

GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

TIME	SESSION DETAILS
07.30 – 08.00 AM	REGISTRATION
08.00 – 08.30 AM	<i>Short opening speeches to declare open the congress (A joint meeting with the Fetal and Maternal Track- Day1)</i> Congress chairpersons: Associate Prof. David Tarnoki (Hungary) Prof Gian Carlo Di Renzo (Italy), Prof. Athula Sumathipala (Sri Lanka)
	GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY SESSION Chairpersons: Associate Prof. David L Tarnoki (Hungary) and Prof. Miguel Renteria (Australia)
08.30 – 09.00 AM	Keynote Address 1: FROM TWIN STUDIES TO MULTI-OMICS: CURRENT TRENDS, PERSPECTIVES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN MEDICAL RESEARCH <i>Prof. Miguel Renteria, (Australia)</i>
09.00 – 09.30 AM	Keynote Address 2: ADVANCING GENETIC RESEARCH: INSIGHTS FROM TWIN STUDIES, BIOINFORMATICS, AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES. <i>Prof. Vajira Dissanayake (Sri Lanka)</i>
09.30 – 10.00 AM	Plenary: EPIGENETICS AND TWINS <i>Prof. Jeffrey M. Craig (Australia)</i>
10.00 – 10.30 AM	Plenary: GENES, GAPS, AND GROWTH: ARE WE READY FOR THE GENOMIC ERA? <i>Prof. Chandima Jeewandara (Sri Lanka)</i>
10.30 – 10.55 AM	REFRESHMENTS
	FREE PAPERS AND GUEST SPEECH - GENETICS, EPIGENETICS, BIOMARKERS Chairpersons: Prof. Jeffrey M. Craig (Australia) and Prof Miguel Renteria, (Australia)
10.55 – 11.30 AM	GENETICS, EPIGENETICS, AND BIOMARKERS <u>Free papers (10 minutes for presentation and 2 minutes for Q & A)</u> 1. LONGITUDINAL CHANGES IN THE GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES ON THE OBESITY MEASURES RELATED DNA METHYLATION CHANGES: A 5-YEAR TWIN STUDY (CHINA) <i>Gao, W., Liu, Y., Wu, X., Wang, H., Yu, M., Pang, Z., Hu, R., Pang, Y., Liao, C., Sun, D., Huang, T., Yu, C., Lv, J., Cao, W., Miao, K., Hong, X. and Li, L.</i> 2. INVESTIGATING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTRAUTERINE INFLAMMATION AND DNA METHYLATION AT BIRTH USING TWIN MODELS (AUSTRALIA) <i>Hanif, A., Wong, Y., Silk, T., Craig, J.</i> 3. A NOVEL PRS-INFORMED TWIN STUDY REVEALS LIMITED ROLE OF GENETIC PREDISPOSITION ON BMI (FINLAND) <i>Zhu, T., Drouard, G., Heikkinen, A., Palviainen, T., Kaprio, J., Cristofari, R., Ollikainen, M.</i>

11.30 – 12.00 PM	THE FUTURE OF TWIN STUDIES AFTER TWO DECADES OF GWAS <i>Prof. Karri Silventoinen (Finland)</i>
12.00 - 12.30 PM	DESIGNER BABIES, MIRROR GENES, AND THE FUTURE CODE: SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY IN THE AGE OF PRECISION BIRTHS <i>Dr. Lalinka Herath (Sri Lanka)</i>
12.30 – 1.15 PM	LUNCH
	INVITED SPEECH AND WORKSHOP ON BIOINFORMATICS AND PUBLIC DATASETS Chairperson: Dr Sajith Edirisinghe
1.15 – 1.45 PM	CYTOGENETICS IN MANAGING SUB-FERTILITY: RELEVANCE & ADVANCES <i>Prof. Prasanna Galhena</i>
1.45 – 3.30 PM	WORKSHOP ON BIOINFORMATICS & PUBLIC DATASETS <i>Prof. Miguel Renteria, Dr Santiago Diaz (Australia)</i> Session Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to bioinformatics and the genomics revolution • Essential tools and resources for beginners • Public datasets: access and integration • Incorporating genomic approaches into research programs
3.30 – 3.45 PM	REFRESHMENTS
	GUEST SPEECHES Chairperson: Dr. Anchala Kuruppu
3.45 – 4.15 PM	UNLOCKING PEDIATRIC PRECISION WITH SEQALL <i>Dr. Ravi Kumar Chilukoti</i>
4.15 - 4.35 PM	GENETIC DISCORDANCE & ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES GENETIC AND EPIGENETIC CHANGES AFTER MICROPLASTICS EXPOSURE - THE UNSEEN DISASTER OF MANKIND. <i>Dr. Sajith Edirisinghe</i>
4.35 - 5.05 PM	TWIN INSIGHTS INTO THE MICROBIOME: DISENTANGLING GENES, ENVIRONMENT, AND HEALTH <i>Dr. Dulieepa Pathiraja</i>
5.05 - 5.35 PM	LEVERAGING TWIN GENOMES TO IDENTIFY RARE AND NOVEL PATHOGENIC VARIANTS IN THE SRI LANKAN GENOMIC LANDSCAPE: AN UNDERREPRESENTED POPULATION IN GLOBAL ALLELE FREQUENCY DATABASES <i>Mr. Nilaksha Freeson</i>
5.35 - 6.00 PM	LONG-READ SEQUENCING IN TWIN GENOMICS: DISCOVERING STRUCTURAL VARIANTS AND EPIGENETIC DIVERGENCE <i>Dr.Lamuk Zaveri</i>

