



# 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress

21-24 September 2024

Milan, Italy

*Welcome to the future  
of CNS treatments*



## REPORT

### 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress Foundation 2022-2024



Photo: Tobias Koch / tobiaskoch.net

[www.ecnp.eu](http://www.ecnp.eu)



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## INTRODUCTION

The Foundation 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress was established on 19 January 2022.

The objective of the Foundation is to obtain funds for the benefit of the ECNP Research and Scholarship Foundation (ECNP R&S), whose goal is to promote and maximise research in the field of neuropsychopharmacology. ECNP R&S is a Dutch public interest serving entity (ANBI).

The Foundation achieves its objective by organising the international congress named "37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress", which was held on 21-24 September 2024 in Milan, Italy.

The Foundation did not aim to make a profit. A net operating surplus was transferred to ECNP R&S.

The members of the board did not receive remuneration for their role.

This report will give you an outline of the activities related to the organisation of the congress.

We hope you will enjoy reading this report and for any comments or questions please contact us at [congress2024@ecnp.eu](mailto:congress2024@ecnp.eu).

Alexander Schubert  
Secretary, Foundation 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress  
June 2025



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## COMMITTEES

### Board of the Foundation 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress

Martin Kas, The Netherlands, *Chair and Treasurer*

Alexander Schubert, The Netherlands, *Secretary*

### Members of the Scientific Programme Committee 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress

John Cryan, Ireland, *Chair*

David Baldwin, United Kingdom, *Chair Educational Committee*

Andreas Meyer-Lindenberg, Germany, *Editor-in-chief journal Neuroscience Applied*

Eduard Vieta, Spain, *Editor-in-chief journal European Neuropsychopharmacology*

Roger Adan, The Netherlands

Mara Dierssen, Spain

Maria Faurholt-Jepsen, Denmark

Barbara Franke, The Netherlands

Sarah Kittel Schneider, Germany

Nikolaos Koutsouleris, Germany

Leah Mayo, Sweden

Kamilla Miskowiak, Denmark

David Slattery, Germany

Rachel Upthegrove, United Kingdom

Arno Villringer, Germany



## AIM AND CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

The aim of the ECNP Congress is to bring together people from disciplines across the spectrum of applied and translational neuroscience to network, exchange ideas and to advance the science of the brain, promote better treatment and enhance brain health.

To fulfil this aim, a variety special activities and sessions were organised.

### Keynote Lecture (KL)

60 minutes (including welcome speech); livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants. Opening with a welcome by the ECNP President, the Keynote Lecture is given by a world-renowned speaker and formally launches the ECNP scientific programme. All participants were invited to join it.

### Plenary Lectures (PL)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The six Plenary Lectures at the ECNP Congress are given by internationally-recognised eminent scientists and are the backbone of the scientific programme. Two of the six lectures were given by the 2024 ECNP Neuropsychopharmacology Award winner and by the Brain Prize Winner.

## Symposia and other presentations

### Symposia (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

In these traditional ECNP Symposia, four top experts on a specific topic – led by a chair – map out the state of the field and present their most recent findings. Each speaker had 15 minutes to present their data followed by Q&A. Questions could be from in-person and virtual participants.

### Breaking Hot Topic Symposium (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The Breaking Hot Topic Symposium offers an opportunity to present and discuss the timeliest science during a short talk. Speakers were selected by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) from open submission.



### New Findings in Applied Neuroscience (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

This is a special symposium that gives six promising Early Career Scientists – selected from the best research presented at the ECNP Workshop for Early Career Scientists in Europe – the opportunity to present their latest findings. Each lecture ended with Q&A time. Questions could be from in-person and virtual participants.

### New Medications Symposium (S)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The New Medications Symposium is a special symposium dedicated to clinical trials of new compounds, including proof of concept and post-marketing studies, using data from human trials. The selected speakers – led by a chair – presented their data on new medications during a short presentation followed by Q&A. Questions could be from in-person and online participants.





