

The 4th FICAN West Science Day – Co-operation in translational cancer research

May 6th, 2026

Säätiö lecture hall, Medisiina D, Kiinamyllynkatu 10D, Turku



Registration by Tuesday April 28th:

<https://link.webropolsurveys.com/S/AEDC35F7AA1ED588>

08.55-09.00 Opening words: Panu Jaakkola, scientific director, FICAN West

SESSION 1 - From Tumor Biology to Clinical Trials, Chair: Panu Jaakkola

09.00-09.30 Kalle Mattila, Helsinki University Hospital

Investigator-initiated prospective studies in melanoma

09.30-10.00 Elisa Närvä, Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku

Quantitative Analysis of Stemness from Patient Samples

10.00-10.15 Early career talk: Oxana Denisova, Turku Bioscience Centre, University of Turku and Åbo Akademi *PP2A inhibitor proteins CIP2A and PME-1 as medulloblastoma oncoproteins and therapy targets*

10.15-10.45 COFFEE and networking

SESSION 2 - Immunotherapy, Resistance and Data-Driven Oncology, Chair: Kari Kurppa

10.45-11.15 Heidi Haikala, University of Helsinki, *Lung cancer and immunotherapy resistance*

11.15-11.45 Kimmo Porkka, University of Helsinki

Real-World Patient Data in the AI Era: Challenges and Opportunities

11.45-12.00 Early career talk: Marjaana Ojalill, Turku Bioscience Center, University of Turku and Åbo Akademi, InFLAMES Flagship program, *Targeting FAK signaling in ovarian cancer*

12.00-13.00 LUNCH BREAK

13.00-13.15 Sara Lassfolk, *Patient involvement in research: A patient's perspective for scientists*

SESSION 3 - From Clinical Trials to Real-World Evidence, Chair: Pia Vihinen

13.15-13.45 Eetu Heervä, Department of Oncology, Turku University Hospital

Cancer-related real-world evidence studies in Finland, a researcher's perspective

13.45-14.15 Heidi Andersen, Central Hospital of Vaasa, *Clinical trials for lung cancer*

14.15-14.30 Early career talk: Sartaj Salman, Institute of Biomedicine, University of Turku

AI in histopathological cancer prognostics

14.30-15.00 COFFEE and networking

KEYNOTE - Translating Melanoma Biology into Better Treatment Decisions, Chair: Maria Silvoniemi

15.00-15.45 Hanna Eriksson, Department of Oncology-Pathology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden *TITLE TBA*

15.45-15.50 Closing remarks by Pia Vihinen, director, FICAN West

15.50-17.30 **Light dinner**

The training has been applied for eligibility in PhD doctoral studies and medical doctor specializing education (Endokrinologia, Gastroenterologinen kirurgia, Geriatria, Ihotaudit ja allergologia, Kliininen farmakologia ja lääkehoito, Kliininen hematologia, Korva-, nenä- ja kurkkutaudit, Naistentaudit ja synnytykset, Neurokirurgia, Neurologia, Patologia, Perinnöllisyyslääketiede, Plastiikkakirurgia, Radiologia, Sisätaudit / eriytyvä koulutus, Syöpätaudit, Urologia, Yleiskirurgia, Yleislääketiede) at the University of Turku.

Organizing committee: Erika Alanne, Rasha Elmansuri, Saara Hämälistö, Panu Jaakkola, Kari Kurppa, Elisa Närvä, Pekka Ruusuvoori, Maria Silvoniemi, Mervi Toriseva, Pia Vihinen