

Symposium

THE FIRST CROATIAN SYMPOSIUM  
ON PERSONALISED ONCOLOGY

Guest Editors

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## PREFACE

Current advances in the biology of cancer and emergence of new tools for genome analysis have opened clinical perspectives in oncology, generally termed as ‘personalised medicine’.

Malignant diseases are no longer classified only by histology and tumour site, but are also separated into various molecular subtypes. Molecular characterisation of tumour cells enables the enhancement of classifications for many cancers and can sometimes guide treatment. The current scientific developments that stand behind molecular pathways lead to more personalised approach in the treatment of cancer.

Moreover, the precise sequence of the mutation can sometimes predict the outcome. On the other hand, there is a persistent gap between the growing number of identified genetic mutations or deregulated pathways and their actual implementation at the bedside as part of clinical routine. Overall, turning the dream of personalised oncology treatment into reality will require further collaborative endeavour.

The intention of the First Croatian Symposium – Personalised Oncology, which was held in October 2013, was to present the latest achievements in the fields of diagnosis, prevention and treatment of cancer. Regretfully, not all papers of all presentations are included in this issue.

Besides the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and its Institute of Immunology and Tumour Genetics, co-organiser of the symposium was also the Department of Clinical Oncology, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb. The chairpersons of the symposium were Academy President Zvonko Kusić and Professors Lidija Beketić Orešković, Antonio Juretić, Fedor Šantek, Nikola Đaković.

On behalf of the  
Organising Committee,  
Fedor Šantek  
Nikola Đaković