



The 19th BIENNIAL CANCER BIOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER MEETING

May 2023

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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM



Wednesday May 10th

13:30–14:30 Registration, Reception, and Exhibition

14:30–14:45 Opening Session

OPENING AND GREETINGS

Prof. Ronit Satchi-Fainaro

Director, Cancer Biology Research Center

Prof. Karen Avraham

Dean, Sackler Faculty of Medicine

Prof. Abdussalam Azem

Dean, George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences

Mr. Moshe Bar-Haim

Director, Israel Cancer Association

Wednesday May 10th

14:45–15:25 Session I

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Sponsored by **MERCK**

Chair: Ronit Satchi-Fainaro

Sackler Faculty of Medicine

14:45–15:25 Gabriele Bergers

VIB KU Leuven, Belgium

A vascular perspective to aid anti-tumor immunity

Wednesday May 10th

15:30–16:15 Session II

ANTIBODY-BASED CANCER
THERAPEUTICS

Chairs: **Uri Rozovski**, *Rabin Medical Center* & **Yoni Haitin**, *Sackler Faculty of Medicine*

15:30–15:45 **Adi Barzel**

George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
In Vivo engineering of T cells and B cells

15:45–16:00 **Itai Benhar**

George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
Antibody-targeted lipid-nanoparticle mediated inhibition of the GPCR RXFP1 signaling pathway as a therapeutic approach for ovarian cancer


16:00–16:15 **Gal Markel**

Rabin Medical Center
Inherent immune resistance mechanisms in melanoma

Wednesday May 10th

16:15–17:15 Session III

THERAPEUTICS AND DIAGNOSTICS

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Chairs: **Annat Raiter**, *Rabin Medical Center* & **Dan Grisaru**, *Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center*

16:15–16:30 **Marcelo Ehrlich**

George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
Exploiting cancer-induced and therapy-augmented defects to antiviral responses for virus-mediated killing of cancer cells

16:30–16:45 **Dov Hershkovitz**

Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center
Liquid biopsy for cancer diagnosis and monitoring

16:45–17:00 **Shamgar Ben-Eliyahu**

Sagol School of Neuroscience
Improving the odds for colorectal cancer patients: Perioperative inhibition of COX-2 and B-adrenergic signaling improves tumor biomarkers of metastasis and 5-year disease-free-survival

Wednesday May 10th

- 17:00–17:15 **Ilan Tsarfaty**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 Multi-omics systems biology as a novel
 tool for precision medicine: MET/p53/
 BRCA1 as models

- 17:15–17:45 Coffee break and visit the exhibition

17:45–18:15 **Session IV**

FLASH TALKS

Sponsored by **MERCK**

**Chairs: Shelly Loewenstein, Tel Aviv
 Sourasky Medical Center & Guy Lahat,
 Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center**

- 17:45–17:48 **Nofar Erlichman**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
 Tumor cell-autonomous and PD-1-
 induced activities of PD-L1 in breast
 cancer

Wednesday May 10th

- 17:48–17:51 **Eilam Yeini**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 P-Selectin axis plays a key role in
 microglia immunophenotype and
 glioblastoma progression
- 17:51–17:54 **Emily Boxer**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
 Boosting CAR T cell responses in
 glioblastoma by remodeling the
 extracellular matrix
- 17:54–17:57 **Inbal Reuveni**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
 Site-specific in vivo T cell engineering to
 express chimeric antigen receptors
- 17:57–18:00 **Rana Masri**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 Studying the effect of fusobacterium
 nucleatum bacteria on the Wnt signaling
 pathway

Wednesday May 10th

- 18:00–18:03 **George Abu Khadra**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
The interplay between MET, Wnt and their signaling modifiers control cell motility and metastasis
- 18:03–18:06 **Tal Caller**
Sheba Medical Center
Small extracellular vesicles from failing hearts accelerate tumor growth
- 18:06–18:09 **Nahida Sakis**
Sagol School of Neuroscience and School of Psychological Sciences
Perioperative psychological stress role in facilitating pro-metastatic processes
- 18:09–18:12 **Johanna Zerbib**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
Aneuploid cells depend on multiple RNA and protein degradation pathways to compensate for their karyotype

