

6th International Epilepsy Symposium

Friday, March 20, 2026

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Dear colleagues and friends,

We cordially welcome you to the 6th International Epilepsy Symposium organized by the Epilepsy-Centers Bethel and Berlin-Brandenburg. This year, the Bethel group is happy to greet you in Bielefeld.

We are glad to experienced international speakers from distinguished academic institutions in Denmark, Serbia, Slovenia, the US and Germany.

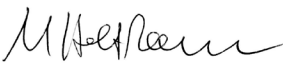
The Epilepsy Symposium offers high-quality scientific sessions discussing recent developments relevant for understanding, diagnosing and treating epilepsy. Lectures are complemented by workshops which permit in-depth discussion of real-life cases.

Main topics are classification of seizures and epilepsy, EEG, functional/dissociative seizures, and driving ability.

We are looking forward to meeting you in March 2026 at the International Epilepsy Symposium in Bielefeld.



Christian G. Bien



Martin Holtkamp

From 11:00 h Welcome coffee
11:30 h Welcome
Christian G. Bien, Martin Holtkamp, Pastor Dr. Haase, CEO, Management Board, Bethel Foundation

New classifications for seizures
11:45 – 12:15 h Practice experience with the new ILAE seizure classification
Barbara C. Jobst, Lebanon

12:15 – 12:35 h Classification and definitions of status epilepticus
Martin Holtkamp, Berlin

12:35 – 12:55 h Classification of autoimmune conditions with seizures
Christian G. Bien, Bielefeld

12:55 – 13:45 h Lunch break

Recent developments in EEG
13:45 – 14:15 h Artificial intelligence in surface EEG evaluation
Andreas Schulze-Bonhage, Freiburg i. Br.

14:15 – 14:45 h Source localization in presurgical evaluation
Bernd Vorderwülbecke, Berlin

14:45 – 15:15 h Assessment and practical consequences of photosensitivity in epilepsy
Guido Rubboli, Copenhagen

15:15 – 15:45 h Coffee break with baked goods

15:45 – 16:45 h Workshops: Diagnostic and predictive value of EEG
A: EEG and other predictors for successful discontinuation of ASM in seizure-free patients: *Maria Ilyas-Feldmann, Neuruppin; Thomas Cloppenburg, Bielefeld*
B: EEG in the diagnosis and monitoring of generalised epilepsies: *Ulrich Specht, Bielefeld; Eva Breuer, Berlin*

16:45 – 17:15 h Walk to Zion Church Bethel, Zionskirche Bethel

17:15 h Organ recital with Christof Pülsch, Church musician at the Zion Church Bethel. Zionskirche Bethel

18:00 – 19:00 h Time for hotel check-in or historical walk through Bethel

19:00 h Dinner at “Neue Schmiede”

8:15 – 8:55 h Welcome coffee
8:55 – 9:00 h Welcome 2nd day

9:00 – 9:30 h Epilepsy and driving
The COSY concept
Ulrich Specht, Bielefeld

9:30 – 10:00 h Driving ability after autoimmune encephalitis
Anna Rada, Bielefeld

Functional/dissociative seizures
10:00 – 10:30 h Functional/dissociative seizures – novel neurobiological correlates
Stoyan Popkirov, Essen

10:30 – 11:00 h Coffee break with baked goods

11:00 – 12:00 h Workshops: Modern application of EEG
A: EEG in children: clinical value and common pitfalls. *Ruzica Kravljjanac, Belgrade; Mirjana Perkovic Benedik, Ljubljana; Tilman Polster, Bielefeld*
B: EEG in the diagnosis and treatment of non-convulsive status epilepticus. *Guido Rubboli, Copenhagen; Jakob Dörrfuß, Berlin*
C: Mini-hands-on-workshop (4 participants): Adult EEG analysis with PERSYST (artificial intelligence) – practical experience and exercises. *Ahmed Gaballa, Bielefeld*
Location: The Mara, EEG Department.

12:15 – 13:00 h Key Note Lecture
The future of epileptology
Barbara C. Jobst, Lebanon

13:00 h Light lunch at “Neue Schmiede”

Faculty

International Faculty

Barbara C. Jobst // Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine, Department of Neurology / Lebanon, USA

Ruzica Kravljjanac // Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade, Institute for Mother and Child Healthcare of Serbia /Belgrade, Serbia

Mirjana Perkovic Benedik // Department of Child, Adolescent & Developmental Neurology, University Children’s Hospital / Ljubljana, Slovenia

Stoyan Popkirov // University Hospital Essen, Department of Neurology / Essen, Germany

Guido Rubboli // Institute of Clinical Medicine, University of Copenhagen / Copenhagen and Danish Epilepsy Center, Filadelfia, Denmark

