

NICE START

I INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF YOUNG RESEARCHERS IN COGNITION, LANGUAGE AND NEUROSCIENCES

October 24th and 25th 2025 | Portuguese Catholic University, Lisbon



October 24th

9h Attendees Registration

9h15-9h45 Opening Conference

Professor Alexandre Castro Caldas | Professora Ana Mineiro | Professora Maria Vânia Nunes

9h45-10h45 Oral presentations

1. Digital device exposure and family functioning as predictors of phonological development in preschool children: a cross-sectional study

Maria Inês Gomes^{1,2}, Marisa Lousada^{1,2}, Ana Rita Valente³, Patrícia Belém², Daniela Figueiredo^{1,2}

¹RISE-Health; ²Higher School of Health, University of Aveiro; ³School of Health Sciences, Polytechnic of Leiria and IEETA, DETI, LASI, University of Aveiro

2. Atypical Sensory Intensity Processing in Autism: Empirical Characterization and Computational Analysis

Catarina Fonseca^{1,2}, Bernardo Barahona-Corrêa^{1,3}, Alfonso Renart^{1,2}

¹NOVA Medical School, Nova University of Lisbon; ²Champalimaud Research, Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon; ³Champalimaud Research & Clinical Centre, Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon

10h45-11h15 Coffee Break and Poster Exhibition

11h15-12h30 Escape Room “The Brain Unlocked”

(ask for a spot at attendee registration)

Lunch

14h-15h Keynote Speaker

Lexical and morphosyntactic skills of deaf children using cochlear implants

Sofia Lynce de Faria, Ph.D., Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Portuguese Catholic University

Active Break

FisioDance - PhysioT. Paula Pinto PhD Student at UCP

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15h15-16h15 Oral presentations

3. *Fibromyalgia in Adolescence: An Integrated Approach to Break the Pain-Emotion Cycle*

Ana Justo, Rita Canaipa

Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Portuguese Catholic University

4. *Person-Centred Cognitive Rehabilitation Digital Solutions: Adaptation and Validation of the RICORDO Platform*

Liliana Patrícia Ventura Mendes¹, Fabiana Filipa Silva Gonçalves², Ana Cristina Rodrigues Raposo³ e Levi Leonido Fernandes da Silva⁴

¹Coimbra Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Translational Research (CIBIT), Faculty of Medicine of Coimbra University; ²Mundis - Civic Association for Training and Culture; ³Laboratory of Neuropsychophysiology at the Faculty of Psychology and Education Sciences of the University of Porto (FPCEUP); ⁴Catholic University of Portugal

16h15-16h30 Coffee Break and Poster Exhibition

16h30-17h30 Round Table Podcast

Indie Founder: Neuro & Language Entrepreneurs

Host: Tiago Ferreira - <https://www.wannabe-entrepreneur.com/>

Guests: Jorge Amorim - <https://hikari.pt/>

Patrícia Teixeira de Abreu - <https://dislexiadaybyday.com/>

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October 25th

9h-9h30 Attendees Registration

9h30-10h30 Oral presentations

5. Evaluation of Inhibitory Control and Attentional Bias Through Eye-Tracking: A Modified Emotional Stop-Signal Task

Gonçalo Dias de Carvalho Barros

Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Portuguese Catholic University

6. Within-subject variability in pain reports as a proxy for ascending sensory certainty: implications for placebo response

Mariana Agostinho

NICELab, The clinical pain innovation laboratory, Portuguese Catholic University; University of Haifa

10h30-11h30 Keynote Speaker

Can the senses transform the way we eat? A look into multisensory taste perception

David Guedes, Ph.D., ISCTE - University Institute of Lisbon

11h30-12h Coffee Break and Poster Exhibition

12h-13h Keynote Speaker

Circuitry Psychiatry: the road to precision medicine with Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation

