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MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA: MULTIPLE PREDICTORS IN DISEASE PROGNOSTICATION

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MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA: MULTIPLE PREDICTORS IN DISEASE PROGNOSTICATION

September 4th 2026

Palazzo Roverella, Ferrara, Italy

13:00 Registration
13:45 Welcome Introduction and Institutional greetings

Session I – Multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica: pathogenesis, pathophysiology and clinical presentation

Chairpersons: C. Oreja-Guevara, C. Pozzilli, M. Pugliatti

14:00 Progression, pathophysiology and measurements |
C. Oreja-Guevara
14:20 Clinical predictors of disease progression | *B. Van Wijmeersch*
14:40 Biomarkers in predicting disease worsening | *L. Airas*
15:00 Prognostication from genetic studies | *S. D'Alfonso*
15:20 Investigating disease prognosis through data collection: the
Italian MS Registry | *P. Iaffaldano (pre-recorded)*
15:40 Microchimerism in multiple sclerosis | *M. Rubini*
16:00 Discussion

16:10 **Biobreak**

Session II – Multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica: evidence about less conventional predictors

Chairmen: M. Castellazzi, F. Deisenhammer, H-P. Hartung

16:20 Predictors from cerebrospinal fluid analysis | *M. Castellazzi*
16:40 The impact of comorbidities in disease progression | *C. Ferri*
17:00 The prognostic role of ultrasound in the study of the optic nerve
in multiple sclerosis | *N. Merli*

Session III – Multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica: moving towards algorithms and decisional support systems

Chairpersons: C. Ferri, B. Van Wijmeersch

17:20 Decisional support systems (DSS), modeling and algorithms |
M. Copetti
17:40 The PROMISING Study | *M. Pugliatti*
18:00 Discussion
18:20 Closing Remarks

18:30 **Farewell Cocktail**

FACULTY

Laura Airas, Turku, FINLAND
Massimiliano Castellazzi, Ferrara, ITALY
Massimiliano Copetti, S. Giovanni Rotondo (FG), ITALY
Sandra D'Alfonso, Novara, ITALY
Florian Deisenhammer, Innsbruck, AUSTRIA
Caterina Ferri, Ferrara, ITALY
Hans-Peter Hartung, Dusseldorf, GERMANY
Pietro Iaffaldano, Bari, ITALY
Nicola Merli, Ferrara, ITALY
Celia Oreja-Guevara, Madrid, SPAIN
Carlo Pozzilli, Rome, ITALY
Maura Pugliatti, Ferrara, ITALY
Michele Rubini, Ferrara, ITALY
Bart Van Wijmeersch, Hasselt, BELGIUM

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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