

# Conference Programme

## 14<sup>th</sup> EUROCONFERENCE ON APOPTOSIS

September 29- October 4, Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy

*“Death or Survival? Fate in Sardinia”*

### Saturday evening September 30

Chair: Amedeo Columbano (Cagliari, Italy)  
Mauro Piacentini (Rome, Italy)

18:30      **Official Opening**

19:00-20:00: **Keynote lecture**

**Paolo Comoglio (Turin, Italy)**

Invasive Growth: A Genetic Program Linking Cell Migration and Survival.

20:30      **Welcome reception and dinner**



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# October 1: Sunday morning

## Session 1: p53 family

**Chair: Marie-Lise Gougeon (Paris, France)**

- 9:00-9:30 **Gerry Melino (Leicester, UK)**  
Role of p63 in epidermal development
- 9:30-10:00 **Zhao-Qi Wang (Jena, Germany)**  
Role of DNA damage response molecular NBS1 in neuronal disorders
- 10:00-10:15 **Maria Balakireva (Paris, France)**  
Ral promotes apoptosis via the JNK pathway through its effector, the exocyst complex
- 10:15-10:30 **Carla O'Connor (Dublin, Ireland)**  
Physiological concentrations of XIAP do not restrict effector caspase activity but delay effector caspase activation in single living cells
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break

## Session 2: DNA damage and cancer

**Chair: Amedeo Columbano (Cagliari, Italy)**

- 11:00-11:30 **Peter Chumakov (Cleveland, USA)**  
Pro- and anti-oxidant functions of the p53 tumor suppressor
- 11:30-12:00 **Manuela Baccarini (Vienna, Austria)**  
Raf-1 and apoptosis: lessons from conditional knock-outs
- 12:00-12:15 **Anna Maria Porcelli (Bologna, Italy)**  
Mitochondrial DNA mutations in relation to cancer: the model of thyroid oncocyoma
- 12:15-12:30 **Wim Declercq (Ghent, Belgium)**  
Role of caspase-14 in terminal differentiation of keratinocytes
- 12:30-16:30 Lunch on the beach



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## October 1: Sunday afternoon

16:30-18:00 Poster session

### Session 3: BH3 proteins

**Chair: Boris Turk (Ljubljana, Slovenia)**

- 18:00-18:30 **Andreas Strasser (Parkville, Australia)**  
BH3-only proteins are essential initiators of programmed cell death and stress-induced apoptosis in normal and cancer cells
- 18:30-19:00 **Atan Gross (Rehovot, Israel)**  
The Role of Mitochondrial Carrier Homolog 2 in tBID-Induced Apoptosis
- 19:00-19:15 **Lorraine Kerr (Edinburgh, United Kingdom)**  
The molecular chaperone nucleophosmin binds to activated Bax.
- 19:15-19:30 **Patricia Rigou (Paris, France)**  
Positive regulation of the Apaf-1 apoptosome by AAP, a novel APAF-1-Interacting protein
- 20:30 Dinner



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## October 2: Monday morning

### Session 4: ROS and mitochondria

Chair: Peter Vandenabeele (Ghent, Belgium)

- 9:00-9:30 **Piergiuseppe Pelicci (Milan, Italy)**  
p66Shc oxidative stress and longevity
- 9:30-10:00 **Guido Kroemer (Villejuif, France)**  
Organelle crosstalk in the apoptotic response
- 10:00-10:15 **Tomasz Rudka (Leuven, Belgium)**  
Mitochondrial rhomboid PARL regulates cytochrome c release during apoptosis via OPA1 dependent cristae remodeling
- 10:15-10:30 **Christian Frezza (Padova, Italy)**  
OPA1 Controls Apoptotic Cristae Remodelling Independently from Mitochondrial Fusion
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee break

### Session 5: Cell death in neurodegeneration

Chair: László Fésüs (Debrecen, Hungary)

- 11:00-11:30 **Pierre Vanderhaeghen (Brussels, Belgium)**  
Ephrin/Eph signaling during brain development: at the crossroads of neural cell guidance and apoptosis
- 11:30-12:00 **Ruth Slack (Ottawa, Canada)**  
Dissociating the dual roles of AIF in the regulation of apoptosis after acute neuronal injury
- 12:00-12:15 **Viktor Takács (Budapest, Hungary)**  
Detection of autophagy in neurodegeneration mutant and transgenic Drosophila strains
- 12:15-12:30 **Michael Blank (Tel Aviv, Israel)**  
Condensin I recruitment and uneven chromatin condensation precede mitotic cell death in response to DNA damage
- 12:30-16:30 Lunch on the beach



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## October 2: Monday afternoon

16:30-18:00 Poster session

### Session 6: Survival pathways in cancer

Chair: Peter Krammer (Heidelberg, Germany)

18:00-18:30 **John Blenis (Boston, USA)**  
Modulating the battle between survival and pro-death signaling pathways in cancer cells

18:30-19:00 **A. Thomas Look (Boston, USA)**  
Upstream and Downstream Modifiers of the BCL-2 Survival Pathway in Cancer

19:00-19:15 **Delphine Mérino (Dijon, France)**  
Differential inhibition of TRAIL-mediated DR5-DISC formation by Decoy Receptor 1 and 2

19:15-19:30 **Silvia Cursi (Rome, Italy)**  
Src kinase phosphorylates Caspase-8 on Tyr380: a novel mechanism of apoptosis suppression

20:30 Dinner



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## October 3: Tuesday morning

### Session 7: Cell death pathways

**Chair: Richard Locksin (New York, USA)**

- 9:00-9:30 **Frank Madeo (Graz, Austria)**  
Apoptotic death of ageing yeasts
- 9:30-10:00 **Guillermo Velasco (Madrid, Spain)**  
Cannabinoids induce apoptosis of tumor cells via activation of the endoplasmic reticulum stress pathway
- 10:00-10:15 **Thomas Simmen (Edmonton, Canada)**  
Novel PACS-2 Interactors on the endoplasmic reticulum
- 10:15-10:30 **Diana Brust (Frankfurt am Main, Germany)**  
Involvement of a putative apoptotic machinery in lifespan control of the filamentous ascomycete *Podospora anserina*

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

**Chair: Hans-Uwe Simon (Bern, Switzerland)**

- 11:00-11:30 **Sharon Reef (Rehovot, Israel)**  
The road map to programmed cell death: Switching between apoptosis and autophagic cell death.
- 11:30-12:00 **Mauro Piacentini (Rome, Italy)**  
Ambra-1 regulates autophagy during development of the nervous system in mammals
- 12:00-12:15 **Saska Ivanova (Ljubljana, Slovenia)**  
MAGUKs, scaffolding proteins at cell junctions, as substrates for the caspases and cathepsins during apoptosis
- 12:15-12:30 **Helena Paidassi (Grenoble, France)**  
C1q recognizes phosphatidylserine on apoptotic cells and likely acts as an early, multi-ligand bridging molecule in apoptotic cell clearance
- 12:30-16:30 Lunch on the beach



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## October 3: Tuesday afternoon

16:30-18:00 Poster session

### Session 8: Cell death and inflammation

Chair: Klaus-Michael Debatin (Ulm, Germany)  
Boris Zhivotovsky (Stockholm, Sweden)

18:00-18:30 **Naohiro Inohara (Ann Arbor, USA)**  
Host defense mechanism mediated by Nod proteins

19:00–20:00 ***ECDO honorary lecture:***  
**Jurg Tschopp (Lausanne, Switzerland)**  
Gout-associated uric acid crystals activate the NALP3 inflammasome

20:30 Closing remarks and dinner



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