

Organizational and epistemic innovation in precision cancer medicine **Closing workshop of the PERSONA project**

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The rapid development of genomic technologies since the early 2000s has led to a profound transformation of oncology practices, leading to the emergence of cancer precision medicine. Initially hailed as a revolution, critics quickly noted the limited translation of intense research activities in this domain into benefits for patients. Today, however, targeted therapies (and, most recently, immuno-therapies) have entered cancer clinical practices, both in the experimental domain and as part of clinical routines. Thus, the challenge for the social sciences is no longer to debate the hypothetical shape of personalized medicine. Rather, it is to explore the conditions surrounding the development of the new therapies in the context of clinical and translational research. Serious challenges still lie ahead for precision medicine. While a growing number of biomarkers have been identified, only a limited number of mutations are so far actionable, limiting access to targeted therapies. We presently witness a proliferation of clinical trials of a novel kind designed to validate new targets and evaluate therapies. Genomics-driven trials introduce innovative solutions at the level of their objectives, conception, and design, and raise a number of technical, scientific, logistic, organizational, and ethical challenges that need to be addressed and met in order for personalized medicine to become a reality.

The goal of the PERSONA project and of the proposed Workshop is to investigate the implementation of personalized oncology (and related practices) by focusing on the nexus between organizational and epistemic innovations. We are thus particularly interested in contributions that combine within a same framework science & technology studies (STS) and sociology of organizations approaches. We would like to focus on how clinicians and researchers address the issues and problems related to the task of rapidly implementing and extending the use of the genomic approaches, and on the socio-technical and organizational arrangements that make possible the operationalization and the performance of this new kind of clinical medicine. Possible topics should address issues such as how local contexts constrain and frame the design and performance of genomic practices, and how, in turn, these practices reconfigure local contexts. This involves investigating changes concerning clinical routines, the context and modalities of clinical expertise and decision-making, the organization and activities of biology and pathology laboratories, and the redefinition of collaborative patterns and of the division of labor between health care professionals, patients, and researchers.

Workshop program

DAY 1: 12th November 2018

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
9:30	Welcome and introductions
9:45-10:30	Local mutations: On the tentative beginnings of molecular oncology in the 1970s and 1980s. Steve Sturdy (University of Edinburgh)
10:30-11:00	Personalised cancer medicine and the pharmaceutical industry: the case of Hoffmann La-Roche Carsten Timmermann (University of Manchester)
11:00-11:15	<i>Break</i>
11:15-12:00	Going off the gold standard : reconfiguring clinical trials in the 21st century Peter Keating (Université du Québec) and Alberto Cambrosio (McGill University)
12:15-13:00	The Physician-Patient Relationship in the Age of Precision Medicine Gil Eyal (Columbia University)
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00-14:45	A specialty with a glorious past but no future ? »: Pathologists in the era of Medicine Precision Audrey Vézian (CNRS, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon)
14:45-15:30	Framing tumour genetics for clinical work in contrasted hospital settings Catherine Bourgain (CERMES) and Ashveen Peerbaye (Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée Université)
15:30-16:15	<i>Break</i>
16:15-17:00	Include and Subordinate within the same jurisdiction: inter-professional cooperation and conflict in precision medicine Henri Bergeron and Patrick Castel (CSO, Sciences Po)

DAY 2: 13th November 2018

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
9:00-9:45	Actionable Data for Precision Oncology: Developing a Trustworthy Data Source Niccolo Tempini and Sabina Leonelli (University of Exeter)
9:45-10:30	Genomic expertise in action: molecular tumor boards and decision-making in precision oncology Pascale Bourret (Aix Marseille Univ, SESSTIM) and Alberto Cambrosio (McGill University)
10:30 -11:00	<i>Break</i>
11:00- 11:45	Imprecision: A Sociological Study of Precision Medicine Moran Levy and Gil Eyal (Columbia University)
11:45-12:30	Organizing precision knowledge, becoming practitioners in translational landscapes Stefano Crabu (Politecnico di Milano)
12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30-14:15	Genomic medicine in cancer and futures for practitioners and patients Ann Kerr (Leeds University) & Sarah Cunningham-Burley (University of Edinburgh)
14:15-15:00	The place and role of “precision oncology” in the development of the Swiss cancer center Léman (SCCL) Luca Chiapperino and Francesco Panese (Université de Lausanne)
15:00-15:30	<i>Break</i>
15:30-16:15	Concluding remarks and publication plans