INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

132nd Course: ESTROGENS AND HUMAN DISEASES

ERICE-SICILY: 15 - 21 MAY 2006

Sponsored by the: Italian Ministry of Education, University and Scientific Research • Sicilian Regional Government • The New York Academy of Science

TOPICS AND LECTURERS

- F. AURICCHIO, University of Naples, I
- M. BEATO, University of Barcelona, E
- M.C. BOSLAND, University of New York, NY, USA
- R.D. BRINTON, University of Los Angeles, CA, USA
- C. CARUSO, University of Palermo, I
- S. CHEN, University of Hope, CA, USA
- M. CUTOLO, University of Genoa, I
- J.A. GUSTAFSON, University of Stockholm, S
- S.M. HO, University of Cincinnati, OH, USA
- P.W. KINCADE, University of Oklahoma City, OK, USA
- K.S. KORACH, Research Triangle Park, NC, USA
- E.R. LEVIN, University of Long Beach, CA, USA
- A. MAGGI, University of Milan, I
- J.A. MCLAUCHLAN, University of New Orleans, LA, USA
- P. MUTT, University of Rome, I
- G. PAGNUCCO, Onco-Ematology Unit, ARNAS Palermo, I
- R.G. PESTELL, University of Washington, DC, USA
- G.S. PRINS, University of Chicago, IL, USA
- E.J. RAUSCHER III, University of Philadelphia, PA, USA
- T. SIMONCINI, University of Pisa, I
- P. SIMIONDI, University of Turin, I
- J.C. STEVENSON, University of London, UK
- J. TROSKO, University of Michigan, East Lansing, MI, USA
- M.S. WICHA, University of Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- V. VOGEL, University of Pittsburgh, PA, USA

- Extraneuronal Cross-Talk between Androgen and Estradiol Receptors in Prostate and Breast Cancer Cells
- Chromatin Remodelling by Estrogen and Progestin
- Sustainable Lifestyle Changes for Breast Cancer Prevention
- Sex Steroids and Prostate Carcinogenesis: an Integrated, Multifactorial Working Hypothesis
- Neuroprotective Action of Estrogen
- Estrogens and Mechanisms of Prostate Cancer Progression
- Aromatase and Estrogen Formation in Human Liver Tissues and Cells
- Estrogens in Autoimmune Diseases
- Innate Immunity, Hormones and Aging
- Estrogen and Alzheimer’s Disease
- Recent Advances in Estrogen Signaling
- Role of Estrogen in Development of Human Prostate Cancer
- Timing of Dietary Estrogen Exposure and Breast Cancer Risk
- Estrogens and Antiestrogens in Prostate Carcinogenesis: Key Mediators and Therapeutic Candidates
- B-Cells and Estrogens
- Estrogen Action and Metabolism in Smooth Muscle Cells of Human Vessels
- Lessons in Estrogen Biology from Knockout and Transgenic Animals
- Integration of the Extra-Nuclear and Nuclear Actions of Estrogen
- Environmental Estrogen Signaling
- The Role of Endogenous Hormones in the Etiology and Prevention of Breast Cancer: The Epidemiological Evidence
- A Potential Role for Estrogen in Multiple Sclerosis
- Estrogens and Epigenetic Signals
- Estrogens in Prostate Development
- Potential Role for Zinc Finger Proteins in Human Breast Cancer
- Novel Mechanisms of Estrogen Signaling in Endothelial Cells
- The Effects of HRT on Cardiovascular System: Mechanisms and Implications
- Estrogen Effects on Human Mammary Stem and Progenitor Cells
- Estrogen Receptor Variants and Human HCC
- The Puzzle of Myelodysplastic Syndromes

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

This eighth Advanced Course of the series on Experimental Oncology and its Clinical Application will be mainly focused on the potential role that estrogens may play not only in classical endocrine-related tumors, such as breast or prostate, but also in several other human nosological entities, including neurodegenerative disorders, cardiovascular and immune-related diseases. Topics range from the impact of endogenous and exogenous estrogens on human development and cancer risk, to novel aspects in mechanisms of estrogen action, to estrogen implication in human malignancies (breast, prostate, liver), to the emerging role of estrogen in neurodegenerative disorders (Alzheimer, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson), to estrogen action (both genomic and non genomic) in the cardiovascular system, to estrogen effects on cells of the immune system and their relevance to immune response and autoimmune diseases. The resulting inferences for Diagnosis, Prognosis and Treatment will also be presented and extensively discussed. A large room will be allocated for interactive discussion, aiming to favor the cross-fertilization process between the faculty and the audience. Furthermore, younger scientists will be allowed to present their own experimental data orally in specifically designed Sessions, to provide a close interaction with major experts in the field and to discuss, also informally, technical and methodological aspects.

APPLICATIONS

Persons wishing to attend the Course should contact:
- Dr Giuseppe CARRUBA
  Experimental Oncology, Department of Oncology
c/o «Maurizio Ascoli» Cancer Hospital Centre
  Via Parlavacccio, 139 - 90127 PALERMO, Italy
  Tel +39.91.666424/5 - Fax +39.91.6664352
  e-mail: lucasbb8@unipa.it

They should specify:
  i) full name, address, age and nationality;
  ii) qualifications and present position.

Closing date for application: May 10 2006

PLEASE NOTE

Participants must arrive in Erice on May 15, not later than 4 pm.

B. AGOSTARA - H.L. BRADLOW - G. CARRUBA - L. MASSIMO
DIRECTORS OF THE COURSE

POETIC TOUCH

According to legend, Erice, son of Venus and Neptune, founded a small town on top of a mountain (750 metres above sea level) more than three thousand years ago. The founder of modern history — i.e. the recording of events in a methodic and chronological sequence as they really happened without reference to mythical causes — the great Thucydides (~500 B.C.), writing about events connected with the conquest of Troy (1183 B.C.) said: «After the fall of Troy some Trojans on their escape from the Achaei arrived in Sicily by boat and as they settled near the border with the Sicilians all together they were named Elymii: their towns were Segesta and Erice.» This inspired Virgil to describe the arrival of the Trojan royal family in Erice and the burial of Anchise, by his son Enea, on the coast below Erice. Homer (~1000 B.C.), Theocritus (~300 B.C.), Polybius (~200 B.C.), Virgil (~50 B.C.), Horace (~20 B.C.), and others have given this magnificent spot in Sicily in their poems. During seven centuries (XIII-XIX) the town of Erice was under the leadership of a local oligarchy, whose wisdom assured a long period of cultural development and economic prosperity which in turn gave rise to many churches, monasteries and private palaces which you see today.

In Erice you can admire the Castle of Venus, the Cyclopean Walls (~800 B.C.) and the Gothic Cathedral (~1300 A.D.). Erice is at present a mixture of ancient and medieval architecture. Other masterpieces of ancient civilization are to be found in the neighbourhood: at Motya (Phoenician), Segesta (Elymian), and Selinunte (Greek). On the Aegean Islands — theatre of the decisive naval battle of the first Punic War (264-241 B.C.) — suggestive neolithic and paleolithic vestiges are still visible: the grotes of Favignana, the carvings and murals of Levanzo. Splendid beaches are to be found at San Vito Lo Capo, Scopello, and Cornino, and a wild and rocky coast around Monte Cofano: all at less than an hour’s drive from Erice.

More information about the «Ettore Majorana» Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture can be found on the WWW at the following address:

http://www.csesc.inf.unipa.it

More information about the Course can be found on the WWW at the following address:

http://estrogensandhumandiseases2006.iitalia.com