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**BASTION – FROM BASIC TO
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH
IN ONCOLOGY**

**Report of stay of Monika Kolanowska at the University of Ferrara, Italy
within 7PR21/BASTION/WP1 (Twinning)**

From 23rd of February until 22nd of March, 2015 I had the opportunity to visit research group of prof. Stefano Volinia at University of Ferrara, Italy. Prof. Stefano Volinia is the well known expert in computational biology, author of near 200 publications in the field.

During my one month stay in Italy I was fortunate to be involved in two interesting projects. In the first we evaluated the synergistic action of microRNAs and chemotherapeutic drugs on melanoma cell lines. We were able to point microRNAs which increases the effect of anticancer drugs on cells. Furthermore that experience let me to learn new methods related to cytotoxicity assays which we will consider to use in our studies in Warsaw.

In the second project we prepared vectors expressing pre-miRNAs. We selected 8 microRNAs significantly deregulated in breast cancer and melanoma and cloned sequences of their precursors to pcDNA3 vector. Prepared plasmids will be used for further evaluation of microRNAs effect on increased or decreased activity of anticancer drugs.

Moreover Prof. Stefano Volinia is a great expert in Next Generation Sequencing, thus I have the opportunity to learn from him appropriate designing of experiments with use of this technology.



Monika Kolanowska with research group of prof. Stefano Volinia