

## Sex and Gender in Science and Medicine. Why are these issues important?

Sex and gender are critical considerations in science and medicine because both biological differences and social factors can significantly influence health outcomes, disease development, and responses to medical treatments. Integrating sex- and gender-based perspectives into research enhances the accuracy, reliability, and relevance of scientific findings while promoting inclusivity and equity in healthcare. By recognizing and addressing these differences, researchers and healthcare professionals can improve the effectiveness of prevention strategies, diagnostics, and therapies, ultimately leading to better health outcomes for diverse populations



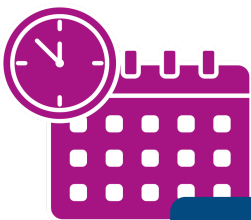
**Susanna  
CHIOCCA**

Director, Viruses and Cancer Unit,  
Director, WoMen in Science Program, European Institute of Oncology (IEO),  
Milano, Italy

My research focuses on how oncogenic viruses and tumor microenvironmental stresses drive cancer through post-translational protein modifications and epigenetic reprogramming. Using HPV-positive and HPV-negative head and neck cancers as model systems, we investigate viral and non-viral mechanisms of carcinogenesis. More recently, our work has expanded to explore biological and clinical sex/gender differences in head and neck cancers.

<https://www.research.ieo.it/research-and-technology/principal-investigators/susanna-chiocca>

Host: Iannis Talianidis



**TUESDAY  
16/6/2026**

**14:00-15:00  
ONLINE**

