



INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
on Spondyloarthritis

3 – 5 September
2026

Ghent, Belgium

**FINAL
PROGRAMME**

www.spa-congress.org

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Atul Deodhar (USA)

Local Organising Committee

Dirk Elewaut (Belgium) and Filip Van den Bosch (Belgium)

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Herman Mielants (Belgium – Founder)

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Rik Lories (Belgium)

Walter Maksymowych (Canada)

Sofia Ramiro (The Netherlands)

Percival Sampaio-Barros (Brazil)

Jose Scher (USA)

Lai-Shan Tam (PR China)

Ranjeny Thomas (Australia)

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome to the **15th International Congress on Spondyloarthritis**, taking place at De Bijloke in Ghent from **3 to 5 September 2026**.

Over the years, this congress has become a leading international meeting in the field of spondyloarthritis, bringing together scientists, clinicians, allied health professionals and industry representatives. The meeting is renowned for its high scientific standards, distinguished faculty, and stimulating multidisciplinary discussions.

This year, the scientific programme highlights the latest advances in clinical, translational, and basic research, imaging, and therapeutics in spondyloarthritis. We also explore future directions in medicine and their potential impact on the understanding and management of these diseases.

A highlight of the congress is once again the “Ghent Oration”, dedicated to honouring a scientist or clinician internationally recognised for outstanding career contributions to the field. The organising committee nominated one of the most influential clinical researchers in the field of rheumatology – not simply in spondyloarthritis. Spanning last three decades, Désirée van der Heijde has single-handedly changed how we assess inflammatory arthritides – from development of ASAS20/40, ASDAS and scores of other clinical assessment tools in axSpA, to DAS28 and imaging assessment tools such as Sharp van der Heijde scores in rheumatoid arthritis and psoriatic arthritis. We are privileged to hear from Désirée about her remarkable career and what she sees as her legacy.

Supporting and encouraging the next generation of SpA researchers remains one of the central goals of this congress. The programme therefore includes dedicated opportunities for networking, interactive poster discussions, and short oral presentations selected from top-ranked abstracts.

We are also continuing our tradition of lively debate sessions addressing controversial topics in clinical science.

We hope that this meeting provides an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas, strengthen collaborations, reconnect with colleagues and friends, and create new connections within the international SpA community.

It is a great pleasure to welcome you all to Ghent and I look forward to an inspiring and stimulating congress.

Yours sincerely,

Atul Deodhar,
President, International Congress on Spondyloarthritis

- 12.50 **Welcome Address**
Atul Deodhar, President
- Keynote lecture**
Chair: Dirk Elewaut
- 13.00 **INV1 Artificial intelligence and big data in biomedical research & rheumatology**
Yvan Saeys, Ghent, Belgium
- Session 1: SpA disease mechanisms**
Chairs: Rik Lories & Nigil Haroon
- 13.45 **INV2 T cells in the pathogenesis of SpA**
Michael Paley, St. Louis, USA
- 14.10 **INV3 Interface inflammation, joints and spine**
Kristi Kuhn, Aurora, USA
- 14.35 **INV4 Entesis biology and mechanical stress**
Eric Gracey, Ghent, Belgium
- 15.00 Coffee Break & Poster Viewing
- Session 2: SpA Genetics: HLA-B27 and Beyond**
Chairs: Francesco Ciccica & Maxime Breban
- 16.00 **INV5 Case closed: Has the arthritogenic peptide hypothesis finally won?**
Bob Colbert, Washington, USA
- 16.25 **INV6 SpA genetics beyond MHC class I**
Félicie Costantino, Versailles Saint Quentin, France
- 16.50 **INV7 Polygenic risk scores, where are we now?**
Matt Brown, London, UK

- Selected Oral Presentations I**
- 17.15 **01 Deciphering the role of RUNX3 in human $\gamma\delta$ T-cell**
Maxime Melchior, Brussels, Belgium
- 17.30 **02 STK17B/DRAK2 enrichment in T cells links to treatment non-response in spondylo-arthritis**
Patricia Remalante-Rayco, Toronto, Canada
- 17.45 **03 Multi-omics profiling of gut tissue from early axial spondylo-arthritis patients reveals enrichment of public TRBV9⁺ CD8⁺ T cell clones with a type 17 signature**
Zuzanna Lukasik, Ghent, Belgium
- Session 3: Microbiome**
Chairs: Kurt de Vlam & Lai-Shan Tam
- 18.00 **INV8 Microbiome therapy for spondyloarthritis**
Jeroen Raes, Leuven, Belgium
- Session 4: Hands-On AI**
Chairs: Kurt de Vlam & Lai-Shan Tam
- 18.30 **INV9 Lecture & Hands-on Workshop - please bring your laptop Tools and tricks for using AI in research**
Paras Karmacharya, Nashville, USA
- 19.00 **Welcome Reception and Walking Dinner**
Foyer of De Bijloke

Session 5: Psoriatic disease

Chairs: Félicie Costantino & Maria Antonietta D'Agostino

- 08.30 **INV10** **A dermatologist's perspective of PsA**
Luís Puig, Barcelona, Spain
- 08.55 **INV11** **Axial PsA vs. axial SpA**
Peter Nash, Brisbane, Australia
- 09.20 **INV12** **GLP-1 receptor agonists in inflammatory arthritis:
From metabolic risk to therapeutic opportunity**
Derin Karacabeyli, Vancouver, Canada
- 09.45 Coffee Break &
10.00 **Poster Tour A** (P1 - P88) — See page 14

Session 6: Advancing drug development

Chairs: Lianne Gensler & Percival Sampaio-Barros

- 10.45 **INV13** **Turning viruses into drugs**
Paul Peter Tak, Needham, USA
- 11.10 **INV14** **Engineering the biologics of the future**
Paul Parren, Leiden, The Netherlands
- 11.35 **INV15** **Emerging therapies across the spondyloarthritis spectrum**
Atul Deodhar, Portland, USA

