

Molecular Parasitology Seminars

5TH cycle (2026-2027)

6 October 2026 – 14 July 2027



organized by

IRCCS Ospedale Sacro Cuore Don Calabria

Istituto Superiore di Sanità

Sapienza Università di Roma

Università di Pavia

with the advocacy of the Italian Society of Parasitology



SAPIENZA
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SOIPA
Società Italiana di Parassitologia

Programme

October 6, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

Strongyloides ratti: immune response and immune modulation

Minka Breloer (*Bernhard Nocht Institute For Tropical Medicine, Hamburg, Germany*)

November 4, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

Spotted Fever or Jumpin' Jack Flash? Lateral transfer of a near-complete rickettsial chromosome into the genome of its tick vector

Ben Makepeace (*University of Liverpool, UK*)

December 2, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

Understanding erythrocyte invasion using zoonotic malaria parasites: new biology and new tools for *P. vivax* vaccine development

Robert Moon (*London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, UK*)

January 13, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Unraveling whipworm's niche in the intestinal epithelia

Maria Duque-Correa (*University of Cambridge, UK*)

February 3, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Deciphering the host-parasite interaction to tackle cryptosporidiosis

Amandine Guerin (*University of Geneva, Switzerland*)

March 3, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Advances in gene driver research for the control of malaria mosquitoes

Alekos Simoni (*Imperial College London, UK*)

April 7, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Decoding cellular heterogeneity in pathogens: from high-resolution scRNA-seq to semipermeable capsules

T. Nicolai Siegel (*Ludwig Maximilian University of Munchen, Germany*)

May 5, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Genomic approaches to understanding drug treatment variation in human whipworms

Stephen Doyle (*Wellcome Sanger Institute, UK*)

June 9, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Engineering mosquitoes to break the malaria transmission cycle

George Christophides (*Imperial College London, UK*)

July 14, 2027, 2:30 p.m.

Vector-virus interactions during arbovirus transmission

Kevin Maringer (*The Pirbright Institute, UK*)

Rationale

The 5th cycle of the Molecular Parasitology Seminars is intended to provide an overview of recent advances in basic research in the field of molecular parasitology.

International scholars of recognized scientific excellence will be invited to illustrate some of the most relevant and innovative discoveries in molecular parasitology through online presentations followed by open discussion and Q&A sessions.

Aims

The event is designed to update specialists in the field, as well as doctoral candidates and postdoctoral researchers, on the most recent developments in parasitological research at the international level.

A further objective is to stimulate interest in parasitology among researchers working in related scientific domains.

Speakers

Minka Breloer (Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Hamburg, Germany), **Ben Makepeace** (University of Liverpool, UK), **Rob Moon** (London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, UK), **Maria Duque-Correa** (University of Cambridge, UK), **Amandine Guerin** (University of Geneva, Switzerland), **Alekos Simoni** (Imperial College, London, UK), **T. Nicolai Siegel** (Ludwig Maximilian University of Munchen, Germany), **Stephen Doyle** (Wellcome Sanger Institute, Hinxton, UK), **George Christophides** (Imperial College, London, UK), **Kevin Maringer** (The Pirbright Institute, Surrey, UK).

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General Information

The meeting will be held online through the Google Meet videoconference platform.

Official language: the official language is English.

Target audience: the event is addressed to Nazionale Health Service, as well as to health and research institutions' personnel, to PhD students and postgraduates in the field of infectious diseases.

Registration and participation: registrations are open until the 5th of October at the following link

[DOMANDA DI ISCRIZIONE evento ID: 148D26_R – Compila modulo](#)

Participation is free of charge and will be allowed also without previous registration. In such case, no certificate of attendance will be provided.

To participate, please, connect to the following link: <https://meet.google.com/iod-mrvt-fqe>

Certificates: a certificate of attendance will be provided to those who have attended at least 75% of the total duration of the seminar series.

Actual participation in the event will be detected by checking the connection logs.

For any further information about the seminars, please contact the Organizing Committee.