



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

SECTION COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Chairperson: Prof. Marcella BELLANI Co-
chairperson: Prof. Paolo BRAMBILLA
Secretary: Dr. Maria Gloria ROSSETTI
Councillor: Dr. Letizia SQUARCINA
Councillor: Eleonora MAGGIONI

LIST OF SECTION MEMBERS:

Ayodele ADEBAYO, Preston, United Kingdom
FERRO ADELE
Joseph ADO-IMOISILI, ANTRIM, United Kingdom
Herta AGAJ, Lezhe, Albania
Celso ARANGO LOPEZ, Madrid, Spain
Taha ARİK
Anzhela BAZZAEVA, г. Санкт-Петербург, Russian Federation
Marcella BELLANI, Verona, Italy
Alessandra Bertoldo
Samrat Singh BHANDARI, Gangtok, India
Elena Bondi, Italy,
CAROLINA BONIVENTO
Andrea Boscutti
francesca bottinelli
ANDREA BOTTURI
Paolo BRAMBILLA, Milan, Italy
Patrick BRIGGS, Clevedon, United Kingdom,
Martin BRUNOVSKY, Klecany, Czech Republic
Elena Daniela BUHAŞ RAMOCEA, Oradea, Romania
Giuseppe Cabras
Elisabetta Caletti
ANTONIO CALLARI
Léon-patrice CELESTIN, Brussels, Belgium
guido cereda
Alexander CHOMSKY, Санкт-Петербург, Russian Federation
VALENTINA CIAPPOLINO
Chiara Colli, Italy
CAMILLA CRISANTI
TEWODROS DAGNEW, Ethiopia
FRANCESCO DE BERTOLDI
Lorenzo Del Fabro, Italy
Giuseppe DELVECCHIO, Milan, Italy
Mustafa DINÇER, Şanlıurfa, Türkiye



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

Sonia DOLLFUS, Caen Cedex, France
NICOLA DUSI
MAGGIONI ELEONORA
PAOLO ENRICO
RAFFAELE ERARIO
Defne ERASLAN, karlsruhe, Germany
Peter FALKAI, Munich, Germany
ELISA FONTANA
GEMMA FRANCO
Sophia FRANGO, New York, United States,
GIULIA GARGANO
Perna Giampaolo
serena giomi
Francesca Girelli
Sundar GNANAVEL, Morpeth, United Kingdom
DAVIDE GRITTI
Willem Cornelis Pieter GUIJT, Katwijk ZH, Netherlands
Shahzain HASAN, Karachi, Pakistan
Sabine C. HERPERTZ, Heidelberg, Germany
Reinhard HEUN, Bonn, Germany
Ivan KOYCHEV, OXFORD, United Kingdom
Fabian KRAXNER, Hedingen, Switzerland
Marinos KYRIAKOPOULOS, London, United Kingdom
MATTEO LAZZARETTI
Eleonora MAGGIONI, Milan, Italy
Marilena-petruta MAIDAN
Gianmario Mandolini
Nadja P. MARIC, Belgrade, Serbia
massimo mauru
João MENDES COELHO, Ponta Delgada, Portugal
CINZIA MOLENT
Robin MURRAY, London, United Kingdom
ZOVETTI NICCOLO
MARIA NOBILE
GUIDO NOSARI
Boglarka ORBAN-SZIGETI, Giulia Orsenigo
Yang PACHANKIS, Chongqing, China
RICCARDO AUGUSTO PAOLI
ILENIA PASINI
Guillermo PATIÑO, Ciudad Juárez, Mexico
Kollarova PATRICIE
CINZIA PERLINI



