



# AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

(Associazione riconosciuta con D.M. del 7.5.1998, G.U. del 20.6.1998)

## 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Italian Association for the Study of the Liver (A.I.S.F.) (Aula Magna, Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza") Roma, February 18-21, 2009

### 11<sup>th</sup> A.I.S.F. Pre-Meeting Course

#### "GENETIC IN THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC LIVER INJURY"

Course Directors: U. Cillo, Padova and G. Svegliati Baroni, Ancona

### Wednesday, February 18

09.30-10.20	<b>Registration and entry questionnaire</b>	<u>14.15÷15.00</u>	<b>Gene signatures of primary liver cancer: diagnosis, prognosis and therapeutic implications</b>
10.20-10.30	<b>Course presentation</b> U. Cillo, G. Svegliati Baroni		Chairpersons: M. Colombo, Milan M. Levrero, Rome
<u>10.30÷11.35</u>	<b>Clinical work-up in the suspicion upon:</b> Chairpersons: A. Mangia, S. Giovanni Rotondo M. Persico, Naples	14.15-14.35	Hepatocellular carcinoma J. Zucman-Rossi, Paris (France)
10.30-10.50	Wilson disease L. Demelia, Cagliari	14.35-14.50	Cholangiocarcinoma D. Alvaro, Rome
10.50-11.10	Haemochromatosis A. Pietrangelo, Modena	14.50-15.00	Discussion
11.10-11.30	Genetic cholestatic diseases M. Strazzabosco, Milan	<u>15.00÷16.15</u>	<b>Genetic predisposition to liver injury in the case of:</b> Chairpersons: S. Bellentani, Modena G. Missale, Parma
11.30-11.35	Discussion	15.00-15.15	ASH and drug-induced liver injury L. Miele, Rome
11.35-12.00	<b>Lecture</b> Introduced by: M.U. Mondelli, Pavia From Genomics to proteomics: an overview for the clinician V. Barnaba, Rome	15.15-15.30	NASH L. Valenti, Milan
<u>12.00÷13.15</u>	<b>Clinical work-up in the suspicion upon:</b> Chairpersons: F.B. Bianchi, Bologna D. Conte, Milan	15.30-15.45	Cholestatic diseases M. Marzioni, Ancona
12.00-12.15	Liver storage diseases V. Nobili, Rome	15.45-16.00	Hepatic fibrosis M. Pinzani, Florence
12.15-12.30	Cystic fibrosis C. Colombo, Milan	16.00-16.15	Discussion
12.30-12.45	Porphyrias M.D. Cappellini, Milan	16.15-16.45	Coffee break
12.45-13.00	Autoimmune liver disease M. Lenzi, Bologna	<u>16.45÷18.00</u>	<b>Therapeutic challenges</b> Chairpersons: C. Ferrari, Parma A.D. Pinna, Bologna
13.00-13.15	Discussion	16.45-17.05	HLA and liver transplantation G. Ballardini, Rimini
13.15-14.15	Lunch	17.05-17.25	Liver transplantation for inherited metabolic disorders of the liver: timing and clinical outcome M. Colledan, Bergamo
		17.25-17.45	Liver gene therapy in 2009 J. Prieto, Pamplona (Spain)
		17.45-18.00	Discussion and Conclusions
		18.00-18.15	<b>General Assembly I</b>



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**42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
Italian Association for the Study of the Liver (A.I.S.F.)  
Roma, February 19-20, 2009**

**Thursday, February 19**

**08.30÷10.00 Oral Communications**

*Chairpersons:* P. Pontisso, *Padua*  
A.L. Zignego, *Florence*

**NAFLD prevalence and cardiovascular risk in a population of adolescents in Southern Italy**

C.A. Caserta, G.M. Pendino, P. Surace, M.T. Fiorillo, S. Alicante, C. Vacalebri, F. Amato, A. Amante, M. Marra, G. Gutamo, A. Messineo, M. Surace, I. Polito, R. Cotichini, L. Ferrigno, F. Rosmini, A. Mele, F. Marcucci, *Reggio Calabria, Roma*

**High-fat diet and the risk for non-alcoholic fatty liver disease: a population based-study**

S. Lobello, A. Floreani, A. Bressan, I. Petridis, E. Rosa Rizzotto, O. Di Andrea, R. Testa, M. Marra, L. Salmaso, M. Chiaramonte & Arsita-two Research Group, *Padua, L'Aquila, Teramo, Ancona, Negrar (VR)*

**Rapamycin inhibits cyst growth, IGF-1-mediated VEGF secretion and cell proliferation in polycystin-2 defective mice**

C. Spirli, S. Okolicsanyi, R. Fiorotto, L. Fabris, M. Cadamuro, S. Lecchi, X. Tian, S. Somlo, M. Strazzabosco, *Milan, Bergamo, Padua, Yale (USA)*

**FOXO1 genotype influences the susceptibility to and severity of NAFLD by modulating FOXO1 expression**

L. Valenti, P. Dongiovanni, R. Rametta, A.L. Fracanzani, S. Fargion, *Milan*

**<sup>51</sup>Cr-EDTA permeability test in ascitic cirrhotic patients with and without history of spontaneous bacterial peritonitis**