Wednesday May 10th

- 18:12–18:15 **Rakefet Ben-Yishay**
Sheba medical center
Modeling cancer cell plasticity and trans-differentiation therapy using patient-derived organoids
- 18:15–19:00 **Session V**
TUMOR MICROENVIRONMENT
Chairs: Orit Uziel, Rabin Medical Center & Tami Rubinek, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center
- 18:15–18:30 **Neta Erez**
Sacker Faculty of Medicine
Stromal and immune plasticity shape the metastatic microenvironment
- 18:30–18:45 **Adit Ben-Baruch**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
TME-driven generation of cancer stem cells in breast cancer: Unconventional roles for STAT3 and p65

Wednesday May 10th

18:45–19:00 **Issac Witz**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
 Hemoglobin-derived proteins/peptides
 function as an innate defense mechanism
 against cancer cells

19:00–19:40 Poster Session

18:30–20:30 Dinner



21:00 LIOR SUCHARD



Thursday May 11th

05:00–07:45 Sunrise guided birding tour
 in a Safari wagon




07:30–08:45 Breakfast



08:45–10:30 **Session VI**

EMERGING THERAPIES

Sponsored by AstraZeneca 

**Chairs: Osnat Ashur-Fabian, Meir
 Medical Center & Ido Wolf, Tel Aviv
 Sourasky Medical Center**

09:00–09:15 **Yaron Carmi**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 From basic discovery to cell engineering—
 endowing T cells with ADCC abilities to
 treat cancer

09:15–09:30 **Tali Ilovitsh**
*The Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty
 of Engineering*
 Bubbles-enhanced ultrasound
 mechanotherapy for noninvasive cancer
 surgery

Thursday May 11th

- 09:30-09:45 **Talia Golan**
Sheba Medical Center
Spectrum of response to platinum and PARPi in HR-deficient pancreatic cancer
- 09:45-10:00 **Ra'anan Berger**
Sheba Medical Center
Enabling new technologies in precision and individualized oncology
- 10:00-10:15 **Ido Wolf**
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center
From genomic alteration to metastases formation, or how did these cancer cell get to the brain?
- 10:15-10:30 **Michal Besser**
Rabin medical Center
Cell and gene therapy

10:30-11:00 Coffee break and visit the exhibition



Thursday May 11th

- 11:00-12:30 **Session VII**
PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY
Sponsored by  NOVARTIS
Chairs: Dinorah Friedmann-Morvinski,
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
& Helen Toledano, *Schneider Children's Medical Center*
- 11:00-11:15 **Dinorah Friedmann-Morvinski**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences
Utilizing preclinical models to develop targeted therapies for pediatric brain tumors
- 11:15-11:30 **Ronit Elhasid**
Dana Medical Center, Tel Aviv Medical Center
Suggested role for NETs formation in Ewing sarcoma immune microenvironment and response to chemotherapy
- 11:30-11:45 **Benny Dekel**
Sheba Medical Center
Repurposing Alzheimer's drugs to pediatric oncology

Thursday May 11th

- 11:45-12:00 **Helen Toledano**
Schneider Children's Medical Center
From bench to bedside: targeted therapy for pediatric solid/CNS tumors
- 12:00-12:15 **Esther Berko**
Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel
Circulating tumor DNA to guide targeted therapy in neuroblastoma
- 12:15-12:30 **Ruty Shai**
Sheba Medical Center
Mastering the master regulators in pediatric brain tumors

Thursday May 11th

- 12:30-13:30 **Session VIII**
FROM BIG DATA TO GENETIC ANALYSIS
Sponsored by 
- Chairs: Noam Shomron, Sackler Faculty of Medicine & Merav Cohen, Sackler Faculty of Medicine**
- 12:30-12:45 **Noam Shomron**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
DNA and RNA as insights for cancer development
- 12:45-13:00 **Tamir Tuller**
The Iby and Aladar Fleischman Faculty of Engineering
Deciphering and targeting silent and seemingly-silent cancer mutations using computational models
- 13:00-13:15 **Asaf Madi**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
Immune cell interactions in GBM