Andreas Schulze-Bonhage // Freiburg University Hospital, Epilepsy-Center / Freiburg i. Br., Germany

Berlin-Brandenburg Faculty

Eva Breuer // Evangelisches Krankenhaus Königin Elisabeth Herzberge at Epilepsy-Center Berlin-Brandenburg / Berlin, Germany

Jakob Dörrfuß // Department of Neurology, Epilepsy-Center Berlin-Brandenburg, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin / Berlin, Germany

Martin Holtkamp // Evangelisches Krankenhaus Königin Elisabeth Herzberge at Epilepsy-Center Berlin-Brandenburg; Department of Neurology, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin / Berlin, Germany

Maria Ilyas-Feldmann // Department of Neurology, University Hospital Ruppin-Brandenburg / Neuruppin, Germany

Bernd Vorderwülbecke // Evangelisches Krankenhaus Königin Elisabeth Herzberge at Epilepsy-Center Berlin-Brandenburg; Department of Neurology, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin / Berlin, Germany

Bielefeld Faculty

Christian G. Bien // Department of Epileptology, Krankenhaus Mara, Bethel, Epilepsy Center, Medical School Bielefeld University / Bielefeld, Germany

Thomas Cloppenburg // Department of Epileptology, Krankenhaus Mara, Bethel, Epilepsy Center, Medical School Bielefeld University / Bielefeld, Germany

Ahmed Gaballa // Department of Epileptology, Krankenhaus Mara, Bethel, Epilepsy Center, Medical School Bielefeld University / Bielefeld, Germany

Tilman Polster // Department of Epileptology, Krankenhaus Mara, Bethel, Epilepsy Center, Medical School Bielefeld University / Bielefeld, Germany

Anna Rada // Department of Epileptology, Krankenhaus Mara, Bethel, Epilepsy Center, Medical School Bielefeld University / Bielefeld, Germany

Ulrich Specht // Department of Epileptology, Krankenhaus Mara, Bethel, Epilepsy Center, Medical School Bielefeld University / Bielefeld, Germany

Certificate of Attendance

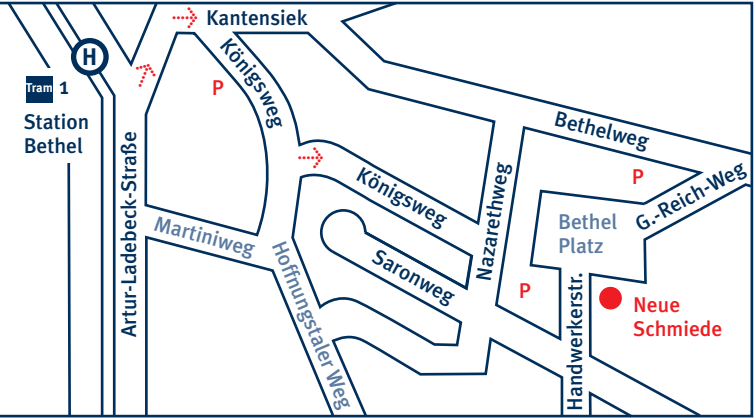
A Certificate of Attendance will be issued to all delegates who attend the Symposium.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credits

CME credit points are provided by the Ärztekammer Westfalen-Lippe (Physicians’ Board; 16 points) and the German Society for Epilepsy (8 points).

Support

Bethel. Epilepsie verstehen.



Symposium Chairmen

Prof. Dr. med. Christian Bien // Epilepsy-Center Bethel, Bielefeld

Prof. Dr. med. Martin Holtkamp // Epilepsy-Center Berlin-Brandenburg, Berlin

Symposium Venue

Neue Schmiede // Handwerkerstraße 7 // 33617 Bielefeld, Germany

Registration

Mrs. Melissa Werning & Mrs. Eva Reineke // Epilepsy-Center Bethel

Fon +49 (0)521 772 76 494 // **Fax** +49 (0)521 772 78 872

Mail ies@mara.de

Fee

Registration up to Feb 15, 2026 → 150 Euro includes

→ admission to scientific sessions and teaching courses

→ coffee breaks, lunches and dinner

Bank Transfer

Gesellschaft für Epilepsieforschung e.V.

Bank Sparkasse Bielefeld

IBAN DE45 4805 0161 0006 4202 93

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March 20 – 21, 2026 // Bielefeld

6th International Epilepsy Symposium

»Classification, EEG, functional/dissociative seizures«

Epilepsy-Center Bethel, Bielefeld
Epilepsy-Center Berlin-Brandenburg, Berlin
Society for Epilepsy Research, Bielefeld
Epilepsie-Akademie Berlin-Bethel

