



2023  
**Brussels**

7-9 June 2023  
Royal Museum for Central Africa

ESSTS  
essts.org



## BRUSSELS, 7-9 JUNE 2023 | CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### Wednesday 7 June 2023

#### Behavioural therapy workshops

13:00-17:00 (parallel sessions)



**13:00-14:40**

I. Workshop in **English** for participants with **basic** training

**15:00-17:00**

II. Workshop in **English** for **advanced** participants

**Focus area:** Formulation and psychological intervention of tics in people with Autism

**Trainers:**

Tara Murphy  
Zsanett Tarnok  
Eve McAllister  
Rebecca Akello

(Joining the advanced session via Zoom from Kampala, Uganda)



**13:00-17:00**

Workshop in **French**: Thérapies comportementales des tics et du syndrome Gilles de la Tourette

**Trainers:**

Virginie Czernecki  
Velina Negovanska  
Julie Moulin

13:00-17:00 (parallel session)

## Patient associations meeting organised by Tics and Tourette Across the Globe (TTAG)



### Programme

- Introduction to Tics and Tourette Across The Globe (TTAG)  
(Mission-Vision-Values, Meet Our TTAG Board Of Directors, Organization Structure of TTAG, Introduction of TTAG Ambassador Program)
- Networking & Idea Exchange Coffee Break
- Words from ESSTS Current Chair
- Panel Discussion on Support Associations & patients' rights: an international perspective
- Tics and Tourette Across The Globe (TTAG) Closing Summary and thanks

18:00-19:00 (onwards)

### Opening ceremony

#### I. Keynote lecture:

"Picking, pulling, and pinching: the role of habit and harm in TS"

Speaker:

[Carol Mathews](#)

#### II. Mary Robertson Award; winner & oral presentation

[Awarded by surprise guest...](#) 

#### III. Open-air apéritif at the AfricaMuseum terrace stage; getting together again!

Aline Breucker & Quintijn Ketels who have conceived and directed the performance "Permit, oh permit my soul to rebel" are very kindly performing a teaser for us during the opening ceremony.



Thursday 8 June 2023

09:00-09:15 Welcome message by our host & co-organiser

Genetics & imaging session

moderated by [Kirsten R. Müller-Vahl](#)

09:15-10:00 Update on genetics

[Carol Mathews](#)

10:00-10:30 Enhancing neuroimaging genetics through meta-analysis for Tourette syndrome (ENIGMA-TS)

[Peristera Paschou](#)

10:30-11:00

ePoster presentation:

“Brain morphological changes in patients with Tourette syndrome: a voxel- and surface-based morphometry multi-site study”

[Simon Schmitt](#)

Discussion

11:00-11:30 Coffee break



11:30-12:30 Clinical rounds

Session chair: [Tammy Hedderly](#)

12:30-13:30 Lunch break



12:30-13:30 ENIGMA-TS session

(auditorium)

Organised by [Peristera Paschou](#)

13:30-14:00 General assembly

+ Board elections 2023; e-voting begins\*!



\*Active (2023) ESSTS members will be notified via email.

ASD sessions

moderated by [Tara Murphy](#)

**14:00-14:45 Autism - past, present, and future**

[William Mandy](#)

**14:45-15:15**

ePoster presentations:

- "Differential diagnosis of autism-spectrum-disorder in adults"
- "Evaluation of diagnostic instruments for Autism-spectrum-disorder in adults"

[Daniel Alvarez-Fischer](#)

Panel discussion

**15:15-15:45 Coffee break**



**15:45-16:30**

Poster rounds, session I

moderated by [Nanette Mol Debes](#)

**16:30-18:00**

Oral presentations of submitted abstracts, session I

moderated by [Natalia Szejko](#)

Vote for best poster & best oral presentation!

The voting platform opens on **Friday 9 June** at **12:30** for OPs and at **15:00** for PPs.



**20:00**

**Social event-dinner at the Africa Place**

(Adjacent to the conference venue)



Bonus: AfricaMuseum private access

We have reserved the museum for an additional 2 hours (18:00-20:00) after its closing time.

Attendees who have registered for the social event above, will receive a complimentary ticket to visit the museum during the late opening slot.

Friday 9 June 2023

**09:00-09:15** Welcome address by Michele Dunlap, president of TTAG  
([Tics and Tourette Across the Globe](#))

Pain & sex differences in TS session

[moderated by Kevin Black](#)

**09:15-09:45** Pain in TS

[Seonaid Anderson](#)

**09:45-10:15** Sex differences in TS

[Christelle Nilles](#)

[Natalia Szejko](#)

ePoster presentation:

“The Calgary and Paris Adult Tic Registry: Project description and initial analyses of sex differences in tic phenomenology”

[Christelle Nilles](#)

**10:15-10:30** Panel discussion

**10:30-11:00** Coffee break



**11:00-12:30** Oral presentations of submitted abstracts, session II

[moderated by Andreas Hartmann](#)

Vote for best oral presentation!

💡 The voting platform opens at **12:30!**



**12:30-13:30** Lunch break



**13:30-14:15** Investigating the effects of median nerve stimulation on Tourette syndrome: clinical trial results

[Stephen Jackson](#)

[moderated by Andrea Cavanna](#)

**14:15-15:00**

**Poster rounds, session II**

**moderated by Nanette Mol Debes**

Vote for best poster presentation!

💡 The voting platform opens at **15:00!**



**15:00-15:30 Coffee break**



**15:30-16:30 Best papers of 2022 on tics and TS**



**Kevin J. Black**

**moderated by Andreas Hartmann**

**16:30-17:00 Closing ceremony**



-Best poster & best oral presentation awards

-New ESSTS Board; election results

-ESSTS Conference 2024 announcement; see you next year in... 😊