response biomarker to evaluate the efficacy of vaccination strategies</i>                                  | <b>Samuele Montano</b><br>Università di Siena               |
| 12.40 – 13.20        | <i>RNA sequencing for studying the vaccine immune response</i>  | <b>Francesco Santoro</b><br>Università di Siena             |
| <b>13.20 – 14.20</b> | <b>Lunch</b>  |   |
| <b>Session 8</b>     | <b>Monoclonal antibodies</b><br><i>Chairs: Luca Varani, Claudia Sala, Eliana Coccia</i>   |   |
| 14.20 – 15.20        | <i>Multispecific antibodies against infectious diseases</i>   | <b>Luca Varani</b><br>Institute for Research of Bellinzona  |
| 15.20 – 15.40        | <i>Development of functional assays for monoclonal antibody testing</i>   | <b>Ludovica Soldateschi</b><br>Università di Siena          |
| 15.40 – 16.10        | <b>Coffee break</b>   |   |
| 16.10 – 16.50        | <i>Human monoclonal antibodies against antibiotic-resistant bacteria</i>  | <b>Claudia Sala</b><br>Fondazione Toscana Life Science      |
| 16.50 – 17.10        | <i>Isolation of monoclonal antibodies against Klebsiella pneumoniae ST101</i>   | <b>Laura Capoccia</b><br>Università di Siena                |
| <b>Session 9</b>     | <b>Horizon Europe Research Programme and Intellectual Property Rights</b><br><i>Chair: Donata Medaglini</i>                                 |   |
| 17.10 – 18.10        | <i>Horizon Europe</i>   | <b>Donata Franzini</b><br>Università di Siena               |
| 18.10 – 19.00        | <i>Protection of Intellectual Property Rights</i>   | <b>Alessandra Romeo</b><br>Università di Siena              |
| <b>20.00</b>         | <b>Dinner</b>   |   |



## Friday - 17<sup>th</sup> 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**