

**Treatments for severe substance use disorders  
In the United States and Italy  
Friday August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022 - Auditorium San Patrignano**

**Speakers**



**Jonathan Avery, Director of Addiction Psychiatry, at NYP/Cornell, US**

Dr. Jonathan Avery is the Vice Chair for Addiction Psychiatry, the Stephen P. Tobin and Dr. Arnold M. Cooper Associate Professor in Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry, and the Program Director for the Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship. Dr. Jonathan Avery is a graduate of the New York University School of Medicine. He completed his residency training at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Payne

Whitney Clinic. During residency, he was selected as a Group for the Advancement of Psychiatry Fellow and won several awards for his clinical and academic work. He was co-chief resident in his final year of training. Prior to employment on the Cornell faculty, Dr. Avery completed an addiction psychiatry fellowship at the New York University School of Medicine.

Dr. Avery has been published on a broad variety of topics in addiction psychiatry, including papers on subjects ranging from clinician attitudes towards patients to how to use buprenorphine. He is the founder of the Weill Cornell/New York-Presbyterian Program for Substance Use and Stigma of Addiction, and his research on stigma is supported by several national grants and awards. He was on the editorial board for the *DSM-5 Clinical Cases* book and is the editor/author of 10 books, including *Co-occurring Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders: A Guide to Diagnosis and Treatment* and *The Stigma of Addiction: An Essential Guide*. He has won numerous awards for his clinical and academic work, including the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology Faculty Innovation in Education Award and the Outstanding Faculty Member Award from the New York County Psychiatric Society.



**Antonello Bonci, MD, President and Chief Scientific Officer, GIA Miami and Vita Recovery**

Dr. Antonello Bonci is the President and Founder of GIA Miami and one of the Founders and Scientific Director of Brain&Care. Before moving to GIA Miami, he served for nearly a decade at the National Institute of Health (NIH) as Scientific Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the NIH. Between 1999 and 2010, he was Professor-in-Residence in the Department of Neurology at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), the highest ranked Department of Neurology in the world.

Dr. Bonci is known worldwide for his pioneering studies on the long-term effects of stress and drug exposure on the brain and for developing brain stimulation protocols for addictions.

Dr. Bonci has received numerous international awards, such as the D. Efron Award at the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, the Jacob P. Waletzky Memorial Award at the Society for Neuroscience, and the Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS) European Journal of Neuroscience (ENJ) Research Award.

He is an active member of the National Academy of Medicine, the American Academy of Physicians, the American Neurological Association, the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives, and a Fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology.



**Antonio Boschini, Director of the therapeutic program at San Patrignano TC, Italy**

Antonio Boschini is the Health and Therapeutic Manager of the San Patrignano Community. After graduating in Medicine and Surgery, he specialised in Infectious Diseases in 1991. From 1991 to 2019, he was a member of the Consulta Nazionale AIDS, now renamed Section M of the Medical Scientific Committee (CTS) of the Italian Ministry of Health. From 2003 to 2006, he was a member of the National AIDS Commission, now renamed Section L of the Medical Scientific Committee (STC) of the Ministry of Health, a position he also holds for the three-year period 2022-2025. From 2002 to 2005 he was a

Member of the Consiglio Superiore di Sanità, Section III. From 2005 to 2006 he was Representative for Italy as an expert at the EMCDDA in Lisbon. Since 2022 consultant to the Ministry of Health on issues related to pathological addictions.



**Kristopher Kast, Director of Addiction Psychiatry at Vanderbilt, US**

Dr. Kast is Program Director for the Vanderbilt Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship, developing the curriculum, supervising diverse and deep clinical exposure, and supporting intensive scholarship for the fellows. He also leads the Tennessee State Opioid Response Project ECHO Tele-Education Hub, a partnership between VUMC and TDMHSAS targeting community clinicians and health systems caring for individuals with opioid use disorder. Dr. Kast joined the Vanderbilt faculty in 2020 after fellowship training in addiction psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Mass General Brigham's hospitals. He

trained in general adult psychiatry at Weill Cornell and New York-Presbyterian Hospital, where he served as chief resident and concurrently completed his first year of psychoanalytic training at Columbia. Before this postgraduate work, he graduated summa cum laude from Notre Dame and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Dr. Kast is originally from the Ohio River valley of rural southern Indiana and northern Kentucky. Dr. Kast serves as an attending addiction psychiatrist and Clinical Director for the Addiction Consult Service at VUAH. He also cares for outpatients with SUD and co-occurring disorders in the low-barrier VISTA Bridge Clinic and the VISTA Recovery Clinic for maintenance care. Dr. Kast supervises clinical fellows, residents, and medical students across these levels of care. Dr. Kast's scholarly interests include substance-related and addictive disorders in the general hospital setting, health systems implementation of SUD care, evidence-based medical education for SUD and co-occurring psychiatric disorders, and effective psychotherapeutic interventions for SUD.