Selected Oral Presentations II

- 12.00 **04** **Early intervertebral bone formation precedes systemic inflammation in experimental arthritis: Evidence from X-ray phase contrast imaging**
Frank Verhoeven, Besançon, France
- 12.15 **05** **Drug-free remission in early peripheral spondyloarthritis: 10-year follow-up from the CRESPA-trial**
Caroline Damen, Ghent, Belgium
- 12.30 **06** **No superiority of IL-17A inhibitors over TNF inhibitor cycling after first TNF inhibitor failure in axial spondyloarthritis: The ROC-SpA randomized trial**
Hubert Marotte, Saint-Étienne, France
- 12.45 Lunch Break

The Ghent SpA Oration

Chair: Atul Deodhar

- 13.45 **INV16** **The Ghent Oration**
Désirée van der Heijde, Meerssen, The Netherlands

Selected Oral Presentations III

Chairs: Xenofon Baraliakos & Robert Inman

- 14.30 **07** **Defining an MRI indicative of axial spondyloarthritis in the sacroiliac joints of patients with axial spondyloarthritis: A data-driven and consensus-based framework of recommendations by the Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network and the Society of Skeletal Radiology**
Walter Maksymowych, Edmonton, Canada
- 14.45 **08** **Early diagnosis of axial spondyloarthritis is associated with less long-term spinal structural damage: A longitudinal analysis of the Swiss Clinical Quality Management in Rheumatic Diseases Registry**
Annik Steimer, Zurich, Switzerland

- 15.00 **09** **2026 Update of the ASAS MRI definitions of sacroiliac joint involvement for classification of axial spondyloarthritis: Testing of the candidate lesions in the CLASSIC cohort**
Mikhail Protopopov, Berlin, Germany

- 15.15 Coffee Break &
15.30 **Poster Tour B** (P89 - P176) – See page 27

Session 7: SpA imaging

Chairs: Walter Maksymowych & Wilson Bautista-Morano

- 16.15 **INV17** **Molecular imaging in SpA**
David Simon, Berlin, Germany
- 16.40 **INV18** **Technological advances in spine imaging**
Patrick Omoumi, Lausanne, Switzerland
- 17.05 **INV19** **The promise and peril of artificial intelligence - Will it make radiologists obsolete?**
Torsten Diekhoff, Rüdersdorf bei Berlin, Germany
- 17.30 **Scientific Committee Meeting**
- 19.30 **Gala Dinner at the Handelsbeurs**
For details, see page 45

Session 8: Innovations in clinical trial methodology

Chairs: Helena Marzo-Ortega & Sofia Ramiro

- 08.30 **INV20** **Novel trial designs**
Laura Coates, Oxford, UK
- 08.55 **INV21** **Clinical trials as probes of disease pathogenesis**
Georg Schett, Erlangen, Germany
- 09.20 **INV22** **Lessons from the past for the clinical trials of the future**
Filip Van den Bosch, Ghent, Belgium
- 09.45 Coffee Break & Poster Viewing

Selected Oral Presentations IV

- 10.45 **O10** **Impact of a training program on the diagnostic suspicion of spondyloarthritis and psoriatic arthritis among Spanish A&E medical staff: The URGESPAR experience**
Carlos Guillén-Astete, Madrid, Spain
- 11.00 **O11** **A rare variant in the *Extl3* gene is associated with altered Wnt signaling pathway in a novel mouse model of axial spondyloarthritis**
Stéphane Hilliquin, Paris, France
- 11.15 **O12** **Multiomic and kinetic mapping identifies circulating monocytes committed to osteoclast fate and synovial tissue homing**
Joe Hutton, Cambridge, UK
- 11.30 **O13** **EXTL3 mutation promotes pathological ossification in a chronic inflammatory context in ankylosing spondylitis**
Alix Calot, Paris, France

The Grand Debate

Chairs: Atul Deodhar, Dirk Elewaut & Filip Van den Bosch

- 11.45 **Precision medicine is the only way forward in spondyloarthritis**
INV23 For: Maria-Antonietta D'Agostino, Rome, Italy
INV24 Against: Robert Landewé, Meersen, The Netherlands
- 12.45 **Closing Remarks**
 Atul Deodhar, President
 Filip Van den Bosch and Dirk Elewaut, Local Organisers
- 13.00 **Farewell Aperitif**
 Foyer of De Bijloke

Poster Tours

- Poster Session A (P1-P88): 10.00 – 10.45 Friday 4 September
- Poster Tour Leaders:
- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| P1-P22 | Sofia Ramiro |
| P23-P44 | Lianne Gensler |
| P45-P66 | Rik Lories |
| P67-P88 | Xenofon Baraliakos |
- Poster Session B (P89-P176): 15.30 – 16.15 Friday 4 September
- Poster Tour Leaders:
- | | |
|-----------|--------------------|
| P89-P110 | Walter Maksymowych |
| P111-P132 | Kurt de Vlam |
| P133-P154 | Laura Coates |
| P155-P176 | Nigil Haroon |

Poster Installation and Removal

Poster Session A (P1-P88):

Installation: Thursday 3 September between 11.00 and 14.30 hrs**Removal:** Friday 4 September between 12.45 and 13.15 hrs*Posters that are not removed within the specified time will be discarded.*

Poster Session B (P89-P176):

Installation: Friday 4 September between 13.15 and 13.45 hrs**Removal:** Saturday 5 September between 13.00 and 13.30 hrs*Posters that are not removed within the specified time will be discarded.*

Tape and scissors are available at the onsite registration desk.

