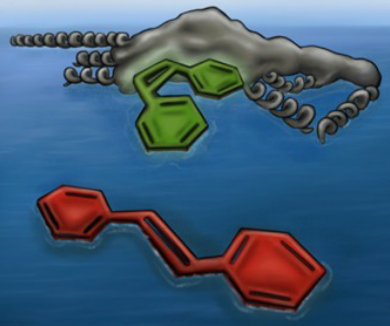


# 5th International Symposium on Photopharmacology

8-10 April 2026, Sète, France

## Plenary Speakers

**Pr. Amadeu Llebaria**
Institut de Química Avançada de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain

**Pr. Andrea Rentmeister**
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany

**Dr. Céline Frochot**
LRGP Univ Lorraine, Nancy, France

**Pr. Dirk Trauner**
University or Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA

**Pr. Weiping Wang**
Hong-Kong University, Hong-Kong

**Pr. Wiktor Szymanski**
University of Groningen, The Netherlands

## Keynote Speakers

Pr. Andrea Hupfeld
Pr. Andrew Woolley
Pr. Angel Marti
Pr. Angela Casini
Dr. Charleine Zussy
Pr. Francisco Ciruela
Pr. Jörg Standfuss
Dr. Julie Le Merrer
Dr. Laetitia Mony
Dr. Laia Josa-Culleré
Pr. Matthew J. Fuchter
Dr. Michel De Waard
Pr. Oliver Thorn Seshold
Dr. Pau Gorostiza
Pr. Rob Leurs
Pr. Wan-Chen Lin
Dr. Xavier Rovira

*For more information contact:*
*ispp2026@sciencesconf.org*
*https://ispp2026.scienceconf.org*

## Organizers

Pr. Olalla Vázquez (U. Marburg) & Cyril Goudet (IGF, U. Montpellier)

## Partners and Sponsors

5th International Symposium on
# Photopharmacology
8 -10 April 2026, Sète, France

# Program

## Wednesday, 8 April 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11:00-12:30 | Welcome / Registrations | |
| 12:30-14:00 | Lunch break | |
| 14:00-14:20 | Olalla Vázquez & Cyril Goudet | Introduction, presentation of the symposium |
| 14:20-15:00 | Prof. Amadeu Llebaria (IQAC-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain) | Plenary lecture 1: "Demystifying photopharmacology: a personal view of a promising technology" |
| **Session 1 "Photoswitches and beyond"** Chairs: Olalla Vázquez & Amadeu Llebaria | | |
| 15:00-15:20 | Prof. Andrea Hupfeld (University of Regensburg, Germany) | "Photoxenase Engineering - Photocontrol of enzymes with unnatural amino acids" |
| 15:20-15:40 | Prof. Andrew Woolley (University of Toronto, Canada) | "Adventures with acylhydrazone photoswitches" |
| 15:40-16:00 | Prof. Matthew J. Fuchter (University of Oxford, UK) | "Design and discovery methodologies in photopharmacology" |
| 16:00-17:00 | Coffee break | Collecting room keys and hanging posters (odd numbers) |
| 17:00-17:20 | Prof. Oliver Thorn-Seshold (U Dresden, Germany) | "Azobenzenes for NIR switching, Chromocontrol, and Fluorescence Imaging" |
| 17:20-17:30 | Lucia Vina Lopez (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA) | "Toward Predictive Photopharmacology: AI-Accelerated Excited-State Simulations for High-Throughput Photoswitch Screening" |
| 17:30-17:40 | Nikita Durandin (Tampere University, Finland) | "Traceless Photopolymerization with Non-Pulsed Red Light for Cell-Laden Bioscaffold Fabrication" |
| 17:40-18:20 | Prof. Dirk Trauner (U. Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA) | Plenary lecture 2: "Controlling Transcription, Translation, and Cellular Excitability with Photopharmacology" |
| 19:00 | Welcome drink | |
| 20:00 | Dinner | |

