

Speaker 1: Félix Sauvage

Title: Laser-induced nanobubbles for advanced therapies in the eye

Short biography:

Félix Sauvage was born in Dieppe (France) on 16 April 1987. He received his pharmacy degree (Pharm.D) in 2013 at University of Rouen Normandie, France. The same year, he obtained his master's degree in Pharmaceutical Technology and Biopharmaceutics at University Paris-Saclay and a fellowship from the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research. He joined the Institut-Galien Paris-Saclay (University Paris-Saclay, France) for a PhD where he worked on the delivery of heat shock protein inhibitors to tumours. In 2017, Félix Sauvage joined the Laboratory of General Biochemistry and Physical Pharmacy headed by Prof. Stefaan De Smedt at Ghent University as a postdoctoral research scientist with a focus on nanotechnology and photonics in ophthalmology. Since 2017, the use of pulsed lasers in combination with light absorbing nanoparticles for the treatment of corneal and vitreous diseases has been his major focus. In 2022, Félix was appointed assistant professor in pharmaceutical technology at Lille University, France. Later the same year he obtained an ERC Starting Grant ('DYE-LIGHT') to investigate the use of light in combination with dyes for drug delivery and laser-based surgery in the eye at Ghent University in the Laboratory of General Biochemistry and Physical Pharmacy. In 2023, Félix returned to Ghent University where he was appointed associate professor.



Speaker 2: Loris Rizzello

Title: Towards an evolutionary-driven universal therapy against (intracellular) pathogens

Bio-sketch: After defending his PhD thesis on Nanotechnology at the Italian Institute of Technology in 2012, Loris has been awarded with a Newton International Fellowship from the Royal Society of London. This program supported his first investigations on drug delivery systems for treating tuberculosis at the University College London, Department of Chemistry. After 5 years at UCL, he received a Marie Curie Individual Fellowship and moved to the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia (IBEC) of Barcelona, where he explored the use of artificial organdies to model infectious disease . He has been then awarded with the ERC Starting Grant and appointed as Associate professor at the University of Milan in October 2020. From March 2021, he is also Junior Principal Investigator at the National institute of Molecular Genetics, where he leads the efforts of the Infection Dynamics Laboratory.

