



# AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

(Associazione riconosciuta con D.M. del 7.5.1998, G.U. del 20.6.1998)

## 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Italian Association for the Study of the Liver (A.I.S.F.)

(Aula Magna, Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza")

Rome, February 21-23, 2007

### 9<sup>th</sup> A.I.S.F. PRE-MEETING COURSE

#### "MANAGEMENT OF HCV-RELATED DISEASE"

Course Directors: S. Fagiuoli, Bergamo and M. Puoti, Brescia

#### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

### Wednesday, February 21

09.30-10.20	<b>Registration and Entry questionnaire</b>	14.50-15.30	<b>Pros and Cons Maintenance treatment in non responders with cirrhosis</b> Erica Villa, <i>Modena</i> <b>Pros</b> Giorgio Saracco, <i>Turin</i> <b>Cons</b> Pietro Andreone, <i>Bologna</i> Case presentations with televoting Discussion
10.20-10.30	<b>Course presentation</b> S. Fagiuoli - M. Puoti		
<i>I Session</i>	<i>Chairpersons:</i> Giovanni Raimondo, <i>Messina</i> , Mario Rizzetto, <i>Turin</i>		
10.30-10.50	<b>Pharmacokinetics and biological basis of the pharmacological activity and of resistance to Pegylated Interferon and Ribavirin</b> Massimo Levrero, <i>Rome</i>	15.30-16.00	<i>Break</i>
10.50-11.10	<b>Management of side effects of Pegylated Interferons and Ribavirin</b> Giovanni B. Gaeta, <i>Naples</i>	<i>III Session</i>	<i>Chairpersons:</i> Felice Piccinino, <i>Naples</i> , Maurizia Brunetto, <i>Pisa</i>
11.10-11.20	Question and answers	16.00-16.20	<b>Treatment of patients with normal ALT</b> Claudio Puoti, <i>Rome</i>
11.20-11.50	<b>Treatment of HCV</b> Antonio Craxi, <i>Palermo</i>	16.20-17.00	<b>Pros and Cons: Treatment of patients without bridging fibrosis and/or with Normal ALT</b> <b>Pros</b> Marcello Persico, <i>Naples</i> <b>Cons</b> Liliana Chemello, <i>Padua</i> Case Presentation with televoting Discussion
11.50-12.20	Questions and answers		
12.20-13.00	<b>Pros and Cons: Shorter treatments for patients with rapid virologic response</b> Patrizia Pontisso, <i>Padua</i> <b>Pros</b> Alessandra Mangia, <i>S.G. Rotondo</i> <b>Cons</b> Maria Grazia Rumi, <i>Milan</i> Case presentations with televoting Discussion	<i>IV Session Round Table: the difficult to treat patient</i> <i>Chairpersons:</i> Mario Angelico, <i>Rome</i> , Giuseppe Pastore, <i>Bari</i>	
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	17.00-17.20	<b>Treatment of patients with extrahepatic HCV induced diseases</b> Anna Linda Zignego, <i>Florence</i>
<i>II Session</i>	<i>Chairpersons:</i> Giovanna Fattovich, <i>Verona</i> , Antonio Ascione, <i>Naples</i>	17.20-17.40	<b>Treatment of IDU and HIV+</b> Raffaele Bruno, <i>Pavia</i>
14.00-14.20	<b>Re-Treatment of non responders and relapsers</b> Vito Di Marco, <i>Palermo</i>	17.40-18.00	<b>Treatment of recurrence of HCV in Liver Transplant Recipients</b> Pierluigi Toniutto, <i>Udine</i>
14.20-14.40	<b>Treatment of patients with cirrhosis: optimal schedule and impact on natural history</b> Savino Bruno, <i>Milan</i>	18.00-18.20	<b>New KIDS on the Blocks for anti HCV therapy</b> Massimo Colombo, <i>Milan</i>
14.40-14.50	Questions and answers	18.20-18.30	Conclusions
		18.30-18.40	Check of Learning
		18.40-19.00	<b>General Assembly I</b>



