

THE CROATIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND ARTS
The Department of Biomedical Sciences in Rijeka
THE CLINICAL HOSPITAL CENTER RIJEKA
UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA - FACULTY OF MEDICINE
THE CROATIAN NEUROLOGICAL SOCIETY
THE CROATIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION – Branch office Rijeka

**8th RIJEKA FORUM ON
NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES**

The regulation of gene expression in neurological disease and neuroimmunology



Endorsed by Associations
“Parkinson i mi” and “Neurodeg”



Rijeka, September 16-18, 2024
08:30 am

University Campus Rijeka, Faculty of Civil Engineering
Lecture halls G-003 and G-004, Radmile Matejčić 3, Rijeka

Organizers

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Scientific Committee

Stipan Jonjić, Vladimira Vuletić, Nenad Bogdanović, John Hardy,
Alen Ružić, Zdravka Poljaković

Organizing Committee

Vladimira Vuletić, president

Zoran Tomić, Eliša Papić, Valentino Rački, Srđan Novak

Registration: online via [registration form](#)

Free admission for registrations

Information

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P R O G R A M

OPENING

(8:30-9:00)

Introduction

Stipan Jonjić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Academician, Head of the Department of Biomedical Sciences in Rijeka, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Rijeka, Croatia

Vladimira Vuletić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

Welcome address

Zdravka Poljaković, M.D., PhD, Professor, President of the Croatian Neurological Society, Medical Faculty, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia

Alen Ružić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Director, Clinical Hospital Center, Rijeka, Croatia

Goran Hauser, M.D., PhD, Associate Professor, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

Snježana Prijić Samaržija, PhD, Professor, Rector, University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

1st day – September 16th, 2024

PROGRAM

9:00 – 12:00 h

I. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE UPDATES

Chairmen: Nenad Bogdanović and Elka Stefanova

John Hardy, M.D., PhD, Professor, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, UK
Neurodegeneration as a symptom of exhaustion of degradative systems

Nenad Bogdanović, M.D., PhD, Professor, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
Perspective: antibody treatment of neurodegenerative disorders

Catherine Mummery, M.D., PhD, Professor, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, London, UK

Emerging therapies in Alzheimer's disease: translating genetics into clinical impact

Silva Katušić Hećimović, PhD, Professor, Ass. Professor, Institut Ruđer Bošković, Zagreb, Croatia
Which comes first: neuroinflammation or neurodegeneration – the case of juvenile Alzheimer's disease

Amos D. Korczyn, M.D., PhD, Professor Emeritus, CONy President, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
The riddle of Alzheimer's disease

Elka Stefanova, M.D., PhD, Professor, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
The Role of Fluid Biomarkers in AD Diagnosis - report from the Memory clinic

Discussion: 12:00 – 12:15

Break for refreshment: 12:15 – 12:30

12:30 – 14:30 h

II. ALPE ADRIA SECTION AND MOVEMENT DISORDERS (1st PART)

Chairmen: Vladimira Vuletić and Maja Trošt

Elena Moro, M.D., PhD, Centre Grenoble University Hospital Center, and Grenoble Alpes University, Grenoble, France
A peek into what DBS will be able to do in the next 5 years

Kailash Bhatia, M.D., PhD, Professor, Institute of Neurology, University College London, London, UK
A new gene for Parkinson's and new predictive biomarker

Angelo Antonini, M.D., PhD, Professor, Neurology Clinic Padua and University of Padua, Padua, Italy
Disease modifying strategies

Michele Tinazzi, M. M.D., PhD, Professor, University of Verona, Verona, Italy
Axial Postural abnormalities in PD

Discussion: 14:30 – 14:45

Lunch break and Flash presentation of young researchers: 14:45– 15:45

15:45 – 17:45 h

III. ALPE ADRIA SECTION AND MOVEMENT DISORDERS (2nd PART) TREATMENTS

Chairmen: Vladimira Vuletić and Maja Trošt

Aleksandra Tomić, M.D., PhD, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
Genetic landscape of complex dystonia syndromes

