

Subspecialty – Ocular Pathology and Tumours



Hon Professor Bertil Damato (United Kingdom)

- **An Update on Treatment of Uveal Melanoma**

Prof Damato is a Consultant Ophthalmologist at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital and Hon Professor at Liverpool University (UK). He heads the Ocular Oncology Service in Liverpool, which receives more than 250 patients with ocular melanoma each year. His lecture at APAO will provide an overview of recent advances in the treatment of uveal melanoma.

“Enucleation has largely been replaced by a wide variety of modalities which are given individually, or in combination, to prevent metastatic spread while conserving the eye and useful vision. These include: radiotherapy delivered with proton beam, stereotactic radiation or plaque brachytherapy; trans-scleral or trans-retinal local resection; transpupillary thermotherapy and photodynamic therapy.”

“Major developments are occurring in genetic tumour-typing. Meaningful personalised prognostication is now possible thanks to multivariate analysis including clinical, histological and genetic predictors – also taking age and sex into account. Accurate prognostication greatly enhances opportunities for determining the impact of ocular and systemic therapy on survival, and for evaluating adjuvant therapy aimed at preventing or delaying metastatic disease.”

“Prospects for patients with uveal melanoma are improving dramatically – thanks to the progress taking place in surgery, radiotherapy, molecular biology, and many other aspects of ocular oncology.”

Note: All effort has been made to check facts with each presenter. The writer accepts responsibility for any inadvertent errors in transcript.