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## Thursday, February 22

- 08.30-10.00 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons:* F. Calise, *Naples*  
S. Fagioli, *Bergamo*
- 08.30-08.45 **Stem cells and hepatocellular carcinoma in an HBV-transgenic mouse model**  
A. Francavilla, A. Di Leo, M. Barone, M.P. Scavo, B. Pesetti, *Bari*
- 08.45-09.00 **Flow cytometry enumeration and characterization of stem cell lineages in the liver of patients with hepatic tumors**  
L. Porretti, D. Prati, F. Colombo, R. Gramignoli, A. Cattaneo, G. Rossi, A. Colli, C. Battiston, V. Mazzaferro, *Milan, Lecco*
- 09.00-09.15 **Arterial and peribiliary vasculogenesis during liver development is modulated by angiogenic growth factors expressed by ductal plate cells and hepatoblasts**  
L. Fabris, M. Cadamuro, L. Libbrecht, C. Spirlì, R. Fiorotto, L. Okolicsanyi, T. Roskams, M. Strazzabosco, *Bergamo, Padua, Leuven (Belgium), Yale (USA)*
- 09.15-09.30 **The hepatic stem cell niche forms in liver injury: its cellular composition and origin**  
S. Lorenzini, T. G. Bird, H. Caldwell, P. Vig, P. Andreone, J. P. Iredale, M.R. Alison, S. J. Forbes, *Edinburgh, London (UK)*
- 09.30-09.45 **Angiogenesis during trans-catheter arterial chemoembolisation (TACE) in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)**  
C. Cristofori, G. Pivetta, L. Girardi, A. Baldan, R. Cardin, F. Farinati, *Padua*
- 09.45-10.00 **Surveillance for early diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC): is it effective in Intermediate/advanced cirrhosis?**  
V. Santi, F. Trevisani, A. Gramenzi, R. Casadio, MA. Di Nolfo, P. Del Poggio, L. Benvegnù, G. Rapaccini, F. Farinati, M. Zoli, F. Borzio, EG. Giannini, E. Caturelli, M. Bernardi, *for the Italian Liver Cancer (ITA.LI.CA) group*
- 10.00-10.30 **Break and Posters view**  
*Tutors:* T. Santantonio, *Bari*  
A. Smedile, *Turin*
- 10.30-11.30 **General Assembly II**
- 11.30-13.00 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons:* F. Bonino, *Milan*  
A. Attili, *Rome*
- 11.30-11.45 **Mortality in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma predicted by six scoring systems: none is the winner**  
C. Cammà, V. Di Marco, G. Cabibbo, F. Latteri, L. Sandonato, P. Parisi, N. Alessi, A. Licata, M. Galia, M. Enea, M. Attanasio, M. A. Latteri, A. Craxi, *Palermo*
- 11.45-12.00 **Prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma: comparison of CLIP, TNM, and BCLC in a cohort of patients followed prospectively at a single referral centre**  
M. De Giorgio R. Bezzo, U. Govindarajulu, J. Dziura, M.G. Lucà, G. Verga, D. Pinelli, G. Bonini, A. Sonzogni, M. Colledan, S. Fagioli, M. Strazzabosco, *Bergamo, Yale (USA)*
- 12.00-12.15 **PDGF-BB as mitogenic and chemotactic stimulus for bone marrow - derived human mesenchymal stem cells, putative precursors of profibrogenic myofibroblast - like cells**  
L. Valfrè di Bonzo, E. Novo, E. Zamara, S. Cannito, I. Ferrero, D. Rustichelli, S. Colombatto, M. Pinzani, S.J. Forbes, F. Fagioli, M. Parola, *Turin, Florence, Edimburgh (U.K.)*
- 12.15-12.30 **Expression of angiogenic cytokines by leptin requires the TSC/m-TOR pathway and generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in human hepatic stellate cells**  
S. Aleffi, N. Navari F. Marra, *Florence*
- 12.30-12.45 **Generation of a diagnostic bead assay for primary biliary cirrhosis**  
S. Oertelt-Prigione, C. Selmi, M. Zuin, S. Pasini, R. Rossio, R. Rieger, M. E. Gershwin, M. Podda, P. Invernizzi, *Milan, Davis (California)*
- 12.45-13.00 **Biliary Insulin like Growth Factor-1 (IGF1) is a sensitive marker for the diagnosis of extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma**  
M.G. Mancino, G. Macarri, M. Marziani, A. Benedetti, M.C. Bragazzi, P. Invernizzi, A.F. Attili, D. Alvaro, *Rome, Ancona, Milan*
- 13.00-14.00 **Lunch and Posters view**  
*Tutors:* P. Almasio, *Palermo*  
G. Ballardini, *Bologna*
- 14.00-14.45 **General Assembly III: Report of A.I.S.F. Scientific Commissions and Study Groups**  
*Chairpersons:* A.I.S.F. Coordinating Committee



