



# **INTERNATIONAL NEUROVASCULAR TRAINING COURSE ON SICKLE CELL DISEASE**

March 30-31  
2023

*Botanical Garden*  
Via Orto Botanico 15  
Padua, Italy

# INTERNATIONAL NEUROVASCULAR TRAINING COURSE ON SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Dear colleagues,  
we are pleased to announce that an International Neurovascular Training Course on Sickle Cell Disease will take place in Padua, on March 30-31, 2023.

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is one of the world's most prevalent genetic diseases, and due to the impact on the geographical distribution of the HbS allele, SCD has become a global public health issue. Children with SCD frequently harbor steno-occlusive lesions in large cerebral arteries and microangiopathic lesions, causing ischemic stroke and silent infarcts that impact on neurocognitive development and quality of life. Transcranial Doppler sonography (TCD) is the gold standard to assess blood flow velocities in the vessels of the Circle of Willis in SCD patients and predict the risk of stroke. Hence, TCD is highly recommended as a routine screening tool to guide treatment: exchange transfusions, hydroxyurea, allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplant, recently approved drugs and new therapeutic options (gene therapy, gene editing). Yet, access to TCD services remains a challenge, not only due to funding, but also due to a lack of skills and knowledge, particularly with respect to adequately trained TCD operators. For this reason, education must be intensified: this International Neurovascular Training Course on SCD will feature state-of-the-art presentations, combined with intensive transcranial ultrasound workshops and clinical case-based discussion. We do hope that by sharing knowledge and experience, all participants will ultimately bring a benefit to their SCD communities.

We look forward to welcoming you in the beautiful botanical garden of Padua.

**Raffaella Colombatti**

**Claudio Baracchini**

## Scientific Directors

**Prof. Claudio Baracchini MD, PhD, FESO**

*Head of Stroke Unit and Neurosonology Lab*

*Past President of the ESNCH*

*(European Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics)*

*Past President of the SINSEC*

*(Italian Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics)*

*University of Padua School of Medicine*

**Prof. Raffaella Colombatti**

*Pediatric Hematology Oncology Unit*

*AIEOP Red Cell Disorder Working Group Coordinator*

*ERN-EuroBloodNet Cross Border Health Care Coordinator*

*Azienda Ospedale Università di Padova*

## Target Audience

**Medical Doctors specializing in:**

*Pediatrics, Neurology, Hematology, Neuroradiology*

*Residents and Fellows in all related fields*

## Faculty

**Barbara Arfe'**

*Italy*

**Andrew Arnold**

*UK*

**Claudio Baracchini**

*Italy*

**Pablo Bartolucci**

*France*

**Bart Biemont**

*Netherlands*

**Valentine Brousse**

*France*

**Holger Cario**

*Germany*

**David Calvet**

*France*

**Maddalena Casale**

*Italy*

**Raffaella Colombatti**

*Italy*

**Fenella Kirkham**

*UK*

**Stephan Lobitz**

*Germany*

**Wolfgang Loichinger**

*Germany*

**Branko Malojcic**

*Croatia*

**Renzo Manara**

*Italy*

**Mar Mañú-Pereira**

*Spain*

**Stefano Mozzetta**

*Italy*

**Soundrie Padayachee**

*UK*

**Alessio Pieroni**

*Italy*

**Nicholas Thomas**

*UK*

**Suzanne Verlhac**

*France*

**Federica Viaro**

*Italy*

# 16

**ECM points for Italian MD**

# 30

March  
Thursday

- 8.00 Registration of Participants
- 8.45 Greetings

## Morning - 9.00-13.00

Chairs:

**C. Baracchini, R. Colombatti** - Italy

- 9.00 **Welcome and Introduction: Training Course Presentation**

**C. Baracchini, R. Colombatti** - Italy

- 9.10 **Sickle Cell Disease: where are we now?**

**R. Colombatti** - Italy

20'+ Q&A 10'

- 9.40 **Cerebral Vasculopathy in children: an overview**

**V. Brousse** - France

20'+ Q&A 10'

- 10.10 **Large vessel vasculopathy and Transcranial Ultrasound**

**C. Baracchini** - Italy

20'+ Q&A 10'

