

Know Before You Go - Important Information for

Nanotechnology in Medicine III: Enabling Next Generation Therapies

An ECI Conference

May 15-20, 2022

Grand Hotel San Michele, Cetraro (Calabria), Italy

May 9, 2022

To: Participants, Nanotechnology in Medicine III
From: Barbara Hickernell, CAE, ECI Executive Director

We are looking forward to your participation in this conference. Please read this note as there are items in it that may be helpful to you before your arrival at the conference. You will receive electronic copies of the program and abstracts later this week. Please pay special attention to the highlighted information regarding our approach to precautions for your safety during the Covid-19 pandemic.

For those arriving from outside Italy, we suggest that you visit:

- **your airline's website,**
- **(<https://infopages.traveldoc.aero/information/coronavirus>),**
- **<https://it.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/>,**
- **and the Italian government website**

for the latest Covid-19 testing requirements for those entering Italy. This is important as the regulations are changing frequently and are different in each EU country. What I write today may not be in effect tomorrow. You may need a PCR test before you board your flight.

Our community thrives by engaging with each other face-to-face but we wish to be safe in doing so. Thus, safety is our first priority. We cannot make guarantees but we can assure you that ECI will strictly follow the health and safety guidance of health authorities, consult best practices in the meetings community, and try to provide as "normal" a conference as possible during these circumstances.

Prior to registering, all conference participants and their guests submitted proof of full vaccination and agreed to properly wear masks (except when giving a presentation or actively eating or drinking) and social distance. Please continue to wear your mask. Your conference material will include a KN95 mask and the ECI staff has access to additional ones should you need them.

Our room sets will be structured to allow for the physical separation of participants. Please employ social distancing in informal settings. The cleaning and sanitation in the hotel will be robust.

We suggest that you bring at least one home test kit with you and test yourself at the start of the conference. Should you feel unwell at any time during the conference, please call me (cell phone: +1-914-484-7349) or email me (barbara@engconfintl.org). If you test positive, please let us know immediately and stay in your room. We will notify the hotel. If you test positive once you arrive home, please contact us so that we may inform fellow participants.

The reverse side of your name badge (distributed at the conference) is where we suggest that you place emergency contact information.

We require all participants to provide a working mobile phone number to ECI (you may email yours to Kathy@engconfintl.org) in case we need to notify participants that contact tracing is required.

As we respect your privacy, we will dispose of your vaccination information/official identification and mobile phone number after the meeting.

Conference Hotel: Grand Hotel San Michele (www.sanmichele.it)
Contrada Bosco 30 – 87022 Cetraro (Calabria), Italy
Phone: +39-0982-91012 - Fax: +39-0982-91430 - Email: sanmichele@sanmichele.it

The hotel is located high on a 120-meter cliff overlooking the Tyrrhenian Sea. On a clear day, the Eolian Islands (where the volcano on Stromboli has had almost continuous - but usually minor - eruptions for the past 2,000 years) and Mount Etna are visible. You may wish to bring your binoculars. The hotel itself is surrounded by an organic farm that provides the hotel every day with fresh organic food. It has its own private beach of sand and pebbles that is reached by a 92-meter high private lift that takes you down to almost sea level.

Driving Directions

Take the motorway Roma to Caserta Sud – Salerno – Lagonegro Nord – Fondo Valle Noce – S.S. 18 until km 293.100

Train: The Paola Railway station is about 21 km from the hotel.

Transfers from Lamezia Terme Airport

Airline: The conference hotel can arrange transfers from Lamezia Terme Airport (SUF) to the hotel on Sunday, May 15, and transfers from the hotel to the airport on Friday, May 20. The cost will vary depending upon the number of attendees traveling together at the same time. The costs of transfers will be shared among those in the same vehicles and will be billed to your incidental room charges. The costs are:

Car: 100 € (Up to 3 passengers) (1 passenger is 100 €, 2 passengers are 50 €/passenger; 3 passengers are 34 €/passenger)

Minibus: 134 €: (up to 8 passengers – cost shared by number of passengers)

Please note that for night shuttle services (between 1.00 am and 5.00 am) there is a 30 € supplement.

Note that if you arriving earlier than May 15 or plan to stay after the conference, the hotel can arrange transportation but most likely it will be on an individual basis.

If you would like to arrange a transfer, please email the following information to: sanmichele@sanmichele.it by May 10 to arrange for a transfer to the hotel.