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- 14.45-15.45 **Joint Symposium AISF-SIA  
News on Ethanol-Related Liver Diseases**  
*Chairpersons:* M. Salvagnini, *Vicenza*  
V. Patussi, *Florence*
- Epidemiology**  
T. Stroffolini, *Rome*
- Clinical Aspects**  
C. Loguercio, *Naples*
- Alcohol-relapse prevention**  
G. Addolorato, *Rome*
- 15.45-16.15 **2005 A.I.S.F. Fellowships Report**  
*Chairperson:* C. Ferrari, *Parma*
- Molecular alterations of mitotic checkpoint during HCC development**  
A. Alisi, *Rome*
- IGF1 isoforms in rat hepatocytes and cholangiocytes, evaluation of their role in modulation of liver damage and development of a transgenic mice model overexpressing a "locally active" IGF1 isoform**  
V. Drudi Metalli, *Rome*
- Diagnostic accuracy of chromogranin A (CgA) in diagnosing hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)**  
S. Massironi, *Milan*
- 16.15-16.45 **Break and Posters view**  
*Tutors:* T. Santantonio, *Bari*  
A. Smedile, *Turin*
- 16.45-18.15 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons:* F. Marra, *Florence*  
U. Cillo, *Padua*
- 16.45-17.00 **Drug-induced hepatitis in patients hospitalized for abnormal liver tests**  
C. Prisco, M. Vinci, L. Belli, GB. Pinzello, *Milan*
- 17.00-17.15 **Effect of iron depletion by phlebotomy on insulin resistance in patients with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease and hyperferritinemia; results of a case control study**  
L. Valenti, A. L. Fracanzani, P. Dongiovanni, E. Bugianesi, E. Vanni, G. Marchesini, S. Fargion, *Milan, Turin, Bologna*
- 17.15-17.30 **Exendin-4, a glucagons-like protein-1 receptor agonist, reduces proinflammatory conditions and increases insulin sensitivity and lipid oxidation in hepatocytes from non-alcoholic steatohepatitis rats**  
G. Sveglia-Baroni, G. Fava, S. Saccomanno, C. Ryclicki, M. Marzoni, A. Di Sario, C. Candelaresi, A. Casini, A. Benedetti, *Ancona, Florence*
- 17.30-17.45 **Adefovir and lamivudine combination therapy is superior to ADV monotherapy for lamivudine-resistant patients with HBeAg-negative chronic hepatitis B**  
P. Lampertico, A. Marzano, M. Levrero, T. Santantonio, V. Di Marco, M. Brunetto, P. Andreone, E. Sagnelli, S. Faggioli, G. Mazzella, G. Raimondo, G.B. Gaeta, A. Ascione, *on behalf of the AISF Adefovir Study Group*
- 17.45-18.00 **Variability of the HBV POL gene reverse-transcriptase domain in viral isolates from untreated and lamivudine-resistant chronic hepatitis B patients**  
T. Pollicino, S. Maimone, G. Isgro, S. Brancatelli, G. Raffa, G. Caccamo, G. Squadrito, G. Raimondo, *Messina*
- 18.00-18.15 **Clustering of CD8 T cell responses against the HBV core and surface proteins within different HLA alleles: immunodominance analysis in patients with diverse genetic background**  
F. Bihl, E. Loggi, J.V. Chisholm III, C. Fortini, M. Margotti, K. Faircloth, C. Cursaro, M. Bernardi, P. Andreone, C. Brander, *Boston, Bologna*
- Friday, February 23**
- 08.30-10.00 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons:* N. Caporaso, *Naples*  
P. Lampertico, *Milan*
- 08.30-08.45 **Living donor liver transplantation in adults: a single-center experience in Italy**  
R. Volpes, S. Gruttadauria, J. Wallis Marsh, G. Vizzini, U. Palazzo, A. Marcos, B. Gridelli, *Palermo, Pittsburgh (USA)*
- 08.45-09.00 **Detection of HCV antigens in early post-liver transplant graft biopsies predicts recurrent hepatitis C after 1 year in patients transplanted for HCV related liver disease**  
A. Grassi, C. Quarneri, M. Susca, M. Ravaoli, V. Cipriano, A. D'Errico, C. Morelli, F. Piscaglia, M. Tamè, P. Andreone, GL. Grazi, D. Zauli, A.D. Pinna, F.B. Bianchi, G. Ballardini, *Rimini, Bologna*
- 09.00-09.15 **Serum autoantibodies against cytochrome P450 2E1 (CYP2E1) predict severity of liver graft hepatitis C recurrence**  
C. Rigamonti, M.F. Donato, M. Vidali, F. Agnelli, R. Serino, G. Occhino, A. Ivaldi, E. Arosio, V. Monti, G. Rossi, M. Colombo, E. Albano, *Milan, Novara*



