

Amos D. Korczyn, M.D., PhD, Professor Emeritus, CONy President, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
Apraxia

Borut Peterlin, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Center Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

From genetic diagnostics to mechanisms of neurodegenerative disorders?

Vladana Vukojević, M.D., PhD, Professor, Karolinska Institute, Department of Clinical Neuroscience, Center for Molecular Medicine, Stockholm, Sweden
Time-Resolved Methods with Single-Molecule Sensitivity: From Fundamental Insights to Early Disease Diagnostics

Jasna Kriz, M.D., PhD, Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Neurosciences, Faculty of Medicine, Université Laval, Québec, Canada
The regulation of innate immune gene expression in neurodegenerative disorders

Patrick Küry, M.D., PhD, Professor, Medical Faculty, Heinrich-Hein University of Düsseldorf, Düsseldorf, Germany
Of glial cells and endogenous retroviruses in MS related de- and regeneration

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

Neuroaging Unmasked: Why Time Is the Brain's Greatest Enemy?

Ivana Munitić, M.D., PhD, Professor, Faculty of Biotechnology and Drug research, University of Rijeka, Croatia
Context-Specific Roles of OPTN Variants in ALS, FTD and Glaucoma: Insights from Experimental Models and Computational Analyses

Discussion: 14.30 – 14.45

*Lunch and Flesh presentation of posters
of young researchers: 14.45 – 15.30*

15.30 - 17.15

VI. NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS UPDATES – part II

Chairmen: Gabriela Novotni and Vladimira Vuletić

Gabriela Novotni, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Clinic of Neurology, Medical Faculty, University "Ss Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, North Macedonia
How old is your brain? -on brain ageing and dementia prevention through the exposome lens

Nataša Klepac, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Hospital Centre Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia
Impact of cognitive reserve on dementia progression

Jan Kobal, M.D., PhD, Professor, **Ksenija Cankar**, M.D., PhD, **Živa Melik** M.D., PhD, Institute of physiology, University of Ljubljana, Medical faculty of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Autonomic nervous system in Huntington disease, what are promises for the future ?

17.15

VII. CLOSING REMARKS

Chairmen: Vladimira Vuletić

Organizers

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

Registration: online via [registration form](#)



Free admission for registrations.

Save the Date and join us in beautiful Rijeka.
Extraordinary lecturers with lectures on the latest achievements in neuroscience and neurodegenerative diseases.



9th RIJEKA FORUM ON NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES *Mechanical treatments, viruses, genetics, neuroaging, and neuroimmunology*



Endorsed by Associations
Parkinson i mi and Neurodeg

**September 15-16, 2025
8.30 AM**

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

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

Information

Željana Mikovčić

Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts
Department of Biomedical Sciences in Rijeka
Radmile Matejčić 2, Rijeka

Phone: +385 (0)51 584 578, e-mail: rimed@hazu.hr

Nikol Sirotić, LLM

Clinical Hospital Center Rijeka, Department of Neurology
Cambierieva 17/8, Rijeka

Phone: +385 (0)51 658 311, e-mail: neurologija@kbc-rijeka.hr

Congress agency Vivid original d. o. o., Zagreb

Phone: +385 (0)98 508 502; e-mail: info@vivid-original.com

PROGRAM - 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 addresses

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, Professor, Dean, Faculty of Medicine,
University of Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

Davor Vašiček, PhD, Professor, Interim Rector, University of Rijeka, Rijeka,
Croatia

1st day – September 15th, 2025

9.00 - 12.00

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

We have amyloid therapies: what next?

Claudio Lino Alberto Bassetti, M.D., PhD, Professor, Dean, Medical
Faculty, University of Bern, Director of Teaching and Research, Insel Gruppe,
Neurology Department, Bern, Switzerland

Sleep, cognition and dementia: A bidirectional link

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

Lost in translation: the long road from genetics to practice

Dean Nizetic, M.D., PhD, Professor, Blizzard Institute, Barts and the
London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of
London, London, UK

**Mechanistic insights into neuronal ageing in Down syndrome, the
most common genetic form of early onset Alzheimer's dementia**

Nenad Bogdanović, M.D., PhD, Professor, Karolinska Institute,
Stockholm, Sweden

Facts and Challenges of anti-amyloid therapy

Elka Stefanova, M.D., PhD, Professor, School of Medicine, University of
Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

**Influence of APOE ε4 on CSF biomarkers in differentiating clinical
Alzheimer's disease**

Discussion: 12.00 – 12.15

Break for refreshment: 12.15 – 12.30

12.30 - 14.30

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

Chairmen: Vladimira Vuletić and Per Odin

Kailash Bhatia, M.D., PhD, Professor, Institute of Neurology,
University College London, London, UK

Immune mediated hypokinetic disorders - an update

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

Disease modifying strategies

Cristian Falup-Pecurariu, MD, PhD, Professor, Chair Neurology
Department at Transylvania, University of Braşov, Braşov, Romania

Visual dysfunction in synucleinopathies

Per Odin, M.D., PhD, Professor, Head, Division of Neurology Department
of Clinical Sciences Lund, Lund University Skane University Hospital,
Sweden

**Late Stage Parkinsonism: Characteristics and the role of specialized
care and palliative care**

Discussion: 14.30 – 14.45

14.45 – 15.45

Lunch break and Flesh presentation of young researchers

15.45 - 17.45

III. MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROIMMUNOLOGY

Chairmen: Mario Habek and David Bonifačić

Mario Habek, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Hospital Centre Zagreb,
Zagreb, Croatia

Autonomic dysfunction in MS

Uros Rot, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Centre Ljubljana,
Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Intrathecal immunoglobulin synthesis in multiple sclerosis: why to talk
about it in 2025?**

Arianna Sartori, M.D., PhD, Ass. Professor, Neurology Unit, Department of
Medical, Surgical and Health Sciences, University of Trieste, ASUTs,
Cattinara Hospital, Trieste, Italy

**Progressive multiple sclerosis: therapeutic perspectives with a focus
on symptomatic treatments**

David Bonifačić, M.D., PhD, Ass. Professor, Clinical Hospital Center
Rijeka, Rijeka, Croatia

Remyelination therapies and neuroprotection: Where do we stand?

Discussion: 17.45 – 18.00

2nd day – September 16th, 2025

9.00 - 11.00

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

Chairmen: Maja Trost and Cristian Falup-Pecurariu

Maja Trošt, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Centre Ljubljana,
Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Early experience with subcutaneous levodopa treatment in advanced
Parkinson's disease**

Iva Stanković, M.D., PhD, Assistant Professor, School of Medicine,
University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

**Differential diagnosis of multiple system atrophy: video atlas on
mimicking conditions**

Dejan Georgiev, M.D., PhD, Professor, University Medical Centre
Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Immunomodulatory effects of deep brain stimulation

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

Technological advances in invasive treatment of Parkinson's disease

Paolo Manganotti, M.D., PhD, Professor, Cattinara University Hospital
ASUGI and University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy

**Not invasive brain stimulation of Parkinson's disease with the
Transcranial Pulse stimulation on motor and cognitive symptoms**

Discussion: 11.00 – 11.15

Break for refreshment: 11.15 – 11.30

11.30 - 14.30

V. NEURODEGENERATIVE DISORDERS UPDATES – part I

Chairmen: Patrick Küry and Zvezdan Pirtosek

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 art in neurodegenerative diseases