## Thursday, 9 April 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7:30-8:30 | Breakfast | |
| 8:30-9:10 | Prof. Andrea Rentmeister (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany) | Plenary lecture 3: "Light-Activated mRNA Translation: From Proof-of-Concept to Genome Editing and In Vivo Control" |
| **Session 2 "Optical engineering and novel applications"** Chairs: Guillaume Lebon & Laia Josa-culleré | | |
| 9:10-9:30 | Dr. Pau Gorostiza (Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain) | "Photopharmacology with infrared light" |
| 9:30-9:50 | Prof. Angela Casini (Technical University of Munich, Garching bei München, Germany) | "Photo-cleavable Ruthenium-based mass tags for mass spectrometry imaging of proteins in tissue sections" |
| 9:50-10:10 | Prof. Jorg Standfuss (PSI, Switzerland) | "Time-resolved GPCR photopharmacology at next-generation X-ray sources" |
| 10:10-10:15 | Kathrin Brenker (Optobiolabs) | Sponsor talk: "Cell Equality: Because Every Cell Deserves Equal Light" |
| 10:15-10:20 | Artem Kondratskyi (Nanion technologies) | Sponsor talk: "Lighting up ion channels at scale" |
| 10:20-11:50 | **Poster session 1 (odd numbers)** + coffee break | |
| 11:50-12:10 | Prof. Angel Marti (Rice University, USA) | "Amphiphilic Ruthenium(II) Metallosurfactants for Lysosome-Targeted Photodynamic Therapy" |
| 12:10-12:20 | Eszter Kozma (Institute of Organic Chemistry, Budapest, Hungary) | "Three-colour Photopharmacology: Chromatically Orthogonal Photocages for Precision Optical Control of G-protein Coupled Receptors" |
| 12:20-12:30 | Anastasiia Babych (Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium) | "Soft self-written waveguides enable photorelease of a photocaged adenosine A1 receptor agonist for local suppression of neuronal excitability in the brain" |
| 12:30-14:00 | Lunch break + group picture | |
| 14:00-15:30 | **Poster session 2 (even numbers)** | |
| 15:30-16 :10 | Dr. Céline Frochot (LRGP Univ Lorraine, Nancy, France) | Plenary lecture 4: "Photodynamic therapy: Advancement in therapeutic application for targeted treatment" |
| **Session 3 "Emerging targets and therapeutic potential"** Chairs: Laurent Givalois & Laetitia Mony | | |
| 16:10-16:30 | Dr. Laia Josa-Culleré (IQAC-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain) | "Photoswitches for oncology: From target-driven design to phenotypic discovery" |
| 16:30-16:50 | Prof. Rob Leurs (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands) | "Lights on.....time to play with pharmacology" |
| 16:50-17:10 | Dr. Xavier Rovira (IQAC-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain) | "Optimal Light-Activated Photoswitches Targeting the Vitamin D Receptor for Therapeutic Applications in Psoriasis" |
| 17:10-17:30 | Dr. Michel De Waard (Institut du Thorax, Nantes, France) | "Photopharmacological tuning of hERG channel block using diazirine-containing analogues of the toxin BeKm-1" |
| 17:30-17:50 | Coffee break | |
| 17:50-18:00 | Kirrthana Makenthirathasan (Univ Lorraine, Vandoeuvre les Nancy, France | "Light-induced photothermal transport of ion and water channels mediated by a two-photon–responsive molecular transducer" |
| 18:00-18:10 | Albert Schulte (Univ Groningen, Groningen, The Netherlands) | "X-ray activated Photopharmacology" |
| 18:10-18:20 | Dr. Serena Notartomaso (IRCCS Neuromed, Pozzilli, Italy) | "Circuit-Specific Control of mGlu5 Receptors by Photopharmacology in Neuropathic Pain and Stroke Recovery" |
| 18:20-18:30 | Dr. Dimitri De Bundel (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussel, Belgium) | "A photoswitchable cannabinoid enables precise, low-side-effect seizure control in a mouse model of drug-resistant epilepsy" |
| 18:30-19:10 | Prof. Weiping Wang (Hong-Kong University, Hong-Kong) | Plenary lecture 5: "Photocleavage-based photoresponsive drug delivery" |
| 19:10-19:30 | Best young researcher's posters and oral communications awards | |
| 20:00 | Dinner and music | |

## Friday, 10 April 2026

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 8:00-9:00 | Breakfast | |
| 9:00-9:40 | Prof. Wictor Szymanski<br>(U. Groningen, The Netherlands) | Plenary lecture 6: "New tools, applications and considerations for Photopharmacology" |
| **Session 4 "Brain, diseases and photopharmacology"**<br>Chairs: Cyril Goudet & Andrea Rentmeister | | |
| 9:40-10:00 | Dr. Charleine Zussy<br>(Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle, Montpellier, France) | "Photopharmacology to dissect and correct brain pathology in Alzheimer's disease" |
| 10:00-10:20 | Prof. Wan-Chen Lin<br>(Academia Sinica, Taiwan) | "Developing photopharmacological and optogenetic tools for high-precision control of neurotransmission" |
| 10:20-10:40 | Dr. Julie Le Merrer<br>(iBrain, Tours, France) | "Photopharmacological modulation of mGlu4 to rescue autistic-like behaviors in mouse models" |
| 10:40-11:10 | Coffee break | |
| 11:10-11:30 | Prof. Francisco Ciruela<br>(University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain) | "In vivo photopharmacology: advancing optical therapeutics" |
| 11:30-11:50 | Dr. Laetitia Mony<br>(Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France) | "Interrogation of NMDA receptor diversity using photopharmacology" |
| 12:00-14:00 | Lunch break | |
| 14:00 | End of the symposium | |

