

ASSOCIAZIONE MIA NERI FOUNDATION, ONLUS

**10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM**

# Childhood Brain Tumors: an Unending Challenge

**ROME, OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia  
Centro Congressi Europa, Sala Italia

**08:45 am** Registration and welcoming addresses by:  
*Antonio Gasbarrini*, Dean of the Medical Faculty (UCSC)  
*Giovanni Scambia*, Scientific Director, Fondazione Policlinico  
Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS  
*Giovanni Neri*, President of the Associazione Mia Neri  
Foundation (MNF)  
*Claudia Bagni*, Member of the Scientific Committee of the MNF

Chair: *Claudia Bagni* (Univ. Lausanne and Tor Vergata)

**09:30 am** *Petra Hamerlik* (Univ. Manchester): OPENING LECTURE  
*"Brain cancer: From biology to biomarkers of early  
detection"*

**10:10 am** *Barbara Rivera Polo*, MNF grantee (Bellvitge Biomedical Res. Inst.)  
*"Novel mechanisms in susceptibility to pediatric  
nervous system tumors"*

**10:30 am** *Anna Benedetti*, MNF grantee (IFO)  
*"Identification of a long non-coding RNA signature  
to potentiate PI3K/AKT pathway inhibition in  
glioblastoma"*

**10:50 am** Coffee break

Chair: *Maurizio Genuardi* (UCSC)

**11:20 am** *Maria Grazia Perrone*, MNF grantee (Univ. Bari)  
*"Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma in Children  
(DIPG\_C): a diagnostic and therapeutic challenge,  
from Gene Expression Profile to Drug"*

**11:40 am** *Laura Broutier*, MNF grantee (Cancer Research Center of Lyon)  
*"Establishing a living biobank of pediatric high-grade  
glioma and ependymoma suitable for cancer  
pharmacology"*

**12:00 pm** *Antonio Chiocca* (Harvard Univ.): KEYNOTE LECTURE  
*"Oncolytic immunoactivation of brain tumors"*

**01:00 pm** Lunch

Chair: *Francesco Cecconi* (UCSC)

**2:15 pm** *Ana Belen Diaz*, MNF grantee (IFO)  
*"A diagnostic three-miRNA signature in glioblastoma  
with potential application as RNA therapeutics"*

**2:35 pm** *Taeyun Kang*, MNF grantee (Yale Univ.)  
*"Vascular Mimicry: Shifting Vasculature of GBM  
from Capillaries to Pathological Vessels under  
Inflammatory Environments"*

**2:55 pm** *Danilo Tiziano*, MNF grantee (UCSC)  
*"Juvenile multiple nevi syndrome: an expansion  
of the RASopathy spectrum"*

**3:15 pm** **ROUND TABLE: Outlook to the Future**  
*Gennaro Ciliberto* (IFO)  
*"The molecular tumor board"*

*Mara Vinci* (OPBG)  
*"New tools for early diagnosis"*

*Giorgio Minotti* (Campus Bio-Medico)  
*"The development of new drugs"*

*Maria Ines Kavamura* (Univ. Federal San Paulo)  
*"Organization and fund raising"*

Chair: *Angela Gallo* (OPBG)

**4:45 pm** *Luca Tiberi* (Univ. Trento): CLOSING LECTURE  
*"Modeling pediatric brain tumors in vivo and with  
human organoids"*

**5:30 pm** *Giovanni Neri*: Closing remarks

**5:45 pm** Adjourn

**FREE ADMISSION**

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: C. Bagni, F. Cecconi, A. Gallo, M. Genuardi, G. Neri - Contact: [mianerifoundation@gmail.com](mailto:mianerifoundation@gmail.com)

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