

## **Tumors and immune system: how to exploit immune-mediated mechanisms to target tumors and their microenvironment**

The presentation will deal with the relationship between the immune response and tumor growth and development and the exploitation of immune system derived molecules and strategies to prevent or combat tumors.

The onset of tumors appears to be a challenging event confronting theory and practice of immune-mediated defense mechanisms. The immune surveillance hypothesis together with more recent concepts concerning cancer immunoediting set the frame to understand and explain the tumor development and progression even in the presence of effective immune responses. To effectively counteract tumor growth immune system-based molecules and mechanisms can be included in the oncologist's armamentarium. A review of basic concepts of tumor immunology and of tumor immunotherapy principles will be presented.

Marco Colombatti, M.D.  
University of Verona  
Dept. of Pathology  
Sect. of Immunology  
Policlinico "G.B. Rossi",  
P.le L. Scuro 10,  
37134 Verona (Italy)