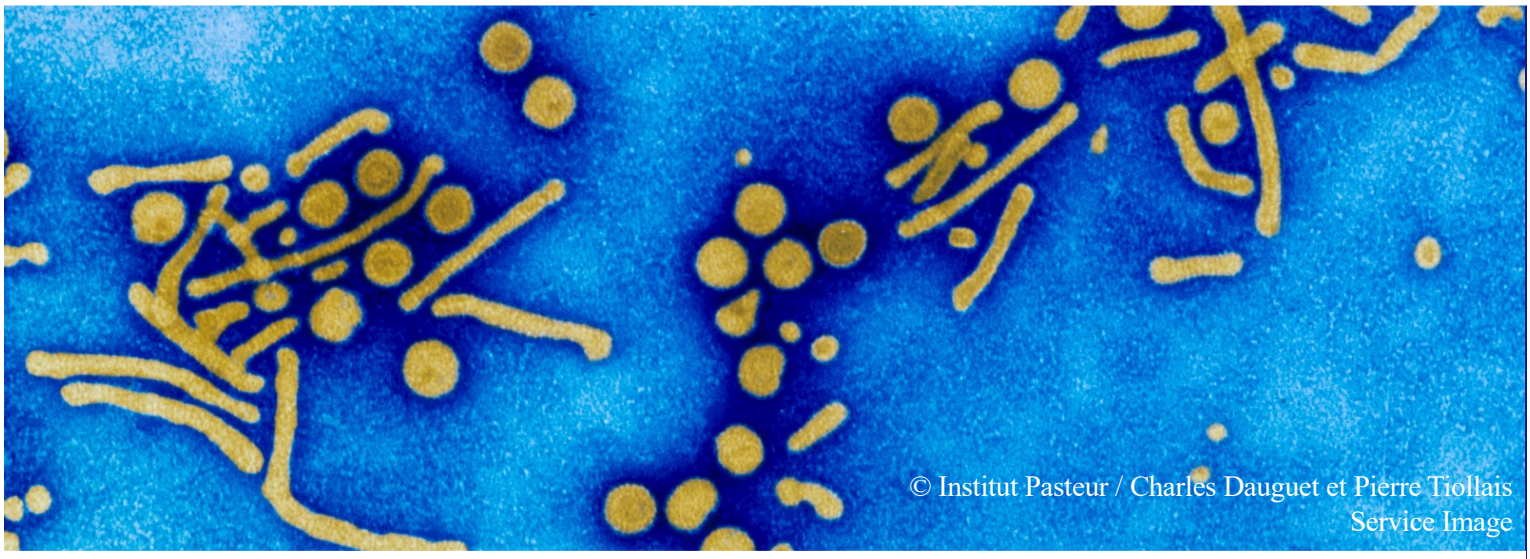
INSTITUT Pasteur

INTERNATIONAL COURSE

ISTITUTO PASTEUR ITALIA
FONDAZIONE CENCI BOLOGNETTI

Viruses and Human Cancers

Rome, Italy, July 20-23, 2026



Co-directors

Angela Santoni
Institut Pasteur-Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome

Jean-Pierre Vartanian
Institut Pasteur, Paris

Return your CV and letter of motivation to
jean-pierre.vartanian@pasteur.fr and angela.santoni@uniroma1.it

Topics:

- Viral stress, chronic inflammation and cancer
- Viral infections, immunopathology and cancer
- Oncolytic Virotherapy
- HIV reservoirs, immune dysregulation and cancer
- Epstein-Barr Virus and Natural Killer cells
- Epstein-Barr Virus and cancer
- Persistence of Hepatitis B Viruses and hepatocellular carcinoma
- Viruses and host innate immune responses
- Round tables

Lecturers and round tables:

Guido Antonelli
Sapienza University, Rome

Vincenzo Barnaba
Sapienza University, Rome

Margherita Doria
Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, Rome

Michela Muscolini
Institut Pasteur-Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome

Enrico Palermo
Institut Pasteur-Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome

Angela Santoni
Institut Pasteur-Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome

Pankaj Trivedi
Sapienza University, Rome

Jean-Pierre Vartanian
Institut Pasteur, Paris

Title of the course
Viruses and Human Cancers

Directors
• Jean-Pierre Vartanian
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• Angela Santoni
Institut Pasteur in Italy- Cenci Bolognetti Foundation
Tel : +39 06 44340632
e-mail : angela.santoni@uniroma1.it

Aim and objectives.
This course is located at the intersection between virology, immunology and cancer. The aim of the course is to educate graduates and post-graduates with understanding and expertise in virology, with a particular focus on viruses and human cancers. Mechanisms by which viruses escape from the immune system will be discussed. This specific theoretical knowledge will provide students with the critical judgement and skills to pursue a career in virology, immunology or oncology.

The program has a significant theoretical teaching component to ensure that the students gain maximal exposure to a wide range of clinically relevant viruses associated with human cancers. To ensure interactivity between students and lecturers, round tables will be organized to discuss the lectures of each day. The round tables will be conducted in a question-and-answer format and will provide an opportunity to acquire more in-depth knowledge on the topic. It will be a great opportunity to allow students to discuss with experts, ask questions, and participate in a global exchange, paving the way for future collaborations.

This course will cover infections in which the virus is not cleared, but remains in specific cells of infected individuals. Persistent infections may involve successive stages of silent and productive infection without rapidly killing or even producing excessive damage to the host cells.

