

## 106th Bern Anaesthesia Symposium

# Perioperative Brain Health — From Mechanism to Monitoring to Clinical Practice

Wednesday, 20 May 2026, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Ettore Rossi Auditorium, Julie-von-Jenner-House (Children's Hospital),  
Inselspital Bern



*Workshop*  
**3:00 pm - 4.30 pm**  
**Inselspital Bern**

Dear colleagues and interested guests

Perioperative neurocognitive disorders represent an increasingly recognised challenge in contemporary anaesthesia and perioperative medicine. Their multifactorial pathophysiology and significant impact on patient recovery require an integrated, evidence-informed approach across the perioperative continuum.

This mini-symposium brings together internationally recognised experts to provide a structured and clinically focused update on perioperative brain health. The program spans current insights into neuroinflammatory mechanisms, risk stratification and screening, intraoperative EEG-guided management, precision anaesthetic delivery, and special considerations in paediatric patients.

The objective is to translate emerging evidence into practical, implementable strategies that support individualized, brain-aware anaesthesia and improved postoperative cognitive outcomes.

### **Preparatory course (90 minutes)**

Immediately preceding the symposium, participants may attend a focused preparatory session designed to strengthen practical competencies in:

- cortical oximetry
- raw EEG interpretation
- intra- and perioperative EEG assessment

This session aims to facilitate confident integration of advanced brain monitoring into routine clinical practice.

We warmly welcome colleagues interested in advancing the neurological quality of perioperative care.

Dr Friedrich Lersch

PD Dr Vladimir Krejci

## Speakers

### **Prof Susana Vacas**

Neuroanesthesiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston USA

### **Dr John Gaudet**

Aanaesthetist at CHUV Lausanne

### **Prof Tony Absalom**

University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands

### **Prof Joana Berger Estilita**

Specialist in anaesthesiology and intensive care medicine,  
Salem-Spital Bern

## Program

- 15.00 – 16.30 **Workshop**  
Dr Friedrich Lersch, PD Dr. Vladimir Krejci
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- 17.00 – 17.05 **Welcoming Speech**  
Dr Friedrich Lersch, PD Dr. Vladimir Krejci
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- 17.10 – 17.40 **From Neuroinflammation to Neural Network Disruption: Mechanistic Pathways in Perioperative Neurocognitive Disorders (online lecture)**  
Prof Susana Vacas
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- 17.45 – 18.15 **Brain-Aware Anaesthesia in Practice: Using EEG to Reduce Postoperative Neurocognitive Disorders**  
Dr John Gaudet
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- 18.15 – 18.45 Break / Apéro / Industry Meeting
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- 18.45 – 19.15 **Precision TIVA for a Vulnerable Brain: Target-Controlled Infusion as Cognitive Protection**  
Prof Tony Absalom
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- 19.20 – 19.50 **From Guidelines to Bedside: Implementing a Perioperative Brain-Health Bundle that Actually Reduces Delirium**  
Prof Joana Berger-Estilita
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- 19.55 – 20.00 **Farewell**  
Dr Friedrich Lersch, PD Dr Vladimir Krejci

## CME Credits

SSAPM 3 Credits

## Registration

We look forward to receiving your registration by May 4, 2026 on our [website](#).

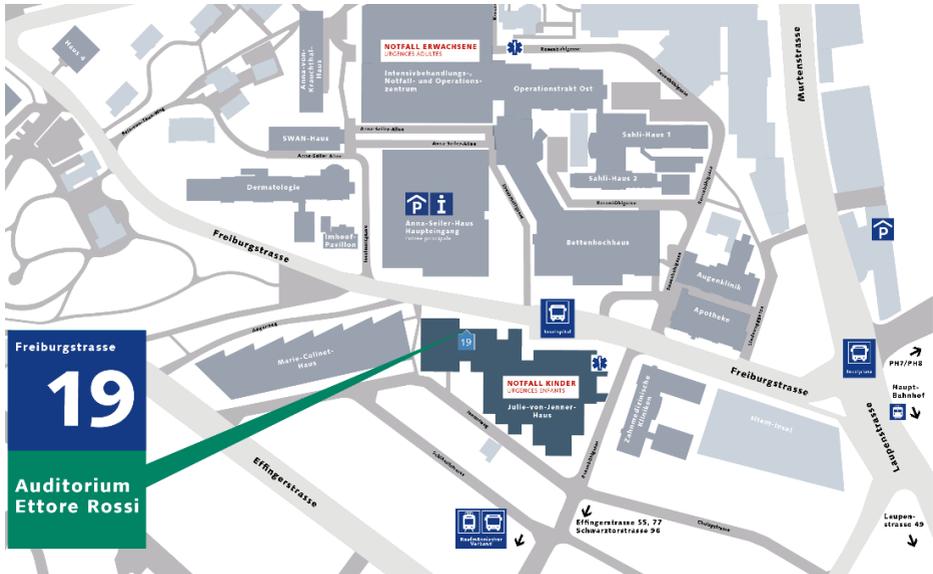
## Upcoming Dates

- 09.09.2026
- 25.11.2026

## Venue

Inselspital Bern, Freiburgstrasse, 3010 Bern

Ettore Rossi Auditorium, entrance 19, Julie-von-Jenner-House



## Organization

Host: Prof Dr Frank Stüber, MD & Head of department  
Coordination: PD Dr Alexander Fuchs  
Symposium directors: Dr Friedrich Lersch, PD Dr Vladimir Krejci

Assistant Medical Teaching & Research: Deborah Suter, phone 031 632 81 79  
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