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European union network of excellence

on Gastric cancer

March 2-3, 2007 - Athens, Greece

Under the auspices of:

- The President of the Foundation of Biomedical Research of Academy of Athens, G. D. Skalkeas, Professor Academician
  - The Rector of the University of Ioannina,
     Prof. I. Gerothanassis

Hosted by:

The Dept. of Surgery, University Hospital of Ioannina
The 3rd Dept. of Surgery, Attiko University Hospital of Athens
The Foundation of Biomedical Research of Academy of Athens

# Dear Colleagues,

I am very happy to welcome you to a meeting of leading experts in research and clinical practice of gastric cancer to be hosted in Athens, the city of 'old spirits' and the Olympic Games.

In Europe, prognosis of gastric cancer remains poor with over 83,000 deaths each year. This Network of Excellence aims at translating basic science discoveries into standardized surgical and adjuvant treatment, prevention and screening intended to save the lives of patients.

Rapid advances and successes in microarray-based data and proteomics are reflected by the current FDA approval of a prognostic molecular test for breast cancer. The focus of this meeting is to turn novel ideas into effective proposals for funding by the European Union's FP7. The ultimate goal of EUNE is in coupling individual patients with the most appropriate therapeutic strategy. We believe that this can be achieved through developing gene expression signatures and other innovative biomarkers. Integrating these novel biomarkers into new clinical trials that address adjuvant and neo-adjuvant chemotherapy with or without inclusion of novel targeted therapies aims at dramatically improving clinical outcomes.

In welcoming you, I wish you a pleasant stay in Athens and a scientifically efficient meeting.

Dimitrios Roukos, MD
Chairman of the Meeting
Team leader - Translational Research

### Structure of the European Union Network of Excellence

Coordinators: William Allum (UK) Hans-Joachim Meyer (D)

### **Team Leaders:**

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Translational Research	R. Seruca (P)	D. Roukos (Gr)
Standards and Audit	G. de Manzoni (I)	C. Wittekind (D)
Early Diagnosis	H. Barr (UK)	J. Haringsma (NI)
Development of Surgical Treatment	M. Degiuli (I)	A. Sendler (D)
Adequate Surgery for EGJ Tumors	T. Lerut (B)	I. Kulig (Pl)
Adjuvant Treatment	H. Hartgrink (NI)	C. Schuhmacher (D)
Prevention of Peritoneal Reccurrence	F. Gilly (F)	A. Garofalo (I)
Education and Training	K. Park (UK)	W. Nowak (PI)

Organized by the Hellenic Study Group on Oesophageal and Gastric Cancer Coordinator: T. Liakakos

#### Members:

N. Agnantis, E. Briassoulis, E. Douridas, M. Fatouros, E. Felekouras, E. Gontikakis, I. Griniatsos, A.M. Kappas, G. Karatzas, E. Pavlakis, E. Tsianos, G. Zografos

### >>Friday March 2, 2007

20.30 Welcome cocktail

Galaxy Room, Athens Hilton Hotel

### **SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME**

## >>Saturday March 3, 2007

08.15 Registration Opening

G. Skalkeas, President of FBRAA

I. Gerothanassis, Rector of the Ioannina University D. Roukos, Chairman

T. Liakakos, Coordinator of the Hellenic Study Group

09.00 Introduction

European Union Network of Excellence on Gastric Cancer - Hopes and Aspirations

W.H. Allum (UK)

09.15 - 10.45 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF TOPICS BY TEAM LEADERS

Standards and Databases

Report by WHA on proposals by G. de Manzoni & C. Wittekind

**Early Gastric Cancer** 

Report by WHA on proposals by H. Barr

Surgery - M. Degiuli & A. Sendler

Standards of resection - Splenectomy - Quality of life after reconstruction -

Sentinel node mapping

Minimally invasive surgery - P. McCulloch

10.45 - 11.15 Coffee Break

11.15 - 13.00 EG Junction Cancers - Classification and staging surgery

J. Kulig

Adjuvant and neoadjuvant - Ch. Schuhmacher

Dutch trials - M. Verhey

UK trials - W.H. Allum

Hyperthermic intraperitoneal therapy - A. Garofalo

Other trials

Education and training - Report by WHA on proposals by K. Park

13.00 - 13.45 Light lunch

13.45 - 16.00 TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH - D. Roukos

Gene signature as biomarker for stomach cancer: Turning an idea into an

integrated proposal for a novel prognostic test (WP1) - D. Roukos

Integrating biomics into an effective proposal for FP7 - D. Thanos

Network banking - E. Briassoulis

Sample collection, validation and processing (WP2) - N. van Grieken

Global gene expression signatures for dinical biomarker identification (WP3) - D. Sanoudou

Comprehensive proteomic characterization of oncogenic pathways (WP4) - S. Garbis

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Oncogenic pathway signatures-based development of innovative targeted therapies for gastric cancer (WP5) - D. Thanos

Statistics and preparation of an FP7 proposal - C. Schuhmacher

16.00 - 16.20 Coffee break

16.20 -17.30 Conclusions and Planned Collaborative Work