E. Scarpellini, G. Merra, A. Dal Lago, L. Zileri Dal Verme, C. Lauritano, C. Petruzzellis, R. Finizio, M. Santoro, M. Garcovich, A. Lupascu, G. Gasbarrini, G. Ghirlanda, V. Valenza, A. Gasbarrini, *Rome*

**STAT4 genetic polymorphisms influence susceptibility to primary biliary cirrhosis**

C. Selmi, A. Lleo, P. Invernizzi, I. Bianchi, F. Bernuzzi, P. Zermiani, M. Zuin, M. Podda, *Rozzano (MI), Davis (USA), Milan*

**Phenotype variability in HFE-Hemochromatosis: analysis of polymorphisms of genes regulating hepcidin transcription**

M. Pozzi, R. Mariani, S. Pelucchi, V. Paolini, S. Coletti, P. Trombini, F. Bertola, A. Piperno, *Monza (MI)*

**10.00-10.30 Break and Posters view**

*Tutors:* A. Ciancio, *Turin*  
C. Selmi, *Milan*

**10.30-11.30 General Assembly II**

**11.30÷13.00 Oral Communications**

*Chairpersons:* F. Bonino, *Milan*  
N. Caporaso, *Naples*

**Liver fibrosis is induced by insulin resistance by enhancing the ductular reaction that undergo epithelial-mesenchymal transition in chronic hepatitis C**

G. Faraci, S. Saccomanno, G. Svegliati-Baroni, L. Fabris, M. Cadamuro, M. Strazzabosco, E. Bugianesi, A. Benedetti, G. Marchesini, *Ancona, Padua, Bergamo, Yale (USA), Turin, Bologna*

**Hepatitis B virus induces Interleukin-8 production which in turn inhibits interferon Alfa antiviral activity in hepatoma cell lines**

T. Pollicino, L. Bellinghieri, G. Raffa, A. Restuccia, D. Teti, G. Raimondo, *Messina*



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**High risk of renal impairment during long-term adefovir and lamivudine combination therapy in patients with lamivudine-resistant chronic hepatitis B**

M. Viganò, P. Lampertico, M. Iavarone, G.E. Tontini, F. Facchetti, M. Colombo, Milan

**Effectiveness of Entecavir for the treatment of Nuc-naïve chronic hepatitis B patients: a large multicenter cohort study in clinical practice**

P. Lampertico, M. Viganò, F. Facchetti, E. Minola, F. Suter, M. Puoti, M. Brunetto, B. Coco, S. Fargion, E. Fatta, P. Del Poggio, M. Pozzi, M. Milanese, G. Colloredo, S. Faggioli, L. Pasulo, M. Iavarone, M. Colombo, Milan, Brescia, Bergamo, Pisa, Treviglio (BG), Monza (MI), Seriate (BG)

**PEG-IFN for hepatitis C in clinical practice**

F. Rosina, M.E. Tosti, E. Borghesio, A. Mele, G. Minoli, A. Gasbarrini, F. Pallone, G. Carosi, F. Mazzotta, M. Rizzetto (Study Coordinator) and the AIFA Study Group, Gradenigo (TO), Rome, Turin, Como, Brescia, Florence

**Antiviral treatment of hepatitis C in Italian Children**

R. Giacchino, F. Bortolotti, G. Indolfi, G. Verucchi, L. Zancan, C. Cammà, L. D'Antiga, M.G. Marazzi, C. Barbera, M. Resti, M. Guido, Genoa, Palermo, Padua

**Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection in elderly patients: a multicenter italian cross-sectional study**

F. Conti, M.L. Morieri, A. Gramenzi, C. Cammà, A. Grieco, A. Picciotto, G. Taliani, D. Romano, P. Costa, M. Rendina, F. Ancarani, M. Chiaramonte, G. Verucchi, A. Craxì, M. Bernardi, P. Andreone and the AISF HepaElder Study Group, Bologna, Palermo, Roma, Genova, Mantova, Ancona, L'Aquila

13.00-14.00 *Lunch and Posters view*  
*Tutors:* L. Fabris, Padua  
G. Squadrito, Messina

14.00-15.20 **AISF-SITO-CNT Symposium: Open issues in liver transplantation**

*Chairpersons:* P. Burra, Padua  
U. Cillo, Padua  
A. Nanni Costa, Rome

14.00-14.15 Is still the brain death concept an open issue?  
P.P. Donadio, Turin

14.15-14.30 Tolerance in liver transplant  
G. Tisone, Rome

14.30-15.00 Interaction between community hepatologists and transplant centers  
A. Colli, Lecco vs M. Strazzabosco, Milan

15.00-15.20 Discussion

15.20-15.45 **State-of-the-Art Lecture**  
*Introduced by:* M. Rizzetto, Turin  
**Acute and acute-on-chronic liver failure**  
A. Ottobrelli, Turin

