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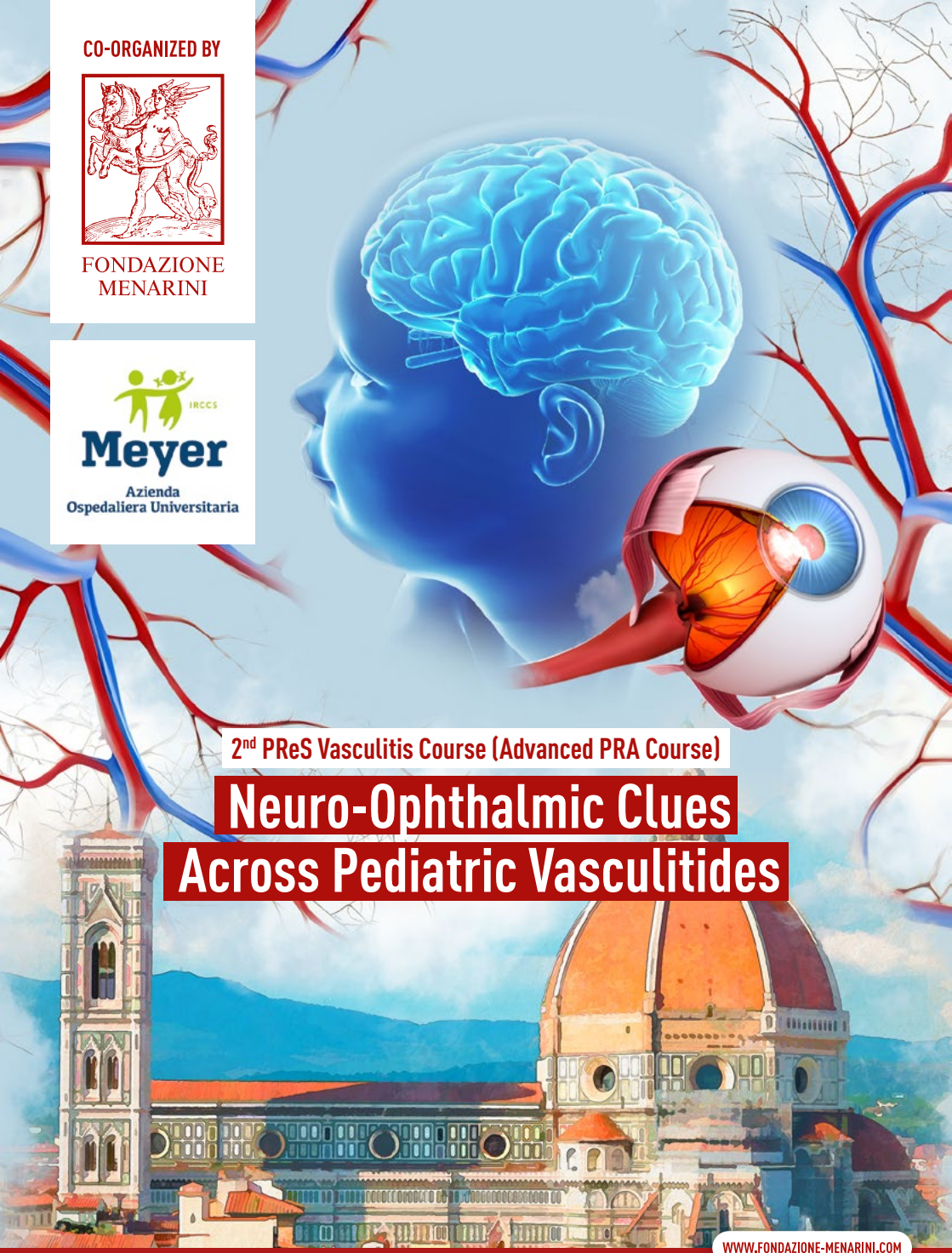

2nd PReS Vasculitis Course (Advanced PRA Course)

Neuro-Ophthalmic Clues Across Pediatric Vasculitides

WWW.FONDAZIONE-MENARINI.COM

29th-30th January 2027 - Florence, Italy

50 YEARS OF FONDAZIONE MENARINI

WHO WE ARE

50 YEARS OF FONDAZIONE MENARINI

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.



FONDAZIONE MENARINI

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

Neuro-ophthalmologic involvement represents a major driver of morbidity and potential long-term disability in children with vasculitides. Clinical presentations are heterogeneous and often overlap with infectious, vascular, and non-inflammatory mimickers, making early diagnosis and timely management particularly challenging. Effective care requires a multidisciplinary approach integrating pediatric rheumatology, neurology, neuroradiology, ophthalmology, and pathology.

