Concepts in Neuroimmunology

WEDNESDAY, 10 February 2027

08.45	**Welcome & Introduction** Winter School Organising Committee *Frauke Zipp (Mainz, DE), Heinz Wiendl (Freiburg, DE), Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR)*
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 *Sarah Mundt (Zurich, CH)*
09.30	Development of an immune response in the CNS *Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR)*
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 *Joost Smolders (Rotterdam, NL)*
11.30	Recent developments to understand chronic brain inflammation *Martina Absinta (Milan, IT)*
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), Laura Airas (Turku, FI)
14.00	New frontiers in cytokine analysis for neuroinflammatory diseases *Burkhard Becher (Zurich, CH)*
14.30	New frontiers in analysing live brain cells *Francisco Quintana (Boston, US)*
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 *Anne-Katrin Pröbstel (Bonn, DE)*
16.30	Brain borders and its models to understand multiple sclerosis *Alexandre Prat (Montreal, CA)*
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 *Thomas Berger (Vienna, AT)*
09.30	Impact of EBV infection on B cell biology and therapy *Christian Münz (Zurich, CH)*
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), Fredrik Piehl (Stockholm, SE)
11.00	Prominent mechanism underlying therapeutic strategies in neuroimmunology *Frauke Zipp (Mainz, DE)*
11.30	How MS therapies have informed about pathogenesis: Key learnings *Heinz Wiendl (Freiburg, DE)*
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: Julie Ribot (Lisbon, PT)
Roland Liblau (Toulouse, FR), Alexandre Prat (Montreal, CA)

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**