



Venice, April 24 2026

ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
**REGENERATIVE  
OPHTHALMOLOGY  
FOR RETINAL DISORDERS**

**Organizing Committee**  
Diego Ponzin  
Stefano Ferrari

Organizing Secretariat  
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**iCongress**

# REGENERATIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY FOR RETINAL DISORDERS

## Scientific Program

09.00 – 09.30

*Registration*

09.30 – 10.30

**SESSION I**

(Chair: Gilles Thuret and Esteve Trias)

**NEW APPROACHES FOR THE TREATMENT  
OF RETINAL DISORDERS**

• **Progresses towards liquid or 3D printed retina**

(Grazia Pertile, IRCCS Sacro Cuore - Don Calabria Hospital, Verona IT)

• **Scaffolds design and retinal cell replacement therapy**

(Mario Romano, Humanitas Research Hospital, Milan IT)

10.30 – 11.00

*Coffee break*

11.00 – 12.00

**SESSION II**

(Chair: Stefano Ferrari and Stefania D'Agostino)

**CELL THERAPY FOR AGE RELATED  
MACULAR DEGENERATION**

• **Autologous Transplantation of Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Retinal Pigment Epithelium for Geographic Atrophy Associated With Age-Related Macular Degeneration - the First results of Clinical Trials.gov ID NCT04339764**

(Kapil Bharti, National Eye Institute NIH, Bethesda USA)

• **The long path towards a cell therapy clinical trial**

(Nilay Shah, EMMES Group, Rockville, Maryland, USA)

12.00 – 12.30

*Greetings from the authorities*

12.30 – 13.30

*Lunch*

# REGENERATIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY FOR RETINAL DISORDERS

13.30 – 15.00

## Scientific Program

### SESSION III

(Chair: Giuseppe Scarpa and Nicola Zemella)  
**GENE THERAPY FOR RETINAL DISORDERS**

- **Italian experiences with LUXURNA and within the ASCENT gene therapy clinical trial for the wet AMD**  
(Marco Mura, University of Ferrara IT)
- **The Telethon experience with gene therapy trials for retinal inherited disorders**  
(Alberto Auricchio, TIGEM / University of Naples "Federico II" IT)
- **Retinitis Pigmentosa Caused by Mutations in the FAM161A Gene: Steps on the path to gene therapy**  
(Eyal Banin, Center for Retinal and Macular Degenerations Department of Ophthalmology Hadassah-Hebrew, University of Jerusalem IL)

15.00 – 16.00

### SESSION IV

(Chair: Emilio Rapizzi and Guido Barosco)  
**PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS  
FOR RETINAL DISORDERS**

- **Treatment of patients with macular holes with decellularized Descemet Membrane**  
(Marco Pellegrini, University of Ferrara IT)
- **Use of retinal tissues to identify new therapeutic targets**  
(Sandro Banfi, TIGEM / University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli" IT)

16.00 – 16.30

*Farewell & goodbye*

## Venue

Auditorium of The Eye Bank Foundation  
Padiglione Rama  
Via Paccagnella 11 - Venice, Italy

## Faculty

Alberto Auricchio – Naples, Italy  
Sandro Banfi – Naples, Italy  
Eyal Banin – Tel Aviv, Israel  
Guido Barosco – Venice, Italy  
Kapil Bharti – Maryland, USA  
Stefania D'Agostino – Venice, Italy  
Stefano Ferrari – Venice, Italy  
Marco Mura – Ferrara, Italy  
Marco Pellegrini – Ferrara, Italy  
Grazia Pertile – Verona IT  
Emilio Rapizzi – Venice, Italy  
Mario Romano – Milan, Italy  
Giuseppe Scarpa – Treviso, Italy  
Nilay Shah – Maryland, USA  
Gilles Thuret – Saint Etienne, France  
Esteve Trias – Barcelona, Spain  
Nicola Zemella – Conegliano TV, Italy

## Registration

Participation is FREE with registration  
for ophthalmologists and retina specialists,  
eye care professionals, biologists,  
vision scientists and researchers.

For information and registration  
[www.icongresseventi.it](http://www.icongresseventi.it)  
[iscrizioni@icongresseventi.it](mailto:iscrizioni@icongresseventi.it)

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