



PROGRAM

European PANDAS LAKE COMO Conference 2015

RESEARCH, DIAGNOSIS & THERAPY

Chiostro di Sant'Abbondio, Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, COMO, Italy
Sabato, 26 settembre 2015 ORE 8 - 18

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Program Description

Infectious disease specialists, psychiatrists, neurologists and pediatricians have long speculated on the etiology of an acute onset obsessive-compulsive disorder that affects children. The disorder is marked by a broad range of presentations and symptoms and consequently confounds the clinical community. This pervasive nature of PANDAS requires collaboration across disciplines. In recent years, several advances have been published to resolve confusion surrounding this affliction. In an effort to diffuse these advances, the European PANDAS Lake Como Conference 2015 convenes world experts in rheumatology, neurology, psychiatry and immunology to address the latest insights into the diagnosis and treatment protocol for PANDAS.

Audience

Pediatricians, child psychologists, educational psychologists, social workers, specialists in psychiatry, immunology, infectious disease, neurobiology, neurology and rheumatology.

Educational Goals

At the conclusion of this conference, delegates shall learn to:

- Inspect evidence for and against the diagnostic presentation of Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with the Streptococcus (PANDAS) & Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS).
- Clarify the neuropsychiatric symptoms associated with PANS and PANDAS.
- Select the laboratory measures that are predictive of these diagnoses.
- Discuss the etiology and the supporting scientific evidence for these diagnoses.
- Describe the various treatment protocols and their individual fit for clinical cases.

Session



**Research
Session
Monitored by
Prof. A Spalice**

From Research Subgroup to Clinical Syndrome: Modifying the PANDAS Criteria to Describe PANS
S. Swedo, MD *Chief Pediatric Neuroscience, National Institute of Health NIH, USA*

9 – 10:30

Open Coffee

Anti-neuronal Autoantibodies in PANDAS/PANS and Beyond

Madeleine W. Cunningham, PhD *Chief Scientific Officer, Moleculera Labs, Research Professor, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, USA*

11 - 11:45

Diagnostic Differentiation between PANDAS and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

Aristo Vojdani, PhD MSc MT *Chief Scientific Officer, ImmunoScience Labs, Professor Neuroimmunology, Carrick Institute for Graduate Studies, USA*

11:45-12:30

PANDAS Swedish Study - Title to be confirmed

Susanne Bejerot, Associate Professor, Chief Northern Stockholm Psychiatry, Kai Bruno, Chief Child Psychiatry Brommaplan, Stockholm, Sweden

12:30-13:00

Lunch

**Clinical
Experience
Session
Monitored by
Dott. S. Savasta**

In the Trenches - Clinical Case Study Summary Title to be confirmed

Elizabeth Latimer, MD *Child Neurology Georgetown University, USA*

14 – 15:00

When the Symptomatology has a Different Etiological Agent

Alberto Spalice, MD *Chief Pediatric Neurology, Sapienza Roma*

15 – 15:30

PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with *Streptococcus* infection): Clinica, Terapia e follow-up su la più Grande Casistica di Bambini e Adolescenti Italiani.

Dr. A. Meini, Brescia & Prof. F. Falcini MD *Universita' degli Studi, Firenze*

15:30-16:00

Recognition and Diagnosis of Pediatric Acute Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome

James F. Leckman, MD, PhD, *Prof. Child Psychiatry, Psychology and Pediatrics, Yale School of Medicine*

16:00-16:45

Open Coffee

**Therapy Protocol
Session
Monitored by
Prof. F. Falcini**

PANDAS IVIG and other therapies Title to be confirmed

Dr. S. Savasta, S. Matteo, Pavia

17-17:30

PANDAS Psychiatric Management - Title to be confirmed

Dr. M. Chiappedi, Prof. U. Balottin, Neuropsichiatria Infantile, IRCCS "C.Mondino", Pavia

17:30-18

PANDAS Treatment – Rebalancing T helper Cell Polarization.

Christopher Turnpaugh, Turnpaugh Wellness Center, USA

18-18:30

**Q&A Session
Monitored by
Prof. Spalice,
Dott. Savasta and
Prof F. Falcini**

Panel Discussion, Questions and Answers

18:30-19



Featured Speakers

S. Swedo, MD, *Chief of the Pediatrics and Developmental Neuroscience Branch (PDN) in the Intramural Research Program (IRP) of the National Institute of Mental Health NIMH*

Dr. Susan Swedo is Chief of the Pediatrics and Developmental Neuroscience Branch (PDN) in the Intramural Research Program (IRP) of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). She received her M.D. from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and completed a pediatrics residency at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Following her training, Dr. Swedo served as Chief of Adolescent Medicine for Northwestern University until 1986, when she joined Dr. Judith Rapoport's laboratory at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Dr. Swedo received tenure in the NIMH Intramural Research Program in 1992 and became Head of the NIMH Section on Behavioral Pediatrics in 1994. She served as Acting Director of the NIMH-IRP from 1995 – 1998 and NIMH Associate Director for Child and Adolescent Research from 2003 – 2007. She was the founding Director of the NIMH Division of Pediatric Translational Research and Treatment Development and served until March 2006, when she returned to the NIMH IRP and assembled a multi-disciplinary team to conduct clinical research on the causes and treatment of autism spectrum disorders and obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Dr. Swedo and her colleagues were the first to identify a post-infectious subtype of OCD, which is known as PANDAS (pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections). This line of research has resulted in several novel treatment and prevention strategies for childhood-onset OCD, including use of immunomodulatory therapies to treat acutely ill children and antibiotics prophylaxis to forestall future neuropsychiatric symptom exacerbations.

