



JOINT IPLASS-COMETA SYMPOSIUM

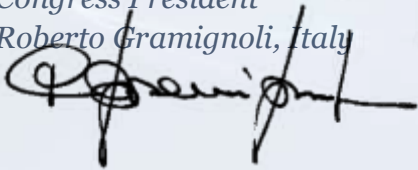
Advanced Medicinal Therapies:
Research, Innovation, and Clinical Results

Dear Friends,

We are currently living in the 'Golden Twenties of Advanced Medicinal Therapies', with a plethora of innovative cell-based strategies and genetic approaches reshaping the field of medicine.

*On behalf of the **Scientific Program Committee** and the **Local Organizing Committee** is my great pleasure to invite you to attend this specialized international symposium, which aims to bring together prominent researchers, clinicians, and biotech innovators to map the future of living drugs.*

*Congress President
Roberto Gramignoli, Italy*



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Symposium Overview

Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products (ATMPs) have fundamentally transitioned from experimental laboratory concepts into landmark, real-world clinical triumphs. Hematological and oncohematological interventions—specifically hematopoietic stem cell and bone marrow transplants—have historically served as the vital proving grounds for cell-based medicine. Because blood cells are readily accessible and naturally programmed to home directly to biological targets, they provided the original architectural blueprint for manipulating intact cells as targeted, living therapeutics.

Today, this exact blueprint is driving a paradigm shift into regenerative medicine. The precise laboratory protocols, safety standards, and manufacturing techniques perfected by pioneers in hematology are being rearranged to repair and replace solid structures, allowing intact progenitor and stem cells to regenerate damaged organs like the liver, heart muscle, cartilage, and nerve networks. This event serves as a high-level vehicle to accelerate this biological revolution.

This symposium has been proudly organized under the framework of the institutional project *Hybrid Hub (H2UB): Modelli cellulari e COMputazionali, micro e nanotecnologie per la personalizzazione di Terapie innovative* (acronym: **COMETA**), in collaboration with the **International Placenta Stem Cell Society (IPLASS)**. The COMETA project drives the cross-disciplinary synergy between computational biology, microfluidics, and advanced cell engineering to pioneer next-generation personalized medicine, while IPLASS is an international scientific society dedicated to advancing the study and application of placenta derivatives (tissues, cells, secretomes).

An Exclusive Forum

To maximize peer-to-peer engagement, high-level structural synergy, and international collaboration, the symposium is strictly limited to 120 participants. Attendees will include leading principal investigators, clinical directors, biomedical engineers, and regulatory experts from across Europe.

About COMETA

The COMETA project is an institutional Life Science infrastructure initiative funded by the Italian Ministry of Health under the *Piano Operativo Salute* Trajectory 4: Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, and Pharmaceutical Development). Coordinated by the IRCCS Istituto G.

Gaslini in Genoa in partnership with a multidisciplinary consortium of universities (University of Genoa and University of Cagliari) and medical centers (Azienda Ospedaliera-Universitaria di Cagliari, Azienda

Ospedaliera Brotzu, Azienda Ospedaliera di Rilievo Nazionale di Alta Specialità S. Giuseppe Moscati) and the research center CRS4 (Centro Ricerca, Sviluppo e Studi Superiori in Sardegna).

COMETA's primary objective is to build a collaborative network of specialized laboratories capable of providing end-to-end basic, translational, and clinical services to accelerate advanced drug discovery. Strategically, the project focuses on the convergence of computational modeling, genomics, artificial intelligence, microfluidics, and micro/nanotechnologies. By leveraging these cross-disciplinary tools to develop advanced in vitro and computational biological models, COMETA aims to design, test, and scale highly targeted, personalized therapeutic treatments optimized for individual patient profiles.

About IPLASS

IPLASS mission is to foster global collaboration and innovation by creating a robust network of researchers exploring the biology, experimentation, and clinical applications of placenta derivatives.



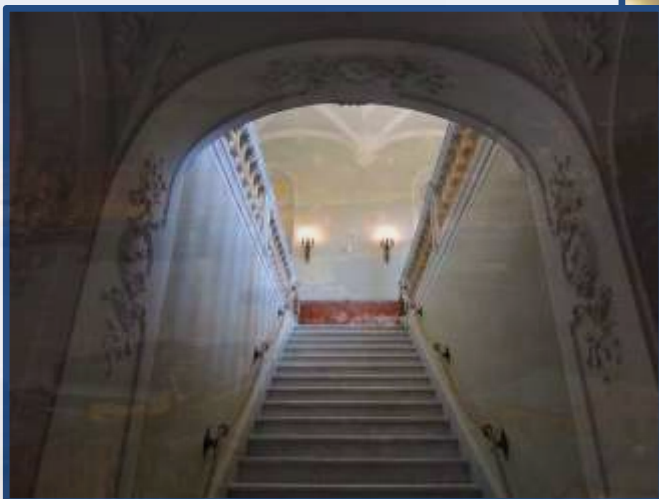
By connecting scientists across the globe, IPLASS serves as a bridge between placenta-focused research groups and broader networks in stem cell biology and therapeutic development. The idea to establish IPLASS was born during the first International Workshop on Placenta-Derived Stem Cells, which was held in Brescia in March 2007, and it was re-discussed for approval during the Workshop held two years later.

