

Organized by



Under the auspices of



In collaboration with



# MELANOMA <sup>15 YEARS</sup> 2024 BRIDGE

**Naples (Italy)**

**December 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Royal Continental Hotel**

[www.melanomabridge.org](http://www.melanomabridge.org) - [info@melanomabridge.org](mailto:info@melanomabridge.org)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## CME PROVIDER

### T&C Srl

Via Ciovasso, 4 - 20121 Milan

Cell. 334/1837054

[www.tccompany.it](http://www.tccompany.it)



## ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

### Vivenko Srl Società Benefit

Via De Amicis, 42 - 20123 Milan

[www.vivenko.net](http://www.vivenko.net)

[info@melanomabridge.org](mailto:info@melanomabridge.org)



## OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language is English.

## REGISTRATION

Only registered attendees will be admitted to the meeting.

The registration fee includes:

- participation in the scientific sessions
- congress kit (badge, notepad, pen)
- coffee breaks and lunches

For information and registration, please, send an email to:

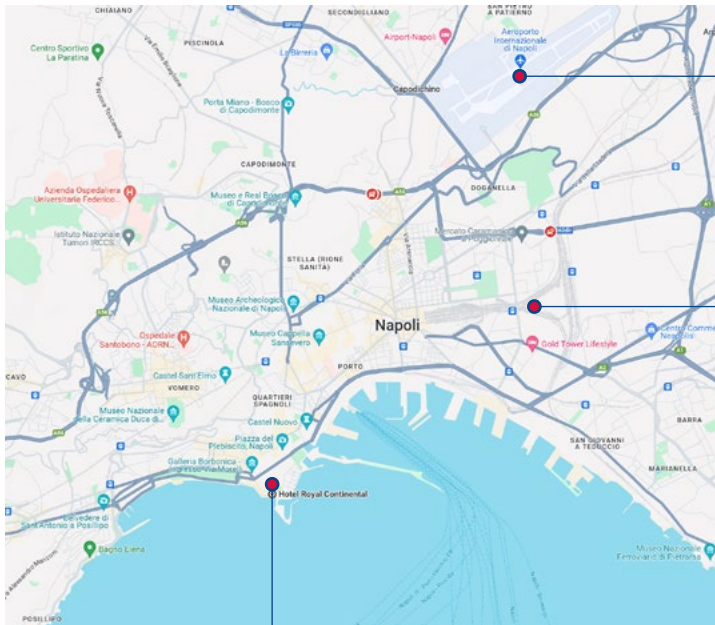
[registration@melanomabridge.org](mailto:registration@melanomabridge.org)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## CONGRESS VENUE

### Royal Continental Hotel

Via Partenope, 38 - 80121 Naples



INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT

RAILWAY  
STATION

CONGRESS  
VENUE

# SCIENTIFIC RATIONAL

Recent insights into the genetic and somatic aberrations have initiated a new era of rapidly evolving treatments for melanoma.

The possibility to use targeted and immune-based drugs alone, in combination or in sequence, able to improve responses to overcome the resistance, to potentiate the action of immune system with the new immunomodulating antibodies, and identification of biomarkers that can predict the response to a particular therapy, represent actual concepts and approaches in the clinical management of melanoma.

Melanoma treatment landscape changed in 2011 with the approval of the first anti-cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated protein (CTLA)-4 checkpoint inhibitor and of the first BRAF-targeted monoclonal antibody, both of which significantly improved overall survival.

Since then, improved understanding of the tumor microenvironment and tumor immune-evasion strategies has resulted in different approaches to target and harness the immune response.

Approval of new immune - and target - therapies has further improved outcomes for patients with advanced melanoma.

The therapies offer the opportunity for various approaches with distinct modes of action being used in combination with one another, as well as combined with other treatment modalities such as radiotherapy, electrochemotherapy and surgery.

This year latest findings in melanoma research and advances on themes of paramount importance for melanoma prevention, diagnosis and treatment, will be discussed in the session dedicated to system biology on immunotherapy, immunogenicity and gene expression profiling and focused on the progresses of melanoma research on biomarkers/precision medicine and on combination strategies.

