

Detailed Program IT2018					
Time	Monday 29 th Oct	Tuesday 30 th Oct	Wednesday 31 st Oct	Thursday 1 st Nov	Friday 2 nd Nov
8:00 AM	Registration				
8:45 AM	Opening session: Dr. Kalet León (Cuba)	Session: Deciphering immune-regulatory circuits, which impair the efficacy of current immune-therapies, in tumors microenvironments	Session: Design of novel cancer vaccines and adoptive cell therapies as strategies to increase the number of non-exhausted immune effector cells in tumor	Session: Protein engineering approaches to get better anti-cancer weapons	Session: Translational clinical research to dissect the mechanism of action and of acquired resistance to current immunotherapies of cancer
9:00 AM		Dr. Jerome Galon (France): Immune contexture in the era of cancer immunotherapy	Dr. Jason Lohmueller (USA): Vaccines for prevention of non-viral cancers	Dr. Andrew Bradbury (USA): The impact of Next Generation Sequencing on antibody library generation and selection	Ms. Elaine Scheye (USA): Eradicating “The Emperor of All Maladies,” Cancer
9:30 AM	Session: Decrypting the tumor biology to design more effective treatments	Dr. Kelly Singel (USA): Mature neutrophils suppress T cell immunity in ovarian cancer microenvironment via complement C3 activation	Dr. Aaron Miller (USA): A HLA-agnostic functional neoantigen discovery platform	Dr. Jacob Gianville (USA): Bruteforcing Immune Oncology Discovery with Computational Immuno-Engineering	Dr. Mary Reid (USA): A role for vaccines in cancer prevention
	Dr. Kelvin Lee (USA): CD28-mediated regulation of multiple myeloma cell proliferation and survival				
10:00 AM	Dr. Shivana Lightman (USA): A new role for Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase (IDO): supporting the survival of bone marrow resident long lived plasma cells (LLPC)	MSC. Liliana Oliver (CUBA): VSSP promotes an IRF8-driven bias to monocytic over granulocytic lineage and disrupt the G-CSF mediated induction of PMN-MDSC	Dr. Giuseppina Barutello (Italy): Maternal immunization against ALK hinders tumor progression in neuroblastoma-prone offspring	Prof. Ronald Geyer (Canada): Post-translational antibody engineering	Dr. Yasmin Thanavala (USA): Augmentation of IFN-γ ⁺ CD8 ⁺ T cell responses following therapy correlates with survival of patients with advance hepatocellular carcinoma
10:30 AM	Dr. Adam Utley (USA): CD28 induces metabolic fitness in multiple myeloma for ROS-dependent survival	Dr. Colin Chavel (USA): Protein kinase C driven dendritic cell differentiation	Dr. Federica Riccardo (Italy): Anti-CSPG4 DNA vaccinationfor the treatment of malignant melanoma: a comparative oncology trial for translational medicine	Dr. Deborah Charych (USA): Harnessing potent cytokine agonist pathways by kinetic engineering	Dr. Andrea Alimonti (Switzerland): IL23 secreted by myeloid cells drives castration resistant prostate cancer
11:00 AM	Coffee break				
11:30 AM	Prof. Yosef Yarden (Israel): Oligoclonal combinations ofantibodies overcome resistnace to third-generation EGFR kinase inhibitors	Prof. Paul Neeson (Australia): Increased and co-localized CD4+FOXP3+ and CD8+ T cells is a strong independent prognostic indicator in gastric cancer	Dr. Pravin Kaumaya (USA): HER-2 B cell epitope peptide-based cancer vaccines and combination immunotherapies with EGFR, HER-3, IGF-1R, VEGF and a therapeutic vaccine of PD-1.	Dr. Gertudis Rojas (CUBA): Engineering phage-displayed Interleukin-2 for better developability: directed evolution of highly soluble super-secreted variants	Dr. Mónica Bécquet (CUBA): HEBERaVax: beyond VEGF specific humoral response induction
