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CHAIRS OF MEETING

Giovambattista Capasso

Biogem Research Institute

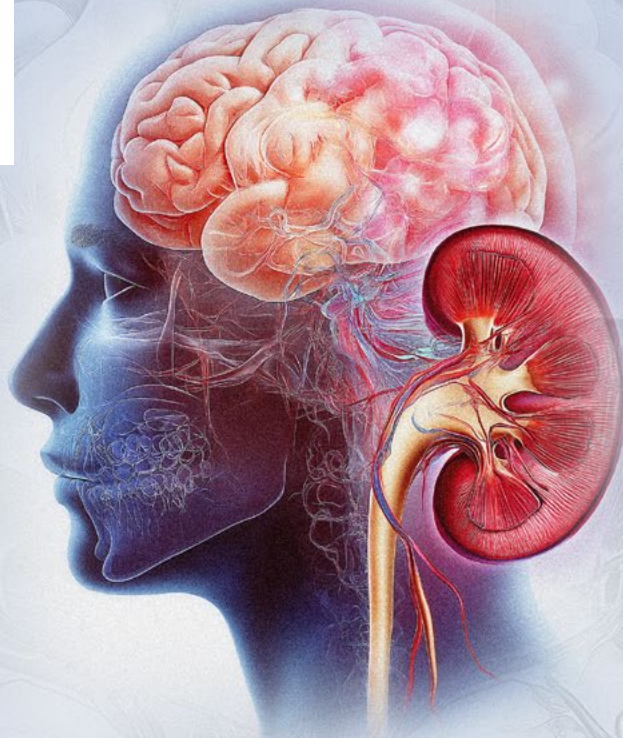
University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli"

Robert J. Unwin

University College London

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Second International meeting on

Brain-Kidney interaction

Mechanisms, drivers and therapies



WWW.FONDAZIONE-MENARINI.COM

19th-20th November 2026 - Naples, Italy

VENUE: Aula Magna - Congress Centre - Via Partenope, 36 - Naples

WHO WE ARE

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The “**Fondazione Menarini**” was established in the spring of **1976** to promote research and knowledge in the fields of biology, pharmacology and medicine as well as economy and human sciences.

One of the main tools the Foundation uses to achieve its goals is the organization of **international congresses** with a specific focus on medical disciplines.



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The logo the **Fondazione Menarini** adopted at the time of its establishment derives from a famous seventeenth-century treatise, the **Novissima Iconologia del Ripa** (Ripas’ New Iconology), rich in symbolic meanings from Parmenides to Plato’s Myth of the Soul.

The image, which depicts a man leading a horse while firmly gripping the bridle, was chosen as it effectively represents the Foundation’s goals and topics based on its **balanced interests in humanistic and biological sciences**.



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RATIONALE

There is growing recognition of the cognitive impairment frequently observed in patients with kidney disease. In recent years, accumulating evidence has supported a direct link between kidney dysfunction and alterations in brain structure and function.

This second Brain Kidney Interaction conference brings together experts from nephrology, neurology, and related fields to explore this critical and evolving area. The program will showcase the latest research and clinical insights, with the aim of advancing patient care by minimizing the impact of cognitive decline in individuals with kidney disease.

Over the course of two days, we will delve into epidemiological data connecting kidney dysfunction to cognitive decline, examine the effects of renal replacement therapies on brain health, and explore emerging mechanisms, such as the role of uraemic toxins, malnutrition, inflammation, intestinal microbiome, lipids, diabetes, accelerated ageing, microplastic, acute kidney failure and impaired neuroprotection.

We are confident that this interdisciplinary dialogue will inspire further research and contribute to improved strategies for managing the neurological complications of kidney disease, ultimately enhancing outcomes for our patients.

Giovambattista Capasso
Robert J. Unwin

CHAIRS OF MEETING**Giovambattista Capasso**

Biogem - Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics, Ariano Irpino (IT)
University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli", Naples (IT)

Robert J. Unwin

University College London, London (UK)

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Fondazione Menarini

Centro Direzionale Milanofiori
I-20089 Rozzano (Milan, Italy)
Strada 8 – Edificio N

Phone +39 02 55308110 - Fax +39 02 55305739
milan@fondazione-menarini.it
www.fondazione-menarini.com

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT**Promoviaggi S.p.a.**

Via Pietrasanta, 14
20141 Milan – Italy
www.pvagency.it
secretariat@pvagency.it

**Second International meeting
on Brain-Kidney interaction
Mechanisms, drivers and therapies**

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PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 19th NOVEMBER