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- 09.15-09.30 **Practice of liver transplantation in the town of Rome in 2006: relation to disease severity and donor characteristics**  
M. Angelico, S. Agnes, G.M. Ettore, A. Gasbarrini, G. Ginanni Corradini, T. Marianelli, M. Rossi, G. Tisone, M. Valeri, *on behalf of the GLTS Study Group*
- 09.30-09.45 **Centrilobular Necro-Inflammatory Changes in Liver Transplant recipients respond to treatment with steroids and Mycophenolate Mofetil**  
R. Viganò, S. Fagioli, A. Sonzogni, L. Pasulo, M. Colledan, G. Gaffuri, M. Strazzabosco, *Bergamo, Yale (USA)*
- 09.45-10.00 **Efficacy and safety of pegylated interferon plus ribavirin in patients with hepatitis C recurrence after liver transplantation: a single centre experience**  
MF. Donato, F. Agnelli, M. Viganò, C. Rigamonti, G. Rossi, M. Colombo, *Milan*
- 10.00-10.45 **State-of-the-Art Lecture**  
Chairperson: A. Gasbarrini, *Rome*  
*Introduction:* M. Guido, *Padua*  
Post-OLTx recurrent HCV hepatitis (pathogenesis, pathology and diagnostic difficulties)  
AJ Demetris, *Pittsburgh USA*
- 10.45-11.15 **Break and Posters view**  
*Tutors:* T. Santantonio, *Bari*  
A. Smedile, *Turin*
- 11.15-12.30 **AISF-Italian Chapter of the IHPBA Round Table**  
*Chairpersons:* D. D'Amico, *Padua*  
A. Benedetti, *Ancona*  
**Phatophysiology of obstructive jaundice: short and long term changes**  
A. Floreani, *Padua*  
**Face to Face:**  
**Surgical vs endoscopic treatment of intrahepatic lithiasis**  
G. NUZZO, *Rome*, VS G. Costamagna, *Rome*  
**Surgical treatment of extrahepatic benign biliary obstructions: new techniques and timing** M. Filaurio, *Genoa*
- 12.30-13.30 **General Assembly IV**
- 13.30-14.30 **Lunch and Posters view**  
*Tutors:* P. Almasio, *Palermo*  
G. Ballardini, *Bologna*
- 14.30-16.00 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons:* M. Puoti, *Brescia*  
G.L. Rapaccini, *Rome*
- 14.30-14.45 **Improved preservation of fatty liver by machine perfusion at 20°C respect to conventional cold storage: biochemical, histochemical and ultrastructural approaches**  
E. Boncompagni, A. Ferrigno, G. Milanese, V. Rizzo, F. Carlucci, A. Tabucchi, C. Guarnaschelli, V. Bertone, S. Barni, U. Cillo, M. Vairetti, I. Freitas, *Pavia, Siena, Padua*
- 14.45-15.00 **Pulmonary exchange abnormalities in non-cirrhotic chronic liver disease**  
U. Vespasiani Gentilucci, S. Scarlata, D. D'Avola, G. Galati, S. Spataro, E. Fiori, C. Mazzarelli, A. Antonelli Incalzi, A. Picardi, *Rome*
- 15.00-15.15 **Liver stiffness measurement (LSM) is able to predict severe portal hypertension in patients with HCV-related advanced chronic liver disease**  
F. Vizzutti, U. Arena, R.G. Romanelli, L. Rega, A. Petrarca, E. Cappelletti, S. Moscarella, F. Marra, G. Laffi, M. Pinzani, *Florence*
- 15.15-15.30 **In experimental preascitic liver cirrhosis calcium-dependent diuretic systems are downregulated, but may be normalized by specific metabolic and pharmacologic stimuli**  
G. Sansoè, M. Aragno, F. Wong, F. Rosina, A. Smedile, M. Rizzetto, *Turin, Toronto (Canada)*
- 15.30-15.45 **CB1 receptor antagonist SR 141716 delays ascitic decompensation in a rat model of liver cirrhosis**  
M. Domenicali, P. Caraceni, A. M. Pertosa, F. Giannone, A. Principe, A. Zambruni, F. Trevisani, M. Bernardi, *Bologna*
- 15.45-16.00 **TIPS in Budd Chiari Syndrome: long-term results in 124 patients and evaluation of prognostic factors. A multicentre study.**  
S. Raffa, F. Fabris, A. Plessier, S.D. Murad, M. Heydtmann, G. Vizzini, J.G. Abraldes, A. Luca, M. Primignani, A. Nicolini, H. Jansenn, D. Valla, E. Elyas, J. Bosch, J.C. Garcia Pagán, *Barcelona (Spain), Milan, Clichy (France), Rotterdam (The Netherlands), Birmingham (UK), Palermo*
- 16.00-16.15 **Presentation of the:**  
  
