

## Highlights of the 2015 Italian CCM Scientific Meeting

On **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**, CCM Italia organized the **2015 Italian Cerebral Cavernous Malformation Scientific Meeting**. The distinguished venue was the Aula Magna <sup>[1]</sup> of the Torino University School of Medicine located in the **Lingotto Conference Center, Torino**, Italy. The initiative was promoted and supported by the **Associazione Italiana Angiomi Cavernosi (AIAC)** and the **University of Torino School of Medicine**, as well as by the most relevant **Italian Scientific Societies** in clinical and basic research fields related to Cerebrovascular Diseases.

The **scientific organizers**, Professor **Francesco Retta** (University of Torino), **Lorenza Trabalzini** (University of Siena) and **Marco Fontanella** (University of Brescia), have been honored to host **nearly 100 attendees**, including **40 speakers and moderators** that presented and discussed the state of the art and future perspectives in the field of CCM disease.

The meeting was organized with the **dual aim** of providing an opportunity of knowledge upgrading for physician and MD/PhD post-graduate trainees in medical disciplines, and an occasion for Italian clinical and basic researchers to share and discuss the latest clinical data and research findings and to develop new hypotheses and collaborations. Indeed, the **multidisciplinary nature** of the meeting offered a unique opportunity to the various participating scientists interested in understanding the **multifaceted aspect of CCM disease**, including neurosurgeons, neurologists, neuroradiologists, general pathologists, geneticists and molecular biologists, to look at **multiple and complementary questions** from different angles in order to better understand the full spectrum of the disease and provide new scientific insights through innovative and integrated research approaches.

The scientific course/meeting was opened by the greetings of local authorities, including the **Vice-President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Torino (OMCeO-TO)** and the **Dean of the University of Torino School of Medicine**, and the speech of Massimo Chiesa, **President of the Associazione Italiana Angiomi Cavernosi (AIAC)**, which recounted his more than 35 years of experience and feelings as a CCM disease affected patient, and shared his wishes to spread awareness of the disease and help scientists and patients in tackling the disease.

Among the most interesting **features of the 2015 Italian CCM Scientific Meeting** there were complementary and comprehensive presentations describing the **recent advances in diagnosis and clinical management of CCM disease**, including significant advances in neurological, neuroradiological and genetic diagnosis, and neurosurgery procedures, as well as **recent progress into the understanding of pathogenic mechanisms and the identification of risk factors of prognostic value** associated with disease onset, progression and severity. In particular, given the large inter-individual variability in susceptibility to develop the most severe clinical features of CCM disease, including ICH, the

latter is a major **current research challenge** to allow the prediction of disease outcome and provide better options for disease prevention and treatment, thus ultimately matching patients with individualized treatment.

The **full meeting agenda**, complete with talk titles and presenter information, can be found at the following links:

Meeting poster [2]

Meeting brochure/program [3]

Gallery [4]

**Lingua**  
Italiano

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#### **Links**

[1]

[http://www.ccmitalia.unito.it/images/Meetings/2015\\_CCM\\_meeting/aula%20magna\\_dental%20school\\_universita%20](http://www.ccmitalia.unito.it/images/Meetings/2015_CCM_meeting/aula%20magna_dental%20school_universita%20)

[2] [http://www.unito.it/sites/default/files/evento\\_ecm\\_sulle\\_malformazioni\\_cerebrovascolari\\_-\\_locandina\\_definitiva\\_0.pdf](http://www.unito.it/sites/default/files/evento_ecm_sulle_malformazioni_cerebrovascolari_-_locandina_definitiva_0.pdf)

[3] [https://www.dam.unito.it/eventiecm/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Evento-Cerebro\\_15\\_CON-LINK.pdf](https://www.dam.unito.it/eventiecm/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Evento-Cerebro_15_CON-LINK.pdf)

[4] <http://www.ccmitalia.unito.it/content/highlights-italian-2015-scientific-meeting>