PhD School in **LIFE AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

PHD Program in **APPLIED LIFE AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

****PhD Program in **INFLAMMATION, IMMUNITY AND CANCER**

****

**SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Gq - RGS signaling in pancreatic cancer**

**Prof. Thomas Wilkie, Ph.D.**

**Department of Pharmacology**

**University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center**

Lunedi, 18 Ottobre

15.00

Aula di Farmacologia

Palazzina Medicina Legale

G protein-coupled receptors (**GPCR**) are the largest gene family of extracellular receptors in humans. GPCR respond with high selectivity to thousands of ligands that regulate many biological functions. For this reason, GPCR are extensively targeted in pharmacology, accounting for 30–50% of all currently used drugs. The Gq class alpha subunits and regulators of G protein signaling (**RGS**) proteins control PLCβ activity and intracellular Ca2+ signaling. Understanding GPCR and Ca2+ signaling pathways that stimulate cell growth, survival, and migration of cancer cells is expected to offer novel approaches to therapy. Novel strategies will be discussed to reveal suitable drug targets in cancer treatment.

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