## Career Development Sessions (CD)

45 minutes; available for in-person

The Career Development Sessions are training sessions with a leading expert in the field. The topics of these sessions focus on building your scientific career – writing scientific papers, improving presentation skills, creating a spin-off company or finding a job in the industry are just a few examples – and are especially interesting for Early Career Scientists. The session ended with Q&A.

## Love Your Brain Sessions (LB)

30 minutes; only available for in-person participants

These sessions – each led by a single speaker – focus on the importance of prevention of brain disorders and promotion of mental health through a healthy and brain-friendly lifestyle. These sessions have explored neuroscience from a different perspective! The presentation of the speaker was followed by a short Q&A time.

## Top Paper Sessions (TP)

30 minutes; only available for in-person participants

During the Top Paper Sessions, distinguished speakers present and discuss four papers published during the last year, which they consider clinically most important and cutting-edge in their discipline. These sessions were a great way to get up-to-speed with the latest developments in research.

## Interactive sessions



### Campfire Sessions (CA)

45 minutes; only available for in-person participants

The Campfire Sessions allow for the maximum interaction between experts on a certain topic and participants. Sitting in a circle as if around a campfire – and without slides and screens – the expert, with the help of a moderator, will first introduce the topic followed by a conversation with the participants. It is an easy and accessible way to pose your burning question(s) to a leading expert. The in-person only Campfire Sessions had a

capacity of max. 60 persons, on a 'first come, first served' basis.

## Educational Update Sessions (EDU)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

These sessions are designed to provide an educational update with emphasis on new information relevant for clinical practice. They focus on a continuous dialogue between the two speakers and the participants. During their talks, the speakers have engaged the participants by inviting them to take part in an interactive poll on the presented topics. Each presentation ended with the Q&A. Questions to speakers could be from in-person and virtual participants.

## Poster Sessions



### Poster (P) and ePoster Sessions (EP)

- Poster Sessions: 60 minutes; available for in-person participants

- ePoster Sessions: available for in-person and virtual participants during the congress

The Poster Sessions were held in-person, from Sunday 22 September to Tuesday 24 September in the poster area. The abstracts accepted for in-person presentation have been

presented with a paper poster.

All posters from accepted abstracts were also available via the congress platform through ePosters, starting from the first day of the congress.



## Other Sessions

### ALBA Network Diversity & Inclusion Session (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The general goal of this session was to raise awareness of gender and diversity issues in brain sciences and to disseminate positive practices countering discrimination.

### ECNP's Got Talent (OS)

80 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

For this innovative format, ECNP challenges four Early Career Scientists to explain their research to a lay public audience. The contest was not about what you present, but how you present — 'storytelling' and 'engagement' are key concepts. Their performances were evaluated by a jury and the best one received an award.

### ECNP Inspired Sessions (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

'Inspiration' can be defined as an event that reveals a new truth to our mind, guiding us to new acts or a new perspective about our life and work. The ECNP Inspired Session gave the stage to speakers that inspired by giving a short talk on their experiences as researchers and clinicians.

### Negative Data Prize in Pre-clinical Neuroscience (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The Best Negative Data Prize in Pre-Clinical Neuroscience is a collaboration between ECNP and U.S.-based non-profit research organisation Cohen Veterans Bioscience, under the aegis of the Global Preclinical Data Forum (GPDF), to recognise published 'negative' scientific results and results that do not confirm the expected outcome. The winner delivered an award talk during this session.

### Neuroscience-based Nomenclature Session (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

The Neuroscience-based Nomenclature (NbN) is a pharmacologically driven nomenclature for medications with CNS indications, and updated continuously. It is a result from an unprecedented collaboration between the five leading CNS pharmacological organisations: ECNP, CINP, ACNP, AsCNP and IUPHAR. During this session, presenters from the NbN taskforce presented how the NbN has been developed and illustrate how to use it.

### New Frontiers Session (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

A session dedicated to the outputs of the 'ECNP New Frontiers Meeting 2024: Towards a new diagnostic framework for mental disorders' held in March 2024.

