

Though measurement of quality is a mandatory task in the current clinical practice, clinical genetics and genetic counselling did not benefit much from the recent advances in quality improvement and assessment procedures in the clinical settings. Indeed, the lines of evidence concerning the outcome of genetic counselling are rather limited as compared to the literature reporting counselling protocols.

How could I know the outcome of a certain genetic counselling session? How can I measure the quality of counselling protocols? How can we compare different modalities and different services? How can we say that what we are doing is worth?

Keeping these questions in mind, clinical geneticists will meet psychologists, genetic counsellor and epidemiologists in order to match the respective standpoints and identify a common ground towards a collaborative effort.

The present one-day workshop was projected to start filling the gap between daily practice in genetic counselling and the theoretical and experimental investigations in the field of outcome measurements.

Materials and methods is the first step: as preliminary objective, we have to identify suitable tools to consistently measure the outcome of genetic counselling protocols.

In fact, as *outcome* of the workshop we envisage the design of collaborative pilot projects dedicated to the implementation of quality improvement and quality assessment procedures in our genetic services.

This aim will be accomplished addressing two main topics: the outcome of genetic counselling from the Clients' perspective and from the Counsellors' perspective. The currently available tools and their possible implementation in clinical practice will be deeply discussed in the plenary sessions and explored during practical sessions.

Programme

10:00 – Registration

10:30 – Welcome and introduction

11:00 – First session: **Measurement tools: how to implement outcome measures in clinical practice**

12:00 – Second session: **The Counsellor's perspective**

13:00 – Lunch

14:00 – Third session: **The Counsellor's perspective**

15:30 – General discussion

16:00 – Round Table: **Towards an Italian collaborative effort**

17:00 – Conclusive remarks, CME questionnaires filling

Invited Speakers

Giovanni Apolone

Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri, Milano, Italy.

Bruno Dallapiccola

Università "La Sapienza", and IRCCS CSS – Istituto Mendel, Roma, Italy.

Heather Skirton

Faculty of Health and Social Work, University of Plymouth, Plymouth, UK.

Representatives from patients' lay organisations were also invited.

Scientific Secretary:

Emilio Di Maria (University of Genova)

Faustina Lalatta (Fondazione Policlinico-Mangiagalli, Milano)

Organising Secretary:

Ugo Cavallari (Fondazione Policlinico-Mangiagalli, Milano)

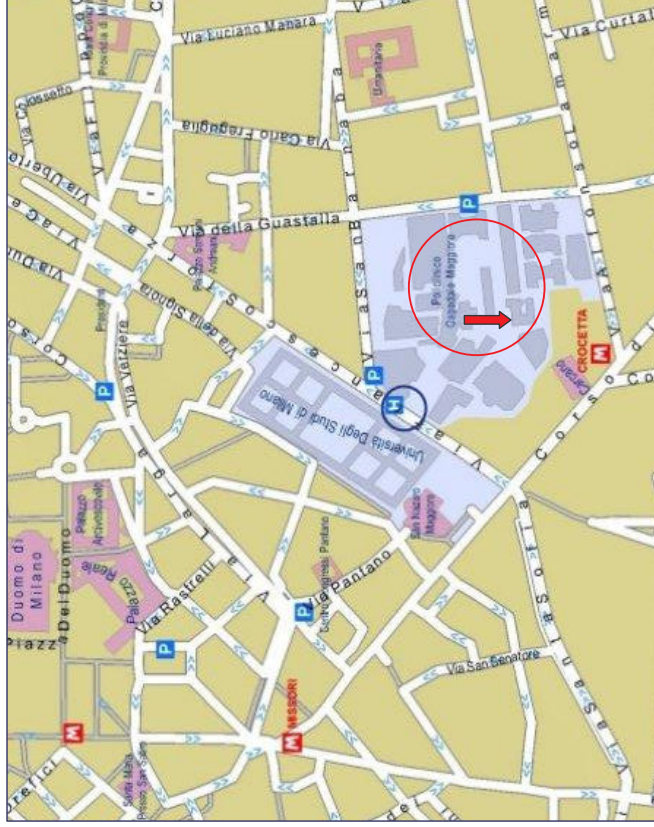
outcome2007@libero.it – phone (+39) 0255032321

Continuing Medical Education credits were requested for Medical Doctors and Clinical Psychologists (50 participants).

Participation is FREE of charge.

Registration is required at: <http://corsi.formazione.eu.com/formazione/index.php>

Venue: Aula Sforza, Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico, Via Sforza 35, Milano.



Università di Genova



SIGU – Gruppo di Lavoro in Genetica Clinica

Outcome in Genetic Counselling: Materials and Methods

1st Italian Workshop
Milano, June 24, 2007