Thursday May 11th


- 13:15–13:30 **Merav Cohen**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 Dissecting the immune controlled signaling networks of the tumor microenvironment

13:30–14:45 Lunch



15:00–16:30 **Session IX**

HEMATO-ONCOLOGY

Sponsored by 
 המרכז לרפואה הומיאופתית
 על שם ירדה ובעז דותן

Chairs: Shai Izraeli, Schneider Children's Medical Center & Drorit Neumann, Sackler Faculty of Medicine

- 15:00–15:15 **Adi Zoref-Lorenz**
Meir Medical Center
 Immune activation in hematologic malignancies- a friend or a foe?

Thursday May 11th

- 15:15–15:30 **Elad Jacoby**
Sheba Medical Center
 Metabolic conditioning of CAR-T cells
- 15:30–15:45 **Michael Milyavsky**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 Regulation of normal and leukemic blood stem cells survival by the bone marrow microenvironment
- 15:45–16:00 **Shai Izraeli**
Schneider Children's Medical Center
 Leukemia - from bedside to bench and back
- 16:00–16:15 **Ofir Wolach**
Rabin Medical Center
 Casting a NET on hematological malignancies
- 16:15–16:30 **Drorit Neumann**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
 Erythropoietin in the osteo-hematological niche

Thursday May 11th

16:30–17:00 **Session X****FLASH TALKS**Sponsored by **MERCK**

Chairs: Moshe Giladi, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center & Amir Sonnenblick, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center

16:30–16:33 **Itai Meir Caspit***George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences*

The interplay of glioma-associated blood vessels with microglia and monocyte-derived macrophages

16:33–16:36 **Lea Monteran***Sackler Faculty of Medicine*

Characterizing the evolving immune microenvironment during breast cancer bone metastasis progression

16:36–16:39 **Hagai Levi***Raymond and Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences*

Polygenic prediction models for early breast cancer detection on diverse ethnic groups in Israel

Thursday May 11th

16:39–16:42 **Sahar Israeli Dangoor***Sackler Faculty of Medicine*

CCL2-CCR2/4 axis has a crucial role in astrocyte–breast cancer interplay promoting brain metastasis

16:42–16:45 **Orit Adir***George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences*

Microglial Junb promotes the malignant phenotype of melanoma brain metastasis cells

16:45–16:48 **Iris Kamer***Sheba Medical Center*

Establishment ex-vivo culture from pleural effusions of metastatic-NSCLC as a model to ICIs response

Thursday May 11th

- 16:48-16:51 **Dikla Atias**
Sheba Medical Center
The stromal role in BRCA-associated pancreatic cancer therapeutic resistance
- 16:51-16:54 **Daniella Vaskovich-Koubi**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
Elucidating the mechanism by which a nano-vaccine sensitizes colorectal cancer to immunotherapy
- 16:54-16:57 **Adi Rubin**
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center
Obesity and gastric cancer aggressiveness - a new link
- 16:57-17:00 **Siva Sai Muddineni**
Sackler Faculty of Medicine
CREB1-MCL1 axis protects human hematopoietic stem cells from DNA-damage induced apoptosis

17:00-17:20 Coffee break and visit the exhibition



Thursday May 11th

17:20-18:00 Session XI

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Sponsored by **Edmond J. Safra Center for Bioinformatics**
Tel Aviv University

Chair: Elhanan Borenstein

Raymond & Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences

Eytan Ruppin, *Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute*

Next generation transcriptomics-based precision oncology

18:00-18:30 Session XII

THE PATIENT'S AND INDUSTRY'S PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Ronit Satchi-Fainaro

Sackler Faculty of Medicine

18:00-18:15 **Mati Gill**

CEO, AION Labs


A new model for tech and bio co-development

Thursday May 11th

18:15–18:30 **Tamir Gilat**
Chairman, Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF)
 Outliving your expiration date—A human rat lab

