



# International Medical Cannabis Conference University of Bern 2025 IMCCB-25

Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
at Von Roll Campus, Bern, Switzerland

## WELCOME

We are delighted to invite you to participate in the upcoming International Medical Cannabis Conference Bern (IMCCB-25), scheduled for February 13-14, 2025, at the **University of Bern** in Switzerland. Building on the success of previous Swiss cannabis conferences, **IMCCB-25** aspires to bring together a diverse assembly of leading researchers, clinicians, patients, industry professionals, and other experts and opinion leaders from around the world. The conference will cover a broad spectrum of topics, including basic and clinical methodologies, safety, analytics, pharmaceuticals, regulatory and legal considerations, pharmacological insights, as well as technological advancements but also cannabis use disorders.

Registration: via ConfTool, for fees see IMCCB-25 website ([www.imccb.org](http://www.imccb.org))  
*Special* student fee: 110.- Fr. for 2 days

## INVITED SPEAKERS

**Daniele Piomelli**, University of California, Irvine, USA  
**Margaret Haney**, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, USA  
**Vincenzo Di Marzo**, Université Laval, Canada  
**Beat Lutz**, University Medical Center Mainz, Germany  
**Mahmoud ElSohly**, University of Mississippi, Oxford, USA  
**Guillermo Moreno-Sanz**, Khiron Europe, Spain  
**David P. Finn**, University of Galway, Ireland  
**Matthias Karst**, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany  
**Markus Weber**, Cantonal Hospital St. Gallen, Switzerland  
**Patrik Roser**, University Hospital of Psychiatry Zurich, Switzerland  
**Yossi Tam**, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel  
**Anne Katrin Schlag**, Drug Science & Imperial College London, UK  
**Thomas Herdegen**, University Clinics of Kiel, Germany  
**Kirsten Müller-Vahl**, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, Germany  
**Federica Bianchi**, Geneva University Hospital, Switzerland  
**Kent E. Vrana**, Penn State College of Medicine, Hershey, USA  
**Thomas R. Tölle**, The Entrepreneurial University TUM, Germany  
**Reto Auer**, University of Bern, Switzerland  
**Almut Winterstein**, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA  
**Garvin Hirt**, Copeia GmbH, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany  
**John Ioannidis**, Stanford University, USA  
**Frank Zobel**, Addiction Switzerland, Lausanne, Switzerland  
**Jürg Gertsch**, University of Bern, Switzerland  
**Sandra Carillo**, University of Panama, Colombia  
**Amie Goodin**, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA  
**Konrad F. Cimander**, Wedemark, Germany  
**Christian Werz**, Federal Office of Public Health, Switzerland

University of Bern Conference Chairs:  
Jürg Gertsch (IBMM),  
Rudolf Brenneisen (SAPhW)



<https://www.imccb.org>  
Contact: [info@imccb.org](mailto:info@imccb.org)



IMCCB-25

## ❖ Organizers, Conference Chairs:

Jürg Gertsch  
Institute of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine, University of Bern  
Rudolf Brenneisen  
Swiss Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, SAPHW

## ❖ Scientific Board:

Kristina Adorjan, University of Bern, Switzerland  
Federica Bianchi, FAHPA & HUG, Switzerland  
Thomas Herdegen, Christian-Albrechts-Universität Kiel, Germany  
Undine Lang, University of Basel, Switzerland  
Paola Luciani, University of Bern, Switzerland  
Simon Nicolussi, SGCM-SSCM, Switzerland  
Joseph Tam, Hebrew University, Israel  
Claude Vaney, Switzerland

## ❖ Invitation to the IMCCB-25:

Dear colleagues from academia, clinics, and industry

We are delighted to invite you to participate in the upcoming International Medical Cannabis Conference Bern (IMCCB-25), scheduled for February 13-14, 2025, at the University of Bern in Switzerland. Building on the success of previous Swiss cannabis conferences, IMCCB-25 aspires to bring together a diverse assembly of leading researchers, clinicians, industry professionals, and other experts and opinion leaders from around the world. The conference will cover a broad spectrum of topics, including basic and clinical methodologies, safety, analytics, pharmaceuticals, regulatory and legal considerations, pharmacological insights, and technological advancements.

Our emphasis is on practical implications for patients, researchers, medical persons, and industry leaders alike. Additional topics include palliative care, women medicine, pediatric, psychiatric and geriatric diseases, niche indications, as well as non-medical cannabis use. The IMCCB-25 seeks to inform participants about the latest evidence and concepts regarding cannabis- and cannabinoid-based therapies. It aims to assist prescribers in practically implementing best practices based on current research, expert opinions and therapy guidelines. Furthermore, the conference provides a unique platform for the exchange of ideas and practices in medical cannabis among professionals and patients, fostering innovative and engaging discussions.

