



# 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 16<sup>TH</sup> 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*

**SATURDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**

**Venue: Aula Magna Torre Biologica – Via Santa Sofia 98, Catania**

**8.00 PARTICIPANTS' REGISTRATION**

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

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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**

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**SESSION    CDG: NOVEL PHENOTYPES, MODELS AND THERAPY DEVELOPMENT**

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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**

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

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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**

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**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

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Rita BARONE

Luisella STURIALE

Giosuè ANNIBALINI



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**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

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Lara CIRNIGLIARO

Fabio PETTINATO

Martina RANDAZZO

Roberta SALTARELLI

Caterina SPEZIA



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### FACULTY

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STURIALE Luisella	<i>IPCB CNR Catania</i>
TRECCARICHI Simone	<i>IRCCS Oasi Troina (EN)</i>