- your name**
- your email**
- flight arrival and departure dates**
- name of Airline, flight numbers, scheduled arrival/departure times**
- number of people you are booking**

Please note that you are attending the ECI conference from May 10-15.

The airport is 75 km from the hotel.

Train: The Paola Railway station is about 21 km from the hotel by ItaliaRail. Please email sanmichele@sanmichele.it by May 10 to arrange for a transfer from the railway station to the hotel.

Sunday conference check-in: Begins at 16:00 in the hotel lounge and will be followed at 18:00 by the opening plenary in the conference center, the opening reception (19:00 on the patio) and dinner (20:00 either in the dining room or on the patio adjoining the dining room).

Monday morning: Breakfast is available from 07:30 to 09:00 and the technical session begins at 09:00.

Weather: Temperature highs are expected to be in the mid-70s °F (24° C) and lows in the low 60s °F (17°C) during the conference week. Please check www.weather.com for an update before you pack. In any case, we advise that you bring sunscreen and a sweater or jacket for the meeting room.

Speakers: We expect that all presentations will be on PowerPoint and we will have a computer projector as well as a laptop with Microsoft PowerPoint. **Rick Lu** will be the graduate student who will be helping out with the AV. Please bring your presentation on a memory stick for Rick to load onto the ECI computer. This should be done the day prior to your presentation if at all possible. If you need to check a video, please arrange this with Rick so that it is done well

before your session. Be sure that you have provided your session chair with a **brief** biography for your introduction. You will have a well-informed audience, so you can omit introductory slides. The audience can always ask questions. Use large fonts in the figures (including graphs) so that they can be read in one glance.

It is essential to the conference schedule that you keep to your given time - and be certain that you allow enough time for questions/discussion. Keeping in the tradition of these conferences, please be available during the conference for discussion and questions. Meals and social hours are perfect for discussion and questions.

Dress: ECI conferences are casual. Please note that the hotel dining room is more formal and that trousers rather than shorts should be worn there.

Lunches: Lunches are served both at the hotel and at the beach restaurant. The hotel would like to have an idea of how many people will remain in the hotel and each in the dining room and how many will enjoy their lunch at the beach restaurant.

Currency: The currency in Italy is the Euro. Currently, 1 Euro = US\$1.105 and 0.84 GBP. ATM machines are available at all airports as well as at various banks throughout the area.

Electricity: Please be certain to bring the proper electrical adapter for your electrical appliances.

Poster Presenters: Posters should be no larger than 1-meter wide x 1.5 meters high. Pushpins will be provided.

Guests/Accompanying Persons: If you decide to bring a guest at the last moment, please email Kathy (kathy@engconfintl.org) to arrange for payment.

Internet access: There is complimentary wireless access in the hotel

Miscellaneous: The following are a few housekeeping items that you need to be aware of:

- If you have special **dietary needs** (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.) that you didn't communicate to Kathy when you registered, please do so now so that we can give the hotel this information. All those with special needs meals will be given a card to identify themselves to the wait staff.
- If your arrival or departure date should change prior to the conference, please notify the hotel and Kathy Chan (Kathy@engconfintl.org)
- A brief electronic evaluation form will be distributed on Thursday or Friday during the conference. Please complete it as your comments will be very useful to the planners of the next conference in the series. If you wish to volunteer to be part of the organizing team for the next conference, you may make your intentions known on this form.
- If you require **photocopying**, please make your arrangements at the hotel desk - the cost will be billed to your room incidentals.

As a courtesy to conference participants, we request that all mobile phones be turned off (or to "vibrate") during the technical sessions. If it is necessary to use your mobile phone, we request that you step outside the meeting room to an area that will not disturb other attendees. As usual, all conference functions are smoke-free.

Joye Bramble is the technical liaison from the ECI Conferences Committee and I (**Barbara Hickernell**) am the ECI site manager. We thank the conference chairs, **Milica Radisic** (University of Toronto, Canada) and **Victor Shahin** (University of Münster, Germany), who put in a great deal of effort to produce this program.

Last minute questions?

Email **Kathy Chan** (Kathy@engconfintl.org). If you need to contact the ECI staff from Friday onwards, you can text or call Barbara Hickernell at 1-914-484-7349.

We wish you all an intellectually stimulating, productive and enjoyable conference.