



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA

PhD Program in Clinical and Translational Sciences

Director: Prof. Mauro Pistello

PhD Program in Clinical Physiopathology

Director: Prof. Luca Bruschini

PhD Week 2026



Navigating the Future in Healthcare Science

May 4 – 6, 2026

Aula Magna Polo Fibonacci

Largo Bruno Pontecorvo 3, 56127 Pisa



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May 04, 2026

08.30 - 09.45 *Welcome and opening remarks*

Riccardo Zucchi, *Rector of the University of Pisa*

Angelo Gemignani, *President of the School of Medicine*

Maurizia Brunetto, *Director of the Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine*

Grazia Chiellini, *Director of the Department of Surgical, Medical and Molecular Pathology and Critical Care Medicine*

Duccio Volterrani, *Director of the Department of Translational Research and New Surgical and Medical Technologies*

Katia Belvedere, *General Director Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria Pisana*

Luigi Doveri, *Unione Industriali Pisana, Consigliere Delega Start-up e Attrazione degli investimenti*

09.45 - 10.30 *National and International PhD courses*

Chairs: Luca Bruschini and Mauro Pistello, Directors of PhD Courses

Bernardo Tellini, *Vice Rector of Doctoral Research, University of Pisa*

Outlook on Italian PhD courses

Donata Medagliani, *Deputy Rector and Director of National PhD Course, University of Siena*

PhD Programs: Opportunities for Research, Networking, and Synergy Building

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00 – 13.00 *Endocrinology, Metabolism, Cardiovascular and Respiratory*

Medicine

Chairs: Giuseppe Daniele and Marco De Carlo, University of Pisa

Luna Gargani, *University of Pisa*

The POCUS revolution in cardiovascular and respiratory medicine

Alberto Giannoni, *Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa*

Home Care in Cardiovascular Disease

Giovanni Ceccarini, *University of Pisa*

The Critical Role of Adipose Tissue and Leptin: Metabolism and Beyond

Franco Folli, *University of Milan*

“Per aspera ad Astra”. Navigating the future of metabolic medicine



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May 04, 2026

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 15.30 Guided Poster Session

Committee: **Beatrice Casini, Dania Cioni, Gianluca Masi, Andrea Davide Porretta, Clara Ugolini**

During the Guided Poster Session, each poster will be displayed in a structured and interactive format for participants. Presenters will stand next to their posters to explain their research, answer questions and discuss with colleagues and experts in the field. This format will ensure a dynamic exchange of ideas and provide a valuable opportunity for networking, feedback and collaboration between attendees.

15.30 - 16.00 Navigating the Future of Italian and European Research

Chair: **Ugo Faraguna, University of Pisa**

Alessio Cavicchi, Vice-Rector for cooperation and international relations

Alliance Circle U, a new horizon for education and research collaboration in Europe

16.00 - 18.00 Precision Medicine in Oncology

Chairs: **Chiara Cremolini and Cristian Scatena, University of Pisa**

Francesca Bosisio, University Hospital UZ Leuven, Belgium,

Spatial Medicine: how spatial omics are enabling next generation Pathology

Hubert Pakula, Weill Cornell Medical College, NY

Decoding mesenchymal cell states in Prostate Cancer progression

Alberto Bardelli, University of Turin and IFOM (Istituto Fondazione di Oncologia Molecolare), Milan, Italy

From Biology to Therapy: my story with colorectal cancer

Lisa Derosa, Institute Gustave Roussy and Université de Paris Saclay, Paris, France

From Biology to Therapy: my story with microbiota



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May 5, 2026

08.30 - 10.30 *The Science of Longevity: Epigenetics, Neuroinflammation, and Sensory Health*

Chairs: Mauro Pistello and Filippo Sean Giorgi, University of Pisa

Ennio Tasciotti, *IRCCS San Raffaele, Rome*

Engineering Precision Medicine: Nanotechnology and Advanced Therapies at the Interface of Biology and Innovation

Claudio Liguori, *Tor Vergata, Rome*

Sleep, Neuroinflammation, and Neurodegeneration: Clinical and Biomarker Perspectives

Fabio Coppedè, *University of Pisa*

The role of epigenetics in aging and neurodegenerative diseases

Francesca Forli, *University of Pisa*

Presbycusis and cognitive aspects. Auditory remediation of presbycusis with hearing aids and cochlear implants and the possible effects on the cognitive sphere

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00 – 13.00 *Immunology, Microbiology and Public Health*