**Daniel Knoepfmacher, Vice Chair of Education at NYP/Cornell**

Dr. Daniel Knoepfmacher, MD, is the Vice Chair of Education in the Department of Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine and Director of the General Psychiatry Residency Program at NewYork-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medicine, where he oversees the education, training, and mentorship of psychiatric trainees. He champions a humanistic approach to psychiatry, where residents learn how to provide compassionate treatment for a wide range of conditions, develop scholarly expertise within the wider field of Psychiatry, and foster their own personalized approaches to meet the specific needs of

each person in their care. He strives to create a training environment that is inclusive, intellectually stimulating, clinically comprehensive, and collaborative. He continues an active practice as outpatient psychiatrist and provides consultation to organizational leaders on personnel management, collaboration, conflict resolution, and employee mental health and wellness.



**Betsy McKay**, *Senior Health Writer for the Wall Street Journal, US*

Betsy McKay is a senior writer for The Wall Street Journal. She writes about U.S. and global public health. Previously, she was Atlanta bureau chief, managing a team of reporters covering the Eastern U.S. and several industries. As a reporter before that in Atlanta, she covered the beverage industry, and public health.

Ms. McKay joined The Wall Street Journal in Moscow, where she wrote about Russia's post-Soviet political and economic transformation. She is a member of the team of

Journal reporters awarded the 1999 Pulitzer Prize in the international reporting category for in-depth analytical coverage of the Russian financial crisis. She has won awards for stories on public health issues, including drug-resistant tuberculosis and maternity care in the rural U.S.

Ms. McKay holds a B.A. from Amherst College and an M.A. in Russian language and literature from Bryn Mawr College.



**Sabrina Molinaro**, *Head of Epidemiology and Health Services Research IFC-CNR*

Sabrina Molinaro, psychologist, epidemiologist, is head of the Department of Epidemiology and Health Services Research at the Institute of Clinical Physiology of the National Research Council (CNR-IFC). Since 2016, she has been coordinator of the European project ESPAD (European School Survey on Alcohol and other Drugs) the largest transnational research project on

substance use among the adolescent population, which has been collecting standardized data from over forty European countries for 20 years. She is also national expert for the key epidemiological indicator GPS (General Population Survey) at the Italian national focal point of the EMCDDA (European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction). She has developed and coordinates the Italian population survey on alcohol and drugs (IPSAD®), which monitors the legal and illegal use of substances and the prevalence of risk behaviors in the general population (15-74) as well as the ESPAD®Italy survey on the student population at national level, a survey conducted annually since 1995 with the aim of investigating characteristics and changes in the use of alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs and risk behaviours among adolescents.



**Giovanni Pieretti**, *Visiting Professor, Istituto Universitario Progetto Uomo, sede aggregata dell'Università Pontificia Salesiana, Italia*

Giovanni Pieretti is Visiting Professor at the University Institute Progetto Uomo (Montefiascone VT), aggregated branch of the Pontifical Salesian University.

He is President of Comunitalia. He has also participated in the work of the Commission for investigation and study on poverty and marginalization. He has been a member of the RAI 'Social Secretariat' Commission, the Study Commission on Drugs of the Ministry of Health, the Scientific Committee of the Permanent Observatory on Drug Addiction of the Ministry of Labour and the Cinema Commission of the Ministry of Culture.

Since 2017, he has been an associate member of the CNR-ITC in Milan. At the international level, on 1-2 October 2014 he took part in Lisbon in the International Invitational Consultation of Erandid (European Research Area Network on Illicit Drugs), on behalf of the Department of Antidrug Policies of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. He is a member of the LH Forum Scientific Committee. He was coordinator of a research on urban poverty and welfare policies, promoted by the Commission of the European Communities in the 'Poverty 3' Program.

He was also scientific coordinator of the European project 'Head and Feet' on extreme poverty and of the European project 'Vladimir's Dream' on the relationship between extreme poverty and alcoholism. He was scientific director of the training course "Operare con le persone senza dimora" (Working with the homeless), organized since 2001 by the San Marcellino Association in Genoa. He collaborates regularly with the FIO.PSD (Italian Federation of Organizations of the Homeless) and is on the scientific committee of their magazine Tra. He is also on the scientific committee of the journals "Salute e prevenzione and Studi di sociologia" He directed the Urban and Rural Sociology Series for the publisher Franco Angeli and the journal Sociologia urbana e rurale.