15.45-16.15 **2007 A.I.S.F. Fellowships Report**  
*Introduced by:* M.R. Brunetto, Pisa

15.45-16.00 Surveillance and prevention of hepatitis B virus reactivation in anti-HBcAg positive patients undergoing anticancer therapy for haematological malignance  
M. Basso, Rome

16.00-16.15 Identification and characterization of cancer stem cells in cell lines and primary hepatocellular carcinomas  
F. Colombo, Lecco

16.15-16.45 *Break and poster view*  
*Tutors:* A. Ciancio, Turin  
C. Selmi, Milan

16.45-17.00 **Report of A.I.S.F. Expert Opinion Meeting on Chronic Hepatitis C**  
A. Craxì, Palermo  
*Chairpersons:* A. Gasbarrini, Rome  
D. Prati, Lecco

17.00-18.30 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons:* A. Ascione, Naples  
L. Bolondi, Bologna

**Quality of deceased liver donors in Italy and their allocation in relation to recipient disease severity**  
M. Angelico, T. Marianelli and A. Ricci on behalf of Liver Match investigators



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**Weaning of HBV prophylaxis after liver transplantation: preliminary results in patients with undetectable cccDNA in liver tissue**

I. Lenci, G. Tisone, D. Di Paolo, F. Marcuccilli, L. Tariciotti, M. Ciotti, T. Guenci, C.F. Perno, M. Angelico, Rome

**Biological and molecular characterization of tumor-initiating cells in colon cancer and liver metastasis**

M.A. Puglisi, N. Saulnier, M. Barba, A. Sgambato, F. Rafanelli, A. Boninsegna, F. Barbaro, M.C. Campanale, E. Rinninella, E. Giorda, R. Carsetti, F. Giuliante, G. Nuzzo, R. Persiani, S. Alfieri, A. Cittadini, A.C. Piscaglia, A. Gasbarrini, Rome

**Machine perfusion at 20°C reduces preservation damage of livers from non-heart beating donors: a new chance for expanding the donor pool?**

A. Ferrigno, V. Rizzo, E. Boncompagni, P. Richelmi, E. Gringeri, D. Neri, I. Freitas, U. Cillo, M. Vairetti, Pavia, Padua

**HCC persistence or recurrence after bridging therapy helps predict transplant list dropout and generate a more equitable exception policy**

M. De Giorgio, S. Vezzoli, E. Cohen, E. Armellini, M.G. Lucà, G. Verga, D. Pinelli, R. Nani, M.G. Valsecchi, L. Antolini, M. Colledan, S. Fagioli, M. Strazzabosco, Bergamo, Milan, Yale (USA)

**Genotype 2 and 3 recurrent hepatitis C after liver transplantation: excellent results with suboptimal doses of antiviral therapy**

R. Viganò, F.R. Ponziani, L. Belli, M. Vangeli, G. Pinzello, A. Gasbarrini, L. Pasulo, E. De Martin, P. Burra, S. Boninsegna, M. Pompili, M. Colledan, U. Cillo, S. Fagioli, Bergamo, Rome, Milan, Padua

**Natremia and Child-Turcotte-Pugh (CTP) score may improve the selection of candidates for liver transplantation (LT) with low model for end-stage liver disease score (MELD)**

S. Gitto, M. Biselli, A. Gramenzi, G. Vitale, S. Lorenzini, R. Di Donato, L. Brodosi, M.C. Morelli, G.L. Grazi, A.D. Pinna, M. Bernardi, P. Andreone and Bologna Liver Transplantation Group (BLTG), Bologna

## Friday, February 20

08.30-10.00 **Oral Communications**

*Chairpersons:* A. Benedetti, Ancona  
T. Pollicino, Messina

**Factors related to liver stiffness values among healthy individuals: results from a prospective study**

A. Berzuini, A. Colli, A. Gerosa, L. Raffaele, I. Guarnori, B. Foglieni, M. Spreafico, P. Duca, F. Bonino, D. Prati, Lecco, Milan

**Relative adrenal insufficiency in cirrhosis: relevance in patients with ascites and treatment with hydrocortisone in refractory ascites**

C. Alessandria, L. Mezzabotta, M. Carello, W. Debernardi-Venon, S. Martini, M. Rizzetto, A. Marzano, Turin

**SERPINB3 and TGF-β1 in chronic liver disease**

C. Turato, F. Calabrese, A. Biasiolo, S. Quarta, M.G. Ruvoletto, N. Tono, L. Franzosi, D. Paccagnella, G. Fassina, A. Gatta, P. Pontisso, Padua, Marghera (VE)

**Endocannabinoids and endocannabinoid-related molecules in patients with liver cirrhosis**

P. Caraceni, M. Domenicali, A. Viola, F. Piscitelli, S. Petrosino, F. Giannone, A. Berzigotti, M. Cescon, G.L. Grazi, R. Golfieri, M. Zoli, V. Di Marzo, M. Bernardi, Bologna, Pozzuoli (NA)



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**In portal hypertensive cirrhotic patients abdominal porto-systemic collaterals at ultrasound identify a group of patients at high risk of death**