Then, the "Great Debate" sessions, where counterpoint views from leading experts on specific and very actual controversial clinical issues will be presented and discussed from different points of view.

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

## DAY 1 Thursday, Dec 5<sup>th</sup>

### OPENING CEREMONY\*\*

Chairpersons: **Paolo A. Ascierto, Franco Marincola**

- 6.20 pm Update in Pathology  
**Janis Taube**
- 6.40 pm Update in Melanoma research  
**Omid Hamid**
- 7.00 pm Melanoma research funding opportunities  
**Marc Hurlbert**
- 7.10 pm Through the Keyhole: The Next Wave of Therapies for Patients with Uveal Melanoma,  
**Kevin O'Neill and Marlana Orloff**
- 7.25 pm Patient Advocacy reloaded. How to help patient empowerment in the new Melanoma era  
**Samantha Guild and Claudia Piazza Cidonio**

*\*Invited Speakers*

*\*\* Not included in the CME accredited program*

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

## DAY 2 Friday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup>

9.20 am Introduction and objectives  
**Paolo A. Ascierto**

### SESSION 1

#### MORE TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH IN MELANOMA

Chairpersons: **Magdalena Thurin, Lisa Villabona**

9.30 am What should you do with pathologic non-responders for neoadjuvant therapy?  
**Christian Blank**

9.45 am What do we know about how much neoadjuvant treatment to give?  
**Michael Postow**

10.00 am The an-unanswered questions in melanoma  
**Iman Osman**

10.15 am The latest omics tools for translational research questions  
**Mitch Levesque**

10.30 am Prognostic effects of combined clinicopathological factors and tumor mutation burden - an InterMEL study of Stage II/III primary cutaneous  
**Marc S. Ernstoff**

10.45 am **DISCUSSION Round Table**

11.15 am **Coffee Break\*\***

11.30 am **CME SYMPOSIUM**  
Adjuvant Therapies for melanoma

### GREAT DEBATE

Chairpersons: **Paolo A. Ascierto, Corrado Caracò, Iman Osman, Igor Puzanov, Alessandro Testori**

12.20 am Genetically modified cells therapy VS unmodified cells therapy  
**Chrystal Paulos vs Allison Betof Warner**

12.45 am Are IrAE associated with better outcomes? Yes or no  
**Ryan Sullivan vs Olivier Michielin**

1.10 pm **Lunch\*\***

*\*Invited Speakers*

*\*\* Not included in the CME accredited program*

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

## DAY 2 Friday, Dec 6<sup>th</sup>

### SESSION 2

#### MELANOMA TUMOR BIOLOGY

- 2.00 pm Cancer Stem Cells and Lineage Plasticity as Immuno-therapeutic targets  
**Dean Tang**
- 2.15 pm Melanoma biology in the context of clinical and experimental resistance  
**Roger Lo**
- 2.30 pm New immunotherapy strategies based on understanding resistance  
**Thomas Gajewski**
- 2.45 pm Improving mRNA vaccine in melanoma  
**Michelle Krogsgaard**
- 3.00 pm The genetic and transcriptomic peripheral biomarkers of efficacy and toxicity to melanoma immune checkpoint inhibition  
**Tomas Kirchoff**
- 3.15 pm Designing tumor-selective therapeutic strategies for RAS pathway-driven cancers  
**Poulikos Poulikakos**
- 3.30 pm **DISCUSSION Round Table**

#### 4.00 pm **SYMPOSIUM**

The new era of target therapy in metastatic melanoma  
**Paolo A. Ascierto, Reinhard Dummer**

#### 4.50 pm **SHORT SYMPOSIUM**

Current treatment of metastatic uveal melanoma and future perspectives  
**Jessica C. Hassel**

### GREAT DEBATE

Chairpersons: **Paolo A. Ascierto, Corrado Caracò, Iman Osman, Igor Puzanov**

#### 5.20 pm Overview

Artificial intelligence-driven diagnosis of melanoma and melanoma skin cancers  
**Titus Brinker**

