



The Joint 7th World Congress on Twin Pregnancy and 19th Congress of the International Society of Twin Studies (ISTS)

*Grand Hotel Convention Centre
Assisi, Perugia, Italy
September 26th – 28th, 2024*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

MATERNAL-FETAL MEDICINE COURSES

9.00 – 12.30

COURSE PC1: Monitoring during pregnancy and labour

Coordinators: Gerry H.A. Visser, The Netherlands; Eftichia Kontopoulos, USA

Speakers: Irene Cetin, Italy; Giuseppe Rizzo, Italy; Yariv Yogev, Israel; Huixia Yang, China; Roland Devlieger, Belgium; Maria De La Calle, Spain; Fabio Facchinetti, Italy; Gerry H. Visser, The Netherlands

9.00 – 12.30

COURSE PC2: Twin management in the perinatal period

Coordinators: Jon Barrett, Canada; Diogo Ayres de Campos, Portugal

Speakers: Enrico Lopriore, The Netherlands; Umberto Simeoni, Switzerland; Liesbeth Lewi, Belgium; T Y Leung, China; Nir Melamed, Canada; Jon Barrett, Canada; Diogo Ayers de Campos, Portugal

13.00 – 16.30

COURSE PC3: Update on TTTS, its variations and its management

Coordinators: Ruben Quintero, USA; Valentina Tsibizova, Italy

Speakers: Mahesh Choolani, Singapore; Kurt Hecher, Germany; Marc D. Kilby, UK; Tuangsit Watanagara, Thailand; Dick Oepkes, The Netherlands; Valentina Tsibizova, Italy; Ruben Quintero, USA; Eftichia Kontopoulos, USA; Nicola Persico, Italy; Ramen H. Chmait, USA

ICOMBO WORKSHOP

13.30 – 16.30

'Working in a multiple birth organisation (for International Council of Multiple Birth Organisations, ICOMBO members)

Coordinators: Carolyn Lister, New Zealand; Monica Rankin, Australia

ISTS WORKSHOPS

09.00 – 11.00

ISTS WORKSHOP W1 – Twin studies in Microbiome and Health

Co-organizers: Chika Honda, Japan; Luca Zoldi, Hungary; Rie Tomizawa, Japan



09.00 – 11.00

ISTS WORKSHOP W2 – Maximizing the value of twin studies: their value for birth cohorts, developmental and ageing studies

Co-organizers: Dorret Boomsma, The Netherlands; Jeffrey M. Craig, Australia; Sonia Brescianini, Italy; Emanuela Medda, Italy; Adam Domonkos Tarnoki, Hungary; David Laszlo Tarnoki, Hungary; Veronika Odintsova, The Netherlands; Snezana Smederevac, Serbia

11.15 – 13.15

ISTS WORKSHOP W3 – New developments in twin studies of Epigenetics

Co-organizers: Jordana Bell, UK; Jenny van Dongen, The Netherlands; Jeffrey M. Craig, Australia (advisor)

11.15 – 13.15

ISTS WORKSHOP W4 - Integrating imaging, laboratory and clinical data in twin studies

Co-organizers: Adam Domonkos Tarnoki, Hungary; David Laszlo Tarnoki, Hungary; Bianka Forgo, Sweden; Aliz Persely, Hungary; Ruben Quintero, USA

13.30 – 16.00

ISTS WORKSHOP W5 - Twin Statistics. Designs, outcomes and statistical approaches to optimize the analysis of data from twins. Register data (when zygosity is unknown). Quantitative genetic methodology for transancestry analyses

Co-organizers: Márton Pirooska, Hungary; Levi Littvay, Hungary; Jacob Hjelmberg, Denmark; Katrina Scurrah, Australia; Liang He, Denmark; Michael C. Neale, USA; Conor Vivian Dolan, The Netherlands; Hermine H. M. Maes, USA; Karri Silventoinen, Finland