10TH AUGUST 2025

Day 01 | PARALLEL SESSION TWO -HALL A

Joint Sessions:

ISTS/MATERNAL AND FETAL TRACK, ICOMBO AND PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES

07.30 – 8.00 AM	REGISTRATION
8.00 – 08.30 AM	<p><i>Short opening speeches to declare open the congress (A joint meeting with the Genetics and Molecular Biology Track)</i></p> <p>Congress Chairpersons: Associate Prof. David Tarnoki (Hungary) Prof. Gian Carlo Di Renzo (Italy), Prof. Athula Sumathipala (Sri Lanka)</p>
	<p>KEYNOTE AND PLENARY SPEECHES</p> <p>Session chairpersons: Prof. Gian Carlo Di Renzo (Italy) and Prof. Noroyono Wibowo (Indonesia)</p>
08.30 – 08.50 AM	<p>Keynote Address:</p> <p>FETAL GROWTH RESTRICTION IN TWINS: CONTROVERSIES AND CONSENSUS</p> <p><i>Prof. Asma Khalil (UK)</i></p>
8.50 – 9.10 AM	<p>Plenary speech:</p> <p>"TWIN PREGNANCY IN CHINA: CURRENT PRACTICES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS"</p> <p><i>Prof. Caixia Liu (China)</i></p>
09.10- 09.40 AM	<p>UPDATE ON TWIN-TWIN TRANSFUSION SYNDROME (TTTS)</p> <p>IN-DEPTH PRENATAL EVALUATION OF TWIN REVERSED ARTERIAL PERFUSION SEQUENCE (TRAP SEQUENCE)</p> <p><i>Associate Prof. Tuangsit Wataganara (Thailand)</i></p>
09.40- 10.30 AM	<p>SESSION THEME: PERICONCEPTIONAL AND PERINATAL ASPECTS OF MULTIPLE PREGNANCY</p> <p>Plenary speech 1:</p> <p>ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (ART) AND THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF TWINNING</p> <p><i>Prof. Gian Carlo Di Renzo (Italy)</i></p> <p>Plenary speech 2:</p> <p>THE ROLE OF NUTRITION IN TWIN PREGNANCY FROM PRECONCEPTION TO POSTPARTUM PERIOD.</p> <p><i>Prof. Noroyono Wibowo (Indonesia)</i></p> <p>Session followed by Q&A for 10 minutes</p>
10.30 – 11.00 AM	REFRESHMENTS
11.00 – 11.40 AM	<p>SPECIAL INVITED TALK</p> <p>Session Chair: <i>Prof Athula Sumathipala</i></p> <p>HALF A CENTURY IN TWIN RESEARCH: LESSONS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION</p> <p>Speaker: <i>Prof Jaakko Kaprio</i></p> <p>Session followed by Q&A for 10 minutes</p>