# Guest speakers

## Plenary lectures

Prof. Amadeu LLEBARIA, Institut de Química Avançada de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain
https://www.iqac.csic.es/mcs/

Prof. Andrea RENTMEISTER, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany
https://www.rentmeister-group.com/rentmeister

Dr. Céline FROCHOT, LRGP Univ Lorraine, Nancy, France
https://lrgp-nancy.cnrs.fr/axes-recherche/biopromo/

Prof. Dirk TRAUNER, University or Pennsylvania, Philpadelphia, USA
https://www.traunergroup.org/

Prof. Weiping WANG, Hong-Kong University, Hong-Kong
https://wanglab.org/

Prof. Wictor SZYMANSKI, University of Groningen, The Netherlands
https://www.szymanski-lab.nl/

## Keynote lectures

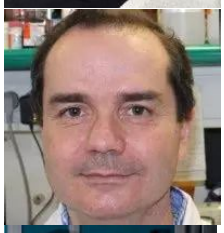
Prof. Andrea Hupfeld, University of Regensburg, Germany
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/en/biology-preclinical-medicine/research/working-groups/ag-hupfeld

Prof. Andrew Woolley, University of Toronto, Canada
https://www.chemistry.utoronto.ca/people/directories/all-faculty/andrew-woolley

Prof. Angel Marti, Rice University, USA
https://profiles.rice.edu/faculty/angel-marti

Prof. Angela Casini, Technical University of Munich (TUM), München
Germany
https://www.ch.nat.tum.de/mbc/home/

Dr. Charleine Zussy, Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle, Montpellier, France
https://www.igf.cnrs.fr/equipes/equipe-marin/



Prof. Francesco Ciruela, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
https://www.neurociencies.ub.edu/research-group/neuropharmacology-and-pain/

Prof. Jörg Standfuss, Paul Scherrer Institute, Villigen, Switzerland
https://www.psi.ch/en/lbr/people/jorg-standfuss

Dr. Julie Le Merrer, iBrain, Tours, France
https://ibrain.univ-tours.fr/english-version/directory/julie-le-merrer

Dr. Laetitia Mony, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, France
https://qbio.ens.psl.eu/annuaire/laetitia-mony

Dr. Laia Cullere-Sans, IQAC-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain
https://www.iqac.csic.es/josaculleregroup/

Prof. Matthew J. Fuchter, University of Oxford, UK
https://www.chem.ox.ac.uk/people/matthew-fuchter

Dr. Michel De Waard, Institut du thorax, Nantes, France
(https://umr1087.univ-nantes.fr/research/research-teams/team-ii-members)

Prof. Oliver Thorn Seshold, University of Technology Dresden, Germany
https://tu-dresden.de/mn/chemie/oc/chembio/forschung

Dr. Pau Gorostiza, Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia, Barcelona, Spain
https://www.icrea.cat/community/icreas/17559/pau-gorostiza-langa/

Prof. Rob Leurs, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
https://research.vu.nl/en/persons/rob-leurs/

Prof. Wan-Chen Lin, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
https://www.ibms.sinica.edu.tw/wan-chen-lin/

Dr. Xavier Rovira, Institut de Química Avançada de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain
https://www.iqac.csic.es/mcs/

# Posters

**highlighted in yellow = selected for oral presentation*

# Sponsors and partners

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The Pole Biologie Santé (Biology-Health Cluster) is a structure bringing together research, teaching, and scientific outreach activities within the University of Montpellier.

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Priority research program and equipment for light-matter interaction

**CNRS**

The National Centre for Scientific Research, better known by its acronym CNRS, is France's largest public scientific research organisation. It is active in all fields of knowledge.

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Inserm is the National Institute of Health and Medical Research. Its' one goal: to improve the health of all by advancing knowledge of life and disease, innovation in treatment, and public health research.

**IGF**

Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle

**EuChemS**

EuChemS, the European Chemical Society, is an umbrella organisation representing national Chemical Societies and other chemistry-related organisations in Europe.

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For more than 30 years, France Alzheimer et maladies apparentées (France Alzheimer and Related Diseases) has been working alongside families, medical and social professionals, researchers, and institutional actors to optimize short-term care and improve the long-term fight against Alzheimer's and related diseases.

**Optobiolabs**

Opto Biolabs develops customized LED lighting devices for optogenetic research.

**Optolumina**

OptoLumina AG advances optogenetics, photopharmacology, and other light-based biological techniques with the Lumiplate, a high-quality well plate illumination device.

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BMG LABTECH is one of the world's leading manufacturers of innovative, high-quality and highly reliable microplate readers.

**HelloBio**

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