



UNIVERSITÀ
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Gemelli



Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Joint Meeting on Obstetric Anaesthesia Refresher course

March 23rd 2026 - ROME

Organised by Prof. Dr. G. Draisci
and Obstetric Anaesthetists' Association (OAA)

Programme Highlights

- Plenary sessions on the latest evidence and guidelines
 - Workshops on labour neuraxial analgesia
- Expert-led discussions on complex case management
- Networking opportunities with international colleagues

Endorsed by:

OAA



COURSE OVERVIEW:

This one-day event is designed to provide a comprehensive update on current practices, challenges, and innovations in obstetric anaesthesia. The programme will cover key topics such as labour analgesia, anaesthesia for caesarean section, and the management of complications. In addition to theoretical sessions, the symposium will include interactive workshops and round-table discussions with experienced experts in the field, encouraging practical engagement and peer exchange.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

MORNING SESSION:

Theoretical Lectures

- Labour Analgesia: Current strategies, pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches
- Anaesthesia for Caesarean Section: Best practices and emerging trends
- Complications in Obstetric Anaesthesia: Prevention, recognition, and management

AFTERNOON SESSION:

Case reports: Round Table Discussions

- Small group, workshops focusing on clinical scenarios
- Expert-led round-table discussions on controversial topics and case-based learning and simulation sessions
- All participants attend the same sessions in a rotational format



Programme

8:00 Participant Registration

8:30 Opening Welcome

Prof. G. Draisci - *Chief of Obstetric and Gynecological Anesthesia and pain medicine Catholic University of Sacred Heart, "A. Gemelli" Hospital, Rome*

Prof. F. Fattorini - *President ESRA Italia*

Dr. Nuala Lucas - *President OAA*

8:45 SESSION I Labour Analgesia

Chair G. Draisci, D.N. Lucas

- Initiation of labour analgesia *N. Filetici (20')*
- Maintenance of labour analgesia *V. Sodhi (20')*
- Non-neuraxial analgesia *M. Broom (20')*
- Discussion (15')

10:00 SESSION II Anaesthesia for Caesarean Section

Chair G. Capogna/ S. Devroe

- Neuraxial anaesthesia for CS *S. Armstrong (15')*
- Spinal hypotension *L. Frassanito (15')*
- General anaesthesia for CS *N. Kennedy (15')*
- Post CS analgesia *M. Van De Velde (15')*
- Discussion (15')

11:15 Coffee break

11:45 SESSION III Complications in Obstetric Anaesthesia

Chair L. Frassanito/ J.H. Bamber

- Preeclampsia *R. Kearns* (15')
- Postpartum haemorrhage *Y. Metodiev* (15')
- Special obstetric population: obese and neurologic pt *G.L. Gonnella* (15')
- Difficult spine *B.A. Zanfini* (15')
- Discussion (15')

13:00 Lunch break

14:00 SESSION IV Topics Covered in case-discussion/ meet the expert:

TOPICS

Case with ADP—PDPH—Subdural haematoma
Pain during caesarean section
High neuraxial block
Cardiac arrest during pregnancy
Neuraxial anaesthesia and thrombocytopenia
Anaesthesia for PPH
Failing labour epidural Anaesthesia
Pre-recorded simulation session (PPH)
Pre-recorded simulation session (ultrasound)

FACILITATORS

Sarah Devroe, Carol Kenyon
Vinayak Vanjari, Yavor Metodiev
Vinnie Sodhi, Sarah Armstrong
Gemma Crossingham, Noha Tageldin
Rachel Kearns, Lauren Robbins
Malcolm Broom, Charlotte Grove
James Bamber, Caroline Phillips
Marco Scorzoni, Giorgio Capogna
Stefano Catarci

16:45 Closing remarks

Faculty

Armstrong Sarah Louise Department of Anaesthetics, Frimley Park Hospital, Frimley, Surrey
Bamber James Henry Cambridge University Hospitals (CUH) NHS Foundation Trust
Broom Malcolm Glasgow Royal Infirmary & Princess Royal Maternity Hospital
Capogna Giorgio Scuola Europea di Anestesia Ostetrica, Centro di Simulazione Materno Neonatale, Scuola di Formazione dei Formatori in Simulazione Medica, EESOA, Roma
Catarci Stefano Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma
Crossingham Gemma University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust
Devroe Sarah Depof Anaesthesiology University Hospitals Leuven
Draisci Gaetano Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma
Filetici Nicoletta Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma
Frassanito Luciano Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma
Gonnella Gian Luigi Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma
Grove Charlotte University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire
Kearns Rachel Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Stobhill ACH
Kennedy Natasha Whipps Cross, Barts Health
Kenyon Carol Liverpool Women's Hospital
Lucas Dominique Nuala London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3UJ
Methodiev Yavor University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, UK
Phillips Caroline Cambridge University Hospitals
Robbins Lauren University Hospitals Plymouth (South West Peninsula Deanery, England)
Scorzoni Marco Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma
Sodhi Vinnie Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital in London and Clinical Lead for High Risk Obstetric Anaesthesia
Tageldin Noha St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, UK
Van De Velde Marc Leuven University
Vanjari Vinayak Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust MFT- Oxford Road Campus
Zanfini Bruno Antonio Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Roma



USEFUL INFORMATION

Location

Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli IRCCS
Largo Agostino Gemelli, 8, 00136 Roma RM
Aula Brasca, 4th floor, wing A

Registration

The registration request can be made by connecting to the website [click here](#)
Limited to 70 participants. Course registration fee:
€50 Residents - €50 OAA Member Specialists
€250 Non-OAA Member Specialists

CME credits

6 CME Credits for medical surgeons with medical specialty in: Anesthesia and Intensive Care, Gynecology and Obstetrics. Obstetrician and Nurse.

Provider

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Organizing Secretariat

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