MUI Lecture Series

Mitochondria at the Crossroad: Metabolic Symbiosis within the Cancer Microenvironment

Professor Paola Chiarugi

Director of the Dept. of Experimental and Clinical Biomedical Sciences, Human Health Medical School of the University of Florence, Italy

15 May 2018 5:00 pm FKK - Lecture Hall 2 (3-G0-115) Anichstraße 35, 6020 Innsbruck



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Prof. Chiarugi is full Professor of Biochemistry and has studied the structure-function relationship and the redox regulation of oxidantsensitive proteins during cancer cell proliferation and cell adhesion to extracellular matrix, particularly focusing on the role of anchorage proteins (integrin and Src/FAK signaling) as well as cytoskeleton and motility factors (repulsive ephrin receptor tyrosine kinases).

She contributed studies on motility and anchorage independence of cancer cells, their achievement of a phenotype resistant to anoikis, as well as studies on plasticity of motility in cancer cells, as epithelial mesenchymal transition or mesenchymal amoeboid transition. She also studies tumor microenvironment, particularly focusing on cancer associated fibroblasts, endothelial precursor cells and hypoxia, and the relationship with tumor metabolic deregulation.

Besides her scientific activities Professor Chiarugi is a leading member of several scientific organizations, excellence programs and advisory boards.