



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione
Naturale della Fertilità - ISI
—◇—
Centro ricerca e studi salute procreativa
—◇—
Centro Pastorale



BIOETICA
E SCIENZE
DELLA VITA

THE “BILLINGS REVOLUTION” 70 YEARS LATER: from fertility knowledge to personalized medicine

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS WOOMB
Catholic University of the Sacred Heart

Auditorium - Largo Francesco Vito, 1
ROME, 28th - 29th APRIL 2023

Scientific Committee

C. Giuliadori, M.L. Di Pietro, P. Pellicanò, M. Antonelli, G. Barker

Organizing Secretariat

Catholic University of the Sacred Heart
Continuing Education, CME, congresses and events.
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Secretariat Study and Research Center for the Natural Regulation of Fertility

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Nevena Grazia Montuori - Rossella D'Ambrà

With the Contribution of:



FRIDAY, 28th APRIL 2023

8.00 Participants registration

9.00 *Opening of the Congress*

MARIA LUISA DI PIETRO
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

BERNADETTE DAVIES
WOOMB International, Australia

Greeting address

On. EUGENIA ROCCELLA
Minister for the Family, Birth Rate and Equal
Opportunities, Italy

Introductory interventions

CLAUDIO GIULIODORI
Ecclesiastical General Assistant, Università Cattolica
del Sacro Cuore, Italy

MASSIMO ANTONELLI
Director of University Centre of Bioethics and Life
Sciences, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

CLAUDIO CELLI
President of the International Scientific Institute
Paolo VI, Italy

ANTONIO GASBARRINI
Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery,
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

GIOVANNI SCAMBIA
Scientific Director of Foundation Policlinico
Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, Italy

Inaugural Lecture

On. ALFREDO MANTOVANO
Sottosegretario di Stato alla Presidenza
del Consiglio dei Ministri, Italy

SESSION I

**A revolution for science:
history and development of
research**

Moderator: NICOLETTA DI SIMONE, Italy

10.00 *The "Billings Revolution" 70 years later:
an insight that changed history*
John Billings Memorial Lecture
PAOLA PELLICANO, Italy

10.30 *Preconceptional health in Italy:
knowledge, behavior and needs of women
of childbearing age*
MARIA LUISA DI PIETRO - DRIEDA ZAÇE, Italy

11.00 *Later and later, less and less: the woman's
age as a risk factor for fertility*
ANTONIO LANZONE - ROSANNA APA, Italy

11.30 Break

12.00 *The "continuum" of ovarian activity:
hormonal profiles in James Brown's studies*
GILLIAN BARKER, Australia

12.30 *Cervical mucus, key to fertility: originality and
wonder of Erik Odeblad's discoveries*
MICAELA MENARGUEZ, Spain

SESSION II

**A revolution for procreative
health: diagnosis and prevention**

Moderator: ORNELLA PAROLINI, Italy

15.00 *Cervical mucus and the Billings Ovulation
Method: need for a re-evaluation in the era
of personalized medicine*
RITA BONFIGLIO - VALERIA VERSACE
ANNAMARIA MEROLA, Italy

15.45 *Billings Ovulation Method and reproductive
health: building the health awareness*
MARIJA CURLIN, Croatia

16.15 *Clinical impact of the Billings Ovulation
Method: Italian experience*
ELENA GIACCHI - AURORA SAPOROSI, Italy

16.45 Coffee break

17.15 *Maternal microbiota and impact on fertility
and pregnancy outcomes*
GIANLUCA IANIRO, Italy

17.45 *Male fertility: between pathology,
environment and lifestyles*
ALFREDO PONTECORVI
DOMENICO MILARDI, Italy

SATURDAY 29th APRIL 2023

SESSION III

**A revolution for culture:
anthropology, education, politics****Moderator:** GABRIELLA GAMBINO, Italy

- 9.00 *Fecundity, fertility, openness to life: intercultural and interreligious debate.*
Panel Discussion on experiences of promotion and teaching of Natural Fertility Regulation in different contexts: Coptic and Catholic of various Rites of Egypt, Islam, Protestant, Catholic Latin Rite and Maronite Rite, Eastern culture and China
Introduction: Father MARCO VIANELLI, Italy

Interventions:

MOUNIR FARAG
MARIE CLAIRE FARAG, Egypt
HEINZ HUERZELER
ANNE HUERZELER, Switzerland
AGATA KOWALSKA
SAMI AL BITAR NEHME, Poland - Lebanon
MARIE MARSHALL, Australia

- 10.30 *Break*
- 11.00 *At the heart of human sexuality: the anthropological horizon of the Natural Regulation of Fertility*
H. E. Mons. CLAUDIO GIULIODORI, Italy
Conjugal love and the gift of life: educating in beauty and truth
LUIS JENSEN - PILAR ESCUDERO, Chile
- 12.00 *A Country without children is a Country without a future. Dialogue between:*
STEFANO ZAMAGNI
MARIA LUISA DI PIETRO, Italy
- 12.40 *Fertility preservation: knowledge and attitudes of women with oncological pathology*
GIOVANNI SCAMBIA
GIACOMO CORRADO, Italy

SESSION IV

The "Billings Revolution" around the world

- 15.00 **Presidents:** BERNADETTE DAVIES and GILLIAN BARKER, WOOMB International, Australia

Moderator: ALICIA PASTOR, Billings Europe, Spain**Interventions of:** Representatives of Centres for the Billings Ovulation Method, WOOMB International Affiliates, of different Continents

- 17.30 *Coffee break*

18.00 - 20.00

*Artistic evening***The gift of love and the gift of life:
Harmonies of Beauty, in art and beyond art****With the participation of:**

ALMA MANERA, voice
LEISBERTH ANTONIO MORENO, piano
FLAVIA PASTINA, voice
CONCETTINA ANNA VALERIA SCOPELLITI, violin

And... Music from the world

Special guests of some participant Countries

SPEAKERS

SAMI AL BITAR NEHME, PhD, Research Scientist in Microbiology, Libano

ROSANNA APA Associato di Ginecologia e Ostetricia, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

GILLIAN BARKER, WOOMB International Director, Australia

RITA BONFIGLIO, Ricercatore, Dipartimento di Medicina Sperimentale, Università di Roma Tor Vergata, Italia

GIACOMO CORRADO, Dirigente Medico UOC Ginecologia oncologica, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, Italia

MARIJA ĆURLIN, PhD, Assistant Prof., Department of Histology and Biology, Catholic University of Croatia, School of Medicine, Croazia

BERNADETTE DAVIES, WOOMB International Director, Australia

NICOLETTA DE SIMONE, Ordinario di Ginecologia e Ostetricia, Humanitas University, Italia

MARIA LUISA DI PIETRO, Direttore Centro Ricerca e Studio per la Salute Procreativa, Coordinatore Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione Naturale della Fertilità, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

PILAR ESCUDERO, Membro Dicastero per i Laici, la Famiglia e la Vita, Instituto de Familias de Schoenstatt, Cile

MOUNIR FARAG, Presidente Istituto San Giuseppe per la Famiglia, Bioetica e Regolazione naturale della fertilità, Egitto

MARIE CLAIRE FARAG, Istituto San Giuseppe per la Famiglia, Bioetica e Regolazione naturale della fertilità; Coordinatore Metodo dell'Ovulazione Billings, Egitto

GABRIELLA GAMBINO, Sotto-Segretario Dicastero per i Laici, la Famiglia e la Vita, Italia

ELENA GIACCHI, già Dirigente Medico Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione Naturale della Fertilità, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Consultant of WOOMB Directors, Italia

CLAUDIO GIULIODORI, Assistente Ecclesiastico Generale, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

ANNE HUERZELER, Msc., member Swiss Coordination Association of NFP-Methods, Svizzera

HEINZ HUERZELER, Msc., Board member Swiss Coordination Association of NFP-Methods, Svizzera

GIANLUCA IANIRO, Ricercatore, Centro Malattie Apparato Digerente, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, Italia

LUIS JENSEN, Membro Dicastero per i Laici, la Famiglia e la Vita, Instituto de Familias de Schoenstatt, Cile

AGATA HELENA KOWALSKA, MBBS, Family medicine resident, Polonia

ANTONIO LANZONE, Ordinario di Ginecologia e Ostetricia, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

MARIE MARSHALL, WOOMB International Director, Australia

MICAELA MENARGUEZ, Profesora de Bioética, Universidad Católica San Antonio, Spain