### Panel discussions (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

Panel discussions host a selected group of panellists who discuss and share differing perspectives about a specific topic. A moderator guided the panel and the audience through the session. The two discussants offered opinions and responded to audience questions either through questions curated by the moderator or taken from the in-person and virtual participants.

### Patient Session (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

ECNP is committed to ensuring that advances in the understanding of the brain are translated into better treatments and enhanced public health. Hence, one of the goals of ECNP is to facilitate the dialogue between researchers, regulators, government bodies, and patients. As such, each year the Congress organised and hosted this session with patient organisations, on a specific topic.



## Regulatory Spotlight Session (OS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants

This is a special regulatory dialogue session with the European Medicines Agency (EMA). Designed for open and active engagement amongst EMA stakeholders, the session was an excellent opportunity for scientific and regulatory exchange.

## Industry Sessions

These industry sessions were organised with financial support from industry partners and are reviewed for balance and rigour by the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC).

## Industry Satellite Symposia (ISS)

90 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants, if applicable

These industry sessions are scientifically oriented and have a well-balanced programme (e.g. not concentrating on one specific medication). The programmes were not organised in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

## Industry Mini Sessions (IMS)

45 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants, if applicable

These scientifically oriented mini sessions have a well-balanced programme and were not organised in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

## Industry Interactive Discussions (IID)

30 minutes; not-livestreamed; available for in-person participants only.

These interactive sessions offer the opportunity to move from commercial oriented exposure to more focused, scientifically driven engagement with the in-person participants. This format allows for close interaction with participants on a specific topic. After a short introduction by the expert(s), the session focused on interactive discussion with the audience. The programmes took place in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

## Industry Product Theatre (IPT)

30 minutes; livestreamed; available for in-person and virtual participants, if applicable

These high-value sessions provide a podium for industry to present to participants on a broad range of issues, including new treatment approaches, medical devices, digital health apps, the uses of specific medications, clinical insights, innovative services and product demonstrations. The programmes took place in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme.

## Industry Case Study (ICS)

30 minutes; not-livestreamed; available for in-person participants only.

These interactive sessions provide participants with the opportunity to discuss the application of medicines, devices, and/or treatment strategies in real-world clinical settings. After a short introduction, the session focuses on interactive discussion and problem solving with the industry expert(s). The programmes take place in parallel with the official ECNP scientific programme. There were no Industry Case Studies organised by industry partners during the 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress.

## Exhibition

An exhibition was organised on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.





## TIMELINE

### 2022

The ECNP Office based in Utrecht, the Netherlands, was charged with the organisation of the congress.

The contract with the venue was signed on 24 January 2022.

The foundation received approval from the Dutch tax authorities to become a public interest serving Dutch entity (ANBI).

Registration with the tax authorities in the Netherlands has been completed.

A bank account has been opened in the name of the 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress at the ABN AMRO bank. A deposit amount has been transferred from ECNP R&S to the 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress as income for the Foundation from registration fees and support will not start until beginning of 2024.

In Autumn 2022 information became available on the congress website and a call for symposia and educational update session and case study proposals was sent out.

### 2023

Rules for VAT for sales invoices and registration for Italian VAT were set.

A site visit took place to start negotiations with the venue and other suppliers.

The annual accounts of 2022 were prepared and finalised.

Work on the budget of the 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress were started and registration fees were set.

The deadline for programme proposals was 1 March and in April the first meeting of the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) was held at Schiphol Airport to review the programme suggestions received and to make the first draft of the scientific programme.

In June the second and third meeting of the SPC took place through Zoom and the scientific programme was finalised and reviewed by the members of the Scientific Advisory Panels (SAPs). In October invitations to speakers were sent out.

A second site visit took place on 10-12 September at the MiCo, Milan, Italy.

At the end of October 2023, the Industry Guidelines, with the request for support were sent out with deadline of application of industry sessions and exhibition space of 17 January 2024.

In November/December abstract submission for poster presentation was opened and the draft programme was published on the website.

