



TORINO 2025

OCTOBER 29 • 30 • 31, 2025

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Last update October 14, 2025

8th BRAINSTORMING RESEARCH ASSEMBLY
FOR YOUNG NEUROSCIENTISTS

AULA MAGNA “GIOVANNI AGNELLI”
POLITECNICO DI TORINO • C.SO DUCA DEGLI ABRUZZI 24

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Burkhard Becher	Institute of Experimental Immunology, Universität Zürich (Switzerland)
Benjamin Deneen	Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas (USA)
Michael Heneka	LCSB – Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine, The University of Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
Simona Lodato	Humanitas University, Rozzano (Italy)
Edvard Ingjald Moser	Kavli Institute for Systems Neuroscience, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (Norway)
Marzia Munafò	European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Rome (Italy)
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BRAYN SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

NEUROIMAGING & CLINICAL NEUROLOGY is a comprehensive scientific session exploring the intersection of advanced neuroimaging techniques and clinical neurology applications. This session delves into the utilization of various neuroimaging methodologies to probe the structure, function, and physiology of the nervous system, alongside the translational aspects of clinical neurology. The session covers two primary neuroimaging approaches: structural imaging, which aids in the diagnosis of large-scale intracranial diseases and injuries, and functional imaging, crucial for diagnosing metabolic diseases like Alzheimer's and facilitating neurological and cognitive psychology research. Techniques such as Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Electroencephalography (EEG), and Positron Emission Tomography (PET) will be discussed in the context of their applications alone or in combination to investigate neurological diseases. Moreover, the session emphasizes the integration of neuroscience data and basic research with clinical neurology to enhance understanding and treatment of nervous system disorders.

NEUROINFLAMMATION is a scientific session focused on exploring the mechanisms the inflammatory response initiated in the central nervous system (CNS) by resident cells or triggered by infiltrating immune cells, which causes the neuronal dysfunctions observed in inflammatory and neurodegenerative disease of the CNS. The NI session mainly focuses on basic and clinical research in multiple sclerosis (MS), Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder (NMOSD) and other inflammatory diseases of the CNS that have a significant impact on the lives of young adults. Although the scientific discoveries of recent decades have improved the therapeutic approaches used for the treatment of such pathologies, many questions still remain unanswered. The NI session aims to discuss the basic pathogenic mechanisms governing CNS inflammation, the role of immune system in CNS autoimmunity, and the importance of genetic and environmental factors in the development of neuroinflammatory diseases, with a patient-centered focus.

NEURODEGENERATION is a scientific session focused on key aspects of a large number of diseases characterized by progressive damage of the nervous system that leads to irreversible neuronal death. The ND session will update on the more recent advances in the field. Specifically, the session will mainly focus on Parkinson's disease (PD), a slowly progressive syndrome that begins insidiously, gradually worsens in severity, and usually affects one side of the body before spreading to involve the other side, and Alzheimer's disease (AD), the most common type of dementia and an irreversible, neurodegenerative and progressive central nervous system disorder that slowly destroys memory and thinking skills, and, eventually, other mental abilities. Other neurodegenerative diseases, such as tauopathies, narcolepsy, depression and psychiatric disorders, will be also discussed in this session.

NEURO-ONCOLOGY session will cover the field of investigation that studies nervous system tumors. As many of brain tumors can cause severe nervous system damage, neuro-oncology represents a trending research area in neuroscience, which may identify the molecular mechanisms involved in tumor pathogenesis. This session will also discuss the development of novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of life-threatening diseases such as glioma, and medulloblastoma.

NEUROPHYSIOLOGY & NEURAL PLASTICITY session will cover the molecular mechanisms underlying the function of the nervous system and the capacity of the nervous system to modify itself, functionally and structurally, in response to experience and injury. All levels of function and plasticity changes will be discussed, from receptors and cellular physiology to systems and behaviour. This session will delve into approaches such as molecular and cellular neurobiology, functional neuroanatomy, neurochemistry, neuropharmacology, electrophysiology, and behavioural analysis, in both in-vivo, ex-vivo and in-vitro models in invertebrate or vertebrate species, including humans.



NEURODEVELOPMENT session will cover the mechanisms and the genetics underlying human and animal brain development in health and disease. This session will focus on neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability, and epilepsy. The session will also discuss about the contribution of both genetic and environmental factors, as well as the role of neuronal and non-neuronal cells in the etiopathology of these disorders. This session will delve into the genetics and the molecular and cellular neurobiology underlying brain development. In this session we will also discuss on the implementation of novel therapeutic strategies to tackle neurodevelopmental disorders.

