

Join Us for the Sanofi Medical Symposium

*Navigating the
New Era of
Therapeutic
Strategies for MS
Disability
Accumulation*

**Thursday, September 25th, 1:15 PM CEST
Room 7, Barcelona International
Convention Center**

Doors open at 1:00 PM CEST
Lunch will be served

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Agenda

Celia Oreja-Guevara MD, PhD (Chair)

Timely Intervention Starts with
Early Disability Detection

Martina Absinta MD, PhD

Scientific Advancements in Understanding
the Drivers of Disability Accumulation

Amit Bar-Or MD, FRCPC

Exploring the Next Generation of
Therapeutic Targets in MS

Live Q&A

As we advance to a new era of MS care, the spotlight is shifting towards addressing the underlying drivers of disability accumulation.



Join leading experts to unravel the underlying mechanisms and advancements in targeting progressive MS biology. Gain insights into recognizing early signs of disability accumulation, emerging therapeutic targets, and hear expert perspectives on their approach to managing disability through a case-based discussion.



Celia Oreja-Guevara **MD, PhD**

*Vice Chair, Neurology at University
Hospital San Carlos*

*Professor, Neurology at Complutense
University, Madrid*

Professor Celia Oreja-Guevara, Vice Chair of Neurology at University Hospital San Carlos and Professor of Neurology at Complutense University, Madrid, has a distinguished career in neurology. She obtained her medical degree from the University Complutense of Madrid and completed her PhD in Neuroimmunology at the Max-Planck-Institute for Neurobiology, Munich, Germany. She then completed a residency in the Department of Neurology at the University of Bochum, Germany, followed by a 1-year fellowship in Neuroimaging at the University Hospital San Raffaele.

Professor Oreja Guevara's main areas of research interest include family planning, the use of optical coherence tomography, symptomatic therapy, menopause, neuromyelitis optica (NMO), clinical and neuroimaging correlations in multiple sclerosis (MS), and the evaluation of new drugs for the treatment of MS and NMO.

Professor Oreja-Guevara has served as a principal investigator in several clinical trials and as a member of various international steering committees.

Besides her clinical and research endeavors, Professor Oreja-Guevara holds leadership roles in several neurology-focused organizations and academic societies. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the Multiple Sclerosis Panel of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN), President of PARADIGMS, and as a representative for the Spanish MS organizations on the International Medical and Scientific Board (IMSB) of the Multiple Sclerosis International Federation (MSIF). She has also previously served as an expert for the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the Spanish Agency of Medicines and Medical Devices (AEMPS), highlighting her longstanding contributions to the field of neurology.

Martina Absinta

MD, PhD

*Professor, Department of Neurology
Head, Experimental Neuropathology
Lab Humanitas University Hospital*

Professor Martina Absinta is an Associate Professor of Neurology and Head of the Experimental Neuropathology Lab at Humanitas University Hospital in Milan, Italy. She is a physician-scientist with clinical and research activities focused on neuroinflammatory diseases of the central nervous system.

She has dedicated her research work to studying MRI–human neuropathological correlations in multiple sclerosis and identifying novel imaging biomarkers of chronic inflammation, with a special focus on glia-mediated and leptomeningeal inflammation. Her research has highlighted the clinical relevance of smoldering inflammation and chronic active lesions in driving progression in multiple sclerosis and the need for novel treatments with bioactivity within the central nervous system.



Amit Bar-Or **MD, FRCPC**

*Melissa and Paul Anderson President's
Distinguished Chair*

*Chief, Division of MS and Related Disorders
and Director, Centre for Neuroinflammation
and Therapeutics*

*Professor, Department of Neurology, University of
Pennsylvania and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*



Dr. Bar-Or holds the Melissa and Paul Anderson President's Distinguished Chair at the University of Pennsylvania and serves as Chief of the Division of MS and related disorders. His clinical focus is on MS and other neuroinflammatory disorders, in adults and children. He is cross-appointed at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and co-directs the age-span program in MS and related disorders.

Dr. Bar-Or earned medical degree at McGill University. He completed an Internal Medicine Internship at the Massachusetts General Hospital, followed by postdoctoral clinical fellowship training at the Massachusetts General Hospital and laboratory fellowship training in cellular and molecular neuroimmunology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Bar-Or's research focuses on neuroimmune health and CNS inflammatory diseases across the age span. He runs a Cellular and Molecular Neuroimmunology lab. Major contribution to the MS field included discovery of cellular mechanisms; elucidating the mode-of-action of and advancing experimental therapies; stewarding the development of clinically meaningful biomarkers; and developing precision medicine strategies for autoimmune and CNS inflammatory diseases.

Dr. Bar-Or trained over 80 students at both pre-, post-doctoral level and published over 400 peer-reviewed publications. He received the prestigious 2021 Barancik Prize for Research Innovation in MS and the 2025 John Dystel Prize for MS Research. He is past-President of CNMSC and of ISNI where he is a lifetime Honorary member. He served on the Board of Directors of ACTRIMS and FOCIS, where he continues as a long-standing member of Education Committee. He currently serves on the International Advisory Committee on Clinical Trials in MS and Steering Committee of the NIH Immune Tolerance Network and is co-PI of the NIH Autoimmunity Center of Excellence, and member of the Leadership Council of the Colton Center for Autoimmunity at the University of Pennsylvania.



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