

“The on-line
communication of
science is an ethical
need”

Umberto Veronesi, MD

London 27 October 2008

The “Galileo” concepts of science

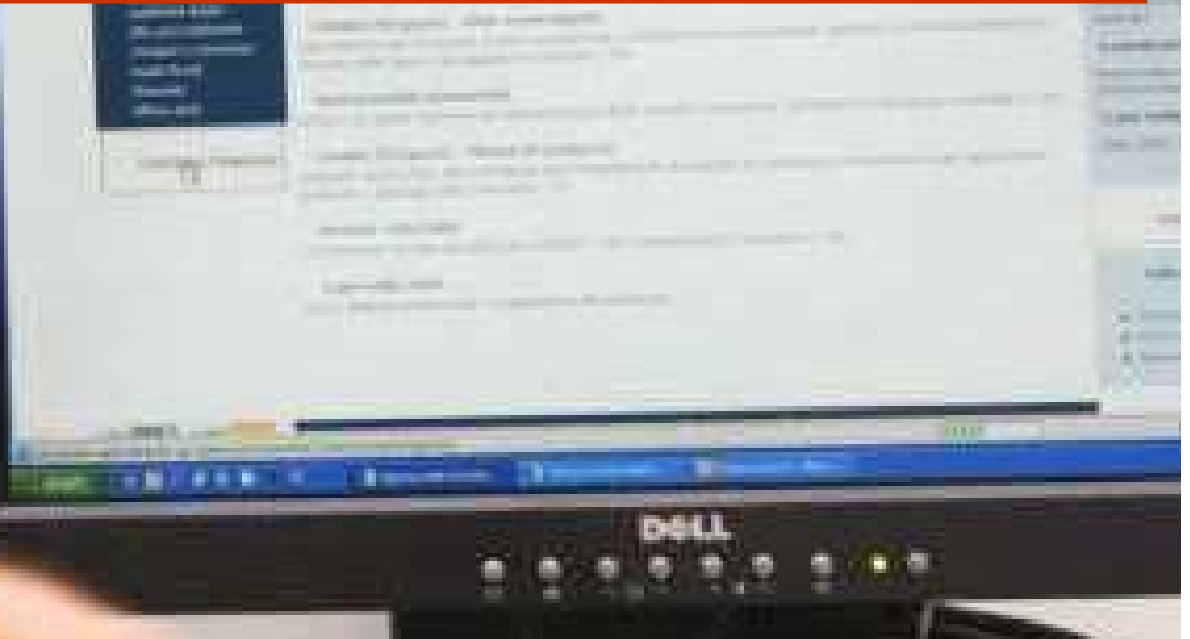
- 
- A portrait of Galileo Galilei, an Italian astronomer, physicist, and engineer, is visible in the background of the slide. He is depicted with a long, white beard and hair, wearing a dark, high-collared garment.
- The search for truth
 - Universalism
 - Civilization effects

Present circulation of scientific knowledge is restricted to a limited “elite” of doctors, mainly in western countries

■ The vision of the future is to provide free access to as many "*customers*" as possible. The gap at present is huge.

**No. of Doctors worldwide:
10 millions**

**No. of subscribers to The
Lancet: 30,000**



- Results of basic research may be delivered to a limited number of researchers.
- Studies which may change the life of millions of men and women need widespread communication.

July 1, 1981



The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

COMPARING RADICAL MASTECTOMY WITH QUADRANCTECTOMY, AXILLARY DISSECTION, AND RADIOTHERAPY IN PATIENTS WITH SMALL CANCERS OF THE BREAST

UMBERTO VERONESI, M.D., ROBERTO SACCOZZI, M.D., MARCELLA DEL VECCHIO, PH.D., ALBERTO BANFI, M.D., CLAUDIO CLEMENTE, M.D., MARIO DE LENA, M.D., GIUSEPPE GALLUS, PH.D., MARCO GRECO, M.D., ALBERTO LUINI, M.D., ETTORE MARUBINI, PH.D., GIUSEPPE MUSCOLINO, M.D., FRANCO RILKE, M.D., BRUNO SALVADORI, M.D., ANNAMARIA ZECCHINI, AND ROBERTO ZUCALI, M.D.

Abstract From 1973 to 1980, we carried out a controlled study at the National Cancer Institute in Milan to consider the value of a conservative procedure in patients with breast cancer of small size. We random-

were comparable in age distribution, size and site of primary tumor, menopausal status, and frequency of axillary metastases. There were three local recurrences in the Halsted group and one in the

July 2, 1981

The New York Times

Founded in 1851

ADOLPH S. OCHS, Publisher 1896-1935
ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER, Publisher 1935-1961
ORVILLE D. BRIDGES, Publisher 1961-1963

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1981

Study Supports Limited Surgery for Breast Cancer

By JANE E. BRODY

Surgery that spares most of the breast can be as effective as radical mastectomy in treating women with early breast cancer, according to a major study done in Italy and published yesterday in The New England Journal of

benefit greatly from postoperative chemotherapy. Previous studies had shown such benefits primarily to patients under the age of 50.

Together, the two studies present further evidence that survival of breast cancer patients depends less on the local

clothing and problems with breast reconstruction.

In recent years, however, scattered preliminary studies have suggested that less extensive surgery might be as effective as the radical operation for localized treatment of breast cancer, partic-

vived free of cancer recurrence for up to seven and a half years after treatment.

"It appears unlikely that a longer follow-up time will introduce further changes," they said, although some surgeons believe a 10-year period is needed to determine the relative effectiveness of breast cancer treatments.

- As all doctors worldwide will have access to an online source, in the future the communication of important scientific results cannot be but online (free access).

- As regards publications, the on-line free-of-charge system will make the time for acceptance very rapid (about one week), for publication (about one month), and for comments and discussion.