Gonçalo Cotovio, M.D., Ph.D., Champalimaud Foundation

13h-13h30 Closing Address and Awards for best Oral Presentation and Best Poster

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Poster Exhibition

1. *Explanatory variables of assessment accommodations fairness, validity and usefulness for students with dyslexia*

Leonor Ribeiro ¹, Ana Paula Loução Martins², José Carlos Morgado^{2,3}

¹ University of Minho; ²Research Center for Child Studies, University of Minho, ³ Institute of Education, University of Minho

2. *Consciência Fonológica na Língua Gestual Portuguesa: Análise linguística e proposta de atividades no âmbito da Intervenção Precoce*

Alice Raquel de Sousa Novais Ferreira, Mara Moita, Paulo Vaz de Carvalho
Portuguese Catholic University

3. *The Social Brain in Conflict: An ERP Study using a Stroop Paradigm*

Maria Coelho ¹, Daniel Agostinho ^{1,3} Teresa Sousa^{1,4}, Gabriel Pires^{5,6}, Miguel Castelo-Branco^{1,2,4}

¹Coimbra Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Translational Research (CIBIT); ² Faculty of Medicine, University of Coimbra; ³Centre for Informatics and Systems of the University of Coimbra (CISUC); ⁴ Institute for Nuclear Sciences Applied to Health (ICNAS), University of Coimbra; ⁵Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Institute of Systems and Robotics, University of Coimbra; ⁶Polytechnic Institute of Tomar

4. *A propaedeutics on the impact assessment of a project on youth entrepreneurship and innovation. PEpE and innovation in education*

Narciso Moreira, Andreia Pereira, Helena Enes Costa
Betweien, Lda.

5. *Hallucination of visual instability is promoted by psychedelics and suppressed by gaze shifts*

Lydia Fettweis Neto, Scott Rennie, Zachary Mainen
Champalimaud Foundation

6. *Para uma terminologia em saúde em Língua Gestual Portuguesa*

Betina Conceição, Mara Moita, Paulo Vaz de Carvalho
Portuguese Catholic University

7. *Exploring Burnout Experience in the Portuguese Army: A Latent Profile Analysis Approach*

Marcelo A. C. Matias ¹, Pedro J. Rosa ^{1,2}

¹Lusófona University - HEI-Lab: Digital Human-Environment Interaction Labs; ²Instituto Superior Manuel Teixeira Gomes (ISMAT), Portimão

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NICE START is an innovative international event promoted by young researchers from the NICE_Lab at the Portuguese Catholic University. This first edition brings together early career researchers from the **fields of Cognitive Sciences, Language and Neurosciences**, providing a dynamic space for the exchange of ideas and the sharing of original work, with special emphasis on doctoral students.

Organized by doctoral students from the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing, the event's main objective is to **foster interdisciplinarity, promoting in-depth discussions** on the latest challenges and advances in these fields. More than just an academic meeting, NICE START aims to be a catalyst for new collaborations and scientific networks, bringing together diverse perspectives and stimulating the construction of a more connected and innovative research community.

In this context, participants will have the opportunity to present their work, explore new approaches and reflect on the future of neuroscience and cognitive sciences, in an environment of learning, sharing and cooperation.

NICE START reinforces the **importance of interdisciplinarity in scientific research** and stands out as an essential platform for the academic and professional growth of young researchers, encouraging the development of long-term collaborative networks.

Opening Conference Speakers



ALEXANDRE CASTRO CALDAS

Coordinator of the National Council for Health Sciences of the Catholic University of Portugal



ANA MINEIRO

Head of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Portuguese Catholic University

Coordinator of the PhD in Cognitive Sciences, Language and Neuroscience

Head of the Translational Neuroscience Platform - CIIS



MARIA VÂNIA NUNES

Coordinator of the PhD in Cognitive Sciences, Language and Neuroscience

Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Portuguese Catholic University

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Keynote Speakers



SOFIA LYNCE DE FARIA

PhD in Cognitive and Language Sciences from the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Catholic University of Portugal, having developed her doctoral studies in the area of oral language acquisition in deaf children using cochlear implants.

