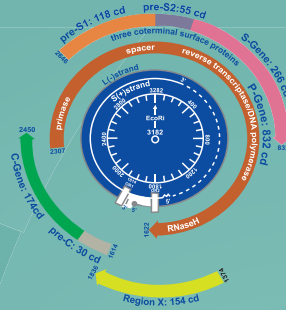




# Update on Biology and Clinical Impact of Occult Hepatitis B Virus Infection



TAORMINA-MESSINA-ITALY

October 1<sup>st</sup> • 2<sup>nd</sup> | 2018

## ENDORSEMENTS



**EASL** | ENDORSED  
EVENT  
European Association  
for the Study of the Liver



The first International Meeting was organized in 2008. It was entirely focused on the biology and clinical implications of the so-called “occult” phase of chronic hepatitis B virus infection (*Occult Hepatitis B Virus Infection: Biology and Clinical Impact – Taormina, March 7th-8th, 2008*). The workshop was endorsed by the EASL and enjoyed extraordinary success.

Many international experts (virologists, immunologists, transfusionists, epidemiologists, hepatologists, etc.) were involved and produced a document published in the Journal of Hepatology that has hundreds of citations and it is still considered the benchmark in the field (*Statements from the Taormina expert meeting on occult hepatitis B virus infection - Journal of Hepatology, 2008: 49; 652–657*).

In the last years, the knowledge on occult HBV infection (also known with the abbreviation “OBI”, as established at the Taormina meeting) has greatly increased. Some important virological and immunological aspects have been clarified. The molecular basis of OBI has been identified as the long-lasting persistence of HBV cccDNA in the form of a transcriptionally suppressed minichromosome.

In addition, there is growing evidence supporting its clinical impact in different clinical scenarios. In fact, apart from the well-established risks of acute and often fatal reactivation in the course of immune-suppressive therapy and of HBV transmission in cases of liver transplantation and blood transfusion, OBI might be a factor that negatively influences the outcome of the disease if other causes of liver damage (HCV infection, ASH, NASH, hemochromatosis, etc.), co-exist.

The Meeting will be a unique occasion to discuss both the different aspects of this important and particular phase of the HBV infection and new strategies for a complete - or at least functional - HBV cure.

## SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZER

- Giovanni **Raimondo**  
Division of Clinical and Molecular Hepatology  
University Hospital of Messina - *Italy*

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- Antonio **Craxì** (*Palermo, Italy*)
- Carlo **Ferrari** (*Parma, Italy*)
- Massimo **Levrero** (*Lyon, France*)
- Stephen **Locarnini** (*Melbourne, Australia*)
- Anna Suk-Fong **Lok** (*Ann Arbor, MI, USA*)
- Teresa **Pollicino** (*Messina, Italy*)
- Fabien **Zoulim** (*Lyon, France*)

## LOCAL CO-ORGANIZERS

- Giovanni **Squadrito**
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- Gaia **Caccamo**
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- Roberto **Filomia**
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- Giuseppina **Raffa**
- Carlo **Saitta**

*University Hospital of Messina - Italy*

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- Shouval** *(Jerusalem, Israel)*
- Soriano** *(Madrid, Spain)*
- Squadrito** *(Messina, Italy)*
- Sureau** *(Paris, France)*
- Trepo** *(Lyon, France)*
- Yuen** *(Hong Kong, PRC)*
- Zoulim** *(Lyon, France)*



# Update on Biology and Clinical Impact of Occult Hepatitis B Virus Infection

TAORMINA-MESSINA-ITALY October 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> | 2018

Scientific Program



**MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018**

**14.00-14.15**      **Where do we stand now from 2008?**  
**G. Raimondo**

**SESSION 1:      Virology and Immunopathobiology**

*Chairmen: L.G. Guidotti – C. Sureau*

14.15-14.30      Molecular definition of occult HBV infection  
**S. Locarnini**

14.30-14.45      Molecular basis of viral genome silencing in occult infection  
**M. Levrero**

14.45-15.00      Escape mutants in occult HBV infection  
**D. Glebe**

15.00-15.15      Immunological aspects of occult HBV infection  
**C. Ferrari**

15.15-15.30      Animal models of occult hepadnavirus infection  
**T.I. Michalak**

15.30-15.45      Open selected questions  
**M. Dandri**

15.45-16.00      General Discussion

**SESSION 2:      Diagnosis**

*Chairmen: M.R. Brunetto – C.F. Perno*

16.00-16.15      Current approaches to detect occult HBV infection  
**T. Pollicino**

16.15-16.30      May new virological biomarkers be useful to detect occult HBV?  
**T. Berg**

16.30-16.40      Open selected questions  
**J-M Pawlotsky**

16.40-16.50      General Discussion



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**MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018**

16.50-17.15 *Coffee Break*

## **SESSION 3: Epidemiology**

*Chairmen: V. Di Marco – G.B. Gaeta*

17.15-17.30 Epidemiology and regional prevalence of occult HBV infection in Western World  
**N. Coppola**

17.30-17.45 Epidemiology and regional prevalence of occult HBV infection in Asia  
**D-S. Chen**

17.45-18.00 Epidemiology and regional prevalence of occult HBV infection in Africa  
**A. Kramvis**

