



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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*Ex-Officio Member

DAY 1 - THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026

8-9 a.m.

Breakfast and Registration

9-9:15 a.m.

Welcome

9:15-9:40 a.m.

Plenary: The Landscape of Alzheimer's and Dementia Research in Turkey
 Murat Emre, Istanbul University, Turkey

9:40-11:10 a.m.

**Session 1: Health Equity and Disparities:
 Considerations for Prevalence, Detection and Diagnosis**

Moderators:

Lea Grinberg, Mayo Clinic, United States
 Görsev Yener, Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey

Presenters:

Cognitive Decline and Dementia in Egypt
 Hany Ibrahim, Ain Shams University, Egypt

Cognitive Decline and Dementia in Refugees in Jordan
 Tala Al-Rousan, University of California San Diego, United States

Cognitive Decline and Dementia in Tunisia
 Riadh Gouider, Razi University Hospital, Tunisia

Cognitive Decline and Dementia in Lebanon
 Monique Chayaa, American University of Beirut, Lebanon

Telemedicine for Reaching Populations, Impact of Dementia in Greece
 Sokratis Papageorgiou, Athens University, Greece

Neurodegenerative Disease Mechanisms and Novel Approaches to Detection in Qatar
 Hilal Lashuel, Swiss Federal Technology Institute of Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

11:10-11:40 a.m.

Break

11:40-11:45 a.m.

Brain Health Boost

11:45-1:15 p.m.

Session 2: Uncovering the Biological and Genetic Underpinnings of Complex Neurodegenerative Diseases

Moderators:

Raquel Sanchez-Valle, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona, Spain
Elissaios Karageorgiou, Neurological Institute of Athens, Greece

Presenters:

The Role of Ancestry in the Global Genetics of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
Margaret Pericak-Vance, University of Miami, United States

Characterizing the Complex Genetic Contributions to Aging, Alzheimer's and Neurodegenerative Diseases
Nilufer Ertekin-Taner, Mayo Clinic, United States

Exploration of Omics for Understanding Biology and Informing Biomarker Development
Şermin Genç, Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey

Central-peripheral Immune Dysregulation in FTLTD: Prognostic and Therapeutic Implications
Maura Malpetti, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom

Cellular Circuits Responsible for Emotional Alterations in Neurodegenerative Diseases
Rosario Moratalla, Cajal Institute, Spain

1:15-2:45 p.m.

Lunch

ISTAART Skills Forum 1 — Grants and Funding

2:45-3:30 p.m.

Poster Break

3:30-3:35 p.m.

Brain Health Boost

3:35-4 p.m.

Plenary:

Charlotte Teunissen, Amsterdam University Medical Center, Netherlands
Biological Understanding of Neurodegenerative Diseases to Inform Biomarker Development

4-5:30 p.m.

Session 3: Biomarkers in Detection and Diagnosis

Moderators:

Duygu Tosun, University of California San Francisco, United States
Keith Johnson, Harvard University, United States

Presenters:

Integration of Imaging and Fluid Biomarkers in Detection and Diagnosis
Reisa Sperling, Harvard University, United States

Blood Based Biomarkers and Integration into Diagnosis
Ashvini Keshavan, University College London, United Kingdom

Applications of EEG in Detection and Diagnosis
Bahar Guntekin, Istanbul Medipol University, Turkey

Using Skin Biopsy Applications for Diagnosis of Parkinson's and other Neurological Diseases
Vincenzo Donadio, IRCCS Institute of Neuroscience of Bologna, Italy

Alpha Synuclein in CSF: RT-QuIC for Synuclein
Mircea Balasa, Hospital Clínic Barcelona, Spain

5:30-5:45 p.m.

Close Out Day 1

6-8:30 p.m.

Reception

DAY 2 - FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026

8-9 a.m.

Breakfast

9-9:10 a.m.

Welcome Back and Preview of Day Two

9:10-10:40 a.m.

Session 4: Risk and Resilience to Cognitive Aging Populations

Moderators:

Agustin Ibanez, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Chile
Rema Raman, University of Southern California, United States

Presenters:

Landscape of Modifiable Risk Factors for Cognitive Impairment and Dementia
Rachel Whitmer, University of California Davis, United States
Uncovering Region Specific Risk Factors for Cognitive Impairment and Dementia
Mohamed Salama, The American University in Cairo, Egypt
TBI as a Risk Factor for Cognitive Impairment
Raquel Gardner, Sheba Medical Center, Israel

10:40-11:10 a.m.

Break

11:10-11:55 a.m.

Session 6: Lightning Presentation Round - Accepted from Submitted Abstracts

Moderators:

Lisa Barnes, Rush University, United States
Ibrahim Emre Bora, Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey

Presenters:

TBD

11:55-12 p.m.

Brain Health Boost

12-1:30 p.m.

Lunch

ISTAART Skills Forum 2 — Journals and Publishing

1:30-1:55 p.m.

Plenary: FTD: Language and Beyond

Marsel Mesulam, Northwestern University, United States

1:55-3:10 p.m.

Session 7: Language Complexity in Neurodegenerative Diseases

Moderators:

Yavuz Ayhan, Hacettepe University, Turkey
Hakan Gürvit, Istanbul University, Turkey

Presenters:

Linguistic Aspects and Neurological Correlates in Aphasia
Stefano Cappa, University of Milano, Italy
Multilanguage Assessment of Cognitive Decline
Didem Öz, Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey
Impact of Linguistic, Social, and Cultural Factors on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Primary Progressive Aphasia
Petronilla Battista, Istituti Clinici Scientifici Maugeri IRCCS, Italy
Using the Eye as a Link to Language Related Processing in Neurodegenerative Diseases
Mustafa Seckin, Istanbul Health and Technology University, Turkey
Neuromodulation for Language in Neurodegenerative diseases
Jordi A. Matias-Guiu, Hospital Clinico San Carlos, Spain

3:10-3:50 p.m.	Poster Break
3:50-4:35 p.m.	<p>Session 8: Lightning Presentation Round - Atlantic Fellows - Global Brain Health Institute</p> <p>Moderators: Sandra Gimenez, Hospital de la Santa Creu i Sant Pau, Spain Eimear McGlinchey, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland</p> <p>Presenters TBD</p>
4:35-5:30 p.m.	<p>Session 9: Arts-based Interventions in Clinical Settings: Trajectories, Impact and Evaluation for Brain Health</p> <p>Presenters: <i>Global Brain Health Institute/Atlantic Fellows</i></p>
5:30-5:45 p.m.	Close (<i>In person only</i>)

SAVE THE DATE

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Tau Global Conference

May 14-15 | Washington, D.C., and Online

Alzheimer's Association International Conference® (AAIC®) 2026

July 12-15 | London, U.K., and Online

alz.org/scientificmeetings

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