Animal models of SpA

- P1 Intermittent fasting attenuates joint inflammation and remodeling in experimental spondyloarthritis alongside metabolic transcriptional reprogramming**
González-Chávez S.A., Cuevas-Martínez R., Salas-Leiva J.S., Pacheco-Tena C. (Mexico)
- P2 Osteochondral neoformation sites display inflammatory-osteogenic stromal activation in DBA/1 spontaneous arthritis**
González-Chávez S.A., Moreno-Soltero M.F., Romero-Huerta R., Ortiz-Domínguez V.M., Sausameda-García J., Flores-Adame I.D., Arrieta-Martínez P.I., Ruizsparza-Hinojos D.A., Prieto-Carrasco R., Loya-Rivera M., Chaparro-Barrera E., Pacheco-Tena C. (Mexico)
- P3 Inhibition of mitochondrial fission attenuates inflammatory response and improves mitochondrial function in fibroblast-like synoviocytes of spondyloarthritis**
González-Chávez S.A., Prieto-Carrasco R., Loya-Rivera M., Cuevas-López B., García-Arroyo F.E., Aparicio-Trejo O.A., Pacheco-Tena C. (Mexico)
- P4 Spondyloarthritis promotes cardiovascular inflammation through non-canonical Wnt signaling in an HLA-B27 transgenic rat model**
Kwon S.R., Kim C.R., Lim M.J., Song H.S., Yoon J.Y. (Republic of Korea)
- P5 Absence of sex differences and anti-IL-17 response in a mouse model of enthesitis and pain**
Vegt D.E., Blaney Davidson E.N., Blom A.B., Braunhofer L., Leijten E.F.A., van der Horst-Bruinsma I.E., Koenders M.I. (The Netherlands)

Bone biology and osteoimmunology

- P6 Effect of plasma from patients with spondyloarthritis on IL-22 receptor expression and extracellular matrix formation in hFOB 1.19 osteoblasts**
Cerón-Cruz E., Ortega-Mejía I.I., Domínguez-López M.L., Medina-Reyes I., Chirino-López Y.I., Reyes-Maldonado E., Sánchez-Pérez S., García-Hernández A.L., Casasola-Vargas J.C., Romero-López J.P. (Mexico)
- P7 Epigenetic landscape of osteoprogenitors in ankylosing spondylitis: FOXF2 methylation as a key determinant of pathological bone formation**
Jo S., Wang S.E., Kim T.H. (Republic of Korea)
- P8 Osteoclast-derived DEL1 promotes pathological bone formation of AS via regulating RUNX2 expression in osteoblast**
Lee S.H., Lee S., Jeon C., Kim D., Jo S., Kim T.H. (Republic of Korea)
- P9 Blockade of IL-17RA highlights alternative osteogenic pathways driven by IL-17F via BMP/Wnt signalling**
Paternina Martinez D., Brown S., Shah M., Roberts S.J. (UK)
- P10 Matrixmetalloproteinase (MMP)-13 as a potential biomarker of structural changes in spondyloarthritis**
Roman I., Ney L., Lalazi B., Tsiami S., Kiltz U., Baraliakos X., Schütz C. (Germany)
- P11 A dysregulated IL-22/IL-22BP axis in spondyloarthritis is related to IL-22-induced osteoblast proliferation and mineralization**
Ortega-Mejía I.I., Cerón-Cruz E., Domínguez-López M.L., García-Hernández A.L., Alvarez-Rodríguez C., Reyes-Maldonado E., Casasola-Vargas J.C., Vega-Salcedo A.V., Bernal-Alferes B., Romero-López J.P. (Mexico)

Clinical research in SpA: Patient perspectives

- P12 Self-management needs and digital tools in axial spondyloarthritis - A qualitative study through the lens of self-determination theory**
Barnett R., Clarke C., Sengupta R., Rouse P.C. (UK)
- P13 Achieving low disease activity at 6 months in spondyloarthritis: Real-world predictors**
Boni V., Patti D.G., Niedda F., Cristiano F., Gavotti C., Masnata R., Moroli M., De Piano R., Fano M., Natalello G., De Lorenzis E., D'Agostino M.A., Ortolan A. (Italy)
- P14 Experience with combined b/tsDMARD therapy in refractory inflammatory arthritis: A multicenter multidisciplinary study**
De la Morena Barrio I., Aguilar Zamora M., Ochoa de Aranda B., Charca Mamani L., Sanmartin J., Huaylla Quispe A., Robustillo Villarino M., García Martos A., Palma Sánchez D., Trenor Larraz P. (Spain)
- P15 The impact of multiple gender dimensions on health-related quality of life in people with rheumatic diseases: A cross-sectional survey study (Gender-Q-ARISE)**
Hamamou A., Mulder M.L.M., van der Horst-Bruinsma I., van Leuven S.I., Vonk M.C., Popa-Diaconu D.A., Göttgens I., Oertelt-Prigione S. (The Netherlands & Germany)
- P16 Update of the mSQUASH manual and syntax: Valid and reliable physical activity questionnaire aligning with recent international guidelines**
Harmsen D.H., Paap D., van der Kraan Y.M., Carbo M.J.G., Wink F.R., Gensler L.S., Spoorenberg J.P.L., Arends S. (The Netherlands & USA)
- P17 Physical activity over time in relation to patient and disease characteristics in patients with axial spondyloarthritis**
He Z., Harmsen D.H., Paap D., Carbo M.J.G., Keskamp S.C., van der Kraan Y.M., Wink F., Arends S., Spoorenberg J.P.L. (The Netherlands)
- P18 Axial spondyloarthritis population perspective of virtual reality rehabilitation: A qualitative interview study**
Kattan A., Cazzola D., Rouse P., Wade L., Sengupta R. (UK)

