



First announcement and call for abstracts

9-11 December 2026
Amsterdam, the Netherlands



Hosted by



9-11 December 2026 | Amsterdam, the Netherlands

37th International Symposium on ALS/MND

The International Symposium on ALS/MND is a unique annual event that brings together leading international researchers and health and social care professionals to present and debate key innovations in their respective fields.

The Symposium is planned as parallel meetings, covering biomedical science, advances in clinical research and treatment of people affected by ALS/MND. Joint sessions consider issues of mutual interest, challenging current views and practices.

Symposium Organiser

Motor Neurone Disease Association
Francis Crick House, 6 Summerhouse
Road Northampton, NN3 6BJ, UK
Tel: (+) 44 1604 250505
Email: symposium@mndassociation.org
Website: symposium.mndassociation.org

Symposium Hosts

Stichting ALS Nederland
als.nl

ALS Centrum Nederland
als-centrum.nl

ALS Patiënten Vereniging
alspatientenvereniging.nl

Symposium Programme Committee

Ammar Al-Chalabi (Chair)
Anita Beelen
Jennifer Bedford
Nick Cole
Brian Dickie
Caroline Ingre
Jeroen Pasterkamp
David Taylor
Martin Turner
Ruben van Eijk

Welcome

We're looking forward to welcoming you to Amsterdam in December for the 37th International Symposium on ALS/MND!

About the Symposium.

We're proud to be the organisers of the premier event in the MND research calendar- the International Symposium on ALS/MND. Each year, the Symposium brings together researchers and healthcare professionals from around the world to share the very latest updates in the diagnosis, treatment and management of ALS/MND. This meeting plays a vital role in sharing world-class research, championing new thinking and collaborating to accelerate the progress of research. Bringing great minds and new ideas from around the globe together will help us to better understand MND and lead us to further discoveries and new treatments. Every new finding moves research further forward – and helps people with ALS/MND live longer, better lives.

What's on offer this year?

The programme for the Symposium is considered by the Programme Committee, chaired by Professor Ammar Al-Chalabi. The Committee reviews a broad range of cutting-edge topics to make sure the programme offers a mix of biomedical and clinical science, therapy development and clinical management. These topics will be delivered through oral presentations and poster sessions. We encourage the community to join us for the Symposium in-person, but to make sure people who can't travel can still join us, we will offer a virtual option. The virtual option will be a selection of live-streamed sessions, with access to all session recordings after the event.

We look forward to welcoming you.

We hope the Symposium motivates you to make a difference in the work you do for people living with ALS/MND, whether in the laboratory, in clinical research or in multidisciplinary management. Last year's closing session ended with a presentation from Steve Gleason, a former professional American football player living with ALS/MND, who highlighted how emerging technology will improve quality of life, ranging from the creation of avatars, expansion of virtual reality technology and brain-computer interfaces to robotic suits. These significant technological advances are paralleled by the adoption of more sophisticated biomedical methodologies to accelerate understanding and treatment of this devastating disease.

We hope this year's Symposium, once again, brings the global research community together to inspire, stimulate novel ideas and generate new collaborations to lead us to further discoveries and new treatments. Time is precious for people with ALS/MND. Every discovery, every insight, every piece of research is a step forward and brings us closer to a cure.

Research and Innovation Team, MND Association

Themes

Proposed session themes include:

Biomedical

- Genetics and genomics
- Disease models
- Selective vulnerability
- Proteostasis and proteotoxicity
- RNA biology
- Immune and inflammatory processes
- Axonal and synaptic pathology
- Metabolism
- Novel targets and therapeutic strategies

Clinical

- Multidisciplinary care pathways
- Clinical trials and trial design
- Epidemiology
- Assistive technology
- Nutritional and respiratory assessment and management
- ALS-FTD and non-motor symptoms
- Biomarkers and clinical endpoints
- Prodromal signs and early diagnosis
- Primary lateral sclerosis
- Deep phenotyping and stratification

Registration

Registration for in-person attendance will be available from 5 May and registration for those who wish to attend virtually (access the selected live and recorded content only) will be available from 5 September at symposium.mndassociation.org/register

A provisional Symposium programme will be available on our website in August. The final programme will be available in November.

