

Plenary Speakers

Thursday, 14 November

16:15 – 17:30 (as part of the Opening Session) Psychiatric research and the EDIT principles – Equality, Developmental stages, Inclusivity, and Transcultural perspectives **Danuta Wasserman** Sweden [modal_popup_box btnalign="right" titletext="Danuta Wasserman" btntext="Read Bio" btnclr="#ffffff" hoverclr="#ffffff" btnbg="#f79520" hoverbg="#1c9948" bodybg="#1d2327" caption_url=""]**About me**

- Professor of Psychiatry and Suicidology. Founder of National Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of Mental Ill-Health (NASP). Director for WHO Collaborating Centre for Research, Methods Development and Training in Suicide Prevention.

President for European Psychiatric Association (EPA) 2013-2014.

Member of the EPA Board 2013-2021

President of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) 2023-2026

Research

- Professor in Psychiatry and Suicidology at Karolinska Institutet (KI), Danuta Wasserman is the Founding Head of the National Centre for Suicide Research and Prevention of Mental Ill-Health (NASP) at KI, Stockholm, Sweden since 1993. She is also the Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Research, Methods Development and Training in Suicide Prevention, and expert advisor to the WHO Office in Copenhagen and Genève since 1995. Professor Wasserman was President of the European

Psychiatric Association (EPA) 2013-2014. She is a former President of the International Academy of Suicide Research (IASR) and is also Honorary President of the Swedish-Estonian Institute of Suicidology. She is the President-Elect for the World Psychiatric Association (WPA). On a National and Nordic level, Professor Wasserman has built up a National Centre for Suicide Research and the Prevention of Mental Ill-Health (NASP) and a strong Nordic research network on the prevention of mental disorders. In 1995, she was the first in Europe to receive a Professorship in Psychiatry and Suicidology at Karolinska Institutet. Professor Wasserman has received several significant Research Awards, such as the Stengel Award for outstanding contributions in the field of suicide research and prevention (1993)

- American Foundation for Suicide Research: Distinguished Research Award (2005)
- Hans-Rost-Prize, German Association for Suicide Prevention (2005)
- the Nordic Public Health Prize by the Nordic Council of Ministers of Health (2008) and the Morselli Medal from the IASR for an outstanding and important lifetime contribution to the study of suicidal behaviour and suicide prevention (2021). She was also funded by the Nobel Assembly of the Karolinska Institutet, which awards the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine, to organise the 2009 Nobel Conference in Stockholm, Sweden: on "The Role of Genetics in Promoting Suicide Prevention and the Mental Health of the Population". Professor Wasserman presently leads EU FP7 and Horizon funded projects: SEYLE (Saving and Empowering Young Lives in Europe), WE-STAY (Working in Europe to Stop Truancy Among Youth) and a Genetic Investigation of Suicide Attempt and Suicide (GISS).

Friday, 15 November

10:45 – 11:45The Science of Addiction **Nora Volkow**
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btntext="Read Bio" btnclr="#ffffff" hoverclr="#ffffff"
btnbg="#f79520" hoverbg="#1c9948" bodybg="#1d2327"]Nora D. Volkow, M.D., is Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health. NIDA is the world's largest funder of scientific research on the health aspects of drug use and addiction.

Dr. Volkow's work has been instrumental in demonstrating that drug addiction is a brain disorder. As a research psychiatrist, Dr. Volkow pioneered the use of brain imaging to investigate how substance use affects brain functions. In particular, her studies have documented how changes in the dopamine system affect the functions of brain regions involved with reward and self-control in addiction. She has also made important contributions to the neurobiology of obesity, ADHD, and aging.

Dr. Volkow was born in Mexico and earned her medical degree from the National University of Mexico in Mexico City, where she received the Robins Award for best medical student of her generation. Her psychiatric residency was at New York University, where she earned a Laughlin Fellowship from The American College of Psychiatrists as one of 10 outstanding psychiatric residents in the United States.

Much of her professional career was spent at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, where she held several leadership positions including Director of Nuclear Medicine, Chairman of the Medical Department, and Associate Laboratory Director for Life Sciences. Dr. Volkow was also a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Associate Dean of the Medical School at The State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Dr. Volkow has published almost a thousand peer-reviewed articles, written 113 book chapters, manuscripts and articles, co-edited "Neuroscience in the 21st Century" and edited four books on neuroscience and brain imaging for mental and substance use disorders.