C. Tiani, V. Rossi, A. Berzigotti, L. Pierpaoli, P. Zappoli, D. Magalotti, A. Riili, A. Di Micoli, P. Andreone, R. Golfieri, M. Bernardi, M. Zoli, Bologna

**Preliminary results of a screening program for the identification of cirrhotic patients in two northern Italian areas with a high incidence of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)**

P. Del Poggio, R. Bottelli, M. Mazzoleni, M. Viganò, S. Colombo, D. Sala, T. Stroffolini, Treviglio (BG), Varese, Italian Society of General Practitioners, Rome

**The hepatitis C virus infection in the Italian general practice setting: a cross-sectional survey from the health search-thales database**

A. Rossi, E. Ubaldi, G. Mazzaglia, Italian College of General Practitioner (SIMG)

10.00-10.30 *Break and Poster view*  
*Tutors:* L. Fabris, Padua  
G. Squadrito, Messina

10.30-11.00 **State-of-the-Art Lecture**  
*Introduced by:* D. Prati, Lecco  
**How to read clinical trials**  
S. Garattini, Milan

11.00-11.30 **General Assembly III:  
Final Report of A.I.S.F. Scientific  
Commissions and Study Groups**  
*Chairpersons:* A.I.S.F. Coordinating  
Committee

11.30-11.45 **Presentation of the A.I.S.F. prize for the best Italian paper in 2007**

*Chairpersons:* C. Cammà, Palermo  
P. Lampertico, Milan

**Effectiveness and safety of baclofen for maintenance of alcohol abstinence in alcohol-dependent patients with liver cirrhosis: randomised, double-blind controlled study**

*Addolorato G, Leggio L, Ferrulli A, Cardone S, Vonghia L, Mirijello A, Abenavoli L, D'Angelo C, Caputo F, Zambon A, Haber PS, Gasbarrini G*  
*Lancet 2007;370:1915-22*

*Presenters:* F. Marra, Florence  
M. Salvagnini, Vicenza

11.45-12.15 **State-of-the-Art Lecture**  
*Introduced by:* G. Svegliati-Baroni, Ancona

**Nuclear receptors: their role in the pathphysiology and treatment of chronic liver disease**  
M. Trauner, Graz (Austria)

12.15-12.35 **Occult HBV Infection: beyond the Taormina's Statements**  
G. Raimondo, Messina  
*Introduced by:* M. Colombo, Milan

12.35-13.35 *Lunch and Poster view*  
*Tutors:* L. Fabris, Padua  
G. Squadrito, Messina

13.35-14.50 **General Assembly IV**

14.50-15.35 **State-of-the-art Lecture**  
*Introduced by:* G. Gasbarrini, Rome  
**Refractory ascites: diagnosis and management**  
M. Bernardi, Bologna

15.35-15.50 **Presentation of the A.I.S.F. distinguished service award to Prof. Remo Naccarato**  
*Introduced by:* D. Prati, Lecco  
*Presenters:* P. Burra, Padua  
S. Fagioli, Bergamo



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## 15.50-17.20 Oral Communications

Chairpersons: A. Gatta, *Padua*  
T. Santantonio, *Bari*

### **Notch signaling pathway regulates p57kip2 expression in human hepatocellular carcinoma**

M. Minguzzi, C. Giovannini, F. Fornari,  
L. Gramantieri, P. Chieco, L. Bolondi,  
*Bologna*

### **Nuclear expression of S100A4, an early marker of epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT), predicts a more aggressive behaviour in cholangiocarcinoma**

M. Cadamuro, L. Fabris, L. Moserle,  
S. Vezzoli, C. Spirli, R. Fiorotto,  
L. Locatelli, A. Gazzola, A. Furlanetto,  
A. Sonzogni, M. Colledan, S. Fagioli,  
S. Indraccolo, L. Okolicsanyi, M.  
Strazzabosco, *Bergamo, Padua, Yale  
(USA), Treviso, Milan*

### **Survival of unresectable hepatocellular carcinoma: a meta-analysis of the control arms of 28 randomized trials**

G. Cabibbo, M. Enea, F. Latteri,  
A. Craxi, C. Cammà, *Palermo*

### **Serum heat shock protein 27 is a new circulating biomarker for hepatocellular carcinoma**

L. Cosso, P. Carucci, G. Gruden,  
V. Lolli, E. Rolle, S. Pinach, M.L. Abate,  
F. Brunello, G. Bruno, M. Rizzetto,  
P. Cavallo Perin, *Turin*

### **Tumor grading of hepatocellular carcinoma by preoperative needle biopsy: is it useful for choosing the best therapeutic strategy?**

A. Colecchia, E. Scaioli, A. Vestito,  
G.L. Grazi, D. Festi, *Bologna*

### **De novo expression of Pancreatic Duodenal Homeobox gene-1 (PDX-1) protein in reactive cholangiocytes drives their phenotypical changes in response to injury**

