Overactivation of Oncogenic Signalling as a Potential Cancer Treatment Strategy Programme

Virtual Event

20 - 21 January 2026

Scientific Programme

Tuesday 20th January 2026

Listed times are in Central European Time (CET)

12:00 WELCOME TO DAY ONE

Chair: Rene Bernards

12:05 **Matheus Dias**
NKI, Netherlands
'Therapeutic OVERactivation of oncogenic signalling as a cancer treatment strategy'

Q&A: 12:25-12:35

12:35 **Chrysa Papagianni**
Netherlands Cancer Institute, Netherlands
Proffered Paper 1: 'Overactivation of oncogenic signaling steers cancer cells towards less malignant phenotypes'

Q&A: 12:45-12:50

12:50 **Dylan Farnsworth**
BC Cancer Research Institute, Canada
Proffered Paper 2: 'Disrupting proteostasis potentiates ERK hyperactivation in LUAD'

Q&A: 13:00-13:05

13:05 **Vesselina Cooke**
Novartis, USA
'Small Molecule-induced ERK Hyperactivation as a Novel Therapeutic Approach for BRAF V600-Mutant Melanoma'

Q&A: 13:25-13:35

13:35 REFRESHMENT BREAK

Chair: Bart Vanhaesebroeck

13:50 FLASH TALKS 1
A selection of high-scoring abstracts presented as 3 minute flash talks.

14:05 **Monica Roman-Trufero**
Lausanne University Hospital, Switzerland
Proffered Paper 3: 'GCN2 loss drives translational overdrive and metabolic collapse, creating a targetable cancer vulnerability'

Q&A: 14:15-14:20

14:20 **Arun Unni**
Weill Cornell Medicine, USA

'Understanding the consequences of excess RAS pathway activity in cancer cells'

Q&A: 14:40-14:50

14:50 REFRESHMENT BREAK

15:05 **Pia Giovannelli**
University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, Italy
Proffered Paper 4: 'Androgen Receptor Paradox: Overactivation of ERK Inhibits HRPC Growth'

Q&A: 15:15-15:20

15:20 **Marta Rubin**
University of Turin, Italy
Proffered Paper 5: 'Hyperactivation of ALK signaling triggered by PTPN2/PTPN1 pharmacologic inhibition induces oncogenic stress responses to promote tumor eradication in ALK-positive lymphoma'

Q&A: 15:30-15:35

15:35 CLOSING KEYNOTE
Markus Müschen
Yale School of Medicine, USA
'Hyperactivation of oncogenic STAT5-signaling as treatment strategy for tyrosine kinase-driven leukemia'

Q&A: 16:05-16:20

16:20 SUMMARY AND CLOSE

Wednesday 21st January 2026

Listed times are in Central European Time (CET)

12:00 WELCOME TO DAY TWO
Chair: Bart Vanhaesebroeck

12:05 **Benoit Bilanges**
UCL Cancer Institute, UK
'Pharmacological activation of PI3K triggers cancer cell death under metabolic stress'

Q&A: 12:25-12:35

12:35 **Marina Baessa**
IPATIMUP / i3s, Portugal
Proffered Paper 6: 'Therapeutic T-cell receptor activation in T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia'

Q&A: 12:45-12:50

12:50 **Eunice Cho**
The Broad Institute, USA
'Directed clonal evolution: Exploiting divergent MAPK inhibitor resistance for convergent hypersensitivity to MAPK hyperactivation'

Q&A: 13:10-13:20

13:20 REFRESHMENT BREAK

13:40 FLASH TALKS 2

A selection of high-scoring abstracts presented as 3 minute flash talks.

13:50 **David Santamaria**
CIC (Cancer Research Center of Salamanca), Spain
Proffered Paper 7: 'MAPK hyper-signalling driven by DUSP4 inactivation modulates the onset and progression of KRAS mutant lung adenocarcinoma'

Q&A: 14:00-14:05

14:05 **Andrew Intlekofer**
MSKCC, USA
'Enzyme hyperactivation to target oncometabolism'

Q&A: 14:25-14:35

14:35 REFRESHMENT BREAK

Chair: Rene Bernards

14:50 **Ana Banito**
German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Germany
Proffered Paper 8: 'A dynamic balance between vPRC1 complexes finetunes oncofusion activity in synovial sarcoma'

Q&A: 15:00-15:05

15:05 CLOSING KEYNOTE
Kimberly Stegmaier
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, USA
'EWS::FLI1 Activation Lethality in Ewing Sarcoma'

Q&A 15:35-15:50

15:50 DISCUSSION SESSION
Will over activation cause cancer or cure cancer?

16:30 CONFERENCE SUMMARY AND CLOSE