

# ERN-EUROBLOODNET EXCHANGE PROGRAM



## CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

**For ERN-EuroBloodNet Members and Affiliated Partners**

**TO CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM:**

**ACUTE LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA (ALL)**

**PRECEPTORSHIP**

**AUSL Romagna- Presidio Ospedaliero di Ravenna, Ravenna, Italy**

**Coordinated by Prof. Francesco Lanza**

**November 21-22, 2022**

The ERN Exchange Mobility Program is coordinated by [Ecorys Agency](#) and aims to organize short stays in ERN's Health Care Providers for disseminating expertise on Rare Diseases among Network's Members. In order to improve cutting-edge knowledge on Rare Hematological Diseases (RHD), ERN-EuroBloodNet is launching a call for [ERN-EuroBloodNet Members](#) and [Affiliated Partners](#) for attending a preceptorship program held in one highly specialized center for: **Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)**.

Highly specialized centers that will host the preceptorships are chosen across Europe and represent the excellence in RHDs field at international level. Indeed, centers have been chosen among [ERN-EuroBloodNet HCPs Members](#).

Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) is a hematological malignancy characterized by proliferation of lymphoid progenitor cells in the bone marrow, peripheral blood, and extramedullary sites. The estimated annual incidence of adult ALL is about one in 100,000 individuals. ALL of B-cell type (B-cell ALL) represents the most common childhood acute leukemia (80% of cases), while in adults, it represents 20% of leukemias. Adults present with higher risk features at diagnosis, which predispose them to chemotherapy resistance and disease relapse. Molecular and cytogenetic characteristics play a key role in classifying B-cell ALL cases at diagnosis and in assessing the risk of the disease in terms of probability of relapse.

## **Educational program on Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)**

### **AUSL Romagna- Presidio Ospedaliero di Ravenna, Ravenna, Italy**

#### **1. PEDAGOGICAL PROJECT**

##### **Context**

From theory to laboratory practice and treatment algorithms, from phenotype to genotype. Experimental drugs and relevant ongoing clinical trials will be discussed.

##### **Educational objectives**

1. To acquire the theoretical and practical basis for the use of diagnostic tools and follow-up of patients with suspected B and T-cell ALL.
2. To standardize antibody panels, reagents and gating strategies for ALL immunophenotyping in different phases of the disease.
3. To validate high sensitivity analysis for minimal residual disease (MRD) detection and subclones analysis.
4. To discuss the role of molecular biology, cytogenetics and FISH in detecting blast abnormalities.
5. To discuss treatment options in ALL, including experimental drugs.

##### **Contextualised teaching (practical experience)**

Recent introduction of novel immune-targeted therapies, including monoclonal antibodies (MoAbs) targeting B cell-associated antigens such as CD19 (blinatumumab) and CD22 (inotuzumab), tyrosine kinase inhibitors targeting BCR-ABL1 tyrosine kinase, bispecific antibodies and chimeric antigen receptor T- cell therapy (CAR-T) may potentially circumvent B-ALL cells chemo-refractoriness through novel mechanisms of action and potentially eradicate minimal residual disease (MRD). The role played by these treatment modalities in combination with allogeneic HSCT will be further highlighted.

The diagnostic relevance of polychromatic flow cytometry in ALL diagnosis and disease monitoring will be recapitulated in lab session.

## 2. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**From:** November 21-22, 2022 (2 days).

**Host Center:** [AUSL Romagna- Presidio Ospedaliero di Ravenna, Italy](#) .

**Number of participants:** 2.

**Coordinated by:** [Prof. Francesco Lanza](#) .

### Teachers

- [Prof. Francesco Lanza](#)
- [Prof. Michela Rondoni](#)
- Giovanni Poletti
- Evita Massari
- Barbara Giannini

### Programme

#### 1st day

- 9 am – 5 pm
  - Discussion of clinical cases.
  - Focus on clinical trials in ALL.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> day – Lab session

- 9 am – 5 pm
  - Critical evaluation of flow cytometry data in B and T-ALL.
  - Lab session in molecular biology and cytogenetics.

## 3. PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

This preceptorship will bring together a maximum of **2 participants**:

- Participants must be affiliated to a [HCP Member](#) or [Affiliated Partner](#) of [ERN-EuroBloodNet](#). In the selection, the priority will be given to the permanent staff of the health care provider.
- Interest in developing their medical competences in the clinical area of **Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)**.
- In a position to follow-up the preceptorship with education projects and activities on medical education.

- Available for the whole duration of the preceptorship.
- English speaker.

#### 4. SELECTION PROCEDURE

To participate at this call, candidate must:

- a. **Fulfill the application form available at [www.eurobloodnet.eu](http://www.eurobloodnet.eu) or in attachment of this email.**
  - b. Edit a Curriculum vitae.
  - c. Write a cover letter.
  - d. Send the application form, the curriculum vitae et studiorum and the cover letter to: Dr Christel Buelens ([christel.buelens@ulb.be](mailto:christel.buelens@ulb.be)) and write as object of the email: "Candidature to ERN-EuroBloodNet Preceptorships **Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)**". If you don't get the confirmation of the receipt within few days, please write again.
- It is mandatory to send the candidature by the **31<sup>st</sup> of October** at midnight (CET time).
  - A jury among [ERN-EuroBloodNet Members](#) has been established in order to select participants.
  - Gender and geographical balance will be taken into account when making the selection of the group, along with the meritocracy of the CV and the motivations expressed in the cover letter.

#### 5. COSTS COVERAGES

[ERN-EuroBloodNet](#) via [Ecorys Agency](#) is in charge to cover the costs for travel and accommodation of participants. It includes daily allowance to cover subsistence, accommodation, and travel insurance for professional that travels.

For any additional information, please write to [christel.buelens@ulb.be](mailto:christel.buelens@ulb.be).

*If you are interested in participate to [ERN-EuroBloodNet](#) educational formation but your profile does not fully correspond to the requirements of this call for participants, please note that the [ERN-EuroBloodNet](#) will organize other preceptorships on the same topic after summer break.*