Chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) is the most frequent leukemia in western world, and its incidence is significantly higher in elderly. Although in the past changes in the management of CLL patients occurred very slowly with few relevant findings in CLL biology, in the last 1-2 decades, we are witnessing an unprecedented burst of new discoveries that has rapidly transformed a relatively homogeneous and lethal disease into an unexpectedly heterogeneous one that can be often controlled for long periods thanks to an armamentarium of novel well-tolerated biologic drugs.

Given this scenario, a recapitulation of the several changes rapidly occurring in the fields of CLL pathogenesis, classification and risk stratification, as well as in the management of CLL patients has been though more than appropriate nowadays. To do so, this meeting will encompass in the same context both “basic” topics (role of genetics, BCR and microenvironment interactions in CLL pathogenesis) and more “clinical” aspects (prognostic and predictive factors, role of chemo-immunotherapy and of target therapies, as well as of salvage therapies), all discussed by well-known CLL experts to provide an updated state-of-the-art on CLL useful for students, hematologists, practitioners and researchers.

Along with the Scientific Directorate of the Aviano Cancer Center, the meeting organizers and supporters, I look forward to welcoming you in Venice in March 2018.

President of the Meeting
Valter Gattei
Clinical and Experimental Onco-Hematology Unit
Centro di Riferimento Oncologico, I.R.C.C.S.
Aviano, Italy
### SESSION II
**MICROENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS BEYOND BCR**
Chairpersons: M. MASSAIA (Turin, IT), R. MARASCA (Modena, IT)

**09.00 a.m.** The role of nurse-like cells  
*J. BURGER (Houston, TX, US)*

**09.30 a.m.** The role of the VLA-4 integrin  
*A. ZUCCHETTO (Aviano, IT)*

**10.00 a.m.** Mechanisms of immunosuppression in CLL  
*S. DEAGLIO (Turin, IT)*

**10.30 a.m.** Keynote Lecture: The immune synapses in CLL  
*J. GRIBBEN (London, UK)*

**11.15 a.m.** Coffee break

### SESSION III
**THE GENETIC LANDSCAPE OF CLL**
Chairpersons: F. DI RAIMONDO (Catania, IT), F. BERTONI Bellinzona (CH)

**11.45 a.m.** Recurrent gene mutations in CLL  
*E. CAMPO (Barcelona, ES)*

**12.15 p.m.** NOTCH1 and SF3B1 mutations: physiopathology and clinical implications  
*D. ROSSI (Bellinzona, CH)*

**12.45 p.m.** Novel/rare mutations: physiopathology and clinical implications  
*R. ROSENQUIST (Uppsala, SW)*

**01.15 p.m.** Buffet lunch
SESSION IV
PROGNOSTIC AND PREDICTIVE FACTORS IN CLL
Chairpersons: G. DEL POETA (Rome, IT), M. MONTILLO (Milan, IT)

02.15 p.m. Upadate on MBL: Biologic and Clinical Advances
N. KAY (Rochester, NY, US)

02.45 p.m. Novel and old prognosticators
G. GAIDANO (Novara, IT)

03.15 p.m. MRD as the new frontier of CLL management
P. GHIA (Milan, IT)

Chairperson: G. PIZZOLO (Verona, IT)

03.45 p.m. Keynote Lecture: The CLL ecosystem and what it means for novel treatment approaches
F. CALIGARIS-CAPPIO (Milan, IT)

04.30 p.m. Coffee break

SESSION V
FROM CHEMO-IMMUNOTHERAPY TO TARGET THERAPIES
Chairpersons: G. POZZATO (Trieste, IT), L. LAURENTI (Rome, IT)

05.00 p.m. Chemo-immunotherapeutic approaches today
B. EICHHORST (Cologne, DE)

05.30 p.m. BTK/BCR inhibitors in CLL
A. WIESTNER (Bethesda, MD, US)

06.00 p.m. BLC-2 inhibitors in CLL
W. G. WIERDA (Houston, TX, US)

End of day two

SESSION VI
FROM TARGET THERAPIES TO SALVAGE THERAPIES
Chairpersons: M. SPINA (Aviano, IT), F. ZAJA (Udine, IT)

09.00 a.m. Comorbidities and other cancers in patients with CLL
A. FERRAJOLI (Houston, TX, US)

09.30 a.m. New mechanism-based drugs for all patients?
Still a role for chemo-immunotherapy?
R. FOA (Rome, IT)

10.00 a.m. Discussion

10.15 a.m. Coffee Break

10.45 a.m. Allo-transplant in CLL
P. DREGER (Heidelberg, DE)

11.15 a.m. CAR-T in CLL
E. SHPALL (Houston, TX, US), K. REZVANI (Houston, TX, US)

11.45 a.m. Discussion

CLOSING LECTURE
Chairperson: V. GATTEI (Aviano, IT)

12.00 p.m. Advances on the molecular pathogenesis of CLL
R. DALLA FAVERA (New York, NY, US)

01.00 p.m. Buffet Lunch

SESSION VII
TAKE-HOME-MESSAGES AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES
Chairpersons: G. GAIDANO (Novara, IT), D.G. EFREMOV (Trieste, IT)

02.00 p.m. BCR/microenviroment in CLL: future perspective
N. CHIORAZZI (Manhasset, NY, US)

02.30 p.m. Genetics in CLL: Future perspectives
C. WU (Boston, MA, US)

03.00 p.m. Clinical management of CLL: future perspective
E. MONTSERRAT (Barcelona, ES)

03.30 p.m. Closing remarks

04.30 p.m. CME Questionarie

05.30 p.m. End of day three
Technical facilities

A Slide Center with PCs will be available for Speakers to preview and finalize their presentations. Speakers are kindly requested to submit their presentations on USB flash drive to the Slide Center technicians at least one hour before their talks.

Meeting Venue
Hotel Monaco & Grand Canal
Sala del Ridotto
Piazza San Marco, 1332 - 30124 Venice

Official Language
The official language of the Congress will be English. Simultaneous translation service will not be provided

Web Site
www.chroniclymphocyticleukemia-cro2018.com

Registration
The meeting is free to attend.
To Register online: www.targetmotivationpharma.com inside of “Congress List”
To Register online: www.chroniclymphocyticleukemia-cro2018.com

Continuing Medical Education (CME)
Target Motivation s.r.l. is a CME provider-identification code n. 1346 and has assigned to the event no. 12,6 credits for Physicians, Biologists, X-ray Technicians, Cardiovascular Pathophysiology Technicians. Physicians for the following disciplines: Pathological Anatomy, Cardiac Surgery, Cardiology, Epidemiology, Medical Genetics, Internal Medicine, Radiodiagnostic, Geriatrics, Angio, Vascular Surgery, Emergency Care, Anaesthesia and Resuscitation, General Medicine

Please be aware that for the acquisition of credits is mandatory to have attended the 100% of the whole duration of the congress and selected at least the 75% of correct answers of the CME questionnaire

Lunches and Coffee Breaks
Lunches and coffee breaks will be free of charge and served at the meeting venue.

Certificates of attendance
Certificates of attendance will be issued at the registration desk following full attendance of the congress.

Secretariat and Slide Center during the Meeting

The Secretariat and Slide Center will be open at the following times:
Thursday, March 8th, from 12.00 p.m. to 06.00 p.m.
Friday, March 9th, from 08.00 a.m. to 06.00 p.m.
Saturday, March 10th, from 08.00 a.m. to 05.30 p.m.

Certificate of attendance will be issued at the registration desk following full attendance of the congress.

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Advances in Pathogenesis and Treatment

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