

Day 1: Decision points in MS management (7th October)

08:00 - 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 - 09:20 **Welcome Note**

Rodica Balasa, Leonard Azamfirei, Cristina Tiu

Session 1 (Personalized therapeutic strategies in MS part I)

Moderators: *Melinda Magyari, Cristina Tiu*

09:20 - 09:40 **Melinda Magyari** - Real-world evidence is changing clinical practice

09:40 - 10:00 **Aksel Siva** - The best treatment for each MS patient

10:00 - 10:30 **Panayiota Petrou** (online) - Overcoming barriers in MS care - optimising treatment for patients (Roche symposium)

10:30 - 10:50 **Rodica Bălașa, Smaranda Maier, Laura Bărcuțean, Doina Manu** – Phenotypical and functional characterization of T helper cells in multiple sclerosis: a window toward personalised treatment.

10:50 - 11:10 **Nikolaos Grigoriadis** (online) - Targeting progression in MS

Discussions

11:10 - 11:30

Coffee Break

Session 2 (Progression biomarkers in MS)

Moderators: *Rodica Bălașa, Aksel Siva*

11:30 – 11:50 **Mario Stampanoni Bassi** - Biomarkers of disease progression in MS, role of synaptic dysfunction

11:50 - 12:10 **Mihaela Simu, Cecilia Roșca** - Microglial dual role in MS - an update

12:10 - 12:30 **László Vécsei** (online) - Kynurenines and other molecular biomarkers of multiple sclerosis: treatment decisions

12:30 - 12:50 **Cristina Tiu, Iuliana Tudor, Iulian Enache, Vlad Tiu, Anca Negrilă, Elena Terecoasă** – Doc, I am so tired, can you help me?

12:50 – 13:10 **Dafin Mureșanu** (online) – Symptomatic treatment in MS

Discussions

13:10 – 15:00

Lunch

Session 3 (Disease-progression biomarkers in clinical routine)

Moderators: *Rodica Bălașa, Smaranda Maier*

15:00 – 15:20 **Rodica Bălașa** – Clinico-immunological considerations in patients with MS treated with natalizumab (Johnson & Johnson symposium part I)

15:20 – 15:40 **Ron Milo** (online) - Personalized treatment in MS: therapeutic strategies targeting B-cells (Novartis symposium part I)

15:40 – 16:00 **Veronica Popescu** (online) - Cladribine, inovating simplicity for MS treatment (Merck symposium)

16:00 – 16:20 **Smaranda Maier, Laura Bărcuțean, Rodica Bălașa**– Neurodegenerative biomarkers in multiple sclerosis

16:20 – 16:40 **Veronica Popescu** (online) - Target smoldering disease - a challenge for the management of MS patient (Sanofi symposium part I)

16:40 – 17:00 **Laura Bărcuțean, Smaranda Maier, Adina Huțanu, Rodica Bălașa** - Inflammatory and neurodegenerative biomarkers in benign multiple sclerosis - focus on chitinase 3-like-1

Discussions

Day 2: Predicting MS treatment response and tolerability (8th October)

Session 1 (Personalized therapeutic strategies in MS part II)

Moderators: *Elena Teracoasă, Diego Centoze*

- 09:00 – 09:20 **Jelena Drulovic** - Treatment response to ocrelizumab in relapsing MS patients from Serbia - real-world data from the Serbian national registry
- 09:20 – 09:40 **Vitalie Lisnic** - Escalation vs aggressive treatment algorithms
- 09:40 – 10:00 **Diego Centoze** – Inflammatory synaptopathy as a novel marker of progressive multiple sclerosis
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Elena Teracoasă** – The NEDA concept and the role of S1P receptor modulators in the management of multiple sclerosis (Bristol Myers Squibb symposium)
- 10:20 – 10:40 **Keren Regev** (online) – Clinical and immunological considerations in oral DMTs (Johnson and Johnson symposium part II)
- 10:40 – 11:00 **Smaranda Maier, Laura Bărcuțean, Rodica Bălașa**– The main determinants of depression and suicidal ideation in a Romanian cohort of DMT treated MS patients (Zentiva symposium)

Discussions

11:00 – 11:20

Coffee Break

Session 2 (Practical aspects of MS patients' treatment)

Moderators: *Rodica Bălașa, Adrian Man*

- 11:20 – 11:40 **Adrian Man, Anca Mare** – Epstein Barr Virus and MS: consequence or coincidence
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Rodica Bălașa** – Reviewing the significance of blood-brain barrier disruption in MS pathology and treatment
- 12:00 – 12:20 **Laura Bărcuțean, Smaranda Maier, Rodica Balasa**– The practical approach of DMT treated MS patients with blood-brain barrier disruption
- 12:20 – 12:40 **Rodica Bălașa** – Profiling and treating secondary-progressive MS patients (Novartis symposium part II)
- 12:40 – 13:00 **Laura Bărcuțean, Smaranda Maier, Adina Huțanu, Rodica Bălașa**– Treatment response biomarkers – evidence from clinical practice
- 13:00 – 13:20 **Smaranda Maier, Laura Bărcuțean, Rodica Bălașa**– Oral DMTs tolerability: experience from clinical practice (Sanofi symposium part II)

Discussions

13:20 – 15:00

Lunch Break

Special session: Microbiome alterations and implication in patients with multiple sclerosis – targeting neuroinflammation from the intestinal compartment.

Moderators: *Monica Tarcea, Laura Bărcuțean*

- 15:00 – 15:20 **Rodica Bălașa** - Gut-Brain Axis: is MS a digestive triggered disease?
- 15:20 – 15:40 **Anca Negovan** - Environmental risk factors altering the intestinal microbiota
- 15:40 – 16:00 **Monica Tarcea, Gliga Florina** - Diet and gut microbiota implications in multiple sclerosis
- 16:00 – 16:20 **Laura Bărcuțean, Farczádi Lénárd, Bălașa Rodica** - Potential mechanisms of immune modulation targeting the intestinal microbiota
- 16:20 – 16:40 **Adina Huțanu** - Inflammatory biomarkers for microbiota dysregulation in multiple sclerosis
- 16:40 – 17:00 **Farczádi Lénárd, Bărcuțean Laura, Imre Silvia** – The role of liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry in modern medicine – assessing the impact of microbiota by short chain fatty acids assay

Discussions

17:00 – 17:15

Closing ceremony