



**Workshop on progress in stem cells research for ALS/MND
October 22-23, 2015, Novara (Italy)**

**Thursday, October 22
5,00-8,00 pm
Open Ceremony**

5,00 – 5,30 p.m.

Welcome by:

Eastern Piedmont University and “Maggiore della Carità”
Hospital Representatives

Ministry of Health

Local authorities

5,30 – 6,00 p.m

Introduction to Workshop

Cantello R (Novara, Italy), Vescovi A (Milano, Italy)

Mazzini L (Novara, Italy)

6,00-7,00 p.m

Lecture

Prof S. Dunnett (Cardiff School of Biosciences , UK)

**“Challenges for taking primary and stem cells into clinical transplantation trials
for Neurodegenerative Diseases”**

7,00-8,00 p.m

Cocktail Reception

FRIDAY, October 23

SESSION I: PRE-CLINICAL RESEARCH USING STEM CELLS
The problem of generating the right cells and using the right animal model

Chairs: **Vescovi A (Milano, Italy) Dunnett S (Cardiff, UK)**

8,30 – 9,00 a.m. **Angelo Vescovi (Milano, Italy)**

Neural Stem Cells

9,00 – 9,30 a.m. **Alessandro Vercelli (Torino, Italy)**

Mesenchymal Stem Cells

9,30-10,00 a.m. **Mariagrazia Grilli (Novara, Italy)**

Is Endogenous Neurogenesis a potential target in ALS?

10,00-10,30 a.m. **Discussion**

10,30 – 10,45 a.m. **Coffee/Tea**

SESSION II: CLINICAL TRIALS INVOLVING STEM CELLS

Chairs: **Boulis N (Atlanta, USA) Cantello R (Novara, Italy)**

10,45 – 11,15 a.m. **Feldman EL(Ann Arbor, USA)**

Neural Progenitors Cell Transplantation in ALS: A Phase I/II Trial

11,15– 11,45 a.m. **Mazzini L (Novara Italy)**

MSCs and neural stem cell transplantation: Organization, development and long-term follow-up of two phase1 clinical trials.

11,45- 12,00 a.m. **Stecco A (Novara, Italy)**

"*In Vivo*" Safety of Spinal Stem-cell Transplant in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis can be Assessed by DTI with Fiber Tracking

11,45– 12,15 a.m. **Blanquer M (Murcia, Spain)**

Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation: results of a phase I/II clinical trial

12,15- 12,45 a.m. **Mancardi G, Caponnetto C(Genova, Italy)**

Treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis patients with cyclophosphamide followed by autologous haematopoietic stem-cell transplantation support: an open label phase I/IIa study

1,00 – 200 p.m Lunch

SESSION III WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED FROM THE FIRST GENERATION OF CLINICAL TRIALS OF CELL TRANSPLANTATION?

2,00-3,00 p.m **Moderated Discussion:**

Chairs Atassi N (Boston, USA), Chiò A (Torino, Italy)

SESSION IV: ARE THERE SUFFICIENT DATA REGARDING THE FOLLOWING TO JUSTIFY PHASE II/III CLINICAL TRIALS: SAFETY, FEASIBILITY, DOSE, DELIVERY, AND PARTICIPANT NUMBERS

Chair:	Feldman E (Ann Arbor, USA), Beghi E (Milano, Italy)
3,00 – 3,30 p.m	Atassi N (Boston, USA) Identification of key parameters for assessment protocol in single or small numbers of patients (phase I/II)
3,30 – 4,00 p.m	Chiò A (Torino, Italy) Which features of the disease are more or less amenable to transplant repair?
4,00 – 4,30 p.m	Boulis N (Atlanta, USA) New Surgical approaches: is a sham-operated control group mandatory for phase II/III clinical trials?
4,30 – 5,00 p.m	Rappresentante AIFA (Roma, Italy) Regulatory and Ethical oversight
5,00-5,30 p.m	Fantozzi R (Torino, Italy) Guenzi P (Novara, Italy) Ethical Challenges
5,30 – 6,00 p.m	Coffee/Tea
6,00 – 7,00 p.m	Moderated Discussion: Future Prospects for Stem Cell based clinical trials and next steps towards a consensus Chairs Beghi E (Milano, Italy), Feldman E (Ann Arbor, USA)
7,00- 8,00 p.m	Moderators' Summary and Next Steps towards a consensus
8,30 p.m	Dinner