HUMAN TECHNOPOLE

symposium

2nd European Cancer Dependency Map Symposium

20 Nov 2025
h 9:00 – 18:30

Human Technopole,
Milan (IT)

PROGRAMME

09:00 – 09:30 **Registration & Welcome Coffee** – HT Auditorium & Covered Piazza

09:30 – 10:00 **OPENING REMARKS** – HT Auditorium

9:30 - 9:40 **Welcome by the Organizers**

9:40 - 10:00 **Greetings from the HT Director** – Marino Zerial

10:00 – 11:00 **SESSION 1** – HT Auditorium
Non-Cell-Autonomous Dependency Maps
and Advanced Cell Systems

10:00 – 10:30 **Carmen Herranz-Ors (Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK)**
A Tumour Organoid Biobank for Mapping Cancer Cell Vulnerabilities

10:30 – 11:00 **Alejandra Bruna (The Institute of Cancer Research, UK)**
Targeting Plasticity to Prevent Childhood Cancer Relapse

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee Break & Poster Presentations** – Restaurant Area

11:30 – 13:00 **SESSION 2** – HT Auditorium
Synthetic lethality and Innovations in CRISPR Screening

11:30 – 12:00 **Manuel Kaulich (Institute of Biochemistry II, DE)**
Nuclear mRNA processing masks CRISPRko phenotypes

12:00 – 12:30 **Chris Lord (The Institute of Cancer Research, UK)**
Extending the application of the synthetic lethal principle in cancer

12:30 – 13:00 **Roland Rad (Institute of Molecular Oncology and Functional Genomics, DE)**
TBD

13:00 – 14:15 **Lunch, poster session & networking** – Restaurant Area

14:15 – 16:00   SESSION 3 – HT Auditorium
   Data Integration, Computational Approaches and AI

14:15 – 15:00   **Debora Sesia (Ciriello Lab, University of Lausanne, CH)**
   and Aurora Savino (Iorio Lab, Human Technopole, IT)
   Functional Assessment of Variants of Unknown Significance through Cancer DepMap data analysis

15:00 – 15:30   **Dr. Emanuel Gonçalves (University of Lisbon, PT)**
   Minimal Libraries and AI-Synthetic Augmentation of CRISPR-Cas9 Screens for Drug Target Discovery

15:30 – 16:00   **Colm Ryan (University College Dublin, IE)**
   Understanding and predicting synthetic lethality between paralogs in cancer

16:00 – 16:30   **Coffee Break & Poster Presentations – Restaurant Area**

16:30 – 17:30   SESSION 3B – HT Auditorium
   Data Integration, Computational Approaches and AI

16:30 – 17:00   **Lodewyk Wessels (Netherland Cancer Institute, NL)**
   In silico prediction of post-perturbation profiles to enable combination drug response prediction

17:00 – 17:30   **Evangelia Petsalaki (EMBL European Bioinformatics Institute, UK)**
   Using CRISPR data to study context specific signalling and drug responses

17:30 – 18:15   ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION – HT Auditorium
   Functional Genomics to Precision Medicine – What's Next?
   - **Marino Zerial (Scientific Director, Human Technopole, IT)**
   - **Davide Gianni (Senior Director, Discovery Sciences, BioPharmaceuticals R&D at AstraZeneca, IT)**
   - **Giorgio Galli (Director Oncology Drug Discovery, Novartis, Basel, CH)**
   - **David Walter (CRUK - AZ Functional Genetic Centre, UK)**
   - **Antonella Isacchi (Nerviano Medical Sciences, IT)**
   - **Safia Danovi (Nature Genetics, UK)**

18:15 – 18:30   **Closing Remarks & Farewell – HT Auditorium**