

## **INNOVATIVE POLICY OF EUROPEAN INSTITUTES IN SOLVING CANCER PROBLEMS**

*The General Assembly of OECI, Genoa, Italy, May 21–24*

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The General Assembly and Scientific week of OECI (Organization of European Cancer Institutes) took place in Genoa (Italy) on 21–24 of May. The membership of OECI comprises 58 European cancer institutions, including R.E. Kavetsky Institute of Experimental Pathology, Oncology and Radiobiology of NAS of Ukraine as the only representative from Ukraine. In the frames of Scientific week several important events took place: meeting on translational oncogenomics, workshop on cancer biotherapy, symposium on nanotechnology application in oncology, seminar on accreditation. OECI General Assembly closed the Scientific week.

In the opening speech the OECI president Dr. Ulrik Rinborg has drawn attention to the modern international course of advances of European oncology investigations and course of development of translational medicine on the basis of biomedical knowledge, which is the central problem of Lisbon strategy to transform the European Union economics to the most competitive and dynamic economics in the world.

The idea to join the efforts of European institutes stands out through all activities in Genoa. So, the project TRANSFOG (Translational and Functional Oncogenomics), sponsored by EU, was created to join the efforts of scientists and industrial groups in systematic identification and functional characterization of new cancer genes with high diagnostic and therapeutic potential in mammary and lung tumors.

The final aim of the project is to investigate the tumor specific genomic signatures and to identify potential new molecular targets of innovative therapy — the genes that control the key biological functions and play important role in tumor progression.

During the seminar “The discovery of new worlds in medicine: use of nanotechnology in cancer prevention and therapy” the leading European experts discussed and gave recommendations on nanobiology and nanomedicine development, which have to reduce the running costs of public health. Dr. Peter Scharff (Germany) presented the research results obtained in collaboration with IEPOR of NAS of Ukraine and Kiev State University. Nowadays, nanotechnologies of the first generation, such as liposomes and albumin nanoparticles, are widely used in clinics all over the world. The second-generation nanoparticles, so called nanovectors, are currently undergoing clinical trials. The third-generation nanoparticles are under construction and they could be named multi-stage particles or MSPs, which are intended for passing over the multiple biological barriers.

The Scientific week was closed by OECI General Assembly, devoted to the strategic questions of unification of National and European resources to overcome fragmentation in scientific research and to achieve fast progress in medical industry.

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