



3rd Net4Brain Annual Meeting

Istanbul

JUNE 1-3, 2026



Koç Üniversitesi ANAMED Center, İstanbul, Türkiye

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME & MEETING AGENDA

NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 1 PROGRAMME

JUNE 1, 2026 ECR, CG & MC PROGRAMME

09:00 – 10:00

Welcome & Opening Remarks

-2. FLOOR

Brief introduction and meeting objectives
Announcements

10:00 – 13:00

Parallel Sessions

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Meeting & GC Meeting

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Meeting

-2. FLOOR

Time	Session	Speaker
10:00–10:10	Opening & Introduction	Xinzhong Li
10:10–10:20	Welcome Address	Annalisa Occhipinti
10:20–10:40	Keynote: Career Development & Funding for ECRs	Milica Pešić, Radim Jančálek
10:40–10:50	STSM Talk 1 <i>Adamantane-sclareol hybrid inhibits tumor growth in U87 glioblastoma xenografts</i>	Ema Lupšić
10:50–11:00	STSM Talk 2 <i>Integrated in silico strategies for the rational design of isoform-selective sirt2 inhibitors: 3d-qsar, molecular docking and machine learning</i>	Aleksandra Ilić
11:00–11:10	STSM Talk 3 <i>EPIKOL, a Chromatin-Focused CRISPR/Cas9 Screening Platform, Identifies RBBP7 as a Selective Epigenetic Vulnerability in IDH1-Mutant Gliomas.</i>	Sedef Saraç-Yalçinkaya

NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 1 PROGRAMME

JUNE 1, 2026 ECR, CG & MC PROGRAMME

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Meeting

-2. FLOOR

Time	Session	Speaker
11:10–11:20	STSM Talk 4 <i>Identifying and creating deep learning models on brain tumour data (MRI) that determine patient survival time and the probability of tumour recurrence</i>	Khuraman Sayin
11:20–11:30	STSM Talk 5 <i>A diagnostic/prognostic miR-1/-26a-1/-487b signature orchestrates GBM progression by regulating TME and stemness via the SH3PXD2B/EFHD2 axis</i>	Ana Belén Díaz Méndez

11:30 – 12:00

Coffee Break & Networking

-2. FLOOR

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Meeting

-2. FLOOR

Time	Session
12:00–13:00	Interactive Networking Session 1 Meet & Connect

Core Group (CG) Meeting

5. FLOOR

Time	Session
10:00–13:00	Closed session – Core Group members only

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:30

ECR Session

-2. FLOOR

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Meeting Continues

-2. FLOOR

Time	Session	Speaker
14:00–15:00	Panel Discussion Navigating the Early Career Path	
15:00–15:30	Sponsor Talks	AKA Biotechnology Imte Teknogem

NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 1 PROGRAMME

JUNE 1, 2026 ECR, CG & MC PROGRAMME

15:30 – 17:00

Parallel Sessions

ECR Meeting & MC Meeting

15:30 – 16:00

Coffee Break & Interactive Networking Session 2

-2. FLOOR
Collaborative Ideas

Early Career Researcher (ECR) Meeting Continues

-2. FLOOR

Time

Session

16:00–16:40

Workshop / Open Discussion – Scientific Communication & Publishing

16:40–17:00

Open Floor & Closing Remarks

Management Committee (MC) Meeting

5. FLOOR

Time

Session

15:30–17:00

Closed session – MC members only

After 17:00

Networking

5. FLOOR
Networking Event (MC + CG + ECR)

NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 2 PROGRAMME

JUNE 2, 2026 – SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME (WG SESSIONS & KEYNOTES)

08:00 – 09:00 **Registration & Welcome Coffee** -2. FLOOR

09:00 – 09:30 **Welcome Speeches** -2. FLOOR

Funda Yağcı Acar Koç University, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Xinzhong Li Net4Brain COST Action Chair

09:30 – 10:00 **Keynote Lecture** Chair: Tuğba Bağcı Önder -2. FLOOR

Bart Westerman (Cancer Center Amsterdam, Netherlands)

Towards consolidation of mutation-driven cancer progression and drug pharmacokinetics for combination therapies

10:00 – 12:40 **Scientific Sessions** -2. FLOOR

Working Group 1 (WG1)

Chairs: Aida Hajdarpasic, Tatjana Mitrovic

Time	Speaker
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10:00–10:20	Thomas Booth (King's College London, United Kingdom) <i>External validation of AI model for glioblastoma survival prediction (GRASP 2)</i>
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10:20–10:40	Tatiana Novikova (École Polytechnique, France) <i>Polarized light imaging of brain: Insights for tumor neurosurgery</i>
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10:40–11:00	Philipp Tsvetkov (Institut de NeuroPhysiopathologie, France) <i>Plasma denaturation profiles as non-molecular biomarker for brain tumor detection</i>
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11:00–11:10	Short Talk: Nuno Saraiva (CBIOS, Lusófona University, Portugal) <i>Control of glioma cell fate by a Golgi ion channel</i>
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11:10–11:20	WG1 Discussion
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Working Group 2 (WG2)

