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# Translational Medicine

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## Clinical and translational research in metastatic colorectal cancer

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Several steps forwards have been made in the treatment of metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) in the last years. The introduction of new active drugs, such as regorafenib in heavily pretreated patients (pts), the use of more intensive combination treatment, such as first-line FOLFOXIRI plus bevacizumab, and even the refinement of patient selection (both clinical and molecular), have notably improved the outcome of mCRC pts.

Our group, in Pisa, headed by Prof Alfredo Falcone, has given and is continuing to give his contribution in this field. Our main success has been the phase III TRIBE, a multicenter, no-profit, randomized study, that demonstrated the superiority of FOLFOXIRI in combination with bevacizumab versus FOLFIRI plus bevacizumab in the first-line treatment of mCRC pts, improving both response rate, progression-free survival and overall survival. The TRIBE results have been recently published on the prestigious journal "The New England Journal of Medicine" and updated results have been presented at the last ASCO GI and they will be presented at the ASCO Congress.

We have continued to investigate the role of the triplet in this setting of pts, conducting two multicenter, phase II randomized studies, whose enrollement has been recently concluded (the MOMA and the MACBETH studies) and the ongoing phase III TRIBE2 study, a strategy study evaluating first-line FOLFOXIRI plus bevacizumab and its rechallenge versus the standard sequence with FOLFOX/FOLFIRI plus bevacizumab.

Further clinical and translational studies conducted by our group will be presented during the congress.

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