

Letter of Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Organising Committee and Scientific Committee, we warmly welcome you to the leading European meeting on early drug development and translational cancer research: the 22nd EORTC–NCI–AACR Symposium, Berlin, Germany, 16–19 November 2010.

The 2010 symposium, ‘Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics’, hosted by EORTC, NCI and AACR, promises to reveal the many recent advances in the early development of potential new compounds, which are on different levels of preclinical and early clinical development.

During the last few years numerous innovative agents have been discovered as a result of tremendous developments in the understanding of the molecular basis of cancer. Further clinical progress in cancer treatment will be accomplished mainly through the conduct of translational research projects, efficient new drug development plans and the execution of large, prospective, randomised, multicentre cancer clinical trials. This requires a joint and global approach and early and optimal exchange of information.

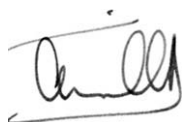
With this in mind, we have organised this Conference to ensure the maximum amount of interaction and discussion. In addition to an outstanding range of both Plenary and Special Sessions and two Proffered Paper Sessions where the best abstracts will be presented, we offer the ‘not-to-be-missed’ Workshops covering a broad range of topics including pharmacogenetics and pharmacogenomics in cancer, European and U.S. initiatives for early drug development, pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics in cancer, and rational use of targeted therapies.

Participants can also look forward to the Michel Clavel Lecture on novel molecular imaging for early drug development delivered by Elisabeth de Vries and a Keynote Lecture on the ‘Resistance to targeted therapy: mechanisms and therapeutic implications’ courtesy of Pasi Jänne.

Providing academics, scientists and representatives from the pharmaceutical industry with another excellent platform for networking, the Exhibition, which is an essential and integral element of the Conference, will also allow participants to reflect the current evolution in drug development, target selection and the impact of new discoveries in molecular and cell biology.

Lastly, but by no means least, as well as the Welcome Reception at the Estrel Hotel and Convention Centre on Tuesday, we will enjoy a magnificent cultural evening at the world famous Pergamon Museum on Wednesday.

We look forward to joining you for a Conference designed to ignite a vast exchange of information whilst promoting and developing global partnerships in cancer research.



Ahmad Awada, *Scientific Chair*



Jean-Yves Blay, *EORTC President*