



European Society  
for Medical Oncology

ESMO TRU Visit  
Oncology Institute of Southern  
Switzerland (IOSI)  
Bellinzona, Switzerland  
21-24 April, 2008



**Topic:** Translational studies and new drug development in Oncology: the laboratory-clinical interface.

The Oncology Institute of Southern Switzerland (IOSI) hosted five young clinical oncologists from European and non-European countries in accordance with the ESMO initiative for high-quality training in clinical and translational research worldwide. The program focused on translational research methodologies and the building of effective laboratory-clinical interfaces.

The 4-day program included lectures, work - shops and hands-on sessions with emphasized ways to foster continuous communication and the transfer of knowledge between clinical and laboratory research. Presentations dealt with the pre-clinical drug discovery and development, the organization and management of early phase clinical trials with molecular-targeted agents, the application of genomic platforms and functional genomic in clinical and translational studies for gene discovery and validation.

*Dr. Catapano and Dr. Sessa*