<p>11.40 – 12.30 PM</p>	<p>PERICONCEPTIONAL AND PERINATAL ASPECTS OF MULTIPLE PREGNANCY Session chairpersons: <i>Prof Gian Carlo Di Renzo</i> (Italy) and <i>Dr. Kalpani Abhayasinghe</i> (Sri Lanka)</p> <p>Free papers (10 minutes for presentation and 2 minutes for Q & A)</p> <p>1.MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES EXPERIENCES WITH CESAREAN DELIVERY <i>Heinonen, K., Kääriä, M., Kankkunen, P.</i></p> <p>2.ADDRESSING PATIENT-PROVIDER COMMUNICATION GAPS IN VANISHING TWIN SYNDROME: IMPLICATIONS FOR PATIENT CARE AND CLINICAL GUIDELINES <i>Cubbage, N., Schilit, S., Groff, A., Ernst, S., Nascarella, M.</i></p> <p>3.NEURODEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOME IN MONOCHORIONIC TWINS WITH SELECTIVE FETAL GROWTH RESTRICTION VERSUS UNCOMPLICATED MONOCHORIONIC TWINS: AN INTERNATIONAL PROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY <i>Spekman, J., Arduino, S., Balestriero, M., Casati, D., Colombo, C., Ferri, D., Groene, S., Lanna, M., Lista, G., Lopriore, E., Peilaó, C., Poppel, T., Scelsa, B., Slaghekke, F., Klink, J.</i></p> <p>4.FERTILITY PATTERNS ACROSS GENERATIONS IN MONOZYGOTIC AND DIZYGOTIC TWINS COMPARED TO NON-TWIN CONTROLS: EVIDENCE FROM THE FINNISH TWIN COHORT <i>Paiva, S., Hukkanen, M., Kaprio, J., Zellers, S.</i></p>
<p>12.30 -1.15 PM</p>	<p>LUNCH</p>
	<p>ASIA & OCEANIA FEDERATION OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY (AOFOG) SESSION Chairpersons: <i>Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa</i> and <i>Dr. Achintha Dissanayaka</i></p>
<p>1.15 - 2.15 PM</p>	<p>ASIA & OCEANIA FEDERATION OF OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY (AOFOG) SESSION Welcome address: <i>Dr Rohana Haththotuwa</i> (SL) Secretary-General AOFOG Sri Lanka (5 minutes)</p> <p>ADVANCES IN PRENATAL CARE FOR TWIN PREGNANCIES: REDUCING RISKS & IMPROVING OUTCOMES <i>Dr. Vicky Ho Miaw Ping</i>, MFM Committee Member. Malaysia</p> <p>THE RISE OF IVF & ART TWINS: ETHICAL, MEDICAL, AND SOCIETAL IMPLICATIONS <i>Prof. Firoza Begum</i>, MFM Committee Member, Bangladesh</p> <p>POSTPARTUM & PARENTING TWINS: MODERN CHALLENGES & SUPPORT SYSTEMS. <i>Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri</i>, Immediate Past Chair and advisor to MFM Committee AOFOG</p> <p>Session followed by Q&A for 10 minutes</p>

	<p>FREE PAPERS - CLINICAL AND PERINATAL OUTCOMES Chairperson: <i>Dr. Janakie Karunasingha and Dr. Kalpani Abhayasinghe</i></p>
2.15 - 3.30 PM	<p>CLINICAL AND PERINATAL OUTCOMES Free papers (10 minutes presentations followed by 2 minutes questions)</p> <p>1.ANALYSIS OF TWIN PREGNANCY TRENDS AND MATERNAL AND INFANT COMPLICATIONS FROM 2015 TO 2024: A SINGLE-CENTER RETROSPECTIVE COHORT STUDY <i>Li, Y., Yin, S., Li, C., Wei, J., Liu, C.</i></p> <p>2.EXPLORING PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS AMONG TWINS AND THEIR MOTHERS <i>Herath, B., Zhang, X.</i></p> <p>3.BRAIN WHITE MATTER AND GUT MICROBIOTA BIOMARKERS IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS: A PILOT NEUROIMAGING TWIN STUDY <i>Amirmasoud, A., Amirreza, A., Vessal, A., Banihashemi, S., Beszedics, B., Pirooska, M., Persely, A., Szabó, H., Makra, J., Szabo, D., Tarnoki, D., Tarnoki, A.</i></p> <p>4.DISSECTING ARTERIAL STIFFNESS AND LIFESTYLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO WHITE MATTER HYPERINTENSITY BURDEN: AN EXPLORATORY TWIN STUDY <i>Amirreza, A., Amirmasoud, A., Vessal, A., Banihashemi, S., Beszedics, B., Pirooska, M., Persely, A., Szabó, H., Juhász, J., Makra, N., Szabo, D., Tarnoki, D., Tarnoki, A.</i></p> <p>5.THE AETIOLOGY OF ASSOCIATIONS BETWEEN INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE, DEPRESSION AND SUICIDAL IDEATION IN COLOMBO, SRI LANKA: POPULATION-BASED TWIN AND SINGLETON STUDY <i>Marzecki, F., Ahmadzadeh, Y., Jayaweera, K., Rijdsdijk, F., Siribaddana, S., Sumathipala, A., Herath, B., Jabir, S., Widanaralalage, K., Badini, I., Zavos, H.</i></p> <p>6.GUT MICROBIOME IN TWINS AFFECTED BY BREAST CANCER <i>Tarnoki, A., Martinovszky, F., Veres, S., Beszedics, B., Giovanni, M., Budai, B., Szabo, I., Juhász, J., Makra, N., Szabo, D., Butz, H., Patocs, A., Török, B., Ujlaki, M., Tarnoki, D.</i></p>
3.30 - 3.45 PM	REFRESHMENTS
	<p>SRI LANKA COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS & GYNECOLOGISTS (SLCOG) SESSION Chairpersons: <i>Dr. U.D.P. Ratnasiri and Dr. Rohana Haththotuwa</i></p>
3.45 - 4.25 PM	<p>REFLECTION ON LOCAL STRENGTHS IN OBSTETRIC CARE IN SRI LANKA <i>Dr. Janakie Karunasingha</i></p> <p>REFLECTION ON LOCAL GAPS IN THE FIELD INCLUDING RESEARCH GAPS <i>Dr. Achintha Dissanayaka</i></p>