- P20 Instrument selection for the assessment of peripheral arthritis in axial and peripheral spondyloarthritis: Results from ASAS-SPARADISE**
Ramiro S., Capelusnik D., López-Medina C., Ortolan A., Webers C., Baraliakos X., Bautista-Molano W., Boonen A., Van den Bosch F., Carron P., van Dam M., van Gaalen F., Gensler L.S., Gossec L., Hmamouchi I., Kiltz U., Kishimoto M., Lowe J., Machado P.M., Navarro-Compán V., Nikiphorou E., Pina Vegas L., Poddubnyy D., van de Sande M., Sepriano A., Sieper J., Varkas G., Mease P., Landewé R., van der Heijde D., Moltó A. (The Netherlands, Israel, Spain, Italy, Germany, Colombia, Belgium, South Africa, USA, France, Morocco, Japan, UK, Canada & Portugal)
- P21 Metabolic and proteomic alterations associated with hepatic steatosis and fibrosis in psoriatic arthritis**
Ruiz-Ponce M., Martín-Salazar J.E., Arias-de la Rosa I., Barranco A.M., López Montilla M.D., Romero Zurita L., Pérez-Sánchez C., Abalos-Aguilera M.C., Ruiz-Vilchez D., Ortiz-Buitrago P., López-Pedraza C., Collantes-Estévez E., López-Medina C., Escudero-Contreras A., Barbarroja N. (Spain)
- P22 Anxiety, depression, and fibromyalgia compromise target attainment in axial spondyloarthritis regardless of inflammatory activity**
Vieira V., Bassara-Macedo R., Resende G.G., Marques C., Pinheiro M.M., Marinho A., Soares A.M., Albuquerque C., Rodrigues D., Castro G., Bulbol G., Carneiro J., Fernandes J.M., Orchtrop M., Gavi M.B., Yazbek M., Cavalcanti N., Machado N., Malheiro O., Vieira R., Lage R., Menin R.C., Golebiovski R., Ribeiro S., Oliveira T., Diniz V., Sampaio-Barros P., Saad C.G.S. (Brazil)

Epidemiology, cohorts and biomarkers of SpA

- P23 Clinical characteristics and drug survival in a cohort of patients with late-onset spondyloarthritis**
Alcántara Álvarez I., Grau García E., Muñoz-Martínez P.F., Torrat Noves A.M., Ramos Castro D., Villanueva Mañes B., Simeó Vinaixa, M., Pérez Hurtado A., Díaz Mora B., Antón Enguidanos P., Román Ivorra J.A. (Spain)

P24 Impact of HLAB27 on clinical presentation and imaging in axial spondyloarthritis in Latin America: Insights from the ESPALDA-PANLAR Registry

Bautista-Molano W., Garcia-Salinas R., Casasola J.C., Sommerfleck F., Guaracha Basañez G.A., Londono J., Gamboa-Cardenas R.V., Fernández-Ávila D.G., Vila D., Mestanza Peralta M., Then J., Dufau E., Bermudez Bermejo P.E., Macias Oviedo L., Duran Barragan S., Valdez Donelli F., Barcia Cansino A., Medina G., Casalla L., Castillo Ortiz A., Chinchay L., Caballero L., Benegas M., Medina Bornachera D., Vega C., Melgarejo P., Belén Gómez A., Ferreyra Garrot L.G., Candia Zuniga D.L., Gil-Calderon D., Rivera Terán V., Eguez Del Pozo M.F., Sanchez Prado E., Avellanal V., Brance M.L., Marin Zucaro N. (on Behalf of ESPALDA-PANLAR)

P25 Characterizing nociplastic pain in axial spondyloarthritis

Bittar M., Choi D., Engel A., Melz I., Gaydish C., Deodhar A., Lee Y.C. (USA)

P26 Altered brain connectivity is associated with pain and disease burden in axial spondyloarthritis

Bittar M., Smith D., Sridhar A., Kohno M., Deodhar A., Clauw D., Harris R. (USA)

P27 Sex differences in inflammatory markers in axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA)

Juditzki M., Andreica I., Lalazi B., Baraliakos X., Capellino S. (Germany)

P28 High specificity but modest sensitivity of the 2025 Assessment of SpondyloArthritis International Society (ASAS) and Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network (SPARTAN) revised axial spondyloarthritis classification criteria in early axial spondyloarthritis: Data from the SPondyloArthritis Caught Early (SPACE) cohort

de Bruin L.J.E., Ramiro S., van Lunteren M., Marques M.L., Bento da Silva A., Ayan G., de Hooge M., Berg I.J., Exarchou S., Ramonda R., Landewé R., van der Heijde D., van Gaalen F.A. (The Netherlands, Portugal, Turkey, Belgium, Norway, Sweden & Italy)

P29 Incidence, predictors and burden of difficult-to-manage axial spondyloarthritis: A 10-year analysis of the DESIR cohort

Fakih O., Moltó A., Verhoeven F., Prati C., Wendling D. (France)

P30 Sex differences in axial spondyloarthritis are not attenuated by HLA-B27 positivity: A 10-year analysis of the DESIR cohort

Fakih O., Harrison S.R., Moltó A., Prati C., Ramiro S., Gossec L., Marzo-Ortega H. (UK, France & The Netherlands)

P32 Comparative performance of ASAS-SPARTAN-2025 and ASAS-2009 classification criteria in axial spondyloarthritis: Insights from the Reuma-Check cohort

Garcia Salinas R., Mejia-Maggi N., Reyes-Jara G., Solis-Mayor J., Bardini C., Apter D., Ruta A.O., Magri S.J. (Argentina)

P34 Prevalence and one-year incidence of musculoskeletal and extra-musculoskeletal manifestations in axial spondyloarthritis: Results from the Latin American ESPALDA registry

