

## Faculty

**Alida Benfante** (Palermo)  
**Andrea Bianco** (Napoli)  
**Fulvio Braido** (Genova)  
**Cecilia Calabrese** (Napoli)  
**Giovanna Elisiana Carpagnano** (Bari)  
**Claudia Crimi** (Catania)  
**Nunzio Crimi** (Catania)  
**Mariella D'Amato** (Napoli)  
**Mario Del Donno** (Benevento)  
**Amato De Paulis** (Napoli)  
**Aikaterini Detoraki** (Napoli)  
**Danilo Di Bona** (Bari)  
**Fabiano Di Marco** (Milano)  
**Maria Pia Foschino** (Foggia)  
**Enrico Heffler** (Milano)  
**Sebastian Johnston** (London, UK)  
**Donato Lacedonia** (Foggia)  
**Francesca Levi-Schaffer** (Jerusalem, Israel)  
**Luigi Macchia** (Bari)  
**Angelantonio Maglio** (Salerno)  
**Gianni Marone** (Napoli)  
**Parameswaran Nair** (Hamilton, Canada)  
**Vincenzo Patella** (Salerno)  
**Corrado Pelaia** (Catanzaro)  
**Girolamo Pelaia** (Catanzaro)  
**Giovanna Lucia Piazzetta** (Catanzaro)  
**Celeste Porsbjerg** (Copenhagen, Denmark)  
**Andrea Portacci** (Bari)  
**Vitaliano Nicola Quaranta** (Bari)  
**Luisa Ricciardi** (Messina)  
**Cristiana Stellato** (Salerno)  
**Nicola Scichilone** (Palermo)  
**Giulia Scioscia** (Foggia)  
**Giuseppe Spadaro** (Napoli)  
**Massimo Triggiani** (Napoli)  
**Giuseppe Valenti** (Palermo)  
**Carlo Vancheri** (Catania)  
**Gilda Varricchi** (Napoli)  
**Alessandro Vatrella** (Salerno)  
**Christian Virchow** (Rostock, Germany)  
**Carolina Vitale** (Salerno)

## General Information

**Honorary Presidents**  
**Serafino Antonio Marsico**

**Presidents**  
**Nunzio Crimi and Alessandro Vatrella**

**Scientific Coordinators**  
**Alida Benfante** (Palermo)      **Maria D'Amato** (Napoli)  
**Maria F. Caiaffa** (Foggia)      **Maria Pia Foschino** (Foggia)  
**Cecilia Calabrese** (Napoli)      **Angelantonio Maglio** (Salerno)  
**Elisiana Carpagnano** (Bari)      **Giulia Scioscia** (Foggia)  
**Claudia Crimi** (Catania)

**Under the Auspices of**



**Life-Long Learning in Medicine**  
The meeting will be part of the CME program of the Ministry of Health  
for 100 participants.  
**No. 12 CME Credits.**

**Provider**  
**Formazione e Cultura Srl ID 2635**

**Meeting Venue**  
**Lloyd's Baia Hotel** Via Enrico de Marinis 2, 84019 Vietri sul Mare SA

**Secretariat**  
**S.A.M.A.**  
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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
DI SALERNO

**V ANNUAL MEETING OF**  
**SOUTHERN**  
**ITALY NETWORK**  
**ON**  
**SEVERE ASTHMA**  
**THERAPY**

**18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**Lloyd's Baia Hotel**  
**Vietri sul Mare (Salerno),**  
**Italy**

## Introduction

The Fifth Meeting of the “Southern Italy Network on Severe Asthma Therapy” will take place in Vietri sul Mare (Salerno) on 18 and 19 October 2024.

During the meeting the most important issues relating to the pathogenesis and therapy of severe asthma will be addressed. In particular, the main aspects of pharmacological treatment will be discussed both in terms of biological strategies and in terms of therapeutic approaches with inhaled drugs with particular reference to the use of triple therapy.

Highly relevant aspects such as T2 type inflammation, airway remodeling, mucus plugging, and disease remission will be the subject of discussion.

Particular attention will be given to the presentation of the results obtained by the various centers participating in the network.

