



QBRI-IBRO-MENA Neuroscience Conference

Neurological and Psychiatric Disorders: From mechanism to therapeutic strategies

December 16 and 17th, 2014

Qatar Biomedical Research Institute
Doha, Qatar

Conference Chairs: Hilal A. Lashuel, Omar El-Agnaf, Hatem El-Shanti and Ashfaq Shuaib

December 15th, 2014

19:00 – 20:00 Meeting of the new IBRO-MENA executive committee

Day 1, December 16th, 2014

Opening Remarks

9:00 – 9:10 Hilal A. Lashuel
9:10 – 9:20 Omar El-Agnaf
9:20 – 9:30 Pierre Magistretti

Plenary Session 1

9:30 – 10:05 **Role of neuron-glia interaction in neuronal plasticity**
Pierre Magistretti
President, International Brain Research Organisation
Dean, KAUST/EPFL

10:05 – 10:40 **Alpha-synuclein and tau aggregation in neurodegenerative diseases**
Maria Spillantini
Professor of Molecular Neurology,
Cambridge University, UK

10:40 – 11:00 Coffee Break

Session1: Behavioral &Psychiatric Disorders

11:00 – 11:30 **Stress and psychiatric disorders**
Carmen Sandi
Professor & Director, Brain Mind Institute,
Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

11:30 – 12:00 **To fear or not to fear: neural circuits in the brain**
Mohammed Milad
Associate Professor,
Harvard Medical School

12:00 - 13:30 Duhar Prayers and Lunch

Session 2: Neurodegenerative disorders

13:30 – 14:00 **Exploiting the Parkinson's Disease Protein, Alpha-Synuclein, for Diagnosis and Therapeutic Drugs Design**
Omar El-Agnaf
Professor,
Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar

14:00 – 14:30 **Protein Aggregation in Neurodegenerative Disease: From Mechanisms to Therapeutic Strategies**
Hilal A. Lashuel
Professor & Director,
Qatar Biomedical Research Institute, Qatar

14:30 – 14:45 Coffee Break

14:45 – 15:15 **Cholinergic Enhancers for Alzheimer's Disease**
Ayman Hamouda
Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Texas A&M University, USA

15:15 – 15:45 **Transcriptional targeting of pathological intermediates in Alzheimer's disease by tolfenamic acid.**
Lina Adwan
Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology
Birzeit University, Palestine

Speakers' Dinner

20:00 – 22:00 Gala Dinner HBKU - SC

Day 2, December 17th, 2014

Plenary Session II.

9:00 – 9:30 **Recent advances in the management of acute stroke**
Ashfaq Shuaib
Director, Neurosciences Institute,
Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar

Session 3: Autism and Epilepsy

9:30 – 10:00 **Neurostimulation for epilepsy: How does it work?**
Basim Uthman
Professor & Vice Chair, Clinical Neurology,
Professor of Clinical Neuroscience,
Director, Neurology Clerkship,
Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Qatar

10:00 – 10:30 **Epilepsy and Neurocysticercosis**
Naim Haddad
Associate Professor of Neurology
Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:15 **Autism Spectrum Disorders in Qatar: Findings from a dedicated program**
Haitham Al-Bashir
Senior Consultant
Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar

11:15 - 11:45 **Genomic approaches to the elucidation of Autism genetic aetiology**
Hatem El-Shanti
Scientific Director, Medical Genetics Center,
Qatar Biomedical Research Institute, Qatar

11:45 - 13:30 Duhar Prayers and Lunch

Session 4: Stroke

- 13:30 – 14:30 **Imaging the Penumbra: The Pathophysiologic Basis for Therapy of Ischemic Stroke**
Wolf-Dieter Hiess
Director, Department of General Neurology,
Max Planck Institute for Metabolism Research, Germany
- 14:30 – 15:00 **Update on Stroke Prevention Strategies**
Naveed Akhtar
Consultant Neurologist
Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar
- 15:00 – 15:10 Coffee Break
- 15:15 – 15:45 **Deciphering Traumatic Brain Injury Biomarkers: What is Next?**
Firas Kobeissy
Assistant Research professor,
Associate Scientific Director for the Psychoproteomics and
Nanotechnology Research Center,
American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- 15:45 – 16:15 **Sources and dynamics of reactive oxygen species at the synapses in brain inflammation**
Sameh Ali
Founding Director of the Center for Aging and Associated Diseases,
Helmy Institute of Medical Sciences, Egypt
- 16:15 – 16:30 Closing remarks