



### Saturday

June 15th 2019

### MUST SEE



#### Baiblioteca Ambrosiana

An historic library in Milan, also housing the Pinacoteca Ambrosiana, the Ambrosian art gallery. Named after Ambrose, the patron saint of Milan.



#### Museo nazionale della Scienza e della Tecnologia

The largest science and technology museum in Italy, and is dedicated to Italian painter and scientist Leonardo da Vinci.



#### Corso Como

Corso Como is a commercial street, one of the main areas of Milan nightlife and the so-called "Milano da bere".

## Symptom-relief treatments to alleviate dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa

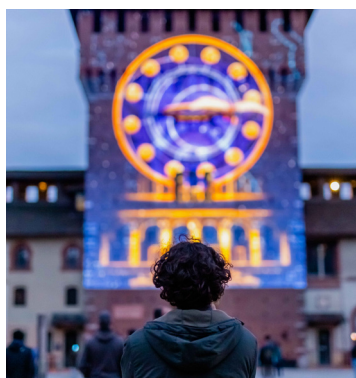


"We have found that more than 21 genes cause epidermolysis bullosa", stated **Dr. Leena Bruckner-Tuderman**, professor at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies. A fully working treatment is still to be found, but dermatologists and researchers are getting closer to their goal, also thanks to their studies on lab mice with dystrophic epidermolysis

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## The "Festa del Paradiso" closes the 24th World Congress of Dermatology

The event took place yesterday in the Cortile delle Armi of the Castello Sforzesco. More than five hundred years have passed since the extraordinary party that sealed the wedding of Gian Galeazzo Sforza and Isabella d'Aragona. The "Festa del Paradiso" was huge scenic machine built in 1490, a unique atmosphere that was revived yesterday in the Cortile delle Armi of the Castello Sforzesco in Milan.



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## Psoriasis, increasingly efficient therapies towards healing



Professor Jonathan Barker is attending the 2019 World Congress of Dermatology to raise treatments issues yet to be tackled.

Since the Millennium there have been significant advances for those patients affected by moderate to severe disease. Nevertheless there are still challenges to be addressed. Dermatologist Professor Jonathan Barker, of Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in London said most patients globally have

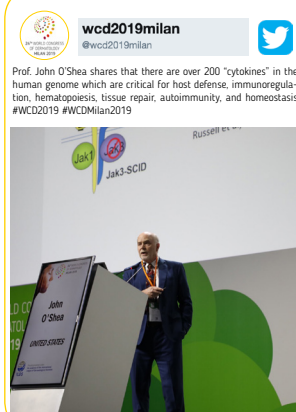
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## Distinguished Lecturer

**Dr. Yoshimori Tamotsu** has worked in several distinguished places, such as the European Molecular Biology Laboratory and the National Institute of Basic Biology. Besides being a professor of Osaka University, he is also a director at the Research Centre for Autophagy. His research findings are mainly focused on intracellular membrane trafficking and autophagy. Also, his research provided new findings into membrane biogenesis in autophagy and the role of autophagy in pathogen defence and suppression of various diseases.



### Best Post of the day



## Symptom-relief treatments to alleviate dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa

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bullosa. “Two pilot studies have shown that fibroblast injections in humans are very painful, and for this reason some patients refuse them”, added Dr. Bruckner-Tuderman. But symptom-relief therapies have made huge steps, also thanks to new molecules such as:



decorin and Ang-(1-7). “Two patients we have been working on are identical twins: one is very affected and the other one not. But we have found that the very affected twin has low levels of decorin, while the less affected has high levels of decorin. This allows us to understand better the disease but also that we can effectively cure dystrophic epidermolysis

bullosa with decorin administrations. The question is still to understand how to administrate it”, confirmed Dr. Bruckner-Tuderman. Moreover, they have had very good results on children treating them with losartan. And the future consists of finding symptom-relief therapies on targeting the gene defects.

## The “Festa del Paradiso” closes the 24th WCD



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A video projected on the Torre del Filarete that will tell the story of Leonardo da Vinci and Ludovico Sforza, also called “il Moro”.

The work of lights was included in the schedule of the celebrations of the Municipality of Milan. It officially closed the 24th World Congress of Dermatology scheduled at MiCo (Milan Convention Centre) until today. The sound and light show were accompanied by two performative moments: the dance of human horses, which tell the love of Leonardo and the Prince for horses, and the other the aerial ballet of the spouses, a performance in which six riders turned into luminous horses five meters high.