29 OCTOBER • Day 1

9:30 Registration

10:30 Opening Ceremony • **G. Ferrara, E. Boda, M. Romeo**

BRAYN STARTING GRANT SESSION

Chairpersons: C. Calì, V. Chiurchiù, P. Infante

10:45 **Veronica Ceci** (Starting Grant 2024 Winner)
Specialized pro-resolving lipid mediators modulate choroid plexus inflammatory activity.

11:00 **Alessandra Martello** (Starting Grant 2024 Winner)
Neural and Cardiac Dysfunctions in a Parkinson's Mouse Model.

11:15 Lectio Magistralis | **Edvard Ingjald Moser** (Chairmen: G. Ferrara, M. Cambiaghi)
Neural network computation in the entorhinal cortex: From space to time.

12:15 Poster Session 1 with Lunch Box

PARALLEL SESSION (13:00-14:30)

• For scheduled groups only •

BraYn meets Edvard Ingjald Moser

SESSION 1 • NEURODEVELOPMENT ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairpersons: E. Tagliatti, G. Borgonovo, M.M. Chellali

14:15 Lecture | **Simona Lodato** (Chairwoman: E. Tagliatti)
Development on the Edge: From Cortical Circuits to Brain Barriers.

14:45 **Elena Ricci** • *Exposure to EDs during pregnancy and lactation alters maternal behavior.*

15:00 **Chiara Tremolanti** • *Heparan sulfate SULFatases ensure correct patterning of stem cell-derived midbrain dopaminergic neurons.*

15:15 **Francesca Postogna** • *Cholesterol dysregulation in Rett syndrome: implications for synaptic function.*

15:30 SpeedTalk | **Antonia Gurgone** • *Extracellular Vesicle-derived miRNAs as non-invasive biomarkers and therapeutic targets for CDKL5 Deficiency Disorder.*

15:35 SpeedTalk | **Tiziana Romanazzi** • *Functional characterization of GAT1 variants involved in SLC6A1-related neurodevelopmental disorder: not all mutations act alike.*

15:40 SpeedTalk | **Livia Metani** • *FLVCR1a Regulates Cortical Interneuron Development and Migration in the Embryonic Cortex.*

15:45 SpeedTalk | **Giovanni Francesco Porcheddu** • *Investigating the pacemaking role of Hcn1 during cortical development.*

SESSION 2 • NEUROINFLAMMATION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairpersons: M. Bottero, A. Baldassarro, M. Rasile, T. Giannattasio

- 15:50** Lecture | **Burkhard Becher** (Chairwoman: B. Bettegazzi)
Neuroinflammation: Cytokine miscommunication of autoimmune attack?
- 16:20** **Enrica Marzani** • *CDK9 inhibition prevents neuroinflammation and preserves blood-brain barrier integrity in sepsis-associated encephalopathy.*
- 16:35** **Erica Staurengi** • *Deepening the impact of ApoE4 astrocytes on Alzheimer's disease: a focus on lipid homeostasis alterations and astrocyte reactivity.*
- 16:50** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **Novartis**
Alessia Di Sapia • *The role of Astrocytes in Neuroinflammation and Degeneration in CNS autoimmune Disease.*
Simona Malucchi • *Implementation of GFAP in addition to sNFL in MS patients: a potential tool for objective measuring clinical progression.*
Cecilia Irene Bava • *Longitudinal sNFL and GFAP dynamics in AQ4 positive and negative NMOSD patients: a real-world experience.*
- 17:20** **Antonella Potenza** • *Circulating Biomarkers in Moyamoya Angiopathy: Translating Molecular Signatures into Clinical Needs.*
- 17:35** **Edoardo Mazzone** • *Role of pro-inflammatory T-cells in brain injury evolution after experimental subarachnoid hemorrhage.*
- 17:50** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **Beckman Coulter**
Valerio Chiurchiù • *How to decipher the Resolution Code of Inflammation: Suspicious clues from Parkinson's disease.*
- 18:05** SpeedTalk | **Marica Pagliarini** • *C3 and CD14 modulate diffuse but not focal neuroinflammation in TBI associated with polytrauma.*
- 18:10** SpeedTalk | **Martino Bonato** • *Short-term exposure to particulate matter triggers selective molecular and behavioral alterations in a mouse model of Multiple Sclerosis.*
- 18:15** SpeedTalk | **Fernando Josa-Prado** • *Sex differences in CSF levels of FGF-2 and Anosmi-1 as novel bio-signatures in Multiple Sclerosis progression.*
- 18:20** SpeedTalk | **Sneha Anand** • *Characterization of astrocyte phenotype during epileptogenesis in a mouse model of acquired epilepsy.*
- 18:25** SpeedTalk | **Evridiki Asimakidou** • *Impairment of spatial memory in chronic CNS inflammation is associated with hippocampal microgliosis and inefficient neuronal recruitment.*