12:00 PM	Dr. William D. Cress (USA): STK11 pathway disruption alters metabolism and immune surveillance in lung adenocarcinoma	Dr. Tali Feferman (Israel): Oxygen deprivation during T cell priming enhances their cytolysis and improves their anti-tumor function in a mouse melanoma model	Dr. Jason Muhitch (USA): It takes two to tango: targeting Dendritic cell-mediated T cell activation and tumor-intrinsic barriers towards effective management of renal cell carcinoma	Dr. Angelica Medina-Cucurella (USA): Developing novel protein engineering platforms to enable specificity engineering and epitope mapping of therapeutic monoclonal antibodies	Dr. Danay Saavedra (CUBA): Reversing T cell immunosenescence for the improvement of immunotherapeutic potential
12:30 PM	MSC. Gretchen Bergado (Cuba): Impact of HER1 and HER2 downregulation induced by polyclonal antibodies on tumor cells hallmarks: influence of activating mutations	Prof. Andrea Facciabene (USA): Gut microbiota modulates adoptive cell therapy via CD8α dendritic cells and IL-12	Prof. Daniel Speiser (Switzerland): Tumor cell-intrinsic and -extrinsic immune escape mechanisms. Melanocytes and epithelial cells are also “immune cells”	Prof. Michael Birnbaum (USA): An unbiased determination of pMHC repertoires for improved antigen prediction	Dr. Robert Rottapel (Canada): Identification of Relaxin mediated autocrine loop required for high grade ovarian cancer tumor growth and dislpatlin resistance
1:00 PM	Dr. John McCafferty (UK): Affinity maturation of a PD1 blocking antibody using large mammalian display libraries created by gene editing	Lunch (1:00-2-30pm)			
1:30 PM					
2:00 PM					
2:30 PM					
	Welcome Lunch (1:30-3:30pm)	Group photo IT2018	Prof. Michael Milone (USA): Improving cancer immunotherapy through immunoreceptor engineering	Dr. Kyle Barlow (USA): Flex ΔΔG: Incorporating backbone flexibility into computational models of antibody-protein interfaces improves prediction of change in binding free energy upon mutation	Dr. Saar Gill (USA): Chimeric antigen receptor T cell therapy of myeloid malignancies
3:00 PM		Prof. Stephan von Gunter (Switzerland): Tumor surface glycosylation: biological implications and opportunities	Prof. Phil Darcy (Australia): Targeting tumor induced immunosuppression for enhancing CAR T cell therapy	Prof. Itar Benhar (Israel): A modular platform for targeted RNAi therapeutics using biologically-lipidated antibodies	Dr. Renier Brentjens (USA): CARs and Armored CARs
3:30 PM		Dr. Bonnie Hylander (USA): The role of chronic stress and adrenergic signaling in cancer progression	Dr. Josée Golay (Italy): A flexible therapeutic strategy for leukemia using ex-vivo expanded T cells combined with bispecific antibodies	Prof. Stephen Michnick (Canada): Modulation of cell surface antigen expression by modulation of protein phae-separation	Prof. Bruce Levine (USA): Development andtranslation of chimeric antigen receptor T cells: from boutique to global
4:00 PM		Dr. Thomas Rothstein (USA): Immune Suppression Through CD73 Expression and Adenosine Production	MSC. Magela Montalvo (CUBA): To be defined	Dr. Lafita Zekri (Germany): Novel optimized antibody formats for cancer therapy	Coffee break
4:30 PM		Coffee break			
5:00 PM	Visit to CIM (3:30-6:30pm)	Dr. Henning Walczak (UK): TNF- and TRAIL-induced signalling in cell death, inflammation and immunity in cancer	Poster Session (1h30min)	Old Havana tour+Dinner at “La imprenta” Restaurant	Closing session
5:30 PM		Prof. Denis Thieffry (France): Synergy between T cell receptor and Toll-like receptor 5 signaling for CD4+ T cell activation			
6:00 PM		Poster Session (1h)	Cultural activity [Classical Ballet] at “The National Theater”		Farewell party at “Cabaret Turquino” (7:00-9:30pm)
6:30 PM					