

Concepts in Neuro - Immunology

WEDNESDAY, 10 February 2027

08.45	Welcome & Introduction Winter School Organising Committee <i>Frauke Zipp (Mainz, DE), Heinz Wiendl (Freiburg, DE), Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR)</i>
09.00 - 10.30	Session 1: Basics in Neuroimmunology - what have we learned Chairs: Olga Ciccarelli (London, UK), Bruno Stankoff (Paris, FR)
09.00	Development of an immune response in secondary lymphoid organs - relevance for brain autoimmunity <i>tbc</i>
09.30	Development of an immune response in the CNS <i>Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR)</i>
10.00	Discussion / Q&A
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee Break
11.00 - 12.30	Session 2: Human tissue Immunology Chairs: Matilde Inglese (Genoa, IT), Gabriel Bsteh (Vienna, AT)
11.00	Recent developments in multiple sclerosis neuropathology <i>Joost Smolders (Rotterdam, NL)</i>
11.30	Recent developments to understand chronic brain inflammation <i>Martina Absinta (Milan, IT)</i>
12.00	Discussion / Q&A
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch Break

14.00 - 15.30	Session 3: What have we learned from blood and CSF fluid biomarker and where are novel technology developments Chairs: Laure Michel (Rennes, FR), tbd
14.00	New frontiers in cytokine analysis for neuroinflammatory diseases <i>Burkhard Becher (Zurich, CH)</i>
14.30	New frontiers in analysing live brain cells <i>Francisco Quintana (Boston, US)</i>
15.00	Discussion / Q&A
15.30 - 16.00	Coffee Break
16.00 - 17.30	Session 4: Brain borders and body connections relevant for neuroimmunology Chairs: Sergio Baranzini (San Francisco, US), Jaume Sastre - Garriga (Barcelona, ES)
16.00	Gut-brain axis in MS and its animal models <i>Anne-Katrin Pröbstel (Bonn, DE)</i>
16.30	Brain borders and its models to understand multiple sclerosis <i>Alexandre Prat (Montreal, CA)</i>
17.00	Discussion / Q&A
17.30	End of Day 1
19.00	Dinner

THURSDAY, 11 February 2027

09.00 - 10.30	Session 5: Multiple sclerosis disease risk and therapeutic developments based on infections such as EBV Chairs: Gavin Giovannoni (London, UK), Cristina Granziera (Basel, CH)
09.00	EBV: How a human tumor virus might cause autoimmunity <i>Thomas Berger (Vienna, AT)</i>
09.30	Impact of EBV infection on B cell biology and therapy <i>Christian Münz (Zurich, CH)</i>
10.00	Discussion / Q&A
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee Break
11.00 - 12.30	Session 6: Immune intervention based on neuroimmunologic mechanisms Chairs: Kate Attfield (Oxford, UK), tbd
11.00	Prominent mechanism underlying therapeutic strategies in neuroimmunology <i>Frauke Zipp (Mainz, DE)</i>
11.30	How MS therapies have informed about pathogenesis: Key learnings <i>Heinz Wiendl (Freiburg, DE)</i>
12.00	Discussion / Q&A
12.30 - 14.00	Lunch Break

14.00 - 17.00

Working Groups A-C

Each working group will analyse and interpret a set of experimental or clinical immunological data, identify key findings and limitations, and use these to formulate a novel research question and outline a potential study

Working Group A: Pathology, prevention and therapy of infection in multiple sclerosis

*Facilitators: Thomas Berger (Vienna, AT),
Gavin Giovannoni (London, UK), Frauke Zipp (Mainz, DE)*

Working Group B: What have we learned from biomarker in neuroimmunology

*Facilitators: Burkhard Becher (Zurich, CH),
Francisco Quintana (Boston, US), Stefan Bittner (Mainz, DE)*

Working Group C: What have we learned from brain-body-communication

*Facilitators: Anne-Katrin Pröbstel (Bonn, DE),
Alexandre Prat (Montreal, CA),
Sergio Baranzini (San Francisco, US)*

15.30 - 16.00

Coffee Break

16.00 - 17.00

Participants' presentations of their acquired knowledge (one representative per group will present the results, 20 minutes per group)

17.00

End of Day 2

19.00

Dinner

FRIDAY, 12 February 2027

09.00 - 10.30

Working Groups A-C

Each working group will analyse and interpret a set of experimental or clinical immunological data, identify key findings and limitations, and use these to formulate a novel research question and outline a potential study

Working Group A: What have we learned from the Immunogenetics of MS

Facilitators: Philip De Jager (New York, US), Sergio Baranzini (San Francisco, US), Kate Attfield (Oxford, UK)

Working Group B: What have we learned from animal experiments of neuroinflammation

Facilitators: Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR), Alexandre Prat (Montreal, CA), tbc

Working Group C: What have we learned from Immunotherapies in MS

Facilitators: Gavin Giovannoni (London, UK), Luisa Klotz (Münster, DE), Heinz Wiendl (Freiburg, DE)

10.30 - 11.00

Coffee Break

11.00 - 12.00

Participants' presentations of their acquired knowledge (one representative per group will present the results, 20 minutes per group)

12.00 - 12.30

Discussion

12.30 - 12.45

Wrap-up & Adjournment

Winter School Organising Committee
Frauke Zipp (Mainz, DE), Heinz Wiendl (Freiburg, DE), Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR)

12.45

Lunch and individual departure