18:30 Closing remarks

30 OCTOBER • Day 2

SESSION 3 • NEURODEGENERATION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairpersons: S. Bonomi, E. Battocchio, P.A. Raposo Afonso

- 9:30** **Anna Grasso** • *AAV-mediated gene therapy rescues motor function in a mouse model of Marinesco-Sjögren Syndrome.*
- 9:45** **Su-Chun Huang** • *Disease-Specific Inner Retinal Signatures in Alzheimer's Disease and Cerebral Amyloid Angiopathy Revealed by VBM-OCT.*
- 10:00** **Federico Carlini** • *A new AAV-Based Mouse Model of Parkinson's Disease targeting dopamine synthesis to study levodopa-induced dyskinesia.*
- 10:15** **Silvia Castiglioni** • *Modeling the corticospinal tract in ALS by TARDBP-human assembloids.*
- 10:30** **Cecilia Delprete** • *10-year retrospective study: cervical and leg dual-site skin biopsy accurately detects pS129- α -Syn in LBD and MSA as a less invasive alternative to three-site protocols.*
- 10:45** **Giovanna Menduti** • *A novel therapeutic candidate for Spinal Muscular Atrophy identified through drug repositioning: evidence from a mouse model and patient-derived cell.*
- 11:00** **Athina Grigoriou** • *Investigating the reciprocal relationship between DNA damage and Dementia with Lewy bodies.*
- 11:15** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **Euroclone**
Ralf Ernsberger • *The perfect match for RT-QulC: FLUOstar Omega microplate reader from BMG LABTECH.*
- 11:30** SpeedTalk | **Davide Marangon** • *A human oligodendrocyte-based platform for dissecting myelin dysfunction and uncovering therapeutic targets in Niemann-Pick type C disease.*
- 11:35** SpeedTalk | **Zuzanna Kula** • *GBA2 as a potential therapeutic target in GBA1-PD.*
- 11:40** SpeedTalk | **Marcella Palumbo** • *Cerebrospinal fluid and plasma HDL (dys)function in Multiple Sclerosis.*
- 11:45** SpeedTalk | **Luther Loose** • *Tau protein regulates age-related cognitive decline and structural white matter abnormalities.*
- 11:50** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **VectorBuilder**

12:00 Poster Session 2 with Lunch Box

SESSION 4 • NEURO-ONCOLOGY ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairpersons: E. Stanzani, E. Vannini, M. Ibáñez Navarro

- 14:30** Lecture | **Benjamin Deneen** (Chairwoman: E. Vannini)
Decoding the Language of Brain Tumor and Neuron Communication.
- 15:00** **Valentino Ribecco** • *Postsurgical ischemia in glioblastoma induces proneural-to-mesenchymal transition, therapy resistance and immunosuppression.*
- 15:15** **Alice Reccagni** • *Animal-protein diet shapes glioblastoma growth via microbial and neurogenic hydrogen sulfide signaling along the gut-brain axis.*
- 15:30** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **Miltenyi**
Stefano Abbiati • *Shining Light on Neural Complexity: Imaging Workflows for neuroscience discovery.*
- 15:45** **Marta Nowakowska-Desplantes** • *Modulation of Calcium Oscillations in Glioblastoma: An Electrophysiological Approach.*
- 16:00** **Beatrice Tremonti** • *Targeting glioblastoma stem cells: triamterene inhibits CLIC1-mediated proliferation and invasiveness.*
- 16:15** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **Revvity**
Guillaume Reveillon • *Optical Imaging solutions for Neuroscience.*
- 16:30** SpeedTalk | **Massimiliano Del Bene** • *Liquid Biopsy in Glioblastoma: Leveraging Plasma Extracellular Vesicles for Tumor Diagnosis, Real-Time Monitoring, and Patient Stratification.*
- 16:35** SpeedTalk | **Paolo Cabras** • *Multiparametric approach to the identification of novel prognostic biomarker for high grade gliomas.*
- 16:40** SpeedTalk | **Lucía Córdoba Esteban** • *BRAINTOX: Uremic toxins in chemotherapy response in the brain.*
- 16:45** SpeedTalk | **Anastasija Neimane** • *Magnetite Nanodiscs in a Sinusoidal Magnetic Field Induce Non-Thermal Mechanical Ablation of Glioblastoma Cells In Vitro.*
- 16:50** SpeedTalk | **Sofia Remedía** • *A systematic evaluation of Ferroptosis induction as a therapeutic approach in Temozolomide-resistant glioblastoma.*
- 17:00** Lecture | **Michael Heneka** (Chairwoman: R.C. Paolicelli)
Innate Immunity in Alzheimer disease.