Garcia Salinas R., Casasola J.C., Sommerfleck F., Guaracha Basañez G.A., Londono J., Gamboa-Cardenas R.V., Fernandez-Avila D.G., Vila D., Mestanza Peralta M., Then J., Dufau E., Bermudez Bermejo P.E., Macias Oviedo L., Duran Barragan S., Valdez Donelli F., Barcia Cansino A., Medina G., Casallas L., Castillo Ortiz A., Chinchay L., Caballero L., Benegas M., Medina Bornachera D., Vega C., Melgarejo P., Gomez A.B., Ferreyra Garrot L.G., Candia Zuniga D.L., Gil-Calderon D., Rivera Teran V., Eguez Del Pozo M.F., Sanchez Prado E., Avellanal V., Brance M.L., Marin Zucaro N., Bautista-Molano W. (on behalf of ESPALDA-PANLAR)

P35 An interdisciplinary model to improve access to rheumatology care and promote early identification for axial spondyloarthritis: Preliminary results of the FASTRAX study

Passalent L., Gendron E., Chim T., Chow N., MacLeod A., Correale M., Sabido Sauri R., Fidler W., Pirson C., Pus L., Rampersaud R., Aydin S., Haroon N., Inman R.D. (Canada & Belgium)

P36 The 5-year follow-up of the Dutch pre-SpA cohort

Groothuizen S., Ez-Zaitouni Z., De Jong H.M.Y., Van der Horst-Bruinsma I.E., Weel A.E.A.M., Van Gaalen F.A., Van Tubergen A.M., Landewé R., Van de Sande M.G.H. (The Netherlands)

P37 Sex-specific associations between pro-inflammatory biomarkers and pain-related outcomes in axial spondyloarthritis

He Z., Littmann N.S., Arends S., Paap D., van der Kraan Y.M., Wink F., Verstappen G., Spoorenberg A. (The Netherlands)

P38 Peripheral blood transcriptomic programs distinguish radiographic progression trajectories in axial spondyloarthritis independent of disease activity and treatment

Hwang M.C., Wang X., Brown M.A., Weisman M.H., Ishimori M.L., Gensler L.S., Ward M.M., Reveille J.D., Assassi S. (USA & UK)

- P39 Beyond dyslipidemia: Apolipoproteins as markers of disease activity in psoriatic arthritis**
Ishchenko A., Van Mechelen M., Neerinckx B., Verschueren P., Lories R., de Vlam K. (Belgium)
- P40 Clonal T cells in juvenile and adult spondyloarthritis**
Lotfi-Emran S., Kumar D., Paul S., Schaughency P., Lack J., Islam S., Dell'Orso S., Gensler L.S., Navid F., Colbert R.A. (USA)
- P42 Performance of the 2025 ASAS-SPARTAN revised classification criteria for axial spondyloarthritis in a multicenter inception cohort with psoriasis, uveitis, or colitis presenting with undiagnosed back pain**
Wichuk S., Horbal N., Carmona R., Weber U., Aydin S.Z., Yeung J., Reis J., Masetto A., Rohekar S., Mosher D., Zouzina O., Martin L., Keeling S.O., Paschke J., Dadashova R., Carapellucci A., Lambert R.G.W., Chan J., Maksymowych W.P. (Canada, Ukraine & Switzerland)
- P43 Anti-14-3-3eta autoantibodies support differential diagnosis of axial spondyloarthritis from mechanical and non-axSpA back pain**
Marotta A., Sengupta R., Maksymowych W.P., Peng J., Cavill C., Gui Y., Bleakley S., Wichuk S., Biln N. (Canada & UK)
- P44 Beyond disease activity: Clinical and contextual determinants of difficult-to-manage axial spondyloarthritis**
Masnata R., De Lorenzis E., Massaro A., Boni V., Natalello G., Peluso G., Calabrese G., Cristiano F., D'Agostino M.A., Ortolan A. (Italy)
- P45 High versus normal CRP spondyloarthritis: Studying demographics, disease activity, functioning, quality of life, and score discordance impact on treatment decisions**
Shah U., Meghnathi B., Pandya S., Sumra A., Shah S. (India)
- P46 Presence and impact of fibromyalgia on disease activity, functioning, and quality of life in spondyloarthritis patients along with validation of Fibromyalgia Rapid Screening Tool (FiRST) against ACR fibromyalgia diagnostic criteria of 2016**
Shah U., Meghnathi B., Pandya S., Sumra A., Shah S. (India)
- P48 Impact of diagnostic delay on long-term radiographic structural outcomes in TNF inhibitor-treated radiographic axial spondyloarthritis**
Nam B., Kim Y., Lee S., Shin J.H., Kim T., Kim T.H. (Republic of Korea)

- P49 Single cell sequencing analysis of tumor necrosis factor inhibitor drug response suggests enrichment of pro-inflammatory pathway in non-responders and amino acid metabolic pathways in responders**
Talukdar A., Nguyen P., Ibeke N., Machhar R., Aparnathi M., Keshavarazi S., Srinath A., Nakamura A., Inman R., Jurisica I., Rahman P., Haroon N. (Canada)
- P50 Difficult-to-manage psoriatic arthritis: Prevalence, phenotype, and clinical burden in real-world practice: Insights from the SCQM registry**
Elsehrawy G.G., Courvoisier D.S., Brühlhart-Bletsas L., Dan D., Lazarou I., Micheroli R., Ciurea A., Scholz G.A., Möller B., Nissen M.J. (Switzerland & Egypt)
- P51 Agreement between ASAS and revised ASAS-SPARTAN classification criteria in axial spondyloarthritis**
Patela M., Rua C., Silva C., Fernandes M.A., Vieira R., Meirinhos T., Pinto A.S. (Portugal)
- P52 Real-world performance of the revised ASAS-SPARTAN criteria in patients with back pain evaluated in a rheumatology unit**
Patela M., Rua C., Silva C., Fernandes M.A., Vieira R., Meirinhos T., Pinto A.S. (Portugal)
- P53 Difficult-to-manage axial spondyloarthritis: A tertiary centre experience**
Rua C., Silva C., Patela M., Fernandes M., Meirinhos T., Vieira R., Pinto A.S. (Portugal)
- P54 Who gets left behind? Patients classified by ASAS 2009 but excluded by ASAS-SPARTAN 2025 in a real-world spa cohort**
Resende G.G., Saad C.G.S., Marques C., Marinho A., Soares A.M., Paiva B.E., Rodrigues D., Souza E.C.R., Castro G., Bulbol G., Carneiro J., Fernandes J.M., Orchtrop M., Gavi M.B., Yazbek M., Cavalcanti N., Machado N., Malheiro O., Bassara-Macedo R., Vieira R., Lage R., Menin R.C., Golebiovski R., Ribeiro S., Oliveira T., Diniz V., Carvalho T.R.A.F., Pinheiro M.M., Sampaio-Barros P. (Brazil)
- P55 Cardiovascular risk factors burden and disease activity in patients with axial spondyloarthritis**
Silva C., Rua C., Patela M., Fernandes M.A., Vieira R., Meirinhos T., Pinto A.S. (Portugal)