18:30–19:30 Poster Session

18:30–20:30 Dinner 

21:00 MUSIC & DANCING 

Friday May 12th


07:30–08:30 Breakfast 

08:30–10:00 **Session XIII**

MOLECULAR–CLINICAL TUMOR BOARD

Chair and Moderator: Raya Leibowitz,
Shamir Medical Center

08:30–09:15 **Topic 1 – Targeting signaling pathways in cancer**

Sponsored by  Bristol Myers Squibb®
Ronen Brenner, *Wolfson Medical Center*
 BRAF & MEK inhibition – is it a real BRAF mutated tissue agnostic treatment?
Nirit Yarom, *Shamir Medical Center*

The long and winding road towards K-ras inhibition in solid tumor

Hagit Eldar-Finkelman
Sackler Faculty of Medicine

Outsmarting cancer – developing novel TKIs as means to overcome drug resistance in leukemia

Rina Rosin-Arbesfeld
Sackler Faculty of Medicine

Targeting Wnt signaling – can we cure cancer with antibiotics?

Friday May 12th

Chair and Moderator: Raya Leibowitz,
Shamir Medical Center

09:15-10:00 **Topic 2 - Emerging immunotherapeutic approaches**

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Ronnie Shapira-Frommer
Sheba Medical Center

Overcoming immunotherapy resistance by tyrosine kinase and checkpoint blockade combination

Jair Bar
Sheba Medical Center

Checkpoint inhibitors in cancer immunotherapy - have we neglected the B-cells so far?

Ayelet Avraham
Shamir Medical Center

Getting better with a little help from a costimulatory friend? Deciphering the spatial and cellular expression of TNFSF4 (OX40L) in melanoma tumors

Friday May 12th

10:00-10:40 **Session XIV**

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Chair: Yuval Ebenstein
Raymond & Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences

10:00-10:40 **Andrew P. Feinberg**
Director, Center for Epigenetics, John Hopkins University
Epigenetic plasticity in cancer

10:40-11:00 Coffee break and visit the exhibition



Friday May 12th

11:00–11:45 **Session XV****MECHANISMS OF CANCER BIOLOGY****Chairs: Liat Drucker***Meir Medical Center*11:00–11:15 **Yaara Oren***Sackler Faculty of Medicine*Beyond Darwin: understanding cancer
persister cells11:15–11:30 **Uri Ben-David***Sackler Faculty of Medicine*Identifying vulnerabilities of aneuploid
cells: Genomic and functional approaches11:30–11:45 **Yona Keisari***Sackler Faculty of Medicine*An intratumoral alpha radiation device
and immunotherapy: a breakthrough in
cancer treatment

Friday May 12th

11:45–12:30 **Session XVI****BRAIN NEOPLASMS****Chairs: Ilan Voloviz, Tel Aviv Sourasky***Medical Center & Rachel Grossman,
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center*11:45–12:00 **Lior Mayo***George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science*Shutting down glioblastoma: how
astrocytes control tumor progression12:00–12:15 **Ilan Voloviz***Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center*Immune – cell frequencies provide the
strongest survival prognosticators for
glioblastoma—an immune dessert12:15–12:30 **Reuven Stein***George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences*Diverse spatial distribution of microglia
and monocytes-derived macrophages in
different brain tumors

Friday May 12th

12:30–13:15 **Session XVII****TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION IN
CANCER****Chairs: Leor Zach***Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center*

12:30–12:45 **Eric Shifrut**, *George S. Wise Faculty of Life Sciences, Sackler Faculty of Medicine & Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center*
CRISPR discovery platforms for human T cell therapies

12:45–13:00 **Vered Padler-Karavani**
George S. Wise Faculty of Life Science
Aiming at the sweet spot of cancer

13:00–13:15 **Yuval Ebenstein**
Raymond & Beverly Sackler Faculty of Exact Sciences
Epigenetic transformations precede genetic aberrations in early-stage kidney cancer

13:15–13:30 **Awards ceremony and closing remarks**
Prof. Ronit Satchi-Fainaro

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