



NEWSLETTER N°72

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2025

In this holiday season, we send you our best wishes. May the magic of Christmas illuminate your homes and hearts with joy, peace and love.

We will continue to work, collaborating on research and good practices that promote mental and brain health.



Photo: Grand-Place in Brussels December 2024



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17 May
Anniversary
20th

**« DATA-DRIVEN ADVANCES IN
PATIENT-CENTERED MANAGEMENT OF
BRAIN DISORDERS »**

To review some of the most significant data-driven practice-changing advances in the management of brain disorders obtained during the past 20 years.

**PROGRAM AND
REGISTRATION**

Foundation Universitaire
Egmont street 11, 1000 Brussels

More information
on the topics and
people involved!

Ethics and health economics
accréditation
demandée

 <https://www.braincouncil.be/>

The 20th anniversary program can be viewed at
<https://www.braincouncil.be/symposium2025> And registration at
<https://www.braincouncil.be/event-details/anniversary-20th-bbc/ticket-form>



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Brain Awareness Week

From March 10 to 16, 2025

Brain Awareness Week, held every year in around a hundred countries around the world, is a unique opportunity for discussions between the public and scientists on the challenges of understanding the brain for society.

Here is the list of 2025 events organized in Belgium to date and coordinated by Ann van der Jeugd email: ann.vanderjeugd@kuleuven.be.

- By the Caregivers, March 12, 2025 at the Château du Karreveld, Av. Jean de la Hoese 32, 1080 Molenbeek-Saint-Jean Epilepsy conference given by Dr. Cathy De Cock, neurologist, member of the Belgian French-speaking league of epilepsy. Contact and registration: Mrs. Mormal (mmormal@gmail.com).
- Par Leuven Brain Institute along with and Expertisecentrum dementie Cera Leuven on March 12: an evening about the positive impact of music on the brain of people with dementia at the Cera Leuven site Munstraat 1, 3000 Leuven, contact .
- By UCL

Celebrate Brain Awareness Week!

Join the global campaign to foster public enthusiasm and support for brain science.

Arte-Fac, UCLouvain, UDA and the Wolubilis' art library « *Artothèque* » are pleased to invite you to the fourth edition of their Brain Awareness Week. The link between the brain and memory will be explored through a variety of activities.

Programme:

Monday 10th March 2025 | 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Opening of the 'Secrets of Memory' exhibition
Halls of the Central Auditoriums (campus UCLouvain Woluwe)
More info coming soon

Tuesday 11th March 2025 | 6.30pm – 9pm
Phil'Alma debate
Central auditorium 51B
(campus UCLouvain Bruxelles Woluwe)
More info coming soon

Wednesday 12th March 2025 | 6.30pm – 8.30pm
Board games evening
Venue to be defined
More info coming soon



C'est à cet âge qu'une méditation
© UCLouvain Culture



© Phil'Alma



© Adobe stock

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Celebrate Brain Awareness Week!

Join the global campaign to foster public enthusiasm and support for brain science.

Programme:

Thursday 13th March 2025 | 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Musical quiz

Venue to be defined

More info coming soon



© Adobe stock

Friday 14th March 2025 | 12.30pm – 2pm

Lunch talk on Alzheimer's disease

Central auditorium

(campus UCLouvain Bruxelles Woluwe)

More info coming soon



© Cap Retraite

Saturday 15th March 2025

Creative workshop

Timetable to be confirmed

Wolubilis

More info coming soon



© L'Artothèque

- Par Breinwijzer : MOM4Y meeting of minds for youth festival on March 13 at De Centrale, Kraan 2, 9000 Ghent, contact info@breinwijzer.be

Belgian Brain Plan Phase III

Thanks to the support and trust of eight partners:



We can start the operational phase of our project which builds on the work done in phases I and II. This phase III is a pilot experiment with patients willing to share their health data as part of data altruism.

