



Lebanese University



Faculty of Sciences



Faculty of Medicine

Under the High Patronage of his Excellency

The president of the Lebanese Republic

General Michel Aoun

The President of the Lebanese University

Professor Fouad Ayoub

The Faculty of Medicine, The Doctoral School of Sciences and Technology,
and The Faculty of Sciences

Have the honor to invite you to the:

Seventh International meeting

on Oncology, Immunology and Cancer Biology

The Main Conference Hall, Campus Hadath

16th & 17th November 2017

Organiser: The Lebanese University

Welcome Note

In the past 10 years, cancer immunotherapy has captured the attention of the medical community and the general public. Numerous reports in peer-reviewed literature and the lay press have detailed clinical successes with immunotherapy. Recent advances in immunology and cancer biology have opened up new horizons in the field of cancer therapy.

The BioBeirut International meeting on Oncology, Immunology and Cancer Biology provides an occasion for the participating scientists not only to present their researches and interact with eminent colleagues but also to enjoy an intellectually stimulating environment.

This meeting is expected to attract a broad range of scientists (e.g., biologists, biochemists, immunologists, cancer researchers) and clinicians (oncologists, pathologists, radiologists and radiobiologists) and will bridge basic, translational and clinical research. There will be a clinical focus on the different therapeutic strategies including cancer immunotherapy, radiotherapy and targeted therapies, which have been successfully implemented for the therapy of different types of cancer. A large number of students will also be participating in it which should be very educational for them.

We wish to convey our special thanks to **His Excellency General Michel Aoun**, President of the Lebanese Republic, for his patronage of this important scientific event. We are also most grateful to all the scientists who have travelled to Lebanon to participate in this meeting.

We hope that this would be an exciting event, serving to nurture collaborations between scientists.

Professor Bassam Badran
Dean of the Faculty of Sciences

Meeting Program and List of Speakers

Thursday 16th November 2017

08:00-09:00

Welcome Reception, Register, Poster mounting

09:00- 11:00	Session I: Cancer Biology and Immunotherapy
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Chairs: *Walid Rachidi (Grenoble Alpes University); Elie Hadchity; Hasna Bou Haroun; Aline Hamadé (Lebanese University)*

09:00-09:40

Ahmad Awada (*Free University of Brussels, Belgium*)

Title Lessons learned from the development of Check Points Inhibitors: Benefits and Challenges.

09:40-10:10

Marco Demaria (*European Institute for Biology of Aging, UMCG, Netherlands*)

Cellular senescence in cancer therapy: friend or foe?

10:10-10:35

Walid Rachidi (*CEA, Grenoble Alpes University, France*)

Keratinocyte stem cells are more resistant to UVA radiation than their direct progeny.

10:35-11:00

Francois Paris (*CRCINA, INSERM UMR 1232, University of Nantes, Nantes, France*)

Endothelial cell response to ionizing radiation.

11:00 – 11:15

Coffee Break

11:15- 12:55	Session II: Cancer Biology, Genetics and Immunology
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Chairs: *Mohamad Mortada; Eva Hamade; Majida Jalbout; Haidar Akl; (Lebanese University)*

11:15-11:40

Marc Piechaczyk (*University of Montpellier, France*)

When SUMOs wrestle with cancer: the case of Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

11:40-12:05

Xavier Gidrol (*Biosciences and Biotechnology Institute of Grenoble , France*)

Organoids-based High Content Screening in Oncology.

12:05-12:30

Aksam Merched (*INSERM U1035, University of Bordeaux, Bordeaux, France*)

The meprin metalloprotease as a new weapon in the arsenal of liver cancer.

12:30-12:55

Maya Hassane (*Institut Pasteur de Lille, Centre d'infection et d'immunit, Lille, France*).

Type I IFN receptor signalling controls IL-7-dependent accumulation of protumoural IL-17A-producing $\gamma\delta$ T cells in breast cancer.

12:55 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00- 15:15	Session III: Clinical Oncology
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Chairs: *Nizar Bitar (Lebanese University); Nabil Chamseddine (Balamand University); Joseph Makdissi (St George Hospital University Medical Center)*

14:00-14:10

Keynote Speaker

Philippe Salem (*Salem Oncology Center, St. Luke's Medical Center, Texas, USA*)

Immunotherapy: The New Frontier In The Treatment Of Cancer.

