



Paolo A Ascierto is Director of the Unit of Melanoma, Cancer Immunotherapy and Innovative therapy at the National Tumor Institute "Fondazione G Pascale" in Naples, Italy. He is an active Scientific Reviewer for several international journals, including *JCO*, *Lancet Oncology* and *Clinical Cancer Research*, as well as being the Editor-in-Chief of the Combination Strategies section of the *Journal of Translational Medicine* and Chief Section Editor of *Expert Reviews of Immunology Vaccines and Informatics*. As a result of Professor Ascierto's experience and expertise, he has been a valued invited speaker at more than 350 national and international meetings. Furthermore, he is an active member of the Italian Society of Medical Oncology (AIOM), American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC) and Society of Immuno Therapy of Cancer (SITC).

Professor Ascierto has presided as Principal Investigator on over 50 clinical trials and he is the author of numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals. Such journals include: *The New England Journal of Medicine*, *Lancet Oncology*, *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and *Clinical Cancer Research*, among others. His major research interests are the genetics and proteomics of melanoma, the assessment of molecular markers for tumour progression in melanoma, management of targeted therapies for melanoma, vaccination treatments and immunotherapy of cancer, biochemical and immunological monitoring and combination approaches for the cancer treatment. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Naples, Italy, the institution where he subsequently earned his Board Certification in Oncology. He went on to serve consecutive positions at the National Tumor Institute "Fondazione G Pascale" as a post-doctoral fellow and then as Vice Director of the Department of Clinical Immunology.

Welcome to the latest edition of *European Oncology & Haematology*, which features a wide variety of topical articles. This issue begins with an article by Harbeck et al. on the Prosigna® (PAM50) Gene Signature Assay as a new-generation genomic test for treatment decision-making in early breast cancer, which is indicated for post-menopausal women with early-stage hormone receptor-positive breast cancer with or without nodal involvement, and offers clinically relevant information that may help guide therapeutic strategies.

Lung cancer is an active area of current clinical research, and this issue features three articles covering different aspects of lung cancer. Ottevaere et al. review clinical data assessing the utility of vaccines in non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). They conclude that existing technologies are not effective and examine potential future developments. Inhibitors of anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) have become the standard of care in ALK-positive NSCLC, but are associated with a variety of adverse events (AEs). Rolfo et al. review strategies for managing these AEs. Bronchial carcinoids (BCs) represent a minority (1–2 %) of lung cancers, but can have a poor prognosis when distant metastases are present. Fazio and Frezza review the therapeutic options for BCs, with a focus on mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) inhibitors.

Outcomes for patients with multiple myeloma are improving thanks to the development of several new therapies. An editorial by Delforge discusses the importance and limitations of assays for assessing clinical response to these agents. In addition, Richardson et al. review the clinical development and optimal use of the new immunotherapy agent pomalidomide, which has shown significant activity in relapsed/refractory multiple myeloma.

This issue features three articles on the subject of lymphoma. Gisselbrecht discusses the challenges of autologous stem cell transplantation in relapsed/refractory Hodgkin's lymphoma (HL), as well as describing the optimal use of brentuximab vedotin (BV), an antibody-drug conjugate, and nivolumab, two agents that are improving outcomes in patients with HL. Jager and Hutchings present a comprehensive review of the clinical development and potential indications for BV in refractory/relapsed HL and systemic anaplastic large cell lymphoma (sALCL). In addition, Furtado and Rule review new agents and combination therapies in clinical development for mantle cell lymphoma.

In terms of haematology, Sejjal et al. review the potential of lenalidomide, an immunomodulatory, anti-cytokine and anti-angiogenic agent, in the treatment of myelodysplastic syndrome, a disorder of haematopoietic stem cells in the bone marrow. Finally, Rank et al. report a case of hereditary hyperferritinemia-cataract syndrome, a rare autosomal dominant disorder characterised by high-plasma ferritin concentration and early-onset bilateral cataract.

European Oncology & Haematology would like to thank all expert authors who contributed towards this edition. A special thanks goes to our Editorial Board for their continuing support and guidance. We would also like to thank the expert authors, who gave their time and effort to produce an insightful selection of articles. The expert discussions and the variety of topics covered ensure there is something of interest for every reader and we hope you find this edition useful and thought provoking. ■