She received a Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service, was a Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medal (Sammies) finalist and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and the Association of American Physicians. Dr. Volkow received the International Prize from the French Institute of Health and Medical Research for her pioneering work in brain imaging and addiction science; was awarded the Carnegie Prize in Mind and Brain Sciences from Carnegie Mellon University; and was inducted into the Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) Hall of Fame. She was named one of Time magazine's "Top 100 People Who Shape Our World"; one of "20 People to Watch" by Newsweek magazine; Washingtonian magazine's "100 Most Powerful Women"; "Innovator of the Year" by U.S. News & World Report; and one of "34 Leaders Who Are Changing Health Care" by Fortune magazine. **16:15 – 17:15** The future of psychiatric treatments: beyond new medications and new psychotherapies **Mario Maj** Italy **16:15 – 17:15** The future of psychiatric treatments: beyond new medications and new psychotherapies **Mario Maj** Italy

Born in Naples, Italy on June 20, 1953.

MD (Naples, 1977); Specialist in Psychiatry (Naples, 1981); PhD in Behavioural Sciences (Umeå, Sweden, 1986).

Professor of Psychiatry and Chairman, Department of Psychiatry, University of Naples (1992-present). Professor of Mental Hygiene, University of Naples (1985-1992).

President, World Psychiatric Association (2008-2011). WPA Secretary for Publications (1999-2005).

President, European Psychiatric Association (2003-2004).
Chairman, AEP/UEMS/ WHO/WPA Task Force (2003-2004).
Coordinator, European Community Project on Burden on the
Families of Patients with Schizophrenia (1994-1997).
Coordinator, European Community Project on the Implementation
of Psychoeducational Interventions for Families of Patients
with Schizophrenia (2000-2004).

Founder and Editor of World Psychiatry, official journal of
the WPA (impact factor: 79.683, ranking no. 1 among
psychiatric journals and among all journals included in the
Social Sciences Citation Index). Honorary Fellow, Royal
College of Psychiatrists, UK (2012). Honorary Fellow, American
College of Psychiatrists (2013). Doctor Honoris Causa,
University of Craiova (2010).

President, Italian Psychiatric Association (2000-2002).
President, Council of Italian Professors of Psychiatry
(1997-2000). President, Italian Society of Biological
Psychiatry (1991-present). President, Italian Society of
Psychopathology (2007-2013). Founder, Italian Society of
Psychiatric Epidemiology (1983). Founder, Italian Society of
Psychiatric Rehabilitation (1987). Counsellor, Italian Society
of Neuroscience (1995-1999).

Member of the Italian High Council of Medicine (2006-2013).
Member of the Italian Academy of Medicine (1997-present).
Advisor for Mental Health to the Minister of Health (1998-
present).

Active as a researcher and an educator on behalf of the World
Health Organization in sub-Saharan Africa, South East Asia and
Latin America (1983-1991). Chairman, Section on
Neuropsychiatry, Global Programme on AIDS, WHO Headquarters,
Geneva (1989-1991). Director, WHO Collaborating Center for
Research and Training in Mental Health, Naples, Italy (1992-
present).

Member of the Advisory Board for the Chapter on Mental and Behavioural Disorders of the ICD-11. Chairperson of the Work Group on Mood and Anxiety Disorders for the Chapter on Mental and Behavioural Disorders of the ICD-11.

Member of the Work Group for Mood Disorders of the DSM-5. Advisor for Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders to the Task Force for the DSM-IV and the DSM-IV-TR.

Author of more than 700 papers in scientific journals and many monographs. His H-index (Google Scholar) is 102. [/modal_popup_box]

Saturday, 16 November

10:45-11:45A global perspective on prevention and treatment of mental health disorders in youth **Celso Arango** Spain [modal_popup_box btnalign="right" titletext="Celso Arango" btntext="Read Bio" btnclr="#ffffff" hoverclr="#ffffff" btnbg="#f79520" hoverbg="#1c9948" bodybg="#1d2327"]After completing his medical studies at the [University of Oviedo](#) in Spain and [Manchester University](#) in the UK (1992), he received his PhD in [Psychiatry](#) from the [Universidad Complutense](#) of Madrid (1998). He did a Residency in Psychiatry at [Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón](#) in Madrid (1993-1997), followed by a Research Fellowship at the [University of Maryland School of Medicine](#) in [Baltimore](#).