THURSDAY, 19th NOVEMBER 2026 - MORNING

- 08.00 a.m. - 09.00 a.m. Registration to the Conference
- 09.00 a.m. - 09.15 a.m. Welcome address and Introduction
Rector University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
O. Zecchino: President Biogem
- 09.15 a.m. - 09.30 a.m. Institutional greetings: Fondazione Menarini
G. Caracciolo: Scientific Affairs & Operations Director,
Fondazione Menarini (Florence, IT)
- Introduction to the Conference
- Chairperson: **R.J. Unwin** (London, UK)
- 09.30 a.m. - 10.00 a.m. Cognitive impairment in CKD: progress and future
directions
G. Capasso (Ariano Irpino/Naples, IT)

**SESSION I - MAPPING THE BRAIN IN CKD:
EPIDEMIOLOGY, MODELS AND IMAGING**

Chairpersons: **A. Tessitore** (Naples, IT)
C. Wagner (Zurich, CH)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 10.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. | Epidemiology of cognitive decline in CKD
C. Zoccali (Ariano Irpino, IT/New York, USA) |
| 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. | Brain alterations in experimental CKD: insights from Mouse Models
E. Gutierrez (Aarhus, DK) |
| 11.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. | Revealing cognition through fMRI
F. Esposito (Naples, IT) |
| 11.30 a.m. - 11.40 a.m. | Discussion |
| 11.40 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. | <i>Coffee Break</i> |

THURSDAY, 19th NOVEMBER 2026 - MORNING

SESSION II - EMERGING SYSTEMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DRIVERS

Chairpersons: **M. Cratere** (Milan, IT),
M. Simeoni (Naples, IT)

- 12.00 p.m. - 12.30 p.m. Lipids effects on the kidney and brain
A. Fornoni (Miami, USA)
- 12.30 p.m. - 01.00 p.m. Bioaccumulation of microplastics in human brains
G. Paolisso (Naples, IT)
- 01.00 p.m. - 01.10 p.m. Discussion
- 01.10 p.m. - 02.30 p.m. *Lunch*

THURSDAY, 19th NOVEMBER 2026 - AFTERNOON

SESSION III - UREMIC AND METABOLIC PATHWAYS OF COGNITIVE DECLINE

Chairpersons: **A. Gallo** (Naples, IT),
J. Malyszko (Varsavia, PL)

- 02.30 p.m. - 03.00 p.m. Intestinal microbiome and cognitive decline
L. Gesualdo (Bari, IT)
- 03.00 p.m. - 03.30 p.m. Uraemic toxins and cognition
A. Perna (Naples, IT)
- 03.30 p.m. - 04.00 p.m. Malnutrition and systemic inflammation: interconnected drivers of cognitive decline
R.J. Unwin (London, UK)
- 04.00 p.m. - 04.10 p.m. Discussion
- 04.10 p.m. - 04.30 p.m. *Coffee Break*

KEY NOTE LECTURE 1

Chairperson: **S. Settembrini** (Naples, IT)

04.30 p.m. - 05.10 p.m. Diabetes as a converging driver of kidney-brain dysfunction

S. Del Prato (Pisa, IT)

05.10 p.m. - 05.30 p.m. Summary

05.30 p.m. - 05.45 p.m. Survey Event: Satisfaction survey with certificate

FRIDAY, 20th NOVEMBER 2026 - MORNING

KEY NOTE LECTURE 2

Chairperson: **O. Zecchino** (Ariano Irpino, IT)

- 09.00 a.m. - 09.40 a.m. Who provides better care: the physician or artificial intelligence?
G. Remuzzi (Milan, IT)

SESSION IV - AGEING, SYSTEMIC STRESS AND BRAIN VULNERABILITY

Chairpersons: **F. Mallamaci** (Reggio Calabria, IT)
M. Simeoni (Naples, IT)

- 09.40 a.m. - 10.10 a.m. Uromodulin: a link between brain and kidney
M. Cratere (Milan, IT)
- 10.10 a.m. - 10.40 a.m. Chronic kidney disease and premature ageing
P. Stenvinkel (Stockholm, SE)
- 10.40 a.m. - 11.10 a.m. Cancer therapy related cognitive impairment
S. B. Schagen (Amsterdam, NL)
- 11.10 a.m. - 11.20 a.m. Discussion
- 11.20 a.m. - 11.40 a.m. *Coffee Break*

**SESSION V - CLINICAL INTERFACES: KIDNEY THERAPIES
AND BRAIN OUTCOMES**

Chairpersons: **F. Trepiccione** (Naples, IT)
C. Zoccali (Ariano Irpino, IT/New York, USA)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 11.40 a.m. - 12.10 p.m. | Acute kidney injury and the brain: an underrecognized clinical Axis
N. Selby (Nottingham, UK) |
| 12.10 p.m. - 12.40 p.m. | Haemodialysis and cognition
C. Fransen (Groningen, NL) |
| 12.40 p.m. - 01.10 p.m. | Cognitive impairment in kidney transplanted patients
J. Malyszko (Warsaw, PL) |
| 01.10 p.m. - 01.20 p.m. | Discussion |
| 01.20 p.m. - 02.30 p.m. | <i>Lunch</i> |