M. Marzioni, S. Saccomanno,  
C. Candelaesi, C. Rychlicki,  
L. Agostinelli, K. Shanmukhappa,  
L. Trozzi, S. De Minicis, A. Benedetti,  
*Ancona, Cincinnati (USA)*

### **The candidate HCV E1E2MF59 vaccine enhances 2nd phase viral decline in responders to PEG-IFN/Ribavirin**

P. Colombatto, M.R. Brunetto,  
A.M. Maina, V. Romagnoli, A. Craxi,  
P. Almasio, S. Madonia, M.G. Rumi,  
M. Colombo, S. Fargion, A. Ascione,  
G. Pinzello, M. Mondelli, A. Muzzi,  
F. Bianchi, V. Barnaba, M. Sarracino,  
R. Rappuoli, D. Rosa, S. Montigiani,  
S. Abrignani, M. Houghton, F. Bonino,  
Pisa, Italian HCV Vaccine Therapy  
Group, *Milan, Siena, San Francisco  
(USA)*

## 17.20-17.35 Young Investigators Awards

Presenters for the 2 best oral communications

Basic: C. Balsano, *L'Aquila*  
Clinical: S. Bruno, *Milano*

Presenters for the 2 best posters

Basic: L. Fabris, *Padua*  
G. Squadrito, *Messina*  
Clinical: A. Ciancio, *Turin*  
C. Selmi *Milano*



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## POSTER SESSION:

**1. Demonstration of dysfunction in neutrophil phagocytosis in stable cirrhosis using a novel in vivo model of inflammation**

G. Tritto, Z. Bechlis, N.A. Davies, V. Stadlbauer, N. Shah, R.P. Mookerjee, R. Jalan, *London, Naples*

**2. Development of a nomogram based on clinical factors for prediction of significant fibrosis in chronic hepatitis C patients**

E. Sagrini, G. Marano, A. Orlandini, G. Sebastiani, G. Donati, A. Cucchetti, G. Pelosi, A. Gianstefani, C. Ferrari, A. Alberti, L. Bolondi, E. Biganzoli, F. Piscaglia, *Bologna, Milan, Parma, Padua, Rimini*

**3. Real-Time PCR quantification of serum and intracellular HBV DNA and HDV RNA in different subsets of chronic HBV infected individuals**

T. Pollicino, G. Raffa, G. Iannello, T. Santantonio, G.B. Gaeta, G. Squadrito, G. Colucci, C. Calvi, I. Cacciola, M. Levrero, G. Raimondo, *Messina, Bari, Naples, Monza, Roma*

**4. Variability of HBV reverse-transcriptase and overlapping S gene in viral isolates from untreated and lamivudine-resistant chronic hepatitis B patients**

T. Pollicino, G. Isgrò, R. Di Stefano, D. Ferraro, S. Maimone, S. Brancatelli, G. Squadrito, V. Di Marco, A. Craxi, G. Raimondo, *Messina, Palermo*

**5. Machine perfusion of fatty livers at 20° reduces sinusoidal cell and hepatocyte apoptosis respect to conventional cold storage**

E. Boncompagni, E. Gini, A. Ferrigno, G. Milanese, S. Barni, U. Cillo, D. Neri, M. Vairetti, I. Freitas, *Pavia, Padua*

**6. Safety and efficacy of anticoagulation therapy with low molecular weight heparin for portal vein thrombosis in patients with liver cirrhosis**

L. Amitrano, M.A. Guardascione, A. Menchise, R. Martino, M. Scaglione, S. Giovine, L. Romano, A. Balzano, *Naples*

**7. HCV and ethanol partners in impairing mitosis in HCC cells by different intracellular pathways**

A. Alisi, M. Ghidinelli, P. Lombardi, G. Missale, C. Balsano, *Rome, L'Aquila, Parma*

**8. Prediction of iron overload with a new mass spectrometry method for detection of hepcidin in plasma**

E. Rosa Rizzotto, F. Navaglia, D. Basso, M. Chiamonte, I. Petridis, R. Testa, M. Marra, M. Plebani, A. Floreani and Arsita Two Research Group, *Padua, L' Aquila, Ancona*

**9. Mechanisms underlying hepatic iron accumulation in a dietary experimental model of NAFLD**

P. Dongiovanni, S. Gatti, R. Rametta, A.L. Fracanzani, S. Fargion, L. Valenti, *Milan*

**10. Portal Hypotensive Action of Type-I Calcimimetic Compounds in Rats with CCl4-induced Ascitic Liver Cirrhosis**

G. Sansoè, M. Aragno, C. Tomasini, L. Valfrè di Bonzo, F. Rosina, A. Smedile, F. Wong, M. Rizzetto, M. Parola, *Turin, Toronto (Canada)*

**11. Peripheral and splanchnic indole and oxindole levels in cirrhotic patients: a study on the pathophysiology of hepatic encephalopathy**

L. Ridola, G. Mannaioni, S. Angeloni, M. Merli, V. Carlà, F.M. Salvatori, F. Moroni, O. Riggio, *Rome, Florence*

**12. One month post-operative serum insulin predicts serum aminotransferase elevation and fibrosis progression due to HCV recurrence after liver transplantation**