Chairs: Emilia Ghelardi and Caterina Rizzo, University of Pisa

Morgane Linard, *University of Bordeaux*

Viral infections, immunity and neurodegenerative diseases

Emanuele Andreano, *Fondazione Biotechnopolo di Siena*

Reverse vaccinology 3.0: the artificial intelligence revolution to propel vaccine development

Carmelo Sterrantino, *Bavarian-Nordic Italy*

Chikungunya: From Virus and Vectors to Vaccination — Emerging Challenges in Europe and Italy

Marco Del Riccio, *University of Florence*

The disappearance of the influenza B/Yamagata lineage from global circulation after the COVID-19 pandemic: evidence and policy implications

13.00 - 14.00 *Lunch*



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May 5, 2026

14.00 - 16.00 *Guided Poster Session*

Committee: **Guido Bocci, Gabriele Buda, Paolo De Simone, Filippo S. Giorgi, Dario Tartaglia**

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16.00 - 18.00 *Longevity Across Disciplines: Emerging Research Perspectives from PhD Programs*

Chairs: **Raffaele De Caterina and Luca Bruschini, University of Pisa**

Introducing the round table: Luca Bruschini, Coordinator of the PhD Program in Clinical Physiopathology, and Mattia Alberti, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

Armando Patrizio, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

The hallmarks of ageing thyroid

Simona Chiusolo, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

Body Composition and Cardiovascular Aging: The Prognostic Role of Sarcopenia in Atrial Fibrillation

Noemi Cimbalo, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

Diets and Longevity: the Role of Nutrition in Metabolic Health

Davide Chimera, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

The Air We Breathe: How Air Pollution Shapes Functional Decline and Survival in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Guido Marchi, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

The price of immune awakening: checkpoint inhibitor pneumonitis as a threat to long-term survival in lung cancer

Ilaria Ambrosini, MD, PhDs in Clinical and Translational Sciences

Radiomics and Longevity: from tumor response prediction to precision health

Mattia Alberti, MD, PhDs in Clinical Physiopathology

Cradle-to-Cradle Recycling of Gadolinium from Cardiac MRI for Sustainable Global Health Imaging

Prof. Raffaele De Caterina, University of Pisa

Primary prevention strategies in cardiovascular diseases

Discussion

Chaired by Prof. Raffaele De Caterina and Prof. Luca Bruschini



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May 6, 2026

08.30 - 10.30 *Insights from Local and International Enterprises*

Chairs: Luca Bruschini and Ugo Faraguna, University of Pisa

Maria Sole Rossato, *Pharmanutra*

Advancing Pharmaceutical Innovation through Research and Commercial Development

Massimiliano Simi, *MicroMedical Instruments*

Translational Engineering: Lessons from MMI on Turning Research into a Real Product

Prisca Di Martino, *Abiogen*

Bridging Research and Market: Strategies for Innovation in the Pharmaceutical Industry

William Vaccani, *GE Healthcare*

Digital Transformation in Healthcare: AI, Imaging, and the Future of Integrated Diagnostics

10.30 - 11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00 – 13.00 *Surgery, Anesthesiology, Imaging, Simulation and Planning*

Chairs: Francesco Forfori and Emanuele Neri, University of Pisa

Loredana Zollo, *Campus Bio-Medico, Rome*

Enhancing Surgical Outcomes with AI-Powered Robotics: Current Landscape, Opportunities and Key Challenges

Emanuele Cigna, *University of Pisa*

Planning in Reconstructive Microsurgery: Current indications and future perspectives

Federico Coccolini, *University of Pisa*

Damage control surgery organisational models

Lorenzo Faggioni, *University of Pisa*

Radiomics: lights and shadows of a (not-so-new) novelty

13.00 - 14.00 *Lunch*

14.00 - 16.00 *Guided Poster Session*

Committee: Laura Carrozzi, Angela Dardano, Antonella Lupetti, Nicola Riccardo Pugliese, Alessandro Saba, Federica Saponaro

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16.00 - 17.30 *Navigating the Future of Italian and European Research*

Chairs: Corrado Priami and Benedetta Mennucci, University of Pisa

Vittoria Raffa, *Rector's Delegate for Research in the Life Sciences, University of Pisa*

Scientific research on a global scale

Simona Costa, *TourEU, Bruxelles*

Navigating the Maze: European Funding and Grant Opportunities for Early-Career Researchers

Alessandro Tredicucci, *Vice Rector for Research Organization, University of Pisa*

Ethical challenges of scientific research: open science, dual use, media, politics and academic pressure

17.30 - 18.00 *PhD Awards and Closing Ceremony*