



Capacity-Building Workshop

Innovative Approaches to Decoding Disease Mechanisms Using Zebrafish

Date:

March 19-20, 2026



Funded by
the European Union

Program

Day1

Venue: National Tourism Organisation of Serbia,
Čika-Ljubina 8, Belgrade

Morning Session

10:15 - 10:50

Registration & Coffee

10:50 - 11:15

Welcome address - ZeNCure: Building
excellence in zebrafish research

Speaker: Aleksandra Divac Rankov,
IMGGE, Serbia

11:15 - 12:00

Zebrafish Avatars: a platform for
personalized medicine & discovery of
innate immune mechanisms & modulators
for cancer immunotherapy

Speaker: Rita Fior,
Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon, Portugal

Program

Day1/Early Afternoon Session

12:00 - 12:45

Modelling rare brain disorders in zebrafish: functional genomics in vivo to assist clinical decisions and unravel druggable pathways
Speaker: Antonella Lauri, Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù – IRCCS, Rome, Italy

12:45 - 14:15

Lunch Break

14:15 - 14:45

Sequencing-based spatial transcriptomics in zebrafish development and disease modeling
Speaker: Aleksandra Divac Rankov, IMGGE, Serbia

14:45 - 15:30

Single-cell transcriptomics in tumour models in zebrafish
Speaker: Maria Caterina Mione, University of Trento, Italy

Program

Day1/Late afternoon Session

15:30 - 16:00

Coffee Break

16:00 - 16:45

Dads, drinks and FASD-like damage:
Utilizing zebrafish to characterize the effects
preconception paternal ethanol exposure has on
fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs)

Speaker: Yohaán Fernandes,
University of South Dakota, USA /online

16:45 - 17:30

Substance use and genetic variation
underlying birth defects

Speaker: Gissela Borrego-Soto,
University of Texas at Austin, USA /online

Program

Day2

Venue: IMGGE, Vojvode Stepe 444a, Belgrade

Morning Session

10:30 - 11:15

Immune-cardiac niche interactions across scales

Speaker: Filipa Costa Simões,
University of Oxford, UK

11:15 - 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 - 12:15

Injury Context Matters: Does Damage Type
Shape the Logic of Skeletal Muscle Repair
in Zebrafish?

Speaker: Snezana Kojic, IMGGE, Serbia

Program

Day2/Afternoon Session

12:15 - 13:45

Lunch Break

13:45 - 14:30

In vivo Dynamics of Neurofilaments

Speaker: Pascale Bomont,
INSERM, Lyon, France

14:30 - 15:15

Title to be announced

Speaker: Darius Balciunas,
Temple University, Philadelphia, USA /online