

Environmental, modifiable risk factors for multiple sclerosis

THURSDAY, 3 MARCH 2016

- 09.00 – 09.15** **Welcome and Introduction**
X. Montalban (Barcelona, ES), M.P. Amato (Florence, IT)
- 09.15 – 10.30** **Session 1: Gene-environment interactions**
Chairs: X. Montalban (Barcelona, ES), M.P. Amato (Florence, IT)
- 09.15 Insights about the concept of risk
M.P. Amato (Florence, IT)
- 09.30 Gene-environment interactions in inflammatory disease other than MS:
the model of celiac disease
L. Sollid (Oslo, NO)
- 10.00 Gene-environment interactions in MS
T. Olsson (Stockholm, SE)
- 10.30 – 11.00** **Coffee Break**
- 11.00 – 13.00** **Session 2: Infections and vaccines**
Chairs: P. Soelberg Sørensen (Copenhagen, DK)
- 11.00 The hygienic hypothesis in MS
J. Correale (Buenos Aires, AR)
- 11.30 Infectious agents as risk factors
I. Steiner (Petach Tikva, IL)
- 12.00 Epstein Barr Virus: epidemiological evidence
J. Lünemann (Zurich, CH)
- 12.30 Epstein Barr Virus: experimental and pathological evidence, potential
mechanisms of action
C. Münz (Zurich, CH)
- 13.00 – 14.30** **Lunch Break**
- 14.30 – 15.30** **Session 2: Infections and vaccines (continued)**
Chairs: G. Giovannoni (London, UK), M. Salvetti (Rome, IT)
- 14.30 Vaccines and the risk of MS/MS relapses: a review of the evidence (or
lack of)
S. Vukusic (Lyon, FR)
- 15.00 Discussion: "Infectious agents and vaccines. What are the implications
for prevention and treatment?"
Facilitator: G. Giovannoni (London, UK),
- 15.30 – 16.00** **Coffee Break**

16.00 – 18.00

Session 3: Vitamin D

Chairs: A. Ascherio (Boston, US), M. Trojano (Bari, IT)

16.00

Vitamin D: Epidemiological evidence
R.M. Lucas (Canberra, AU)

16.30

Vitamin D: Experimental evidence and potential mechanisms of action
J. Smolders (Maastricht, NL)

17.00

Results of therapeutic trials
A. Ascherio (Boston, US)

17.30

Discussion: Vitamin D. What are the implications for prevention and treatment? What is the most appropriate dose?
Facilitator: E. Waubant (San Francisco, US)

18.00 – 18.15

Wrap Up

FRIDAY, 4 MARCH 2016

09.00 – 10.30

Session 4: Other risk factors: epidemiological and experimental evidence, potential mechanisms of action

Chairs: R. Liblau (Toulouse, FR), T. Riise (Bergen, NO)

09.00

Cigarette smoking
P. Sundstrom (Umea, SE)

09.30

Body Mass Index
M. Pugliatti (Ferrara, IT)

10.00

High dietary salt
R. Linker (Erlangen, DE)

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 13.00

Session 4: Other risk factors: epidemiological and experimental evidence, potential mechanisms of action (continued)

Chairs: D. Miller (London, UK), T. Derfuss (Basel, CH)

11.00

Alcohol and caffeine intakes
L. Alfredsson (Stockholm, SE); T. Olsson (Stockholm, SE)

11.30

Stress
A. Miller (Haifa, IS)

12.00

Modifiable comorbidities; a missed opportunity?
H. Tremlett (Vancouver, CA)

12.30

A common pathway for environmental risk factors in MS? The microbiome –gut-brain axis
H. Wekerle (Munich, DE)

- 13.00 – 14.00** **Lunch break**
- 14.00 – 14.30** **Session 4: Other risk factors: epidemiological and experimental evidence, potential mechanisms of action (continued)**
Chairs: D. Miller (London, UK), T. Derfuss (Basel, CH)
- 14.00 Discussion: Other risk factors: what are the implications for prevention and treatment?
Facilitator: R. Liblau (Toulouse, FR)
- 14.30 – 14.45** **Wrap-up, state-of-the art and future directions**
M.P. Amato (Florence, IT)