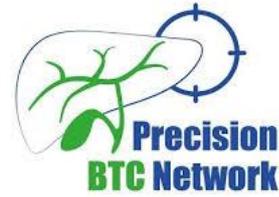




UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
FIRENZE

Dipartimento di  
Medicina Sperimentale  
e Clinica



## **COST Training School 2026**

### ***Advanced Preclinical Models for Biliary Tract Cancers***

**Institution:**

*Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine, University of Florence,  
Florence, Italy*

**Date:**

*March 26-27, 2026*

**Application deadline:**

*4 November 2025*

**Course Organizers:**

*Prof. Jens Marquardt & Prof. Chiara Raggi*

## March 26, 2026 (Thursday)

8:30-8:45	Registration & Welcome Coffee
8:45-8:50	Welcome Message from Prof. Annunziato, Director, Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine, University of Florence
8:50-9:00	Introduction and Learning Objectives (Chiara Raggi & Jens Marquardt)
9:00-9:45	State-of-the-Art: Experimental models of liver diseases/ biliary tract cancers (Cedric Coulouarn, Rennes)
9:45-10:15	Keynote Lecture: In vivo model in biliary tract cancer (Luke Boulter, Edinburgh)
10:15-10:45	Coffee Break
10:45-13:15	Keynote Lecture: Scaffolds as in vitro models in biliary tract cancers (Krista Rombouts, London)
13.15-14:15	Lunch
14:15-16:45	Practical Sessions Participants will be divided into 5 groups: (30 mins each group) <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Organoids (Mirella Pastore, Florence)</li><li>2) Scaffolds (Nunzia Porro, Florence)</li><li>3) in vivo (Tiziano Lottini, Florence)</li><li>4) Precision liver cut slices (Darko Castven, Lübeck)</li><li>5) Microfluidic (Jessica Iorio, Florence)</li></ol>
16:45-17:15	Coffee Break
17:15-18:30	State-of-the-Art Lecture: Modeling & AI in cancer research - the next generation of translation (Sebastian Foersch, Mainz)
19:00-21:00	Dinner

## March 27, 2026 (Friday)

8:30	Registration
9:00-9:15	Summary of Day Before & Questions
9:15-9:45	Keynote Lecture: Implementation of models in clinical trials (Tian Tian, Barcelona)
9:45-10:15	Keynote Lecture: On-Chip cancer modeling - microfluidics as a new frontier in biliary research (Bart Spee, Utrecht)
10:15-10:45	Coffee Break
10:45-12:00	Parallel Sessions Participants will be divided into 2 groups a. Applications of the models (project specific pitches): 1 slide + 3 questions b. Mentorship/career advice: 2 questions c. Implementation of the models in clinical trial design
12:00-12:15	Discussion & Wrap-up / Post-school Quiz
12:15-12:30	Closing Remarks & Depart