



A I S F

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

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

39th 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 15-17, 2006

8th A.I.S.F. PRE-MEETING COURSE

"UPDATE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LIVER CANCER"

Course Directors: A. Gasbarrini, Rome and P. Lampertico, Milan

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Wednesday, February 15

09.30-10.30 Registration and Entry questionnaire

Ist Session

NATURAL HISTORY AND BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS

Chairpersons: F. BONINO, Milan – A. MELE, Rome

A. Primary Liver Cancer

10.30-10.50 Benign tumors – F. FARINATI, Padua

10.50-11.10 Hepatocellular Carcinoma
F. TREVISANI, Bologna

11.10-11.30 Cholangiocarcinoma and other malignant
liver tumors – D. ALVARO, Rome

Chairpersons: C. PUOTI, Marino – M. SALVAGNINI, Vicenza

B. Secondary Liver Cancer

11.30-11.50 Metastasis from adenocarcinoma
G. BIASCO, Bologna

11.50-12.10 Metastasis from endocrine and other tumors
G. DELLE FAVE, Rome

12.10-12.30 Discussion

12.30-13.00 Lecture: Molecular mechanisms of
neoplastic transformation and invasiveness
M. LEVRERO, Rome
Introduction by A. BENEDETTI, Ancona

13.00-14.00 Lunch

IInd Session

DIAGNOSIS AND STAGING

Chairpersons: F. ORLANDI, Ancona – A. GATTA, Padua

14.00-14.20 Diagnostic algorithm and staging of HCC
R. LENCIONI, Pisa

14.20-14.40 Diagnostic algorithm and staging of other
primary Liver Tumors
B. DANIELE, Benevento

14.40-15.00 Diagnostic algorithm and staging of
secondary Liver Tumors
E. BUSCARINI, Cremona

15.00-15.20 The role of the Hystopathologist
M. GUIDO, Padova

15.20-15.40 Discussion

15.40-16.00 Break

IIIrd Session

THERAPY

Chairpersons: A. ASCIONE, Naples – M. BERNARDI, Bologna

A. Primary Liver Cancer

16.00-16.20 Therapeutic Algorithm of HCC
L. BOLONDI, Bologna

16.20-16.40 Therapeutic Algorithm of other Liver Tumors
G.L. RAPACCINI, Rome

Chairpersons: A.F. ATTILI, Rome – A. CRAXI, Palermo

B. Secondary Liver Cancer

16.40-17.00 Surgical loco-regional treatment
G. NUZZO, Rome

17.00-17.20 Non surgical loco-regional treatment
S. CASCINU, Ancona

17.20-17.40 Adjuvant and neoadjuvant chemotherapy
C. BARONE, Rome

17.40-17.55 Discussion

17.55-18.15 Lecture: When the liver has to be
transplanted? V. MAZZAFERRO, Milan
Introduction by G. REALDI, Padua

IVth Session

18.15-19.00 Working Table: How to judge therapeutical
efficacy?

Coordinator: M. COLOMBO, Milan

M. SALIZZONI, Turin

Participants: C. BARONE, L. BOLONDI,

S. CASCINU, V. MAZZAFERRO,

G. NUZZO, G.L. RAPACCINI

19.00-19.15 General Assembly I



AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

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

39th Annual Meeting of the Italian Association for the Study of the Liver (A.I.S.F.) Rome, February 15-17, 2006