In this phase III, 3 seminars are planned and 2 are already organized:

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- The 1st in collaboration with the National Order of Physicians will take place on Saturday April 1st



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, DATA SHARING, AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

AI and the benevolent exchange of data by Professor Gregory Lewkowicz, professor at ULB and director of the SMART Law Hub.

ACCESS IS COMPLIMENTARY, CONTINGENT UPON SUCCESSFUL REGISTRATION. RESTRICTED CAPACITY. ON-LINE ACCESS AVAILABLE UPON REGISTRATION. ACCREDITATION REQUESTED.

PROGRAM

- Fondation 101 Génomes by Ludivine and Romain Alderweireldt-Verboogen,
- AI in Medicine: Ethical Considerations and the Physician's Responsibility by Pr. Christian MELOT, Vice-President of the National Order of Physicians.
- Artificial Intelligence and Legal Challenges by Professor Tom Geffin, University of Ghent, Chairman of the Federal Commission on Patient Rights
- The European Brain Data Hub for the Advancement of Data Sharing by Professor Roland Pochet, President of EBDH.
- Patient Perspective by Mrs. Cécile Grégoire, Coordinator of Action Parkinson.

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
April 1, 2025

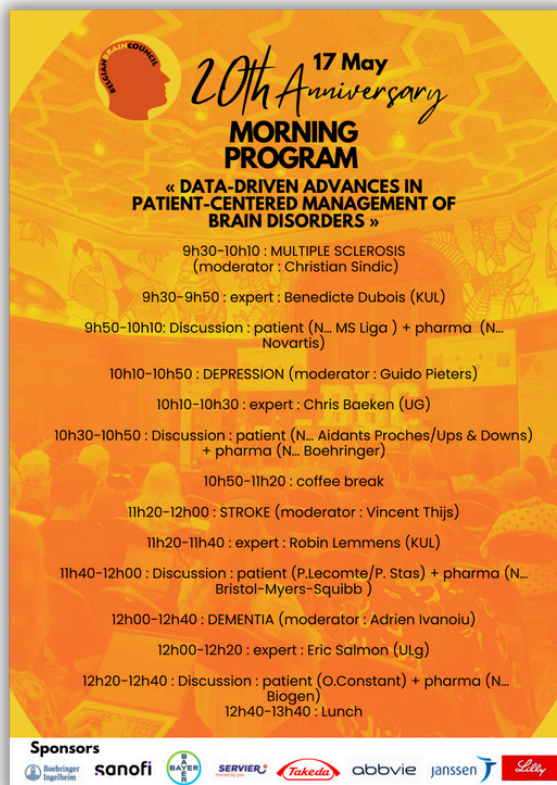
At FARI, Cantersteen 12
1000 Brussels

Explore our website:
[HTTPS://WWW.BRAINCOUNCIL.BE/](https://www.braincouncil.be/)

REGISTER NOW

With the assistance of 

- The 2nd on the occasion of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the BBC which will be held on Saturday May 17 at the University Foundation



20th Anniversary
MORNING PROGRAM

« DATA-DRIVEN ADVANCES IN PATIENT-CENTERED MANAGEMENT OF BRAIN DISORDERS »

9h30-10h10 : MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (moderator : Christian Sindic)

9h30-9h50 : expert : Benedicte Dubois (KUL)

9h50-10h10: Discussion : patient (N... MS Liga) + pharma (N... Novartis)

10h10-10h50 : DEPRESSION (moderator : Guido Pieters)

10h10-10h30 : expert : Chris Baeken (UG)

10h30-10h50 : Discussion : patient (N... Aidants Proches/Ups & Downs) + pharma (N... Boehringer)

10h50-11h20 : coffee break

11h20-12h00 : STROKE (moderator : Vincent Thijs)

11h20-11h40 : expert : Robin Lemmens (KUL)

11h40-12h00 : Discussion : patient (P.Lecomte/P. Stas) + pharma (N... Bristol-Myers-Squibb)








