## Asthma & Airway Disease Research Center Invites You to The A<sup>2</sup>DRC Biweekly Research Update Seminar

## \*New Format for this session!\*

Please join us as we modify our meeting structure to provide a Forum for sharing thoughts and feedback regarding both

Thursday, December 13, 2018 • 4pm—5pm • COM Room 2343

"Deconvoluting COPD endotypes by profiling the adaptive immune system"

## Presented by:

Francesca Polverino, MD, PhD

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Francesca Polverino, MD, PhD, is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine – Tucson and is an active member of the Asthma and Airway Disease Research Center. Her clinical and research interest are Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). In 2010, after completing her MD and PhD degrees, she moved to Harvard University where she studied the pathobiology and the systemic manifestations of COPD. Dr. Polverino published seminal papers focused on the mechanisms leading to the onset and progression of COPD. She discovered that the B cell Activating Factor, a key molecule involved in autoimmunity, is overexpressed in COPD lungs and contributes to the formation of lymphoid follicles in the COPD lung (AJRCCM 2010 and 2015). She has also identified two molecules which are expressed in the lung and are protective against cigarette smoke-induced lung damage and COPD: Club Cell Protein 16 (CC16, European Respiratory Journal 2015), and A-Disintegrin and A Metalloproteinase Domain 8 (AJRCCM 2018), and has described the first non-human primate model of COPD (American Journal of Pathology 2015). From a clinical standpoint, Dr. Polverino reported for the first time that patients with COPD have extensive kidney damage (AJRCCM 2017). In 2017, Dr. Polverino became assistant professor of medicine at Harvard University. Dr. Polverino moved to University of Arizona in August 2018.

Dr. Polverino has been awarded with several prestigious international recognitions, such as the Parker B Francis Fellowship (2016), and the Rising Star of Research Award from the American Thoracic Society (2018).