



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

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'Ambra

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
- 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 Break
- 17.15 *Maternal microbiota and impact on fertility and pregnancy outcomes*
 GIANLUCA IANIRO, Italy
- 17.45 *Fertility preservation: knowledge and attitudes of women with oncological pathology*
 GIOVANNI SCAMBIA
 GIACOMO CORRADO, Italy
- 18.15 *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 HEURZELER
ANN HEURZELER, Switzerland
AGATA KOWALSKA
SAMI AL BITAR NEHME, Poland - Lebanon
MARIE MARSHELL, 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:*
On. ALFREDO MANTOVANO, Italy
ANTONELLA SCIARRONE ALIBRANDI, Italy
STEFANO ZAMAGNI, Italy
Moderator: MARIA LUISA DI PIETRO, Italy

SESSION IV

The “Billings Revolution” around the world15.00 **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

18.00 - 20.00

**The gift of love and the gift of life:
Harmonies of Beauty, in art and beyond art***Evening of representations and testimonies*

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

ANN HEURZELER, Msc., member Swiss Coordination Association of NFP-Methods, Svizzera

HEINZ HEURZELER, 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

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

ANTONELLA SCIARRONE ALIBRANDI, Sottosegretario Dicastero per la Cultura e l'Educazione, 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

Sunday, April 30th

12 noon appointment for the Angelus Prayer in St. Peter's Square.

In the morning, possibility of independent visits. Recommended sites in the 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/>)

From 30th April afternoon 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

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+39 06/35058043

Hotel Desiderio - Via della Pineta Sacchetti, 225

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Casa Don Orione - Via della Camilluccia, 120

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