13.30 – 16.00

ISTS WORKSHOP W6 – Twin studies in Africa and Asia: A growing resource for multi-cohort studies

Co-organizers: Yoon-Mi Hur, South Korea; Athula Sumathipala, Sri Lanka; Karri Silventoinen, Finland

16.30 – 17.30

ISTS BOARD MEETING

Coordinators: Adam Domonkos Tarnoki, Hungary; David Laszlo Tarnoki, Hungary

18.00

Transfer by bus to Auditorium Cimabue for openings

18.30 – 21.30

Auditorium Cimabue, Centro Convegni Colle del Paradiso

OPENING CEREMONY & WELCOME RECEPTION

Chairpersons: Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy, Ruben Quintero, USA, Adam & David Tarnoki, Hungary

Opening lecture: “Twins and Twin Research: The Science and the Fascination”

Nancy L. Segal, USA

20.30

Choir Concert, Music Chapel, at the Papal Basilic of St Francis

21.45

Transfer by bus to BV Grand Hotel



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

THROUGHOUT THE DAY – POSTER SESSION 1

8:30 – 9:30

PARALLEL SESSION 1A: Assisted reproductive technologies and the epidemiology of twinning

Coordinators: Luca Gianaroli, Italy; Nils Lambalk, The Netherlands

Speakers: G Scaravelli, L Gianaroli, TBA

8:30 – 9:30

PARALLEL SESSION 1B: Celebrating the achievements of successful twin registries

Coordinators: Dorret Boomsma, The Netherlands; Joakko Kaprio, Finland; Tim Spector, UK; Nancy L. Pedersen, Sweden

Athula Sumathipala, Sri Lanka

9:30 – 10:00

KEYNOTE LECTURE: Tba

Roberto Romero, USA introduced by Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy

10:00 -10:30 COFFEE BREAK

10:30 – 12:30

PARALLEL SESSION 2A: Periconceptional aspects of multiple pregnancy

Coordinators: Roland Devlieger, Belgium; Lucilla Poston, UK

Speakers: Irene Cetin, Italy; Yariv Yogev, Israel; Eftichia Kontopoulos, USA; Roland Devlieger, Belgium; Lucilla Poston, UK

10:30 – 12:30

PARALLEL SESSION 2B: Bulmer session: Biology of Twinning and Fertility

Co-Chairs: Dorret Boomsma, The Netherlands; Nick Martin, Australia; Nils Lambalk, The Netherlands

12:30 - 13:30 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 – 15:30

PARALLEL SESSION 3A: Prenatal non-invasive and invasive testing

Coordinators: Katia Bilardo, The Netherlands; Eugenia Antolin, Spain

Speakers: Maria del Mar Gil Mira, Spain; Katia Bilardo, The Netherlands; Eugenia Antolin, Spain; Liona Poon, China

13:30 – 15:30

PARALLEL SESSION 3B: Studies of twins' psychological features (ability, mental health, relationships, legal issues, new books)

Coordinators: Nancy L. Segal, USA; Yoon-Mi Hur, South Korea; Emanuela Medda, Italy

15:30 - 16:00 TEA BREAK



16:30 – 18:00

PARALLEL SESSION 4A: Preterm birth and prematurity prevention (a PREIS School Academy Session)

Coordinators: Roberto Romero, USA; Giuseppe Rizzo, Italy

Speakers: Eduardo Fonseca, Brazil; Giuseppe Rizzo, Italy; Roberto Romero, USA; Gerry H. Visser, The Netherlands; Mark D. Kilby, UK

16:30 – 18:00

PARALLEL SESSION 4B:

New documentary film on switched Colombian twins. Showing and discussion with award-winning director

Alessandro Angulo Brandestini (Laberinto Films)

New documentary on twins reared apart. Showing and discussion with Dutch film director

Myrthe Buitenhuis

Coordinators: Nancy L. Segal, USA; Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy; Ruben Quintero, USA