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

Thursday, February 16

- 08.30-10.00 **Oral Communications**
Chairpersons: N. CAPORASO, *Naples*
A. MARZANO, *Turin*
- 8.30-8.45 Noradrenalin vs terlipressin in hepatorenal syndrome: a prospective, randomized study.
C. Alessandria, A. Marzano, A. Ottobrelli, W. Debernardi-Venon, L. Todros, M. Torrani, A. Morgando, F. Balzola, S. Martini, G. Cacace, M. Rizzetto, Turin
- 8.45-9.00 Hepatic neutral endopeptidase (ec 3.4.24.11) expression in rat liver cirrhosis: a new target to treat portal hypertension?
G. Sansoè, M. Aragno, M. Parola, F. Rosina, A. Smedile, M. Rizzetto, Turin
- 9.00-9.15 Flow-mediated vasodilation as a marker of vascular responsiveness in cirrhotic patients with and without ascites.
M. Cazzaniga, S. Visentin, I. Cirello, E. Dionigi, M. Cugno, F. Salerno, Milan
- 9.15-9.30 Estrogens and IGF1 promote the proliferation of hepatic CSYT epithelium in autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease (ADPKD).
A. Torrice, D. Alvaro, P. Onori, MG. Mancino, V. Cardinale, G. Alpini, A. Franchitto, G. Battisti, DM. Jefferson, M. Strazzabosco, M. Angelico, AF. Attili, E. Gaudio, Rome, Temple, TX, USA, Bergamo
- 9.30-9.45 Liver stiffness measured by transient elastography: the influence of biochemical activity.
B. Coco, F. Oliveri, P. Colombatto, P. Ciccorossi, R. Sacco, F. Bonino, M.R. Brunetto, Pisa, Milan
- 9.45-10.00 JAK2 V617F mutation in extra hepatic portal vein obstruction and budd-chiari syndrome
F.M. Fabris, R. Reati, A. Dell'Era, P. Bucciarelli, G. Bergamaschi, G. Barosi, M. Primignani, Milan, Pavia
- 10.00-10.30 **Break**
Posters view
Tutors: M. CHIARAMONTE, *L'Aquila*
C. FERRARI, *Parma*
- 10.30-10.45 **Report of A.I.S.F. Commission on liver transplantation**
M. ANGELICO, *Rome*
- 10.45-11.45 **General Assembly II**
- 11.45-13.15 **Oral Communications**
Chairpersons: A. BENEDETTI, *Ancona*
A.D. PINNA, *Bologna*
- 11.45-12.00 Efficiency of current guidelines for primary prevention of variceal bleeding in cirrhosis
J. Cubero Sotela, A. Dell'Era, F. Fabris, G. Petazzi, R. Reati, F. Iannuzzi, R. de Franchis, M. Primignani, Milan
- 12.00-12.15 Silencing of Bcl-2 by specific siRNA sensitizes human activated hepatic stellate cells to TNF - induced apoptosis.
S. Cannito, E. Novo, E. Zamara, L. Valfrè di Bonzo, R.S.M. DeFranco, A. Mazzocca, S. Colombatto, F. Marra, R. Autelli, M. Pinzani, M. Parola, Turin, Florence
- 12.15-12.30 VEGF and angiopoietin-1 as chemotactic factors for activated human hepatic stellate cells
E. Novo, S. Cannito, E. Zamara, L. Valfrè di Bonzo, A. Caligiuri, S. Colombatto, F. Marra, M. Pinzani, M. Parola, Turin, Florence
- 12.30-12.45 Intention to-treat survival of liver transplantation for hepatocellular carcinoma: impact of a innovative drop out policy.
U. Cillo, A. Vitale, A. Brolese, G. Zanus, F. D'Amico, Padua
- 12.45-13.00 Human Cholangiocarcinoma Cells Express Leptin receptors and Respond to Leptin With Increase of Proliferation
G. Fava, G. Alpini, C. Rychlicki, G. Svegliati-Baroni, A. di Sario, S. De Morrow, H. Francis, J. Venter, S. Glaser, R. Reichenbach, A. Benedetti, Ancona, Temple, TX, USA
- 13.00-13.15 Impaired ventricular recovery in liver cirrhosis: a controlled study of QT-interval dispersion.
A. Milani, R. Zaccaria, B.E. Annicchiarico, P. Parente, A. Pasanen, M. Siciliano, G. Bombardieri, A. Gasbarrini, P. Pola, Rome



AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

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

- 13.15-14.15 Lunch
Posters view
Tutors: U. CILLO, *Padua*
G. FATTOVICH, *Verona*
- 14.15-15.00 **General Assembly III:
Report of A.I.S.F. Scientific Commissions and
Study Groups**
Chairpersons: A.I.S.F. Coordinating Committee
- 15.00-15.45 **State-of-the-Art Lecture**
Introduction: A. BENEDETTI, *Ancona*
The acrobats of liver stem cells: how are they controlled?
T. ROSKAMS, *Leuven (Belgium)*
- 15.45-16.00 **2005 A.I.S.F. Fellowship Report**
Chairperson: A. PIETRANGELO, *Modena*
Study of epigenetic mechanisms involved in the regulation of HBV transcriptional and replicative activity
L. COSTANTINO, *Messina*
- 16.00-16.30 Break
Posters view
Tutors: M. CHIARAMONTE, *L'Aquila*
C. FERRARI, *Parma*
- 16.30-18.00 **Oral Communications**
Chairpersons: F.B. BIANCHI, *Bologna*
A. GASBARRINI, *Rome*
- 16.30-16.45 Detection of HCV antigens (HCV-AG) as a unique tool to identify HCV infection of liver graft: relevance to the management of recurrent post liver transplant (IT) hepatitis C.
A. Grassi, C. Quarneri, M. Ravaioli, F. Bianchini, A. D'Errico, F. Piscaglia, M. Tamè, P. Andreone, G.L. Grazi, S. Galli, D. Zauli, A. Pinna, F.B. Bianchi, G. Ballardini, *Bologna*
- 16.45-17.00 The activation of the IGF1 system is a requisite for cholangiocyte survival during the progression of primary biliary cirrhosis (PBC).
D. Alvaro, A. Floreani, P. Onori, A. Franchitto, M.G. Mancino, M. Guido, G. Carpino, A. De Santis, M. Angelico, A.F. Attili, E. Gaudio, *Rome*
- 17.00-17.15 The Foetal-Maternal Circulation of Bile Acids and Bilirubin: effects of cholestasis and UDCA Administration
E. Baglivo, F. Azzaroli, M. Montagnani, V. Feletti, P. Simoni, M. Locatelli, D. De Aloysio, G. Pelusi, F. Lodato, D. Festi, A. Colecchia, E. Roda, G. Mazzella, *Bologna*
- 17.15-17.30 Effect of granulocyte colony stimulating-factor in a rat model of acute liver injury.
F. Giannone, P. Caraceni, L. Catani, S. Talarico, A. M. Pertosa, M. Domenicali, A. Principe, F. Trevisani, R. Lemoli, M. Baccarani, M. Bernardi, *Bologna*
- 17.30-17.45 Ki67, Bcl-2, p53, CD44 in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC): interaction between etiology, grading, proliferation rate and prognostic role
A. Tavernaraki, A. Baldan, A. Sergio, A. Cecchetto, M. Guido, F. Farinati, *Padua*
- 17.45-18.00 Radiofrequency thermal ablation (RFA) of HCC liver nodules can create local conditions for dendritic cells (DC) maturation
A. Zerbini, M. Pilli, F. Fagnoni, G. Pelosi, S. Schivazappa, D. Laccabue, M.G. Pizzi, C. Ferrari, G. Missale, *Parma, Pavia*
- ### Friday, February 17
- 08.30-10.00 **Oral Communications**
Chairpersons: P. LAMPERTICO, *Milan*
M. RIZZETTO, *Turin*
- 08.30-08.45 Proposal of a novel meld score adjustment for HCC patients awaiting for liver transplantation.
F. Piscaglia, V. Camaggi, M. Ravaioli, G.L. Grazi, M. Zanella, S. Leoni, M.G. Mirarchi, G. Ballardini, A.D. Pinna, L. Bolondi, *Bologna*
- 08.45-09.00 Micronuclei in hepatocellular carcinoma and its phenotypical precursors
M. Guido, M. Fassan, L. Giacomelli, C. Mescoli, U. Cillo, P. Burra, S. Fagioli, M. Rugge, *Padua*
- 09.00-09.15 Angiotensin converting enzyme gene I/D allelic variants and liver fibrosis in chronic hepatitis C
P. Toniutto, C. Smirne, C. Fabris, D. Bitetto, E. Rossi, S. Fumagalli, S. Fangazio, M. Burlone, R. Minisini, R. Rapetti, F. Caldera, M. Pirisi, *Udine, Novara*
- 09.15-09.30 Tauroursodeoxycholic acid prevents canalicular damage induced by ischemia-reperfusion injury in the rat, modulating PKC α -Ezrin pathway.
L. Baiocchi, M.A. Russo, G. Tisone, C. Telesca, S. Furfaro, C. Almerighi, A. Cardillo, G. Palmieri, M. Angelico, *Rome*
- 09.30-09.45 "Wear and tear" liver renewal: different grade of hepatocyte gene expression in peripheral blood with and without liver injury
R. Stigliano, F. Lodato, L. Marelli, K. Pang, M. Lowdell, L. Foroni, D. Patch, A.K. Burroughs, N. Rolando, *London*
- 09.45-10.00 Antiviral therapy and clinical outcome in compensated HCV cirrhosis: a prospective cohort study
V. Di Marco, P.L. Almasio, S. De Lisi, V. Calvaruso, D. Ferraro, S. Peralta, P. Parisi, G. Alaimo, N. Alessi, R. Di Stefano, A. Craxi, *Palermo*



AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

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

- 10.00-10.45 **State-of-the-Art Lecture**
Introduction: A. NANNI COSTA, *Rome*
One Liver for Two: the effects of technical evolution
B. GRIDELLI, *Palermo*
- 10.45-11.15 Break
Posters view
Tutors: U. CILLO, *Padua*
G. FATTOVICH, *Verona*
- 11.15-12.30 **AISF-ANMCO-SID-SIIA-SIO-SIGENP Round Table**
"Interactions between metabolic syndrome and NAFLD"
Chairpersons: A. BENEDETTI, *Ancona*
G. MARCHESINI, *Bologna*
- 12.30-13.30 **General Assembly IV**
- 13.30-14.30 Lunch
Posters view
Tutors: M. CHIARAMONTE, *L'Aquila*
C. FERRARI, *Parma*
- 14.30-16.00 **Oral Communications**
Chairpersons: G.B. GAETA, *Naples*
M. PUOTI, *Brescia*
- 14.30-14.45 Progression to cirrhosis and treatment outcomes in 1005 anti HCV positive viremic intravenous drug users (IVDUs).
E. Minola, M. Fraquelli, D. Prati, S. Milani, C. Villa, D. Conte, Bergamo, Lecco, Milan
- 14.45-15.00 A novel multidrug-resistance protein 2 gene mutation identifies a subgroup of patients with primary biliary cirrhosis and pruritus
I. Carderi, N.V. Bergasa, A. Variola, E. Rosa Rizzotto, J. Nicol, A. Floreani, Padua, New York
- 15.00-15.15 HLA-DRB1 polymorphisms in 676 Italian patients with primary biliary cirrhosis and 2028 matched healthy controls. a nation-wide population-based case-control study.
P. Invernizzi, L. Bianchi, F. Poli, C. Selmi, F. Rosina, A. Floreani, S. Frison, M. Zuin, M. Podda, and the Italian PBC Genetic Study Group, Milan
- 15.15-15.30 The selective inhibition of the Na⁺/H⁺ exchanger by cariporide increases the antineoplastic effect of gemcitabine in cholangiocarcinoma cells.
A. Di Sario, A. Omenetti, C. Candelaresi, E. Bendia, H.W. Kleemann, G. Fava, A. Benedetti, Ancona, Frankfurt
- 15.30-15.45 Impact of occult HBV infection in HIV patients naive for anti-retroviral therapy
P. Filippini, N. Coppola, R. Pisapia, C. Scolastico, C. Marrocco, A. Zaccariello, C. Nacca, C. Sagnelli, G. De Stefano, T. Ferraro, C. De Stefano, E. Sagnelli, Naples, Caserta, Catanzaro, Matera, Potenza
- 15.45-16.00 B lymphocyte activation in chronic HCV infection: possible implications for autoimmune and lymphoproliferative disorders
A. Cerino, L. Timo, G. Comolli, A. Cividini, R. Gulminetti, V. Barnaba, M.U. Mondelli, Pavia, Rome
- 16.00-16.15 **Presentation of the A.I.S.F./FADE prize for the best Italian paper in 2004**
Chairpersons: P. FARCI, *Cagliari*
N. LO TORTO, *Milan*
Presenter: R. RENZI, *Milan*
"Hepatitis B Virus Maintains Its Pro-oncogenic Properties in the Case of Occult HBV Infection"
T. Pollicino, G. Squadrito, G. Cerenzia, I. Cacciola, G. Raffa, A. Craxi, F. Farinati, G. Missale, A. Smedile, C. Tiribelli, E. Villa, G. Raimondo
Gastroenterology 2004;126:102-110
- 16.15-16.30 **Presentation of the A.I.S.F. distinguished service award to Prof. Francesco Orlandi**
Presenter: A. BENEDETTI, *Ancona*
- 16.30-17.45 **Oral Communications**
Chairpersons: A. ALBERTI, *Padua*
S. FAGIUOLI, *Padua*
- 16.30-16.45 Increased expression of the forkhead transcription factor FoxO1 is associated with steatohepatitis and insulin resistance in NAFLD
L. Valenti, R. Rametta, A. Fracanzani, P. Dongiovanni, S. Fargion, Milan
- 16.45-17.00 Prediction of significant fibrosis in HCV-infected liver transplant recipients by artificial neural network analysis of clinical factors
F. Piscaglia, A. Cucchetti, S. Benlloch, M. Vivarelli, V. Camaggi, J. Berenguer, L. Bolondi, AD. Pinna, M. Berenguer, Bologna, Valencia, Spain
- 17.00-17.15 HBV quasispecies selected during lamivudine treatment may contribute to adefovir dipivoxil resistance
F. Moriconi, D. Flichman, P. Ciccorossi, B. Coco, R. Sacco, F. Oliveri, P. Colombatto, F. Bonino, M.R. Brunetto, Pisa, Milan
- 17.15-17.30 A multicenter Italian study of rescue Adefovir dipivoxil therapy in lamivudine resistant patients: a 2-year analysis of 650 patients.
P. Lampertico, A. Marzano, M. Levrero, T. Santantonio, P. Andreone, M. Brunetto, V. Di Marco, S. Fagioli, G. Mazzella, G. Raimondo, for the AISF Adefovir Study Group



AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

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

17.30-17.45 Comparable magnitude and breadth in the HBV genotype A and D specific cellular immunity in liver transplanted individuals (OLT) and subjects with chronic hepatitis B (CHB).

E. Loggi, FK Bihl, JV Chrislom III, L. Testa, C. Cursaro, M. Biselli, A. Pinna, M. Bernardi, C. Brander, P. Andreone, Bologna, Boston

17.45-18.00 Young Investigators Awards

Presenter for the best oral communication

G. RAIMONDO, Messina

Presenters for the best poster

M. CHIARAMONTE, L'Aquila

G. FATTOVICH, Verona

POSTER SESSION

1 Human umbilical cord blood: a possible source of stem cells for hepatocyte differentiation

M. Turetta, C. Calore, A. Masier, R. Di Liddo, P. Bo, S. Tomat, F.P. Russo, P.P. Parnigotto, MT. Conconi, P. Burra, Padua

2 Glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) promotes the growth of the biliary tree both in the normal and in the cholestatic rat

M. Marzoni, G. Alpini, S. Saccomanno, C. Candelaresi, S. Glaser, C. Rychlicki, H. Francis, L. Trozzi, J. Venter, R. Reichenbach, A. Benedetti, Ancona, Temple TX

3 Improvement of liver function after cold ischemia by melatonin

E. Boncompagni, C. Guarnaschelli, A. Ferrigno, V. Bertone, R.J. Reiter, S. Barni, M. Vairetti, I. Freitas, Pavia, San Antonio Usa

4 Protection by subnormothermic machine perfusion against rat liver preservation injury: role of Ca²⁺.

A. Ferrigno, V. Rizzo, P. Richelmi, D. Neri, U. Cillo, I. Freitas, M. Vairetti, Pavia, Padua

5 A role of resistin as a mediator of hepatic inflammation and oxidative stress.

C. Bertolani, P. Sancho-Bru, R. Bataller, E. Zamara, P. Failli, S. Aleffi, S. Milani, G. Pino, M. Parola, F. Marra, Turin, Florence, Barcelona

6 Long term β -blockade shortens Q-T interval prolongation in patients with liver cirrhosis

A. Zambruni, F. Savelli, A. Berzigotti, G. Magini, F. Mirici Cappa, M.C. Cantarini, P. Caraceni, M. Domenicali, A. Di Micoli, F. Fellingine, S. Lorenzini, M. Zoli, M. Bernardi, F. Trevisani, Bologna

7 Does the degree of portal hypertension correlate with the severity of liver cirrhosis?

L. Bellis, F. Martellino, R. Guarisco, L. Spilabotti, M. Scuderi, O. Dell'Unto, C. Puoti, Rome

8 I.V. infused calcium has marked diuretic and natriuretic effects in pre-ascitic human cirrhosis: physiopathological and clinical implications.

