



2025 MASTERCLASS ON PREGNANCY IN MS AND ANTIBODY MEDIATED NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES

10-12 September 2025

Rome, Italy

An educational programme in collaboration with



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OVERVIEW

Thanks to studies conducted over the past 20 years, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is no longer considered an obstacle to pregnancy planning, and the number of women with MS choosing motherhood is increasing. The growing use of new disease-modifying therapies in women of childbearing age, the complexity of therapeutic scenarios, and the widespread use of assisted reproduction techniques require specialists involved in patient care to deepen their knowledge in these areas. This masterclass aims to provide the necessary tools for the appropriate multidisciplinary management of women with MS during pregnancy, in order to safeguard the physical and mental health of the mother, child, and couple.

The masterclass will draw on the extensive experience of the multidisciplinary Pregnancy Unit 'SMamma,' established in 2016 at the UOSD Multiple Sclerosis Center of the Policlinico di Tor Vergata. This unit employs a pioneering management model that optimizes counseling and clinical outcomes for women with MS who choose to pursue pregnancy. During the masterclass, the topic of pregnancy in women with other antibody mediated autoimmune neurological conditions, such as Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders (NMOSD) and Myasthenia gravis (MG) will also be addressed.

An integral part of the program will be in-depth workshops on clinical cases, which will be discussed with experts. Additional online sessions for clinical case discussions will be organized as a learning after the in-person event as part of this continuous medical education program.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define clinical and molecular prognostic indicators for disease reactivation during pregnancy and postpartum
- Acquire new knowledge regarding the immunology of pregnancy in treated and untreated women
- Implement fertility screening in men and women with MS in the treatment decision making
- Optimize preconception counseling in women with NMOSD and MG and manage therapy
- Facilitate the dissemination of the innovative management model of the multidisciplinary 'MS Pregnancy Unit'

TARGET AUDIENCE

This educational activity is designed for neurologists, gynecologists, nurses, obstetricians, biologists, pediatricians, infectivologists with special interest or focus in MS and other antibody mediated neurological diseases.

SCIENTIFIC ORGANISERS

Girolama A. Marfia and Doriana Landi

Department of Systems Medicine UOSD Multiple Sclerosis
Tor Vergata University
Rome, Italy

ENDORSEMENTS

This educational activity was endorsed by:



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ACCREDITATION



The 2025 MASTERCLASS ON PREGNANCY IN MS AND ANTIBODY MEDIATED NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES, Rome, Italy 10/09/2025 - 12/09/2025, has been accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®) with 14.5 European CME credits (ECMEC®s). Each medical specialist should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.

The programme has been also accredited for in-person participants by the Italian Ministry of Health by the CME provider SMM srl (Id. 5129) as follows:
Event number: 453767 - CME Credits: 17

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

Med-Ex Learning
viale Gorizia 52, Rome
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Med-Ex Learning
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VENUE

Borgo Della Mistica
Largo M. Bellisario, 300
Rome

REGISTRATION

<https://medexlearning.com/product/2025-masterclass>

For any info please contact **mariaSOLE.capitani@medexlearning.com**.

FACULTY

Laura Airas, Neurologist, Finland

Carlo Alviggi, Gynaecologist, Italy

Francesca Bovis, Statistician, Italy

Luigi Carbone, Gynaecologist, Italy

Lorys Castelli, Psychologist, Italy

Diego Centonze, Neurologist, Italy

Aide Esu, Sociologist, Italy

Elena Elefante, Rheumatologist, Italy

Kerstin Hellwig, Neurologist, Germany

Sarah Hoffmann, Neurologist, Germany

Marco Iannetta, Infectious Disease Specialist, Italy

Raffaele Iorio, Neurologist, Italy

Vilija Jokubaitis, Neurologist, Australia

Doriana Landi, Neurologist, Italy

Girolama Alessandra Marfia, Neurologist, Italy

Claudia Massarotti, Gynaecologist, Italy

Cinzia Niolu, Psychiatrist, Italy

Giuseppe Novelli, Geneticist, Italy

Celia Oreja-Guevara, Neurologist, Spain

Raffaele Palladino, Public Health Specialist, Italy

Paolo Palma, Pediatrician, Italy

Ilaria Pisani, Gynaecologist, Italy

Emilo Portaccio, Neurologist, Italy

Martina Severa, Biologist, Italy

Martina Siracusano, Child Neuropsychiatrist, Italy

Carla Tortorella, Neurologist, Italy

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

13.50 **Welcome and Introduction**
D. Landi, Italy - G. A. Marfia, Italy

14.00 **Keynote lecture: Genetics and Genomics of Multiple Sclerosis: State of the Art and New Direction**
G. Novelli, Italy

Session 1 Epidemiology of pregnancy and Maternal Outcomes Chairs: G. A. Marfia, Italy - R. Palladino, Italy

