



TITOLO: 2026 Masterclass on Pregnancy in MS and antibody mediated neurological diseases

TIPOLOGIA EVENTO: Formazione Residenziale

DATA EVENTO: 17-19 giugno 2026

SEDE: Borgo della Mistica - Viale M. Bellisario 300, Roma

RESPONSABILI SCIENTIFICI: Doriana Landi – Girolama Alessandra Marfia

ID PROVIDER: 4695

ID EVENTO: 480974

ACCREDITATO PER: 50 partecipanti

CREDITI ASSEGNATI: 15

NUMERO DI ORE FORMATIVE: 15

OBIETTIVO FORMATIVO: Linee guida – protocolli – procedure

Razionale

Over the past two decades extensive research has established that Multiple Sclerosis (MS) should no longer be considered a barrier to family planning, encouraging a growing number of women with MS to consider motherhood. Concurrently, the earlier and broader use of disease-modifying therapies (DMTs) and the growing role of fertility and assisted reproductive techniques, have increased the complexity of reproductive counseling.

The present Masterclass was conceived to address the rising demand for practical, evidence-based guidance on family planning in MS. The course is specifically designed to answer the most frequently encountered clinical questions faced by neurologists in daily practice, spanning the management of DMTs from preconception to the postpartum period, infection prevention strategies, breastfeeding, and the recognition and treatment of mood disturbances. Alongside practical workshops, leading experts will present and critically discuss the most recent evidence and emerging biomarkers to monitor disease activity aiming to bridge the gap between scientific advances and real-world clinical practice.

Building on the MS experience, this Masterclass adopts a translational and disease-spanning approach to pregnancy management in autoimmune neurological disorders.

Particular focus will be placed on family planning management in Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorders (NMOSD) and MOG antibody-associated disease (MOGAD), autoimmune encephalitides, and autoimmune neurological conditions involving the peripheral nervous system, such as Myasthenia Gravis (MG). Across these disorders, the introduction of high-efficacy targeted therapies has fundamentally changed the reproductive outlook, introducing complex diagnostic and therapeutic considerations, ultimately highlighting the need for shared expertise and structured, multidisciplinary management strategies.

Through a combination of lectures delivered by internationally recognized experts, interactive case-based workshops, and follow-up online modules, this Masterclass aims to equip neurologists with the knowledge, tools, and confidence required to manage family planning in autoimmune neurological diseases with multidisciplinary evidence driven approach.

Learning objectives

- Acquire knowledge regarding the immunology of pregnancy in treated and untreated women with MS and autoimmune neurological diseases
- Define clinical, radiological and emerging molecular indicators for MS disease activity monitoring during pregnancy and postpartum
- Optimize preconception counseling and pregnancy and post-partum management in women with NMOSD, MOGAD, autoimmune encephalitis and MG

Target audience

This educational activity is designed for neurologists, gynecologists, nurses, obstetricians, pediatricians, infectivologists, biologists, with special interest or focus in MS and autoimmune neurological diseases.

Accreditation

The programme will be submitted for CME accreditation to the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®) and to the Italian Ministry of Health (MoH)

Scientific Programme

Day 1

13.55 Welcome and Introduction
G.A. Marfia, Italy - D. Landi, Italy

14.10 Institutional Welcome
D. Centonze, Italy

14.25 Lectio Magistralis: 'The female brain: the brain-ovary axis'
Speaker to be announced

Session 1 **Female hormone dynamics and neuroimmunology in MS and antibody mediated disorders**
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - D. Centonze, Italy

15.00 The impact of physiological hormonal dynamics across the female lifespan on MS and antibody mediated neurological diseases: from puberty to menopause
M. Tintoré, Spain

15.20 Hormone-driven immune modulation throughout the female reproductive journey in MS and Antibody mediated autoimmune neurological conditions
M. Severa, Italy

15.40 Beyond the reproductive system: the interplay between gynecological conditions and neuroinflammation (i.e. endometriosis, ovarian cancer)
K. Exacoustous, Italy