S. Ginanni Corradini, A. Molinaro, A. Eramo, M. Siciliano, M.A. Burza, A. De Santis, M. Merli, F. Gentili, G. Ferretti, A. Onetti Muda, D. Lilli, G.L. Mennini, P. Berloco, A.F. Attili, M. Rossi, *Rome*

**13. Increased liver expression of inflammatory mediators is associated with hepatic insulin resistance in lean, non-diabetic CHC patients**

E. Vanni, M. L. Abate, E. Gentilcore, C. Elia, R. Gambino, M. Cassader, A. Smedile, M. Rizzetto, G. Marchesini, A. Gastaldelli, E. Bugianesi, *Turin, Bologna, Pisa*

**14. UDCA up-regulates human placental BCRP expression: preliminary results**

F. Azzaroli, M.E. Raspanti, F. Alessandrelli, V. Feletti, F. Buonfiglioli, P. Cecinato, M. Montagnani, E. Roda, G. Mazzella, *Bologna*

**15. Fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) in the diagnosis of malignant pancreatobiliary tract strictures in patients with extrahepatic jaundice**

M. Sartori, M. Orsello, F. Montino, M. Ballarè, M. Balzarini, E. Garelo, R. Boldorini, A. Paganotti, S. Andorno, M. Del Piano, *Novara*

**16. The systemic inflammatory response syndrome (SIRS) in cirrhotic patients: relationship with the in-hospital outcome**

M. Cazzaniga, E. Dionigi, A. Fioretti, V. Monti, G. Gobbo, F. Salerno, *Milan*



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**17. Interleukin-6, gender and risk of hepatocellular carcinoma in patients with end-stage liver disease**

D.J. Pinato, C. Fabris, E. Falletti, P. Toniutto, D. Bitetto, E. Fornasiere, E. Fumolo, W. Bragagnini, S. Fangazio, R. Minisini, M. Pirisi, *Novara, Udine*

**18. Effect of  $\beta 3$ -adrenoceptor agonist SR58611A on portal pressure of rats with compensated cirrhosis**

F. Giannone, M. Domenicali, P. Caraceni, V. Vasina, R. La Torre, M. Baldassarre, A. Berzigotti, M. Zoli, F. De Ponti, M. Bernardi, *Bologna*

**19. Donor/recipient body surface area ratio as a novel predictor of graft survival after deceased donor liver transplantation**

S. Ginanni Corradini, M. Siciliano, A. Molinaro, M.A. Burza, C. Pirazzi, F. Ferri, M. Giusto, F. Pugliese, L. Poli, M. Merli, A.F. Attili, P.B. Berloco, M. Rossi, *Rome*

**20. Factors modulating early expression of interferon-inducible genes in liver allografts**

P. Giarda, R. Minisini, P. Toniutto, G. Grossi, G. Occhino, E. Falletti, C. Fabris, M. Pirisi, *Udine*

**21. Transient elastography predicts response to prolonged therapy with a nucleoside analog in patients with chronic hepatitis B**

M. Viganò, S. Massironi, P. Lampertico, M. Fraquelli, S. Della Valle, P. Del Poggio, D. Conte, M. Colombo, *Milan, Treviglio (BG)*

**22. Truncated forms of HCV core protein localize in distinct subcellular compartments**

M. Burlone, R. Minisini, A. Cerutti, E. Alaimo, P. Maillard, A. Budkowska, M. Pirisi, *Novara, Paris (France)*

**23. Long-term treatment with  $\alpha$ -IFN in hepatitis C recurrence after OLT**

F. Buonfiglioli, M.R. Tamè, F. Lodato, A. Colecchia, P. Cecinato, F. Azzaroli, V. Feletti, M. Vivarelli, M. Del Gaudio, F. Piscaglia, E. Roda, A.D. Pinna, G. Mazzella, *Bologna*

**24. Modelling infected cell dynamics by week 4 HCV RNA and alt kinetics to compute treatment duration**

V. Romagnoli, P. Colombatto, P. Ciccorossi, A.M. Maina, F. Oliveri, B. Coco, B. Cherubini, F. Bonino, M.R. Brunetto, *Pisa, Milan*

**25. Hypoxia up-regulates SERPINB3 in HEPG2 cells: a redox sensitive event related to epithelial to mesenchymal transition and invasiveness**

S. Cannito, C. Turato, S. Quarta, S. Colombatto, A. Biasiolo, P. Pontisso, M. Parola, *Turin, Padua*

**26. Effect of prevalence of liver fibrosis stages in the performance of non-invasive fibrosis biomarkers in chronic liver diseases (CLDs): results of an independent, international study**

G. Sebastiani, P. Halfon, L. Castera, S. Pol, D.L. Thomas, A. Mangia, V. Di Marco, M. Pirisi, M. Voiculescu, M. Bourliere, A. Alberti, *Padua, Marseille, Bordeaux, Paris (France), Baltimore (USA), San Giovanni Rotondo (FFG), Palermo, Novara, Bucharest (Romania)*

