

GENERAL INFORMATION

CONFERENCE VENUE

STARHOTELS EXCELSIOR – Viale Pietramellara 51, 40121, Bologna

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

Dr. Maria Pia Giannoccaro

Assistant Professor (Senior), Department of Biomedical and Neuromotor Sciences, University of Bologna

Prof. Vincenzo Donadio

Medical Director In Neurology, IRCCS Institute of Neurological Sciences, Bologna

Prof. Rocco Liguori

Full Professor of Neurology, Department of Biomedical and Neuromotor Sciences, University of Bologna

ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT AND CME PROVIDER



Symposium Eventi srl

Via Barberia, 14 – 40123 Bologna

Tel. +39 051 6448110 – cell. +39 338 7479543

Mail: segreteria@symposium-eventi.it

www.symposiumeventi.com

Symposium Eventi srl – Provider N. 8348

Event n. 482342 – Credits awarded: 12 – Educational activity duration: 12 hours

Symposium Eventi srl assumes full responsibility for the content, quality, and ethical integrity of this CME activity

TARGET AUDIENCE

All disciplines of Physician

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

Residential course.

English is the official language of the course. Simultaneous translation is not provided.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

18 – Technical –professional content (knowledge and competencies) specific to each profession, each specialty, and each highly specialized area of practice, including rare diseases and gender medicine.

VERIFICATION METHOD

Multiple-choice assessment test administered on-site at the end of the Conference. For the purposes of acquiring training CME credits, 90% actual attendance of the duration of the whole Conference and at least 75% of correct answers to the learning assessment tests are required.

CME CERTIFICATE

After verification, the CME Certificate will be sent to the e-mail address indicated on the Registration Form.

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

At the end of the works, the Organizing Secretariat will send the Certificate of Participation by email to all participants.

WITH THE UNCONDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION OF:



SEGRETERIA ORGANIZZATIVA



Symposium Eventi srl

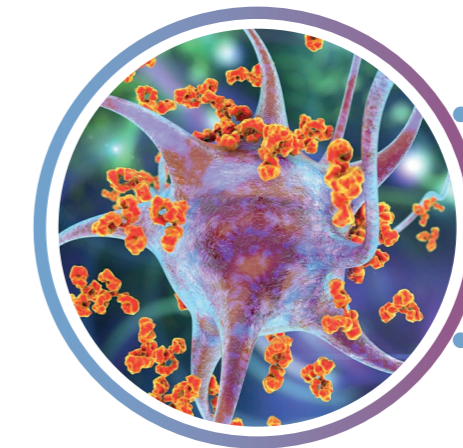
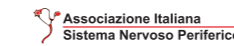
Via Barberia, 14 40123 Bologna (BO)

Tel. +39 051 6448110 Cell. +39 338 7479543

Email: segreteria@symposium-eventi.it

www.symposiumeventi.com

ENDORSED BY:



First Conference on
Autoimmunity in
neuromuscular
disorders:

**mechanisms, biomarkers
and emerging therapies**

19TH – 20TH JUNE 2026

STARHOTELS EXCELSIOR

Viale Pietramellara 51

BOLOGNA

PROGRAM

PRESENTATION

Autoimmune mechanisms underlie a wide spectrum of disorders affecting the peripheral nervous system and neuromuscular junction, including inflammatory neuropathies, small fiber neuropathies, paraneoplastic syndromes, and myasthenia gravis. While the diagnostic role of autoantibodies and immunological biomarkers is well recognized, important challenges remain in understanding their pathogenic significance, refining their use in treated patients, and integrating them into therapeutic decision-making.

This scientific program brings together leading experts to provide a comprehensive overview of recent advances in autoimmune neurology. Sessions will address biomarkers and pathogenesis in autoimmune neuropathies, including nodo-paranodopathies, paraneoplastic and therapy-related syndromes, and small fiber neuropathies with pain. The program also explores therapeutic innovations, from conventional immunotherapies to monoclonal antibodies.

By combining translational research with clinical expertise, this meeting aims to advance understanding of autoimmune neuromuscular disorders, refine diagnostic strategies, and explore novel treatment avenues that can improve patient outcomes.

Scientific Secretariat

Prof. Rocco Liguori

Dr. Maria Pia Giannoccaro

Prof. Vincenzo Donadio

FACULTY

Chiara Briani, *Padova*

Andrea De Maria, *Genova*

Marina De Tommaso, *Bari*

Grazia Devigili, *Milano*

Vincenzo Donadio, *Bologna*

Pietro Emiliano Doneddu, *Milano*

Kathrin Doppler, *Wurzburg*

Antonio Farina, *Lyon*

Anna Fetta, *Bologna*

Matteo Gastaldi, *Pavia*

Maria Pia Giannoccaro, *Bologna*

Peter Grace, *Houston*

Francesco Habetswallner, *Napoli*

Aiden Haghikia, *Hannover*

Sarah Hoffmann, *Berlin*

Raffaele Iorio, *Roma*

Daniela Latorre, *Milano*

Giuseppe Lauria Pinter, *Milano*

Maria Isabel Leite, *Oxford*

Rocco Liguori, *Bologna*

Lorenzo Maggi, *Milano*

Sara Mariotto, *Verona*

Christian Moritz, *Saint-Etienne*

Eduardo Nobile-Orazio, *Milano*

Maria Nolano, *Napoli*

Rita Rinaldi, *Bologna*

Simon Rinaldi, *Oxford*

Elia Sechi, *Sassari*

Elisa Vegezzi, *Pavia*

Angela Vincent, *Oxford*

Marco Zoccarato, *Padova*

13:00 Arrival and registration
13:30 Conference Opening
Introduction and welcome, *Rocco Liguori*
Greetings by the Authorities