12h00-12h40 : DEMENTIA (moderator : Adrien Ivanoiu)

12h00-12h20 : expert : Eric Salmon (ULg)

12h20-12h40 : Discussion : patient (O.Constant) + pharma (N... Biogen)

12h40-13h40 : Lunch

Sponsors



20th Anniversary
AFTERNOON PROGRAM

« DATA-DRIVEN ADVANCES IN PATIENT-CENTERED MANAGEMENT OF BRAIN DISORDERS »

13h40-15h30 : Mini-symposium – AI IN THE MANAGEMENT OF BRAIN DISORDERS : HOPE or DOPE ? (moderator : Rose Bruffaerts)

13h40-14h00 – A PRIMER ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN MEDICINE Giovanni Briganti (UMons)

14h00-14h20 – BRAIN IMAGING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE Rik Achten (UG)

14h20-15h30 – Artificial Intelligence : SPOTLIGHTS ON BRAIN DISORDERS

14h20-14h30 – Migraine : Nicolas Vandenbussche (UG)

14h30-14h40 – Brain Tumor : Johnny Duerinckx (UZ Brussel)

14h40-14h50 – Movement disorders : Gaetan Garraux (ULg)

14h50-15h00 – Epilepsy : Paul Boon (UG)

15h00-15h10 – Digital phenotyping in mental disorders : Martin Desselles (UN)

15h10-15h20 – Non-pharmacological treatments of neurodegenerative diseases : Grégory Ninot (Montpellier)

15h20-15h40 – DISCUSSION

15h40-16h30 : Anniversary cocktail

Sponsors

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BBC Lobbying

- In its November 2024 issue No. 71 newsletter, the BBC expressed its support for the statement by Alzheimer Europe in response to the EMA's refusal to grant marketing authorisation to Leqembi (lecanemab) for the treatment of mild cognitive impairment (memory and thinking disorders).

[See here](#)

Since then, the EMA has reviewed its position and accepted the placing on the European market.

This action demonstrates the central role of associations such as Alzheimer Europe and the Belgian Brain Council in the health ecosystem. They appear as powerful intermediaries between patients, researchers, pharmaceutical industries and regulators. This ability to influence decisions is based on our credibility, our expertise and our commitment to defending the interests of patients in the face of chronic brain diseases.

We were there:

December 3 at the European Parliament Rethinking Alzheimer



Roland Pochet with Helen Rochford-Brennan, Irish Dementia Working Group and with MEP Tomislav Sokol & Katerina Valkova European Policy at BMS

Photos taken by Sylvain Crasset (see <https://www.sylvaincrasset.be>)



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News from our members

BBC has new member followed by NPIS



The NPIS works to develop research on NMIs (Non-Drug Interventions) for their better integration into health systems with a global and integrative vision of health.

Upcoming activities

January 21, 2025



Conference 'The ABC of Parkinson's' in duo with Dr Philippe Bergiers and Cécile Grégoire.

14 mars 2025



May 24, 2025

- BPS Annual Scientific Congress on 24 May 2025, Royal Library Brussels: "Quality in Pain Management: Pitfalls, Challenges and Improvement for Caregivers and Patients" FREE access to the 'online' European Journal of Pain (EFIC) -> via info@belgianpainsociety



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BECOME A MEMBER
DEVENEZ MEMBRE
LID WORDEN

30€ at BE87 7512 0194 0094 with name + email

**BBC ACCOUNT:
BE87 7512 0194 0094**

The BBC is active on the following
social media platforms:



**Composition of the Executive Committee for the
period
2024-2028**

President: Professor Laurence RIS

Director: Professor Roland Pochet

Vice-Presidents: Dr Gianni Franco, Mrs Lia Le Roy

Treasurer: Baron Charles van der Straten-Waillet

Secretary: Professor Jean Schoenen