Free Papers (10 minutes presentations followed by 2 minutes questions)

1. EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF ULTRA-PROCESSED FOOD ON MALE HEALTH AND SPERM EPIGENETIC PROFILES IN TWINS

George, V., Preston, J.M., Wong, Y.T., Barrès, R., McLachlan, I.R., Craig, J.M.

2. HUNGARIAN TWIN STUDY ON COVID-19 VACCINATION STATUS

Szabó, G., Tárnoki, A., Piroska, M., Giovanni, M., Tárnoki, D.

3. BIRTH DNA METHYLATION AND FULL-SCALE IQ AT AGE 11: INSIGHTS FROM A TWIN-BASED EPIGENOME-WIDE ANALYSIS

Islam, M., Wong, Y., Silk, T., Craig, J.

4.25 -5.45 PM

4. THE EXPERIENCES AND NEEDS OF MULTIPLE BIRTH FATHERS DURING THE EARLY YEARS: ENGAGEMENT WITH FATHERS AND CHARITIES

Hibberd, L., Burlingham, M., Bailey, L.

5. PERINATAL OUTCOMES OF MONOCHORIONIC MONOAMNIOTIC TWIN PREGNANCIES FOLLOWED UP IN A SINGLE TERTIARY LEVEL CENTRE

Roero, S., Arduino, S., Ingala, A., Peila, C., Bossotti, C., Ferrando, I., Gallo, M., Aiello, A., Greco, M., Coscía, A., Revelli, A.

6. INTRAHEPATIC CHOLESTASIS IN TWIN PREGNANCY

Roero, S., Arduino, S., Ingala, A., Peila, C., Bossotti, C., Ferrando, I., Gallo, M., Aiello, A., Greco, M., Coscía, A., Revelli, A.

5.30 – 6.00 PM

ISTS BOARD MEETING

ICOMBO Workshop

<p>13:00-14:00 PM</p>	<p>INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p><i>Led by Carolyn Lister</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief member highlights and organisational challenges for the last year • Discussion, especially around dealing with challenges and what is needed from ICOMBO to address issues or to assist organisations
<p>14:00-14:15 PM</p>	<p>EDUCATION UPDATE</p> <p><i>Pat Preedy & John Mascazine facilitated by Carolyn Lister</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from Australian students who completed the online course • Development of new resource (parent/teacher/student voices)
<p>14:15-14:45 PM</p>	<p>WORKING IN AFRICA</p> <p><i>Led by Monica Rankin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges & breaking down myths • What are the needs and how can we better support our members in this region?
<p>14:45-15:00 PM</p>	<p>INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH</p> <p><i>Stephanie Ernst</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with researchers • Development of research topics and how parent/patient organisations can really be involved (from concept to publication)
<p>15:00-15:30 PM</p>	<p>BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT - HOW OUR ORGANISATIONS CAN SUPPORT THOSE FACING LOSS/BEREAVED FAMILIES</p> <p><i>Nichole Cubbage & Carolyn Lister</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnering with Purple Butterfly initiative & Vanishing Twin Syndrome Foundation • Resources • Discussion
<p>15:30-15:45 PM</p>	<p>AFTERNOON TEA</p>
<p>15:45-16:00 PM</p>	<p>SOCIAL MEDIA, BRANDING AND ADVOCACY</p> <p><i>Stephanie Ernst</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update of ICOMBO social media subcommittee • Responsible use of AI in social media and how to use it to your advantage in multiple birth advocacy

10TH AUGUST 2025

Day 01 | PARALLEL SESSION THREE - EBONY ROOM

ICOMBO Workshop

16:00-16:20 PM	<p>EVIDENCE-BASED KNOWLEDGE STRENGTHENS THE COMPETENCE OF PROFESSIONALS AND SUPPORTS PARENTS OF MULTIPLE-BIRTH FAMILIES</p> <p><i>Kristina Heinonen</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation followed by Q & A
16:20-16:30 PM	<p>IMBAW 2025</p> <p><i>Stephanie Ernst</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PLANS, GATHERING STORIES AND INPUT
16:30-17:00 PM	<p>OPEN DISCUSSION INCLUDING ICOMBO STRATEGIC & ACTION PLANS (LED BY CAROLYN LISTER)</p>
	<p>ICOMBO DINNER SUNDAY EVENING</p>

11TH AUGUST 2025

Day 02 | Joint Sessions:

ISTS/MATERNAL AND FETAL TRACK, ICOMBO AND PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES /
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT (CEI)

07.30 – 8.00 AM	REGISTRATION
08.00 – 08.30 AM	Session Chairperson: Prof. Athula Sumathipala Keynote Address: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT (CEI) AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION Prof. Krysia Dziedzic (UK)
08.30 – 09.45 AM	INTEGRATING CEI INTO TWIN RESEARCH Session chairpersons: Prof Krysia Dziedzic (UK) and Prof. Duminda Guruge Presenters: Dr. Asiri Hewamalage (Sri Lanka) Dr. Jeanine van Klink (Netherland) Ms. Stephanie Ernst (Netherland) Discussion Panel: Prof. Jeff Craig (Australia) Dr. Carolyn Lister (New Zealand) Dr. Sunil de Alwis (Sri Lanka) Dr. Prabhath Ranasinghe (Sri Lanka)
09.45 – 10.35 AM	PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES OF TWINS – UNDERSTANDING NEURO-DIVERSITY AND OTHER MENTAL WELLBEING CONCERNS IN MULTIPLES Session Chairperson: Prof. Nancy Segal (USA) and Dr. Risitha Wakishta Arachchi (Sri Lanka) Free papers (10 minutes presentations followed by 2 minutes questions) 1. REARED-APART TWINS: GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AND HUMAN FIGURE DRAWINGS <u>Segal, N.</u> 2. THE DEVELOPMENT OF VALUES: LONGITUDINAL INSIGHTS FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD AND GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS <u>Noam, A.</u> 3. GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO MORAL FOUNDATIONS <u>Kawamoto, T., Shikishima, C., Ando, J.</u> 4. RESEARCH ON SELF-CONCEPT IN TWINS AGED 11–15 IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC <u>Kargerová, K., Hozová, L., Dolejš, M.</u>
10.35 – 11.00 AM	REFRESHMENTS

<p>11.00 – 12.00 PM</p>	<p>BULMER SESSION</p> <p>Session Chairperson: <i>Lambalk Cornelis B (Nils) (Netherlands)</i></p> <p>The "Bulmer Symposium" is a distinguished session featured at all International Society for Twin Studies (ISTS) congresses, named in honor of Michael G. Bulmer, a renowned British biostatistician and Fellow of the Royal Society. Bulmer's seminal 1970 work, <i>The Biology of Twinning in Man</i>, laid the foundation for much of the contemporary understanding of human twinning. 1970_BulmerBiologyOfTwinning.pdf</p> <p>Focus Area of the Bulmer Symposium is in principle each aspect about the Biology of Multiple Pregnancy: Exploring the mechanisms and factors influencing its occurrence.</p> <p>Presentations (each 10 minutes presentations with 5 minutes discussion).</p> <p>1.ETHNIC FEATURES OF NATURAL DZ TWINNING: NIGERIAN PILOT GWAS AND PROGRESS ON KOREAN COLLECTION. <i>Hur, Y., Gordon, S., Martin, N.</i></p> <p>2.LATEST RESULTS ON THE GENETICS OF DZ TWINNING BASED ON GENOME WIDE ASSOCIATION STUDY IN OVER 1.3 MILLION PARTICIPANTS <i>Hubers, N., Boomsma, D., on behalf of the International Twinning Genetics Consortium</i></p> <p>3.GENETICS AND GENOMICS OF MULTIPLE BIRTH IN CATTLE <i>Kirkpatrick, B.</i></p> <p>3.DNA METHYLATION IN MONOZYGOTIC TWINS CONCEIVED BY ASSISTED REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES (ART) <i>Odintsova, V., Hubers, N., Hagenbeek, F., Breeze, C., Ehli, E., Mijatovic, V., Lambalk, C., Boomsma, D., Dongen, J.</i></p>
<p>12.00-12.35 PM</p>	<p>GENETICS, EPIGENETICS, AND BIOMARKERS</p> <p>Session Chairperson: Prof. Jeffrey M. Craig and Associate Prof. David L Tarnoki</p> <p>1.GENETIC AND EPIGENETIC DIVERGENCE IN MONOZYGOTIC TWINS: IMPLICATIONS FOR FORENSIC ANALYSIS <i>Kapoor, K., Shukla, M.</i></p> <p>2.MULTI-GENE MITOCHONDRIAL SEQUENCING REVEALS SOMATIC DISCORDANCE IN MONOZYGOTIC TWINS: A FORENSIC PERSPECTIVE <i>Kapoor, K., Shukla, M.</i></p> <p>3.THE EXPERIENCES OF PATIENTS WITH VANISHING TWIN SYNDROME: A MIXED-METHODS EXPLORATION OF PATIENT SATISFACTION AND MISCARRIAGE INFORMATION <i>Cubbage, N., Embleton, N., Levy, C.</i></p>
<p>12.35 – 1.15 PM</p>	<p>LUNCH</p>
	<p>Session chairpersons: Dr. Kethakie Lamahewa and Prof. Shyamalee Samaranayaka</p>