**27. Gene expression profiling of two cell lines established from an oval-cell derived hepatic tumor: toward the discovery of a functional signature underlying liver cancer progression**

A.C. Piscaglia, N. Saulnier, V. Tesori, M. Barba, M. Campanale, F. Purchiaroni, G. Ianiro, T. Galeotti, G. Pani, A. Gasbarrini, *Rome*

**28. HCV infected patients are "spared" from the metabolic syndrome but not from insulin resistance**

S. Ballestri, E. Violi, A. Lonardo, L.E. Adinolfi, L. Carulli, S. Lombardini, F. Scaglioni, M. Ricchi, G. Ruggiero, P. Loria, *Modena-Reggio Emilia, Naples*

**29. One year follow-up after an extended anti-HBV vaccination with an MPL-adjuvanted vaccine combined with HBIg in patients liver transplanted for HBV-related cirrhosis**

D. Di Paolo, I. Lenci, G. Tisone, M. Berlanda, C. Cerocchi, M. Angelico, *Rome*

**30. Outcome of chronic hepatitis Delta in Italy: a long term cohort study**

G.A. Niro, A. Smedile, A. Ippolito, A. Ciancio, R. Fontana, A. Olivero, D. Gioffreda, M.L. Abate, R. Valvano, A. Andriulli, M. Rizzetto, S. Giovanni Rotondo (FG), *Turin*

**31. Serum/Erythrocyte Ribavirin x 100 ratio as an indicator of SVR in HCV genotype-1 patients obtaining EVR**

L. Baiocchi, F. De Leonardis, M. Delle Monache, L. Nosotti, L.R. Conti, I. Lenci, M. Carbone, A. Salso, M. Angelico, *Rome*

**32. Should HBsAg-positive grafts considered marginal for orthotopic liver transplantation?**

L. Micco, E. Loggi, S. Gitto, S. Lorenzini, M. Biselli, C. Sanrocco, G. Ercolani, G.L. Grazi, M. Bernardi, A.D. Pinna, P. Andreone and the Bologna Liver Transplantation Group (BLTG), *Bologna*



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**33. The mitochondrial autoantigen of PBC localizes within apoptotic bodies of human biliary cells**

A. Lleo, C. Selmi, P. Invernizzi, R.L. Coppel, I.R. Mackay, G.J. Gores, A.A. Ansari, J. Van de Water, M.E. Gershwin, M. Podda, *Rozzano (MI), Davis (USA), Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Atlanta (USA)*

**34. Hepatic steatosis and bacterial translocation modulates progression of hepatic fibrosis during chronic liver injury**

S. De Minicis, C. Rychlicki, L. Trozzi, S. Saccomanno, C. Candelaresi, L. Agostinelli, F. Orlando, M. Marzioni, A. Benedetti, G. Svegliati-Baroni, *Ancona*

**35. Polycystin-1 and -2 play a key role in the modulation of cholangiocyte proliferation**

A. Torrice, V. Cardinali, M. Gatto, M.C. Bragazzi, M.G. Mancino, R. Semeraro, G. Alpini, D. Alvaro, *Rome, Temple (USA), Latina*

**36. Semaphorin 7a is expressed in hepatic stellate cells and enhances hepatic fibrosis in a TGF $\beta$ -mediated mechanism**

S. De Minicis, C. Rychlicki, S. Saccomanno, L. Trozzi, C. Candelaresi, L. Agostinelli, F. Orlando, M. Marzioni, A. Benedetti, G. Svegliati-Baroni, *Ancona*

**37. Fibrospleen: measuring spleen stiffness by transient elastography increases accuracy of staging of liver fibrosis and of portal hypertension in chronic viral hepatitis**

V. Di Marco, F. Bronte, V. Calvaruso, C. Cammà, D. Cabibi, G. Licata, F. Simone, A. Craxì, *Palermo*

**38. Characterization of stem cell compartments in adult human liver**

A. Cattaneo, L. Porretti, F. Colombo, R. Lopa, S. Mazzucchelli, G. Rossi, V. Mazzaferro, G. Svegliati-Baroni, F. Bertolini, D. Prati, *Milan, Lecco, Ancona*

**39. Liver stiffness values measured by transient elastography are increased in patients with acutely decompensated heart failure**

P. Pozzoni, D. Prati, A. Berzuini, A. Gerosa, C. Canovi, E. Molteni, M. Barbarini, F. Bonino, A. Colli, *Lecco, Milan*

**40. Tenofovir Disoproxil Fumarate in pregnancy: findings from the antiretroviral pregnancy registry**

M. Puoti, R.S. Brown Jr, D. Goodwin, S. Zhang, E. Fagan, *Brescia, New York (USA), Foster City (USA)*

**41. Retrospective, observational, multicentre study on the Italian population affected by chronic hepatitis C who failed to clear HCV-RNA after the combination therapy (PEG-IFN and Ribavirin): NADIR study**