Advanced diagnostic tools, such as vessel-wall MRI and modern neuroimaging strategies, ocular imaging (including optical coherence tomography and ultrasound), and targeted histopathology, are increasingly available but remain variably applied in routine clinical practice. There is a clear educational need to support clinicians in integrating multidisciplinary expertise with these tools, embedding them into structured diagnostic pathways and evidence-based management strategies.

Why this course is unique

Unlike disease-specific or regionally focused workshops, this course offers a cross-vasculitis, neuro-ophthalmology–driven framework that integrates:

1. Clinical red flags and diagnostic reasoning
2. Hands-on interpretation of imaging and pathology
3. Practical management and communication skills, including role-play exercises

The course is designed as an Advanced PRA activity, with strong interactive components, under the scientific governance of the PReS Vasculitis Working Party.

President of the Meeting

Giani Teresa

PRESIDENT OF THE MEETING

Giani Teresa

CO-ORGANIZED BY

FONDAZIONE
MENARINI

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SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

MARBEN S.R.L.

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www.marben.it

FRIDAY, 29TH JANUARY 2027 - MORNING

08.20 a.m. - 08.30 a.m. Registration

08.30 a.m. - 08.45 a.m. Welcome addresses and Introduction
T. Giani (Florence, IT) and the **Vasculitis Working Party**

Institutional greetings: Fondazione Menarini
G. Caracciolo (Florence, IT)

SESSION I - WHEN VESSELS HIT THE BRAIN

Chairpersons: **L. Bartolini** (Florence, IT), **F. Çakmak** (Ankara, TR)

08.45 a.m. - 09.05 a.m. Stroke in Children: From Mechanisms to a Practical Algorithm
M. Bertamino (Genoa, IT)

09.05 a.m. - 09.25 a.m. From Skin to Stroke, the many faces of DADA2: Distinguishing It from PAN and Protecting the Brain
S. Ozen (Ankara, TR)

09.25 a.m. - 09.45 a.m. Kawasaki Disease: Neurological Clues Not to Miss
I. Koné-Paut (Paris, FR)

SESSION II - MIMICS AND PATTERNS

Chairpersons: **M. Jelusic** (Zagreb, HR), **J. Sánchez-Manubens** (Barcellona, ES)

09.45 a.m. - 10.05 a.m. Acute Disseminated Encephalomyelitis (ADEM): When Inflammation Mimics Vasculitis
L. Bartolini (Florence, IT)

10.05 a.m. - 10.25 a.m. CNS Demyelinating Disorders Beyond Multiple Sclerosis: What the Rheumatologist Should Know
U. Uygunoğlu (Istanbul, TR)

10.25 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. MRI in CNS Vasculitis: Typical Patterns
M. S. Severino (Genoa, IT)

10.45 a.m. - 11.05 a.m. *Coffee Break*

SESSION III - THE INFLAMED BRAIN: FROM SYNAPSE TO SCAN

Chairpersons: **N. Aktay Ayaz** (Istanbul, TR), **A. Mauro** (Milan, IT)

11.05 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. Keynote Lecture: Inflammation and Synapses: How the Immune System Shapes Neural Circuits
E. Menna (Milan, IT)

11.30 a.m. - 11.50 a.m. Autoimmune Encephalitis: Clinical Spectrum and Diagnostic Challenges
L. Bartolini (Florence, IT)

11.50 a.m. - 12.10 p.m. Advanced Imaging in Inflammatory Vasculopathies: PET
C. Olianti (Florence, IT)

PRACTICAL SESSION 1 - BEFORE YOU TREAT: THE DIAGNOSTIC TOOLKIT

Chairpersons: **L. Bianchi** (Florence, IT)

12.10 p.m. - 12.25 p.m. Infections That Mimic CNS Vasculitis: What to Test Immediately
M. Šestan (Zagreb, HR)

12.25 p.m. - 12.40 p.m. Before Starting Immunosuppression: Vaccination and Infection Screening
F. Çakmak (Ankara, TR)

12.40 p.m. - 12.55 p.m. Second-Line Laboratory Tests: What to Order and How to Interpret Them
J. Sánchez-Manubens (Barcelona, ES)

12.55 p.m. - 02.00 p.m. *Lunch*

SESSION IV - UNEXPECTED NEUROLOGICAL FACES

Chairpersons: **M. Šestan** (Zagreb, HR), **L. Gatti** (Florence, IT)

02.00 p.m. - 02.15 p.m. Neurological Manifestations of IgA Vasculitis
M. Jelusic (Zagreb, HR)

02.15 p.m. - 02.30 p.m. IgG4-Related Disease with Neurological Involvement: A Diagnostic Challenge
T. Giani (Florence, IT)

PRACTICAL SESSION 2 - FROM SLIDE TO BEDSIDE

Chairpersons: **T. Oranges** (Florence, IT)

02.30 p.m. - 02.50 p.m. Vasculitis Under the Microscope: Recognizing Key Histopathological Patterns
D. Massi (Florence, IT)

