



18th International Conference on Tourette Syndrome & Tic Disorders
17-19 June 2026 · Grand Hotel Union Eurostars, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Virtual Format Conference Programme

Wednesday, 17 June

GLASS HALL

09:30-10:30

ENIGMA-TS

Speaker: Peristera Paschou

"Unravelling brain development and genetic background in Tourette Syndrome"

20-minute talk followed by 40-minute discussion / ENIGMA-TS working group meeting.

Moderated by: Kevin Black

11:00-13:00

Tics and Tourette Across the Globe (TTAG)-AM Session

Patient associations and advocacy groups meeting

"Tourette Across the Lifespan: Bridging Clinical Practice, Research and Real-Life Experience"

11:00-11:05 - Welcome - Michele Dunlap, TTAG President, Germany

11:05-11:10 - Welcome - Nanette Mol Debes, ESSTS Chair, Denmark

11:10-11:40 - "Lifespan Perspective on Tourette Syndrome" - Mauro Porta, Italy

11:40-12:10 - "Understanding Co-Occurring Conditions and Tourette" - Christine Conelea, USA

12:10-12:15 - Break

12:15-13:00 - Interactive Session: "TS in Real Life - Challenges, Obstacles and the Unknown" - Maria Belen Prieto, TTAG Board, Spain

13:00-14:00

Garden hall

Light lunch

14:00-17:00

Tics and Tourette Across the Globe (TTAG) Annual Meeting-PM session

Patient associations and advocacy groups

14:00-14:30 - "Therapeutic Approaches Across the Lifespan - From Symptom Management to Life-Centered Care" - Roxana Apollonio Cabrera, TTAG Vice President, Spain

14:30-14:40 - Preview: AFSGT Project "Livre Blanc" - Jean-François Mittaine, France

14:40-15:50 - Expert Panel Discussion: "Navigating Lifespan Challenges"

- Kirsten Müller-Vahl, Germany
- Christine Conelea, USA
- Elia Abi-Jaoude, USA
- Sam de Boer, Netherlands
- Maria Belen Prieto, TTAG Board, Spain

15:50-16:00 – Coffee Break

16:00-16:45 – Presentation & Interactive Session: “Supporting Families and Caregivers – Psychoeducation and Beyond” – Donatella Comasini, TTAG Board, Italy

16:45-17:00 – Key Takeaways & Goodbye till 2027 – Roxana Apollonio Cabrera and Michele Dunlap, TTAG

Opening ceremony

18:00-19:45

Glass Hall

I. Keynote

Speaker: Barbara J. Coffey

Title TBA

Lecture (45') followed by discussion (15')

Moderated by: Tammy Hedderly

II. Professor Mary Robertson Award 2026

Speaker: winner to be revealed!

Oral presentation (15')

Moderated by: Natalia Szejko

III. Mary Robertson Travel Grant winners

Annalise Leopold-Australia, Méliza Gagnon-Canada, Ione Georgakis-UK,
Christiane Licht-Germany, Giulia Maio-Italy, Wiktor Sliwinski-Poland

(in alphabetical order)

19:45

Garden Hall

Cocktail time; getting together again!

Thursday, 18 June

09:00–09:15

Glass Hall

Welcome address by Tics and Tourette Across the Globe (TTAG)

Speaker: Michele Dunlap

09:15–10:30

Glass Hall

Symposium session on OCD

I. Neuroplasticity in OCD: lifespan changes and treatment targets

Speaker: Odile van den Heuvel

II. Advanced treatment strategies for OCD

Speaker: Philippe Domenech

III. Focus on clinical aspects

Speaker: Osman Malik

10:15–10:30 Q&A – discussion

Moderated by: Nanette Mol Debes

10:30–11:00

Garden Hall

Coffee break

12:30–13:30

Garden Hall

Lunch break

13:30–14:15

Glass Hall

General Assembly | Thank you for participating!

Board elections: 2026–2029 term

eVoting available for members not attending in person.

15:00–15:30

Garden Hall

Coffee break

15:30–16:15

Glass Hall

Complementary medicine in tic disorders: a scoping review

Speaker: Tamara Pringsheim

Moderated by: Christelle Nilles

16:15–16:45**Glass Hall****Pharmacotherapy for tics: past & future****Speaker: Kirsten Müller-Vahl**

Moderated by: Christelle Nilles

16:45–18:00**Glass Hall****Oral presentations of submitted abstracts, session I**

Moderators: Kirsten Müller-Vahl, Andreas Hartmann

Friday, 19 June**09:00–10:45****Glass Hall****Pathophysiology session****I. Animal models of Tourette syndrome****Speaker: Marco Bortolato****II. Biomarker of tic prognosis****Speaker: Yulia Worbe****III. Pathophysiological insights from the EMTICS study****Speaker: Andrea Dietrich****10:30–10:45 Q&A – discussion**

Moderated by: Kirsten Müller-Vahl

10:45–11:15**Garden Hall****Coffee break****11:15–12:30****Glass Hall****Oral presentations of submitted abstracts, session II**

Moderators: Kirsten Müller-Vahl, Andreas Hartmann

12:30–13:30**Garden Hall****Lunch break**

13:30–14:30

Glass Hall

Controversy session, followed by a live poll

"Is coprolalia a tic or functional?"

Speaker: Kirsten Müller-Vahl

Arguing "No, it is not a tic"

Speaker: Elia Abi-Jaoude

Arguing "Yes, it is a tic"

Moderated by: Tammy Hedderly

15:15–15:45

Garden Hall

Coffee break

15:45–16:45

Glass Hall

Best papers of 2025 on tics and TS

Speaker: Kevin J. Black

Moderated by: Andreas Hartmann

16:45–17:15

Glass Hall

Closing ceremony

Best poster & best oral presentation awards

New ESSTS Board announcement

ESSTS Conference 2027 announcement