



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

Dipartimento di
Medicina Sperimentale
e Clinica



UNIVERSITÄT ZU LÜBECK

COST Training School 2026

Advanced Preclinical Models for Biliary Tract Cancers

Venue:

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

Date:

March 26-27, 2026

Course Organizers:

Prof. Chiara Raggi and Prof. Jens Marquardt



March 26, 2026 (Thursday)

8:30-8:45	Registration & Welcome Coffee
8:45-8:50	Welcome message from Prof. Chiara Braconi, Action Vice-Chair, CA22125 - Precision medicine in biliary tract cancer (Precision-BTC-Network)
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
10:45-11:30	Keynote Lecture: Scaffolds as in vitro models in biliary tract cancers (Krista Rombouts, London)
11.30-12:15	State-of-the-Art Lecture: Modeling and AI in cancer research - the next generation of translation (Sebastian Foersch, Mainz)
12.30-14:15	Lunch
14:30-17:30	<p>Practical Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants will be divided into 4 groups: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Organoids (Mirella Pastore, Florence) 2) Scaffolds (Nunzia Porro, Florence) 3) Precision liver cut slices (Darko Castven Lübeck) 4) Microfluidic (Jessica Iorio, Florence) • Joint session: Video presentation on in vivo models (Dr. Lottini, Florence)
17:30-17.45	Concluding Remarks
19:00-21:00	Group 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	Interactive Sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applications of the models (project specific pitches): 1 slide + 3 questions• Implementation of the models in clinical trial design• Mentorship/career advice
12:00-12:15	Discussion & Wrap-up
12:15-12:30	Closing Remarks & Depart