



Conquering Cancer: A Key Role for EU-Japan Research

A joint event between
the 13th Kobe University Brussels European Centre's Researchers Forum
and the VUB Oncology Research Centre Day 2023

In cooperation with ULB-Institut Bordet and the University of Kent
Brussels 1 December 2023

DRAFT (PRE-FINAL)
UPDATED PVP-IH 14 NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER

Venue VUB-UZ Faculty of Medicine, Brussels Health Campus, Avenue du Laerbeek 103, 1090 Brussels

Morning **JOINT SESSION WITH THE VUB ONCOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE DAY (OPEN FORUM)**

Participants Faculty & researchers from ULB, KU, VUB, University of Kent + other registered participants

8:30-9:00 Registration (badges, conference documents) and welcome coffee

9:00-9:15 Opening addresses: Auditorium Piet Brouwer

Moderator: **Prof Yuzo Kodama**, Graduate School of Medicine, Kobe University
Prof. Karin Vanderkerken, Vice-Rector Internationalisation VUB; Chair VUB Oncology Cluster
Prof. Masato Fujisawa, President, Kobe University

9:15-12:50 Presentations by KU, VUB, ULB-Bordet and U. of Kent Cancer Researchers

9:15-10:05 **Theme 1: Tumor microenvironment, tumor heterogeneity and plasticity**

Moderator **Prof. Michelle Garrett**, University of Kent
Presenters **Prof. Yuzo Kodama**, Kobe University.
Clinicopathological features and tumor microenvironment of very early pancreatic cancer
Prof. Ilse Rooman, VUB
Intra-ductal plasticity in pancreatic cancer tissue
Prof. Etienne Meylan, ULB-Institut Bordet
Tumor-associated neutrophils
Prof. Martin Michaelis, University of Kent
The Resistant Cancer Cell Line (RCCL) collection – Drug-adapted cancer cell lines as preclinical models of acquired drug resistance

10:05-10:55 **Theme 2: Development of cutting-edge treatments, with focus on immunotherapy, targeted therapies and radiotherapy ('precision oncology')**

Moderator **Prof. Christos Sotiriou**, ULB-Institut Bordet
Presenters **Prof. Karine Breckpot**, VUB
Leveraging mRNA in cancer vaccination
Prof. Hirota Shinomiya, Kobe University
Initial outcomes of photo-immunotherapy for head and neck cancer in Japan
Prof. Michelle Garrett, University of Kent.
Cancer drug discovery: from small molecules to synthetic polymers
Prof. Alex De Caluwe, ULB-Institut Bordet
Combining immunotherapy and radiation therapy in breast cancer

10:55-11:10 Coffee break

11:10-12:00 **Theme 3: Advances in medical technologies and robotics in cancer treatment, including imaging and AI**

Moderator **Prof. Yuzo Kodama**, Kobe University

Presenters	<p>Dr. Aude Vanlander, VUB <i>Added-value of ICG in robotic surgery</i></p> <p>Prof. Raizo Yamaguchi, Kobe University <i>Development of the Hinotori surgical robot system and its future</i></p> <p>Prof. Hugo Levillain, ULB-Institut Bordet <i>Oncology and systemic internal radiotherapy</i></p> <p>Prof. Adrian Podoleanu, University of Kent <i>Potential of optical imaging for cancer diagnosis</i></p>	
12:00-12:50	Theme 4: Social and societal issues: Fostering innovations in cancer management, and new approaches in patient empowerment and well-being, enhancement of quality of life in patients, their carers and families	
Moderator Presenters	<p>Prof. Ilse Rooman, VUB</p> <p>Dr. Sarah Hotham, University of Kent <i>The role of behavioural science in the design and delivery of innovations in cancer management: A research collaboration with Cancer Research UK</i></p> <p>Prof. Isabelle Merckaert, ULB-Institut Bordet <i>Emotion regulation and survivorship</i></p> <p>Prof. Takashi Yamaguchi, Kobe University. <i>Pharmacological management of cancer dyspnea</i></p> <p>Prof. Luc Deliens, VUB <i>Person-centred care and palliative care in people with cancer</i></p>	
12:50-14:00	Networking lunch offered by VUB	<i>Room Atrium/Forum Building D</i>