Chairs: Helene Castel, Carla Vitorino

Time	Speaker
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11:20–11:40	Martine Lamfers (Erasmus MC, Netherlands) <i>Building clinically relevant glioma models from patient tissue to trial</i>
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11:40–12:00	Gaetano Gargiulo (Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Germany) <i>Synthetic genetic tracing of glioblastoma cell states</i>
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12:00–12:10	Short Talk: Nathalie Jurisch-Yaksi (NTNU, Norway) <i>Probing neural activity and tumor progression in glioma patient-derived zebrafish models</i>
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12:10–12:20	Short Talk: Anuja Lipsa (Luxembourg Institute of Health, LU) <i>Functional precision medicine screening in patient-derived 3D organoids reveals personalized therapeutic vulnerabilities in high grade gliomas</i>
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12:20–12:40	WG2 Discussion
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NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 2 PROGRAMME

JUNE 2, 2026 – SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME (WG SESSIONS & KEYNOTES)

12:40 – 13:40

Lunch

5. FLOOR

13:40 – 14:10

Keynote Lecture Chair: Xinzhong Li

-2. FLOOR

Guohao Dai (Northeastern University, USA)

Bioengineered perfused human brain microvasculature to model brain tumor and neurodegenerative diseases

14:10 – 15:30

Scientific Sessions

-2. FLOOR

Working Group 3 (WG3)

Chairs: Tuğba Bağcı Önder, Yasin Kaymaz

Time

Speaker

14:10–14:30

Bozena Kaminska (Nencki Institute, Poland)

Characterizing and modelling of pediatric high grade tumor microenvironment with single-cell multiomics and spatial transcriptomics

14:30–14:50

Sevin Turcan (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

Targeting H3K4 trimethylation programs in IDH1R132H-driven gliomagenesis

14:50–15:00

Short Talk: Kemal Yelekci (Kadir Has University, Türkiye)

Discovery of unique peptidomimetic compounds via computational modelling against Tau aggregation

15:00–15:10

Short Talk: Ebru Kocakaya (Ege University, Türkiye)

Single-cell molecular profiling in brain cancers: a comprehensive technical review of methodological considerations for patient stratification

15:10–15:20

WG3 Discussion

15:20–15:30

Sponsor Talks

Genoks

15:30 – 16:40

Poster Session (Group 1) & Coffee

5. FLOOR

After 17:00

Bosphorus Tour



NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 3 PROGRAMME

JUNE 3, 2026 – SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME & CLOSING DAY

08:00 – 09:00 **Registration & Welcome Coffee** -2. FLOOR

09:00 – 09:30 **Keynote Lecture** Chair: Radim Jancalek -2. FLOOR

Ömer Bayraktar (Wellcome Sanger Institute, United Kingdom)

Mapping the rules of glioblastoma using single cell and spatial genomics

09:30 – 10:50 **Scientific Sessions** -2. FLOOR

Working Group 4 (WG4) Chairs: Milana Frenkel-Morgenstern, Claudio Angione

Time	Speaker
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09:30–09:50	Claudio Angione (Teesside University, United Kingdom)
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Mechanism-aware deep learning for biomedicine

09:50–10:10	Elies Fuster-Garcia (Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain)
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Decoding glioblastoma heterogeneity: from AI-driven multiparametric characterization to clinical translation

10:10–10:20	Short Talk: Burcu Bakir Gungor (Abdullah Gül University, Türkiye)
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Multibiogsm: Multi-faceted biological domain knowledge integrated machine learning framework for transcriptomic biomarker discovery in glioblastoma

10:20–10:30	Short Talk: José Antonio Romero Rosales (Universidad Castilla-La Mancha, Spain)
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Glioblastoma phenotypic drift and reversibility: A transport partial differential equation model of tumor resistance

10:30–10:50	WG4 Discussion
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10:50 – 11:50 **Poster Session (Group 2) & Coffee** 5. FLOOR

11:50 – 13:10 **Scientific Sessions** -2 FLOOR

Working Group 5 (WG5) Chair: Alkinoos Athanasiou

Time	Speaker
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11:50–12:10	Panagiota Foka (CERN)
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12:10–12:30	Aleksander Stepanovic (Institute for Oncology and Radiology of Serbia, Serbia)
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Towards european consensus in radiotherapy for brain tumors: a Net4Brain WG5 roadmap

12:30–12:40	Short Talk: Alkinoos Athanasiou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece)
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The role of biomedical and clinical engineering societies in advancing and promoting cancer research and treatment on a national and international level

NET4BRAIN 2026-DAY 3 PROGRAMME

JUNE 3, 2026 – SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME & CLOSING DAY

Working Group 5 (WG5)

Chair: Alkinoos Athanassiou

Time

Speaker

12:40–12:50

Short Talk: Serghei Sprincean (Moldova State University, Moldova)

Bioethical aspects of clinical treatment and management of patients suffering from brain cancer

12:50–13:10

WG5 Discussion

13:10 – 13:30

Dissemination (WG6)

-2 FLOOR

Terezia Kiskova-Simkova

Aylin Toplu-Hocaoğlu

13:30 – 13:40

Closing Remarks

-2. FLOOR

Xinzhong Li

After 14:30

Historical Istanbul Tour (Guided)

