



THE IMPACT OF N-GLYCOSYLATION IN NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS (NDDs): FROM DIAGNOSIS TO TARGET THERAPIES

PRIN 2022 RESEARCH PROJECT *NGLYNEU* DISSEMINATION

JANUARY 16-17, 2026 - CATANIA, ITALY

Glycosylation is the most frequent post-translational modification of proteins and is essential for the development and function of the central nervous system (CNS). Congenital Disorders of Glycosylation (CDG) are a group of genetic CNS diseases caused by defects in the synthesis and attachment of glycans to proteins and lipids.

CDG belong to the broader group of neurodevelopmental disorders (NDDs), whose genetic basis remains largely unknown. The NGLYNEU project aims to improve current knowledge on the impact of genetic variants involved in glycosylation in neurodevelopmental diseases.

This will support identification of new potential disease-causing genes and the characterization of previously unrecognized neurodevelopmental disorders resulting from glycosylation defects. The project's outcomes will contribute to broadening the boundaries of genetic CNS disorders and to identifying new molecular targets for their treatment.

OPENING CEREMONY - FRIDAY 16TH JANUARY 2026

Venue: Aula Magna – Monastero dei Benedettini – Piazza Dante 32, Catania

14.30 PARTICIPANTS' REGISTRATION

15.30 WELCOME AND GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

Rita BARONE *University of Catania, Italy*

15.40 INSTITUTIONAL GREETINGS

Chairs: Domenico GAROZZO *CNR Catania, Italy*
Elena BARBIERI *University of Urbino, Italy*

16.00 OPENING KEYNOTE

Congenital Disorders of Glycosylation (CDG): Quo Vadis?

Eva MORAVA *Mount Sinai Hospital New York, USA*

KEYNOTES

16.30 Tourette Syndrome: a paradigm for NDD

Renata RIZZO *University of Catania, Italy*

17.00 IGF1 and IGF1 receptor glycosylation: emerging biomarkers of N-glycosylation defects

Giosuè ANNIBALINI *University of Urbino, Italy*

8.00 PARTICIPANTS' REGISTRATION

**SESSION NEXT-GENERATION SEQUENCING (NGS) AND MULTI-OMIC ANALYSES
IN UNDIAGNOSED PATIENTS WITH NDDS**

Chairs: Renata RIZZO *University of Catania, Italy*
Corrado ROMANO *University of Catania, Italy*

9.00 OPENING KEYNOTE

Cracking the Code of CDG: Multi-Omic Models for Mechanism and Treatment
Tamas KOZICZ *Mount Sinai Hospital New York, USA*

9.30 Targeted NGS analyses in the suspect of N-glycosylation disorders
Amelia MORRONE *Meyer Children's Hospital Firenze, University of Florence, Italy*

9.50 MAN2A2 mutation in cognitive disability
Simone TRECCARICHI *IRCCS Oasi Research Institute, Troina, Italy*

KEYNOTES

10.10 PRIN-2022 NGLYNEU project: preliminary results
Rita BARONE *University of Catania, Italy*

10.40 Glycomic signatures of N-glycosylation disorders
Luisella STURIALE *CNR Catania, Italy*

Q&A

11.20 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION CDG: NOVEL PHENOTYPES, MODELS AND THERAPY DEVELOPMENT

Chairs: Rita BARONE *University of Catania, Italy*
Caterina SPEZIA *CDG - Italia Family Association*

11.45 KEYNOTE

New treatment options in CDG, from bench to bedside
Eva MORAVA *Mount Sinai Hospital New York, USA*

12.15 NDDs phenotypes in N-glycosylation disorders
Lara CIRNIGLIARO *University of Catania, Italy*

12.35 Epileptic phenotypes in N-glycosylation disorders
Fabio PETTINATO *University of Catania, Italy*

**12.55 Peripheral Blood Mononuclear Cells (PBMC) analyses
for metabolomic evaluation in PMM2-CDG**
Angela Maria AMORINI, Giuseppe LAZZARINO *University of Catania, Italy*

13.15 CDG - Italia Family Association
Caterina SPEZIA *Trapani, Italy*

Q&A

13.30 LIGHT LUNCH

SESSION EFFECTS OF GLYCO-GENES MUTATION AND INACTIVATION ON CELLULAR PROTEIN GLYCOSYLATION

Chairs: Cettina MELI *AOUP Catania, Italy*
Marco FICHERA *University of Catania, Italy*

14.30 Molecular characterization of VPS13B gene:
assessing the impact of Cohen syndrome mutations on protein function

Fabiana FANELLI *University of Urbino, Italy*

14.50 Novel perspectives in the treatment of Cohen syndrome

Martina RANDAZZO *University of Catania, Italy*

15.10 Serum N-glycosylation in patients with Cohen syndrome

Angelo PALMIGIANO *CNR Catania, Italy*

Angela MESSINA *CNR Catania, Italy*

Q&A

15.30 CONCLUDING REMARKS

18.30 -19.00 WELCOME MEETING WITH CDG - ITALIA FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Novel clinical trials in CDG

Eva MORAVA, Tamas KOZICZ *Mount Sinai Hospital New York, USA*

19.45 STAY TOGETHER AND DINNER

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Rita BARONE



Luisella STURIALE



Giosuè ANNIBALINI



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Lara CIRNIGLIARO

Fabio PETTINATO

Martina RANDAZZO

Roberta SALTARELLI

Caterina SPEZIA



THE IMPACT OF N-GLYCOSYLATION IN NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS (NDDs): FROM DIAGNOSIS TO TARGET THERAPIES

PRIN 2022 RESEARCH PROJECT *NGLYNEU* DISSEMINATION

JANUARY 16-17, 2026 - CATANIA, ITALY

FACULTY

AMORINI Mariangela	Department of Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences, Medical Biochemistry, University of Catania
ANNIBALINI Giosuè	Department of Biomolecular Sciences, University of Urbino Carlo Bo
BARBIERI Elena	Department of Biomolecular Sciences, University of Urbino Carlo Bo
BARONE Rita	Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Child Neuropsychiatry Section, University of Catania
CIRNIGLIARO Lara	Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Child Neuropsychiatry Section, University of Catania
FANELLI Fabiana	Department of Biomolecular Sciences, University of Urbino Carlo Bo
FICHERA Marco	Department of Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences, Medical Genetics, University of Catania
GAROZZO Domenico	CNR Catania
KOZICZ Tamas	Department of Genetics and Genomic Sciences, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York
LAZZARINO Giuseppe	Department of Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences, Medical Biochemistry, University of Catania
MELI Cettina	Inborn Metabolic Diseases - Newborn Screening Center - AOUP Catania
MESSINA Angela	IPCB CNR Catania
MORAVA Eva	Department of Genetics and Genomic Sciences, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York
MORRONE Amelia	Laboratory of Molecular Genetics of Neurometabolic Diseases, Meyer Children's Hospital, Florence
PALMIGIANO Angelo	IPCB CNR Catania
PETTINATO Fabio	Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine - Child Neuropsychiatry Section, University of Catania
RANDAZZO Martina	Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine - Child Neuropsychiatry Section, University of Catania
RIZZO Renata	Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine - Child Neuropsychiatry Section, University of Catania
ROMANO Corrado	Department of Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences, Medical Genetics, University of Catania
SALTARELLI Roberta	Department of Biomolecular Sciences, University of Urbino Carlo Bo
SPEZIA Caterina	CDG-Italia Family Association
STURIALE Luisella	IPCB CNR Catania
TRECCARICHI Simone	IRCCS Oasi Troina (EN)