02.50 p.m. - 03.20 p.m. Communicating the Diagnosis of Vasculitis: Simulation and Role-Play
E. Pescio (Genoa, IT)

PROGRAMME **FRIDAY, 29TH JANUARY**

SESSION V - BEHÇET UNMASKED

Chairpersons: **I. Koné-Paut** (Paris, FR)

03.20 p.m. - 03.40 p.m. Neuro-Behçet Syndrome: Clinical Spectrum and Diagnostic Challenges
N. Aktay Ayaz (Istanbul, TR)

03.40 p.m. - 04.00 p.m. Vascular Behçet Disease
G. Emmi (Lausanne, CH)

04.00 p.m. - 04.20 p.m. Spot the Diagnosis
Students

04.20 p.m. - 04.30 p.m. *Coffee Break*

SESSION VI - DIAGNOSE AND TREAT

Chairpersons: **L. Bartolini** (Florence, IT), **I. Pagnini** (Florence, IT)

04.30 p.m. - 04.50 p.m. Monogenic Vasculitides: Early-Onset Disease, Red Flags and Genetic Clues
E. Batu (USA)

04.50 p.m. - 05.10 p.m. The Diagnostic Puzzle of Primary CNS Vasculitis in Children
M. Twilt (Calgary, CA)

05.10 p.m. - 05.30 p.m. Therapeutic Strategies in Pediatric Primary CNS Vasculitis
C. Salvarani (Reggio Emilia, IT)

05.30 p.m. - 05.50 p.m. Treating Behçet Disease: Between Immunosuppression and Anticoagulation
E. Batu (USA)

05.50 p.m. - 06.10 p.m. Recap and Conclusion of the Day
T. Giani (Florence, IT)

Survey event: Satisfaction survey with certificate

End of the day

SATURDAY, 30TH JANUARY 2027 - MORNING

SESSION I - SYSTEMIC VASCULITIS THROUGH THE EYE

Chairpersons: **C. De Libero** (Florence, IT), **L. Vannozzi** (Florence, IT)

08.45 a.m. - 09.05 a.m. Ocular Behçet Disease: From Retinal Vasculitis to Vision-Threatening Complications
G. Emmi (Lausanne, CH)

09.05 a.m. - 09.25 a.m. Cogan Syndrome: When Ocular and Audiovestibular Inflammation Meet
R. Bakry (Jeddah, SA)

09.25 a.m. - 09.45 a.m. Beyond the Kidney and Lung: Ocular and Neurological Clues in ANCA-Associated Vasculitis
M. Iudici (Geneva, CH)

SESSION II - THE EYE AS A WINDOW

Chairpersons: **F. Çakmak** (Ankara, TR)

09.45 a.m. - 10.05 a.m. The Eye as a Vascular Window: Imaging in Systemic Vasculitis
L. Vannozzi (Florence, IT)

10.05 a.m. - 10.35 a.m. The Eye Case Challenge: An Interactive Image Contest
Student

10.35 a.m. - 10.45 a.m. *Coffee Break*

SESSION III - PATTERNS OF OCULAR INFLAMMATION

Chairpersons: **M. Jelusic** (Zagreb, HR), **L. Vannozzi** (Florence, IT)

10.45 a.m. - 11.05 a.m. Retinal Vasculitis: Arterial vs Venous Patterns and Differential Diagnosis
I. Maccora (Florence, IT)

11.05 a.m. - 11.25 a.m. Blau Syndrome Through the Eye: Ocular Manifestations and Systemic Clues
J. Ashworth (Manchester, GB)

11.25 a.m. - 11.45 a.m. Interactive Case Report
Students

PRACTICAL SESSION 1 - EYE LAB: CASES AND SCANS

Chairpersons: **J. Sánchez-Manubens** (Barcelona, ES), **C. De Libero** (Florence, IT)

11.45 a.m. - 12.10 p.m. **1.A CLINICAL CASE WORKSHOP**
Optic Neuritis and Ocular Vasculitis: Case-Based Discussion
C. Matucci Cerinic (Genoa, IT)

12.10 p.m. - 12.40 p.m. **1.B IMAGING SESSION**
Imaging in Ocular Vasculitis: Practical Demonstrations (OCT, OCT-A, Fluorescein Angiography, Ocular Ultrasound)
L. Vannozzi (Florence, IT)

FINAL INTERACTIVE QUIZ AND CONCLUSIVE REMARKS

12.40 p.m. - 01.00 p.m. What Have You Learned Over the Past Two Days? Conclusive remarks
T. Giani (Florence, IT), *Students*

