

## The Agenda Outline

07:00-8:00 Registration and Networking

**08:00-8:15 Welcome Notes and Introduction**, Hamad Al'Ghafri (ISAM President and ISAM GATID Chair), Jens Reimer (ISAM2025 Scientific Secretary), Philipp Hiller (ISAM2025 Executive Secretary), and Hamed Ekhtiari (ISAM GATID Scientific Secretary)

**8:15-9:30 Panel 1: Global Needs for Innovation**, Chaired by: Hamad Al'Ghafri (Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University) and Atul Ambekar (All India Institute of Medical Sciences)

Speakers (15 min talks):

Anja Busse (WHO), Innovations in the Response to Substance Use Disorders: Progress, Needs and Challenges on the Global Level: Updates from WHO

Sanita Suhartono (UNODC), Urgent Needs for Innovations in Addiction Therapeutics on the Global Level: UN Perspective

Alta DeRoo (Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation), Highly Needed Innovations in Addiction Therapeutics: A Clinician's Perspective

Erinn Melville (UK OLS), How UK Government Identifies Needs and Supports Innovations in Addiction Therapeutics

9:30-10:00 Break

**10:00-11:30 Panel 2: Innovations in Molecular Targets**: Chaired by: Marc Potenza (Yale University) and Mark Thomas (University of Minnesota).

Speakers (20 min talks):

Mehdi Farokhnia (NIDA), Integration of Rodent Models and Electronic Health Records to Enhance Drug discovery for Addiction

Marco Pravetoni (University of Washington), Innovations in Immunotherapeutics for Addiction Treatment

Andrew Huhn (Johns Hopkins School of Medicine), What Does the Next Generation of Addiction Pharmacotherapeutics Look Like?

**11:30-12:30 Industry Talks**: Chaired by: Hamed Ekhtiari (University of Minnesota) and Jens Reimer (University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf)

Speakers:

Platinum: Yihua Ning (SceneRay) (20 min), Innovations in DBS Therapy - Dual Target Stimulation Treating Opioid Addiction

Bronze: Navid Khodaparast (Spark Biomedical) (3 min), Innovations in Vagus Nerve Stimulation for Addiction Treatment

Bronze: Miia Tanskanen (Salofa) (3 min), Innovations in Addiction Diagnostics and Laboratory Test

Bronze: Bhagyashikha (Ethypharm) (3 min), Innovations in Pharmaceutical Industry for Addiction Treatment

12:30-1:30 Lunch

**1:30-3:00 Panel 3: Innovations in Circuit and Behavioral Targets:** Chaired by: Roshan Bhad (All India Institute of Medical Sciences) and Sophia Achab (University of Geneva)

Speakers (20 min talks):

Valerie Voon (University of Cambridge), How Neuroimaging can Inform New Circuit-based Addiction Therapeutics

Antonio Verdejo-Garcia (Monash University), Neural Network-informed Neurostimulation in Addiction

Min Zhao (Shanghai Jiao Tong University), Digital Innovations in Addiction Treatment: Enhancing Access and Outcomes

**3:00-4:00 Innovation Award Competition (10 flash talks),** Chaired by: Kathleen Brady (Medical University South Carolina), and Alex Baldacchino (University of St Andrews)

4:00-4:30 Break

**4:30-5:45 Panel 4: Industry-Academia Partnership in the Global Level,** Chaired by: Yasser Khazzal (Lausanne University) and Susanna Galea-Singer (University of St Andrews)

Speakers (20 min talks):

Supriya Munshaw (Johns Hopkins School of Medicine), Bridging Innovation and Commercialization in Addiction Medicine: Strategies for Translating Research into Market-Ready Solutions

Shekar Shetty (Clear Scientific), Opportunities and Challenges in Developing Therapeutics to Treat Stimulant & Synthetic Opioid Overdose

Marica Ferri (EUDA), EU Strategies to Promote Industry-Academia Partnership for Innovations in Addiction Therapeutics

**5:45-6:00 Awards Announcements and Wrap Up**

**7:00-9:00 7:00-9:00 Social Event** (further opportunities for networking and collaboration)

**Further Information:** <https://isamweb.org/global-therapeutic-innovation-day/>

**Registration Cost:** 25 Euro for Students and 75 Euro for Others

**Registration Link:** <https://www.isam-hamburg.com/global-addiction-therapeutics-innovation-day/>

# Innovation Day for Addiction Therapeutics



25 May 2025  
Hamburg, Germany

## Keynote Speakers



**Hamad  
Al Ghafri**  
(ISAM President)



**Anja  
Busse**  
(WHO)



**Alta DeRoo**  
(Hazelden Betty  
Ford Foundation)



**Hamed  
Ekhtiari**  
(University of  
Minnesota)



**Mehdi  
Farrokhnia**  
(NIDA)



**Marica  
Ferri**  
(EUDA)



**Andrew  
Huhn**  
(Johns Hopkins  
University)



**Erinn  
Melville**  
(Office for Life  
Sciences, UK)



**Supriya  
Munshaw**  
(Johns Hopkins  
University)



**Marco  
Pravetoni**  
(University of  
Washington)



**Shekar  
Shetty**  
(Clear Scientific)



**Sanita  
Suhartono**  
(UNODC)



**Antonio  
Verdejo-Garcia**  
(Monash  
University)



**Valerie  
Voon**  
(University of  
Cambridge)



**Min  
Zhao**  
(Shanghai Jiao  
Tong University)

Sponsors:



**SceneRay**



**INDIVIOR**



**Ethypharm**



**SPARK**  
BIOMEDICAL

**Salofa**

Co-organizers:



**EUDA**  
EUROPEAN UNION  
DRUGS AGENCY



**UK Office for  
Life Sciences**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
MINNESOTA**  
Medical Discovery Team  
on Addiction



# ISAM Global ADDICTION THERAPEUTICS **INNOVATION DAY** 2026

September 30th, 2026

**ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS**



Featuring **INNOVATION AWARD**  
(The Golden Brain) for the most innovative idea  
in Addiction Medicine Therapeutics and Diagnostics



Award applications will start in 1 March 2026

[innovation@isamweb.org](mailto:innovation@isamweb.org)  
[isam.mdorozio@gmail.com](mailto:isam.mdorozio@gmail.com)  
[isamweb.org/innovation-award/](http://isamweb.org/innovation-award/)  
[isamweb.org/global-therapeutic-innovation-day](http://isamweb.org/global-therapeutic-innovation-day)

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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF  
ADDICTION MEDICINE