By attending IMCCB-25, you will become part of fascinating and lively debates that contribute to the collective knowledge in this expanding and challenging field. We eagerly look forward to welcoming you to the vibrant and wonderful city of Bern for this enriching and collaborative experience.

Sincerely,  
Jürg Gertsch & Rudolf Brenneisen, Conference chairs

## ❖ Program:

### Wednesday 12 February

- 17.00-18.00 Pre-Registration on Site  
19.00- Meet-the-Speakers Dinner at the House of University (by invitation only)

### Thursday 13 February

- 8.00 Registration / Welcome Coffee  
9.00-9.15 Opening and Welcome Addresses:  
Jürg Gertsch & Rudolf Brenneisen, Conference Chairs  
Prof. Virginia Richter, Rector University of Bern, Switzerland  
Petra Baeriswyl, Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, Bern, Switzerland
- 9.15-10.45 Session 1 Endocannabinoid System Pharmacology  
Chair: Jürg Gertsch
- 9.15 -9.45 L-1 *The Day Anandamide Almost Died and Other Endocannabinoid Stories*  
Daniele Piomelli, University of California Irvine, USA
- 9.45-10.15 L-2 *Endocannabinoidome Signaling: From Gut to Brain and Across Different Kingdoms, and Intersections with Plant Cannabinoids*  
Vincenzo di Marzo, Université Laval, Quebec, Canada  
& Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry, C.N.R. Italy
- 10.15-10.45 L-3 *Cannabinoid and Stress – Mechanistic Aspects*  
Beat Lutz, University of Mainz, Germany
- 10.45-11.45 Coffee Break, Poster Viewing, Visit the Exhibition, Networking
- 11.45-13.00 Session 2 From Cannabis to Effects and Medicines  
Chair: Matthias Hamburger
- 11.45-12.15 L-4 *50 Years of Phytochemistry and Analytics*  
Mahmoud ElSohly, University of Mississippi, Oxford, USA
- 12.15-12.35 L-5 *Personalized Cannabis Medicines – What is the Evidence?*  
Guillermo Moreno-Sanz, Khiron Europe, Spain
- 12.35-13.00 L-6 *Sites and Mechanisms Underlying Cannabinoid-Induced Antinociception*  
David Finn, University of Galway, Ireland
- 13.00-13.30 Panel 1  
  
L-1 to L-6 Ask the Experts – Panel Discussion  
Chairs: Jürg Gertsch and Matthias Hamburger
- 13.30-14.30 Lunch Break, Poster Viewing, Visit the Exhibition, Networking
- 14.30-15.30 Session 3 Cannabis-based Medicines (CBMs) in a Clinical Setting  
Chair: Reto Agosti
- 14.30-14.50 L-7 *CBMs in Pain Disorders – What is the Evidence?*  
Matthias Karst, Hannover Medical School, Germany
- 14.50-15.10 L-8 *Cannabinoids for Neurodegeneration - Fact or Fiction?*  
Markus Weber, Cantonal Hospital St. Gallen, Switzerland
- 15.10-15.30 L-9 *CBMs in Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorders*

Patrik Roser, University Hospital of Psychiatry Zürich, Switzerland

15.30-16.30 **Session 4 Cannabinoids Between Research and Therapeutic Applications**  
Chair: Rudolf Brenneisen

15.30-15.50 L-10 *Cannabinoid-based Therapies for Treating Metabolic Diseases*  
Yossi Tam, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

15.50-16.10 L-11 *The Value of Real-World Evidence in Cannabis Therapies*  
Anne Katrin Schlag, Drug Science & Imperial College London, UK

16.10-16.30 L-12 *The Use of Tetrahydrocannabinol in Palliative Cancer Patients*  
Thomas Herdegen, University Clinics of Kiel, Germany

16.30-17.00 **Panel 2**

L-7 to L-12 Ask the Experts – Panel Discussion  
Chairs: Reto Agosti and Rudolf Brenneisen

17.00-18.00 **Coffee Break, Poster Viewing, Visit the Exhibition, Networking**

18.00-19.00 **Session 5 Towards Evidence-Based Cannabis Medicines, Opportunities and Risks I**  
Chair: Claude Vaney

18.00-18.20 L-13 *CBMs in Sleep Disorders*  
Kirsten Müller-Vahl, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, Germany

18.20-18.40 L-14 *CBMs in Geriatrics and Palliative Care*  
Federica Bianchi, Geneva University Hospital, Switzerland

18.40-19.00 L-15 *Cannabis in Pain Treatment: The Challenge Between Science and Clinical Evidence*  
Thomas R. Tölle, Technische Universität München, Germany