Key Thematic Pillars

- **The Hematology Sandbox:** Reviewing milestones in CAR-T engineering, bone marrow transplantation, and mobile cellular tracking mechanisms.
- **The Placenta ATMPs:** revising and describing pioneeristic works using perinatal derivatives and cell-based strategies
- **Solid Architecture Challenges:** Transitioning from liquid highways to structural integration, vascularization, and functional solid organ engineering.
- **The Cell Factory Era:** Navigating strict GMP standards, cleanroom regulations, automated quality controls, and Chemistry, Manufacturing, and Controls (CMC) scaling.
- **Evidence-Based Ethics and AI-driven strategies:** Countering unproven commercial cell interventions by establishing rigorous, evidence-backed clinical validation pathways.

The Venue: Villa Quartara, Genoa

The symposium will take place at the historic Villa Quartara, an architectural jewel nestled in the elegant landscape of Genoa, Italy. Historically a hub of cultural and educational excellence, the villa provides an inspiring, serene backdrop perfectly suited for high-stakes scientific translation, bilateral networking, and collaborative focus.



Such a venue comprises architectural jewels, a master room (*Salone degli Specchi*) for 90-100 people



In addition/alternative, Villa Quartara offers thematic rooms with an occupancy of 30-60 people, for the planned parallel sessions and roundtable.

Why attend the COMETA-IPLASS joint symposium

The Symposium is attended by leading specialists in the fields of cell transplant and regenerative medicine. This unique blending of expertise provides an unparalleled quality of science and networking opportunities. Over two days, our attendees will participate in sessions that highlight leading breakthroughs in research and technology, as well as networking with peers, mentors, and industry.

Scientific Program

Day 1 — Monday, November 9, 2026

Time	Session / Event Description
08:00 – 08:30	Registration & Welcome opening
08:30 – 10:00	<i>Session 1: Enabling Technologies</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	<i>Keynote Speaker#1</i>
11:30 – 13:00	<i>Session 2: Cell-based Therapies</i>
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Networking Luncheon</i> (Villa Quartara Courtyard Garden)
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Session 3: Preclinical Validation</i>
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee break & Poster viewing</i>
16:00 – 17:00	<i>Session 4: Artificial Intelligence in ATMP Translation</i>
17:00 – 18:00	<i>Session 5: Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer Office</i>
18:00 – 20:00	<i>Italian Apericena</i> (Cocktail dinner)

Day 2 — Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Time	Session / Event Description
08:30 – 10:00	<i>Session 6: CMC Manufacturing and Scalability for Cell-derived Secretome.</i>
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:30 – 11:30	<i>Keynote Speaker#2</i>
11:30 – 13:00	<i>Session 7: ATMP Clinical Trials</i>
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Networking Luncheon (Villa Quartara Courtyard Gardens) & Photo shooting</i>
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Parallel Session 1: Cell Factories: Translating academic breakthroughs into certified GMP manufacturing realities</i>
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Parallel Session 2: IPLASS business meeting; election; Awards; Presidential lecture</i>
15:30 – 17:00	<i>Parallel Session 3: Roundtable on ATMP manufacturing (Italian)</i>
15:30 – 17:00	<i>Parallel Session 4: IPLASS selected talks</i>
17:00 – 18:00	<i>Session 8: Sponsor presentations</i>
18:00 – 18:10	<i>Final remarks and goodbyes</i>

Registration & Organizing Secretariat

Registration fee:

IPLASS member	150 €	(Priority registration)
Academic (non-member)	300 €	(Full 2-day access & proceedings)
Industry	400 €	(Access to all sessions & B2B areas)
Students/Trainee	50 €	(Valid student ID required)
COMETA Active Members	Complimentary	(Pre-registration required)

The event is ECM accredited for Italian participants

Due to the capacity restriction of 120-150 delegates at Villa Quartara, early expression of interest is highly recommended. Complimentary registration is reserved to active members of the COMETA project.

Priority registration will be extended to IPLASS members, at a discounted rate.

IPLASS membership application <https://www.iplassociety.org/membership>

Abstract submission

Abstract submission deadline: September 28th

Notification of Acceptance: October 9th

LOC secretariat

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Scientific Program Committee

Federica Sabatini, *Italy - Chair*

Antonietta Silini, *Italy (IPLASS President)*

Andreina Schoeberlein, *Switzerland*

Fabio Marongiu, *Italy*

Sveva Bollini, *Italy*

Suzanne Wolbank, *Austria*

Francesco Alviano, *Italy*

Francisco J Nicolas Villaescusa, *Spain*

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