

SRHSB Annual Conference 2026 - Amsterdam, September 16-18



Provisional Programme

Wednesday, 16 September

08:00-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:05	Welcome Address by Prof. dr. W. de Vries; Head of Pediatric Department
09:05-09:15	Opening of the Congress; Dr. Ian Pople, Dr. D.P. Bakker, Carola McDonald

Session 1: Imaging in spinal dysraphism

Cutting-edge insights into imaging of spinal dysraphism's and fetal brain MRI changes, advancing precision diagnostics in spina bifida.

09:15-10:30	Keynote Speakers:
09:15-10:00	Keynote Speaker 1 Prof. A. Rossi, Professor of Neuroradiology Title: <i>Imaging of spinal dysraphism</i> (Italy, Genoa)
10:00-10:30	Keynote Speaker 2 Presenter to be announced Title: <i>Fetal MRI brain changes</i>
10:30-10:40	Abstracts Presentations (1)
10:40-11:00	☕ Break

Session 2: Embryology of spina bifida and hydrocephalus

Unlocking the origins of spina bifida and hydrocephalus, this session explores embryological development, revealing new insights into early disease formation.

11:00-11:30	Keynote Speakers:
11:00-11:30	Keynote Speaker 3 Dr. B. de Bakker (Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Amsterdam UMC) Title: <i>Micro-CT nervous system</i>
11:30-12:10	Abstracts Presentations (4)
12:10-13:00	🍽 Lunch

Session 3: Fetal surgery in spina bifida

Exploring how prenatal intervention is transforming outcomes and redefining the future of neonatal care.

- 13:00-15:45 **Keynote Speakers:**
- 13:00-13:45 **Keynote Speaker 4**
Prof. Dr. J. Deprest (Professor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Leuven/London)
Talk title: *Prenatal repair of spina bifida*
- 13:45-14:25 **Keynote Speaker 5**
Dr. Chagajeg Soloukey (Researcher, Erasmus UMC, Rotterdam)
Talk title: *Patient proximity*
- 14:25-15:05 **Keynote Speaker 6**
Dr. K. Jansen (Paediatric Neurologist, Leuven, Belgium)
Talk title: *Long-term outcomes in fetal surgery*
- 15:05-15:45 **Keynote Speaker 7**
Dr. L. Mazzone (Paediatric Surgeon, Zurich)
Talk title: *Outcomes of 5-year-old patients after open prenatal spina bifida repair in Zurich*
- 15:45-16:00 ☪ Break
- 16:00-16:20 **Abstract Presentations (2)**

Session 4: Seamless Transition

Bridging pediatric and adult care, enhancing collaboration, sharing insights through panel discussions, and elevating the patient's perspective.

- 16:20-17:50 **Keynote Speakers:**
- 16:20-16:50 **Keynote Speaker 8**
Dr. A.L. van Staa Lector (University, Rotterdam)
Talk title: *In transition – Transition*
- 16:50-17:10 **Keynote Speaker 9**
N. Bakal & I. Bakal with Carola McDonald (Nurse Practitioner, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Patient experience (interview)*
- 17:10-17:50 **Discussion Panel with Kate Steel (SHINE, UK), Dr. O. de Wit (Rehabilitation Physician)**
Discussion: *Bridging the gap*
- 17:50-18:10 **Abstract Presentations (2)**
- 18:10-18:15 Short break before AGM
- 18:15-18:45 **SRHSB Annual General Meeting (SRHSB Members Only)**

Thursday, 17 September

Session 5: Tethered Cord Syndrome

Unlocking the mysteries of tethered cord syndrome: latest updates, dilemmas in untethering, and spine shortening vs. untethering.

- 09:00-10:30 **Keynote Speakers**
- 9:00-9:30 **Keynote Speaker 10**
Dr. D.P. Bakker (Paediatric Neurologist, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Posterior fossa & tethered cord*

- 9:30-10:00 **Keynote Speaker 10**
R. Feller (Neurosurgeon, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Untethering vs spine shortening*
- 10:00-10:30 **Keynote Speaker 11**
Dr. J. Spoor (Neurosurgeon, Erasmus UMC Rotterdam)
Talk title: *Lipomeningocele*
- 10:30-10:50 ☉ Break

Session 6: Hydrocephalus 1

- 10:50-11:50 Speakers to be announced soon
- 11:50-12:45 Poster Presentations with Lunch 🍽️ - Sponsor Round

Session 7: Urology in Spina Bifida

Cultural approaches, self-catheterization adherence, and bowel management: antegrade vs. retrograde irrigation.

- 12:45-13:15 **The Welburn Lecture**
Prof. Dr. Ahmad Elderwy (Professor of Pediatric Urology, Asyut, Egypt)
Lecture title: *Urology– the dilemma of spina bifida in Egypt*
- 13:15-14:30 **Keynote Speakers**
- 13:15-13:40 **Keynote Speaker 12**
Mrs. T. de Kraker (Nurse practitioner, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Therapy compliance in neurogenic bladder*
- 13:40-14:05 **Keynote Speaker 13**
Dr. J.R. de Jong (Pediatric Surgeon) & Janine van Leeuwen (Nurse Practitioner) (Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Bowel irrigation via Chait trapdoor - a surgical intervention*
- 14:05-14:30 **Keynote Speaker 14**
Prof. Dr. R.J.M. Nijman (Urologist)
Talk title: *European guidelines for bladder management in spinal dysraphism*
- 14:30-15:00 **Abstract Presentations (3)**
- 15:00-15:30 ☉ Break

Session 8: Rehabilitation and Orthopedics

Use of gait analysis in spina bifida, scoliosis, sports with physical disabilities, and evaluation of quality of life in spina bifida.

- 15:30-17:30 **Keynote speakers**
- 15:30-16:00 **Keynote Speaker 15**
Dr. Eveline Boeker (Rehabilitation Physician), Susan de Koning (Movement Scientist) & Eefje Muselars (Paediatric Physical Therapist) (Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Orthopaedic management in spina bifida evaluation of multilevel orthopaedic management in spina bifida*
- 16:00-16:25 **Keynote Speaker 16**
Dr. A. Stadhouders (Orthopaedic surgeon)
Talk title: *Scoliosis and kyphosis in spina bifida (Amsterdam UMC)*

- 16:25-16:50 **Keynote Speaker 17**
E. Muselaers
Talk title: *Sports participation*
- 16:50-17:10 **Keynote Speaker 18**
Dr. H. Vreugdenhil (Psychologist) and Miss J Boekhoff (Social Worker) (Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Evaluation of QOL in children with spina bifida and family centred care*
- 17:10-17:30 **Keynote Speaker 19**
Dr. M. Alsem (Rehabilitation Physician, WKZ Utrecht)
Talk title: *Interprofessional care in spina bifida*
- 17:30-18:00 **Abstract Presentations (3)**
- 18:30-21:30 **Society Networking Dinner - Amsterdam UMC**

Friday, 18 September

Session 9: Paediatrics

From bone fragility to breakthrough bacteriophage therapy for urinary tract infections, this session explores innovative, multidisciplinary strategies to tackle key complications in spina bifida care.

- 08:30-09:15 **Keynote Speakers**
- 08:30-08:50 **Keynote Speaker 20**
Dr. M.W. Bijlsma (Paediatrician, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Bone fragility and osteoporosis fractures in spina bifida*
- 08:50-09:15 **Keynote Speaker 21**
Speaker to be announced
Talk title: *Bacteriophage therapy in urinary tract infections*
- 09:15-09:55 **Abstract Presentations (4)**
- 09:55-10:15 ☕ Break

Session 10: Hydrocephalus 2

Scientific update in hydrocephalus: VP shunt vs. third ventriculostomy – evaluating different approaches.

- 10:15-12:15 **Keynote Speakers**
- 10:15-10:45 **Keynote Speaker 22**
Dr. S. Roosendaal (Neuroradiologist, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Imaging of hydrocephalus*
- 10:45-11:15 **Keynote Speaker 23**
Dr. K.M. Slot (Neurosurgeon, Amsterdam UMC)
Talk title: *Ventriculoperitoneal shunting versus endoscopic third ventriculostomy*
- 11:15-11:45 **Keynote Speaker 24**
Dr. D. Buis (Neurosurgeon)
Talk title: *Hydrocephalus management in infants*
- 11:45-12:15 **Keynote Speaker 25**
Dr. Monica Chau (Chief Scientific Officer, Hydrocephalus Association)
Talk title: *The patient-led research priorities in hydrocephalus*
- 12:15-13:15 **Abstract Presentations (6)**
- 13:15-13:25 **Closing Remarks**
Dr. R. Verbeek (Pediatric Neurologist, Amsterdam UMC)