<p>1.15 – 2.45 PM</p>	<p>PERINATAL DEPRESSION - TWINS AND BEYOND: ADVANCING PERINATAL DEPRESSION RESEARCH THROUGH GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHTS</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Prof Atif Rahman, (UK) Prof Suneth Agampodi (SL/ South Korea) Prof. Tom McAdams (UK) Ms. Oshini Sri Jayasinghe (SL) Representative with lived experience</p> <p><i>Discussion Panel:</i> Dr. Farrukh Qureshi (WHO) Dr. Asiri Hewamalage (SL) Dr. Neil Feranando (SL) Dr. Ahamad Waqas (UK/ Pakistan) Dr. Samantha Ranasinghe (Ministry of Health, SL) Dr. Chandana Gajanayake (Ministry of Health, SL)</p>
<p>2.45- 3.20 PM</p>	<p>CLINICAL AND PERINATAL OUTCOMES</p> <p>Session chairpersons: Prof. Asma Khalil (UK) and Prof. Caixia Liu (China)</p> <p>Free Papers (10 minutes presentation followed by 2 minutes question and answers)</p> <p>1.DELTA OR DÉJÀ VU: REVISITING ANTENATAL CRITERIA FOR TWIN ANEMIA POLYCYTHEMIA SEQUENCE <u>Ernst, S., Nicholas, L., Fischbein, R.,</u></p> <p>2.BETTER TWIN ANEMIA POLYCYTHEMIA SEQUENCE (TAPS) CARE BEGINS WITH COLLABORATION AND FAMILY-CENTERED CARE <u>Ernst, S., Martinez, E.</u></p> <p>3.TWIN RESEARCH: INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON OF THE IMPACT OF VISCERAL FAT ON LIFESTYLE DISEASE RISK IN JAPAN AND HUNGARY <u>Arakawa, Y., Matsumoto, D., Inui, F., Tarnoki, A., Tarnoki, D., Osaka Twin Research Group, Watanabe, M.</u></p>
<p>3.20 – 3.45 PM</p>	<p>REFRESHMENTS</p>
<p>3.45 - 4.45 PM</p>	<p>Session chairpersons: Ms. Monica Rankin and Dr. Kalpani Abhayasinghe</p> <p>FAMILY, PARENTING, AND LIVED EXPERIENCE</p> <p>Free Papers (10 minutes presentation followed by 2 minutes question and answers)</p> <p>1.WORKING WITH MULTIPLE-BIRTH FAMILIES REQUIRES TARGETED AND SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE AND EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES <u>Heinonen, K., Trias, T., Kaprio, J., Vehviläinen-Julkunen, K.</u></p> <p>2.MORE GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION NEEDED ON SLEEPING CHALLENGES WITH TWINS FROM HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS <u>Heinonen, K., Parkkonen, L., Utriainen, S.</u></p> <p>3.THE ROLE OF MULTIPLE BIRTH ORGANIZATIONS IN RESEARCH <u>Lister, C.</u></p> <p>4.BRIDGING THE GAP: PEER SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES NAVIGATING COMPLICATIONS AND LOSS IN MULTIPLES <u>Ernst, S., Darke, S., Scofiel, S.</u></p> <p>5.PSYCHOTHERAPY CARE FOR TWINS AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF LONDRINA/BRAZIL <u>Reis, M.</u></p>

11TH AUGUST 2025

Day 02 | PARALLEL SESSION TWO

WORKSHOP: FOUNDATIONS OF TWIN DATA ANALYSIS

9.30 - 12.35 PM	<p>FOUNDATIONS OF TWIN DATA ANALYSIS: ACE MODELLING AND CAUSAL INFERENCE WITH R AND OPENMX</p> <p>Co-organizers: Prof. M. C. Neale (USA), Prof. Hermine H. M. Maes (USA)</p> <p>INTRODUCTORY SESSIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• INTRODUCTION TO ANALYSIS OF TWIN DATA USING R AND OPENMX• BASIC ACE MODELING WITH TWIN DATA TO PARTITION VARIANCE IN GENETIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SOURCES
12.35 - 1.15 PM	LUNCH
1.15 - 4.00 PM	<p>ADVANCED SESSIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• INCLUDING GENOMIC INFORMATION IN THE TWIN DESIGN• USING TWIN DATA TO TEST HYPOTHESES ABOUT DIRECTION OF CAUSATION

