



**A4L_ACTIONS Thematic Mini-conference
with Matchmaking Event**

CANCER AND METABOLIC DISORDERS

**Congress Centre of the Slovak Academy of Sciences,
Smolenice castle**

<https://kcsmolence.sav.sk/en/>

October 3-5, 2022

The Alliance4Life thematic mini-conference is aimed at sharing the research ideas with intellectual origin in the Central and Eastern European countries and at creating the opportunity for matchmaking with pharma and med-tech industry. The speaker faculty and participants consist of research and development leaders in the areas of cancer and metabolic disorders. The topics of the event will include investigations of genetic, epigenetic and physiological mechanisms of diseases through preclinical and clinical approaches, as well as translation of newly acquired knowledge into advances in diagnostics and therapy. The programme of this mini-conference reflects the current programming priorities of Horizon Europe within Cancer Mission and covers both scientific lectures, information on project opportunities, matchmaking and discussion about future collaborations.

The main event purpose is to explore the opportunities for collaboration of research and industry (initial small projects can be supported by the Alliance4Life's Seed fund).

PROGRAM:

OCTOBER 3 (Monday):

Arrival to Smolenice castle

17:00 Opening

17:10 Keynote lecture:

Prof. Pawel Swietach, University of Oxford, Department of Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics:
Sourness, Survival, and Selection



Prof. Pawel Swietach is a prominent world-renowned personality in physiology of acid-base control. His research is driven by an interest in how biological processes are affected by chemical acidity. All tissues are exquisitely sensitive to changes in acidity (often expressed on a pH scale). However, two main pillars of his research relate to the heart and to cancer. Acidity has a powerful effect on cardiac biology and is particularly important in cardiac diseases. In tumours, acidity is a chemical signature that influences disease progression. By discovering the mechanisms of these pH-responses, he and his group hope to deliver new insights that may lead to better diagnosis, management and treatment of cardiovascular diseases and cancer. Most of his work is supported by the European Research Council (ERC) and the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

<https://www.dpag.ox.ac.uk/team/pawel-swietach>

19:00 – 22:00 Reception

OCTOBER 4 (Tuesday):

08:40 – 10:00

Session 1: Metabolism in health and diseases

Chair: Daniela Gašperíková, PhD, DSc.

08:40 – 09:00	Edgars Liepins, PhD. (LV): Fatty acid metabolism in health and diseases
09:00 – 09:20	Marcela Hortová Kohoutková, PhD. (CZ): Immunometabolism in control of inflammation and disease
09:20 – 09:40	Bruno Velescu, MD., PhD. (RO): Metal complexes with antidiabetic and anti-inflammatory effects
09:40 – 10:00	Dr. Teja Klancic (SI): Early life antibiotics and prebiotics: impact on gut microbiota, metabolism and obesity risk

10:00 – 11:00

Session 2: Molecular and functional studies of metabolic disorders

Chair: Edgars Liepins, PhD.

10:00 – 10:20	Miroslav Baláž, PhD. (SK): Identification of new therapeutic targets with potential to increase brown adipose tissue metabolic activity
10:20 – 10:40	Izabela Burzynska-Pedziwiatr, PhD. (PL): Lipidomic approach to GDM molecular diagnosis
10:40 – 11:00	Daniela Gašperíková, PhD., DSc. (SK): Functional studies in monogenic diabetes and their clinical consequences

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 – 12:30

Session 3: Cancer metabolism and signalling

Chair: prof. Ondřej Slabý, PhD.

11:30 – 11:50	Eliška Švastová, PhD. (SK): Mechanisms of cancer cells' adaptation to stresses in tumour microenvironment
11:50 – 12:10	Jan Škoda, PhD.(CZ): Targeting mitochondria in therapy-resistant neuroblastoma
12:10 – 12:30	Filip Sedlic, MD., PhD. (HR): The role of mitochondria in cancer and cardiovascular diseases

12:30 – 13:45

Lunch break

13:45 – 14:00

Group photo

14:00 – 15:40

Session 4: Cancer genomics in diagnostics and therapy

Chair: prof. Silvia Pastoreková, DSc.

14:00 – 14:20	Prof. Ondřej Slabý, PhD. (Brno, CZ): Application of modern genomics in paediatric cancer research and therapeutic planning
14:20 – 14:40	Michal Šmída, PhD. (Brno, CZ): The use of functional genomics for advancing monoclonal antibody therapy of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia
14:40 – 15:00	Péter István Turai, MD. (HU): Novel tissue microRNA panels for the differentiation of adrenocortical tumours established by artificial intelligence
15:00 – 15:20	Diana Loreta Păun, MD., PhD. (RO): Up to date on genetic aspects in adrenal neoplasia
15:20 – 15:40	Asst. prof. Monika Ulamec, MD., PhD. (HR): Cell-free DNA methylation in cancer

15:40 – 16:10

Coffee break

16:10 – 17:30

Session 5: Cancer response to xenobiotics and natural products

Chair: Diana Loreta Păun, MD., PhD.

16:10 – 16:30	Pauliine Konsa (EE): The role of AHR in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma cells
16:30 – 16:50	Dr. Pavel Arsenyan (Riga, LV): Selenium in a fight with cancer: a blessing and a curse
16:50 – 17:10	Katarzyna Sobierajska, PhD. (PL): Evening primrose extract as an example of a natural bioproduct in anti-cancer therapy
17:10 – 17:30	Małgorzata Chmielewska-Kassassir, MSc. (PL): Molecular model of TYMS expression regulation: the role of Evening primrose extract in malignant pleural mesothelioma treatment

17:30 – 17:50

Zsolt Kohus, PhD. and Dóra Barczikai (HU): *Information on A4L_Actions Seed fund for small collaborative academia-industry projects*

19:00 – 22:00 Dinner and match-making discussions

OCTOBER 5 (Wednesday):

09:00 – 10:30

Session 6: Presentation of companies

Chair: Zsolt Kohus, PhD.

09:00 – 09:15	Pavol Čekan, PhD., CEO, Evan Paul, PhD., CSO, MultiplexDX, (SK), https://www.multiplexdx.com/
09:15 – 09:30	Róbert Dóczy, PhD., Lead Scientist, Oncompass Medicine, (HU), www.oncompassmedicine.com : Computer-assisted treatment decisions in precision oncology
09:30 – 09:45	Dr. Benjamin Pelcman, COO, Atrogi AB, (LV), https://atrogi.com
09:45 – 10:00	Radan Spaventi, Partner, Triadelta Partners Ltd., (HR), http://www.triadeltapartners.com/en/expertiseservices/
10:00 – 10:15	Łukasz Markiewicz, PhD. (PL): BRAIn in your cancer research
10:15 – 10:30	Stefan Busnatu, MD., PhD., Coordinator of the Center for Innovation and e-Health (RO), https://cieh.umfcd.ro/

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 – 11:15	Dr. Klára Horváth, NCP, Cluster I, Health, (HU): Future calls in cancer research, artificial intelligence in research and metabolic diseases
11:15 – 12:00	Matchmaking workshop
12:00 – 12:05	Formal closing of the event

12:10 – 13:10

Lunch break

Departure



Biomedical Research Center of the Slovak Academy of Sciences
Local organizer



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