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), T. Derfuss (Basel, CH)

11.00 The hygienic hypothesis in MS
J. Correale (Buenos Aires, AR)

11.30 Infectious agents as risk factors
M. Brahic (Stanford, US)

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: B. Hemmer (Munich, DE)*

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: B. Hemmer (Munich, DE), R. Liblau (Toulouse, FR)

09.00  Cigarette smoking
*P. Sundstrom (Umea, SE)*

09.30  Body Mass Index
*M. Pugliatti (Sassari, IT)*

10.00  High dietary salt
*R. Linker (Bochum, 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), G. Comi (Milan, IT)

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), G. Comi (Milan, IT)

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)