M Cunningham, PhD, *Co-Founder and Chief Scientific Officer Moleculera Labs*

Dr. Cunningham is Co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer of Moleculera Labs. She is the George Lynn Cross Research Professor and the Presbyterian Health Foundation Presidential Professor and Microbiology and Immunology Director, Immunology Training Program University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Dr. Cunningham's laboratory has studied molecular mimicry, autoimmunity and infection related to inflammatory heart disease for the past 30 years. She has pioneered the development of human mAbs in understanding the pathogenesis of human diseases. Currently her laboratory is focused on translational studies of human diseases, to improve their diagnosis and treatment and determine how infections play a role in autoimmune diseases of the heart and brain. Dr. Cunningham is the director of an NIAID supported Immunology Training Program at the University of Oklahoma for the past 10 years. She has been the recipient of NHLBI Career Development and MERIT Awards and has been funded by NIH for the past 25 years. She is author of over 100 publications in peer-reviewed journals and speaks internationally on the findings of her research.

Dr. Cunningham's laboratory studies the role of autoimmunity and infection in the pathogenesis of movement and behavioral disorders associated with streptococci, including Sydenham chorea, the neurologic manifestation of rheumatic fever, and pediatric autoimmune neurologic disorder associated with streptococci (PANDAS). Her laboratory identified antibody mediated neuronal cell signaling as the potential basis for choreic movement disorders. Other related movement and neuropsychiatric disorders such as obsessive-compulsive disorder, Tourette's Syndrome and Tics are under investigation to determine the presence and role of autoantibodies which may signal in the brain for these diseases.

Session



J. F. Leckman, MD, *Neison Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Psychology and Pediatrics, Yale University.*

James F. Leckman, M.D. is the Neison Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Psychology and Pediatrics at Yale. He served as the Director of Research for the Yale Child Study Center from 1983 to 2010. Dr. Leckman is a well known child psychiatrist and patient-oriented clinical investigator. His peers have regularly selected him as one of the Best Doctors in America. Dr. Leckman is the author or co-author of over 300 original articles published in peer-reviewed journals, seven books, and 120 book chapters. In 2002, he was identified by American Society for Information, Science and Technology as a "Highly Cited Researcher" - one of the world's most cited authors in Psychology and Psychiatry – in the top half of the top one percent of all publishing researchers.

In 1999, he edited with Dr. Donald J. Cohen, *Tourette's Syndrome: Tics, Obsessions, Compulsions - Developmental Psychopathology and Clinical Care*, published by John Wiley&Sons. Given its success, this volume was re-issued in paper back in the fall of 2001. More recently, Dr. Leckman edited (along with Andres Martin, Lawrence Scahill and Dennis Charney) a 56-chapter volume, entitled, *Pediatric Psychopharmacology: Principles and Practice* published in October of 2002 by Oxford University Press. In November 2002, an invited review article on Tourette's syndrome appeared in the prestigious medical journal *The Lancet*. Other recent editorials have appeared in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry* (2011), *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* (2011), *Neuropsychopharmacology* (2011), and the *British Medical Journal* (2012).

Most recently, in partnership with colleagues at UNICEF and the Mother-Child Education Foundation based in Turkey, Dr. Leckman has begun to explore the question whether strengthening families and enhancing child development is a path to peace and violence prevention. Related efforts include the Early Childhood Peace Consortium that was launched (September 2013) in New York in at the United Nations and the 15th Ernst Strüngmann Forum that took place in Frankfurt, Germany in October 2013. The deliberations of 40 international experts from a broad range of scientific disciplines are summarized in volume entitled, *Formative Childhoods: The Transformative Power of Children and Families*, published by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press in 2014.



Scientific References

Dott. Prof. Alberto Spalice, MD *Chief Pediatric Neurology, Sapienza Roma*

Prof. Fernanda Falcini, *Pediatric Rheumatology, Università degli Studi di Firenze*

Dott. Salvatore Savasta, *Fondazione IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo, Pavia*

President

Dott., Alberto Spalice, MD *Chief Pediatric Neurology, Sapienza Roma*

Prof. Fernanda Falcini, *Pediatric Rheumatology, Università degli Studi di Firenze*

Conference Coordination

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Venue

Chiostro di Sant'Abbondio
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COMO, Italy
h. 8 – 19

Comitato Locale

Patrocinio

INSERM Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale, Paris, FRANCE
Orphanet – The portal for rare diseases and orphan drugs, Paris, FRANCE

Sponsors

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