G. Sansoè, T. Smith, F. Wong, Turin, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

9 Thrombotic risk factors in patients with liver cirrhosis: correlation with disease staging and portal vein thrombosis development

M.A. Zocco, M. Novi, M.E. Ainora, G. Di Gioacchino, L. Riccardi, R. De Cristofaro, A. Forgione, G. Merra, M.C. Santoro, L. Zileri Dal Verme, R. Landolfi, G. Addolorato, M. Pompili, A. Grieco, G. Gasbarrini, G.L. Rapaccini, A. Gasbarrini, Rome

10 Factors that predict histological response to long-term iron depletion by phlebotomy in patients with chronic hepatitis C.

M. Sartori, S. Andorno, C. Rigamonti, S. Colombi, R. Boldorini, G.B. Contessi, A. Rossini, Novara, Brescia

11 TNF- α and IL-10 genetic polymorphisms influence the natural history and the response to antiviral therapy in HCV related chronic hepatitis.

M. Persico, M. Capasso, E. Persico, M. Svelto, R. Russo, M. Masarone, A. Iolascon, Naples

12 Rapid Virological Response in Genotype 1b Patients Treated with Peginterferon plus Ribavirin: Evidence for a Significant Sustained Virological Response (SVR) After 24 Weeks of Therapy in Peg-interferon-alpha 2a treated patients.

B. Palmentieri, M. Svelto, V. La Mura, M. Masarone, E. Persico, F. Moschella, F. Carrino, R. Torella, M. Persico, Internal Medicine and Hepatology Unit, SUN, Italy

13 SCCA expression in PBMC in patients with chronic hepatitis C

L. Vidalino, S. Quarta, L. Baesso, L. Cavinin, E. Bernardinello, L. Trentin, G. Fassina, L. Cavalletto, L. Chemello, A. Gatta, P. Pontisso, Padua, Naples

14 Peginterferon ALFA-2B plus ribavirin for treatment in patients with hepatitis C virus-related systemic vasculitis: a multicenter study

C. Mazza, G. Pozzato, A.M. Baragiotta, G. Monti, D. Filippini, C. Donada, A. Tellan, S. De Vita, GISC, Trieste, Pordenone, Saronno, Milan, Gorizia, Udine



AISF

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LO STUDIO DEL FEGATO

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

15 Peg-interferon alfa-2b and ribavirin for hepatitis C recurrence after liver transplantation

F. Lodato, S. Berardi, A. Gramenzi, MR. Tamè, G. Mazzella, C. Sama, G. Ballardini, F. Piscaglia, M. Biselli, GL. Grazi, C. Morelli, S. Lorenzini, M. Bernardi, P. Andreone, Bologna

16 Evaluating liver fibrosis in chronic hepatitis C (CHC). Accuracy of two new predictive models

C. Facciotto, M. Fraquelli, D. Conte, M. Colombo, M. Viganò, S. Paggi, P. Dal Poggio, A. Colli, Milan, Lecco

17 Dynamics and correlates of iron biomarkers in chronic hepatitis C patients undergoing antiviral treatment : an interim report

F. Ferrara, M. Guido, P. Ventura, A. Vegetti, G. Abbati, C. Ferrari, G. Fattovich, A. Pietrangelo and the IRPEG Study Group, Modena, Padua, Parma, Verona

18 Kinetic analysis of insulin resistance and serum adipocytokines levels during Peginterferon-alpha2a (40 kDa) plus ribavirin therapy in non-diabetic HCV patients.

O. Lo Iacono, G. Venezia, S. Petta, PL. Almasio, C. Mineo, M. Amato, A. Mattina, V. Di Marco, S De Lisi, D Ferraro, A. Licata, A Craxi, Palermo

19 Analysis of HCV persistence in patients with sustained virological response

C. Giannini, A. Petrarca, U. Arena, M. Monti, V. Solazzo, F. Giannelli, P. Caini, G. La Villa, G. Laffi, P. Gentilini, A.L. Zignego, Florence

20 Alternative medicine treatments in a large cohort of HCV patients

G. Berloffo, S. Realdon, S. Boninsegna, I. Carderi, A. Buda, D. Martines, I. Gardini, S. Fagioli, (on behalf of EPAC), Padua

21 No evidence for ADV resistance in HBeAg-negative lamivudine resistant patients treated with lamivudine-adeфовir combination for 3 years.

M. Viganò, E. Manenti, E. del Ninno, M. Colombo, P. Lampertico, Milan

22 Adefovir alone or in combination with lamivudine in chronic hepatitis B lamivudine-resistant patients: results after two years of treatment.

