



**Imperial College London - Fondazione FIRMS – Turin
in collaboration with the Compagnia di San Paolo, Turin
Assessorato alla Sanità – Regione Piemonte
and the ECNIS project NoE 6th EU Framework Programme for Research and
Development (FP6)**

FIRST LORENZO TOMATIS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND CANCER

**June 4 – 5 2009 - CENTRO INCONTRI REGIONE PIEMONTE
C.so Stati Uniti 23 – Turin**

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

*Paolo Vineis, Rodolfo Saracci (conference coordinators),
Aaron Blair, James Huff, Manolis Kogevinas, Lucio Luzzatto, Ron Melnick, Franco Merletti,
Ruggero Montesano, Jonathan Samet, Benedetto Terracini, Harri Vainio.*

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Paolo Vineis, Rodolfo Saracci, Sabrina Bertinetti

Admission Free - Simultaneous translation provided

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Conference Programme

❖ Thursday June 4th, 2009

9.00 -9.20 Opening address : - *A. Fasolo (representative of the University of Turin, Italy) ;*
- *P. Tomatis, Trieste*

9.20-9.30 The Conference programme : *P.Vineis and R. Saracci*

Session 1 : CANCER TODAY (chairperson J. Samet)

9.30-10.15 Keynote lecture The process of carcinogenesis. *J. Cairns (University of Oxford, UK)*

10.15-10.30 Coffee break

10.30-11.10 Somatic mutation in cancer development. *L. Luzzatto (Istituto Toscano Tumori- Firenze, Italy)*

11.10-11.50 Environmental cancer: why such a broad spectrum of estimates? *R. Saracci (National Research Council – Pisa, Italy)*

11.50-13.00 Lunch

Session 2 : CANCER IN THE ECONOMICALLY DEVELOPED WORLD (chairperson R. Montesano)

13.00-13.40 Occupational cancer in developed countries. *A. Blair (National Cancer Institute – Bethesda, USA)*

13.40-14.20 Childhood cancers. *B. Terracini (University of Turin, Italy)*

14.20-15.00 Radiation and cancer risk: a continuing challenge for epidemiologists. *J. Samet (University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA)*

15.00-15.40 Nutrition and Cancer. *E. Riboli (Imperial College – London, UK)*

15.40 – 16.00 Coffee break

16.00-16.40 Biomarkers for hazard identification in humans. *H. Bartsch (German Cancer Research Center- Heidelberg, Germany)*

16.40 -17.20 New epidemiological approaches in the investigation of the environmental causes of cancer. *M. Kogevinas (Centre for Research on Environmental Epidemiology - Barcelona, Spain)*

17.20-18.00 The risks of early life exposure to carcinogens : opportunities for prevention. *F. Perera (Columbia University - New York, USA)*

❖ Friday June 5th, 2009

Session 3 : THE GROWING PROBLEM OF CANCER IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (chairperson F. Perera)

9.00-9.45 The burden of cancer in developing countries. *P. Pisani (Oxford University, UK)*

9.45-10.30 Occupational and environmental cancer in developing countries. *V. Santana (Universidade Federal da Bahia-Salvador de Bahia, Brazil)*

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00 -11.45 Preventing primary liver cancer : the Gambia project. *R. Montesano (Courmayeur, Italy)*

11:45 –13.00 Lunch

Session 4 : CANCER IN SOCIETY (chairperson J. Huff)

13.00-13.45 The socioeconomic determinants of cancer. *F. Merletti (University of Turin, Italy)*

13.45-14.15 Evidence and action in cancer prevention: the role of IARC Monographs. *H. Vainio (Finnish Institute of Occupational Health- Helsinki, Finland)*

14.15-14.30 *Discussant* *V. Cogliano (International Agency for Research on Cancer – Lyon, France)*

14.30-15.15 Future perspectives : cancer control. *F. Cavalli (Oncology Institute of Southern Switzerland-Bellinzona, Switzerland)*

15.15-15.45 Coffee break

15.45-16.30 Future perspectives : Research on Environment and Cancer. *C. Wild (International Agency for Research on Cancer – Lyon, France)*

16.30-18.00 Cancer and society : round table introduced and chaired by *P. Vineis*
Topics covered include communication, role of media, triumphalism of cancer research community, high costs of therapies, role of pharmaceutical companies, neglected issues, precautionary principle.

[Note: the schedule indicated for the lectures includes a 30 minute presentation plus time for discussion]



Lorenzo Tomatis (Sassoferrato, Italy, 1929 - Lyon, France, 2007)
Director IARC 1982-1993

Lorenzo Tomatis studied medicine and started in Turin a long professional career which lead him to the position of director of the WHO International Agency for Research on Cancer in Lyon from 1982 to 1993. In this role he encouraged and supported a broad spectrum of research themes, with a particular emphasis on the poorest countries, where he launched important programs on hepatitis B vaccination and research on HPV. Cancer prevention through identification and control of its environmental causes was the inspiring motivation and main line of work all along his career, as witnessed by the “Monographs on the carcinogenic risk to humans” that he initiated and developed and by his continuing activity – after retirement- as President of the International Scientific Committee of the International Society of Doctors for the Environment. The environmental causes of cancer are the object of continuing research and debate. Even recently very different estimates have been proposed of the burden of cancer attributable to environmental exposures. In addition, the principle of using surrogate systems – such as experiments in animals or cell cultures – to predict carcinogenic hazards in humans has been questioned, especially by industry researchers . The series of biennial “Lorenzo Tomatis conferences on environment and cancer” is established to reaffirm the scientific principles of primary prevention of cancer, and of environmental cancer in particular, and to highlight the continuing relevance and the evolving aspects of this approach to cancer prevention and public health both in developed and developing countries. The first conference combines general themes with a focus on research lines and prominent experiences in which Lorenzo Tomatis was a leading figure, collaborating with several of the conference speakers.