



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore



Second Mia Neri Foundation Symposium on
CHILDHOOD BRAIN TUMORS
OCTOBER 23, 2026

Catholic University, Largo Vito 1, Rome
Centro Congressi, Sala Italia

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

8:30
Registration opens

9:00
Welcoming addresses
G. Neri, A. Sgambato, A. Gasbarrini, F. Doglietto

FIRST SESSION CHAIRS:
C. Bagni, G. Ciliberto

9:30
Lucia Ricci Vitiani (Rome):
Cancer Stem Cell Plasticity and the Vascular Ecosystem
of Glioblastoma: From Biological Mechanisms
to Personalized Models

10:15
Francesca Nazio (Rome):
Decoding mitochondrial vulnerabilities in high-risk
medulloblastoma: implications for radioresistance
and relapse

10:45
Aymée du Chatinier (Utrecht):
Challenging Diffuse Midline Glioma with a Triple Threat:
Evaluating the In Vivo Efficacy of Givinostat, Paxalisib,
and Radiotherapy

11:15
Vittoria Pagliarini (Rome):
Back-splicing events as source of dsRNAs to induce
innate immune response and cell death in high-risk
Group 3 medulloblastoma

11:45 LIGHT LUNCH

SECOND SESSION CHAIRS:
A. Gallo, F. Cecconi

12:45
Nika Danial (Boston):
Lipid dependent regulation of lineage specification
and cellular plasticity in glioma

13:30
Alina Pande (Nottingham):
Investigating developmental signalling
and hypoxia-mediated plasticity underpinning tumour
initiation and progression in paediatric ependymoma

14:00
Giacomo Milletti (Rome):
Uncovering Therapeutic Dependencies in
SHH-Medulloblastoma Through Replication Stress
Signatures

14:30
Roberta Bortolozzi (Padua):
Lactate-Mediated Crosstalk Between Medulloblastoma
and the Tumor Microenvironment as a Driver of
Ferroptosis Resistance

15:00
Luca Massimi (Rome):
The role of surgery in the management of childhood
brain tumors

15:45
CLOSING REMARKS: G. Neri

16:00
ADJOURN

FREE ADMISSION