Norbert Kovacs, M.D., PhD, Professor, Department of Neurology, University of Pecs, Pecs, Hungary
Functional symptoms in Parkinson's disease patients treated with device-aided therapies

Maja Trošt, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Switching and combining DAT in advanced PD and safety of advanced treatments

Iva Stanković, M.D., PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
An update on multiple system atrophy

Milica Ječmenica-Lukić, M.D., PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
Atypical atypical parkinsonism: the catalogue of genetic and immune-mediated mimics

Discussion: 17:45 – 18:00

2nd day – September 17th, 2024

9:00 – 11:00 h

IV. MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROIMMUNOLOGY

Chairmen: Borut Peterlin and David Bonifačić

Celia Oreja-Guevara, MD, PhD, University Hospital San Carlos and Complutense University of Madrid, Madrid, Spain
Are imaging (MRI) and biomarkers useful tools for disease monitoring in NMOSD?

Borut Peterlin, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Center Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Genetics in Multiple sclerosis

Gregor Brecl Jakob, M.D., PhD, Assistant Professor, University Medical Center Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Clinical, MRI and laboratory correlates of degeneration/progression in MS

David Bonifačić, M.D., PhD, Assistant Professor, Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia
Epstein–Barr virus and multiple sclerosis: moving from questions of association to questions of mechanism

Discussion: 11:00 – 11:15

Break for refreshment: 11:15 – 11:30

11:30 – 14:10 h

V. NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS UPDATES

Chairmen: Patrick Küry and Zvezdan Pirtošek

Vida Demarin, M.D., PhD, Professor, Academician, Secretary of the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, President of International Institute for Brain Health, Zagreb, Croatia

The role of stress in neurodegenerative Diseases

Patrick Küry, M.D., PhD, Professor, Medical Faculty, Heinrich-Hein University of Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany

Functional assessment of endogenous retrovirus mediated neurodegeneration via transcriptome analysis

Dinko Mitrečić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Croatian Institute for Brain Research, Zagreb, Croatia

How do stem cells change expression of genes involved in cell death and autophagy in the neural tissue affected by hypoxia?

Zvezdan Pirtošek, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Center Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Can lamarckism explain cognitive evolution in humans?

Ivana Munitić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug research, University of Rijeka, Croatia

Analysis of optineurin variants in neurodegenerative diseases

Gabriela Novotni, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Clinic of Neurology, Medical Faculty, University "Ss Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, North Macedonia

What is in a name and what is in the brain - a few short dementia stories on genotype/phenotype correlation and protein aggregation

Jason Cannon, PhD, Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, SAD

Parkinson's disease risk and mechanisms from military relevant organophosphate exposures

Fran Borovečki, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia
Immunogenetics of Parkinson's disease-a single cell sequencing approach

Discussion: 14:10 – 14:25

Lunch and Flash presentation of posters of young researchers:14.25-15.25

15:25 – 17:15 h

VI. PARKINSON'S DISEASE UPDATES ON GENETICS AND NEUROIMMUNOLOGY

Chairmen: Slavica Kovačić and Vladimira Vuletić

Slavica Kovačić, M.D., PhD, Assistant Professor, Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia
Longitudinal changes in free-water of the substantia nigra in PD

Dejan Georgiev, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Genetic testing before deep brain stimulation for movement disorders: is it really needed?

Nataša Klepac, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia
How can non-pharmacological interventions support a person with cognitive impairment?

Darko Chudy, MD, PhD, Professor, University Hospital Dubrava, Zagreb, Croatia
Parkinson's disease updates

**Vladimira Vuletić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka and Faculty of Medicine,
University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia**
Microbiota and neurodegenerative diseases

17:15 h

VII. CLOSING REMARKS

Chairman: Vladimira Vuletić

ABSTRACTS