- **A.I.S.F./FADE prize for the Clinic best Italian paper in 2005**  
**Peginterferon alfa-2b and ribavirin for 12 vs.24 weeks in HCV genotype 2 or 3**  
*Mangia A, Santoro R, Minerva N, Ricci GL, Carretta V, Persico M, Vinelli F, Scotto G, Bacca D, Annese M, Romano M, Zechini F, Sogari F, Spirito F, Andriulli*  
*N Engl J Med. 2005 Jun 23;352(25):2609-17*  
*Chairpersons:* M. Chiaramonte, *L'Aquila*  
N. Lo Torto, *Milan*
- **A.I.S.F. prize for the Basic best Italian paper in 2005**  
**Autocrine/Paracrine Regulation of the Growth of the Biliary Tree by the Neuroendocrine Hormone Serotonin**  
*Marzioni M, Glaser S, Francis H, Marucci L, Benedetti A, Alvaro D, Taffetani S, Ueno Y, Roskams T, Phinzy JL, Venter G, Fava G, Lesage GD and Alpini G*  
*Gastroenterology 2005;128:121-137*  
*Chairpersons:* F.B. Bianchi, *Bologna*  
G. Gasbarrini, *Rome*



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- 16.15-16.30 **Presentation of the A.I.S.F. distinguished service awards to Prof. Mario Coltorti and Prof. Giuseppe Giusti**  
*Presenter: A. Gasbarrini, Rome*
- 16.30-17.45 **Oral Communications**  
*Chairpersons: D. Alvaro, Rome  
T. Pollicino, Messina*
- 16.30-16.45 **Functional characterization of IFN $\alpha$ /STAT2 direct target genes by chip-on-chip analysis**  
*B. Testoni, C. Voellenke, M. Levrero, Rome*
- 16.45-17.00 **Safety and efficacy of antiviral treatment for chronic hepatitis C (CHC) in elderly patients**  
*A. Giorgini, A. Lleo, A. Benetti, B. Ferrari, P. Battezzati, F. Marangoni, M. Podda, M. Zuin, Milan*
- 17.00-17.15 **Epidemiological profile of 806 italian children with HCV infection over a 15-year period**  
*F. Bortolotti, R. Jorio, M. Resti, C. Cammà, M. Marcellini, R. Giacchino, M.G. Marazzi, G. Verucchi, L. Zancan, C. Barbera, G. Maggiore, P. Vajro, A. Giannattasio, A. Maccabruni, N. Gussetti, F. Balli, S. Bartolacci and the Italian Observatory for HCV Infection and Hepatitis C in Children, Padua*
- 17.15-17.30 **A controlled clinical trial on antiviral therapy (Peginterferon Alfa 2A (40KD) +Ribavirin) for the treatment of chronic hepatitis C in patients on haemodialysis awaiting renal transplant**  
*M. Rendina, A. Schena, N. M. Castellaneta, F. Losito, A. C. Amoruso, G. Stallone, F.P. Schena, A. Di Leo, A. Francavilla, Bari*
- 17.30-17.45 **Early discontinuation of Ribavirin in HCV genotype 2 and 3 patients undergoing short-treatment duration with Peg-Interferon alfa 2a and Ribavirin**  
*A. Andriulli, P. Andreone, C. Cursaro, R. Cozzolongo, N. Minerva, A. Iacobellis, A. Mangia, D. Bacca, M. Stanzione, A. Scuteri, G. Montalto, San Giovanni Rotondo, Bologna, Castellana Grotte, Canosa, Casarano, Naples, Palermo*
- 17.45-18.00 **Young Investigators Awards**  
*Presenter for the best oral communication  
A. Picciotto, Genoa  
P. Angeli, Padua*  
  