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

Maria Chiara Piani
Alessandro Pigoni
Sara Pozzoli
CECILIA PRUNAS
Andrea RABALLO, Lugano, Switzerland
Joshua RODRIGUEZ
Maria Gloria ROSSETTI, Milan, Italy
Gabriele SACHS, Vienna, Austria
Samuel SARRAZIN, Chevilly Larue, France
ROBERTO SASSI
Aleksandar SAVIC, Zagreb, Croatia
Giandomenico Schiena, Italy
Gianluca SERAFINI, Genoa, Italy
MARTA SERATI
Sumeet SINGH, Pathankot, India,
francesca siri,
Amro SOLIMAN, Cairo, Egypt
Marco SOLMI, Padova, Italy
Letizia SQUARCINA, Milan, Italy
Raluca STICLOSU, Bucharest, Romani
Emma Tassi
Shruti TIWARI, New York, United States
valentina tombola
Nunzio Turtulici
Nic. J.a. VAN DER WEE, Leiden, Netherlands
Petar VIDOVIĆ,
FILIPPO VILLA
BIANCA VISCARDI
Umberto VOLPE, Ancona, Italy
WARD
Damla YILDIRIM
Nafiye Selcan YILDİRİM, İstanbul, Türkiye
Elisa Zugno,

LAST SECTION COMMITTEE ELECTIONS HELD:

Date: 3 July 2023

Venue: online



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

ACTIVITIES OF THE SECTION IN 2023:

Meetings/events

31st European Congress of Psychiatry; 25-28 March 2023, Paris

Description:

Neuroimmunogenetics of major psychoses

Major psychoses (e.g., schizophrenia and bipolar disorder) are severe psychiatric conditions characterized by heterogeneous symptoms such as hallucinations and delusions or alternating phases of mania and depression. Biomolecular, genetic and neuroimaging investigations are increasingly contributing to unveiling the neurobiological basis of these disabling disorders, with increasing evidence supporting the action of multi-systemic pathogenic mechanisms. In this regard, a prominent role seems to be played by the disruption of the neuroendocrine and neuroimmune systems, which determines an abnormal inflammatory response that, in turn, causes a cascade of insults to the brain's structure and function. Specifically, recent evidence suggests that infectious diseases can trigger maladaptive immune responses in major psychoses, preying on genetic vulnerabilities, leading to a cascade of neuro immunogenetic events and amplifying the effects of environmental risk factors. Moreover, recent studies have also reported the association between psychotic disorders and a pro-inflammatory state involving both the innate and the adaptive immune system, with a particular involvement of Th1 known to mediate cellular immune reactions that, in turn, induce the production of cytokines and increase antibody-mediated reactions. Lastly, specific immunogenetic variants have been associated with major psychoses and cumulative early-life exposure to infectious agents has been associated with persistent disruption of immune system homeostasis, potentially increasing the risk for the development of the disease. The present symposium aims to discuss and summarize the current neuroimmunogenetic models of affective and non-affective psychoses with a specific focus on neuroimaging, clinical relevance, and the development of novel biologically based clinical interventions.

Partners:

Chair: Paolo Brambilla; Co-Chair: Marcella Bellani

Speakers:

- Francesco Benedetti (Italy), presentation title: Circulating immune cell composition and activation status associated with brain white matter microstructure in bipolar depression;
- Benedicto Crespo-Facorro (Spain), presentation title: Peripheral inflammatory biomarkers of schizophrenia and what they mean for treatment;
- Lusi Zhang (USA), presentation title: Peripheral inflammation relationships with cognitive deficits and



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

genetic factors across the psychosis spectrum;

- Giuseppe Delvecchio (Italy), presentation title: A machine learning approach on whole blood immunomarkers to identify an inflammation-associated psychosis onset subgroups.