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PROGRAMME

FRIDAY, 20th NOVEMBER

FRIDAY, 20th NOVEMBER 2026 - AFTERNOON

SESSION VI - NEUROPROTECTION AND RARE KIDNEY- BRAIN SYNDROMES

Chairpersons: **C. Franssen** (Groningen, NL)
N. Selby (Nottingham, UK)

- 02.30 p.m. - 03.00 p.m. Neuroprotective Mediators
C. Wagner (Zurich, CH)
- 03.00 p.m. - 03.30 p.m. Cognition in salt loosing tubulopatias
F. Trepiccione (Naples, IT)
- 03.30 p.m. - 04.00 p.m. Cognition in Bardet Biedle syndrome
M. Zacchia (Naples, IT)
- 04.00 p.m. - 04.10 p.m. Discussion
- 04.10 p.m. - 04.30 p.m. *Coffee break*

KEY NOTE LECTURE 3

Chairperson: **G. Capasso** (Ariano Irpino/Naples, IT)

- 04.30 p.m. - 05.10 p.m. Neural stem cells: from biology to therapy in
neurological disorders
G. Martino (Milan, IT)
- 05.10 p.m. - 05.20 p.m. Summary
R. J. Unwin (London, UK)
- 05.20 p.m. - 05.35 p.m. Survey Event: Satisfaction survey with certificate

FACULTY

Giovambattista Capasso	Biogem - Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics Ariano Irpino, Italy University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli” Naples, Italy
Mariapia Cratere	Molecular genetics of renal disorder Unit I.R.C.C.S. Ospedale San Raffaele Milan, Italy
Stefano Del Prato	Metabolic Diseases and Diabetology Unit Pisa University Hospital Pisa, Italy
Fabrizio Esposito	Department of Advanced Medical and Surgical Sciences University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli” Naples, Italy
Alessia Fornoni	Katz Family Division of Nephrology and Hypertension University of Miami Miami, USA
Casper Franssen	Department of Nephrology University Medical Center Groningen Groningen, The Netherlands
Antonio Gallo	Department of Advanced Medical and Surgical Sciences, DAMSS University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli” Naples, Italy
Loreto Gesualdo	Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation Unit Department of Precision and Regenerative Medicine and Ionian Area, DiMePre-J University of Bari Aldo Moro Bari, Italy

FACULTY

Eugenio Gutierrez Center for Functionally Integrative Neuroscience, CFIN
Department of Clinical Medicine
Aarhus University
Aarhus, Denmark

Francesca Mallamaci Department of Nephrology
Dialysis and Transplantation
Azienda Ospedaliera Bianchi-Melacrino-Morelli CNR-IFC
Institute of Clinical Physiology, Research
Unit of Clinical Epidemiology and
Physiopathology of Renal Diseases and Hypertension
Reggio Calabria, Italy

Jolanta Malyszko Department of Nephrology
Dialysis and Internal Medicine
Medical University of Warsaw
Warsaw, Poland

Gianvito Martino Division of Neuroscience
Vita-Salute San Raffaele University
Milan, Italy

Giuseppe Paolisso Department of Medical and Surgical Advanced
Science
University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
Naples, Italy

Alessandra Perna Department of Translational
Medical Sciences
University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
Naples, Italy

FACULTY

Giuseppe Remuzzi Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research
IRCCS
Milan, Italy

Sanne B. Schagen Division of the Psychosocial Research and
Epidemiology at The Netherlands Cancer Institute
Department Psychology at the University of Amsterdam
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Nicolas Selby Centre for Kidney Research and Innovation
University of Nottingham
Nottingham, UK

Silvio Settembrini Nephrology and Dialysis Unit
Pellegrini Hospital, ASL Naples 1 Center
Naples, Italy

Mariadelina Simeoni Department of Translational
Medical Sciences
University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
Naples, Italy

Peter Stenvinkel Department of Renal Medicine
Karolinska University Hospital Stockholm
Stockholm, Sweden

Alessandro Tessitore Department of Advanced Medical and Surgical Sciences,
DAMSS
University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
Naples, Italy

Francesco Trepiccione Department of Translational
Medical Sciences
University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
Naples, Italy

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FACULTY

Robert J. Unwin

Centre for Nephrology
Royal Free Campus, University College London
London, UK

Carsten Wagner

Institute of Physiology and Zurich Kidney Center
University of Zurich
Zurich, Swiss

Miriam Zacchia

Department of Translational Medical Sciences
University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”
Naples, Italy

Ortensio Zecchino

Biogem - Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics
Ariano Irpino, Italy

Carmine Zoccali

Biogem - Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics
Ariano Irpino, Italy
Renal Research Institute
New York City, USA

REGISTRATION - HYBRID EVENT

VIA WEBSITE AND/OR APP - HYBRID EVENT

Subscription to the Reserved Area and to the Event of your interest is required.
REGISTRATION IS FREE.