14:10-14:55

Nizar Bitar (*Faculty of Medicine, Lebanese University*) (Sponsored by MSD)

Model of Implementing Immunotherapy in clinical Practice: Non Small Cell Lung Cancer

14:55-15:15	Hampig Kourie (<i>St Joseph University</i>) How to prevent hereditary cancers?
16:00-17:00	Opening Ceremony Granting of a Doctorate Honoris Causa to Professor Philippe Salem
20:30	Gala Dinner

Friday 17th November 2017

09:00-11:05	Session IV: Cell Signaling and Cancer Therapy <i>Chairs: Francois Paris (Nantes University); Mona Diab-Assaf; Hussein Fayyad Kazan (Lebanese University)</i>
09:00-09:25	Hassan Khalifeh (<i>Lebanese University, Lebanon</i>) Update on diagnosis and treatment of acute leukemia in pediatric.
09:25-09:50	Bertrand Liagre (<i>Laboratoire de Biochimie et Biologie Moléculaire, EA 1069 LCSN, F-87060, University of Limoges, France</i>) <i>In vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> effects of photodynamic therapy on prostate cancer by using protoporphyrin IX – polyamine derivatives.
09:50-10:15	Emmanuel Scotet (<i>CRCINA INSERM UMR1232 - CNRS ERL6001, Nantes, France</i>) Mechanisms driving in the antigenic activation of Vg9Vd2 T cells against stressed target cells: research and immunotherapeutic applications.
10:15-10:40	Luc Vanhamme (<i>Free University of Brussels, Belgium</i>) Apolipoprotein L3 and Myeloperoxidase interfere with the angiogenic process via regulation of MAPK and Akt pathways.
10:40-11:05	Omar El Bounkari (<i>Institute for Stroke and Dementia Research, Germany</i>) The role of MIF family proteins in the regulation of B cell recruitment in inflammation and atherosclerosis.

11:05-11:20 **Coffee Break**

11:20-13:00	Session V: Molecular Biology and Cell Signaling <i>Chairs: Rita Nabout; Michella Ghassibi; Nader Hussein, Kazem Zibara (Lebanese University)</i>
10:55-11:20	Eva Hamade (<i>Laboratory of cancer biology and cellular immunology, Faculty of Sciences, Lebanese University</i>) Characterization and assessment of potential microRNAs involved in phosphate-induced aortic calcification.
11:20-11:45	Rita Khoueir (<i>Stem Cell Institute, KU Leuven, Belgium</i>) Lineage-specific functions of TET1 in the early embryonic development and cell fate decisions.
11:45-12:10	Haidar Akl (<i>Laboratory of cancer biology and cellular immunology, Faculty of Sciences, Lebanese University</i>)

	A fine tuning of the IP3-induced Ca(2+) signaling is determinant for cell-fate choice in B cell leukemia and lymphoma.
12:10-12:35	Sandra Ghayad (<i>Faculty of Sciences, Lebanese University, Lebanon</i>) Elucidating the functional role of Rhabdomyosarcoma-derived exosomes in tumor cell biology and characterization of their miRNA and protein cargo.

12:35-13:00	Nader Akil (PNO Consultants, Belgium) Overview on funding opportunities for research and innovation under the European Union H2020 program for the coming three years.
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13:00 – 14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:00	Poster Session
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15:00- 16:00	Session VI: Toxicology, Cancer Therapy and Diseases
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Chairs: *Imane Abbas (CNRS-L); Nabil El Zein; Yolla Makhour; Ahmad Daher, Raghida Abou Merhi (Lebanese University)*

15:00-15:20	Ghidaa Badran (<i>Laboratory of Experimental Toxicology, NCSR-L, LAEC, Lebanon</i>) Toxic effects of PM2.5 organic fraction collected in Beirut on human bronchial epithelial cells (BEAS-2B).
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15:20-15:40	Mona Tannoury (<i>Faculty of Sciences, Lebanese University, Lebanon</i>) Study of the Medicinal Activity of the Brown Algae <i>Sargassum vulgare</i> Against Colon Cancer.
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15:40-16:00	Sahar El Kattar (<i>Doctoral School of Sciences and Technology, Lebanese University</i>) Role of Estradiol and probiotics in the crosstalk between CRC, IBD and Diabetes.
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16:00-16:30	Meeting Conclusions
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Organizing committee

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