

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:

Jens Marquardt and 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 and Jens Marquardt
9:00-9:45	State-of-the-art: Experimental models of liver diseases/ biliary tract cancers (Laura Fouassier – INSERM Paris)
9:45-10:15	Keynote lecture “in vivo model in biliary tract cancer” <i>Luke Boulter</i>
10:15-10:45	Coffee Break
10:45-13:15	Keynote lecture “Scaffolds as in vitro models in biliary tract cancers”: <i>Krista Rombouts</i>
13.15-14:15	Lunch
14:15-16:45	Practical sessions Participants will be divided into 5 groups: (30 mins each group?) 1) Organoids (Mirella Pastore, Florence) 2) Scaffolds (Nunzia Porro, Florence) 3) in vivo (Tiziano Lottini, Florence) 4) Precision liver cut slices (Darko, Castven Lübeck) 5) Microfluidic (Jessica Iorio, Florence)
16:45-17:15	Coffee Break
17:15-18:30	State-of-the-Art lecture: Modeling and KI in Cancer Research - the next generation of translation (Nikolas Kather - Dresden)
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 3 + Q&A
9:45-10:15	Keynote lecture "Implementation of models in clinical trials" Angela Lamarca
10:15-10:45	Coffe 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 and wrap up / Post-school quiz
12:15-12:30	Closing remarks and depart