

GOALS

Move from validation to implementation—defining what it will take for blood-based biomarkers to reliably guide real-world clinical decisions in neurodegenerative diseases.

FACULTY

ALICIA ALGECIRAS-SCHIMNICH - MAYO CLINIC
VALENTINA BESSI - UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE
JEFF BURNS - UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
GIAN CARLO DI RENZO - PREIS SCHOOL
TIMO GRIMMER - TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH
LINUS JÖNSSON - KAROLINSKA INSTITUTE
NIKLAS MATTSON-CARLGREN - LUND UNIVERSITY
MICHELLE MIELKE - WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
SUZANNE SCHINDLER - WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
MARC SUAREZ-CALVET - UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA
CHARLOTTE TEUNISSEN - AMSTERDAM UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER
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SEPTEMBER 24-25, 2026

THE ARTIST'S PALACE - FLORENCE

CLINICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF BLOOD-BASED BIOMARKERS IN NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES



Location:

The Artists' Palace, Piazza di San Lorenzo, 6, 50123 Firenze

DAY 1

9.00-9.30	Welcome & Intro
9.30-10.30	A retrospective & reality check: Key advances and learnings since we last met Impulse presentation (15 min): <i>Marc Suarez-Calvet</i> followed by discussion (45 min) Guiding questions: Recap main discussions from last meeting and What has changed since then? What have been wins & challenges? What are the learnings and take aways? Have we expected this? What would we have done differently? Have our clinical use cases evolved? Do we need to refine/update any criteria for BBM validation?
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
11.00-12.00	Looking into the crystal ball: what do we expect in the year to come Impulse presentation (15 min): <i>Charlotte Teunissen</i> followed by discussion (45 min) Guiding questions: Which key events do we expect (e.g. trial read outs, biomarker approvals, new data, guidelines etc.)? How do we prepare for it? What would we like to shape / which progress we would like to see in the next year? How do we get there? What will be needed for greater use and confidence in BBMs? What will be needed for BBMs to be used for screening cognitively unimpaired individuals?
12.00-13.30	Lunch break
13.30-15.00	Going beyond pTau217 – what is the next “big thing” in BBMs? Impulse presentation (15 min): <i>Niklas Mattsson-Carlgren</i> followed by discussion (75 min) Guiding questions: What are the “new kids on the block”? How do we think about panels etc.? What could be the road to clinical implementation? Can we leverage any learnings from pTau217 with regard to validation and deployment? BBMs for which pathologies would be most helpful? What types of BBMs are needed in the context of treatments?

15.00-15.30	Coffee break
15.30-17.00	How do we validate new BBMs? Impulse presentation (15 min): <i>Alicia Algeciras-Schimmich</i> followed by discussion (75 min) Guiding questions: Which major cohorts are available? Which questions can we not answer with the existing cohorts? Should we build an NDD registry to address these? Are BBMs ready for decision making for DMT treatment guidance (PET still needed?) How to handle a cognitively unimpaired population (lower prevalence, lower values)
17.00-17.30	wrap up & summary

DAY 2

9.00-9.30	Summary of day 1
9.30-12.00	How do we envision a state of the art clinical implementation of BBMs Impulse presentation (15 min): <i>Michelle Mielke, Jeff Burns</i> followed by discussion (75 min) Guiding questions: What do we need in addition to BBMs for successful implementation (digital, education, reporting, connectivity to EHR systems etc.)? How does the landscape of digital approaches (algorithms, assessments) accompanying BBMs look like? Which are ready now, next year, in 5 years? How do we envision that digital tooling and AI approaches will be deployed? What are open questions / needs for validation?
10.30-11.00	Coffee break
12.00-12.45	Roundtable discussion summarizing key points – and publication story line
13.00	Farewell lunch