- 10.40 **Coffee Break**

- 11.00 **How to organize TCD screening for your patients: examples of programs and referrals**

**NHS SCD TCD Program**

**S. Padayachee** - UK

20' + Q&A 5'

**The German experience**

**S. Lobitz, W. Loichinger** - Germany

20' + Q&A 5'

**Training and Education in Clinical Trials Worldwide**

**F. Kirkham** - UK

20' + Q&A 5'

- 12.15 **Should we screen young adults and adults with TCD? Evidence from real-world cohorts**

**P. Bartolucci, D. Calvet** - France

30'+ Q&A 15'

- 13.00 **Lunch**

## Afternoon - 14.00-18.30

- 14.00 **PRACTICAL SESSIONS  
TCD/TCCD workstations**

With experts from **Italy: C. Baracchini, S. Mozzetta, A. Pieroni, F. Viaro; UK: A. Arnold, F. Kirkham, S. Padayachee, N. Thomas; France: S. Verlhac; Germany: W. Loichinger**

**SCD Protocol: healthy subjects**

**TCD/TCCD screening of children with SCD**

- 16.15 **ERN-Eurobloodnet Clinical case discussions**

Chairpersons:

**H. Cario** - Germany, **M. Casale** - Italy

**Selected clinical cases sent by participants \***

**General discussion**

\* Clinical Cases regarding TCD/TCCD and MRI/MRA can be submitted to the following email: [SCDclinicalcase@drepanocitosi.it](mailto:SCDclinicalcase@drepanocitosi.it)

The most significant cases will be selected for presentation during the ERN-EuroBloodNet Clinical Case Discussion. Instructions to follow

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March  
Friday

## Morning - 9.00-13.10

Chairs:

S. Lobitz - Germany, S. Padayachee - UK

- 9.00 **The use of MRI/MRA in children: when, how, for what? Standardizing MRI protocols**  
R. Manara - Italy  
20'+ Q&A 10'
- 9.30 **Monitoring cerebrovascular damage throughout the patient's lifespan**  
B. Biemont - Netherlands  
20'+ Q&A 10'
- 10.00 **Neurocognitive complications and evaluation**  
B. Arfè - Italy  
20'+ Q&A 10'
- 10.30 *Coffee Break*

- 10.50 **Integrating Neuroimaging and Neurophysiology in SCD**  
F. Kirkham - UK  
20' + Q&A 10'
- 11.20 **European Collaborative Projects for Radiomics in SCD: Genomed4all and Synthema**  
R. Colombatti, R. Manara - Italy  
M. Mañú-Pereira - Spain  
45'+ Q&A 10'
- 12.15 **ESNCH Neurosonology Survey in Europe**  
C. Baracchini - Italy  
20'+ Q&A 5'
- 12.40 **A European Certification in Neurosonology**  
B. Malojcic - Croatia  
20'+ Q&A 10'
- 13.10 *Lunch*

## Afternoon - 14.00-18.00

- 14.00 **PRACTICAL SESSIONS TCD and TCCD workstations**  
With experts from Italy: C. Baracchini, S. Mozzetta, A. Pieroni, F. Viaro; UK: A. Arnold, F. Kirkham, S. Padayachee, N. Thomas; France: S. Verlhac; Germany: W. Loichinger  
*SCD Protocol: healthy subjects TCD/TCCD screening of children with SCD*
- 17.00 **Feedback and competency requirement summary**  
B. Malojcic - Croatia  
S. Padayachee - UK
- 18.00 **Closing Remarks**

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Diseases (ERN EuroBloodNet)

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EOLO GROUP  
EVENTI

Via Vittorio Veneto 11  
35043 Monselice (PD)

tel. 0429 767 381  
cell. 392 697 9059  
info@eolocongressi.it

## REGISTRATION

Participation to the Training Course:  
a maximum of 100 participants will be accepted.

**Registration fee:** 400 euros+VAT.  
It includes access to all scientific and practical  
sessions, coffee breaks, 2 lunches, 1 dinner and a  
Certificate of Participation.



Please register by March 1<sup>st</sup> in order  
to assure you a place in the Scientific  
Course, the Organizing Secretariat will  
send an email with the payment details.  
Registration will only be valid upon  
receipt of the full payment.