

The Tumour Ecosystem: From Mechanisms to Novel Therapeutics Programme

Bergamo, Italy

17 - 19 March 2026



Scientific Programme

Tuesday 17th March 2026

Listed times are in Central European Time (CET)

- 11:30 REGISTRATION (LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT 12:00)
- 13:00 CONFERENCE WELCOME
- SESSION 1
- 13:10 OPENING KEYNOTE LECTURE
Ashani Weeraratna
Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, USA
'A Complex TIME: how the tumor immune microenvironment governs tumor progression'
Q&A 13:40 - 13:55
- 13:55 **Erik Sahai**
The Francis Crick Institute, London, UK
Q&A 14:15 - 14:25
- 14:25 **Proffered Paper 1**
Q&A 14:35 - 14:40
- 14:40 EXHIBITOR INTRODUCTIONS
- 14:50 COFFEE BREAK, EXHIBITION AND SOLO TRAVELLER MEET-UP
- 15:20 **Daniela Quail**
McGill University, Montreal, Canada
Q&A 15:40 - 15:50
- 15:50 **Neta Erez**
Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
'Stromal and Immune Plasticity Shape the Metastatic Microenvironment'
Q&A 16:10 - 16:20
- 16:20 POSTER SPOTLIGHTS
- 16:30 INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM
Led by members of the Scientific Programme Committee
- 17:00 NETWORKING QUIZ
- 17:30 WELCOME RECEPTION
- 18:15 POSTER DISCUSSION SESSION 1
Led by members of the Scientific Programme Committee

Wednesday 18th March 2026

Listed times are in Central European Time (CET)

08:15 **EARLY POSTER VIEWING**

08:45 **INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT**

SESSION 2

09:00 **Yardena Samuels**

Weizmann Institute, Rehovot, Israel

'The various layers of intratumor heterogeneity and their impact on tumor immunity'

Q&A 09:20 - 09:30

09:30 **Proffered Paper 2**

Q&A 09:40 - 09:45

09:45 **Mikael Pittet**

Agora, Lausanne, Switzerland

'Myeloid cells : Uncovering conserved functions shaping cancer immunity'

Q&A 10:05 - 10:15

10:15 **Andrea Schietinger**

MSKCC, New York, USA

Q&A 10:35 - 10:45

10:45 **COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION**

11:15 **Mara Sherman**

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, USA

'Mapping cellular hierarchies in the pancreatic tumor microenvironment'

Q&A 11:35 - 11:45

11:45 **Proffered Paper 3**

Q&A 11:55 - 12:00

12:00 **POSTER SPOTLIGHTS**

12:10 **INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM**

12:40 **LUNCH**

13:40 **POSTER DISCUSSION SESSION 2**

Led by members of the Scientific Programme Committee

SESSION 3

15:10 **THE EMBO YOUNG INVESTIGATOR LECTURE**

Leila Akkari

Netherlands Cancer Institute, Amsterdam, Netherlands

'Metabolic regulation in the brain tumor microenvironment'

Q&A 15:30 - 15:40

15:40 **Proffered Paper 4**

Q&A 15:50 - 15:55

15:55 **Proffered Paper 5**

- Q&A 16:05 - 16:10
- 16:10 **Anna Obenaus**
IMP, Austria
'Unlocking immunity: Decoding and reprogramming the immune-evasive tumor microenvironment'
- Q&A 16:30 - 16:40
- 16:40 COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION
- 17:10 **Ilaria Malanchi**
Francis Crick Institute, London, UK
'Emergency granulopoiesis and Cancer Progression'
- 17:30 Q&A 17:30 - 17:40
- 17:40 **Jacco van Rheenen**
NKI, Amsterdam, Netherlands
'Intravital microscopy of the fate of cells carrying mutations in cancer driver genes'
- 18:00 Q&A 18:00 - 18:10
- 18:10 PANEL DISCUSSION
- 19:30 CONFERENCE DINNER (OPTIONAL TICKETED EVENT)

Thursday 19th March 2026

Listed times are in Central European Time (CET)

- 08:15 EARLY POSTER VIEWING
- 08:45 INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT
- SESSION 4
- 09:00 **Johanna Joyce**
University of Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland
'Unraveling the Complexity of Cancer Ecosystems'
- Q&A 09:20 - 09:30
- 09:30 **Dinorah Friedman-Morvinski**
TAU, Tel Aviv, Israel
'Overcoming the immunosuppressive Microenvironment to enhance CAR T cell therapy in brain tumors'
- Q&A 09:50 - 10:00
- 10:00 **Proffered Paper 6**
- Q&A 10:10 - 10:15
- 10:15 COFFEE BREAK & EXHIBITION
- 10:45 **Direna Alonso-Curbelo**
IRB Barcelona, Spain
- Q&A 11:05 - 11:15
- 11:15 CLOSING KEYNOTE LECTURE
Frank Winkler
DKFZ, Heidelberg, Germany

'Neural influences on brain tumors: from fundamental insights to new therapies'

Q&A 11:45 - 12:00

12:00 [SUMMARY & CLOSE](#)

12:10 [DEPART](#)