RESIDENTIAL EVENT

Via website www.fondazione-menarini.com

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A SUBSCRIBER TO THE FONDAZIONE MENARINI RESERVED AREA

- 1) Please visit the page of the congress of your interest:

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You will receive a confirmation email including your registration QR CODE for entering the event.

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- 3) Fill in all the mandatory fields and complete the registration, click on REGISTER (only once).

Wait for the confirmation page to appear, do not click on anything or leave the page.

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REGISTRATION - LIVE STREAMING

LIVE STREAMING

Via website www.fondazione-menarini.com

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- 1) Please [visit the page of the congress](#) of your interest:
- 2) Click on “**SUBSCRIBE TO LIVE STREAMING**” and **LOG IN** with your credentials, check the Privacy Notice and click on “**ATTEND**”.

You can enjoy the LIVE STREAMING for free on 19th and 20th November 2026.

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REGISTRATION - FONDAZIONE APP

VIA FONDAZIONE MENARINI APP

Download the APP of Fondazione Menarini,
click here or scan the QR CODE:

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Click on the red button **REGISTER**; to register in the reserved area, just fill in all the mandatory fields of the form.

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Now you are logged-in to the APP (you will see your name near the user icon).

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You can enjoy the LIVE STREAMING for free on 19th and 20th November 2026.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

VENUE

Aula Magna, Congress Centre
Via Partenope, 36 - 80121 Naples (Italy)

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the meeting is English.

REGISTRATION HOURS FOR RESIDENTIAL EVENT

Thursday, 19th November: 08.00 a.m. - 05.45 p.m.
Friday, 20th November: 08.00 a.m.- 05.35 p.m.

LIVE STREAMING EVENT ONLINE ON

Thursday, 19th November: 08.00 a.m. - 05.45 p.m.
Friday, 20th November: 08.00 a.m.- 05.35 p.m.
Please note that times are expressed in Local Italy time

FACULTY SLIDE CENTRE OPENING HOURS

The center will be open at the following times:
Thursday, 19th November: 08.00 a.m. - 05.45 p.m.
Friday, 20th November: 08.00 a.m.- 05.35 p.m.

TECHNICAL FACILITIES

Facilities will be available for computer presentations and overhead projections.
A slide center with pcs (windows and macintosh operating systems) will be available for Speakers to preview and finalize their presentations. Speakers are kindly requested to submit their presentations to the slide center technicians at least one hour before their talks.

LUNCHEES AND COFFEE BREAKS

Lunches and coffee breaks will be served near the Meeting area.

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE AND SURVEY

At the end of each day, faculty members and participants will have the possibility to answer a short appreciation questionnaire accessible using the QR code projected on the screen. After completing the survey it will immediately be possible to download the Attendance Certificate which can be kept, printed and shared

NOTES

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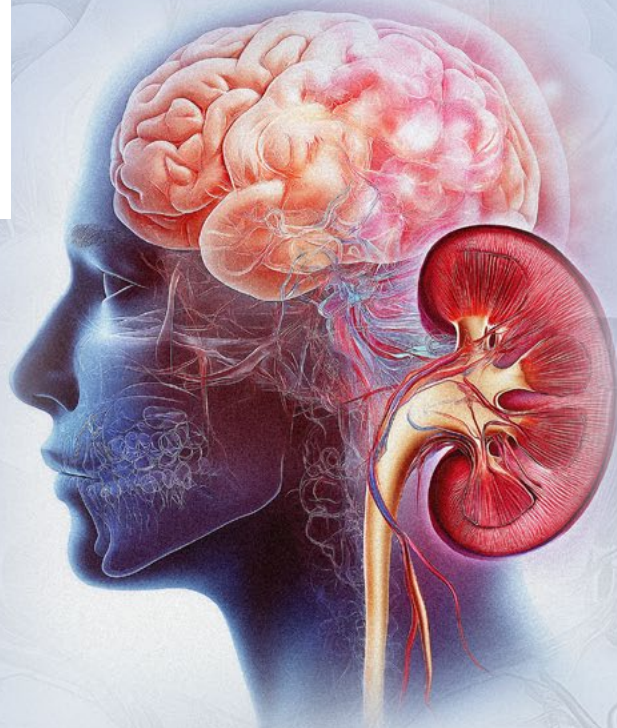
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All slides and presentations are available on our website 15 days after the event.

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