18:00- 18:30

Happy hour lecture: "Is that me or my twin? Lack of self-face recognition advantage in identical twins"

Salvatore Maria Aglioti, Italy (winner of the IgNobel prize)

19:30

Transfer by bus

20.00

SOCIAL EVENT FOR ALL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

THROUGHOUT THE DAY – POSTER SESSION 2

8:30 – 9:30

PARALLEL SESSION 5A: Management of labor and delivery

Coordinators: Nir Melamed, Canada; Yariv Yogev, Israel

Speakers: Nir Melamed, Canada; Mariarosaria DiTommaso, Italy Diogo Ayres do Campos, Portugal

8:30 – 9:30

PARALLEL SESSION 5B: Twin research and personalised medicine

Coordinators: Petra Zwijnenburg, The Netherlands; Dorret Boomsma, The Netherlands; Mikio Watanabe, Japan; Bianka Forgo, Sweden

9:30 – 10:00

KEYNOTE LECTURE: Tba

introduced by David Tarnoki, Hungary

10:00 -10:30

COFFEE BREAK



10:30 – 12:30

PARALLEL SESSION 6A: Role of ultrasound: chorionicity and beyond

Coordinators: Kurt Hecher, Germany, Ruben Quintero, USA

Speakers: Liesbeth Lewi, Belgium; Giuseppe Rizzo, Italy; Kurt Hecher, Germany; Asma Khalil, UK;

10:30 – 12:30

PARALLEL SESSION 6B:

10:30 – 11:30 Twin research on clinical genetics and chronic disorders

Coordinators: John L. Hopper, Australia; Chika Honda, Japan; Joohon Sung, South Korea

11:30 – 12:30 Early Career Researchers session: research that will have a positive impact on the lives of multiples and/or their families

Coordinators: Monica Rankin, Australia; Carolyn Lister, New Zealand; Bianka Forgo, Sweden

12.30 – 13.30

SPECIAL LUNCH SESSION: Gaps in the management and research in complicated monochorionic multiple pregnancies. A European program (by invitation only)

Coordinator: Yves Ville, France

12:30 - 13:30 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 – 15:30

PARALLEL SESSION 7A: Special issues 1: Monochorionic twins

Coordinators: Jose' Luis Bartha Rasero, Spain; Vedran Stefanovic, Finland

Speakers: Vedran Stefanovic, Finland; Enrico Lopriore, The Netherlands; Jose Luis Bartha, Spain; Ruben Quintero, USA; Eftichia Kontopoulos, USA; Ramen H. Chmait, USA

13:30 – 15:30

PARALLEL SESSION 7B: Ancestry research in twins and twin studies. Ethical aspects in twin research. IVF and Embryo transfers from psycho-social implications especially in LMICS

Coordinators: Asma Khalil, UK; Athula Sumathipala, Sri Lanka; Yoon-Mi Hur, South Korea; Dorret Boomsma, The Netherlands

15:30 - 16:00 TEA BREAK

16:30 – 18:00

PARALLEL SESSION 8A: Special issues 2: Twins, neonatal outcome and DOHAD

Coordinators: Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy; Umberto Simeoni, Switzerland

Speakers: Umberto Simeoni, Switzerland; Lucilla Poston, UK; Enrico Lopriore, The Netherlands

16:30 – 18:00

PARALLEL SESSION 8B: Joint session ISTS/Maternal-fetal medicine/ICOMBO: 'Exploring opportunities for the multiples and research communities to work together for mutual benefit. The difficult decisions and ethical considerations in multiple pregnancies. ART, ethics, conjoined twins, selective reduction. Family perspectives

Coordinators: Asma Khalil, UK; Monica Rankin, Australia; Carolyn Lister, New Zealand; Jeffrey M. Craig, Australia

18.00 CLOSING CEREMONY



ISTS AWARD PRESENTATIONS

- The Shields Award
- The Gedda Prize for best student poster
- The Galton Prize for best student presentation
- ICOMBO Early career researcher prize