Survey event: Satisfaction survey with certificate

FACULTY

Nuray Aktay Ayaz	Department of Pediatric Rheumatology, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Turkey
Jane Ashworth	Manchester Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester, United Kingdom
Reima Bakry	Pediatric Department, East Jeddah Hospital, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Luca Bartolini	Neurology Unit, AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Ezgi Batu	Division of Pediatric Rheumatology, Department of Pediatrics, USA
Marta Bertamino	Neurology Unit, IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Genoa, Italy
Leila Bianchi	AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Figen Çakmak	Department of Pediatric Rheumatology, Basaksehir Çam and Sakura City Hospital, Istanbul, Turkey
Cinzia De Libero	Ophthalmology Unit, Meyer Children's Hospital IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Giacomo Emmi	Department of Medicine, Lausanne University Hospital (CHUV), Lausanne, Switzerland
Laura Gatti	Rheumatology Unit, AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Teresa Giani	Rheumatology Unit, AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy

FACULTY

Michele Iudici	Division of Rheumatology, Geneva University Hospitals (HUG) and University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland
Marija Jelusic	Department of Pediatrics, Zagreb University Hospital Centre, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia
Isabelle Koné-Paut	Pediatric Rheumatology Department, AP-HP, Bicêtre Hospital, Paris-Saclay University, Paris, France
Ilaria Maccora	Rheumatology Unit, AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Daniela Massi	Division of Pathological Anatomy, Department of Health Sciences, University of Florence & AOU Careggi IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Caterina Matucci	Rheumatology Unit, IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Genoa, Italy
Angela Mauro	Dipartimento di Medicina dell'Infanzia e dell'Età Evolutiva, ASST Fatebenefratelli-Sacco, Milan, Italy
Elisabetta Menna	IRCCS Humanitas Research Hospital, Rozzano, Milan, Italy; Institute of Neuroscience – National Research Council of Italy (CNR) c/o Humanitas Mirasole S.p.A., Rozzano, Milan, Italy
Catia Olianti	Nuclear Medicine & Radiology Unit, AOU Careggi IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Teresa Oranges	Dermatology Unit, AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Seza Ozen	Division of Pediatric Rheumatology, Department of Pediatrics, Hacettepe University Medical School, Ankara, Turkey

FACULTY

Ilaria Pagnini	Rheumatology Unit, AOU Meyer IRCCS, Florence, Italy
Elena Pescio	IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Genoa, Italy
Carlo Salvarani	Rheumatology Unit, Azienda USL-IRCCS di Reggio Emilia & University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Reggio Emilia, Italy
Judith Sánchez-Manubens	Pediatric Rheumatology Unit, Parc Taulí Hospital Universitari, Sabadell (Barcelona), Spain
Mario Šestan	Department of Pediatrics, Zagreb University Hospital Centre, School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia
Maria Savina Severino	Neuroradiology Unit, IRCCS Istituto Giannina Gaslini, Genoa, Italy
Marinka Twilt	Department of Paediatrics, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada
Uğur Uygunoğlu	Neurology Department, Cerrahpasa Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul University-Cerrahpasa, Istanbul, Turkey
Lorenzo Vannozzi	Eye Clinic, AOU Careggi IRCCS, Florence, Italy

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

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2) To register in the reserved area, just fill in the form, available here:
   www.fondazione-menarini.com/en/reserved-area.html
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.
   Once you receive confirmation, return to the home page, you will already be logged-in to the reserved area.
4) Visit the page of the congress of your interest:
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5) Confirm your registration by clicking on "SUBSCRIBE TO RESIDENTIAL EVENT" and LOG IN with your credentials.
6) Choose which days you wish to attend.

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REGISTRATION - LIVE STREAMING

LIVE STREAMING

Via website **www.fondazione-menarini.com**

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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 29th and 30th January 2027.

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VIA FONDAZIONE MENARINI APP

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You can visit the schedule of the event, and click on the red button "SUBSCRIBE TO LIVE STREAMING", check the Privacy Notice and the confirm.
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GENERAL INFORMATION

VENUE
TBD

SECRETARIAT DURING THE MEETING
The Secretariat will be open at the following times:
Friday, 29th January from 08:20 a.m. to 06:10 p.m.
Saturday, 30th January from 08:45 a.m. to 01:00 p.m.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
The official language of the Meeting will be English. Simultaneous translation won't be provided.

REGISTRATION
The meeting is free to attend.
For more information and to register please visit the following website:
www.fondazione-menarini.com

TECHNICAL FACILITIES
Facilities will be available for computer presentations and overhead projections.
A business center with PC (Powerpoint for Windows) will be available for check and preview of presentations. It is essential that speakers take their presentation to the business center at least one hour before the session starts.

The center will be open at the following times:
Friday, 29th January from 08:20 a.m. to 06:10 p.m.
Saturday, 30th January from 08:45 a.m. to 01:00 p.m.

LUNCHES AND COFFEE BREAKS
Lunches and coffee breaks will be served in 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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All slides and presentations are available on our website 15 days after the event.

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