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17th National Congress of Medical Oncology

23–25 October 2015, Rome, Italy

Guest Editor:

Carmine Pinto
Director, Medical Oncology, IRCCS - S.Maria Nuova Hospital, Reggio Emilia, Italy

President, Italian Association of Medical Oncology (AIOM)
Dear Collegues,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and of the Scientific Committee, it is a great pleasure for me to introduce the proceedings of the XVII National Congress of our Association.

As usually, the abstracts have been published in a special issue of “Annals of Oncology”, the official Journal of ESMO.

We continue to observe an increasing number of abstracts suggesting, once again, the presence of a widespread research activity in spite of the shortage of public funds and lack of interest of public authorities. We are pleased with the role of young oncologists. Many and many young oncologists are coauthors of the abstracts and several are first authors. This should be an encouragement for all of us: there is a present and also a future for AIOM.

As you can realize by reading this issue, all topics of medical oncology have been covered, including prevention, screening, translational research, simultaneous care, ethics and multidisciplinary approaches. They will be debated in several educational and scientific sessions co-organized with several other scientific societies. We would like to highlight as the multidisciplinary approach, including supportive and simultaneous care, is a relevant part of the program of the meeting. As medical oncologists, clinicians involved in the care of the patients, we have to keep in our mind that “research” does not mind to forget the daily activity in the ward as well as the ability to answer the patients’ daily needs. Nevertheless, at the same time, we must remember that a research activity improves the care of cancer patients in our units. The ability to conjugate these two aspects is the only way to improve the chance of cure for our patients.

Finally, I’d like to thank the Scientific Committee and all the reviewers for the invaluable work along last months and I hope that all of you can enjoy the meeting and it could be the occasion of sharing knowledge, and experiences by providing an enrichment in our skills.
The Board of Directors for the years 2013–2015 includes:

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We are looking forward to seeing you in Rome.

Dr Carmine Pinto
(President of the Congress)

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