14:00 Keynote Lecture – CAR T cell therapy as an emerging therapy in neuroimmunological diseases, *Aiden Haghikia*

SESSION 1: MYASTHENIA GRAVIS: A MODEL OF ANTIBODY MEDIATED NEUROLOGICAL DISORDER

Chairs: Francesco Habetswallner, Elia Sechi

14:30 The central role of B cells in Myasthenia Gravis: from autoantibody production to therapeutic targeting, *Raffaele Iorio*

14:50 Seronegative Myasthenia Gravis: diagnostic challenges and emerging markers, *Sarah Hoffmann*

15:10 NMOSD & Myasthenia Gravis: Shared immunological Features and Clinical Overlaps, *Maria Isabel Leite*

15:30 Therapeutic frontiers in Myasthenia Gravis, *Lorenzo Maggi*

15:50 Discussion

16:00 Coffee Break

SESSION 2: BRIDGING THE GAP: CNS AND PNS INVOLVEMENT IN AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPATHIES

Chairs: Eduardo Nobile Orazio, Matteo Gastaldi

16:20 Autoantibodies in sensory neuronopathies, *Christian Moritz*

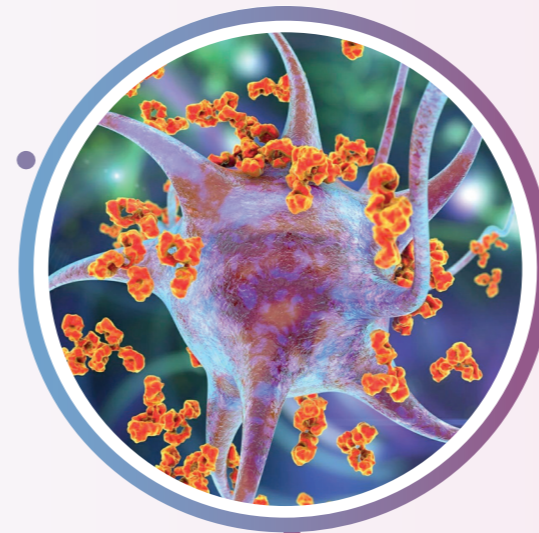
16:40 Nodo-paranodopathies: pathogenesis and treatment, *Hathrin Doppler*

17:00 Antibodies at the interface between CNS and PNS, *Matteo Gastaldi*

17:20 Discussion

17:30 Poster session, *Grazia Devigili, Elia Sechi*

18:30 Conclusion of first day



Friday 19th June 2026

09:00 From receptors to revolution: an exciting journey from myasthenia gravis to antibody-mediated autoimmune encephalitis, *Angela Vincent*

SESSION 3: UNRAVELLING AUTOIMMUNE NEUROPATHIES FROM SEROLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS TO BIOMARKERS

Chairs: Pietro Emiliano Doneddu, Maria Pia Giannoccaro

09:30 Innovative approaches to profiling inflammatory neuropathies, *Simon Rinaldi*

09:50 The emerging Role of Autoreactive T Cell immunity in Guillain-Barre' Syndrome, *Daniela Latorre*

10:10 Insight into pathogenesis of CIDP, *Eduardo Nobile-Orazio*

10:30 Discussion

10:40 Coffee Break

SESSION 4: PARANEOPlastic AND PARAPROTEINEMIC NEUROPATHIES

Chairs: Rita Rinaldi, Sara Mariotto

11:00 Paraneoplastic neuropathies, *Marco Zoccarato*

11:20 Paraproteinemic neuropathies, *Chiara Briani*

11:40 Pediatric autoimmune neuropathies, *Anna Fetta*

12:00 Paraneoplastic neurological syndromes and immune checkpoint inhibitors, *Antonio Farina*

12:20 Discussion

12:30 Best Poster Award, *Grazia Devigili, Elia Sechi*

12:50 Lunch Buffet

SESSION 5: MECHANISMS OF NEUROPATHIC PAIN

Chairs: Rocco Liguori, Giuseppe Lauria Pinter

14:00 Peripheral and Central mechanism of Neuropathic Pain, *Marina De Tommaso*

14:20 Ion Channel Dysfunction and Neuropathic Pain: Insights from Channelopathies, *Grazia Devigili*

14:40 Immune and Inflammatory Mechanisms in Pain, *Peter Grace*

15:10 Discussion

SESSION 6: SMALL FIBER NEUROPATHY

Chairs: Maria Nolano, Vincenzo Donadio

15:20 Etiologies and diagnosis of small fiber neuropathies, *Maria Nolano*

15:40 Post-Covid-vaccination small fiber neuropathy, *Andrea De Maria*

16:00 Role of antibodies to neuronal antigens in small fiber neuropathy, *Maria Pia Giannoccaro*

16:20 Discussion

SESSION 7: NEW AND OLD THERAPIES IN NEUROPATHIES

Chairs: Elisa Vegezzi, Chiara Briani

16:30 Is there a role for immunotherapy in SFN? *Vincenzo Donadio*

16:50 Monoclonal antibodies in CIDP, *Elisa Vegezzi*

17:10 BTK inhibitors in paraproteinemic neuropathies, *Chiara Briani*

17:30 The role of IVIG in CIDP and other immune-mediated neuropathies, *Pietro Emiliano Doneddu*

17:50 Discussion

18:00 Concluding Remarks

Saturday 20th June 2026