17:30 Closing remarks

31 OCTOBER • Day 3

SESSION 5 • NEUROPHYSIOLOGY & NEURAL PLASTICITY ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairpersons: G. Calabrese, P. Lippiello, S. Zucca

- 9:30** **Lara Pizzamiglio** • *Excitatory glycine receptors (eGlyRs) in the ventral hippocampus control synaptic plasticity and anxiety-related behaviors.*
- 9:45** **Mario De Gregorio** • *From spine shape to synaptic function: exploring the role of SKT/KIAA1217, a novel component of the postsynaptic density complex.*
- 10:00** **Mattia Lorenzo Di Francesco** • *Ziapi2 and derivatives for long-term modulation of neuronal activity tuned by light.*
- 10:15** **Eleonora Pali** • *Age-dependent dysregulation of the E/I balance in the prefrontal cortex of the IB2 KO mouse model of autism.*
- 10:30** Lecture | **Tommaso Pizzorusso** (Chairman: G. Sansevero)
Unraveling the Net: Perineuronal Nets, Critical Periods, and Lifelong Plasticity.
- 11:00** SpeedTalk | **Filippo Balducci** • *Expression and roles of Creatine biosynthetic enzymes and transporters in human and mouse oligodendroglia: an in silico and in vivo study.*
- 11:05** SpeedTalk | **Noemi Conte** • *Cystatin B as a mediator in cell-cell communication: its neuronal secretion through extracellular vesicle.*
- 11:10** SpeedTalk | **Erika Di Pietro** • *Microglia-neuron crosstalk in the remodelling of peritumoral circuits.*
- 11:15** SpeedTalk | **Cecilia Traldi** • *Modelling nervous tissue complexity through biofabrication technologies.*
- 11:20** SpeedTalk | **Sonia Sonda** • *Psilocybin (un)locked: intracellular drug retention as a novel strategy to modulate neuroplasticity in depression.*

SESSION 6 • NEUROIMAGING & CLINICAL NEUROLOGY ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairpersons: U. Manera, A. Bombaci, R. Rabbito

- 11:25** Lecture | **Gaia Olivo** (Chairman: S. Cocozza)
Rapid brain plasticity: Insights from high-resolution imaging and task-based structural MRI.
- 11:55** SpeedTalk | **Maria Martinez-Serrat** • *Temporal Dynamics of Serum Neurofilament Light Chain in Multiple Sclerosis: A Retrospective Study in a Clinical Routine Setting.*
- 12:00** SpeedTalk | **Valentina Berni** • *Metformin Boosts Temozolomide Response in Glioblastoma: Insights from Patient-Derived Models and Multimodal Imaging.*
- 12:05** SpeedTalk | **Sara Cabras** • *Exploring the phenotypic heterogeneity of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis through blood biomarkers: a prospective study.*
- 12:10** SpeedTalk | **Antonio Canosa** • *Use of brain 2-[18F]FDG-PET to discriminate ALS and ALS-mimics.*

- 12:15** Techincal Talk (30 min) | **Marzia Munafo** (Chairwoman: I. Battistella)
Creative science illustrations.

- 12:45** Poster Session 3 with Lunch Box

PARALLEL SESSION (13:00-14:30)

• For scheduled groups only •

BraYn openLab ► Beckman Coulter
(Maria Velasco, Mario Picozza)

Unlocking the brain's secrets with precision neuroscience and advanced cytometry tools.

- 14:30** BraYn Educational Symposium ► **Evident**
Matteo Lorenzi • *Transforming Precision Imaging: empower your microscopy imaging experiment with quantitative image data.*
- 14:45** **Gemma Gorla** • *Elucidating RNF213-Mediated Vascular Dysfunction in Moyamoya Angiopathy Pathogenesis: Insights from a Human Vascular Cell Mode.*
- 15:00** **Carlo Ferritto** • *Two Modalities, One Network: A Multilayer Graph Framework for Alzheimer's Disease Biomarkers).*
- 15:15** **Syed Bilal Nizami** • *Focused Ultrasound Protocol for Safe Delivery of Large Magnetic Nanodiscs for Multimodal Neurostimulation.*

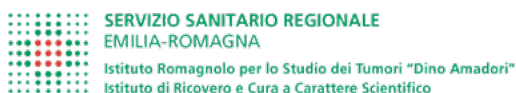
- 15:30** Closing remarks & BraYn Awards (Chairpersons: G. Ferrara, M. Romeo, E. Boda, C. Calì, V. Chiurchiù).



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