



Monothematic Meeting  
Organized by the SIF Working Group on Neurodegenerative Diseases

**Neuroinflammation and Neurodegeneration:  
Searching for new Pharmacologic Targets**

**July 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

Hotel Marechiaro  
Gizzeria Lido (CZ)

Evidence in neurodegenerative diseases (i.e. Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease, among others) implicates inflammation as central player in these processes other than a simple consequence of neurodegeneration. It is well established that protein aggregates, often encountered common pathological event in neurodegeneration, trigger neuroinflammation though, inflammation has been reported earlier than protein aggregation. Furthermore, genetic variations in CNS cells or immune cells may lead to neuroinflammation and protein deposition in susceptible population. Several signaling pathways and distinct CNS cells (e.g. astroglia and microglia) are implicated in the pathogenesis of neurodegeneration, although our knowledge is far from being satisfactory. This situation is reflected in the limited success of available treatments. Actually, halting or potentiating inflammatory signaling pathways implicated in neurodegeneration appear promising strategies for rationale control of neurodegenerative diseases. The organizers of this monothematic meeting welcome original contributions to the field by young scientists and bring together a group of internationally recognized scientist to guide a live discussion of the several themes proposed.

**Scientific Committee**

Giacinto Bagetta, Filippo Caraci, M. Tiziana Corasaniti, Luigi A. Morrone, Diana Amantea, Eugenio Donato Di Paola, Laura Rombolà, Rossella Russo, Annagrazia Adornetto, Damiana Scuteri, Ramona Stringhi, Giorgia Gullotta.

**Scientific Secretariat**

Damiana Scuteri (Catanzaro)  
[Damiana.scuteri@unicz.it](mailto:Damiana.scuteri@unicz.it)

**Preliminary Program**

## Giovedì 16 luglio

- 14:00-15:00 Registration
- 15:00-15:15 Opening Remarks  
Monica di Luca, Fabrizio Gardoni, Maria Rosaria Bucci
- 15:15-15:30 Congress Presentation  
Giacinto Bagetta, Filippo Caraci
- 15:30-16:30 Opening Lecture - Chair: Giacinto Bagetta  
**Astrocyte in central nervous system (CNS) physiology and diseases: a potential therapeutic target**  
Andrea Volterra  
Wyss Center for Bio and Neuro Engineering, Campus Biotech, Geneva
- 16:30-14:45 Coffee Break
- 16:45-18:15 Oral Communications - Chairs: Luigi A. Morrone, Ramona Stringhi  
6 communications of 15 min
- 18:15 -18:45 Lifetime Achievement Award  
Selection Committee TBA
- 18:45 -20:00 Poster session
- 20:30 Social Dinner

## Venerdì 17 luglio

- 9:00-10:00 Keynote Lecture - Chair: Giovambattista De Sarro  
**The contribution of ion channel research to therapeutic innovation in epilepsy**  
Maurizio Tagliatela  
Department of Neuroscience, University Federico II, Naples
- 10:00-10:30 Invited Lecture - Chair: Eugenio Donato Di Paola  
**Targeting microglia in epilepsy**  
Rita Citraro  
Department of Health Science, University of Catanzaro
- 10:30-11:30 Oral Communications - Chairs: Diana Amantea, Giorgia Gullotta  
4 communications of 15 min
- 11:30-11:45 Coffee Break
- 11:45-12:15 Invited Lecture - Chair: Pierluigi Nicotera

**Neuropsychiatric challenges in neurodegenerative diseases: NanoBEO first in a class tool in the armamentarium**

Damiana Scuteri

Department of Health Science, University of Catanzaro

12:15-13:15 Oral Communications – Chair: Rossella Russo & Mariarosaria Bucci  
4 communications of 15 min

13:15-13:45 Invited Lecture - Chair: Eugenio Barone  
**Neurobiological links between depression and Alzheimer disease: Novel pharmacological targets**

Filippo Caraci

Department of Drug and Health Sciences

13:45-14:00 SIF Awards for Best Poster and Oral Communications

14:00-14:30 Light Lunch

### General Information

The meeting venue is the Hotel Marechiaro, located in Gizzeria Lido, close to Lamezia Terme International Airport and main rail station (Lamezia Terme Centrale) (a few minutes by taxi).

#### Oral Communications and Poster Submission and Registration fee

The Scientific Committee reserves the right to select the oral communications and posters submitted to the Scientific Secretariat and, subsequently, will notify the applicants of the outcome. Abstracts for consideration as oral communication or poster should be submitted to the Scientific Secretariat within **June 5<sup>th</sup> 2026** at the email: [Damiana.scuteri@unicz.it](mailto:Damiana.scuteri@unicz.it)

In addition, accommodation, social dinner, and overnight stay on July 16<sup>th</sup> (in a double or triple room) will be covered for young, non-tenured SIF members under 38 years of age who present an oral communication or a poster.

For SIF members attending the Monothematic Conference registration is free of charge.

Unless otherwise agreed with the organizers, for non-SIF members a registration fee of 300 € is to be paid beforehand via bank transfer (IBAN: IT35W0200880884000103544669) to: Department of Pharmacy, Health Sciences and Nutrition, University of Calabria, 87036 Rende, Cosenza, Italy (causal: registration fee meeting “Monothematic SIF Meeting”). The fee will allow to attend the meeting sessions, coffee and lunch breaks. Registration is requested for all participants.

To limit the environmental impact of the meeting, the program will be available online by means of a QR code to be used with the smartphone.

SIF offer two grants with a value of € 500.00 (five hundred euros) gross each, awarded to the best Oral Communications and Posters presented at the Monothematic Conference.

These grants are reserved for SIF members under 38 years of age, non-tenured, and in good standing with their membership fees.



SOCIETÀ ITALIANA DI FARMACOLOGIA

At the time of registration, participants may indicate any specific needs related to mobility, accessibility, or food allergies/intolerances.

### **Meeting content and format**

The meeting includes two *Lectio Magistralis* of 60 min each, two invited lectures 30 min each and it is organized in two main free oral communication sessions and one poster session on topics including basic, translational and clinical aspects of neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration, target and drug discovery. Each oral communication will be 15 minutes in duration including discussion.

Posters will be mounted on the assigned board and viewed the 16<sup>th</sup> July; these will be discussed with the indicated Chairpersons at indicated time on 16<sup>th</sup> July.

### **Language**

The language of the meeting will be Italian.

### **Accommodation**

Due to limited number of rooms in the Hotel Marechiaro, accommodation will be on a first arrive basis preferring selected participants for oral and poster presentation. Remaining rooms will be at an agreed discount rate. Transportation to/from the meeting venue will be independently organized by registered participants.

For further information, please, address the correspondence to the executive secretariat.

### **Social Program**

Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 the social dinner will be served at 20.30 at the Restaurant Mare Chiaro.

### **Executive Secretariat**

Dott. Giuseppe Oliva

Department of Pharmacy, Health Sciences and Nutrition, University of Calabria, 87036 Rende, Cosenza, Italy; [giuseppe.oliva@unical.it](mailto:giuseppe.oliva@unical.it)

### **Sponsors**

University of Calabria, Rende (Cosenza)

Department of Pharmacy & SSN, University of Calabria, Rende (Cosenza)