*Presenters for the best poster  
P. Almasio, Palermo, T. Santantonio, Bari  
G. Ballardini, Bologna, A. Smedile, Turin*



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## POSTER SESSION

**1 Preferential X chromosome loss but random inactivation characterize women with primary biliary cirrhosis**

P. Invernizzi, M. Miozzo, C. Selmi, M. Zuin, S. Pasini, R. Rosso, C. Cocchi, V. Pozzoli, F. Bernuzzi, M. Podda, *Milan*

**2 Extending antiviral treatment for 12 months after HCV-RNA clearance is associated with a high response rate in difficult-to-treat HCV patients**

A. Riilli, C. Cursaro, A. Gramenzi, M. Salerno, F. Feline, A. Scuteri, R. Vukotic, G. Vitale, A. Marri, L. Pirillo, M. Bernardi, P. Andreone, *Bologna, Paola (CS), Crotone*

**3 T lymphocytes proliferative and cytokine responses are inhibited by 1,25 dihydroxyvitamin D3 in HCV-infected liver transplant recipients**

C. Almerighi, A. Bergamini, R. Lionetti, I. Lenci, G. Orlando, G. Tisone, M. Angelico, *Rome*

**4 Curcumin inhibits the fibrogenic progression of murine steatohepatitis**

F. Vizzutti, A. Provenzano, S. Galastri, W. Delogu, S. Milani, E. Novo, E. Zamara, M. Parola, G. Laffi, M. Pinzani, F. Marra, *Florence, Turin*

**5 AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) blocks the effects of PDGF BY PI3K-independent signals and is downregulated during in vivo activation of hepatic stellate cells**

C. Bertolani, A. Caligiuri, C. Tosti Guerra, S. Aleffi, S. Galastri, M. Trappoliere, M. Pinzani, F. Marra, *Florence*

**6 T-cell stimulatory activity of liver and spleen dendritic cell during a murine model of hepatocarcinogenesis**

A. Castellaneta, A. Di Leo, N. De Tullio, F. Gagliardi, A. Amoroso, A. Francavilla, *Bari*

**7 Expression of estrogen receptor isoforms in liver dendritic cells**

A. Castellaneta, N. De Tullio, F. Gagliardi, M. Margiotta, S. Tanzi, L. Demarinis, A. Di Leo, A. Francavilla, *Bari*

**8 Iron status modulates the expression of MDM-2, an ubiquitin ligase involved in p53 degradation; effect on the anti-oxidant response in hepatocytes**

L. Valenti, P. Dongiovanni, C. Megazzini, A.L. Fracanzani, S. Fargion, *Milan*

**9 Genetic polymorphisms influencing insulin signaling and lipogenesis affect the risk of hepatic fibrosis in patients with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease**

P. Dongiovanni, L. Valenti, R. Rametta, A.L. Fracanzani, S. Fargion, *Milan*

**10 The hSIRT1 histone deacetylase regulates TAp73 transcription and apoptosis in response to DNA damage in HCC cells**

N. Pediconi, F. Guerrieri, L. Belloni, S. Vossio, M. Levrero, *Rome*

**11 3 years of adefovir and lamivudine combination therapy minimizes the risk of genotypic resistance to ADV in lamivudine resistant patients**

P. Lampertico, M. Viganò, E. Manenti, M. Iavarone, G. Lunghi, E. Del Ninno, M. Colombo, *Milan*

**12 Clinical significance of serum and liver tissue SCCA in chronic hepatitis C**

L. Cavalletto, C. Caberlotto, F. Calabrese, P. Pontisso, E. Bernardinello, A. Biasiolo, C. Giacometti, A. Gottardo, A. Gatta, L. Chemello, *Padua*

