

# Conference Committees

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**Luisa Romanò** PhD, Department of Public Health-Microbiology-Virology, University of Milan, Milan, Italy

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**Paolo Bonanni** Professor of Hygiene, Public Health Department, University of Florence, Florence, Italy

**Massimo Colombo** Professor of Gastroenterology, Department of Medical Sciences, Fondazione IRCCS Ca' Granda Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, University of Milan, Milan, Italy

**Piero Crovari** Emeritus Professor of Hygiene, Department of Health Sciences, University of Genoa, Genoa, Italy

**Nedret Emiroglu** Acting Director of the Division of Health Programmes, WHO Regional Office for Europe/EPI, WHO Copenhagen, Denmark

**Gaetano Maria Fara** Emeritus Professor of Hygiene, Department of Public Health, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy

**Johannes Hallauer** Director of Department of Health, Sozialministerium, Schwerin, Germany

**Mark Kane** Former Director of Children's Vaccine Program at PATH (Program for Appropriate Technology in Health), Seattle, USA

**Wolfgang Jilg** Professor of Microbiology and Hygiene, Institute for Medical Microbiology and Hygiene, University of Regensburg, Germany

**Daniel Lavanchy** Former Director of Epidemic and Pandemic Alert and Response, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland

**Alfonso Mele** Research Manager, National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, National Institute of Public Health, Rome, Italy

**Mario Rizzetto** Professor of Gastroenterology, Director of Department of Gastroenterology, Molinette Hospital, University of Turin, Turin, Italy

**Stefania Salmaso** Director of the National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, National Institute of Public Health, Rome, Italy

**Daniel Shouval** Director of the Liver Unit, Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem, Israel

**Pierre Van Damme** Director of Centre for the Evaluation of Vaccination, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Institute, University of Antwerpen, Belgium

**John Ward** Director of the Division of Viral Hepatitis, CDC Atlanta, USA

**Steven Wiersma** Senior Technical Hepatitis Officer, Health Security and Environment, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland

**Alessandro Zanetti** Professor of Hygiene, Department of Public Health-Microbiology-Virology, University of Milan, Milan, Italy

## Patronage\*

Alto Patronato Presidente della Repubblica, Regione Lombardia, Provincia di Milano, Comune di Milano, Ministero della Salute, Università degli Studi di Milano, Società Italiana di Pediatria (SIP), Società Italiana di Malattie Infettive e Tropicali (SIMIT), Viral Hepatitis Prevention Board (VHPB)

## Conference Venue

Centro Congressi Palazzo delle Stelline  
Corso Magenta 61 – 20123 Milan, Italy

## Language

English and Italian. A simultaneous translation will be provided.

## CME

Credits requested to Ministry of Health will be given to the participants.

## Organizing Secretary and Provider

**TMT s.r.l.** - Via Mecenate 12 – 20138 Milan, Italy  
Tel. +39.0258012822; e-mail: congress@tmtworld.it



**Saturday,  
19th November 2011**

# Towards the elimination of hepatitis B

**Celebrating 20 years of vaccination in Italy**

## Preliminary Programme



**Milan, Centro Congressi Palazzo delle Stelline**

\*Requested



Viral hepatitis B is a leading cause of acute and chronic liver disease, including cirrhosis and primary hepatocellular cancer. Vaccination is the most effective measure to control and prevent hepatitis B and its severe long-term sequelae. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 177 countries have currently implemented universal vaccination programmes worldwide, and Italy was one of the first countries to introduce a universal strategy of hepatitis B vaccination. Globally a significant reduction of newly acquired hepatitis B, carrier rate, and hepatitis B-related mortality has been observed in countries where universal vaccination has been implemented. In Italy, universal vaccination started in 1991 in infants as well as in adolescents with an outstanding record of safety and efficacy. In addition, there have been considerable advances in the treatment of hepatitis B in recent years, such that today 95% of chronic hepatitis B go to remission of disease, thus reducing the risk of progression to cirrhosis, liver cancer and eventual death. The availability of both vaccine and treatment options in a concerted manner with other crucial public health measures, such as refinement in blood screening and use of universal precautions in medical setting, is a key step towards the goal of the elimination of hepatitis B. The main objectives of this anniversary meeting aimed at celebrating our first 20 years of vaccination are:

- provide an overview of the current worldwide strategies of vaccination against hepatitis B;
- discuss the long-term immunity achieved by vaccination and need for booster;
- review the global impact of hepatitis B vaccination and prospects for global control, elimination and eradication of HBV transmission;
- discuss the progress achieved in hepatitis B prevention 20 years after the introduction of universal vaccination in Italy;
- discuss how to identify vulnerable people in need to be treated and review the progress achieved in hepatitis B treatment;
- discuss the success, problems and barriers to overcome, and the way forward.

I look forward to meeting you in Milan.

Yours sincerely,

Alessandro Zanetti  
President of the Meeting

Saturday, 19th November 2011

# Towards the elimination of hepatitis B

## Celebrating 20 years of vaccination in Italy

Milan, Centro Congressi Palazzo delle Stelline	
08.15	Registration
09.00	Welcome and Introduction
<b>Session 1</b>	
Chairs <i>W. Jilg, S. Salmaso</i>	
09.30	<b>Vaccines against hepatitis B: a historical overview</b> <i>D. Shouval</i>
09.50	<b>Long-term immunogenicity and need for booster</b> <i>P. Van Damme</i>
10.10	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>Session 2</b>	
Chairs <i>J. Hallauer, D. Lavanchy</i>	
10.20	<b>Prospects for global control, elimination and eradication of HBV transmission</b> <i>S. Wiersma</i>
10.40	<b>Global impact of hepatitis B vaccination and liver cancer prevention</b> <i>M. Kane</i>
11.00	<b>Discussion</b>
11.10	Coffee Break



### Session 3

Chairs *P. Crovari, G.M. Fara*

11.30 **Role of non-immunoprophylaxis measures in reducing the burden of hepatitis B in Italy**  
*A. Mele*

11.45 **The first 20 years of vaccination in Italy: achievements and challenges**  
*A. Zanetti*

12.05 **Economic analysis of the universal hepatitis B vaccination in Italy**  
*P. Bonanni*

12.20 **Discussion**

### Session 4

Chairs *N. Emiroglu, M. Rizzetto*

12.30 **Identify vulnerable people who should benefit for prevention and treatment of viral hepatitis B**  
*J. Ward*

12.50 **Hepatitis B: a treatable disease**  
*M. Colombo*

13.10 **Discussion**

13.20 **Closing remarks**  
*A. Mele, P. Van Damme, A. Zanetti*

13.30 *Buffet Lunch*

14.00 **Meeting of the SIIT-Lombardia members**