The meeting will be attended by Italian and foreign leading experts on severe asthma, whose participation will be aimed to deepen our understanding of this thematic issue, as well as to stimulate new studies and share research proposals, within the context of a multidisciplinary management of severe asthmatic patients treated with biological therapies. A particular focus will be dedicated to the use of biologics in addition to asthma also in the field of polyposis, EGPA, eosinophilic esophagitis, and COPD.

**Welcome to Vietri sul Mare!**

*Nunzio Crimi and Alessandro Vatrella*

## Scientific Program

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**12:00** **New proposals for research protocols of Southern Italy Network on biologic Therapy for severe Asthma**  
*Nunzio Crimi, Girolamo Pelaia*

**14:30** **Welcome greetings**  
*Nunzio Crimi, Fabiano Di Marco, Alessandro Vatrella*

#### SESSION: TYPE 2 INFLAMMATION

Chairmen: *Alida Benfante, Maria Pia Foschino, Giuseppe Spadaro*

**15:00** **Role of basophils in type 2 inflammation**  
*Gianni Marone*

**15:20** **Interactions between mast cells and eosinophils**  
*Francesca Levi-Schaffer*

**15:40** **Role of eosinophils in airway remodeling**  
*Gilda Varricchi*

Chairmen: *Andrea Bianco, Fulvio Braidò*

**16:00** **Galectins in bronchial Asthma: from pathophysiology to clinical applications**  
*Andrea Portacci*

**16:20** **Viral infections in severe asthma**  
*Sebastian Johnston*

**16:40** **Discussion**

**17:00** **Coffee Break**

#### SESSION: CYTOKINES IN TYPE-2 INFLAMMATION

Chairmen: *Cecilia Calabrese, Luigi Macchia, Carolina Vitale*

**17:20** **IL5 and IL5 receptor expression in inflammatory cells**  
*Massimo Triggiani*

**17:40** **Role of IL13 on type-2 inflammation**  
*Alessandro Vatrella*

**18:00** **Discussion**

#### SESSION: IMMUNOLOGICAL ACTIONS OF EPITHELIAL CELLS

Chairmen: *Giovanna E. Carpagnano, Maria D'Amato*

**18:20** **Role of airway epithelial cells in severe asthma**  
*Cristiana Stellato*

**18:40** **Role of alarmins in type-2 inflammation**  
*Celeste Porsbjerg*

**19:00** **Discussion**

## Scientific Program

### Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024

#### SESSION: EFFICACY OF BIOLOGICAL THERAPY

Chairmen: *Amato De Paulis, Giulia Scioscia, Giuseppe Valenti*

**08:40** **Triple therapy in asthma before biologic therapy**  
*Vitaliano Nicola Quaranta*

**09:00** **Role of biomarkers in assessing biological therapy efficacy**  
*Enrico Heffler*

**09:20** **Clinical remission criteria in severe asthma**  
*Girolamo Pelaia*

**9:40** **De-Escalation of inhaled drugs during biologic therapy**  
*Nicola Scichilone*

**10:00** **Discussion**

#### SESSION: EFFECT OF BIOLOGICAL THERAPY ON AIRWAY REMODELING

Chairmen: *Mario Del Donno, Donato Lacedonia*

**10:20** **Effect of biological therapy on mucus plugging**  
*Claudia Crimi*

**10:40** **Effect of biological therapy on small airways**  
*Angelantonio Maglio*

**11:00** **Discussion**

**11:20** **Coffee Break**

#### SESSION: BIOLOGICAL THERAPY ON EOSINOPHILIC DISEASES

Chairmen: *Aikaterini Detoraki, Luisa Ricciardi, Carlo Vancheri*

**11:40** **Role of biological therapy in EGPA**  
*Parameswaran Nair*

**12:00** **Diagnosis and therapy of eosinophilic esophagitis**  
*Danilo Di Bona*

Chairmen: *Vincenzo Patella, Giovanna Lucia Piazzetta*

**12:20** **Role of biological therapy in CRSwNP**  
*Corrado Pelaia*

**12:40** **Role of biological therapy in COPD**  
*Christian Virchow*

**13:00** **Discussion**

**13:20** **Final greetings**  
*Nunzio Crimi, Alessandro Vatrella*