



Euro-ataxia 2023 European Research Conference on Ataxia
in cooperation with the
Hellenic Friedreich's Ataxia Association
(19 - 21 May 2023-03-23, Pieria, Greece)

Programme

All times are Eastern European Summer Time

Saturday 20th May: Ataxia international research meeting

Session chair: Vassilis Karatzias (Hellenic Friedreich's Ataxia Association)

9:30 – 9:40 'Welcome' - Andreas Nadke and Sue Millman (Euro-ataxia President and Secretary), Vassilis Karatzias (Hellenic Friedreich's Ataxia Association)

9:40 – 10:00 'Overview of inherited and non-inherited ataxias – advances in diagnosis and treatment' - Professor Marios Hadjivassiliou (Sheffield Ataxia Clinic)

10:00 – 10:20 'The importance of natural history and biomarker studies in the ataxias – Using data from the European Friedreich's ataxia study (EFACTS)' – Dr Jörg Schulz (Aachen University Hospital)

10:20 – 10:30 'The FA Pipeline' – Dr Myriam Rai (US FARA)

10:30 – 10:50 'The potential value of transcranial stimulation for symptom relief in ataxias' – Dr Barbara Borroni (University of Brescia)

10:50 – 11:40 COFFEE BREAK

Session chair: Andreas Nadke (Euro-ataxia President)

11:40 – 12:00 'Biomarkers in the SCAs' – Professor Paola Giunti (University College London, National Hospital of Neurology and Neurosurgery (NHNN) ataxia centre)

12:00 – 12:20 'Using animal and cell models to test treatments for ataxias - Update on TREAT-ARCA project' - Dr Helene Puccio (Inserm, Lyon)

12:20 – 12:40 'End of life discussions with patients affected by neurogenetic diseases and their caregivers: DIRAGENE study' – Dr Claire Ewencyk (ICM Institute, Paris)

12:40 – 13:45 NETWORKING LUNCH

Session chair: Emily Cutting (Ataxia UK)

13:45 – 14:30 Engaging with junior ataxia researchers - flash talks (5 mins each)



- ‘Bench to bed: A story of a novel compound’ - Dr Rosella Abeti (University College London)
- ‘Nanobodies to combat Machado Joseph Disease’ - Dr Ana Claro (i3S, Portugal)
- ‘Cerebellar ataxia and fear extinction’ - Enzo Nio (University Hospital Essen)
- ‘Exploring DNA damage and repair in SCA1’ – Dr Celeste Suart (National Ataxia Foundation)
- Two speakers TBC

Session chair: Sue Millman (Euro-ataxia Secretary)

14:30 – 15:00 Hearing the views of people with ataxia to inform research

15:00 - 15:20 ‘Management of the ataxia - Speech therapy’ - Professor Anja Lowit (University of Strathclyde)

15:20 – 15:40 ‘Physiotherapy and exercises for the ataxias – perspective from Greece’
Marianna Kotzamanidou

15:40 – 16:00 BREAK

Session chair: Hellenic Friedreich’s Ataxia Association

16:00 – 17:00 Round Table on Friedreich’s Ataxia Current Status in Greece (Clinical Centres, Treatment Options, Registry)

Tsigoulis Georgios, Professor in Neurology, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, President of the Hellenic Neurologic Society,

Kimiskidis Vasileios, Professor in Neurology, AHEPA University Hospital Thessaloniki,

Zafeiriou Dimitrios, Professor in Pediatric Neurology, Ipokrateio University Hospital Thessaloniki,

Koutsis Georgios, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Neurogenetics, Eginition Hospital, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens,

Dinopoulos Argyris, Associate Professor in Pediatric Neurology, “Attiko Hospital”, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens,

Georgia Xiromerisiou, Associate Professor of Neurology, University of Thessaly, Medical School,

Karadima Georgia, Assistant Professor in Biology and Neurogenetics, 1st Department of Neurology, Eginition Hospital, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens

Session chairs: Sue Millman (Euro-ataxia Secretary, Ataxia UK), Myriam Rai (US FARA)

17:00 – 18:00 Updates from pharmaceutical companies with ataxia clinical programmes

17:00 – 17:20 PTC Therapeutics - TBC

17:20 – 17:40 Anne Neumann, Biohaven

17:40 – 18:00 Chantal Beekman, Vico Therapeutics

18:00 – 18:15 CLOSING REMARKS AND DISCUSSION

19:00 DINNER FOR ALL ATTENDEES



This Networking event has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the EJP RD COFUND-EJP No 825575

Sunday 21st May – Euro-ataxia and partners meeting

9:00 – 10:00 *Presentations from member groups and partners on new activities*

- *Ataxia UK*
- *National Ataxia Foundation (NAF)*
- *AFAF (l'Association Française de l'Ataxie de Friedreich)*

10:00 – 10:30 *Spotlight on other Euro-ataxia members*

10:30 – 10:45 *'ERN-RND – How Euro-ataxia patient groups can collaborate and interact with this network' – Dr Holm Graessner (online)*

10:45 – 11:10 *Break*

11:10 – 11:40 *Discussion of potential Euro-ataxia future activities: Campaigns*

*Gathering FA prevalence data across Europe
Future Euro-ataxia projects – obtaining funding*

11:40 – 11:45 *Closing remarks – Andreas Nadke (Euro-ataxia President)*

11:45 CONFERENCE END

11:45 – 12:30 *Euro-ataxia AGM (for members only)*



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