In December the chairs of the sessions were invited.



## 2024

The budget of the 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress was set up and finalised in March and signed by the treasurer and secretary of the Foundation and registration fees were set.

In January 2024 registration was opened.

The annual accounts of 2023 were prepared and finalised.

In March the programmes of the industry sessions were approved and allocated to time slots. CME accreditation was obtained for the scientific programme.

A third site visit took place on 20-22 March at the MiCo, Milan, Italy.

Logistics have been settled regarding catering, meeting space, AV, IT, exhibition, signage and set-up of the venue. Committee meetings of ECNP has been scheduled and committee members have been invited.

Promotion for the congress has been arranged at related congresses and every month the ECNP e-news contained information about the congress. Special e-alerts have been e-mailed to the ECNP database.

In May the submission of abstracts for poster presentations was closed and reviewed by the members of the Scientific Advisory Panels. Final decision has been made by the field editor of ENP and the chair of the Scientific Programme Committee by 1 July 2024.

For the best abstracts of European early career scientists ECNP Excellence Awards were given. During the congress the 9 most excellent posters have been rewarded with the ECNP Poster Award.

A third site visit took place on 3-4 September at the MiCo, Milan, Italy.

The congress was held from 21-24 September at the MiCo in Milan, Italy.

In November the financial and registration administration and procedures with suppliers has been finalised.

## 2025

The annual accounts of 2024 have been prepared and finalised.

In 2025 finances have been settled and VAT issues finalised. The final account of 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress has been finished in the first quarter and an audit report 2024 has been requested. The net operation surplus has been transferred to ECNP R&S (before 30 June 2025 as written in the Articles of Association).

The closing balance 2025 will be drafted by the auditors and it is foreseen that the Foundation will be liquidated and deregistered at the chamber of commerce and the Dutch TAX Authorities during the third quarter of 2025.



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## FINANCE

### **Board**

The members of the board do not receive remuneration for their role.

### **Secretarial Assistance**

The chair of the Scientific Programme Committee received € 6,000 for secretarial assistance.

### **Reimbursement small expenses**

The other members of the Scientific Programme Committee are entitled to request the amount of € 1,000 for the duration of their term on the Scientific Programme Committee. This amount should cover their expenses for ground transportation, lunch, dinner, drinks, etc.

## ANNUAL ACCOUNT 37<sup>TH</sup> ECNP CONGRESS FOUNDATION 2022-2023

Stichting 37th ECNP Congress, Utrecht

### Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023

(after appropriation of profit/losses)

	31-12-2023		31-12-2022
	€	€	€ €
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Prepaid costs 37th ECNP Congress	181,734		52,130
Accounts receivable	1,136		833
Bank deposits	<u>24,955</u>		<u>50,238</u>
		207,825	103,201
		<u>207,825</u>	<u>103,201</u>



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	31-12-2023		31-12-2022	
	€	€	€	€
<b>RESERVES, FUNDS AND LIABILITIES</b>				
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Trade creditors	7,825		2,026	
Current liabilities	200,000		100,000	
Other liabilities	-		1,175	
		207,825		103,201

207,825

103,201



## ANNUAL ACCOUNT 37<sup>TH</sup> ECNP CONGRESS FOUNDATION 2023-2024

Stichting 37th ECNP Congress, Utrecht

**Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024**

(after appropriation of profit/losses)

[illegible]

[illegible]



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Stichting 37th ECNP Congress, Utrecht

## Statement of income and expenditure 2024

	Balance 2024	Balance 2023
	€	€
Income	4,579,843	-
Expenses	3,768,817	-
Result	811,026	-
Appropriation of the results		
Statutory reserves	811,026	-



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## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Address

Stichting 37<sup>th</sup> ECNP Congress  
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3584 BK Utrecht

### Telephone

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### E-mail

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### Website

[www.ecnp.eu](http://www.ecnp.eu)

### RSIN

863554507

### Dutch Chamber of commerce number

85231355

### Dutch TAX number

NL863554507B01