



Second Annual Meeting

Bucharest, 2-4 July 2025



Funded by
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SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Location: University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila", Eroii Sanitari Bvd., no. 8, sector 5, Bucharest, Romania

Day 1, Wednesday, July 2nd / THE BOARDROOM

First part of the first day - MC Meeting – THE BOARDROOM (SALA DE CONSILIU)

08:30– 9:30	Registration/ Registration desk
09:30 - 11:00	Net4Brain Core Group Meeting (only for core group members) PART I
11:00 - 11:30	<i>Finger Foods and Tasty Bites</i> (only for core group members)
11:30 - 13:00	Net4Brain Core Group Meeting (only for core group members) PART II

The second part of the first day - THE BOARDROOM (SALA DE CONSILIU)

13:00 - 14:00	Welcome Reception of all attendees/ Meet and greet
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14.00 - 14.05	Institutional Welcome: Prof. Univ. Dr. Luiza Spiru & Prof. Xinzhong Li
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14.05 – 15:30	Doctor honoris causa ceremony
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Session Chair: Prof. Viorel Jinga Prof. Luiza Spiru	Moderators: Professor Viorel Jinga, Professor Univ. Dr. Luiza Spiru and Professor Cornelia Nițipir
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Prof. Univ. Dr. Luiza Spiru: *Laudatio* for Prof. Dr. Anca- L. Grosu, member of Leopoldin Academy – a career of excellence in the service of radiation oncology

Prof. Univ. Dr. Luiza Spiru Professor of Geriatrics, Gerontology, Old Age Psychiatry and Longevity Medicine "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy;

Saint Luca's Clinical Hospital; Faculty, Geneva College of Longevity Science;

Faculty, Geneva School of Business Administration; University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland ; World EWA (European Women's Association) Ambassador; President "Ana ASLAN International" Foundation; Stress Congress Chair

Prof. Dr. Viorel Jinga: Rector at Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy

Senate Resolution to confer the doctor honoris causa degree to Prof. Dr. Anca L. Grosu

Award Presentation - the title of doctor honoris causa of the Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest is awarded to Professor Anca L. Grosu.

Acceptance Lecture by Anca- L.Grosu, MD, FACR, Professor, Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology Medical Center – University of Freiburg, Germany

Major Memberships and Awards

- Member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. Senator of Radiology Section, German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
- Member of the Review Board (Fachkollegium) for Nuclear Medicine, Radiation Therapy, Molecular Radiation Biology of the German Research Foundation (DFG)
- Member of the Advisory Board of German Cancer Aid (DKH)
- University Council Member, University of Freiburg, Germany
- Honorary Fellow of the American College of Radiology (FACR)
- President of the German Society of Radiation Oncology (DEGRO), elected at the DEGRO 2025 Congress
- Alfred Breit Award of the German Society of Radiation Oncology (DEGRO)

Keynote Talk 1

Acceptance Lecture by Anca- L.Grosu, MD, FACR, Professor, Chair, Department of Radiation Oncology Medical Center – University of Freiburg, Germany

Whole-brain irradiation with hippocampal sparing and dose escalation on metastases: neurocognitive testing and biological imaging (HIPPORAD) – a prospective randomized multicenter trial (NOA-14, ARO 2015- 3, DKTK-ROG)

Special Talk

15:30 – 16:15
Chair: Xinzhong Li

Prof. Paul Brennan, Translational Neurosurgery, Centre for Clinical Brain Sciences, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

Journey from bench to actual bedside for brain tumour liquid biopsy test

16:15 – 15:30
Chair: Alda Hajdarpasic

Honorary Lecture of Affinity by Prof. Rodica Anghel , Prof. Dr. Liviu Bîlteanu, “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy

FLASH Effect by Plasma-generated Carbon Ions within a Large Scale Romanian National Laser Project (DR. LASER) - Perspectives Towards High Precision Neuroradiosurgery

16:30 – 16:40

WG1 Dialog on! (10 mins)

16:40 – 17:00

Coffee Break

17:00 – 17:45

Chair: Barbara Breznik

Keynote Talk 2:

Prof. Bozena Kaminska-Kaczmarek, Laboratory of Molecular Neurobiology, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland
Understanding the immune microenvironment of brain tumors with single-cell and spatial levels reveals new therapeutic opportunities

17:45 – 18:25

Session 2 talk (20mins):

Barbara Breznik, National Institute of Biology, department of Genetic Toxicology and Cancer biology, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Neuro-Oncology in 3D: Organoids, Avatars, and the Future of Brain Tumor Research

Short talk (10mins):

Helene Castel, Universite De Rouen Normandie, France
Mechanical cues alter glioblastoma cell nuclei and mRNA processing associated with aggressiveness

WG2 Dialog on! (10 mins)

18:30 – 20:30 | **City Walk & Dinner** (At own expense)

Day 2, Thursday, July 3rd / THE LARGE AMPHITEATER (AMFITEATRUL MARE)

08:15 – 09:00

Registration/ Greetings/ Coffee

09:00 - 09:05

Welcoming to the second day

09:05 - 09:50

Chair: **Prof. Tugba Bagci- Onder**

Keynote Talk 3:

Gaetano Gargiulo, Max-Delbrück- Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC), Germany
(Targeting) Cell states in glioblastoma

09.50 – 11.10

Session 3 Talk (30 mins)

Prof. Tugba Bagci- Onder, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey
Identifying epigenetic regulators of chemoresistance in medulloblastoma

- Short Talk 1 (10 mins):

Milica Pesic, Institute for Biological Research "Sinisa Stankovic", Serbia
LB-100, an inhibitor of protein phosphatase 2A, sensitises glioblastoma cells to anticancer drugs by modulating P-glycoprotein expression

- Short Talk 2 (10 mins):

