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**STRIKE**



# International conference on precision medicine and **STRIKE** scientific meeting

2-4 July 2026

University of Messina, Piazza Pugliatti, Messina,  
Italy





## Topics

Liquid Biopsy  
Drug Delivery in Osteosarcoma  
Metals for Theranostic and Imaging

## Organizing Committee

Anna PIPERNO (UNIME)  
Angela SCALA (UNIME)  
Ana Laura CORIA GUTIÉRREZ (UNIME)  
Giuseppe LUCCHESI (COGENTECH)  
Domenico SCIONTI (COGENTECH)  
Beatriz NARANJO MARTÍNEZ (COGENTECH)

## Organizing Committee

Anna PIPERNO (UNIME, Italy)  
Angela SCALA (UNIME, Italy)  
Dominique HEYMANN (UN, France)  
Marco Alessandro PIEROTTI (COGENTECH, Italy)  
Franca RAUCCI (IFOM, Italy)



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## Welcome!

On behalf of the Scientific Committee and the Local Organizing Committee, it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the **International Conference on Precision Medicine and the STRIKE Scientific Meeting**, held in Messina, Italy.

This conference is organized within the framework of the **STRIKE Project**, a multidisciplinary research initiative funded by the European Union through the **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – Doctoral Networks (MSCA-DN)** for the training of a new generation of highly qualified and multidisciplinary researchers, equipped with the skills necessary to transform scientific discoveries into innovative technological solutions.

The project brings together expertise from chemistry, biology, physics, engineering, and clinical sciences, fostering a highly interdisciplinary research environment. Particular attention has been devoted to the development of magnetic nanoparticles for cancer therapy and imaging, as well as to innovative applications of liquid biopsy for cancer diagnosis and monitoring.

This conference provides a unique forum for discussing the latest advances in nanotechnology and precision medicine. Internationally renowned experts will present cutting-edge research and innovative clinical approaches, including novel strategies for the treatment of osteosarcoma and advanced tools for the early detection of breast cancer in patients carrying BRCA mutations. Invited lectures will offer broad perspectives on the evolution of cancer research exploring future directions in the fight against cancer.

The second day of the meeting will be dedicated to young researchers. Early-career scientists from both the STRIKE consortium and external institutions will present their latest findings showcasing innovative approaches and promoting interdisciplinary dialogue and scientific exchange.

We are delighted to welcome researchers, clinicians, students, and industry representatives from around the world to Messina. We hope that this meeting will stimulate fruitful discussions, foster new collaborations, and contribute to advancing precision medicine for the benefit of patients worldwide.

We wish you a productive, inspiring, and enjoyable conference.



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# International conference on precision medicine and STRIKE scientific meeting | 2-4 July 2026

*University of Messina  
Piazza Pugliatti, Messina – Italy*

## PROGRAM

**02.07.2026**

*Aula Magna Rettorato University of Messina*

**13.30-14.30**     *Registration*

**14.30-15.00**     *Welcome and Opening*

### Session 1

*Chair:* Prof. Anna Piperno, *University of Messina, Italy* / Dr. Monica Montesi, *CNR-ISSMC, Italy*

**15.00-15.20**     ***STRIKE Project: Past, Present, and Future***  
Prof. Anna Piperno, *University of Messina, Italy*

**15.20-15.45**     ***Liquid Biopsy: In Search of the Holy Grail of Oncological Diagnostics***  
Prof. Marco Alessandro Pierotti, *Cogentech, Italy*

**15.45-16.10**     ***Future Therapeutic Options in osteosarcoma***  
Prof. Dominique Heymann, *Nantes Université, France*

**16.10-16.30**     *Coffee Break and Networking*

### Session 2

*Chair:* Prof. Marco Alessandro Pierotti, *Cogentech, Italy* / Prof. Dominique Heymann, *Nantes Université, France*

**16.30-17.00**     ***Turning Macrophages into Therapeutic Effectors: Immune Reprogramming via the Macrophage-Drug Conjugated Platform***  
Prof. Magdalena Król, *Warsaw University of Life Sciences, Poland*

**17.00-17.25**     ***Cyclodextrins in Nanomedicine: From Supramolecular Chemistry to Precision Therapeutics***  
Dr. István Puskás, *Cyclolab Budapest, Hungary*



17.25-17.50

***The impact of AI on Academic Research and Scholarly Publishing***

Dr. Francesca Novara, *Wiley*, Germany

17.50-18.10

***Closing Remark***

20.30

***Social Dinner in Blanco Beach Club***

V. Consolare Pompea, 506, 98167, Messina  
Meeting point at Royal Palace Hotel at 20.00

**03.07.2026**

*Aula Cannizzaro University of Messina*

**Session 3**

***Chair:*** Prof. Angela Scala, *University of Messina*, Italy / Prof. Serena Riela, *University of Catania*, Italy

9.30-9.55

***The Ferritin Highway: Mechanistic Foundations of the TRAIN mechanism***

Małgorzata Górczak, *Warsaw University of Life Sciences*, Poland

9.55-10.20

***Synthesis and Characterisation of Magnetic Nanoplatfoms as Active Drug Carriers***

Suncica Sukur, *Palacký University Olomouc*, Czech Republic

10.20-10.45

***NanoArchitectonic Design of Magnetic Materials for Bridging Diagnosis, Imaging, and Cancer Therapy***

Ana Laura Coria Gutiérrez, *University of Messina*, Italy

10.45-11.10

***Coffee Break and Networking***

**Session 4**

***Chair:*** Prof. Giuseppe Floresta, *University of Catania*, Italy / Dr. Franca Raucci, *Cogentech*, Italy

11.10-11.35

***Design, synthesis, characterization, and interaction with magnetic nanoplatfoms of Pt(IV) pro-drugs for diagnosis and treatment of osteosarcoma***

