

# COPD

## RESEARCH DAY

7<sup>th</sup> edition



Saturday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2024

Starhotels Du Parc (Parma, Italy)

The meeting will follow the National and Regional rules  
on scientific meetings at that time

Organised by Professors Gaetano Caramori and Alfredo Chetta, Parma, Italy

Under the Auspices of



## INTRODUCTION

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There are many reasons why chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) deserves to be high on the list of disease targets and research. COPD is still a major public health problem because it has a high prevalence and it is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality worldwide creating a formidable challenge for the health-care systems. COPD is one of the most frequent causes of unscheduled visits in the offices of general practitioners and specialists and of emergency ward visits and hospital admissions. Furthermore COPD, causes 3.2 millions of deaths worldwide and represents one of the top causes of death among the Italian population. In addition, COPD care, both directly and indirectly, uses a substantial amount of the resources of Italian National Health Service, with a significant impact on social expenses. Despite recent trends in reduction of COPD standardized mortality rates and some recent successes in anti-smoking efforts in a number of Western countries, the overarching demographic impact of ageing in an ever-expanding world population (~ 8.1 billion in February 2024), joined with other factors such as the high rates of cigarette smoking, will ensure that COPD will remain a challenge for clinicians within the 21st century epidemiologic point of view.

For every COPD patient that physicians could avoid putting on a long-term ventilator and/or oxygen therapy this will save an enormous amount of money of the Italian National Health Service.

Regione Emilia-Romagna has one of the best attractively (requests of being cured from other Italian regions) mobility of Italy for COPD patients.

Current personalised treatment of COPD is still unable to completely modify the natural history of the disease in its different and complex clinical phenotypes or to fully satisfy the expectations of the patients. In addition there are molecular links, still largely under investigated, between COPD, lung cancer and idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF) all smoking-related disease but with different clinical-pathological expressions.

It is particularly relevant that in a large longitudinal study of asymptomatic patients with mild-to-moderate COPD, ~33% of subjects died of lung cancer over ~15 years suggesting that lung cancer is a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in COPD patients. These patients share a common environmental risk factor (smoking) and a genetic predisposition represented by the incidence of these diseases in only a fraction of smokers. Moreover there are no prognostic biomarkers to monitor the natural history of the disease in a simple and non-invasive way. For all these reasons, this meeting will represent an important place of discussion between Italian and International experts on the most recent available evidence on the molecular pathogenesis of COPD and novel ongoing therapeutic approaches. The Academic Pulmonology team at the University of Parma, Italy ([www.unipr.it](http://www.unipr.it)) wish to stay at the cutting edge of the COPD research with the aim of discovering new therapeutic targets and new prognostic biomarkers, which may in the future allow us to better control the disease.

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

- 09.45 - 10.00 Registration of participants  
10.00 - 10.30 Opening speech by the Local Academic Authorities

Chairs: *Luca Ampollini, Gaetano Caramori, Alfredo Chetta, Massimo Corradi, Maria Majori, Enrico Maria Silini, Nicola Sverzellati*

### Lectures

#### Morning session

- 10.30 - 11.15 New cell subsets in the human lung  
*Cristiana Stellato*
- 11.15 - 12.00 Interpretation of lung function in COPD: spirometry and beyond  
*Vito Brusasco*
- 12.00 - 12.45 Senescence in COPD  
*Peter J Barnes*
- 12.45 - 13.15 General debate on the topics discussed in the morning session  
Discussants: *Rocco Accogli, Marina Aiello, Giuseppina Bertorelli, Annalisa Frizzelli, and Massimo Guerriero*
- 13.15 - 14.30 *Light lunch*

#### Afternoon session

- 14.30 - 15.15 COPD pipeline: not launched products  
*Maria Belvisi*
- 15.15 - 16.00 COPD pipeline: not launched products  
*Diego Ardigò*
- 16.00 - 16.30 Unmet needs in COPD research  
*Richard Russell*
- 16.30 - 17.00 New techniques of mucosal sampling in COPD research  
*Trevor Hansel*
- 17.00 - 17.30 RNA binding proteins in the pathogenesis of COPD and lung cancer  
*Jessica dal Col*
- 17.30 - 18.00 The Nanostring platform to investigate FF/PE peripheral lung samples  
*Enrico Maria Silini*
- 18.00 - 18.45 New potential drug targets for stable and exacerbated COPD patients  
*Ian Adcock*
- 18.45 - 19.30 General debate on the topics discussed and Conclusions by the Chairs  
Discussants: *Vincenzo Casolaro, Leandro Castellano, Antonio Ieni, Alessandra Marchese and Roberta Pisi*

## ORGANISERS

Gaetano Caramori and Alfredo Chetta, *Parma, Italy*

## LIFETIME HONORARY PRESIDENTS OF THE MEETING

Giuseppe Girbino and Dario Olivieri

## SCIENTIFIC COORDINATORS

Marina Aiello, Giuseppina Bertorelli, Annalisa Frizzelli,  
Alessandra Marchese and Roberta Pisi, *Parma, Italy*

## FACULTY

Rocco Accogli, *Parma, Italy*

Ian M. Adcock, *London, UK*

Marina Aiello, *Parma, Italy*

Luca Ampollini, *Parma, Italy*

Diego Ardigò, *Parma, Italy*

Peter J. Barnes, *London, UK*

Maria Belvisi, *London, UK*

Giuseppina Bertorelli, *Parma, Italy*

Vito Brusasco, *Genova, Italy*

Gaetano Caramori, *Parma, Italy*

Alfredo Chetta, *Parma, Italy*

Vincenzo Casolaro, *Salerno, Italy*

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Massimo Corradi *Parma, Italy*

Jessica dal Col, *Salerno, Italy*

Annalisa Frizzelli, *Parma, Italy*

Massimo Guerriero, *Verona, Italy*

Trevor Hansel, *London, UK*

Antonio Ieni, *Messina, Italy*

Maria Majori, *Parma, Italy*

Alessandra Marchese, *Parma, Italy*

Roberta Pisi, *Parma, Italy*

Richard Russell, *Oxford, UK*

Enrico Maria Silini, *Parma, Italy*

Cristiana Stellato, *Salerno, Italy*

Nicola Sverzellati *Parma, Italy*

## LIFE-LONG LEARNING IN MEDICINE

The meeting is part of the CME program of the Ministry of Health for 50 participants.

This meeting is part of the teaching activities of the residents of the specialisation school in respiratory diseases of the University of Parma, Italy

## UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

University of Parma, Italy - ([www.unipr.it](http://www.unipr.it))

Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria di Parma - ([www.ao.pr.it](http://www.ao.pr.it))

Ordine dei Medici Chirurghi e degli Odontoiatri della provincia di Parma  
([www.omceopr.it](http://www.omceopr.it))

Società di Medicina e di Scienze Naturali di Parma (Società Medicina Scienze Naturali)  
([www.somedparma.it](http://www.somedparma.it))

**WE GRATEFULLY RECOGNISE THAT THE EVENT HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY AN UNRESTRICTED  
EDUCATIONAL GRANT PROVIDED BY**

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## ORGANISING SECRETARIAT

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