Sagar Acharya- High-field MR Center, Department of Biomedical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
Quantitative validation of 7T MRSI in gliomas by targeted mass spectrometry

- Short Talk 3 (10 mins):

Diana Aguilar Morante, University of Seville-Institute of Biomedicine of Seville, Spain
Identifying epigenetic regulators of chemoresistance in medulloblastoma

WG3 Dialog on! (20 mins)

11:10 - 11:40

Coffee Break

11.40- 13.00

Chair: Prof. Radim Jancalek

Mega Talk

Session Talks 1 - (20 mins)

Marcelllo Leopoldo, University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy

Towards a Positron Emission Tomography (PET) radiotracer for molecular imaging of purinergic P2X7 receptor in glioma

Session Talks 2 - (20 mins)

Thomas C. Booth, King's College London, United Kingdom

Radiogenomics in adult high-grade diffuse glioma: consensus statement on the promise of multimodal neuro-oncology machine learning models

- Short Talk 1 (10 mins):

Thomas Altendorfer-Kroath, Institute for Biomedical Research and Technologies (HEALTH), Joanneum Research Graz, Austria

Assessing temporal metabolic evolution in the tumor environment of glioblastoma using the cOFM Xenograft in vivo model.

- Short Talk 2 (10 mins):

Yasin Kaymaz, Ege University, Faculty of Engineering, Bioengineering Department, Izmir, Turkey

Towards a Comprehensive Database for Brain Cancer Research: Integrating Multi-Omics, Imaging, and Spatial Atlases

- Short Talk 3 (10 mins):

Sedef Sarac Yalcinkaya, Koc University, Istanbul, Turkey

Uncovering the roles of KDM6A and KDM6B to identify novel therapeutic targets in IDH1-mutant gliomas

- Short Talk 4 (10 mins):

Javed Bilal, Technological University Dublin, Ireland

Advanced 3D Cell Culture Models and Microfluidic Lab-on-Chip Devices for Glioblastoma Therapy Evaluation

13:00 - 14:00

Break / Finger Foods and Tasty Bites

14:00 - 14:45

Chair: Gabriel Fernandez Calvo

THE LARGE AMPHITEATER (AMFITEATRUL MARE)

Keynote Talk 4:

Nelbla Priego, Spanish National Cancer Research Centre (CNIO), Spain

Targeting brain metastasis through the pro-tumoral microenvironment

14:45 - 15:50

Session 4 Talk (20 mins)

Yahir Y. Calderon -Silva, University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM), Spain

Supporting mathematical research on brain metastases: Datasets of high-resolution MRI images with clinical data

- Short Talk 1 (10 mins):

Milana Frenkel-Morgenstern, Reichman University, Israel

AI-Enhanced Liquid Biopsy for Non-Invasive Glioblastoma Detection

- Short Talk 2 (10 mins):

José Antonio Romero Rosales, University of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain
Modeling and Clinical Implications of the VC-Resist Glioblastoma Cell-State: A PDE-Based Simulation Approach.

- Short Talk 3 (10 mins):

Ibrahim Ozturk, Osmaniye Korkut Ata University, Turkey
Applying Spiking Neural Networks for Brain Cancer Data Modeling and Classification

WG4 Dialog on! (15 mins)

15:50 – 16:30

Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:00

Li Xinzhong/Radim Jancalek

MC MEMBERS MEETING (Strictly MC) -THE LARGE AMPHITEATER (AMFITEATRUL MARE)

16:30 – 18:15

Poster presentation (All Members)

Ending of the second part of the second day -**THE BOARDROOM (SALA DE CONSILIU)**

Day 3, Friday, July 4th / THE BOARDROOM (SALA DE CONSILIU)

08:30 – 09:00

Registration/ Greetings/ Coffee

09:00 – 09:45

Chair: Alkinoose Athanasiou

Keynote Talk 5:

Prof. Mauricio Reyes, University of Bern - ARTORG Center for Biomedical Engineering Research, Switzerland
Automated segmentation with DeepBraTumIA, in applications such as IDH1 mutation classification, and leveraging these segmentations to scale hypothesis-driven research in neuro-oncology.

09:45 – 10:50

Session 5 Talk (20 min)

Prof. Radim Jancalek, Department of Neurosurgery, St. Anne's University Hospital, Brno, Czech Republic
Major Clinical Challenges in Brain Cancer Research

- Short Talk 1 (10 mins):

Carla Vitorino, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Coimbra, Portugal
Enhancing glioblastoma treatment with pitavastatin and miRNA co-delivery via nanostructured lipid carriers

- Short Talk 2 (10 mins):

Suheda Duran, Koç University Research Center for Translational Medicine (KUTTAM), Istanbul, Turkey
Discovery and characterization of a novel kinase regulator of the autophagy pathway in pediatric gliomas

Short Talk 3 (10 mins):

Miguel Perales-Patón, University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM), Spain

WG5 Dialog on! (15 min)

10:50 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 - 12:35

Chair Terézia Kisková

Session 6 Talk (20 min)

Terezia Kiskova, Institute of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice, Slovakia

Net4Brain: Moving Forward Activities That Make a Difference

- Short Talk 1 (10 min):

Ilaria D'agostino, University of Pisa, Italy

Searching for New Anticancer Agents: Spotlight on Aldehyde Dehydrogenase Enzymes

- Short Talk 2 (10 min):

Gamze Guney Eskiler, Sakarya University, Turkey

- Short Talk 3 (10 min):

Aleksandar Stepanović, Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia

MicroRNA-10b expression above median value: insights into progression-free survival in glioblastoma

WG6 Dialog on! (15 min)

12:35 – 13:00 By LOC/Xinzhong
13:00

Poster Award Presentation & Closing Remarks
End of the event