Registration fees

In-person (includes access to on-demand content)	Non-Industry	Industry
Early bird registration (until 4 September)	£450	£600
Standard registration (5 September to 13 October)	£575	£800
Late registration (14 October to 23 November)	£700	£1000
Last-minute and onsite registration (24 November onwards)	£850	£1200

Virtual (includes access to selected live streamed sessions and on-demand content)

Virtual registration (5 September onwards)	£125
--	------

Call for abstracts

Conditions of Acceptance (Summary)

- Abstracts must be submitted online, via a link on the MND Association's Symposium website symposium.mndassociation.org/abstracts. Abstracts cannot be accepted via email.
- Abstracts must be submitted by the presenting author of the abstract, who must provide an email address to which all Symposium correspondence will be sent. The presenting author is the only person who will receive email correspondence from us.
- Submissions are limited to two abstracts per presenting author.
- Authors may submit an abstract for consideration in one of three categories: oral, poster or work in progress/care practice (WIP/CP) poster presentations. WIP/CP is defined as: preliminary work (little or no data/results), care practice or case studies.
- **Important:** Authors accepting the offer of an oral or poster presentation must attend the Symposium in-person in Amsterdam, the Netherlands and be present for their assigned session.
- The presenting author is not required to fully register for the Symposium before submitting an abstract. **However**, formal acceptance of an abstract is conditional upon payment of the appropriate registration fee no later than 4 September 2026. Failure to pay the registration fee by this date will result in withdrawal of the abstract.
- Abstracts must be in English and be no longer than 450 words. The MND Association will not correct any errors, so authors must ensure their abstract is checked for grammar, understanding and accuracy. Authors should provide a clear description of methodology and present statistically robust data (including 'n' and 'p' values) where appropriate.
- Abstracts will be reviewed by members of the Symposium Programme Committee. Abstracts which are poorly constructed and/or contain insufficient methodology or unsubstantiated conclusions may be rejected.
- Authors must ensure they have the correct permissions to submit their abstract (e.g. from collaborators and funders).
- The corresponding oral/poster presentation must discuss the same work as the accepted abstract.
- Abstracts will be published in an open access online supplement to the journal Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Frontotemporal Degeneration. Abstracts accepted as 'WIP/CP' will be published on the MND Association's Symposium website.
- Authors will also be asked to confirm if the presenting author is eligible and willing to be included in the poster prize competition (see below). The deadline for withdrawing an abstract is 4 September 2026. Abstracts withdrawn after this date will still be published in the journal supplement.



Full instructions and Conditions of Acceptance will be available on the MND Association's website symposium.mndassociation.org/abstracts before the opening of the submission system. These must be read before an abstract is submitted. Queries should be sent to abstracts@mndassociation.org

Abstract submission system opens:
5 May 2026

Deadline for abstract submission:
9 July 2026

Poster Prize

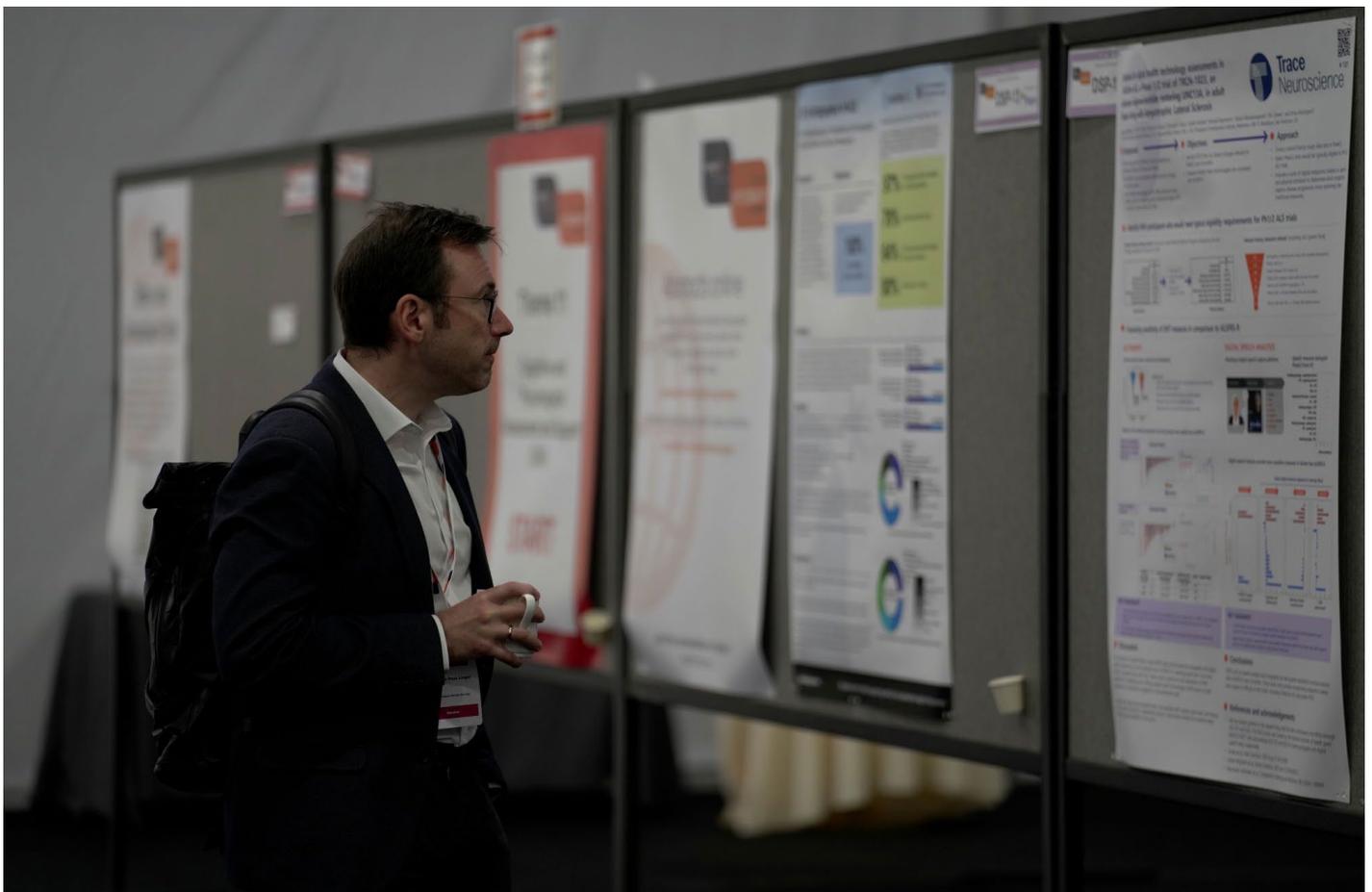
Prizes will be awarded for the best clinical and best biomedical posters presented at the conference.