Giulia Ferrari, *Maynooth University*, Ireland

11.35-12.00

***Engineering physiologically relevant 3D scaffold-based in vitro osteosarcoma models for biological investigation and evaluation of magnetic nanotherapeutics***

Mohamed Saqawa, *National Research Council, Institute of Science, Technology and Sustainability for Ceramics (ISSMC)*, Italy



**03.07.2026**

- 12.00-12.25** *Investigating phenotypic heterogeneity in osteosarcoma and the development of novel therapeutics*  
Joshua Mountford, *Nantes University, France*
- 12.25-12.50** *Magnetic nanoparticle-based transduction methodology for DNA detection in liquids*  
Sedef Özel-Okcu, *NanoTech Solutions, Spain*
- 12.50-14.00** *Light lunch*

**Session 5**

*Chair:* Prof. Giulia Neri / Prof. Nicola Micale / Prof. Massimiliano Cordaro, *University of Messina, Italy*

- 14.00-14.25** *Orally Inhaled Gemcitabine for the Treatment of Osteosarcoma Lung Metastasis*  
Prof. Federica Carnamucio, *Virginia Commonwealth University, USA*
- 14.25-14.35** *Small Luminescent Molecules: Lighting-up the Way*  
Maura Monforte, *University of Messina, Italy*
- 14.35-14.45** *Core-shell magnetoplasmonic nanoassemblies for the detection of circulating melanoma cells: a liquid biopsy tool with theranostic potential*  
Giuseppe Nocito, *CNR-ISMN URT, Italy*
- 14.45-14.55** *Gold Nanoparticle-Based Drug Delivery Systems for Cancer Therapy*  
Rossella Basilotta, *University of Messina, Italy*
- 14.55-15.05** *Exploring the Versatility of Chelating Agents from Therapeutics to Catalysis*  
Erika Saccullo, *University of Catania, Italy*
- 15.05-15.15** *Injectable Multicavity Halloysite–Calixarene Nanoplatforms for Breast Cancer Treatment*  
Giuseppe Cinà, *University of Catania, Italy*
- 15.15-15.25** *Unveiling 3D Culture Dynamics: A Temporal Analysis of Malignant Progression from Day 0 to Day 9*  
Serena Munaò, *University of Messina, Italy*
- 15.25-15.35** *Protein-Mediated Stabilization of TPPS J-Aggregates: From Disaggregation Kinetics to Ultrafast Photophysics*  
Teresa Paviglianiti, *University of Messina, Italy*



03.07.2026

- 15.35-15.45** *Graphene oxide-based miRNA delivery system: from in vitro studies to in ovo applications*  
Paola Trischitta, *University of Messina, Italy*
- 15.45 -15.55** *Lipid-based nanocarriers for treating antibiotic resistance*  
Natalia Sgambellone, *University of Messina, Italy*
- 15.55-16.10** Coffee break

**Session 6**

*Chair:* Prof. Diego Montagner, Maynooth University, Ireland / Dr. Thomas Wanek, *Medical University of Vienna, Austria*

- 16.10-16.35** *Methylation profiling of hereditary tumors using magnetic bead-based MBD enrichment in tissue and liquid biopsy samples*  
Beatriz Naranjo Martínez, *COGENTECH Catania, Italy*
- 16.35-17.00** *Radiolabeling and in vivo evaluation of pharmacokinetics of labelled drugs or drug carriers*  
Ines Lopez Martinez, *Medical University of Vienna, Austria*
- 17.00-18.00** *Steering Board among STRIKE Beneficiaries*

04.07.2026

**Social Event- Aeolian Islands Excursion**

*Lipari and Vulcano Boat Trip*

- 7.30** Departure from Messina by bus (Royal Palace Hotel)
- 9.15** Boat departure from Milazzo  
Visit to Lipari island (2h)  
Visit to Vulcano island (2.5h): free time for sightseeing, swimming, and lunch  
Panoramic boat tour of the Vulcano coastline
- 17.45** Expected arrival to Milazzo
- 19.00** Expected return to Messina by bus

**Important information:** Lunch and entrance fees are not included. Snack bar service available on board (extra charge). Participants are advised to bring swimsuit, towel, hat, and sunscreen.



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## PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS



**CNR  
ISSMC**

Istituto di Scienza, Tecnologia e Sostenibilità  
per lo Sviluppo dei Materiali Ceramici



**Maynooth  
University**

National University  
of Ireland Maynooth

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## ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT



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