

*Symposium*

**EBRI at Sapienza University:  
a decade since its foundation**

**In memory of Rita Levi-Montalcini**

**Thursday  
26 November 2015**



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**Meeting Venue**

**Aula "Paride Stefanini"**

**Policlinico Umberto I**

# Programme

## 9:30 Welcome address

Eugenio Gaudio, *Magnifico Rettore della Università Sapienza di Roma*  
Luigi Frati, *Università Sapienza di Roma*  
Giuseppe Nisticò, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation*

## 9:45 Introduction

Pietro Calissano, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation*

## 9:50 Special Lecture

Eugenio Gaudio, *Università Sapienza di Roma*  
Giuseppe Levi: a Scientist, a Master

## 10:10 Antonino Cattaneo and Enrico Cherubini, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* EBRI past and future

## 10:30 Coffee break

## Session 1

Chair Giancarlo Ruocco, *Istituto Italiano di Tecnologie & Università Sapienza di Roma*

## 10:50 Anna Tramontano, *Università Sapienza di Roma* The contribution of computational biology to biomedical research

## 11:05 Beatrice Vignoli, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* Regulation of adult neurogenesis by neurotrophins

## 11:20 Corinna Giorgi, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* mRNA metabolism in neuronal plasticity and differentiation

## 11:35 Irene Bozzoni, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Setting up of suitable model systems for the study of alteration of RNA metabolism in the pathogenesis of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

## Session 2

Chair Mara D'Onofrio, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation*

## 11:50 Cristina Limatola, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Mechanisms of communication between brain tumors and cerebral parenchyma

## 12:05 Lucia Negri, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Role of prokineticins, a new family of chemokines, in neuroinflammatory processes

## 12:20 Silvana Gaetani, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Role of oleylethanolamide in the "gut-to-brain" axis that controls hunger and satiety: new therapeutic perspectives for obesity and eating disorders

## 12:35 Lunch break

## Session 3

Chair Angela Santoni, *Università Sapienza di Roma*

## 14:00 Ferdinando Nicoletti, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Metabotropic glutamate receptors as therapeutic targets in neurological and psychiatric disorders

## 14:15 Gemma Calamandrei, Laura Ricceri, Maria Luisa Scattoni, *Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome* A developmental perspective to model the aetiology of child's neuropsychiatric disorders

## 14:30 Stefano Puglisi Allegra, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Psychobiology, plasticity and adaptation

## Session 4

Chair Maurizio Pocchiari, *Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome*

## 14:45 Andrea Mele, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Synaptic plasticity and spatial memory: role of the striatal complex

## 15:00 Marilena Griguoli, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* Optogenetic tools to investigate neuronal circuits involved in cognitive functions

## 15:15 Alfredo Berardelli, *Università Sapienza di Roma* Cortical plasticity in Parkinson's disease

## 15:30 Robert Nisticò, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* Synaptic plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis

## 15:45 Coffee break

## Session 5

Chair Silvia Marinelli, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation*

## 16:05 Roberto Caminiti, *Università Sapienza di Roma* 1985-2015: Thirty years of behavioural neurophysiology at Sapienza

## 16:20 Enrico Alleva and Daniela Santucci, *Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome* The role of NGF in stress and coping of rodents and humans

## 16:35 Viviana Triaca, *CNR & EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* In vitro NGF deprivation and onset of an Alzheimer-like molecular syndrome

## 16:50 Giovanni Meli, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* Intracellular antibodies for protein interference: targeting Alzheimer's Ab oligomers and synaptic proteins

## 17:05 Francesca Malerba, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation* Taking the pain out of NGF: a "painless" NGF variant, with a therapeutic perspective

## 17:20 Keynote Lecture Cornelius Gross, *EMBL, Monterotondo - Rome* Controlling your instincts - dynamic cortical gating of hypothalamic fear circuits

## 17:40 Concluding remarks Antonino Cattaneo, *EBRI-Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation*