

EFFECT 2026 – Scientific Programme

Bordeaux, France | 18–19 September 2026

Friday, 18 September 2026

08:00–08:45	Registration
08:45–09:15	Welcome & Opening Session Local Organising Committee & EFFECT Board
09:15–09:30	Introduction: French ECT History: A Tale of Dual Roots Marion Plaze & Christophe Daudet (France)
09:30–10:30	Session 1 – ECT in France & Europe Chair: Marion Plaze (France)
	Recent ECT History in Bordeaux: Three Decades of Commitment to ECT Teaching Marc Auriacombe (France)
	Media Representations of ECT in France: From Controversy to Clinical Reality Ali Amad & Clélia Quiles (France)
	Remote Patient Monitoring in ECT: Toward a Data-Driven Longitudinal Follow-up Model Antoine Yroni (France)
	Feasibility, Acceptability, and Anxiety-Reducing Effects of VR Relaxation in Patients Undergoing ECT Jasmien Obbels (Belgium)
10:30–11:00	Coffee Break
11:00–11:30	Session 2 – ECT Systems & Registries Chair: George Kirov (United Kingdom)
	ECT Use in Ireland: A Registry-Based Study Liam Kennedy (Ireland)
	The ECT Accreditation Service (ECTAS): Over 20 Years of Improving Care Cassie Regan & Hannah Lucas-Motley (United Kingdom)
11:30–12:00	Discussion Forum – The Role of Patient Representatives Chair: George Kirov (United Kingdom) Amanda Tate; Olivia Dean; Speaker with Lived Experience – Patient Voice in ECT (United Kingdom)
12:00–13:30	Lunch Break
13:30–14:15	Special Guest Lecture Chair: Marc Auriacombe (France) Current Controversies and Opportunities in ECT: A Personal Perspective – Harold Sackeim (USA)
14:15–15:15	Session 3 – Innovations & New Techniques Chair: Declan McLoughlin (Ireland)
	The French FEAST Study Philippe Domenech (France)
	MST in the Netherlands Indira Tendolkar (Netherlands)
	TMS / ECT Synergistic Effects: STIMAGNECT Studies Maud Rotharmel (France)
	Racemic Ketamine in the Treatment of TRD: Expanding the Options for Maintenance Treatment Beyond M-ECT Verónica Gálvez (Spain)
15:15–15:45	Coffee Break
15:45–16:15	Session 4 – When Family Matters Chair: Dominique Januel (France)
	Family Involvement During Electroconvulsive Therapy in Flanders: A Cross-Sectional Survey Nele Van de Velde (Belgium)
	The Association of Family History of Severe Mental Disorders and Clinical Trajectories in Patients Treated with ECT for Depression Anders Jørgensen (Denmark)
16:15–17:45	Guided Visit of the ECT Unit ECT Clinical Unit Presentation – Clélia Quiles & ECT Team (France)

Saturday, 19 September 2026

09:00–09:30	Registration
09:30–11:00	Session 1 – Memory & Cognition in ECT Chair: Esmée Verwijk (Netherlands)
	Relationship Between Objective Memory Measures and Subjective Memory Measures in ECT: Are Informants an Added Value? Shauni Verspecht (Belgium)
	Does the Loss of Autobiographical Memories Contribute to the Therapeutic Effect of ECT? Mike van Kessel (Netherlands)
	From Disorientation to Memory Loss: Does Reorientation Time Predict Cognitive Outcomes Following ECT? Nathalie Denayer (Belgium)
	Age-Related Differences in Autobiographical Memory Functioning After ECT in Patients with Major Depressive Disorder P.C. Scheelings (Netherlands)
	A First Evaluation and Preliminary Normative Data of the Dutch Translation of the Columbia University Autobiographical Memory Interview, Short Form (CUAMI-SF) Mai-Ly Vo (Netherlands)
	Discussion All speakers
11:00–11:30	Coffee Break
11:30–12:30	Session 2 – Data & Optimization Chair: Pascal Sienaert (Belgium)
	Ultrabrief Pulse ECT Declan McLoughlin (Ireland)
	Large UK ECTAS Data Rich Braithwaite (United Kingdom)
	Re-evaluating the Effectiveness of Ultrabrief Pulse ECT: The Potential Role of (In)appropriate Seizure Threshold Titration Julia Meijer (Netherlands)
	Clinical Efficacy of Right Unilateral versus Bitemporal ECT in Non-Depressive Psychiatric Disorders Noomane Bouaziz (France)
12:30–13:30	Lunch Break
13:30–14:00	Plenary Talk Chair: Ali Amad (France) NMDA-Receptor Encephalitis: Psychiatric Manifestations, Catatonia, and the Use of ECT – Leonardo V. Lopez (USA)
14:00–14:45	Session 3 – Complex Clinical Cases Chair: Gábor Gazdag (Hungary)
	Risk of Pulmonary Aspiration During ECT in Patients on GLP-1 Receptor Agonists – A Case Report Titus Chester (United Kingdom)
	Case 1 (including video of catatonic symptoms); Case 2 (including video of tardive dyskinesia movements) Kaija Järventausta (Finland)
	Immune-Metabolic Depression and ECT Efficacy in Older Age Floris Tas (Netherlands)
14:45–15:15	Coffee Break
15:15–16:15	Session 4 – Clinical Safety, Mechanisms & Prediction Chair: Anne Sauvaget (France)
	The Role of Bifrontal ECT in Reducing Cardiac Complications George Kirov (United Kingdom)
	Does Lithium Increase the Cognitive Side-Effects of ECT? Liese van den Eynde (Belgium)
	Anaesthesia Awareness with Recall During ECT: Prevalence, Clinical Profile, and Practical Implications Andrew Laurin (France)
	Remission Threshold Selection Shapes Predictive Architecture in ECT: A Machine Learning Benchmarking Study in Difficult-to-Treat Depression Fabio Sambataro (Italy)
16:15–16:45	Final Discussion – Controversies in ECT Chair: Indira Tendolkar (Netherlands) Panel: Harold Sackeim & panel speakers
16:45–17:00	Closing Remarks Local Organising Committee & EFFECT Board

Venue & Practical Information

Conference Venue

EFFECT 2026 – European Forum for ECT and Interventional Psychiatry
Centre Broca Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bordeaux Neurocampus
Campus Carreire, 146 Rue Léo Saignat, 33076 Bordeaux Cedex, France

The conference will take place at the Centre Broca Nouvelle-Aquitaine, within Bordeaux Neurocampus, a major neuroscience and brain research campus bringing together clinicians, neuroscientists and researchers.

Conference Dates

- Friday 18 September 2026
- Saturday 19 September 2026
- Registration opens from 08:00 on Friday morning.

How to Reach the Venue

By air: Bordeaux-Mérignac International Airport (BOD) is approximately 10 km from the venue. Tram A reaches the area in about 20–30 minutes.

By train: Bordeaux Saint-Jean railway station provides high-speed connections to Paris, Toulouse, Lyon, Lille, Strasbourg, Brussels and Madrid via connections.

By tram: take Tram A and exit at Saint-Augustin or François Mitterrand. The venue is within walking distance.

By bus: nearby stops include Campus Carreire (Lines 24 and 55) and Bordeaux Carreire (Lines 8, 20, 73 and 80).

Taxi & Car Access

Closest taxi drop-off points: 38 Rue Albert Marquet, 14 Rue Eugène Jacquet or 125 Rue Bethmann. Ask for Centre Broca Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Bordeaux Neurocampus.

By car: vehicle access via 125 Rue Bethmann. Parking area: P1. Participants are advised to arrive early, as parking availability may be limited during working hours.

Accommodation

Participants are responsible for arranging their own accommodation. Recommended areas with easy public transport access:

- Bordeaux City Centre
- Saint-Augustin
- Mériadeck
- Gambetta
- Saint-Pierre historic district

Registration Includes

- Access to all scientific sessions
- Coffee breaks
- Lunches during the conference
- Certificate of attendance

Language

The official language of the conference is English. No simultaneous translation will be provided.

Accessibility

The Centre Broca Nouvelle-Aquitaine is fully accessible to participants with reduced mobility. Elevators and accessible facilities are available throughout the building.

Discover Bordeaux

Bordeaux is a UNESCO World Heritage city renowned for its architecture, gastronomy, wine culture and vibrant scientific community. Participants are encouraged to explore the historic city centre, the Garonne riverfront and the surrounding vineyards during their stay.

We look forward to welcoming you to Bordeaux for EFFECT 2026.