She completed her degree in Speech Therapy at the Egas Moniz School of Health and a Master's degree in Clinical Linguistics at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing of the Catholic University of Portugal.

She was a research fellow in several research projects with funding in competitive competitions in the field of child language acquisition and development, exploring spontaneous language measures in the context of typical and atypical development, these being her main areas of interest. She was also a PhD fellow of the Foundation for Science and Technology.

She is a member of the NICE_LAB of the Translational Neuroscience platform of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Health Sciences.

She coordinates the Hearing Department of the Portuguese Society of Speech Therapy.

Develops clinical practice in a hospital setting with preschool-aged children with and without deafness.

Develops research and clinical practice in the area of language disorders, actively collaborating in the development of materials aimed at speech therapists who work with childhood deafness.

Programs: BSc Systems and Cognitive Neuroscience

Modules/Courses: Project Seminar

Areas of Research: Language acquisition and development in children, Spontaneous speech measures, Deafness and cochlear implants



DAVID GUEDES

Psychology researcher and guest assistant professor at ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon. He holds a degree in Clinical and Health Psychology from the University of Lisbon and a Ph.D. in Psychology from ISCTE . He has worked in research since 2018, primarily focusing on the factors that influence food preferences and choices. His most recent work has emphasized the multisensory and affective aspects of food perception and their potential to promote healthier and more sustainable eating practices. Currently, he is engaged in a research project funded by the “la Caixa” Foundation, examining the determinants of sugar consumption in children.

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Keynote Speakers



GONÇALO COTOVIO

Psychiatrist and Researcher at the Neuropsychiatry Unit of the Champalimaud Foundation and Visiting Assistant Professor of Neuroscience at NOVA Medical School of the NOVA University, Lisbon

Completed his integrated master's degree in Medicine at NOVA Medical School in 2014. A year later, he joined the Neuropsychiatry Unit at the Champalimaud Foundation as a research intern, where he completed his doctorate in January 2023, after obtaining a Doctoral Scholarship from the Research Support Foundation and Technology. During this period, he received training in brain stimulation at Berenson Allen Center, Harvard Medical School. In 2020, he obtained the title of specialist in Epidemiology and Clinical Research by the Portugal Clinical Research Training Program, Harvard Medical School. Last year, the doctor completed his internship in Psychiatry at Western Lisbon Local Health Unit. He is currently a psychiatrist and researcher. at the Neuropsychiatry Unit of the Champalimaud Foundation, also being an Assistant Professor Guest Professor of Neuroscience at NOVA Medical School, NOVA University, Lisbon. Over the years, has worked on researching and treating a variety of mental conditions such as depression and obsessive-compulsive disorder, seeking to study strategies for its study and treatment, namely using connectivity networks brain and non-invasive brain stimulation. His work has resulted in several publications in scientific journals. In 2023, he was honored with the BBRF Young Investigator Grant to carry on his research in this area.

Round Table Podcast



TIAGO FERREIRA

Tiago is the host of the Indie Founder Podcast, where he shares insights and actionable advice to empower indie entrepreneurs. With a strong background in software engineering, he co-founded Podsqueeze, a SaaS platform that helps podcasters effortlessly transform audio content into engaging newsletters. Tiago thrives on pursuing new challenges and continuously building innovative products - recently launching Flarecut, a tool for creating impactful social media videos from written content, and Rankchase, designed to help businesses boost their domain authority through backlinks. Passionate about great coffee, travel, and sailing, Tiago embraces a lifestyle fueled by creativity and exploration.

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Closing Conference Speaker



MARA MOITA

Head of the NICE_Lab

Faculty of Health Sciences and
Nursing of the Portuguese
Catholic University



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DA SAÚDE E ENFERMAGEM
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