



PROGRAMMA ECM IN PROGRESS

Disability Progression in MS, NMO and MOGAD: from bench to bedside

EVENTO RESIDENZIALE

Hotel Crowne Plaza
VERONA

Data	20-21 MARZO 2025
Provider ECM 6207 Segreteria Organizzativa	Eolo Group Eventi srl, Via V. Veneto 11 – 35043 Monselice (PD) ID Provider 6207
Responsabile Scientifico	Prof. Massimiliano Calabrese The Multiple Sclerosis Center of University Hospital of Verona
Segreteria Scientifica	Dr. Damiano Marastoni Dr.ssa Roberta Magliozzi Dr.ssa Valentina Camera
RAZIONALE	<p>The study of disability progression, including progression independent of relapse activity (PIRA), in multiple sclerosis (MS), neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD), and myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody-associated disease (MOGAD) is crucial for improving patient outcomes and developing targeted therapies. These disorders share a common feature of neuroinflammatory and neurodegenerative processes, but they differ significantly in their clinical course, pathophysiology, and response to treatment. Understanding the mechanisms behind disability progression in each condition is key to tailoring therapeutic strategies and predicting long-term outcomes.</p> <p>In MS, disability accumulation can occur due to both relapses and PIRA, where neurodegeneration occurs even in the absence of clinical relapses. Studying PIRA is essential as it reflects the underlying smoldering inflammation and neurodegeneration that continue despite immunomodulatory treatment. Early identification and intervention in patients at risk of progressive disability could significantly alter the disease trajectory.</p> <p>Similarly, while NMOSD and MOGAD are traditionally viewed as primarily relapse-driven diseases, emerging evidence suggests that some patients experience progressive disability even outside of acute attacks. Investigating the factors contributing to this progression, especially in PIRA-like patterns, can help distinguish subgroups of patients who may benefit from different therapeutic approaches. Moreover, identifying biomarkers that signal early progression can facilitate personalized treatment and improve long-term quality of life.</p>



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By studying disability progression and PIRA in these three diseases, we can better understand the shared and distinct pathways of neurodegeneration, which will aid in developing more effective, disease-specific treatments. This knowledge is also essential for designing clinical trials that more accurately assess treatment efficacy in preventing disability accumulation across the spectrum of these disorders.

Destinatari
N.100

Medici chirurgi specializzati in neurologia, neurochirurgia, medicina generale, radiologia, geriatria, medicina interna, psichiatria, medicina fisica e riabilitazione.

Farmacisti, Logopedisti, Infermieri, Fisioterapisti, Terapisti della riabilitazione, Psicologi-Psicoterapisti, Biologi, Tecnici radiologi, Tecnici di neurofisiopatologia.

Programma

March 20, 2025

- 9.00 Registration
- 9.30 Welcome and Day Introduction
Massimiliano Calabrese
- Session 1: NMOSD an update**
Chairs: Valentina Camera, Sara Mariotto
- 9.40 MOGAD/NMOSD: pathology
Gabriele De Luca (Oxford)
- 10.00 NMOSD: Clinical and MRI diagnostic and prognostic features
Rosa Cortese (Siena)
- 10.20 NMOSD: Monitoring and new and old treatments to prevent disability
Ho Jin Kim (Seoul)
- 10.40 MOGAD/NMOSD diagnostic antibody assays and biomarkers predicting disease activity
Matteo Gastaldi (Pavia)
- 11.00 *Coffee Break and poster viewing*
- Session 2: MOGAD an update**
Chairs: Alberto Gajofatto, Carla Tortorella
- 11.30 MOGAD: Clinical and MRI diagnostic and prognostic features
Georgina Arrambide (Barcellona)
- 11.50 Novel insight in disability outcomes in MOGAD and NMOSD clinical trials
Ruth Gerales (Oxford)
- 12.10 MOGAD: Monitoring and new and old treatments to prevent disability
Jackie Palace (Oxford)
- 12.45 *Light Lunch and poster viewing*
- 14.00 Greetings from Authorities



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Session 3: Disability Progression in MS from neuropathology to Advanced MRI

Chairs: Massimiliano Calabrese, Nicola De Stefano

- 14.20 Advanced MRI: from histopathology of progressive disease to novel biomarkers
Cristina Granziera (Basel)
- 14.50 Chronic Active Lesions from neuropathology to MRI
Martina Absinta (Bethesda)
- 15.20 Advanced Imaging Techniques for Assessing Remyelination in Multiple Sclerosis
Alessandro Cagol (Basel)
- 15.50 *Coffee Break and poster viewing*

Session 4: From advanced MRI to clinical applications

Chairs: Francesca Benedetta Pizzini, Claudio Gasparini

- 16.30 Typical and atypical MRI lesions in MS
Alex Rovira (Barcelona)
- 17.00 Translation of Advanced MRI to clinical application
Agnese Tamanti (Verona)
- 17.30 Quantifying neurodegeneration: innovative tools and techniques in neurodegenerative diseases
Federica Agosta (Milan)
- 18.00 Conclusion of the day

March 21, 2025

- 9.00 Registration
- 9.40 Introduction of the day
Massimiliano Calabrese
- Session 5: The concept of PIRA**
Chairs: Antonio Scalfari, Pietro Annovazzi
- 9.45 *Keynote Lecture:*
What is MS and how we should treat it
Massimo Filippi (Milan)
- 10.15 PIRA – Vino Vecchio in Botti Nuove?
Ludwig Kappos (Basel)
- 10.45 Cognitive PIRA
Stefano Ziccardi (Verona)
- 11.10 *Coffee Break and poster viewing*

Session 6: MS from neuropathology to fluid biomarkers

Chairs: Roberta Magliozzi, Bruno Bonetti



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- 11.40 Neuropathological Mechanisms of disease progression
Simon Hametner (Wien)
- 12.05 Meningeal Inflammation in MS: an update
Richard Reynolds (London)
- 12.30 Single-Cell Transcriptomics in Progressive Patients: Decoding the Cellular Landscape
Damiano Marastoni (Verona)
- 12.55 Fluid Biomarkers (CSF and blood) of Progressive MS
Massimiliano Di Filippo (Perugia)
- 13.20 *Light Lunch and poster viewing*
- Session 7: Progressive MS: from AI to personalized treatment**
Chairs: Massimiliano Calabrese, Paolo Preziosa
- 14.20 *Keynote Lecture:*
How AI can help us
Isabella Castiglioni (Milano)
- 14.50 Is it possible to predict the progression?
Tom Fuchs (Amsterdam)
- 15.15 Smoldering MS: from immunology to treatment
Roberto Furlan (Milan)
- 15.40 Poster awards
Chairs: V. Camera, D. Marastoni, R. Orlandi
- 16.00 Conclusion Remarks and Welcome to Verona 2026
- 16.30 Compilazione del questionario ECM e questionario di gradimento

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