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INVITATION TO CCIT SEMINAR

Thursday December 17th 2026, at 11.00

SPEAKER

Paolo Antonio Ascierto, MD

Full Professor of Medical Oncology
University of Naples Federico II
National Cancer Institute IRCCS Fondazione G. Pascale
Italy

TITLE

Cancer Vaccines

PLACE

Lille Auditorium
Copenhagen University Hospital, Herlev
Borgmester Ib Juuls Vej 9
2730 Herlev

We welcome you all to this exciting seminar!

Kindly,
Marco Donia



Professor Paolo Antonio Ascierto is Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Naples Federico II, Naples, Italy, and Director of the Melanoma, Cancer Immunotherapy and Development Therapeutics Unit at the Istituto Nazionale Tumori IRCCS Fondazione Pascale, Naples. Internationally recognized as one of the pioneers of modern melanoma immunotherapy, he has devoted more than three decades to advancing translational cancer research and developing innovative therapeutic strategies that have transformed the clinical management of melanoma and other solid tumors.

His work has contributed to changing the natural history of advanced melanoma, transforming a disease once associated with a median survival of only a few months into one in which long-term survival has become an achievable reality for many patients.

Professor Ascierto received his MD from the University of Naples Federico II in 1990 and completed his board certification in Oncology in 1994. Throughout his career, he has successfully integrated laboratory research with clinical innovation, establishing one of the world's leading melanoma programs and fostering multidisciplinary collaborations that have significantly advanced the field of cancer immunotherapy.

His scientific interests encompass melanoma biology, predictive biomarkers, mechanisms of immune resistance, immune checkpoint inhibitors, targeted therapies, cancer vaccines, and novel combination strategies. Widely regarded as one of the international leaders in melanoma immunotherapy, Professor Ascierto has contributed to virtually every major therapeutic advance that has changed the treatment paradigm of melanoma over the past two decades, from immune checkpoint inhibition and targeted therapies to neoadjuvant approaches, biomarker-driven treatment strategies, and innovative immunotherapeutic combinations.

As Principal Investigator, Professor Ascierto has led or participated in more than 160 international clinical trials, contributing to the clinical development of nearly all major immunotherapeutic and targeted agents currently approved for melanoma. His work has directly influenced international standards of care and improved outcomes for patients worldwide.

Professor Ascierto has authored more than 850 peer-reviewed publications in leading international journals, including The New England Journal of Medicine, The Lancet, The Lancet Oncology, Nature Medicine, Journal of Clinical Oncology, JAMA Oncology, and Annals of Oncology. His research has been widely cited and has substantially contributed to the understanding of melanoma biology, immunotherapy, and precision oncology.

An internationally recognized authority in clinical guideline development, Professor Ascierto has served as Coordinator of the AIOM Melanoma Guidelines since 2011, coordinated the ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for Melanoma and Skin Cancers (2022–2024), and serves on the ASCO Melanoma Guideline Panel, helping shape evidence-based recommendations that guide

melanoma management worldwide.

Beyond his contributions to international guidelines, Professor Ascierto has played a leading role within the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO). He has served on the ESMO Melanoma Faculty and Scientific Committee, contributing to the development of the Society's scientific program, and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Scientific Committee for ESMO Asia, helping shape one of ESMO's major international scientific meetings.
Professor Ascierto has maintained a longstanding leadership role within the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC). A member since 2008, he has served on the Scientific Program Committee, the World Immunotherapy Council (WIC), the JITC Clinical/Translational Cancer Immunotherapy Committee, and the SITC Forward Fund Task Force, while also acting as faculty member and organizer for numerous international educational initiatives. In 2018, he was elected to the SITC Board of Directors, serving a three-year term and contributing to the Society's scientific and strategic development. He has also served on SITC expert panels responsible for developing Clinical Practice Guidelines, including the Society's landmark recommendations on the management of immune checkpoint inhibitor-related adverse events.
Professor Ascierto has played a major role in scientific publishing and medical education. He is Associate Editor for Onco-Immunology and skin cancers at Annals of Oncology, Senior Editor of the Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer, Associate Editor of Cancer Treatment Reviews, Deputy Editor and Chief Section Editor for Combination Strategies at the Journal of Translational Medicine, and serves on the Editorial Board of ESMO Open.

In addition to his academic and clinical activities, Professor Ascierto is President of Fondazione Melanoma ETS, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting research, education, prevention, and international collaboration in melanoma. Under his leadership, the Foundation has become an important platform for scientific exchange and professional education, fostering innovative initiatives that connect clinicians, researchers, and patients worldwide.
An internationally sought-after speaker, Professor Ascierto has delivered more than 700 invited lectures at major scientific meetings across the globe. Beyond his scientific achievements, he has devoted considerable effort to mentoring young physicians and investigators, promoting international collaborations, and advancing education in cancer immunotherapy.
Through his scientific vision, clinical leadership, and unwavering commitment to translational research, Professor Ascierto has helped redefine the treatment paradigm of melanoma and has made a lasting impact on the field of cancer immunotherapy worldwide. His career exemplifies the successful translation of scientific discovery into clinical practice, improving the lives of countless patients and shaping the future of cancer immunotherapy for generations to come