19.00-19.30 **Panel 3**

L-13 to L-15 Ask the Experts – Panel Discussion  
Chair: Claude Vaney

19.30- **Apéro Riche**

## Friday 14 February

- 8.30 Registration / Welcome Coffee  
9.00-10.00 Session 6 Towards Evidence-Based Cannabis Medicines, Opportunities and Risks II  
Chair: Simon Nicolussi
- 9.00-9.20 L-16 *Cannabinoid Drug-Drug Interactions*  
Kent E. Vrana, Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine,  
Hershey, USA
- 9.20-9.40 L-17 *Risks of Cannabis-based Medicine*  
Margaret Haney, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, USA
- 9.40-10.00 L-18 *Challenges and Opportunities of Cannabis e-Cigarettes (e-Joints)*  
Reto Auer, University of Bern, Switzerland
- 10.00-10.30 Panel 4  
  
L-16 to L-18 Ask the Experts – Panel Discussion  
Chair: Simon Nicolussi
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee Break, Poster Viewing, Visit the Exhibition, Networking
- 11.00-12.30 Session 7 Short Presentations of Various Topics  
Chair: Federica Bianchi
- 11.00-11.20 L-19 SOP I: *MEMORY & Research within the Florida Medical Marijuana Consortium*  
Almut Winterstein, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA
- 11.20-11.35 L-20 SOP II: *Spatial Mapping of Endocannabinoidome in Brain by MALDI-2 MS-Imaging*  
Fabiana Piscitelli, Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry, National Research Council of Italy, Pozzuoli (NA), Italy
- 11.35-11.50 L-21 SOP III: *Cannabis and Opioid Interactions: Abuse Potential, Physiologic Effects and Safety Profile in Humans*  
Shanna Babalonis, University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Lexington, United States
- 11.50-12.05 L-22 SOP IV: *Cannabinoids and Cancer: the Impact of Cannabidiol on Chronic Myelogenous Leukaemia*  
Federica Pellati, Department of Life Sciences, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy
- 12.05-12.20 L-23 SOP V: *A Cannabidiol Cocrystal (ART12.11) Tablet Has Comparable Pharmacokinetics to Epidiolex*  
Saoirse E. O'Sullivan, Artelo Biosciences Ltd., Stockport, United Kingdom
- 12.30-13.00 Panel 5  
  
L-19 to L-23 Ask the Experts – Panel Discussion  
Chair: Federica Bianchi
- 13.00-14.00 Lunch Break, Poster Viewing, Visit the Exhibition, Networking
- 14.00-16.00 Session 8 Monitoring Real-World CBM Applications and Country Reports  
Chair: Aleksandra Kupferberg

- 14.00-14.20 L-24 *Digital Healthcare Solutions Supporting Cannabinoid Therapy*  
Garvin Hirt, Copeia GmbH, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany
- 14.20-14.40 L-25 *Reporting System McCanna – Features, Challenges and Opportunities*  
Christian Werz, Federal Office of Public Health, Switzerland
- 14.40-15.00 L-26 *Country Report USA: Evidence Review Supporting United States Policy Change*  
Amie Goodin, University of Florida, Gainesville, USA
- 15.00-15.20 L-27 *Country Report: Germany*  
Konrad F. Cimander, Wedemark, Germany
- 15.20-15.40 L-28 *Country Report: Spain*  
Guillermo Moreno-Sanz, Khiron Europe, Spain
- 15.40-16.00 L-29 *Country Report Latin America: Medical Cannabis Regulation in Latin America: A Comparative Analysis*  
Sandra Carillo, Colombian Medical Association of Cannabinoid Medicines, Medellín, Colombia
- 16.00-16.30 Panel 6  
  
L-24 to L-29 Ask the Experts - Panel Discussion  
Chair: Aleksandra Kupferberg
- 16.30-17.00 Coffee Break, Poster Viewing, Visit the Exhibition, Networking
- 17.00-18.00 Session 9 The Journey from Non-Medical to Evidence-Based Medical Cannabis  
Chair: Thomas Herdegen
- 17.00-17.20 L-30 *Questioned Evidence: Effectiveness and Harms in RCTs and Beyond?*  
John Ioannidis, Stanford University, USA
- 17.20-17.40 L-31 *Non-medical Cannabis Use: First Results from a Swiss Pilot Trial (Cann-L)*  
Frank Zobel, Addiction Switzerland, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 17.40-18.00 L-32 *Hot Topics in Cannabis Research*  
Jürg Gertsch, University of Bern, Switzerland
- 18.00-18.30 Panel 7  
  
L-30 to L-32 Ask the Experts - Panel Discussion  
Chair: Thomas Herdegen
- 18.30 Awards & Closing Remarks  
Jürg Gertsch and Rudolf Brenneisen