



Doctorate in Molecular Medicine

PhD Day

Siena, February 15, 2024

09:00-19:00

**Room 14
Scientific Campus of San Miniato
University of Siena**

Via Aldo Moro 2, Siena

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR THE DAY

1. *Third-year PhD candidates will present their work through an oral presentation (in English). Second-year PhD candidates will showcase their work via a poster presentation. First-year PhD candidates will introduce themselves to the Board and to their colleagues through a flash talk, outlining the themes they will develop in their projects*
2. *Oral presentations* by PhD students of the XXXVII cycle should not exceed **12 minutes** to allow at least **3 minutes** for discussion. Speakers are requested to upload their presentation **before** the start of the first oral session (09:00-09:20)
3. *The maximum dimensions for posters* presented by PhD students of the XXXVIII cycle must be **90 cm X 60 cm (height X width)**.
4. PhD students of the XXXIX cycle, in their dedicated session, will have **3 minutes** each to briefly present their research projects. They may use a maximum of 2 slides.
5. PhD students of the **XXXVIII and XXXIX** cycle will evaluate the oral presentations of their peers, assigning three different scores for "**clarity of presentation**", "**aesthetic quality of the presentation**," and "**answers to questions**".
6. PhD students of the **XXXVII and XXXIX** cycle will evaluate the posters of their peers, assigning two different scores for "**clarity of presentation**" and "**aesthetic quality**" of the poster.
7. The evaluation form (to be printed and brought on February 15) will be sent to the evaluators by February 8. Alternatively, a link will be provided for evaluations.
8. The rankings resulting from the assessments in points 5 and 6 will determine the two best oral presentations and the two best posters of the PhD day. Winners will be announced at the end of the day.
9. PhD students assigned the role of Chair, as per the program, are responsible for introducing the speakers in their relevant session and ensuring that the timing of each oral presentation and its discussion is adhered to.

Schedule of the day

09:00-09:20 **Arrival of participants (upload of PPTs for oral presentations)**

09:20-09:30 **Welcome and introduction to the day**

Prof. Vincenzo Sorrentino, Coordinator of Doctorate in Molecular Medicine

09:30-10:15 **Session 1 - Oral Presentations**

Chairs: Alessandro Falsini, Federica Fiore

Corsaro Roberta (UniSI)

Protective effect of chlorogenic acid-loaded zwitterionic liposomes on human spermatozoa in a frozen-thawed protocol

Roccabianca Sara (UniSI)

Analysis of CLIMP63 overexpression in newborn and adult mouse skeletal muscles

Haxhiu Alesandro (UniSI)

Biosensing Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals: Female Reproductive System Perspective

10:15-11:00 **Session 2 - Oral Presentations**

Chairs: Piccardi Margherita, Corsaro Roberta

Battirossi Elena (UniFI) (on line from Germany)

Impact on neuron cytoskeleton of β - and γ -actin mutations leading to non-muscle Actinopathies studied by Dual Laser Optical Tweezers

Melecchi Alberto (UniPI) (on line from Belgium)

Thyroid hormone signaling is involved in retinal response to high glucose: a double-edged sword

Corridori Eleonora (UniSI)

*Antidepressant and antianhedonic activity of *Crocus sativus* extract: neurochemical mechanisms*

11:00 -11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30-12:15 **Session 3 - Oral Presentations**

Chairs: Corridori Eleonora, Roccabianca Sara

Cifaldi Ester (UniFI)

Detection of low VAF somatic variants in drug-resistant focal epilepsies and brain tumors

Della Corte Irma (UniFI)

Biophysical characterization of a mini pig model of dilated cardiomyopathy associated to a Titin mutation

Falsini Alessandro (UniSI)

Impact of the Hedgehog pathway and Carbonic anhydrase XII interplay in melanoma cell migration and invasion under hypoxia

12:15-13:00 **Session 4 - Oral Presentations**

Chairs: Cifaldi Ester, Della Corte Irma

Fiore Federica (UniSI)

Overexpression of miR-486 improves muscle function in mouse models of RyR1-related myopathies

Piccardi Margherita (UniPI)

Mesothelin-binding Fn3 for a novel theranostic approach against malignant pleural mesothelioma

Giannini Marco (UniFI)

Host genetic variability's influence on SARS-CoV-2 infection: identification of different pathogenicity genetic profiles by High Throughput Sequencing

13:00 -14:15 **Lunch**

14:15-16:15 **Session 5 - Poster Presentations**

P1 Bernardi Sara (UniPI)

*Disentangling Batten disease through a zebrafish modelling: characterization of a new *cln3*-deficient zebrafish line*

P2 Bracone Graziella (UniSI)

Elevating Oocyte Excellence: The Synergy of Artificial Intelligence in Reproductive Health

P3 Carmellini Pietro (UniSI)

Mediterranean diet and anhedonia in depressive episodes. Data mining techniques applied to clinical and laboratory data

P4 Guardascione Valentina (UniSI)

From gene to cell: Characterization of RYR1 variants

P5 Guidotti Lorenzo (UniPI)

Evaluation of morpho-functional and molecular characteristics of the retina in 5xFAD mice

P6 Orsi Rebecca (UniFI)

Thrombosis and vaccine induced thrombotic thrombocytopenia: evaluation of genetic susceptibility to disease and complications through whole exome sequencing

P7 Pérez Casasùs Silvia (UniSI)

Sperm Mitochondria and Fertility

P8 Puccini Lucrezia (UniSI)

Analysis of miR-486 expression in skeletal muscles of mice under different metabolic conditions

P9 Renzi Asia (UniSI)

Improving gametes and embryo quality: the roles of inositols

P10 Salviati Sara (UniSI)

Developmental trajectory of social behavior deficits and modifications in the endocannabinoid system in male MAO-A Neo mice

P11 Squillantini Lapo (UniFI)

Genetics of connective tissue disorders and bicuspid aortic valve

16:15-16:35 **Coffee break**

16:35-17:30 Session 6 - Flash talks

Chairs: Haxhiu Alesandro, Giannini Marco

**Allegro Giada (UniFI), Balzano Mariano (UniFI), Di Marsico Lorenza (UniPI),
Ginetti Alessandro (UniSI), Girolamo Francesca (UniSI), Liguori Laura
(UniSI), Malerba Chiara (UniSI), Mori Sara (UniPI), Parri Giulia (UniPI),
Pranzo Carlotta (UniSI), Renna Giorgia Maria (UniSI), Ricciardi Chiara
(UniSI), Trovini Giada (UniSI), Vitale Claudia (UniFI)**

17:30-17:45 Announcement of Best Oral Presentations and Best Posters

**17:45-19:00 General discussion on the progress of the Ph.D. Program and
concluding remarks**

Moderators:

**Chiara Ricciardi, Enrico Pierantozzi, Federica Gemignani, Giulia Parri,
Mariano Balzano, Nicoletta Piroddi, Vincenzo Sorrentino**

- **Outcome of evaluation questionnaires 2023**
- **Management of training activities**