**13 Effect radiofrequency thermal ablation of HCC liver nodules on natural killer cells and regulatory T cells**

A. Zerbini, M. Pilli, G. Pelosi, G. Menozzi, D. Laccabue, C.S. Cerioni, M.G. Pizzi, S. Schivazappa, C. Ferrari, G. Missale, *Parma*

**14 Hepatic function is a strong predictive factor of efficacy and safety of antiviral therapy in portal hypertensive hepatitis C virus-related liver cirrhosis**

B.E. Annicchiarico, M. Siciliano, P. Parente, A. Gasbarrini, G. Bombardieri, *Rome*

**15 Mutations selected during lamivudine therapy may predispose to adefovir resistance**

M. Fasano, S. Palattella, A. Guastadisegni, G. Pastore, T. Santantonio, *Bari*

**16 Clinical and biochemical effect of G-CSF administration in patients with acute on chronic liver failure**

M. Novi, M.A. Zocco, C. Di Campi, G. Di Gioacchino, S. Rotella, M.E. Ainora, E. Rinninella, G. Leone, G. Gasbarrini, G.L. Rapaccini, P. Pola, A. Gasbarrini, *Rome*

**17 Effect of different types of liver resection in hematopoietic stem cells mobilization**

M.A. Zocco, F. Giuliante, M. Novi, N. Saulnier, M.A. Pugliesi, E. Rinninella, M.E. Ainora, L. Zileri dal Verme, C. Rumi, G. Nuzzo, G. Gasbarrini, A. Gasbarrini, *Rome*

**18 Six years of "on demand" LAM±ADV combination therapy significantly reduces the development and progression of esophageal varices in patients with HBeAg-negative cirrhosis**

M. Iavarone, P. Lampertico, M. Viganò, E. Del Ninno, R. de Franchis, M. Colombo, *Milan*

**19 Natural history of HCC developing in HBV-related cirrhotic patients undergoing antiviral treatment with nucleos(t)ide analogues**

M. Viganò, P. Lampertico, M. Iavarone, A. Sangiovanni, E. Del Ninno, M. Colombo, *Milan*

**20 Transient elastography improves the management of CHB patients**

F. Oliveri, B. Coco, P. Colombatto, P. Ciccorossi, R. Sacco, F. Bonino, M.R. Brunetto, *Pisa, Milan*

**21 Baseline ALT and ferritin predict histological findings in NAFLD**

A.L. Fracanzani, L. Valenti, C. Bertelli, E. Fatta, E. Pulixi, S. Fargion, *Milan*

**22 Cholangiocarcinoma cells are susceptible to the modulation of cell growth by endogenous opioid peptides but respond with increased proliferation**

M. Marziani, S. Saccomanno, G. Fava, C. Candelaresi, C. Rychlicki, G. Alpini, A. Benedetti, *Ancona, Temple (USA)*



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## ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

(Associazione riconosciuta con D.M. del 7.5.1998, G.U. del 20.6.1998)

### 23 Gene expression profiles for predicting treatment response in patients with chronic hepatitis C: preliminary analysis

A. Ciancio, E. Medico, A. Olivero, M. Berrutti, P. Caviglia, M.L. Abate, P.M. Comoglio, A. Smedile, M. Rizzetto, *Turin, Candiolo (Turin)*

### 24 Incidence, remission and mortality rate of fatty liver

S. Bellentani, G. Bedogni, L. Miglioli, F. Masutti, A.L. Crocè, A. Castiglione, V. Di Maso, C. Tiribelli, *Carpi (Modena), Trieste*

### 25 Guidelines for the use of human albumin in S. Orsola-Malpighi university hospital: a 3-year experience

P. Caraceni, D. Katountas, E. Gelonesi, M. Domenicali, B. Benazzi, V. Bevilacqua, F. Trevisani, C. Puggioli, M. Bernardi, *Bologna*

### 26 Treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus infection with pegylated interferon and ribavirin in cirrhotic patients waiting for liver transplantation

B.E. Annicchiarico, M. Siciliano, P. Parente, A. Gasbarrini, G. Bombardieri, *Rome*

