ACCADEMIA NAZIONALE DEI LINCEI

CONFERENCE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PREVENTION

17 NOVEMBER 2026

Organising Committee: Carlo PATRONO (Coordinator, Linceo, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart), Giovanni CAPELLI (Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome), Garret A. FITZGERALD (Linceo, University of Pennsylvania), Silvia FRANCESCHI (Oncology Reference Centre, Aviano), Silvio GARATTINI (Mario Negri Institute, Milan), Michela MATTEOLI (Lincea, Humanitas University, Director - Neuro Centre, Humanitas Research Hospital), Silvia PRIORI (Lincea, University of Pavia), Maria RESCIGNO (Lincea, Humanitas University), Lorenzo RICHIARDI (University of Turin and Italian Association of Epidemiology), Alessandro RONCAGLIA (Linceo, Sapienza University of Rome), Rodolfo SARACCI (Formerly, International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon), Silvana SCIARRA (Lincea, President Emerita of the Constitutional Court), Nadia URBINATI (Lincea, Columbia University, New York), Paolo VINEIS (Linceo, Imperial College London).

PROGRAMME

Prevention has historically been, and remains today, the fundamental approach for the control of infectious (communicable) diseases caused by microorganisms, including viruses. Today prevention is also emerging as a preferred option for non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which account for approximately 70% of total mortality worldwide. NCDs have very diverse nosological profiles (diabetes, heart attacks, cancers, etc.) but very often share common aetiological roots [Allen, 2017]: risk factors internal to the body (hyperglycaemia, hypertension, hypercholesterolaemia, etc.) or arising from personal behaviours (diet, physical activity, tobacco use, alcohol, etc.) and factors in the physical environment (occupation, urbanisation, climate, infectious agents) or socio-economic conditions. This very often results in a concentration of multiple NCDs among the most disadvantaged sections of the population. Continuing to prioritise an approach that diagnoses and treats each NCD individually, using increasingly sophisticated and personalised methods, implies a continuous rise in demand for healthcare services alongside a parallel increase in costs, which is certainly unsustainable in the medium to long term. The alternative of a comprehensive prevention of these diseases by tackling them at the level of their common aetiological roots may slow down the rise in costs whilst offering the fundamental and certain advantage that 'being healthy is better than being sick or dead' [Rose, 1992]. The conference aims at examining and discussing how, in light of the advances in biomedical research and social sciences, a health policy centred on prevention as a comprehensive approach to health and disease may be implemented.

Tuesday 17 November

9.00 *Opening addresses* (President of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei)

Session I. Individuals and populations

Chair and discussant: Lorenzo RICHIARDI

(University of Turin and Italian Association of Epidemiology)

9.30 Manolis KOGEVINAS (ISGlobal, Barcelona): *The cultural revolution of prevention*

10.00 Alessandro VESPIGNANI (Northeastern University College of Science): *Artificial intelligence and prevention*

10.30 Rodolfo SARACCI (Formerly International Agency for Research on Cancer): *Prevention, a population approach to health*

11.00 Coffee break

Session II. Environment and economy

Chair and discussant: Giovanni CAPELLI (Istituto Superiore di Sanità)

11.30 Paolo VINEIS (Linceo, Imperial College London): *The global context*

12.00 Franco SASSI (Imperial College London): *The value of prevention and the role of economic incentives*

12:30 Discussion on the morning sessions

13.00 Lunch break

Session III. Medical Practice: Promises and Reality

Chair and discussant: Hilde LANGSETH

(Norwegian Institute of Public Health)

14.00 Rino RAPPUOLI (Linceo, Fondazione Biotecnopolo di Siena): *Vaccines in the era of artificial intelligence*

14.30 Rory COLLINS (Linceo, University of Oxford): *Developing a strategic approach to population-based discovery science*

15.00 Alberto BARDELLI (IFOM, MIlano): *Non-Invasive Monitoring of Tumors*

15.30 Coffee break

Session IV. Policies

Chair and discussant: Luca SAVARINO (University of Eastern Piedmont)

16.00 Carlo RATTI (MIT, Boston): *Urban health policies*

16.30 Isabelle SOERJOMATARAM (Internal Agency for Research on Cancer): *International policies*

17.00 Chantal JULIA (University of Paris 13): *Nutrition policies: experience from France*

Conclusion

17.30 Silvana SCIARRA (Lincea, President Emerita of the Constitutional Court, Italy): *The ethics and politics of prevention*

ROME – PALAZZO CORSINI- VIA DELLA LUNGARA, 10

Conference Secretariat: convegni@lincei.it – http://www.lincei.it

https://www.lincei.it/it/manifestazioni/national-conference-prevention

Online registration is required to attend the conference.
Until 10.00, access is also possible from via Lungotevere della Farnesina, 10
The proceedings may be also followed online at https://www.lincei.it/it/dirette-streaming.

A certificate of attendance at the conference will be issued exclusively to those attending in person and must be requested from the staff in the antechamber on the day of the conference.