Early career researchers are eligible to enter if they are aged 35 years or under on the abstract submission deadline date **or** if they were awarded their PhD within three years of the abstract submission deadline of 9 July 2026.

The initial stage of judging will be based on the abstracts, as submitted by the abstract submission deadline. Final judging of shortlisted posters will take place at the conference.



Full terms and conditions for the poster prize will be available on the MND Association's website symposium.mndassociation.org/for-presenters/poster-prize following the opening of the abstract submission system in May 2026.





Welcome to Amsterdam

Amsterdam is a city where ideas grow: it offers an open minded and creative environment that supports exchange and collaboration.

Its canals, historic buildings, and walkable neighbourhoods create a setting that is both attractive and practical. The city encourages movement and interaction, whether walking beside centuries old waterways, or meeting in cafés known for conversation and innovation. With mild seasons and soft light, Amsterdam provides an energising backdrop that supports focused and productive dialogue.

The city's culinary scene ranges from Michelin starred restaurants to relaxed bistros, offering plenty of welcoming spaces for informal meetings. Culture is immersive, with museums, contemporary art, music, and architecture

reflecting Amsterdam's long standing spirit of openness and progressive thinking.

Recreation adds balance, with canal cruises, walking tours, and green spaces such as Vondelpark offering opportunities to unwind and explore.

Amsterdam is a city that values knowledge, connection and curiosity. We hope your time here leaves you energised, inspired and ready to continue your conversations long after the 37th International Symposium on ALS/MND has ended.



Discover more about Amsterdam by visiting these websites:

iamsterdam.com

amsterdam.info

General Information

The Symposium proceedings will be in English.

Symposium Venue

RAI Amsterdam
Europaplein 24
1078 GZ Amsterdam
The Netherlands



Travel Information

Getting to Amsterdam by air

Amsterdam Schiphol Airport, situated approximately 10km from the venue, is the most convenient airport. It is one of Europe's busiest airports and provides flights all over the world.

There are several options available for onward travel to the venue:

- **By train** (to station Amsterdam RAI): 12 minutes / €5 to €6 one way
- **By bus** (to Europaboulevard/RAI): 18 minutes / €4 one way
- **By taxi**: 15 minutes / approximately €50

Getting to Amsterdam by train

Amsterdam Central Station is the main rail hub for those travelling to the city by train.

From Amsterdam Central Station, metro 52 to Europaplein is the fastest direct connection, with a six-minute journey time.

Getting to Amsterdam by car

The venue is located beside the A10 ring road (exit 9 RAI) with clear signage to designated car parks.

Getting around Amsterdam

Amsterdam offers extensive tram, metro, and bus networks. The Amsterdam Travel Ticket provides unlimited city travel. Europaplein metro station is next to the venue and Amsterdam RAI Station is a three-minute walk away for convenient regional connections.

Cycling and walking routes are plentiful throughout the city.

Entry Requirements

All visitors must hold a valid passport. Non-EU travellers will be subject to EU Entry/Exit System (EES) biometric border checks. For more information visit: government.nl/topics/holidays-and-travels

Accommodation

Accommodation information will be available at symposium.mndassociation.org

Follow Symposium deadlines and news on X: **#alsmndsymp @mndresearch**