



# INNOVATE

**INTERNATIONAL NEOADJUVANT  
IMMUNOTHERAPY ACROSS CANCERS**

**Naples, Palazzo Alabardieri**

**via Alabardieri, 38**

**July 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**3PSOLUTION**

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## SCIENTIFIC RATIONAL

**Immune checkpoint blockade** (ICB) has revolutionized outcomes for patients with advanced cancers. Building upon this marked success, evaluation of ICB in patients with surgically resectable disease has been pursued across **multiple cancer types**. In addition to an improvement in operability, improving the anti-tumor immune response, as measured by pathologic response, neoadjuvant immunotherapy continues to demonstrate correlation with improved risk or recurrence across and has resulted in **changes in standard of care**. Complete pathologic response to neoadjuvant treatment has previously been established a surrogate endpoint in some cancers, but data continue to emerge supporting evaluation of this understanding in the context of neoadjuvant ICB and outcomes associated with pathologic response to immunotherapy is actively being pursued across cancers. Neoadjuvant studies also offer the opportunity for **deep translational evaluation** of serial tissue collection. Taken together, neoadjuvant treatment serves as powerful drug development platform as it provides the opportunity to leverage translational insights to gain a deeper understanding the outcomes associated with pathologic response as well as insights into mechanisms of immunotherapy response and resistance across multiple cancer types.

Notably, the majority of these clinical advances and translational insights are evaluated within disease groups. Many efforts continue to work towards a convergence and harmonization in pathology standardization, trial design, and data aggregation in order to transcend traditional paradigms and **leverage the innovative potential** of the neoadjuvant platform in cancer immunotherapy. As immunotherapy and checkpoint inhibitors continue to advance for patients with advanced disease, further evaluation in the neoadjuvant setting plays a critical role contextualizing clinical response with deep pathologic and biomarker evaluation. There is an increasing need to expedite insights and facilitate impact for patients through the evaluation of neoadjuvant immunotherapy across cancers.

In this scenario, the importance of early-stage breast and lung cancer is crucial, as it offers the best chance of successful immunotherapy treatment and improved outcomes. Detecting cancer in its early stages allows for less aggressive treatment options, higher survival rates and a better quality of life for patients. Early detection also reduces the risk of metastasis, which can make treatment more difficult and reduce survival rates.

With this in mind, we seek to organize a **global meeting** to bring together researchers engaged in **neoadjuvant immunotherapy clinical and translational research** with the goal of highlighting clinical advances, innovative research approaches, as well as possibilities for collaboration and opportunities to **harmonize approaches across cancers**. With the unique advantage of immunotherapy, we have the opportunity to advance the field forward in both improving outcomes for patients with surgically resectable disease as well as harnessing the true potential of the neoadjuvant platform for drug development.

The meeting will take place over two days and will consist of invited speakers, and panel discussions. Topics will range from disease specific field overviews, pathology, biomarkers, imaging and patient reported outcomes.

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM | Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>



9:35 a.m. Opening remarks

P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton

09:50 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | **I SESSION | Neoadjuvant - practice changing and drug development platform**

Session Chair - G. Curigliano

09:50 a.m. Immunotherapy across cancers

P. A. Ascierto

10:10 a.m. Neoadjuvant therapy for breast cancer: lessons learned

L. A. Emens

10:40 a.m. Keynote: Neoadjuvant immunotherapy - practice changing clinical trials in early stage management and moving forward

T. Cascone

11:10 a.m. Panel discussion: Neoadjuvant - practice changing and drug development platform

G. Curigliano

11:30 a.m. *Coffee Break\*\**

11:45 a.m. - 1:25 p.m. | **II SESSION | Pathology harmonization and surrogate endpoint**

Session Chairs - M. Del Vecchio, G. Ferrara

11:45 a.m. Neoadjuvant path assessment in melanoma

M. T. Tetzlaff

12:05 p.m. Rationale for pathologic response assessment: where are we today?

J. M. Taube

*\*\*Not included in CME accreditation*

12:25 p.m. Pan-cancer scoring system: updates and lessons learned  
J. S. Deutsch

12:45 p.m. Panel discussion: Pathologic response assessment - future directions  
M. Del Vecchio, G. Ferrara

1:25 p.m. *Lunch\*\**

2:20 p.m.- 4:40 p.m. | **III SESSION | Multi disciplinary management**  
Session Chairs - M. Chalabi, J. E. Gershenwald

2:20 p.m. Intralesional studies  
D. Schadendorf

2:40 p.m. Surgical considerations  
A. M. M. Eggermont

3:00 p.m. Radiation  
A. R. Filippi

3:20 p.m. Neoadjuvant data and staging criteria - the time to act is now  
J. E. Gershenwald

3:40 p.m. Machine learning and radiomics to personalize immunotherapy  
J. Wu

4:00 p.m. Panel discussion: multi disciplinary management  
L. Benedetto, M. Chalabi, J. E. Gershenwald

4:40 p.m. Closing remarks  
P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank, E. M. Burton

# SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM | Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>



**09:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. | IV SESSION | Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant immunotherapy**

Session Chairs - P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton

**09:30 a.m.** Breast

L. A. Emens

**09:50 a.m.** Lung

T. Cascone

**10:10 a.m.** Non melanoma skin

N. Gross

**10:30 a.m.** Biomarker-driven neoadjuvant immunotherapy in CRC and the path forward

M. Chalabi

**10:50 a.m.** Neoadjuvant immunotherapy in melanoma: are we finished yet?

G. V. Long

**11:10 a.m. Focus on:** cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant immunotherapy

C. Trojaniello, M.G. Vitale

**11:55 a.m.** Panel discussion: Cancer specific updates in neoadjuvant immunotherapy

P. A. Ascierto, E. M. Burton

**12:15 p.m.** Lunch\*\*

**1:00 p.m.- 3:10 p.m. | V SESSION | Translational insights - biomarkers across cancers**

Session Chairs - L. Buonaguro, J. B. A. G. Haanen

**1:00 p.m.** Immune insights and translation back to clinic

C.U. Blank

\*\*Not included in CME accreditation

1:20 p.m. Gene signature  
C. U. Blank

1:40 p.m. Translational insights from neoadjuvant nivo LAG3  
H. A. Tawbi

2:00 p.m. Neoadjuvant radioimmunotherapy in PDAC  
W. R. Burns

2:20 p.m. **Focus on:** Translational insights - biomarkers across cancers  
L. Filippi, A. Nuccio, D.H. Peng

2:50 p.m. Panel discussion: translational insights - biomarkers across cancers  
L. Buonaguro, J. B. A. G. Haanen

3:10 p.m. *Coffee Break\*\**

3:25 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. | **VI SESSION | Where do we go from here? Clinical updates/design**  
Session Chairs - P. A. Ascierto, C. U. Blank

Summary of key points and opportunities and panel discussion

- Pathology considerations  
J. M. Taube
- Translational considerations  
C. U. Blank
- Surgical considerations  
N. D. Gross
- Study design  
E. M. Burton

5:15 p.m. Closing remarks  
P. A. Ascierto

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## SCIENTIFIC BOARD

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