#### Debates

#### 5.35 pm Artificial intelligence VS human dermatology

**James Larkin\* vs Laura Ferris**

#### 6.00 pm Artificial intelligence VS human pathology

**Carlo Bifulco vs Janis Taube**

#### 6.25 pm Artificial intelligence VS RWE

**Giuseppe Masucci vs Dirk Schadendorf**

*\*Invited Speakers*

*\*\* Not included in the CME accredited program*

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

## DAY 3 Saturday, Dec 7th

9.15 am **Welcome Coffee\*\***

### SESSION 3

#### EMERGENT STRATEGIES

Chairpersons: **Mario Mandalà, Giuseppe Palmieri**

9.30 am Multiomic predictive markers for primary stage II & III melanoma patients  
**Nancy Thomas**

9.45 am Lineage plasticity and relationship to TME  
**David Goodrich**

10.00 am Where will neoadjuvant make the difference and replace adjuvant and where will standard (GEP/algorithm) test on primary melanoma clean up adjuvant therapy  
**Alexander M.M. Eggermont**

10.15 am Emergent strategies and frontiers in cancer staging and classification: melanoma as a paradigm  
**Jeffrey Gershenwald**

10.30 am AI strategies for digital pathology- based predictive biomarkers  
**Olivier Michielin**

10.45 am Checkpoint Inhibitors 2.0  
**James Smithy**

11.00 am What is next for tumor infiltrating lymphocyte therapy after the FDA approval  
**Allison Betof Warner**

11.15 am **DISCUSSION Round Table**

11.40 am **Coffee break\*\***

### SESSION 4

#### MELANOMA BRAIN METASTASES

Chairpersons: **Hussein Tawbi, Kim Margolin**

11.55 am Preclinical research  
**Tullia Bruno**

12.10 pm Tissue based analyses and immune competent in vivo models  
**Tim Heffernan**

12.25 pm On the edge of clinical and translational  
**Reinhard Dummer**

12.40 pm **DISCUSSION Round Table**

1.00 pm **Lunch\*\***

*\*Invited Speakers*

*\*\* Not included in the CME accredited program*



# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

## DAY 3 Saturday, Dec 7th

2.00 pm **SYMPOSIUM**  
New approaches and treatments for advanced melanoma  
**Paolo A. Ascierto, Hussein Tawbi**

2.50 pm **SYMPOSIUM**  
Ignite change within cancer vaccines development  
**Omid Hamid, Sapna Patel\***

### **GREAT DEBATE**

Chairpersons: **Paolo A. Ascierto, Corrado Caracò, Iman Osman, Igor Puzanov**

3.40 pm Steroids vs alternative strategies for toxicity management  
**Ryan Sullivan vs Douglas Johnson**

4.30 pm Which is the best combination therapy? NIVO/RELA VS IPI/NIVO  
**Janice Mehnert vs Hussein Tawbi**

4.55 pm PD-1 refractory melanoma: BRAF MEK VS IPI/NIVO  
**Jeffrey Sosman vs Den Olson**

5.20 pm Putting it all together: Practical Considerations for Monday Clinic  
**Sanjiv S. Agarwala**

5.35 pm **Conclusions**

*\*Invited Speakers*

*\*\* Not included in the CME accredited program*

# PRESIDENCY



## **Paolo A. Ascierto**

Director of Melanoma, Cancer Immunotherapy and Development Therapeutics Unit, National Cancer Institute IRCCS Fondazione "G. Pascale", Naples, Italy



## **Corrado Caracò**

Director of Melanoma and Skin Tumor Surgery, National Cancer Institute, IRCCS Fondazione "G. Pascale", Naples, Italy



## **Iman Osman**

Rudolf Baer Professor of Dermatology Professor, Departments of Medicine (Oncology) and Urology Director, NYU Melanoma SPORE Associate Dean for Clinical Research Strategy NYU Grossman School of Medicine, New York, NY, US



## **Igor Puzanov**

Judith and Sanford Lipsey Chair in Clinical Cancer Research; Senior Vice President, Clinical Investigation Chief, Division of Melanoma, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY, US

# SCIENTIFIC BOARD

## **Sanjiv S. Agarwala**

Professor of Hematology & Oncology, Temple University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA, US

