



SYIS – STUDENT MEET MENTOR

Ranieri Cancedda

Prof. Dr. Ranieri Cancedda present research work is mainly focused on the study of characteristics and properties of mesenchymal stem/progenitor cells and the repair of skeletal tissues (bone, cartilage, tendons and ligaments) both in humans and in large animals. Currently, he published more than 200 papers mostly on medium-high impact factor scientific journals. He was coordinator of the “Transgenic mice and growth plate differentiation” EU project. and is involved in various other EU projects, like Porelease, JOIN(ed)T, PurStem, Angioscaff, ERISTO I, II, III and IV (ESA).

The Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro (National Cancer Research Institute) is a public research/clinical center of the Italian National Health System. The institute laboratory of Regenerative Medicine headed by Prof. Cancedda was the first in Europe in 1986 to treat burned patients with epidermis cultured *in vitro* starting from a small biopsy of the patient skin, the first in the world in 1994 to reconstitute, using the patient’s own limbal stem cells, the corneal epithelium of a patient who had his cornea badly damaged, and the first in the world to repair in 1998 a long bone defect with a porous ceramic loaded with mesenchymal stem cells derived from the patient’s bone marrow. The major interests of the department are focused on tissue engineering and regenerative medicine of skeletal tissues, molecular and cell biology of cartilage and bone and the osteobiology in microgravity.