- P56 Association between air pollution and the risk of flares in axial spondyloarthritis - A case cross-over environmental study**
Pujol S., Bernard N., Vauchy C., Martin B., Fossi Djembi L., Prati C., Mauny F., Toussiot E. (France)
- P57 Do coping strategies impact health outcome domains over time in patients with longstanding axSpA?**
Van Essen M.D., Webers C.J.P., Capelusnik D., Van der Heijde D., Landewé R.B.M., Van Tubergen A., Boonen A., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands)
- P58 Group-level stability in coping use masks individual changes in axial spondyloarthritis: A longitudinal analysis**
Van Essen M.D., Ramiro S., Landewé R.B.M., Van Tubergen A., Boonen A. (The Netherlands)
- P59 Axial spondyloarthritis across Arab countries: A multinational characterisation of over 1,000 patients from 15 nations**
Ziadé N., Abou Abdallah F., Tekaya R., Alchama N., Maroof A., Haouichat C., Ayoub L., Allat R., Rahmouni S., Saad S., Al Khater N.R., Aljazwi L.M., Bahiri R., Djennane M., Khalifa D., Zemrani S., Alnaimat F., Hannawi S., Hamdi W., Taha Z.I., Mahmoud I., Abdellaoui S., Abdulateef N., Redha A.A., Al Rayes H., Aouad K., Atawneh S., Dahou Makhoulfi C., Gamal S.M., Gorial F.I., Awadh N.I., Ismailoustafa N.M., Ben Abdelghani K., Boussaa H., Heddi F.Z.Y., Dougados M., Hmamouchi I. (Lebanon, Tunisia, Syria, Iraq, Algeria, Libya, Bahrain, Morocco, Jordan, UAE, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Egypt & France)

Genetics and epigenetics of SpA

- P60 From genetic risk to therapeutic target: The myeloid CARD9 regulatory axis in axial spondyloarthritis**
Frison E., Gervaise P., Brown A.C., Cohen C., Jacoutot M., Migliorini G., Said-Nahal R., Scozzafava G., Bowness P., Wordsworth B.P., Garchon H.J., Glatigny S., Breban M., Knight J.C., Costantino F. (France & UK)
- P61 Plasma exosomes induce regulatory T cell dysfunction in ankylosing spondylitis**
Tavasolian F., Lively S., Pastrello C., Tang M., Lim M., Pacheco A., Qaiyum Z., Yau E., Baskurt Z., Jurisica I., Kapoor M., Inman R.D. (Canada & Slovakia)

- P62 Exploratory cohort study of associations between JAK-STAT pathway polymorphisms and anxiety/depression in patients with ankylosing spondylitis**
Michelsen B., Roberts R., Stamp L., Harrison A., White D., Dalbeth N., Ching D., Stebbings S. (New Zealand & Norway)

Imaging in SpA

- P63 Association between persistent inflammation and lumbar syndesmophytes in biologic-treated axial spondyloarthritis**
Coskun Sagirkaya S., Akyazi Sener E., Armagan B. (Turkey)
- P64 Low-dose CT, MRI or radiographs: Which imaging modality best captures spinal structural progression in axial spondyloarthritis**
Ayan G., de Hooge M., de Bruin L., Bento da Silva A., van Lunteren M., Marques M.L., Reijnierse M., Landewé R., Berg I.J., Ramonda R., Exarchou S., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Turkey, Belgium, Portugal, Norway, Italy & Sweden)
- P65 Evaluation of sacroiliac radiographic progression in patients with spondyloarthritis undergoing biological therapy using mNY criteria and physician decision**
Kalyoncu U., Ayan G., Kiliç L. (Turkey)
- P66 A combined score of syndesmophytes and facet joint ankylosis improves sensitivity to spinal structural damage progression in axial spondyloarthritis**
Bento da Silva A., van Gaalen F., Landewé R., de Hooge M., Marques M.L., van Lunteren M., de Bruin L., Ayan G., Baraliakos X., Reijnierse M., Braun J., van der Heijde D., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Turkey & Germany)
- P67 A combined score of facet joint ankylosis and syndesmophyte development correlates well with spinal mobility in axial spondyloarthritis**
Bento da Silva A., van Gaalen F., Landewé R., de Hooge M., Marques M.L., van Lunteren M., de Bruin L., Ayan G., Baraliakos X., Reijnierse M., Braun J., van der Heijde D., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal, Turkey & Germany)