Location: Paris

Start date: 26/03/2023

End date: 26/03/2023

31st European Congress of Psychiatry; 25-28 March 2023

Description:

Suicidology and Brain Imaging

Description: Suicidal ideation, also known as suicidal thoughts, is a broad term used to describe a range of thoughts about death and self-harming behaviours. Rates of suicide deaths and suicidal thoughts and behaviours have risen by more than 50% among young people in the past decade, making suicide the second leading cause of death among those aged under 20. Most importantly, suicidal ideation represents a trans-diagnostic feature characterizing several psychiatric conditions (e.g., depression, psychosis) that seems to increase the risk of completed suicide. For instance, it has been shown that treatment-resistant depression (TRD) may increase an individual's likelihood of engaging in suicidal behaviours and up to 30% of people with TRD will attempt suicide at some point in their life. Although individual, environmental, and clinical risk factors for suicidal thoughts and behaviours have been well established, these factors have demonstrated low predictive validity. In response, the number of studies examining neurobiological underpinnings of suicidal thoughts and behaviours, in and out of psychiatric populations, has grown exponentially. Nevertheless, understanding the neural mechanisms underlying suicidal thoughts and behaviours and their clinical utility remains elusive. Therefore, the present symposium aims at summarizing and discussing recent evidence on the morphofunctional brain correlates of suicidal ideation and behaviours, and suicide-related psychiatric disorder (e.g. TRD), with a particular focus on their clinical implications for the development of trans-diagnostic tailored treatments.

Partners:

Organized by the EPA Sections of Neuroimaging and Suicidology and Suicide Prevention

Chair: Philippe Courtet

Co-Chair: Maria Gloria Rossetti



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

Speakers:

- Maurizio Pompili (Italy); Mental pain and suicide risk: implications for neuroimaging
- Emilie Oliè (France); The ventrolateral prefrontal cortex: a region of interest in suicidal behaviour
- Jair Soares (USA); Deep brain stimulation of the medial forebrain bundle in patients with major depression:
putative effects on depression, anhedonia and suicidality
- Raffaella Calati (Italy); An Internet-Based Multi-Approach Intervention Targeting University Students Suffering
from Psychological Problems: MindBlooming

Location: Paris

Start date: 28/03/2023

End date: 28/03/2023

31st European Congress of Psychiatry; 25-28 March 2023

Description:

Organized by the sections of Neuroimaging and Old Age Psychiatry

Title: Brain ageing Trajectories in psychiatric disorders

Description: Brain ageing is a natural phenomenon characterized by morpho-functional changes, including cerebral atrophy, white matter lesions and hyperintensities, enlargement of vascular systems and loss of neural plasticity. Recent conceptualizations view major psychiatric conditions as neurodegenerative disorders characterized by neuroprogression, neural inflammation and accelerated brain ageing. Specifically, recent neuroimaging findings suggest that the brain age estimates of psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression, do not match their chronological age due to an illness-related process of accelerated brain aging. This process, in turn, correlates with changes in clinical symptoms, cognition and functioning. However, the question of whether accelerated brain ageing occurs in psychiatric conditions and what are its structural and functional brain signatures remains unknown. Therefore, the present symposium aims to present and discuss recent evidence on morpho-functional correlates of brain ageing in and out of psychiatric trajectories, taking into account their clinical relevance for prognostic purposes and the possible development of novel treatments.



EPA NEUROIMAGING SECTION REPORT 2023

Partners:

Chair: Paolo Brambilla

Co-chair: Cécile Hanon

Speakers:

- Eleonora Maggioni (Italy), Exploring the role of lifetime brain maturation trajectories and their determinants in the onset of psychiatric disorders
- Nikolaos Koutsouleris (Germany), Progression of brain alterations in early-stage psychotic and affective disorders: results from the PRONIA study
- Gabriel Robert (France), Cerebral network of apathy and goal-oriented behaviours
- Thomas Desmidt (France), Contribution of imaging in late-life depression

Location: Paris

Start date: 26/07/2023

End date: 26/07/2023

FUTURE ACTIVITIES:

FUNDING IN 2023

Income: none

Source(s) of funding: none

Expenditure: none

Balance: none

EPA Treasurer audit: No

Confirmation that income / expenditure is via EPA: No