



Preliminary Program - 3rd IWGGD Symposium

Bridging the gap: from basic research to patient care

3-6 May 2026 | Trieste, Italy

Sunday, 3 May 2026

- 15:00-16:30** Simultaneous Working Group Meetings
16:30-18:00 Educational Session
20:00-22:30 Opening Lecture & Dinner

Keynote: *Dr. Bruno Bembi (Italy)*

How It All Began: The story of Gaucher Disease and the IWGGD

Monday, 4 May 2026

Session 1: Patients' Perspective (Part 1)

Moderators: Dr. Maurizio Scarpa, Prof. Derralynn Hughes, Tanya Collin-Histed

- 09:00-09:45** Plenary Lecture
Dr. Chris Hendriksz (United Kingdom)
An Overview of the Current Situation of Rare Diseases in Africa
- 09:45-10:30** Case Study Presentations
Dr. Pheobe Wamalwa (Kenya)
Dr. Kandi-Catherine Muze (Tanzania)
African physicians share experiences and challenges in diagnosing and managing GD
- 10:30-11:00** **IGA in Africa: Highlights of ongoing initiatives & poster presentation**
Presented by Roselynn Odera (IGA)
- 11:00-11:30** Coffee Break

Session 1: Patients' Perspective (Part 2)

- 11:30-12:30** Selected Oral Presentations
12:30-13:30 Lunch

Session 2: Laboratory – Genetics & Biochemistry

Moderators: Dr. Paula Rozenfeld, Dr. Andrea Dardis

- 13:30–14:15** Plenary Lecture
Prof. Andres Klein (Chile)
GCase genomic modifiers: an opportunity for designing therapeutics
- 14:15–15:15** Selected Oral Presentations
- 15:15–15:30** Coffee Break
- 15:30–16:30** Poster Session

Session 3: Gaucher Disease Clinical Spectrum

Moderators: Prof. Shoshana Revel-Vilk, Prof. Francesca Carubi

- 16:30–17:15** Plenary Lecture
Dr. Ayelet Ollech (Israel)
Incorporating skin evaluation into the standard care of patients with Gaucher disease
- 17:15–18:15** Selected Oral Presentations

Tuesday, 5 May 2026

Session 4: New Developments & Young Investigators

Moderators: Prof. Hans Aerts

- 08:30–09:15** Hans Aerts Basic Science Lecture 2026
Dr. Ali Ghoochani (United States)
Decoding the Brain's Lysosomes: A Cell-Type-Specific Protein Atlas and the identification of a new Lysosomal Disorder
- 09:15–10:45** Selected Oral Presentations
- 10:45–11:15** Coffee Break

Session 5: Comorbidities in Gaucher Disease

Moderators: Dr. Predrag Rodic

- 11:15–12:00** Plenary Lecture
Dr. Alessio Di Fonzo (Italy)
Developing therapeutic strategies for GBA1-PD: hints from experimental models
- 12:00–13:15** Selected Oral Presentations

13:15–14:15	Lunch
14:15–16:00	IWGGD Annual General Meeting (AGM)
20:00	Congress Dinner

Wednesday, 6 May 2026

Session 6: Therapies in Gaucher Disease

Moderators: Prof. Magy Abdelwahab, Dr. Ozlem Goker-Alpan, Prof. Ida Schwartz

08:30–09:15	Plenary Lecture <i>Dr. Andres Muro (Italy)</i> Genome Editing landscape: from bench to bedside
09:15–11:00	Selected Oral Presentations
11:00–11:15	Coffee Break
11:15–11:30	Best Oral & Poster Presentation Awards
11:30–12:00	Closing Remarks

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