- P68 Structural damage of the spine has a modest effect on spinal mobility over 2 years in axial spondyloarthritis**
Bento da Silva A., Webers C., de Hooge M., Ayan G., Marques M.L., de Bruin L., van Lunteren M., Landewé R., Reijnierse M., Baraliakos X., Braun J., van der Heijde D., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Belgium, Turkey, Portugal & Germany)
- P69 Structural lesions of the sacroiliac joints in early axSpA versus non-axSpA chronic back pain: 2-year results from the SPACE cohort**
Cinakli H., de Bruin L., Ayan G., Bento da Silva A., de Hooge M., van Lunteren M., Reijnierse M., van de Sande M., Berg I.J., Ramonda R., Exarchou S., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Turkey, Belgium, Norway, Italy & Sweden)
- P70 Risk factors for progression of sacroiliac joint structural lesions on MRI in early axial spondyloarthritis: 2-year results from the SPACE cohort**
Cinakli H., de Bruin L., Ayan G., Bento da Silva A., de Hooge M., van Lunteren M., Reijnierse M., van de Sande M., Berg I.J., Ramonda R., Exarchou S., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Turkey, Belgium, Norway, Italy & Sweden)
- P72 Which factors are associated with CT syndesmophyte score progression over 2 years in patients with axial spondyloarthritis from the SPACE cohort?**
de Hooge M., Ayan G., Marques M.L., van Lunteren M., de Bruin L., Reijnierse M., Ramiro S., van Gaalen F. (The Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal & Turkey)
- P73 Complementary detection of syndesmophytes by sagittal and coronal low-dose CT in axial spondyloarthritis: SPACE cohort analysis**
de Hooge M., Ayan G., Marques M.L., van Lunteren M., de Bruin L.J.E., Reijnierse M., Ramiro S., van Gaalen F. (The Netherlands, Belgium, Portugal & Turkey)
- P74 Posterior element lesions in axial spondyloarthritis: 10-year follow-up from the DESIR cohort**
de Hooge M., van Lunteren M., Molto A., Reijnierse M., Lopez-Medina C., Saraux A., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Belgium, France & Spain)

- P75 Enhanced detection of bone formation on synthetic CT versus conventional MRI in axial spondyloarthritis: Data from the Go-GUT study**
de Hooge M., Lukasik Z., Pardaens L., Varkas G., De Craemer A.S., Jans L., Carron P., Elewaut D., Van den Bosch F. (Belgium)
- P76 Radiographic progression in sacroiliac joints in five years follow up in non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis patients and the predictive factors**
Erpek E., Kocaayan H., Ediboğlu E., Tosun Ö., Solmaz D., Akar S. (Turkey)
- P77 Prevalence and clinical associations of sacroiliac joint MRI lesions in patients referred for suspected axial spondylo-arthritis: Real-world data from the FASTRAX cohort**
Aydin S., Sabido Sauri R., Gendron E., Chim T., Chow N., MacLeod A., Correale M., Fidler W., Pirson C., Pus L., Rampersaud R., Haroon N., Inman R.D., Passalent L. (Canada)
- P78 Costotransverse joint involvement on Na[F]F PET/CT in first-degree relatives of HLA-B27 positive axial spondyloarthritis patients**
Groothuizen S., Van der Heijden W.R.P., Doorschodt T.C., Knol R.J.J., Zwezerijnen G.J.C., Van der Laken C.J., Van de Sande M.G.H. (The Netherlands)
- P79 Head-to-head comparison of the Ratingen score and Sharp-van der Heijde method for radiographic assessment in psoriatic arthritis**
Kulyk M., Scryfallano S., Steinfeld S., Nzeusseu Toukap A., Van den Bosch F., Joos R., Geusens P., Lories R., De Vlam K., and BEPAS Study Investigators (Belgium & Italy)
- P80 Whole-spine MRI predicts 5-year radiographic progression in axial spondyloarthritis**
Oh S.H., Lee B.W., Jung J.Y., Park H.W., Yang J.W., Kim J.G., Kwok S.K., Ju J.H., Park S.H., Kim W.U., Lee J.J. (Republic of Korea)
- P81 What MRI cut-offs define a positive MRI for inflammation in the sacroiliac joints when an MRI is globally considered indicative of axSpA? An analysis from the Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network Classification in axSpA Inception Cohort**
Horbal N., Caplan L., Aydin S., Bernard S., Burgos-Vargas R., Carrino J.A., Chan J., Danve A., Haroon N., Magrey M., Mease P.J., O'Neill J., Reveille J.D., Tuite M., Wang R., Wichuk S., Deodhar A., Lambert R.G.W., Maksymowych W.P. (Ukraine, Canada, USA & Mexico)

- P82 Performance of structural lesion MRI cut-offs for an MRI indicative of axial spondyloarthritis in the Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network Classification of AxSpA Inception Cohort Study**
Maksymowych W.P., Caplan L., Aydin S., Bernard S., Burgos-Vargas R., Carrino J.A., Chan J., Danve A., Gensler L.S., Haroon N., Horbal N., Magrey M., Mease P.J., O'Neill J., Reveille J.D., Tuite M., Wang R., Wichuk S., Deodhar A., Lambert R.G.W. (Canada, USA, Mexico & Ukraine)
- P83 Discordance between symptom burden and inflammatory activity in axial spondyloarthritis: Contributions of fibromyalgia and MRI-defined inflammation**
Maroof A., Kader S.H. (Iraq)
- P84 Assessment of enthesitis in psoriatic arthritis using clinical examination, ultrasound and shear wave elastography**
Montvydaite M., Butrimiene I., Silale G. (Lithuania)
- P85 Development and validation of a new ultrasound score (SONAR-7) for synovitis in axial spondyloarthritis and psoriatic arthritis**
Elsehrawy G.G., Courvoisier D.S., Deman E., Dan D., Micheroli R., Ziswiler H., Zufferey P., Brulhart L., Nissen M.J. (Switzerland, Egypt & Switzerland)
- P86 Missed imaging opportunities in axial spondyloarthritis: A potential contributor to diagnostic delay**
Placido F., Martini F., Vitale A., Lacarpia A., Martini N., Caggiano V., Sbalchiero J., Di Meglio N., Frediani B., Mazzei M.A., Cantarini L. (Italy)
- P87 2026 Update of the ASAS MRI definitions of sacroiliac joint and spinal involvement for classification of axial spondyloarthritis – A systematic literature review**
Protopopov M., Meghnathi B., Sepriano A., Diekhoff T., Eshed I., Machado P.M., Poddubnyy D., Baraliakos X., Ramiro S. (Germany, India, Portugal, Israel, UK, Canada & The Netherlands)
- P88 Predictors of prevalent and incident radiographic vertebral fractures in axial spondyloarthritis**
Richter G., Maas F., Wink F., Bos R., Spoorenberg A., Arends S. (The Netherlands)