ANNAMARIA MEROLA, Dirigente Medico UOC Ostetricia e Patologia ostetrica, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS; Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione Naturale della Fertilità, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

DOMENICO MILARDI, Dirigente Medico, Istituto Scientifico Internazionale Paolo VI, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

ORNELLA PAROLINI, Ordinario di Biologia applicata, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

ALICIA PASTOR, WOOMB Associated Director, Founding member of Billings Europe, Spagna

PAOLA PELLICANÒ, Dirigente Medico, Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione Naturale della Fertilità, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Coordinatore Nazionale Metodo dell'Ovulazione Billings, Italia

ALFREDO PONTECORVI, Ordinario di Endocrinologia, Direttore Istituto Scientifico Internazionale Paolo VI, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

AURORA SAPOROSI, Dirigente Medico, Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione Naturale della Fertilità, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore; Consultant of WOOMB Directors, Italia

GIOVANNI SCAMBIA, Direttore Scientifico, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS, Italia

VALERIA VERSACE, Medico UOC Ostetricia e Patologia ostetrica, Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS; Centro Studi e Ricerche per la Regolazione Naturale della Fertilità, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

MARCO VIANELLI, Direttore Ufficio Famiglia della Conferenza Episcopale Italiana, Italia

DRIEDA ZAÇE, Phd Scienze biomediche e sanità pubblica, Centro Ricerca e Studio per la Salute Procreativa, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italia

STEFANO ZAMAGNI, Presidente della Pontificia Accademia per le Scienze Sociali, Italia

NOTES

Registration

Mode of conducting the congress: in-person and online

Congress registration fees, including lunches and coffee breaks:

- Euro 200, full fee
- Euro 120, fee reserved for Teachers of natural methods, students, Participants in one of the training courses that will follow the congress
- Euro 100, online participation fee

To participate it will be necessary to register online at the following link

https://fopecom-rm.unicatt.it/fopecomonline/default_eng.aspx?Edizione=1&IdEvento=9497
by april 10th 2023

Official languages of the Congress are Italian and English. Simultaneous translation service will be provided.

A babysitting service will be available upon request (please, indicate it in notes section)

For those who wish:

Holy Masses

Friday , April 28th at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 29th at 8 a.m. - Central Church of Sacred Heart Catholic University

Tourist directions

Recommended sites in the St. Peter - Prati area:

- Vatican Museums, free admission last Sunday of the month - it is recommended to arrive very early (<https://m.museivaticani.va/>)
- Castel Sant'Angelo Museum (<http://castelsantangelo.beniculturali.it/>)
- Welcome to Rome, exhibition and film screening Corso Vittorio Emanuele 203 - by reservation only (<https://welcometo-rome.it/>)
- Fiera del gelato - Viale Angelico, 52 (www.romagelato.it)

From 30th April morning till 3rd May afternoon it will be possible to attend, exclusively in person, one of the **Teacher Training Programs** in Billings Ovulation Method:

Course participation fee, including lunches:

- Euro 200, full fee
- Euro 140, for congress participants

Basic Training Program for new Teachers (Italian):

<https://fopecom-rm.unicatt.it/fopecomonline/default.aspx?Edizione=1&IdEvento=10024>

Basic Training Program for new Teachers (English):

https://fopecom-rm.unicatt.it/fopecomonline/default_eng.aspx?Edizione=1&IdEvento=10029

Extension Program for Senior Teachers (English-Italian):

https://fopecom-rm.unicatt.it/fopecomonline/default_eng.aspx?Edizione=1&IdEvento=10025

Hotel

(discounted rates for Congress participants, subject to availability of rooms)

Hotel Excel - Via degli Scolopi, 31
info.hotelromamontemario@laminhotels.com
+39 06/35058043

Hotel Desiderio - Via della Pineta Sacchetti, 225
amministrazione@hoteldesiderioroma.it
+39 06/3010015

Casa Don Orione - Via della Camilluccia, 120
casaperferiegp2@gmail.com
+39 06/35404767

Hotel Sisto V - Via Lardaria, 10
info@hotelsistov.it
+39 06/35072185

Casa S. Emerenziana
Via del Forte Trionfale 2/G
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+39 06/35511314

Gemelli Hotel - Via della Pineta Sacchetti, 229F
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+39 06/35500452

Hotel Pineta Palace - Via S. Lino papa, 35
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