

## LOCAL ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT



### CONSORZIO FUTURO IN RICERCA

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## VENUE

### Palazzo Roverella

Corso della Giovecca, 47 - 44121 Ferrara FE

## REGISTRATION

Free Registration at

[www.cieffeerre.it/MS-NO\\_Ferrara\\_4Settembre2026](http://www.cieffeerre.it/MS-NO_Ferrara_4Settembre2026)

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# MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA: MULTIPLE PREDICTORS IN DISEASE PROGNOSTICATION

## SEPT 04th 2026



FERRARA  
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# MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA: MULTIPLE PREDICTORS IN DISEASE PROGNOSTICATION

September 4<sup>th</sup> 2026

Palazzo Roverella, Ferrara, Italy

13:00 Registration  
13:45 Welcome Introduction and Institutional greetings

## Session I – Multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica: pathogenesis, pathophysiology and clinical presentation

Chairpersons: C. Oreja-Guevara, C. Pozzilli, M. Pugliatti

14:00 Progression, pathophysiology and measurements |  
*C. Oreja-Guevara*  
14:20 Clinical predictors of disease progression | *B. Van Wijmeersch*  
14:40 Biomarkers in predicting disease worsening | *L. Airas*  
15:00 Prognostication from genetic studies | *S. D'Alfonso*  
15:20 Investigating disease prognosis through data collection: the Italian  
MS Registry | *P. Iaffaldano (pre-recorded)*  
15:40 Microchimerism in multiple sclerosis | *M. Rubini*  
16:00 Discussion

16:10 **Biobreak**

## Session II – Multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica: evidence about less conventional predictors

Chairmen: M. Castellazzi, F. Deisenhammer, H-P. Hartung

16:20 Predictors from cerebrospinal fluid analysis | *M. Castellazzi*  
16:40 The impact of comorbidities in disease progression | *C. Ferri*  
17:00 The prognostic role of ultrasound in the study of the optic nerve  
in multiple sclerosis | *N. Merli*

## Session III – Multiple sclerosis and neuromyelitis optica: moving towards algorithms and decisional support systems

Chairpersons: C. Ferri, B. Van Wijmeersch

17:20 Decisional support systems (DSS), modeling and algorithms |  
*M. Copetti*  
17:40 The PROMISING Study | *M. Pugliatti*  
18:00 Discussion  
18:20 Closing Remarks

18:30 **Farewell Cocktail**

## FACULTY

Laura Airas, Turku, FINLAND  
Massimiliano Castellazzi, Ferrara, ITALY  
Massimiliano Copetti, S. Giovanni Rotondo (FG), ITALY  
Sandra D'Alfonso, Novara, ITALY  
Florian Deisenhammer, Innsbruck, AUSTRIA  
Caterina Ferri, Ferrara, ITALY  
Hans-Peter Hartung, Dusseldorf, GERMANY  
Pietro Iaffaldano, Bari, ITALY  
Nicola Merli, Ferrara, ITALY  
Celia Oreja-Guevara, Madrid, SPAIN  
Carlo Pozzilli, Rome, ITALY  
Maura Pugliatti, Ferrara, ITALY  
Michele Rubini, Ferrara, ITALY  
Bart Van Wijmeersch, Hasselt, BELGIUM

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Maura Pugliatti  
Caterina Ferri  
Nicola Merli  
Massimiliano Castellazzi  
Dipartimento di Neuroscienze e Riabilitazione Università degli Studi di Ferrara