CURRENT CHALLENGES IN CLINICAL TRIALS IN MS AND NEURODEGENERATION

DAY 1 — MONDAY SEPTEMBER 30

08:00-09:20   REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

09:20-10:00   **Kjell-Morten Myhr & Charalampos Tzoulis**, Directors of Neuro-SysMed: *Current Challenges in Clinical Trials in MS and Neurodegeneration*

Session 1: Dementia and Sustainability in Care
Chair: Kristoffer Haugarvoll

10:00-10:20   **Raymond Koopmans**, Radboud University Medical Centre, Netherlands: *Very severe or extreme behaviors in dementia: a challenge for multidisciplinary teams*

10:20-11:10   **Ipsit Vahia**, McLean Hospital, Harvard University, United States, **& Catharyn Gildesgame**, MBA, Mass General Brigham Behavioral and Mental Health, USA: *Developing academia-industry partnerships for a new wave of aging care*

11:10-11:35   **Heather Allore**, Yale School of Medicine, United States: *Pragmatic Clinical Trials for Older Adults*

11:35-11:47   **Kristoffer Haugarvoll**, Haukeland University Hospital & University of Bergen, Norway: *Experience from user involvement in dementia research*

11:47-1200   **Ragnhild Skogseth**, Haukeland University Hospital & University of Bergen, Norway: *The STRAT-COG study – working towards prediction of cognitive decline in individual patients*

12:00-13:00   LUNCH BREAK

Session 2: Neurodegeneration: The Hunt for Disease Modification
Chair: Raymond Koopmans

13:00-13:30   **Olivier Rascol**, Toulouse University Hospital, France: *The LIXIPARK trial: lessons for the future*

13:30-14:00   **Ambra Stefani**, Medical University of Innsbruck, Austria: *Isolated REM sleep behavior disorder as target for neuroprotective interventions: Advantages and drawbacks*

14:00-14:15   **Johannes Jernqvist Gaare**, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway: *α-synucleinopathies: Shifting the focus from the clinical to the prodromal phase*

14:15-14:30   **Irene Flønes**, Haukeland University Hospital, Bergen, Norway: *SLEIPNIR – a Clinical Trial Accelerator and Derisking Platform for Parkinson's Disease*

14:30-14:45   **Frank Riemer**, Haukeland University Hospital & University of Bergen, Norway: *Using MRI to evaluate microglia activation in neurodegeneration and inflammation*

14:45-15:10   COFFEE BREAK

15.10-16:10   **Controversy in prevention of Neurodegeneration** Discussion between **Charalampos Tzoulis**, Haukeland University Hospital & University of Bergen, Norway, and **Caroline Engen**, Haukeland University Hospital & University of Bergen, Norway. Moderator: **Ambra Stefani**.

16:10-18:00   BREAK AND CHECK-IN

18:00-19:30   **Poster session and aperitif** (same room as the talks)
Chairs: Ragnhild Skogseth & Christian Dölle

19:30   DINNER

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DAY 2 — TUESDAY OCTOBER 1

Session 3: Current Challenges in MS Clinical Trials
Chair: Kjell-Morten Myhr

09:00-09:30 **Xavier Montalban**, Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Spain: *Revised Diagnostic Criteria in MS – and Their Influence on Treatment Strategies and Clinical Trial Design*

09:30-10:00 **Gavin Giovannoni**, Queen Mary University of London, United Kingdom: *Clinical trial design and outcome measures for the evaluation of potential EBV antiviral therapies in multiple sclerosis*

10:00-10:30 **Kjetil Bjørnevik**, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, USA: *Opportunities and advantages of using emulated target trials*

10:30-10:50 COFFEE BREAK

10:50-11:20 **Tomas Kalincik**, University of Melbourne, Australia: *Evidence from observational data to guide treatment of multiple sclerosis*

11:20-11:35 **Brit Ellen Rød**, Haukeland University Hospital & University of Bergen, Norway: *Comparative Effectiveness of Cladribine and Rituximab in Patients with RRMS*

11:35-12:00 **Øivind Torkildsen**, University of Bergen & Haukeland University Hospital, Norway: *Discussion: Challenges in study design and outcome measures for MS in an era of high-efficacy therapy*

12:00-13:00 LUNCH BREAK

Session 4: Biomarkers & Imaging Outcomes in Clinical Trials
Chair: Charalampos Tzoulis

13:00-13:30 **Natalia Drosu**, Massachusetts General Hospital, USA: *EBV-specific T cells as biomarkers for antiviral dosing studies*

13:30-14:00 **Laura Airas**, Turku University, Finland: *PET-imaging as a tool for treatment response assessments addressing mechanisms contributing to neurodegeneration in progressive MS*

14:00-14:20 **Arianna Ciullini**, Carlo Besta Neurological Institute, Italy: *Identification of early and peripheral biomarkers for alpha-synucleinopathies by seed amplification assay*

14:20-14:50 **Andrea Varrone**, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden: *PET Imaging Biomarkers for Parkinson's disease*

14:50-15:05 Closing remarks and prizes for best poster