### 27 Role of sex steroid hormones on hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) development in HBV transgenic mice

M. Barone, A. Di Leo, E. Maiorano, E. Panella, M.P. Scavo, A. Castellaneta, D. Francioso, A. Francavilla, *Bari*

### 28 Transjugular intrahepatic portosystemic shunt for refractory ascites: a meta-analysis of individual patient data

C. Cammà, M. Rossle, F. Wong, M. Enea, F. Salerno, *Palermo, Freiburg (Germany), Toronto (Canada), Milan*

### 29 Estrogens stimulate the growth of human cholangiocarcinoma by inducing the expression and secretion of vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF)

M.G. Mancino, A. Mancino, A. Torrice, M.C. Bragazzi, I. Stammegna, G.F. Alpini, P. Onori, A. Franchitto, E. Gaudio, A.F. Attili, D. Alvaro, *Rome, L'Aquila, Temple (USA)*

### 30 Prediction of significant fibrosis in chronic hepatitis C patients by artificial neural network analysis of clinical factors

F. Piscaglia, A. Cucchetti, A. Orlandini, E. Sagrini, A. Gianstefani, C. Crespi, G. Pelosi, M.A. Valli, L. Sacchelli, C. Ferrari, L. Bolondi, *Bologna, Parma*

### 31 Natural course of hepatitis B e antigen positive chronic hepatitis B: mortality after 25 years

N. Olivari, M. Pasino, S. Zanni, M. D'Onofrio, E. Martone, F. Donato, G. Fattovich, *Verona, Brescia*

### 32 HFE and SLC40A1 polymorphisms may favour iron overload in humans

P. Trombini, S. Pelucchi, F. Fumagalli Maldini, A. Salvioni, A. Riva, R. Mariani, S. Coletti, F. Bertola, A. Piperno, *Milan, Monza*

### 33 Lack of association between serological markers of past HBV exposure and HCC development in patients with HCV-induced cirrhosis

P. L. Almasio, T. Stroffolini, M. Persico, L. Benvegnù, A. Ascione, G. Mazzella, T. Santantonio, P. Andreone, A. Mangia, G.B. Gaeta, S. Bollani, M. Colombo, S. Bruno, on behalf of Italian Association of the Study of the Liver Disease (A.I.S.F.), *Palermo, Rome, Naples, Padua, Bologna, Bari, San Giovanni Rotondo (Foggia), Milan*

### 34 Reduced portal flow-rate as predictive factor of portal vein thrombosis development in patients with liver cirrhosis

M.A. Zocco, M. Novi, E. Di Stasio, L. Riccardi, A. Forgione, R. De Cristofaro, M.E. Ainora, E. Rinninella, G. Merra, M.C. Santoro, S. Lancellotti, A. Grieco, G. Landolfi, G. Gasbarrini, G.L. Rapaccini, A. Gasbarrini, *Rome*

### 35 HFE, TGF-BETA1 and squamous cell carcinoma antigen-1 polymorphisms and liver disease stage in chronic HCV infection

C. Turato, M.G. Ruvoletto, A. Biasiolo, S. Quarta, N. Tono, L. Cavalletto, L. Chemello, C. Merkel, A. Gatta, P. Pontisso, *Padua*

### 36 Effects of UDCA on the foetus-maternal circulation of bilirubin in cholestasis of pregnancy

F. Azzaroli, E. Baglivo, V. Feletti, M. Locatelli, N. Rizzo, D. De Aloysio, G. Pelusi, M. Montagnani, F. Lodato, D. Festi, A. Colecchia, A. Roda, E. Roda, G. Mazzella, *Bologna*

### 37 Is adiponectin a potential protective factor against atherosclerosis in primary biliary cirrhosis (PBC)?

A. Variola, M. Durazzo, G. Niro, A. Premoli, V. Baldo, R. Gambino, G. Musso, M. Cassader, S. Bo, F. Ferrara, A. Bressan, E. Rosa Rizzotto, A. Floreani, *Padua, Turin, S. Giovanni Rotondo*

### 38 A non invasive diagnostic algorithm for the diagnosis of chronic liver disease: the role of echography and APRI test

M. Persico, F.S. Moschella, B. Palmentieri, V. La Mura, G. Serafino, R. Torella, I. De Sio, *Naples*