This topic is of significant importance for public health, as currently the measures that have successfully eradicated persistent viruses are slim to none. Vaccination, interferons, and antiviral drugs can reduce the frequency of clinical recurrence and limit clinical symptoms, but viruses remain associated with specific host tissues.

Through state-of-the-art lectures, the course will highlight the different mechanisms of persistence selected by the various viruses. Students will be prompted to examine various

situations and discuss fundamental questions. The focus of this course will be to strengthen the knowledge and competence of applicants in this field.

Practical information
Location
Institut Pasteur in Italy- Cenci Bolognetti Foundation
Viale Regina Elena 291, 00161 Roma, Italia

Sapienza University
Piazzale Aldo Moro, 5, 00185 Roma, Italie

Dates of the course
Monday 20 July to Thursday 23 July 2026

Language
English

Lecturers

Guido Antonelli	Sapienza University, Rome
Vincenzo Barnaba	Sapienza University, Rome
Margherita Doria	Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, Rome
Michela Muscolini	Institut Pasteur-Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome
Enrico Palermo	Institut Pasteur - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome
Angela Santoni	Institut Pasteur, Rome
Pankaj Trivedi	Sapienza University, Rome
Jean-Pierre Vartanian	Institut pasteur, Paris

Attendees
30

Duration
4 days

Application deadline
Tuesday 30 June 2026

Documents available
WEB diffusion template, Flyer, program, application form

The call is open to scientific and medical students, Master, PhD, MD and Postdoctoral researchers.

The course will be carried out over 4 days and will be free of charge.

The organizing committee will supply lunches and coffee breaks during all the courses.

The flight ticket, accommodation and dinners will be at the expense of the applicant.

Applicants must send the completed application form and a CV by

Tuesday 30 June 2026 at the latest by e-mail to:

Jean-Pierre Vartanian
e-mail: jean-pierre.vartanian@pasteur.fr

Angela Santoni
e-mail: angela.santoni@uniroma1.it

INTERNATIONAL COURSE

VIRUSES AND HUMAN CANCERS

Detailed program
Monday 20 July to Thursday 23 July 2026

Organizers

Angela SANTONI (Institut Pasteur, Rome, Italy - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation)
Jean-Pierre VARTANIAN (Institut Pasteur, Paris, France)

Monday, 20 July 2026

09h00-09h15	**Welcome and presentation of the course** Angela Santoni and Jean-Pierre Vartanian
09h15-10h45	**Viral stress, chronic inflammation and cancer** Jean-Pierre Vartanian (Institut Pasteur, Paris)
10h45-11h00	Break
11h00-12h30	**Viral infections, immunopathology and cancer** Vincenzo Barnaba (Sapienza University, Rome)
12h30-14h00	Lunch
14h00-14h30	**Oncolytic Virotherapy: Exploiting the immune system for cancer treatment** Michela Muscolini (Institut Pasteur - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome)
14h30-15h30	**Round table** **Decoding the interplay between viral infection, inflammation immunopathology and cancer** Michela Muscolini (Institut Pasteur - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome) Vincenzo Barnaba (Sapienza University, Rome) Jean-Pierre Vartanian (Institut Pasteur, Paris)

Tuesday, 21 July 2026

09h00-10h30	**HIV reservoirs, immune dysregulation and cancer** Enrico Palermo (Institut Pasteur - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation, Rome)
10h30-10h45	Break
10h45-12h15	**HIV infection and persistence: current issues in pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment** Guido Antonelli (Sapienza University, Rome)
12h30-14h00	Lunch
14h00-15h00	**Round table** **HIV persistence, immunity and cancer** Guido Antonelli (Sapienza University, Rome) Enrico Palermo (Institut Pasteur in Italy - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation)

Wednesday, 22 July 2026

09h00-10h30	**Role of Natural Killer cells in Epstein-Barr Virus infection.** Margherita Doria (Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, Rome)
10h30-10h45	Break
10h45-12h15	**From kisses to cancer: Epstein-Barr virus, an ingenious immune evader as a model for herpesvirus associated diseases.** Pankaj Trivedi (Sapienza University, Rome)
12h30-14h00	Lunch
14h00-15h00	**Round table** **Epstein-Barr virus and immunity: From NK cells to immune evasion** Margherita Doria (Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, Rome) Pankaj Trivedi (La Sapienza University, Rome)

Thursday, 23 July 2026

10h30-12h00	**Virus hijacking of host innate immune responses.** Angela Santoni (Institut Pasteur in Italy - Cenci Bolognetti Foundation)
12h00-12h30	**Concluding remarks** Angela Santoni and Jean-Pierre Vartanian
12h30-14h00	Lunch

International course

Viruses and Human Cancers

20 July -23 July 2023

Institut Pasteur, Rome, Italy- Cenci Bolognetti Foundation

APPLICATION FORM

First name:			
Last name:			
Gender:	☐M ☐F		
Position:	☐Research Scientist ☐Post-doc ☐PhD Student ☐MSc Student		
Affiliation:			
Department:			
Address:			
Country:		City:	Postal code:
E-mail:		Phone Number:	
Level of English:	☐Low ☐Intermediate ☐Advanced ☐Proficient		

Application form with a CV and a letter of motivation must be sent by e-mail to:

jean-pierre.vartanian@pasteur.fr

angela.santoni@uniroma1.it

The deadline for application is Tuesday 30 June 2026