

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Donia Rita Baldacchino (Malta, Malta)

Senior lecturer and coordinator of M.Sc. health science (nursing/ midwifery) at the Department of Nursing and Midwifery studies at the Institute of Health Care at the University of Malta. Member of the Institute of Health Care Research Ethics Board. 2002 doctor of philosophy Ph.D. (nursing). Certificate in adult education. Renal nurse.

Keynote Lecture: Competencies for Spiritual Care Free Communication: The Search for Meaning in Acute Illness



Dr. med Arjan Braam (Utrecht, The Netherlands)

Consultant psychiatrist in Altrecht Mental Health Care, Department of Emergency Psychiatry, Utrecht, the Netherlands, and senior researcher in the Institute of Extramural Medicine (EMGO-Institute) at the VU University Medical Center in Amsterdam. Since 1992 researcher in the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam (LASA), a gerontological and epidemiological prospective research initiative.

Keynote Lecture: Religious Resources and Depression - Results from the Netherlands



Prof. Dr. med. Jean-Marc Burgunder (Bern, Switzerland)

Graduation at the Faculty of Medicine in Berne and training at the National Institute of Mental Health, in Bethesda, USA. He developed a programme on research and management of patients with movement and muscle disorders with a special emphasis on neurogenetics in Bern and Singapore. Professor in experimental neurology at the Departement of Neurology, University of Bern, Switzerland, visiting professor at the Faculty of Medicine of the National University of Singapore and at the Sichuan University in Chengdu, PR China.

Keynote Lecture: Religion, Spirituality and Neuroscience



Prof. Dr. med. Arndt Büssing (Witten-Herdecke, Germany)

Head of the working group "Spirituality and Medicine" at the Chair of Medical Theory and Complementary Medicine of the medical faculty of the University Witten/ Herdecke, Germany. Co-editor of the German Journal of Oncology, editorial board of the journal Transpersonale Psychologie und Psychotherapie, advisory board of the journal Research in Complementary Medicine and Journal of Spirituality and Health International, advisory board of the "Canadian Research Institute on Spirituality and Healing", and executive board of the "Society for Meditation and Meditation Research".

Keynote Lecture: Role of Religion and Spirituality in Medical Patients





Dr. med. et M.M.E. Peter Heusser (Bern, Switzerland)

Doctor for General Medicine. Member of staff at the Ita Wegman Clinic, Arlesheim, Switzerland, (anthroposophically oriented hospital). Lecturer for anthroposophic medicine at the Institute for Complementary Medicine KIKOM, University of Bern, Switzerland. Lecturer at the Seminars for Anthroposophic Medicine Arlesheim, Dornach (Switzerland) and Filderstadt (Germany).). Advisory board of the Integrated Curriculum for Anthroposophic Medicine, Medical School of the University of Witten/Herdecke, Germany. Master of Medical Education, University of Bern.

Keynote Lecture: Europe and the Birth of Science in Spirituality



Dr. phil. Stefan Huber (Schlieren, Switzerland)

Psychologist and Theologian. Ph. D. in Psychology of Religion. Senior researcher at the Center for Religious Studies, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany. Since 2007 "Religion Monitor" of the Bertelsmann Stiftung.

Keynote Lecture: The Multidimensional Structure of Religiosity Symposium: Centrality and Content of Religiosity: S-R-T



PD Dr. med. Philippe Huguelet (Geneva, Switzerland)

Psychiatrist in charge of the "Secteur Eaux-Vives" of the Adult Psychiatric Service, Geneva Department of Psychiatry, Switzerland. As a clinician, he practices behavioural cognitive therapy. Research on neurocognitive and psychosocial aspects of schizophrenia.

Keynote Lecture: Integrating Spirituality into Schizophrenia Care



Ass. Prof. Dr. theol. Niels Christian Hvidt (Odense, Denmark)

Theologian and associate professor at the Research Unit of Health, Man and Society, Institute of Public Health, Health Sciences, University of Southern Denmark. Research on belief in divine action and interaction with humans.

Keynote Lecture: Theological Perspectives in Religion and Health Research





Prof. Dr. med. Harold G. Koenig (Durham, NC/USA)

Board certified in general psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry and geriatric medicine, and on the faculty at Duke University, USA, as professor of psychiatry and behavioral Sciences, and associate professor of medicine. He is co-director of the Centre for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University Medical Centre. Editor of the International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine, founder and editorin-chief of Science and Theology News.

Public Lecture: Recent Overview on Religion, Spirituality and Health Research



PD Dr. phil. Sebastian Murken (Trier, Germany)

Clinical psychotherapist and director of the Psychology of Religion Research Group, University of Trier and director of several research projects. Since 2006 private lecturer at the Institute for the Study of Religions, University of Leipzig. Holds doctorate in psychology and in religious studies. Since 1995 development and realization of a treatment concept for the treatment of patients with spiritual and religious problems.

Keynote Lecture: Religion and Coping in Cancer Patients



Dr. phil. Christian Zwingmann (Trier, Germany)

Christian Zwingmann is a Senior Project Manager at Prognos AG, Düsseldorf, Germany, in consultancy on healthcare and social issues. He received his Diploma (1991) from Frankfurt University, Germany, and his Ph.D. (2002) from Freiburg University, Germany, both in Psychology. He has 15 years of experience in health services research, especially rehabilitation research. Furthermore, he conducted several studies in the field of psychology of religion. In 2005 he was a visiting scientist at the Psychology of Religion Research Group, Bad Kreuznach, Germany.

Keynote Lecture: Religion and Coping in Cancer Patients