

Final Program

DAY 1 - Wednesday 16 SEP 2026

SESSION 1 – Understanding Glial Cells: Cellular Breakthroughs

09:00 – 10:00 Born to be a phagocyte: microglial phagocytosis from development to disease.

[Amanda Sierra](#) (Achucarro)

10:00 – 11:00 From metabolism to signaling: astrocytic mitochondria in cognition.

[Juan Pedro Bolaños](#) (U. Salamanca)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 Beyond Insulation: How Oligodendrocytes Shape Neuronal Signaling.

[Arne Battefeld](#) (U. Bordeaux)

12:30 – 13:30 Scientific career development: round table with speakers.

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

SESSION 2 – New Insights on Glial Cells in Neurodegeneration: A Focus on Metabolism

14:30 – 15:30 Breathing microglia, the relevance of oxygen metabolism in health and disease.

[Alberto Pascual](#) (IBiS, Hospital U. Virgen del Rocío, CSIC, U. Sevilla)

15:30 – 16:30 Astrocytic metabolic changes in Alzheimer's disease.

[Maite Solas](#) (U. Navarra)

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee Break

17:00 – 18:00 Myelin Regeneration in Multiple Sclerosis: Metabolism and Therapeutic Opportunities.

[Vanja Tepavcevic](#) (U. Valencia).

DAY 2 - Thursday 17 SEP 2026

SESSION 3 – The Integrative Functions of Glial Cells in Neural Circuit Physiology

09:00 – 10:00 The many roles of microglia in early brain development.

[Rosa Paolicelli](#) (U. Lausanne)

10:00 – 11:00 Impact of astrocytes in synaptic transmission: from tripartite synapse to engrams.

[Marta Navarrete](#) (Instituto Cajal, CSIC)

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 The Role of Oligodendroglia in Sculpting Cortical Circuits for Cognitive Function.

[María Cecilia Angulo](#) (Institute of Psychiatry and Neuroscience of Paris)

12:30 – 13:30 Astrocytes as Multiscale Modulators of Sensory Circuit Function.

[Juliana M. Rosa](#) (Hospital Nacional de Paraplégicos de Toledo)

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 17:00 Project mentoring workshop with speakers and Achucarro PI's

20:00 Social dinner at Bahía Hotel

DAY 3 - Friday 18 SEP 2026

SESSION 4 – Innovative Experimental Approaches to Studying Glial Cells

09:00 – 09:45 Human iPSC and organoid models in glial research: Advances and Limitations.

[Fabio Cavaliere](#) (Achucarro)

09:45 – 10:30 Watching Glia in Action: Zebrafish as a Window into Glial Cell Biology.

[Minou Djannatian](#) (Technical U. Munich)

10:30 – 11:15 Illuminating the brain's dark matter: two-photon imaging of extracellular matrix and glia.

[Federico N. Soria](#) (Achucarro)

11:15 – 11:45 Coffee Break

11:45 – 12:30 Transcriptomic landscapes of microglia in Alzheimer's disease.

[José Pascual López-Atalaya](#) (Inst. de Neurociencias, UMH-CSIC, Alicante)

12:30 – 14:00 Technical mentoring with speakers and Achucarro experts

14:00 Closure

Organizing Committee

María Domercq

Elena Alberdi

Arjen Boender

Izaskun Buendía

María Kukley

María V. Sánchez-Gómez

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