16.00 *Discussion*

16.20 *Coffee Break*

Session 2 **Reproductive challenges in MS and antibody-mediated disorders**

Chairs: G.A. Marfia, Italy - C. Alviggi, Italy

16.40 Fertility issues Assisted Reproductive Techniques (ART) in women and men with MS and antibodies – mediated diseases

C. Massarotti, Italy

17.00 Sexual dysfunctions and gender-related issues in women and men with MS and antibodies – mediated diseases

E. Finazzi-Agrò, Italy

17.20 Motherhood in multiple sclerosis: The social stigma, symbolic dimension and couple dynamics

A. Esu, Italy

17.40 *Discussion*

18.00 **Clinical Case Workshop**

Chairs: D. Landi, Italy – Chair to be announced

18.40 **End of Day 1**

Day 2

Session 3 **Epidemiology of pregnancy and Maternal Outcomes in MS**

Chairs: R.Palladino, Italy – G.A. Marfia, Italy

- 09.00** The evolution of clinical and radiological outcomes during and after pregnancy in MS
S. Vukusic, France
- 09.20** Emerging biomarkers to monitor disease activity across pregnancy and postpartum in MS (e.g. fluid biomarkers, miRNA)
M. Di Filippo, Italy
- 09.40** Pregnancy Registries and Pharmacovigilance in MS: Opportunities and Limitations
V. Jokoubaitis, Australia
- 10.00** Pregnancy in MS as a Statistical Model: complexity, limitations and novel approaches
F. Bovis, Italy
- 10.20** *Discussion*
- 10.30** *Coffee break*

Session 4 **Family planning in MS: a practice-based approach to counselling**

Chairs: D. Landi, Italy – K. Hellwig, Germany

- 10.50** From mothers to children – the risk of genetic transmission of MS
M. Salvetti, Italy
- 11.10** Optimizing DMTs in family planning: current guidelines in MS
G.A. Marfia, Italy
- 11.30** Clinical management of women with MS undergoing ART
D. Landi, Italy
- 12.00** **Clinical Case Workshop**
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy - Chair to be announced
- 13.00** *Lunch*

- 14.00** Maternal-Infant vaccination and infectious disease management in pregnancy-seeking and pregnant women with MS
M. Iannetta, Italy
- 14.20** Obstetric management and complications in MS and antibody-mediated neurological disorders
I. Pisani, Italy
- 14.40** Breastfeeding in MS: Implications for Mother and Child
E. Portaccio, Italy
- 15.00** Mood disorders during pregnancy and postpartum in MS: from biology to clinical assessment and management
C. Parmante, UK
- 15.20** Long-Term Neurodevelopmental outcomes in Children Born to Mothers with MS
M. Siracusano, Italy
- 15.40** Discussion
- 15.50** **Clinical Case Workshop**
Chairs: D. Landi, Italy – Chair to be announced
- 17.40** End of Day 2

Day 3

Session 5 **Pregnancy in Antibody-Mediated neurological diseases**

Chairs: R. Iorio, Italy - C. Tortorella, Italy

09.00 Materno-fetal antibody transfer dynamics during pregnancy: implications for neonatal diseases and infection protections

P. Palma, Italy

09.20 Maternal and Fetal Outcomes in women with NMOsd and MOGAD

J. Palace, UK

09.40 Maternal and Fetal Outcomes in Women with Myasthenia Gravis (MG)

S. Hoffman, Germany

10.00 Maternal and Fetal Outcomes in Women with other antibody mediated neurological disorders

M. Spatola, Spain

10.20 *Discussion*

10.30 **Clinical Case Workshop**

Chairs: D. Landi, Italy – Chair to be announced

11.30 *Coffee Break*

Session 6 **Management Models**

Chair: G. Marfia, Italy

12.00 **Round Table:** The Maternity Care Unit in autoimmune neurological disorders: state of the art in Europe and initiatives to improve the model

C. Oreja-Guevara, Spain/K. Hellwig, Germany/S. Vukusic, France/V. Ricigliano, France/ D. Landi, Italy/J. Palace, UK/S. Hoffmann, Germany

13.00 **Conclusions**

13.30 *Closing Lunch*