11TH AUGUST 2025

Day 02 | CEREMONIAL RECEPTION PROGRAMME

5.30 PM - 5.45 PM	ARRIVAL OF GUESTS
5.45 PM - 5.55 PM	LIGHTING OF THE CEREMONIAL OIL LAMP
5.55 PM - 6.00 PM	NATIONAL ANTHEM
6.00 PM - 6.10 PM	WELCOME ADDRESS <i>Dr. Buddhika Fernando</i> Executive Committee Member of the Institute for Research and Development in Health and Social Care
6.10 PM - 6.15 PM	A PERFORMANCE BY TWINS
6.15 PM - 6.45 PM	BACKGROUND OF THE EVENT- "CELEBRATING 25 YEARS SUCCESS OF THE SRI LANKAN TWIN RESEARCH AND HOSTING THE ISTS CONGRESS" <i>Prof. Athula Sumathipala,</i> Secretary General of the International Society for Twin Studies, Director of the Institute for Research and Development in Health and Social Care, Co-Founder Sri Lankan Twin Registry
6.45 PM - 6.50 PM	ADDRESS BY <i>Prof. David Laszlo Tarnoki</i> President, International Society for Twin Studies
6.50 PM - 7.10 PM	"THE HISTORY AND THE LEGACY OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR TWIN STUDIES; REFLECTIONS FROM ROME, (1974) TO ASSISI, ITALY (2024)" <i>Prof. Nancy Segal</i> Professor of Developmental Psychology and Director of the Twin Studies Center, at California State University, USA <i>Prof. Jaakko Kaprio</i> Professor of Genetic Epidemiology at the Department of Public Health, University of Helsinki
7.10 PM - 7.20 PM	ADDRESS BY THE CHIEF GUEST <i>Prof. Chrishantha Abeyseena,</i> Hon. Minister for Science and Technology
7.20 PM - 7.35 PM	ADDRESS BY THE GUEST OF HONOR <i>His Excellency Mr. Andrew Patrick</i> the High Commissioner for Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Sri Lanka

7.35 PM – 7.40 PM	A PERFORMANCE BY TWINS
7.40 PM – 8.00 PM	FELICITATION OF FOUR SUPPORTERS OF SRI LANKAN TWIN REGISTRY
8.00 PM – 8.30 PM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: “TWINS IN SCIENCE AND SOCIETY; BRIDGING MULTIPLE FRONTIERS” <i>Prof. Matthew Hotopf CBE</i> Executive Dean, Institute of Psychiatry Psychology & Neuroscience, Professor of General Hospital Psychiatry, Kings College, London, UK.
8.30 PM – 8.40 PM	A PERFORMANCE BY TWINS
8.40 PM – 9.00 PM	VOTE OF THANKS
9.00 PM	RECEPTION AND FELLOWSHIP



ISTS/ETHICS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INVOLVEMENT/ICOMBO

07.30 – 8.00 AM	Registration
08.00 – 08.30 AM	ISTS Business meeting
08.30 – 10.00 AM	<p>Sri Lankan Twin Research session – 25 years of research, CEI, Ethics and capacity building</p> <p>Session chairpersons: Prof. Matthew Hotopf (UK) and Prof. Athula Sumathipala (SL)</p> <p>Presenters</p> <p>Helena Zavos (UK)</p> <p>Sameeha Jabir (SL)</p> <p>Janani Opatha (SL)</p> <p>Binoli Herath (SL/USA)</p> <p>Lasith Dissanayake (SL/UK)</p> <p>Kaushalya Jayaweera (SL/Australia)</p> <p>Malmi Wickramasinghe (SL)</p>
10.00 – 10.35 AM	<p>Session chairpersons: Ms. Binoli Herath (SL) and Dr. Helena Zavos (UK)</p> <p>Free Papers (10 minutes presentations followed by 2 minutes questions)</p> <p>1.Causal associations between cardiometabolic risk factors and anxiety and depression in Sri Lanka Brenes-Castillo, F., Herle, M., Sumathipala, A., Rijdsdijk, F., Dissanayake, L., Jayaweera, K., Jabir, S., Zavos, H.</p> <p>2.Radiomics and its application in twin research Tarnoki, D., Tarnoki, A.</p> <p>3.Using twin data to examine heritable and intrauterine hormonal INFLUENCES ON TRANSGENDER AND GENDER DIVERSE IDENTITIES Ravine, A.</p>
10.35 – 11.00 AM	REFRESHMENTS
11.00 – 12.00 PM	<p>Professor John Hopper Memorial Session</p> <p>Session chairpersons: Ms. Monica Rankin (Australia), Prof. Jeff Craig (Australia), Prof. Nancy Segal (USA)</p> <p>10-minute presentation followed by 2 minutes Q&A</p> <p>Speakers: Prof. Jeff Craig (Australia), Prof. Nancy Segal (USA), Jessica Tyler (Australia), Shuai Li (Australia), Monica Rankin</p> <p>Professor John Hopper and twin research: contributions and legacy Shuai Li</p> <p>Remembering John Hopper: The Person and the Scholar Nancy Segal</p> <p>John Hopper, a friend of the multiple birth community Monica Rankin</p> <p>Twins Research Australia: A Legacy of Experience and Innovation J. Tyler</p> <p>BEYOND HERITABILITY: THE LEGACY OF JOHN HOPPER Jeff craig</p>