The “Festa del Paradiso” was

preceded by a show of water and lights in Piazza del Cannone, scheduled at 9.30pm that was visible from the Arco della Pace. The dancing fountains used one of the natural elements on which Leonardo has worked most of his life while here in Milan, perhaps water. Synchronised water jets rose up to 40 meters high drawing the sky and the space between the Arco della Pace and the Castel. Also, there was a construction of nebulized drops on which flowed laser images that told the passion of Leonardo for locks and dams.

“The show was a tribute to Leonardo’s relationship with the city of Milan”– declared the artistic director Roberto Malfatto. “It was the story of two men, Leonardo and Ludovico, their love for horses and the great party that seals the marriage between the Duchy of Milan and the Kingdom of Naples”, concluded Malfatto.

## Exciting time in alopecia: new tools of genetics to understand the basis of the disease

“It is an exciting time in alopecia because we are beginning to use new tools of genetics to understand the basis of the disease”, said Prof. Angela Christiano. In her lab at Columbia University, she studies three different kinds of alopecia: standard of male/female pattern of hair loss, alopecia areata (which is an autoimmune form of hair loss), and scar and cicatrice alopecias (which affect many people in a growing concern). “Sometimes it is easy to see that alopecia is inherited from parent to child and down through family, but that’s unusual. Most forms of alopecia are what we call

“complex disease”, where there can be an aggregation of patients in a family, but not from parent to child, instead from an aunt, a niece, a nephew, or a grandparent, just to give some examples”, declared Prof. Christiano. “What we found is that most of the time this disease is not only influenced by genetics but also by environmental factors, which now allows us to address some of the environmental triggers that can lead to these disorders in the families”, added Prof. Christiano. But for now, alopecia cannot be classified, as it affects different groups not so evenly.





# Psoriasis, increasingly efficient therapies towards healing

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not benefitted from these therapeutic advances.

He added: "Access to specialist care remains highly problematic and many government agencies and health payers fail to recognise that psoriasis is an important life altering non-communicable disease. The WHO psoriasis resolution in 2014 hopefully will help this issue in time as will the recognition that psoriasis is a component in the multimorbidity that an ageing and/or obese population will encounter."



Professor Barker was part of the plenary panel of speakers attending the 2019 World Congress of Dermatology in Milan until 15 June 2019.

He said: "Even the best current treatments are only introduced after patients have suffered with psoriasis often for many years. Perhaps with advances in knowledge we can start to consider prevention".

Professor Barker has been Academic Head of St John's Institute of Dermatology since 2002 and presently is President of the European Dermatology Forum.

## Cosmetic dermatology can help make people feel and confident



**Dr. Susan Weinkle** is board-certified in dermatology and has been in solo practice since 1984, specialising in Mohs surgery and cosmetic dermatology (neuromodulators and soft tissue augmentation). Her approach to facial rejuvenation is multimodal. Collagen, the first cosmetic dermatology product went from consider surgical to non-surgical, and its main challenge was that it had no durability on the long-term, with the need to do retouches every 6 months for example. But today there is an explosion of products,

and collagen is not anymore, the only available option. For example, Dr. Weinkle evokes retinoic acid, said to be miraculous for wrinkles. In addition, photodynamic therapy has been receiving great feedback and is used for patient who have been exposed to the sun for far too long and that show skin problems. Overall, Dr. Weinkle takes at heart her patients' happiness and believes firmly in cosmetic dermatology as it can help make people feel and confident again. Finally, for the future of cosmetic dermatology, Dr. Weinkle hopes there will be longer-lasting neuromodulators, better drug delivery systems, micro-needling of cross-linked HA's, and improved photo protection.

## The dermatologist can no longer do without dermatoscopy



An interview with...

**Giuseppe Argenziano**

At the 2019 WCD, the Professor at the Campania University talks about the importance of dermatoscopy

**Can the dermatologist do without dermatoscopy?**

It is an irreplaceable instrument, it is like the stethoscope for the intern or the otoscope for the otolaryngologist. It is an instrument that not only allows better diagnosis, but saves also a number of useless biopsies that normally should be done for benign lesions. So, we are more specific on diagnosis, saving useless biopsies and increasing our capacity of recognising early melanoma.