14.30 **Disease and Pregnancy Outcomes in MS: Past and Present**
R. Palladino, Italy

14.50 **Pregnancy in MS as a Statistical Model: Complexity, Limitations, New approaches**
F. Bovis, Italy

15.10 Discussion

15.30 *Coffee Break*

Session 2 Immunology of pregnancy Chairs: D. Centonze, Italy - D. Landi, Italy

16.00 **Female hormones and immunological dynamic during pregnancy and post-partum**
L. Airas, Finland

16.20 **B cells and fluid biomarkers dynamics during pregnancy and post-partum in MS and antibody mediated neurological disorders**
M. Severa, Italy

16.40 **Infectious Risk, passive immunization and maternal and infantile vaccinations in MS and antibody mediated autoimmune neurological diseases**
M. Iannetta, Italy

17.00 Discussion

17.20 **Clinical Case Workshop**
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - I. Pisani, Italy

18.20 *End of Day 1*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Session 3 DMTs management during pregnancy and breastfeeding

Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - G.A. Marfia, Italy

- 09.00 **Family planning and management of DMTs: current treatment guidelines**
G. A. Marfia, Italy
- 09.20 **Pregnancy Registries and Pharmacovigilance: Opportunities and Limitations**
V. Jokubaitis, Australia
- 09.40 **Breastfeeding: Implications for Mother and Child**
E. Portaccio, Italy
- 10.00 Discussion

Session 4 Obstetric management and offspring outcomes

Chairs: G. Marfia, Italy - E. Portaccio, Italy

- 10.20 **Obstetric management and complications in MS and antibody-mediated neurological disorders**
I. Pisani, Italy
- 10.40 **DMTs exposure and fetal outcomes in MS and antibody-mediated disorders**
K. Hellwig, Germany
- 11.00 **Long-Term Data and Neurodevelopmental Anomalies in Children Born to Mothers with MS**
M. Siracusano, Italy
- 11.20 Discussion
- 11.40 *Coffee Break*

Session 5 Fertility and MS

Chairs: C. Alviggi, Italy - G. A. Marfia, Italy

- 12.00 **Male and Female Fertility in MS and antibodies - mediated diseases: The Role of Autoimmunity**
C. Massarotti, Italy

- 12.20 **Assisted Reproductive Techniques (ART): procedures and opportunities**
C. Alviggi, Italy
- 12.40 **Maternal and Pregnancy Clinical Outcomes in Women with MS undergoing ART**
D. Landi, Italy
- 13.00 Discussion
- 13.20 *Lunch*
- 14.20 **Clinical Case Workshop**
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - C. Massarotti, Italy

Session 6 Psychological and Social Impact of Pregnancy in MS
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - C. Niolu, Italy

- 15.20 **The Symbolic and Social Meaning of Pregnancy for Women with MS and Their Partners, and Couple Dynamics in MS**
A. Esu, Italy
- 15.40 **Impact of MS on Family Functioning**
L. Castelli, Italy
- 16.00 Discussion
- 16.20 *Coffee Break*
- 16.40 **Clinical Case Workshop**
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - A. Esu, Italy
- 17.40 *End of Day 2*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Session 7 Pregnancy in Antibody-Mediated neurological diseases

Chairs: R. Iorio, Italy - C. Tortorella, Italy

- 9.00 **Reproductive health in autoimmune rheumatic diseases**
E. Elefante, Italy
- 9.20 **Dynamic of maternal-fetal antibody transfer during pregnancy: implications for neonatal diseases and protections from infections**
P. Palma, Italy
- 9.40 **Maternal-Fetal Outcomes in Women with NMOsd and MOGAD**
D. Landi, Italy
- 10.00 **Maternal-Fetal Outcomes in Women with Myasthenia Gravis (MG)**
S. Hoffman, Germany
- 10.20 Discussion
- 10.40 **Clinical Case Workshop**
Chairs: L. Carbone, Italy - S. Hoffman, Germany - D. Landi, Italy
- 11.40 *Coffee Break*

Session 8 Management Models

Chair: G. Marfia, Italy

- 12:00 **Round Table: The Maternity Care Unit in autoimmune neurological disorders: state of the art in Europe and initiatives to improve the model**
K. Hellwig, Germany - S. Hoffman, Germany - D. Landi, Italy -
C. Oreja-Guevara, Spain
- 13.00 Conclusions
- 13.30 *Closing Lunch*

FOLLOW UP ONLINE MODULES

Two different learning appointments, dedicated only to the in-person Masterclass attendees. Each workshop will focus on specific topics. During the sessions participants will have the opportunity to practice, acquire knowledge and competences by sharing their clinical cases and discussing their approach with experts.

November 5, 2025

Online Module n. 1

- Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - G. Marfia, Italy

December 4, 2025

Online Module n. 2

- Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - G. Marfia, Italy

Diplomas will be delivered to attendees at the end of the educational Pathway.

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