



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

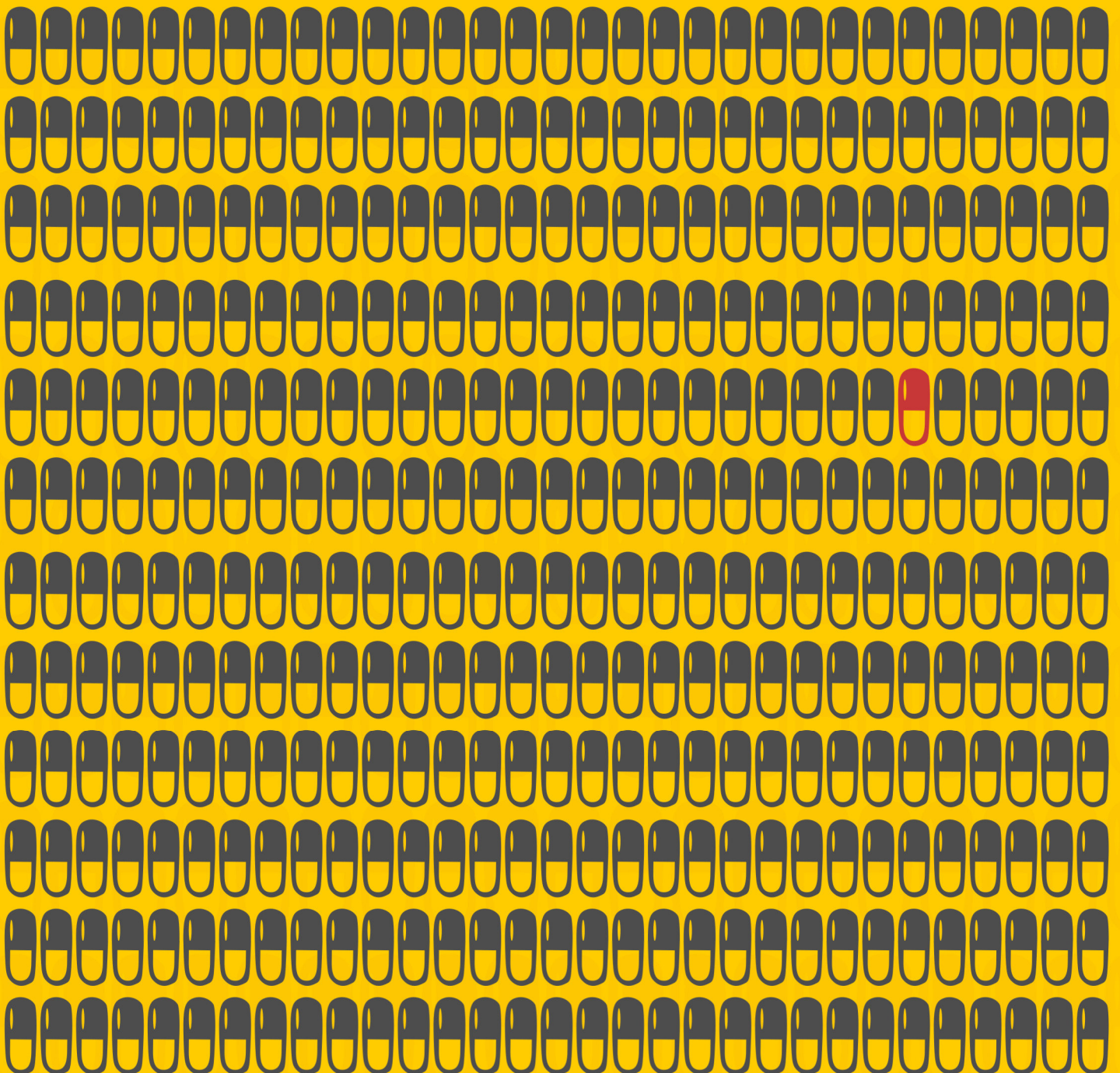
conference

# accelerating the drug discovery process

bringing together academic research & industrial experience

thursday 12<sup>th</sup> december 2019

centro congressi le benedettine, pisa



# the speakers



**dr. Gianpiero Garau**  
istituto italiano di tecnologia, italy



With a unique expertise in Protein Chemistry, Gianpiero is currently leader of the BioStructures Lab at the Center for Nanotechnology of IIT in Pisa. His research interests focus on structure-function relationships and interactions of innovative membrane protein targets, relevant for metabolic and eating disorders, and the discovery of privileged chemical structures as lead-scaffolds to design novel drugs.