12.00 - 12.30 PM	<p>GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON ETHICAL CHALLENGES IN RESEARCH; INTEGRATING ETHICS INTO TWIN RESEARCH AND BEYOND</p> <p>Session chairperson: Prof. Chandanie Wanigathunge</p> <p>Keynote Address</p> <p>ETHICS, GOVERNANCE AND RESEARCH INTEGRITY IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL DIVIDE IN RESEARCH</p> <p><i>Prof. Athula Sumathipala</i></p>
12.30 – 1.15 PM	LUNCH
1.15 – 2.45 PM	<p>INTEGRATING ETHICS INTO TWIN RESEARCH AND BEYOND</p> <p>Session chairpersons: Prof. Athula Sumathipala and Prof. Jeff Craig</p> <p><i>Speakers</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Buddhika Fernando (SL) - Twins, Digital Twins and Ethics</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Abhishek Venkateswaran, National Project Officer, UNESCO - Ethics by Design: Advancing AI Governance in South Asia with UNESCO</i></p> <p><i>Prof Chandanie Wanigarunge (SL) - Implications for Research Ethics Committees (RECs)</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Janaka Pushpakumara (SL) - From Genes to Justice: Enhancing Ethical Capacity at Individual, Institutional, and National Levels</i></p> <p><i>Prof. Ravi Wasvani (IND) - Ethics of Biobanking and Data Sharing: Equitable North–South and South–South Collaboration and Leadership</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Oshini Sri Jayasinghe (SL) - Title TBC</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Lakitha Wakishta Arachchi (SL) - Title TBC</i></p> <p><i>Prof. Jeffrey M. Craig (AUS) - Reflections on the Presentations and Discussions</i></p>
2.45– 3.35 PM	<p>ICOMBO Session</p> <p>EDUCATING MULTIPLES; MENTAL WELLBEING FROM THE PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE</p> <p>Session chairperons: Ms. Monica Rankin and Dr. Carolyn Lister</p> <p>10-minute presentation followed by 2 minutes Q&A</p> <p>1. SEPARATING TWINS IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS: ZYGOSITY, CONDUCT PROBLEMS, AND EMOTIONAL SYMPTOMS AS PREDICTORS OF RELATIONSHIP QUALITY <i>Segal, H., Knafo-Noam, A., Lipin, A.</i></p> <p>2. EXPLORING THE UNIQUE CHILD-REARING CHALLENGES FACED BY PARENTS OF MULTIPLES <i>Tomizawa, R., Ogata, Y., Yokoyama, Y.</i></p> <p>3. MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS IN MOTHERS OF TWINS <i>Hur, Y., Nam, S.</i></p> <p>4. ADULT TWIN RELATIONSHIP QUALITY AND AGGRESSION: AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY <i>Dinić, B., Oljača, M., Nikolašević, Z., Smederevac, S.</i></p>
3.35 - 3.50 PM	REFRESHMENTS
3.50 – 4.15 PM	<p>ICOMBO SESSION (CONTINUED)</p> <p>EDUCATING MULTIPLES; MENTAL WELLBEING FROM THE PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE</p> <p>10-minute presentation followed by 2 minutes Q & A</p> <p>1. BETWEEN MOTHERHOOD AND SURVIVAL: MULTIPLE BIRTH CAREGIVING EXPERIENCES IN SOUTH KOREA <i>Bae, H.</i></p> <p>2. "I FELT MY TWINS WERE LIKE A 'DIAGNOSIS' THERE WAS A LOT OF FEAR AROUND IT": LISTENING TO THE EXPERIENCES OF MULTIPLE BIRTH CARE: A WORLD CAFÉ METHOD STUDY <i>Bailey, E., Hibberd, L., Burlingham, M., Alamad, L., Cowdell, F.</i></p>

<p>4.15 - 5.15 PM</p>	<p>SESSION ON BOOKS AND FILMS Organized by: <i>Prof Nancy Segal (USA)</i></p> <p>INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR ON PUBLISHING <i>N.L. Segal</i></p> <p>FILM EXCERPT AND DISCUSSION: <i>MULTIPLICITY</i> S. Lawton</p> <p>FILM EXCERPT AND DISCUSSION: <i>THE LAST TWINS</i> <i>N.L. Segal</i></p>
<p>5.15 - 5.30 PM</p>	<p>CLOSING SESSION</p>
<p>5.30 - 6.00 PM</p>	<p>ISTS BOARD MEETING</p>