**Lipi Roy**, *NYU Addiction Medicine Doctor and NBC News/MSNBC Medical Contributor, US*

Dr. Lipi Roy is an internal medicine physician board-certified in addiction medicine, a keynote speaker, a sought-after media medical commentator and the host of the YouTube series, Health, Humor and Harmony. Dr. Roy currently serves as a Medical Director at Housing Works in New York City as well as clinical assistant professor at NYU Langone Health. During the pandemic, she treated patients with opioid addiction at a harm reduction clinic in the Bronx. Dr. Roy's work spans academia, clinical medicine, homeless health, social and criminal justice, public speaking, media and entertainment. As the former Chief of Addiction Medicine for Rikers Island, Dr. Roy oversaw substance use treatment and recovery services at the nation's 2nd-largest jail complex. Previously, Dr. Roy was a primary care doctor to Boston's homeless population among whom the leading cause of death was drug overdose. She also served as an attending physician at Massachusetts General Hospital and as faculty at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Roy completed her medical and master's in public health degrees at Tulane University, followed by residency training in internal medicine at Duke University Medical Center. Dr. Roy is a dynamic public speaker and media personality whose mission is to educate and empower the public to make healthy decisions. She is a Forbes contributor and former MSNBC and NBC News Medical Contributor, making over 300 on air appearances discussing all health aspects of COVID-19. Dr. Roy has also appeared on CNN, The Tamron Hall Show, Charlie Rose, CBS New York and PIX11, and has been featured in The New York Times, Boston Globe, Wall Street Journal, Cooking Light and Oprah.com. You can follow Dr. Roy on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, her website and YouTube channel.



**Camillo Smacchia**, *Director of Ser.D. (public service for SUD), Verona, Italy*

Camillo Smacchia has been working for the NHS since 1992, first as Medical Director of the Addiction Service of Villafranca, since 2016 as Head of the Addiction Service of Verona, from April 2016 to April 2018 he was Referent Ser.D. of Soave and from the same date until August 2020 he was Head of the UOSD "Penitentiary Health". He currently holds the position of Director of the Complex Operative Unit Addictions of Verona. Previously, he was in charge of the outpatient clinic 'Benessere Donna Straniera' (Wellbeing of Foreign Women) as a pilot project of the Veneto Region for the study of the prostitution phenomenon in Verona and a doctor attending a Missionary Hospital in a rural area of Uganda in Africa. From June 2006 to December 2007, he worked as Project Manager Doctor in Kosovo, at the Peja/Pec Hospital for medical assistance, retraining and professional training in the clinical, technical and managerial fields as a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italian Cooperation and Veneto Region.



**Luciano Squillaci**, *President FICT – Italian Federation of Therapeutic Communities, Italy*

Luciano Squillaci is a lawyer and an expert in social policies and social and health services for the vulnerable and the third sector. He is president of the Italian Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FICT) and spokesman of the Third Sector Forum of Calabria. He is also Social Area Director and HR Manager at the Piccola Opera Papa Giovanni ONLUS in Reggio Calabria and coordinator of the Reggino Solidarity Centre. He is a member of the National Coordination Committee and lecturer in the "Community Social Development" section of the Third Sector Training Project (FQTS). He is a lecturer in "Apprenticeship Methodology and Tools for Professional Training" and "Public Law" in the L19 Degree Course in Social Education at the "Don Giorgio Pratesi" University Institute in Soverato (CZ), affiliated with the Salesian Pontifical University.



**Philip J. Wilner**, *Senior Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer at NYP, US*

Philip J. Wilner, MD, MBA is Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester Behavioral Health Center. Dr. Wilner also is Executive Vice Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and a Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medicine. Dr. Philip Wilner received his BA, summa cum laude, in 1979 from Columbia College and his MD in 1983 from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, both of Columbia University. He completed his psychiatry internship, residency, chief residency and research fellowship training at the New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center. In 1998, he completed his MBA in healthcare administration at the Zicklin Business School of Baruch College. Since the early 1990s, Dr. Wilner has assumed positions of increasing responsibility in clinical management and leadership for the renowned Payne Whitney Manhattan and NewYork-Presbyterian Westchester Behavioral Health Center of Weill Cornell Psychiatry. Dr. Wilner was the recipient of a Readers Digest Fellowship in 1988, and conducted studies in the biological bases of psychiatric illness. His current interests are in healthcare administration, policy and the delivery of high quality patient-centered care. He sits on numerous Hospital and Medical College Boards and Committees. Dr. Wilner is a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the American College of Physician Executives.