

2010: PXE Research Conference



On November 29-30, 2010, PXE International held a sponsored gathering of some of the most prominent PXE scientists in the world. Over the course of this two-day meeting, the large group presented their collective progress to date and their ongoing research efforts in the understanding of PXE, related scientific areas, and activities toward the development of a treatment. This meeting was funded by PXE International and by an R13 grant from the National Institutes of Health: National Institute of Arthritis Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS), Office of Rare Diseases Research (ORDR), National Eye Institute (NEI), and National Institute of Child Health Development (NICHD).

Researcher Awards

Ivonne Ronchetti received the 2010 PXE International Research Award for long time dedication to pseudoxanthoma elasticum (PXE). We remember with great awe and fondness the first time we visited her laboratory in Modena and saw dozens of bookshelves filled with binders labeled 'PXE'. We have been impressed with her important contributions discerning the pathological conditions of the cell. We regret that she was unable to join us at this meeting since she was assisting relatives who are ill. Daniela Quaglino accepted in her name.



Jouni Uitto received the 2010 PXE International Research Award for his prolific and comprehensive contributions to the understanding of the condition. These contributions include establishing that PXE is a metabolic disease, creating and testing animal models and experimenting with potential treatment modalities. We have worked with Dr. Uitto for many years, and appreciate the energy and intelligence he brings to the work. Early on, Dr. Uitto participated in PXE International's large-scale quest to discern the spectrum of mutations in ABCC6 and the establishment of the genetic test resulting from the work. We are grateful for his expertise and commitment.