18.00-18.15 Occult HBV infection in special populations  
**V. Soriano**

18.15-18.30 Open selected questions  
**R. Bruno**

18.30-18.45 General Discussion

## **18.45-19.15 Lecture**

*Chairman: M.U. Mondelli*

**Immunobiology and Pathogenesis of Acute, Occult and Chronic HBV Infection**

**F.V. Chisari**



# Update on Biology and Clinical Impact of Occult Hepatitis B Virus Infection

TAORMINA-MESSINA-ITALY October 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> | 2018

Scientific Program



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018**

## **SESSION 4: Transmission**

*Chairmen: M. Cornberg – A. Marzano*

08.30-08.45 Occult HBV infection in vaccinated new-borns from HBsAg positive mothers

**J-P Allain**

08.45-09.00 Occult HBV and blood products in Europe and Americas

**D. Prati**

09.00-09.15 Occult HBV and blood products in Asia and Africa

**C. Li**

09.15-09.30 Occult HBV and liver transplantation

**D. Samuel**

09.30-09.45 Open selected questions

**D. Glebe**

09.45-10.00 General Discussion

## **10.00-10.30 Lecture**

*Chairman: C. Trepo*

**Endpoints of HBV treatment: how to differentiate between cure and converting active to occult HBV infection?**

**A. S-F Lok**

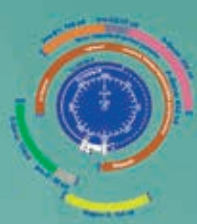
10.30-11.00 *Coffee Break*





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**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018**

## **SESSION 5: Liver disease / Therapeutic implications**

*Chairmen: P. Lampertico – J. Liang*

- 11.00-11.15 Occult HBV in HCV-related liver disease and HCC in the DAA era  
**A. Craxì**
- 11.15-11.30 Reactivation of occult HBV in HCV patients treated with DAAs  
**M. Puoti**
- 11.30-11.45 Occult HBV in HCV-negative liver disease and HCC  
**G. Squadrito**
- 11.45-12.00 Reactivation of occult HBV infection in immunocompromised patients  
**M-F. Yuen**
- 12.00-12.15 Immunotherapy in patients with occult HBV and HCC  
**A. Bertoletti**
- 12.15-12.30 May occult HBV infection be cleared by therapy?  
**F. Zoulim**
- 12.30-12.45 Open selected questions  
**D. Shouval**
- 12.45-13.00 General Discussion
- 13.30-14.30 *Lunch*

## **SESSION 6: Final Discussion and Statements**

- 14.30-16.30 *Chairmen: M. Levrero – A. S-F Lok – S. Locarnini – G. Raimondo – F. Zoulim*  
Faculty Members
- 16.30-16.45 CME Questionnaire
- 16.45 *Closure of the Meeting*

### CONGRESS VENUE

Palazzo dei Congressi  
Piazza Vittorio Emanuele II  
98039 Taormina (Messina) Italy

### ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT AND CME PROVIDER - CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (ID 2519)

Spazio Congressi S.r.l.  
Via Alfredo Catalani, 39  
I-00199 Rome  
Tel./Fax 06.86204308  
Email: [spazio.c@mclink.it](mailto:spazio.c@mclink.it)

### REGISTRATION FEE

Fees for participants, reserved up to 150 attendees, will include:

- Access to scientific sessions
- Lunches and coffee breaks
- Attendance Certificate
- CME credits certificate (only for Italian attendees)

To register please contact Spazio Congressi [spazio.c@mclink.it](mailto:spazio.c@mclink.it)

Registration Fee (VAT 22% included)	before July 16 <sup>th</sup> 2018	after July 16 <sup>th</sup> 2018
<b>MEMBER AISF/EASL</b>	Euro 150,00	Euro 250,00
<b>NON MEMBER AISF/EASL</b>	Euro 300,00	Euro 400,00
<b>TRAINEES, STUDENTS AND YOUNG INVESTIGATORS</b>	Free(*)	Euro 100,00(*)

(\*) Trainees, students and young investigators must be under 35 years old or still in training at the time of the Meeting (October 1st.). Proof of age or training status is mandatory.

### CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS

- Notification of cancellation and requests for refunds must be made in writing to Spazio Congressi S.r.l. at the following email address: spazio.c@mclink.it
- Cancellations received by Spazio Congressi S.r.l. within August 31st, 2018 will be refunded minus 10% for administrative charges.
- Cancellations received by Spazio Congressi S.r.l. on or before September 15th, 2018 will be refunded 70% of the fee paid.
- No refund will be given after September 15th, 2018.
- All refunds will be made after the Event.

### LANGUAGE

The official language of the Event is English. Simultaneous translation will not be provided.

### FORMATIVE OBJECTIVE CME - CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

Application in the daily practice of the principles and procedures of the evidence based practice (EBM - EBN - EBP)

### CME - CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION (ONLY FOR ITALIAN ATTENDEES)

The Scientific Event **ID 2159-234737** has been accredited for 100 medical specialists with **10 (ten) CME Credits**.

Credits have been requested for the physician professional category specialist in: Gastroenterology, Internal Medicine, Infectious diseases, Microbiology and Virology, General Surgery.

### IN ORDER TO OBTAIN CME CREDITS, ATTENDEES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

- Compilation of the learning questionnaire answering at least 80% of the questions correctly together with the evaluation board/satisfaction form of the Event;
- Compilation of the personal data form;
- 90% participation in the full training activity to be verified by incoming and outgoing signatures for each day;

CME credits will not be given without the above mentioned requirements.

CME credits certificate will be sent by certified e-mail to the address stated on the questionnaire.

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