


The Israel Center for Addiction and Mental Health (ICAMH) at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Institute for Medical Research Israel-Canada (IMRIC) Center for Addiction Research (ICARe) invite you to –

THE ICAMH-ICARE 2025 MEETING ON “FROM BRAIN TO SOCIETY: TRANSFORMING ADDICTION SCIENCE, CARE, AND POLICY”

The meeting will take place on:  October 20-21 ,2025

 Mishkenot Sha'ananim
Cultural Center, Jerusalem

SCHEDULE

DAY 1 – MONDAY, OCTOBER 20 ,2025

08:00 - 09:00 **Welcome Reception and Greetings**

09:00 - 09:45 **Panel on Government and Nonprofit Partnerships
in Preventing and Treating Addiction**

Moderator: **Inbal Dor Karbel**, CEO, Israel Center of Addiction (ICA)

09:45 - 10:00 **Coffee break**

10:00 - 12:00 **Prevalence, Prevention, and Policy: Integrating Research Streams in the
National Response to Addiction**

*Prevalence of Substance and Behavioral Addictions and Common Mental Health
Disorders in Israel, overall and by sociodemographic groups, 2022-2025*

Dr. Dvora Shmulewitz, Israel Center for Addiction (ICA) and The Hebrew University
of Jerusalem

*How Parenting Interventions Prevent Substance Use and Related Risky Behaviors in
Youth (and Help Parents, Too)*

Prof. Abigail Gewirtz, Arizona State University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

How are Tobacco Companies Circumventing Tobacco Control Policy in Israel?

Prof. Yael Bar Zeev, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Role of Research in Shaping a National Addiction Treatment Program?

Prof. Shaul Lev-Ran, Israel Center for Addiction (ICA), LevHasharon Medical Center,
and Tel Aviv University

12:00 - 13:00 **Lunch break and Poster Session**

SCHEDULE (cont.)

13:00 - 15:00 **Advances in Brain Research on Addiction Mechanisms**

Novel Results and Directions in the Neuroscience of Human Drug addiction with a Focus on the Prefrontal Cortex: Naturalistic Measures and Treatment Effects

Prof. Rita Z. Goldstein, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Targeting the medial prefrontal and anterior cingulate cortices with Deep TMS in alcohol use disorder: Clinical, fMRI, DTI, and EEG outcomes

Prof. Abraham Zangen, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Computational approaches for understanding Individual and Gender Differences in Drug Addiction

Prof. Anna Zilverstand, University of Minnesota

Leveraging Virtual Reality for Experiments in Decision Making: Concepts and Examples

Prof. Tom Schonberg, Tel Aviv University

15:00 - 15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30 - 17:30 **Pathways from Vulnerability to Resilience**

Toward a Mechanistic Understanding of the Long-Term Health Consequences of Financial Hardship in Childhood

Prof. Greg Miller, Northwestern University

Psychosocial Resilience in Adolescents Who Experience Life Disadvantage

Prof. Edith Chen, Northwestern University

When the World Breaks, We Hold Each Other: Lessons in Resilience from October 7

Prof. Tsachi Ein-Dor, Reichman University

Opioid Use Disorder: Road to Ruin or Road to Recovery?

Prof. Jonathan Gewirtz, Arizona State University and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

DAY 2 – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025

08:00 - 09:00 **Welcome reception**

09:00 - 11:00 **Neurobehavioral Drivers of Relapse**

Rats can Make Good Choices: Effect of Alternative Food and Social Rewards on Drug Use and Relapse in Rat Models of Addiction

Prof. Yavin Shaham, Intramural Research Program, NIDA-NIH

Long-Term Alcohol Consumption Enhances Accumbal Myelination and Impairs Neural Connectivity

Prof. Segev Barak, Tel Aviv University

Cocaine to Volition: A Research Arc Driven by Automated Behavioral Analysis

Prof. Ami Citri, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Prenatal THC Exposure Compromises the Molecular Logic of Endocannabinoid Signaling in Midbrain Dopamine Neurons

Prof. Miriam Melis, University of Cagliari

SCHEDULE (cont.)

11:00 - 11:45 Coffee break and Poster Session

11:45 - 13:45 Neuronal Circuits Mediating Reward and Aversion

Cellular Mechanism Explaining the Anti-Craving Effect of GLP1- Agonists

Prof. Paul Kenny, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

Recruitment of Inhibitory Neuronal Pathways Regulating Dopaminergic Activity for the Control of Cocaine Reward

Prof. Rami Yaka, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

A Ventral Pallidal Glutamatergic Aversive Network Encodes Abstinence from, and Re-Exposure to, Cocaine

Prof. Yonatan M. Kupchik, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Studying the Behavioral and Neuronal Consequences of Stimulus-Drug Association

Prof. Yoram Ben-Shaul, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

13:45 - 15:00 Lunch break

15:30 - 17:30 Molecular Sights and Insights in Drug Addiction

Molecular and Cellular Signatures of Addictive Substances across the Lifespan

Prof. Mary Kay Lobo, University of Maryland

Spatial Analysis of Brain Molecular Changes Following Addictive Drug Exposure and Intranasal Iron Chelator Treatment

Dr. Katy Margulis, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Retino-Thalamic Pathways Shape Prefrontal/Accumbal Luminance Coding and Drug Preference

Dr. Shai Sabbah, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Treatment for Drug Addiction via Gut Microbiome Modulation - Hope or Hype

Prof. Gal Yadid, Bar-Ilan University

- The meeting will be conducted in English, ([click here](#) for lectures abstracts).

- Poster sessions will be held during the lunch breaks, and prizes will be awarded for the best posters.

Please email your poster title and abstract to oritbz@ica.org.il by September 30.

REGISTER NOW

For additional information, please contact Ms. Orit Ben Zicri at oritbz@ica.org.il