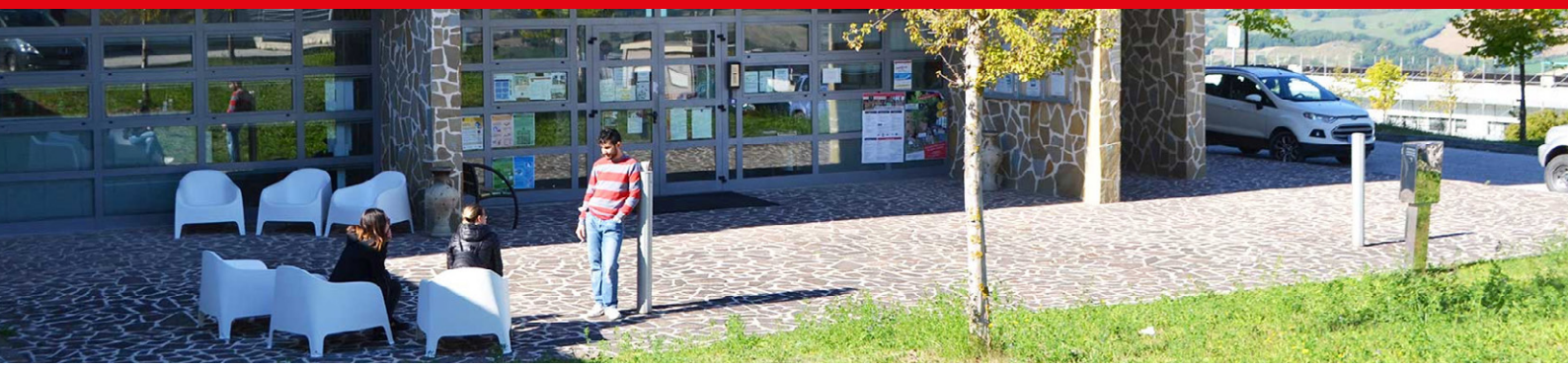

Scuola di Scienze del Farmaco
e dei Prodotti della Salute

Convegno Monotematico

Gruppo di Lavoro sulle Dipendenze

Società Italiana di Farmacologia, Università di Camerino, Fondazione Zardi - Gori

New perspectives in the study of substance use disorders: From basic mechanisms to pharmacotreatments

Camerino April 20-21, 2026

Polo Sant'Agostino - Aula Piantoni - via Sant'Agostino

Substance Use Disorders (SUDs) represent a major global health challenge, profoundly affecting individuals, their families, and society. These disorders are characterized by persistent alterations in reward processing, stress responsivity, executive control, and motivation, domains that collectively drive the transition from voluntary use to compulsive drug seeking. SUDs often co-occur with neurodevelopmental and psychiatric conditions, and their severity is frequently exacerbated by environmental stressors, social marginalization, or chronic adversity.
The need for a deeper understanding of the neurobiological, psychological, and social mechanisms that contribute to SUD is a priority. This workshop aims to address this challenge by bringing together young researchers and leading scientists to discuss emerging insights into the neurobiological mechanisms underlying SUD and to explore the development of innovative pharmacological treatments.

Scientific committee
Ciccocioppo R., Romunaldi P., Rubino T., Fattore L., Chiamulera C., Fumagalli F., Trezza T., Marti M., Cannizzaro C., Fadda P.

Organizing committee
School of Pharmacy - UNICAM
Ciccocioppo R., Soverchia L., Ubaldi M., Cannella N., Domi E., Polidori C.

Monday 20th

12.00 Registration

14.00 Opening and Congress Presentation

14.30 **Fabrizio Ascone**
Università di Roma 3, Roma
Therapeutic potential of psilocybin through BDNF/TrkB pathway
Sofia Christina Gkolfinopoulou
Università di Camerino
The combination of the PPARγ agonist pioglitazone and the GLP1R agonist liraglutide act synergistically to attenuate alcohol consumption in genetically selected alcohol preferring rats
Morosini Camilla
Università di Bologna
Impact of Heat-Not-Burn Tobacco Products on Neuroinflammatory and Oxidative Stress-Related Pathways in the Rat

15.30 **Eleonora Rossi**
Università di Camerino
Central amygdala-PKCδ neurons mediate alcohol withdrawal-induced hyperalgesia in female Prkcd-Cre rats
Soami Filippo Zenoni
Università La Sapienza, Roma
DRN's VGLUT3+TPH2+ neurons projecting to CeA and NAc play a critical role in relapse after food-based voluntary abstinence from methamphetamine
Serena Di Martino
Università di Catania
Prenatal THC and CBD Exposure: Differential Impacts on Neurodevelopment in Rat Offspring

16.30 Coffee break
Poster presentation

18.30 Keynote Lecture
Rainer Spanagel
Heidelberg University, Germany
Classic and innovative psychedelics for the treatment of addiction: Hype or Hope?

20.00 Social dinner

Tuesday 21st

08.30 Keynote Lecture
Markus Heilig
Linköping University, Sweden
The role of environmental risk factors in alcohol addiction - not quite what you may have thought

09.30 **Paolo Miglioranza**
Università di Milano
Cocaine exposure during adolescence impairs stress-induced behavioral and immune responses
Lorenzo Curti
Università di Firenze
Effects of Early Ethanol Exposure on Brain Development: Mechanistic Insights and Functional Behavioral Implications
Martina Cicero
Università di Palermo
Prenatal THC exposure rewires glucocorticoid-hippocampal crosstalk: metyrapone mitigates memory impairment under stress in adolescent rats

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 **Francesca Puleo**
Università di Palermo
Mitochondrial rescue strategy restores cognitive function in prenatal THCexposed rats notwithstanding an abnormal neuron-glia setup
Manthoula Olga Kyratzi
Università di Camerino
Cebranopadol: a novel dual NOP/MOP receptor agonist to treat fentanyl use disorder and fentanyl induced respiratory depression on a rat model of addiction
Francesca Mottarlini
Università di Milano
Cocaine withdrawal during adolescence induces hippocampal microglial dysfunction and excitatory-inhibitory imbalance in response to an acute stress

12.00 Flash talks and Awards

PRO-BEN