## **Paolo A. Ascierto**

Director of Melanoma, Cancer Immunotherapy and Development Therapeutics Unit, National Cancer Institute IRCCS Fondazione "G. Pascale", Naples, Italy

## **Carlo Bifulco**

Chief Medical Officer, Providence Genomics, Director of Translational Molecular Pathology, Earle A. Chiles Research Institute, Providence Cancer Institute, Portland, OR, US

## **Christian Blank**

Medical Oncology and Research Group Leader Tumor Immunology, Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

# SCIENTIFIC BOARD

## **Elizabeth M. Burton**

Executive Director, Translational Research Initiative Development, Genomic Medicine, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, US

## **Lisa H. Butterfield**

Adjunct Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, University of California San Francisco, CA, US

## **Corrado Caracò**

Director of Melanoma and Skin Tumor Surgery, National Cancer Institute, IRCCS Fondazione "G. Pascale", Naples, Italy

## **Mary Dean**

Executive Director, Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), Milwaukee, WI, US

## **Sandra Demaria**

Professor of Radiation Oncology, Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, NY, US

## **Reinhard Dummer**

Vice Director, Department of Dermatology; Director, Clinical Trials Comprehensive Cancer Center Zurich (CCCZ), University Hospital Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

## **Alexander M.M. Eggermont**

Chief Scientific Officer, Board of Directors, Princess Máxima Center; Professor of Clinical & Translational Immunotherapy, Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands

## **Leisha A. Emens**

Senior Vice President Translational Research, Ankyra Therapeutics, Incorporated, Boston, MA, US; President of Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC)

## **Bernard A. Fox**

Chief of Molecular and Tumor Immunology Laboratory, Robert W. Franz Cancer Center Earle A. Chiles Research Institute, Providence Cancer Institute, Portland, OR, US

## **Jerome Galon**

Research Director, National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM), Director, Integrative Cancer Immunology Team, Cordeliers Research Center, Paris, France

## **Jeffrey E. Gershenwald**

Dr. John M. Skibber Endowed Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgical Oncology, Medical Director, Melanoma and Skin Center, The University of Texas, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Distinguished Senior Lecturer, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Houston Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Houston, TX, USA

## **Omid Hamid**

Chief of Research/Immuno-Oncology, Co-Director, Cutaneous Malignancy Program, The Angeles Clinic and Research Institute, a Cedars Sinai Affiliate, Los Angeles, CA, US

# SCIENTIFIC BOARD

## **Samir N. Khleif**

Director of Center for Immunology and Immunotherapy, Director of The Loop Immuno-Oncology Laboratory, Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Georgetown University Medical School, Washington, DC, US

## **Giuseppe Masucci**

Associate Professor, Department of Oncology-Pathology and KcRN, Karolinska Institutet, Cancer Centrum Karolinska (CCK), Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden

## **Olivier Michielin**

Full Professor, Chair of Oncology Department and Precision Oncology Service, Geneva University Hospital, Geneva; Co-Director of the Swiss Cancer Center Léman, Agora - Lausanne, Switzerland

## **Iman Osman**

Rudolf Baer Professor of Dermatology Professor, Departments of Medicine (Oncology) and Urology Director, NYU Melanoma SPORE Associate Dean for Clinical Research Strategy NYU Grossman School of Medicine, New York, NY, US

## **Giuseppe Palmieri**

Full Professor of Medical Oncology, University of Sassari; Immuno-Oncology & Targeted Cancer Biotherapies, Sassari University Hospital; Associate Researcher, Head of Unit of Cancer Genetics, National Research Council (CNR); Head, Institute of Genetic & Biomedical Research (IRGB), Sassari, Italy

## **Michael A. Postow**

Chief, Melanoma Service, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY, US

## **Igor Puzanov**

Judith and Sanford Lipsey Chair in Clinical Cancer Research; Senior Vice President, Clinical Investigation Chief, Division of Melanoma, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY, US

## **Dirk Schadendorf**

Director of the Department of Dermatology, University Hospital Essen, Essen, Germany

## **Magdalena Thurin**

Program Director, Cancer Diagnosis Program, Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis, National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, MD, US

## **Tara Withington**

Executive Director Emeritus, Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), Milwaukee, WI, US