F. Morisco, T. Stroffolini, E. Medda, D.C. Amoroso, P. Almasio, E. Villa, M. Zuin, B. Paris, M. Stanzone, N. Caporaso and the NADIR Study Group, *Naples, Roma, Palermo, Modena, Milan, Esine (BS)*

**42. HCV genotypes regulate the occurrence of Rapid Virological Response (RVR) during antiviral therapy**

F.S. Moschella, M.F. Svelto, E. Persico, D. Di Luise, V. La Mura, G. Serafino, N. Coppola, G. Brancaccio, G. Gaeta, R. Torella, M. Persico, *Naples*

**43. Safety and efficacy of Peginterferon-Ribavirin treatment in hepatitis c patients with heart disease**

E. Durante-Mangoni, D. Iossa, D. Pinto, R. Utili, *Naples*

**44. The survival benefit of liver transplantation in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma**

A. Vitale, F. D'Amico, A.C. Frigo, F. Grigoletto, F. Farinati, P. Burra, U. Cillo, *Padua*

**45. Factors predicting mortality after tips for refractory ascites: a single center experience**

M. Baldini, R. Golfieri, F. Azzaroli, F. Lodato, E. Giampalma, A. Berzigotti, A. Cappelli, F. Buonfiglioli, M. Renzulli, C. Mosconi, F. Alessandrelli, G. Mazzella, *Bologna*

**46. Males with primary biliary cirrhosis manifest enhanced rates of Y chromosome loss compared to healthy subjects**

S. Pasini, M. Miozzo, I. Bianchi, V. Monti, E. Rosa Rizzotto, A. Floreani, M. Colombo, C. Selmi, M. Podda, E.M. Gershwin, P. Invernizzi, *Rozzano (MI), Milan, Padua, Davis (USA)*

**47. Influence of portal vein thrombosis (PVT) on the efficacy of variceal band ligation**

A. Dell'Era, F. Iannuzzi, F. Fabris, R. Reati, P. Fontana, M. Primignani, R. de Franchis, *Milan*

**48. The role of chronic alcohol abuse, HCV infection and liver dysfunction in patients with liver cirrhosis: a neuropsychological and quantified EEG study**

F. Campagna, S. Schiff, M. Ruzzoli, A. Biancardi, D. Mapelli, P. Pujatti, P. Angeli, A. Gatta, P. Amodio, *Padua*

**49. Time-course of insulin resistance during antiviral therapy in nondiabetic noncirrhotic patients with Genotype 1 HCV infection**

S. Petta, C. Cammà, V. Di Marco, D. Cabibi, S. Ciminnisi, R. Caldarella, A. Licata, M.F. Massenti, G. Marchesini, A. Craxì, *Palermo, Bologna*



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## 2<sup>nd</sup> A.I.S.F. Post-Graduate Course

**“INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES IN THE HEPATOLOGY UNIT”**  
(Auditorium – Centro Congressi Frentani – Via dei Frentani, 4)

Course Director: F. Piscaglia, Bologna

### Saturday, February 21

- |                    |  |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| 08.25-08.30        | Course introduction<br>F. Piscaglia, Bologna   |                    |  |
| <b>08.30÷10.50</b> | <b>DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES</b><br>Chairpersons: A. Grieco, Rome<br>M. Koch, Rome                     | <b>11.25÷13.10</b> | <b>THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS FOR<br/>PRIMARY LIVER MASSES</b><br>Chairpersons: I. de Sio, Naples<br>G.L. Rapaccini, Rome     |
| 08.30-08.50        | Indications to diagnostic paracentesis<br>and therapeutic taps<br>G. D'Amico, Palermo              | 11.25-11.50        | Choice of the sampling system<br>(cytology/histology) and pathology<br>reporting modalities<br>A. D'Errico-Grigioni, Bologna |
| 08.50-09.10        | Paracentesis e thoracentesis:<br>procedure<br>G. Bombonato, Padua                                  | 11.50-12.15        | Percutaneous ethanol injection and<br>thermoablation<br>F. Meloni, Vimercate (Milan)   |
| 09.10-09.30        | Indications to HVPG measurement<br>and influence on clinical management<br>C. Puoti, Marino (Rome) | 12.15-12.35        | Percutaneous drainage of liver<br>abscesses and abdominal collections<br>G. Di Candio, Pisa                                  |
| 09.30-09.40        | Discussion   | 12.35-12.55        | Puncture, Aspiration, Injection,<br>Reaspiration (PAIR) of hydatid cysts.<br>Indications and procedures<br>C. Filice, Pavia  |
| 09.40-10.00        | Indications to liver biopsy for diffuse<br>chronic liver disease<br>E.G. Giannini, Genoa           | 12.55-13.10        | Discussion   |
| 10.00-10.20        | Indications to liver biopsy for focal<br>liver lesions<br>M. Pompili, Rome                         | 13.10              | Closure  |
| 10.20-10.40        | Liver biopsy for diffuse liver disease<br>or focal lesions: procedure<br>E. Caturelli, Viterbo     |                    |  |
| 10.40-10.50        | Discussion   |                    |  |
| 10.50-11.25        | Break  |                    |  |