**dr. Eugenio Gaudio**  
institute of oncology research, switzerland

Involved in cancer research since 2001, his main aim of research is the identification of novel targets and molecules with therapeutic value using drug discovery methods such as mass spectrometry and phage display. Since 2013 he's responsible for the cell biology and in vivo research activities carried out by the Lymphoma & Genomics group headed by Dr Bertonni.



**dr. Sheraz Gul**  
fraunhofer ime screening portal, germany



Drug discovery expert with 26 years post-graduate record of accomplishment in academia (University of London), industry (GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals) and the largest applied research organisation in Europe (Fraunhofer Institute). Key Opinion Leader in drug discovery & scientific co-founder of Transcriptogen Ltd. Co-ordinated work packages in drug discovery projects with a total volume of €7.25 million. Organised 42 drug discovery workshops since 2011 across the globe and trained 780 scientists.



**dr. Maria Eugenia Riveiro**  
e2dg, france

With over 14 years' experience in preclinical drug development, she led the preclinical development seed phase of 16 novel leads, covering small molecules and monoclonal antibodies, being responsible for the execution and strategic implementation of the R&D programs. This included the evaluation of first-in-man drugs in the oncology field, such as a galectin-1 inhibitor and a bromodomain inhibitor for hematologic malignancies and solid tumors, actually under evaluation in human Phase II studies by Merck Sharp & Dohme.



**prof. Michele Vendruscolo**  
university of cambridge | wren therapeutics, uk



Director of the Centre for Misfolding Diseases in Cambridge (UK), Prof. Vendruscolo is one of the main experts in the field of proteins' misfolding and aggregation. For 15 years his research has been focused on the development of methods of characterising the structure, dynamics and interactions of proteins in previously inaccessible states. Since 2016, he is Founder, Director and Chief Scientific Officer of Wren Therapeutics, a spin-off company from University of Cambridge focused on drug discovery and development for protein misfolding diseases. He published over 400 papers in scientific journals, including Nature, Science, Cell and PNAS.

# the program

09.00 registration

09.30 opening ceremony

- Prof. Simona Rapposelli | Organizing Committee
- Prof. Marco Raugi | University of Pisa

[morning session] chairperson: Massimiliano Runfola

10.00 Gianpiero Garau

target and interactions: back on validation

11.00 coffee break

11.15 Eugenio Gaudio

protein-protein interactions as targets of anti-cancer therapy

12.15 Sheraz Gul

exploiting the fraunhofer platforms and processes to drive innovation in drug discovery

13.15 lunch break

[afternoon session] chairperson: Simona Sestito

15.00 Michele Vendruscolo

systematic development of small molecules to inhibit specific microscopic steps of amyloid beta aggregation in Alzheimer's disease

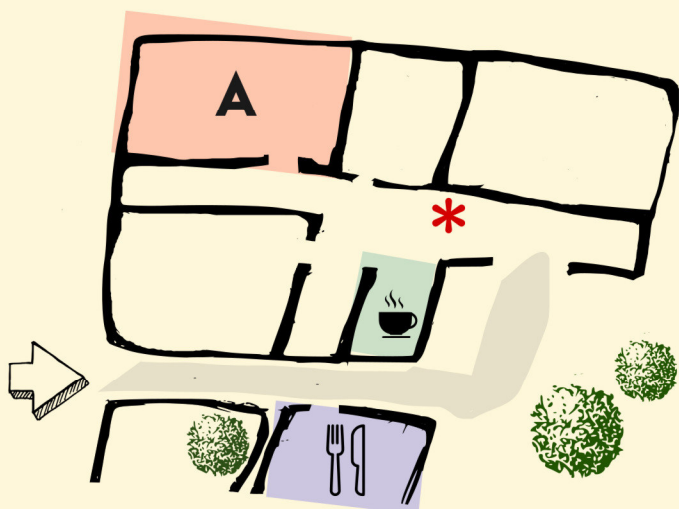
16.00 Maria Eugenia Riveiro

principles of the translational research in oncology: taking research from benchside to bedside

17.00 round table

17.30 closing remarks

## venue map



**A** conference

**\*** registration/info desk

☕ coffee break

🍴 lunch

## organizing committee

**Professor Simona Rapposelli**

**Massimiliano Runfola**

**Simona Sestito, PhD**

**Andrea Bacci**

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<https://www.rapposelligroup.com/>

## acknowledgements

**University of Pisa** [Bando per il finanziamento di Dimostratori tecnologici & Bando 2019 Contributi per convegni di Ateneo]

**International Society of Drug Discovery** (ISDD srls)



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