**Who gets melanoma nowadays?**

Unfortunately, anyone could get sick. Of course there are risk-related factors, like people who have naevus, or who have particularly light skin, or the ones that have had melanoma in their family. These people yes, have a higher risk of getting sick but are actually

part of a minority. We can all get melanoma, and for this reason, 60 to 70 per cent of melanomas manifests in people without any risk-related factors. We have to be particularly alert, do checkups and know that whatever thing changing on our skin must be checked.

**Do over 50 get sicker?**

Not only get sicker, but die more. Higher death rates concern men over 50. More specifically the one who does not know about melanoma risks. Women know more about it, and so is faster in getting checked.



# Inherited tumours: from genetics' therapy to new findings of scientific research



## An interview with...

**Giovanni Ponti, Professor of Clinical Pathology at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia**

Syndromes of augmented predisposition to neoplastic de-

velopment and related new therapeutic approaches: this is the theme of one of WCD's sessions. We have talked about it with Giovanni Ponti, Professor of Clinical Pathology at the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, co-president of the session "Inherited Tumour Syndromes".

## Which syndromes are we talking about?

"We talk about a compound of inherited syndromes. They are characterised by a genetic mutation responsible of the higher susceptibility to the development of neoplasia of internal organs (visceral neoplasia) and cutaneous. Citing Muir-Torre Syndrome, in which rare cutaneous tumours can anticipate the appearance of neoplasia and intestinal polypus, and so, constitute a cutaneous "stigmata" predictable of associated neoplasia development. Such as the Gorlin-Goltz Syndrome, in which affected patients, other than major predisposition to developing basocellular cutaneous carcinomas and visceral neoplasia, present specific bone stigmata".

## These bone stigmata have been found in two Egyptian mummies.

"These bone characteristics have allowed to hypothesise and identify the diagnosis of this inheritable syndrome in two Egyptian mummies of around 4 000 years ago, exposed at the Egyptian Museum of Turin. We are applying the same approach of paleogenetics and paleopathology, to the

case of an ongoing study, involving some of the Pompeian skulls selected by us for the stigmata anthropometric peculiarities. They are evocative of the Gorlin Syndrome, which is a study we are developing in collaboration with the superintendence and the Ministry of Goods and Cultural Activities".

## Let's get back to the WCD session, to which have participated important researchers.

"Subject of new scientific evidence have concerned the nature of genetic and molecular mechanisms, at the basis of inheritable transmission and the development of cutaneous tumours, in the area of interest of certain syndromes defined: "genodermatosis". Enlightening have been a study on genetic mosaic, which has demonstrated the role of genetic mutations non-inherited but got from the embryo in the very first days of development. A mechanism that could be used to study the pathogenesis, and also find new therapies for other syndromes of augmented predisposition to neoplastic development, for which still nowadays, there are no known molecular pathogenesis".

## One reason to visit Milan: Pinacoteca di Brera



The collection of the Pinacoteca di Brera includes some of the greatest masterpieces of Italian and foreign art from the 13th to the 20th century. The works are displayed on the first floor of the building, where the Academy of Fine Arts is also located.

The building itself, which dates back to the late Baroque period, was built on the remains of a 14th century monastery of the Humiliati religious order. The Academy of Fine Arts has been housed there since the second part of the 18th century thanks to the intervention of Maria Theresa, Empress of Austria. The Pinacoteca museum, which opened in 1809 thanks to Napoleon Bonaparte, was born as a collection of the finest works of art and was

dedicated to the education of students. The collection included Italian art masterpieces taken from churches and monasteries that were suppressed at the time when Milan was the capital city of the Kingdom of Italy.

Unlike other great Italian museums, the Pinacoteca di Brera was not founded thanks to private collections belonging to monarchs or noble families, but through a political action by the state. The collection has subsequently been enlarged through exchanges, acquisitions and donations.

The 20th century works of art of the Pinacoteca come from donations by the Jesi and Vitali families.

### Opening Hours

Visitors: entrance € 12  
Tue - Sun: 8:30 - 19:15  
(last ticket: 18:40)

info:[www.pinacotecabrera.org](http://www.pinacotecabrera.org)