Dr. Arango is currently Head of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Service at Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón. He is also an [Adjunct Professor](#) of Psychiatry at the University of Maryland^[1] in Baltimore, a [Full Professor](#) of Psychiatry at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid and [Full Adjunct Professor](#) of Psychiatry at [University of California, San Francisco](#) (UCSF).^[2]

In 2008 he was awarded the Spanish Ministry of Health Medal of Honor, the "Cruz de la Orden Civil de Sanidad". Between 2012

and 2014, he was the [Fundación Alicia Koplowitz](#) Endowed Chair for [Child and Adolescent Psychiatry](#) at the Universidad Complutense, and since 2013 is member^[3] of the [European Brain Council Board](#) (European Commission's Advisory council). Since 2014 is President of the National Commission of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry specialty of the [Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality](#).

Since 2016 is President of The [European College of Neuropsychopharmacology](#) (ECNP).^[4]

16:15 – 17:15 Global picture – women and girls mental health in comparison with males **Prabha Chandra** India

Dr. Prabha S Chandra is the Dean, Behavioural Sciences and Senior Professor of Psychiatry at NIMHANS, Bangalore and is a past Head of Department. She is the current president of the International Association of Women's Mental Health and has been described as a champion for women's mental health in India by the Lancet Psychiatry. Dr. Prabha developed the specialty of Perinatal Psychiatry in India by starting the first Mother Baby Inpatient Psychiatry unit which has become a model for several Low and Middle Income Countries. She has pioneered the integration of perinatal mental health in maternal health care in India by assisting several state Governments and is currently the co-chair of the USAID global Community of Practice for maternal mental health. She is a member of the high level Central Ethics Committee of the Indian Council for Medical Research. Dr. Prabha Chandra is known internationally for her research and advocacy in Women's Mental Health. She has around 320 journal publications and has published 12 books and 40 chapters. In the last two years she has been leading the ambitious Stree Manoraksha (Protecting Women's Mental Health) Project

(<http://nimhansstreemanoraksha.in/project-stree-manoraksha/>)

in India and a Centre of Excellence for research in gender based violence and mental health.

She is Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK, Fellow of the National Academy of Medical Sciences, India and Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh. She has also been nominated as Fellow ad eundem of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in 2023. Dr.Chandra has received the prestigious Marce Society Medal and the Professor Channi Kumar International Oration award of the International Marce society for perinatal psychiatry.[/modal_popup_box]

Sunday, 17 November

10:45 – 11:45 Suicide and suicide prevention from genes to public mental health **John Mann** USA[modal_popup_box btnalign="right" titletext="John Mann" btntext="Read Bio" btnclr="#ffffff" hoverclr="#ffffff" btnbg="#f79520" hoverbg="#1c9948" bodybg="#1d2327"]J. John Mann MD, is The Paul Janssen Professor of Translational Neuroscience (in Psychiatry and in Radiology) and a former Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University. He is Director of Research and Director of Molecular Imaging and the Neuropathology Division at the New York State Psychiatric Institute.

Dr. Mann is trained in Psychiatry and Internal Medicine and has a Doctorate in Neurochemistry. His research employs functional brain imaging, neurochemistry and molecular genetics to probe the causes of depression and suicide. Dr. Mann is the Director of the NIMH Conte Center for the Neuroscience of Mental Disorders, and Past President of the International Academy of Suicide Research.

Dr. Mann has published 458 papers and edited 10 books on the subjects of the biology and treatment of mood disorders, suicidal behavior and other psychiatric disorders. In private practice he specializes in the treatment of mood

disorders.[/modal_popup_box] **13:30 – 14:30** Evidence based methods to mitigate mental health effects of crisis, wars and terror attacks **Helen Herrman** Australia[modal_popup_box btnalign="right" titletext="Helen Herrman" btntext="Read Bio" btnclr="#ffffff" hoverclr="#ffffff" btnbg="#f79520" hoverbg="#1c9948" bodybg="#1d2327"]Helen Herrman is Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry at Orygen and the Centre for Youth Mental Health, The University of Melbourne, and Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre in Mental Health, Melbourne. She is former president of the World Psychiatric Association (WPA – 2017-2020) and the International Association of Women's Mental Health. She is appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia.

Her research and development interests as psychiatrist and public health physician include promoting mental health, community mental health care, and women's mental health. Previously she was Professor and Director of Psychiatry in St. Vincent's Health Melbourne, and for a year acted as regional advisor in mental health for the WHO's Western Pacific Region. She led the WPA's action plan 2017-2020, concerned with supporting the contribution of psychiatrists to global mental health. Publications include the report as chair of "The Lancet-WPA Commission: time for united action on depression" published in 2022.[/modal_popup_box]