V. Barbon, A. Marzano, S. Carezzi, M. Lagget, C. Alessandria, A. Olivero, S. Gaia, A. Ciancio, A. Smedile, M. Rizzetto, Turin

23 HBeAg defective mutants in active/inactive anti-HBe positive HBV carriers: possible role of pre-core initiation mutants.

D. Flichman, F. Moriconi, F. Oliveri, P. Ciccorossi, B. Coco, P. Colombatto, R. Sacco, F. Bonino, MR Brunetto, Milan, Pisa

24 Virological and clinical aspect of occult HBV infection in patient with chronic hepatitis C: a multicentre study

E. Sagnelli, G. Plai, L. Cimmino, A. Giorgio, A. Marone, V. Messina, F. Piccinino, N. Coppola, C. Marrocco, M. Imperato, R. Pisapia, C. Sagnelli, P. Filippini, Naples

25 Possible prognostic significance of Ape1/Ref1 sub-cellular expression in hepatocellular carcinoma at different stages.

V. Di Maso, L.S. Crocè L., C. Avellini C., G. Tell, V. Del Mistro, S. Intini, F. Cattin, F. Sasso, C. Tiribelli, Trieste, Udine

26 Post-marketing retrospective analysis on the safety of sonovue, a second generation ultrasound contrast agent, in abdominal and liver applications. report from 23.188 investigations performed in Italy.

F. Piscaglia, R. Righini, A. Venturi, F. Calliada, L. Bolondi on behalf of the SIUMB study group on SonoVue Safety, Bologna, Pavia

27 Successful treatment of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) with transcatheter arterial embolization (TAE) with microspheres (embosphere).

A. Nicolini, A. Sangiovanni, P. Fasani, L. Forzenigo, S. Crespi, L. Giaramita, G. M. Prati, R. Romeo, P. Biondetti, M. Colombo, Milan

28 Silencing of CD81 by small interfering RNA elevates the invasive potential of human colorectal carcinoma

A. Mazocco, T. Gentili, M. Brogi, M. Pinzani, Florence

29 Impact of etiology of cirrhosis on HCC stage at diagnosis and on survival of patients under surveillance.

G. Magini, V. Santi, AM. Morselli Labate, F. Farinati, L. Benvegnù, M. Zoli, P. Del Poggio, MA. Di Nolfo, F. Borzio, E. Giannini, E. Catturelli, G. Rapaccini, M. Bernardi, F. Trevisani, for ITA.LI.CA (Italian Liver Cancer) group, Bologna

30 Prevalence and factors associated with fatty liver in a geriatric population: results from the Pianoro study.

D. Magalotti, A. Berzigotti, C. Tiani, S. Dapporto, C. Ludovico, P. Zappoli, N. Castaldini, A. Muscari, M. Zoli on behalf of the Pianoro Study Group, Bologna

31 Immune/allergic pathologies and other uncommon clinical presentations in Sardinian patients with Wilson's disease.

D. Riccio, O. Sorbello, P. Coni, G. Faa, L. Demelia, Cagliari

32 Prediction of hepatic steatosis using a simple and accurate score: the fatty liver index

G. Bedogni, L. Miglioli, L. Saveria Crocè, F. Masutti, M. Passalacqua, A. Castiglione, C. Tiribelli, S. Bellentani, Carpi, Modena, Trieste

33 Genetic polymorphisms of PPARA: allele frequency in gallstone patients.

M. Montagnani, E. Ravaioli, R. Aldini, R. Righetti, M.L. Bacchi-Reggiani, D. Festi, F. Azzaroli, A. Colecchia, G. Mazzella, F. Minni, E. Roda, Bologna

34 Influence of age on bile acid synthesis: role of hepatic expression of nuclear receptors.

C. Gabbi, M. Bertolotti, C. Anzivino, D. Macchioni, M. Crestani, N. Mitro, M. Del Puppo, L. Carulli, P. Loria, N. Carulli, Modena e Reggio Emilia, Milan

35 The need for liver transplant of HIV+ subjects

M. Nafissi, B. Farneti, A. Zagnoli, P. Costigliola, F. Tumietto, F. Gabbriellini, S. Venettoni, L. Rizzato, A. Nanni Costa, F. Chioldo from HOST Project, Bologna, Rome