



ETTORE MAJORANA FOUNDATION AND CENTRE FOR SCIENTIFIC CULTURE

TO PAY A PERMANENT TRIBUTE TO GALILEO GALILEI, FOUNDER OF MODERN SCIENCE
AND TO ENRICO FERMI, "THE ITALIAN NAVIGATOR", FATHER OF THE WEAK FORCES



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PHARMACOLOGY "GIAMPAOLO VELO"

DIRECTORS: P. MINUZ, U. MORETTI

International Course on **COMMON MECHANISMS IN CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE AND CANCER: FOCUS ON PLATELET ACTIVATION AND INHIBITION**

October 26th– 28th 2026 in Erice, Italy

Scientific sessions will begin on October 26th at 4 p.m. and will end on October 28th at 2 p.m.

Course Directors: Pietro Minuz, Paola Patrignani, Carlo Patrono

The aim of the course is to focus on recent scientific knowledge concerning common pathophysiological, clinical, and therapeutic aspects of cancer and cardiovascular disease. Particular attention is given to mechanisms of platelet activation and the interactions between platelets and pathways of inflammatory and immune response, as well as to drugs that target platelets in both clinical and experimental treatments across diverse clinical contexts. Senior Scientists will mentor early-career Researchers in these advanced topics by showcasing their recent research findings. Consistent with the International School's tradition, participants are encouraged to actively engage in discussions and to present their scientific work through posters or brief oral presentations.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

- **Mechanisms of platelet activation in different model systems and clinical settings**
- **Interactions between platelets and pathways of inflammatory and immune response in cancer and cardiovascular disease**
- **Lipid and non-lipid mediators in cardiovascular disease and cancer**
- **Efficacy and safety of current antiplatelet drugs in different clinical settings**
- **Novel developments in antiplatelet therapy**



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LIST OF SPEAKERS

- **Orina Belton, Ireland:** Modulation of the inflammatory environment in atherosclerosis
- **Bernard Brüne, Germany:** Inflammation and cancer
- **Marina Camera, Italy:** Role of platelets in thrombus formation
- **Stefan Chlopicki, Poland:** Endothelial function and platelets in cancer as compared with cardiovascular disease
- **Meinrad Gawaz, Germany:** Thromboinflammation and Thrombofibrosis – Implications for myocardial regeneration
- **Diana Gorog, UK:** Antithrombotic treatment in secondary prevention of coronary disease
- **Paolo Gresele, Italy:** Regulation of Platelet Activation by nitric oxide in Health and Disease
- **Michael Holinostat, USA:** Novel targets for platelet inhibition
- **Per-Johan Jakobsson, Sweden:** Prostanoids in inflammation and cardiometabolic disease – mechanisms and therapeutic opportunities
- **Angel Lanas, Spain:** Antiplatelet agents and gastrointestinal cancer
- **Ruth Langley, UK:** Demographic and clinical determinants of the chemopreventive response to aspirin
- **Paola Patrignani, Italy:** Aspirin and cancer: from molecular mechanisms to experimental models
- **Carlo Patrono, Italy:** Low-dose aspirin in cardiovascular disease and colorectal cancer
- **Alistair Roddick, UK:** Who benefits from aspirin in primary cardiovascular prevention?
- **Rahul Roychoudhuri, UK:** Platelet activation, immune response, and cancer metastasis
- **David Sacerdoti, Italy:** Platelets in liver diseases
- **Dieter Steinhilber, Germany:** Oxylipins and 5-lipoxygenase in cancer
- **Beatrix Suess, Germany:** Regulation of Dicer activity by 5-lipoxygenase
- **Stefania Tacconelli, Italy:** New targets for cancer prevention
- **Rocco Vergallo, Italy:** New strategies for reducing bleeding risk in ischaemic cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease
- **Gemma Vilahur, Spain:** Platelets in atherothrombosis

Organising Committee:

Bernhard Brüne, Andrea Dalbeni, Cristiano Fava, Michael Holinostat, Ruth Langley, Rahul Roychoudhuri, David Sacerdoti, Dieter Steinhilber, Stefania Tacconelli.



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WHAT'S INCLUDED

The Foundation is a very attractive place situated in the pre-medieval town of Erice, where three restored monasteries provide an appropriate setting for courses and lodging for participants. If you have previously visited Erice, you will know the kind of meetings that are held there: informality, a lot of discussion, hard work, good food and wine. **Breakfast** is provided daily at the "Rabi" Institute-San Rocco, whereas for **lunch** and **dinner** a choice of meals is arranged at a few local restaurants selected by the E. Majorana Foundation (drinks not included). The days usually end up in San Rocco Cellar, where every evening participants meet after dinner for a taste of **Marsala wines & Sicilian pastries**, to be enjoyed in very friendly atmosphere.

Although the journey to Sicily is not included in the cost of the course, low-cost air-companies such as Ryan Air, Volotea, Vueling and Easy Jet operate towards Trapani Birgi and Palermo Punta Raisi Airports. A complementary shuttle service is organized by the E. Majorana Foundation upon arrival and departure of all participants.

The entire cost of the course is € 330 (arrival on October 26th, departure on October 28th, 2026).

The cost includes participation, airport transfers in Sicily (from and to Palermo and Trapani airports), accommodation and breakfast in one of the Monasteries of EMFCSC, lunch and dinners in any of the partner restaurants in Erice.

Manuscripts authored by the school's speakers can be submitted to a specific research topic within the Inflammation Pharmacology section of Frontiers in Pharmacology.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL...

Since 1963, authors of new discoveries and inventions covering all branches of science, among them around a hundred Nobel Prize laureates, have come to Erice to teach students. Post-doctoral students come to Erice to find out directly from scientists from all over the world what is being done in the most advanced sectors of their field, listen to the lectures, and ask questions and discuss, contributing to the topics with a fresh point of view and different approaches.

The International School of Pharmacology, founded in 1976 and recently named after the late Prof. Giampaolo Velo, has organized 86 courses and workshops on various internationally discussed topics, such as the safe use of drugs, drug innovation, medication errors, drug communication, patient safety, and many others. Reports regarding many of the courses and workshops held in Erice have been published in international scientific journals, such as the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Drug Safety, or as books (NATO ASI proceedings, Plenum Press).

To know more about the Foundation visit <http://www.ccsem.infn.it>

To know more about Erice visit <http://www.turismo.trapani.it/it/1007/erice.html>