Imaging in SpA (continued)

- P89 MRI-assessed structural damage progression in sacroiliac joints of European routine care patients with axial spondyloarthritis receiving biological or conventional therapy**
Steimer A., Brändli J., Micheroli R., Hadsbjerg A.E.F., Krabbe S., Vladimirova N., Eshed I., Diekhoff T., Lambert R.G.W., Pedersen S.J., de Hooe M., Bubová K., Gregová M., Nissen M.J., Möller B., Rodrigues C.L., Závada J., Snoj Z., Pintaric K., Gudbjörnsson B., Rotar Z., Sudol-Szopinska I., Gosvig K., Møller J.M., Wetterslev M., Wichuk S., Hetland M.L., Ørnbjerg L.M., Østergaard M., Ciurea A. (Switzerland, Denmark, Israel, Germany, Canada, Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Iceland & Poland)
- P90 Nailfold capillaroscopy reveals a distinct microvascular signature in psoriatic arthritis compared to psoriasis: A case-control study**
Teixeira P.M., Vilafanha C., Loureiro M., Eugénio G., Barcelos A. (Portugal)
- P91 Difference in inflammatory lesions on MRI of the sacroiliac joints at baseline and after 2 years between patients with early axSpA and non-axSpA chronic back pain**
Tekeoglu S., Ayan G., de Hooe M., de Bruin L., van Lunteren M., Bento da Silva A., Reijnierse M., Landewé R., Berg I.J., Turesson C., Ramonda R., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Turkey, Belgium, Norway, Sweden & Italy)
- P92 Difference in inflammatory lesions on MRI of the spine at baseline and after 2 years between patients with early axSpA and non-axSpA chronic back pain**
Tekeoglu S., Ayan G., de Hooe M., de Bruin L., van Lunteren M., Bento da Silva A., Reijnierse M., Landewé R., Berg I.J., Turesson C., Ramonda R., van Gaalen F., Ramiro S. (The Netherlands, Turkey, Belgium, Norway, Sweden & Italy)
- P93 Sacroiliac joint anatomy as a diagnostic mimic: Buttock pain associations without higher quantitative MRI lesion burden in axSpA**
Aksoy Ö.T., Aysin İ.K., Kocaayan H., Yoğurtçu Ö., Tosun Ö., Solmaz D., Akar S. (Turkey)

- P94 Performance of MRI-based synthetic CT in detecting spinal new bone formation: A comprehensive comparison with T1-weighted MRI, low-dose CT, and radiography**
Willesen S.T., Møller J.M., Gosvig K., Pedersen S.J., Hadsbjerg A.E.F., Georgiadis S., Østergaard M. (Denmark)
- P95 One-year changes of spinal new bone formation in axial spondyloarthritis assessed by low-dose CT and MRI-based synthetic CT**
Willesen S.T., Møller J.M., Gosvig K., Pedersen S.J., Georgiadis S., Østergaard M. (Denmark)
- P96 Identifying Subclinical Bowel inflammation in Spondyloarthritis (SUBOWSPA): An MRI feasibility study**
Weddell J., Hoad C., Tolan D., Bray T., Hensor E.M.A., Selinger C., McGonagle D., Marzo-Ortega H. (UK)
- P97 Non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis in the Arab world: Prevalence, classification discordance, and phenotype heterogeneity: Insights from the PROSPA study**
Zemrani S., Amine B., Hmamouchi I., Ben Abdelghani K., Tekaya R., Boussaa H., Hamdi W., Mahmoud I., Al Khater N.R., Alnaimat F., Ziade N., Bahiri R. (Morocco, Tunisia, Bahrain, Jordan & Lebanon)

Innate and adaptive immunity in SpA

- P98 A multiomic single-cell atlas of HLA-B27-associated spondyloarthritis**
Jin L., Simone D., Penkava F., Hernandez M.C., Baird T., Attar M., Rademacher J., Teh J., Sharma S., McGonagle D., Poddubnyy D., Bowness P., Sansom S. (UK, Germany & Canada)
- P99 A T cell-driven CCL20 macrophage circuit drives TNF pathology and Th17 cell recruitment in axial spondyloarthritis synovium**
Zhao J., Liu F., Li J., Shi H., Worth C., Jiang L., Simone D., Penkava F., Fanf H., Chan A., Duan L., Bowness P., Chen L. (UK & China)
- P100 A universal TCR library enables systematic antigen deorphanization in HLA-B27-restricted axial spondyloarthritis**
Reitars M.H., Soundararajan J., Larsen I., Singh N., Holec P. (USA)

- P101 Single-cell transcriptomics and histological profiling reveal GPR65 upregulation in pathogenic Th17 cells and inflamed spinal tissues of radiographic axial spondyloarthritis**
Kim T.J., Lee Y.J., Kim M.J., Yu S.M., Jo S., Lee J.S., Lee E.Y., Kim T.H. (Republic of Korea & USA)
- P102 Microenvironmental hypoxia and HIF-1 α activity shape compartment-specific CD8 T-cell adaptation in psoriatic disease**
Mauro D., Raimondo M.G., Ciancio A., Forte G., Mohammadian H., Gandolfo S., Ilardi G., Giacca R., Raimondi M., Salzillo A., Ali K., Martinelli E., Cincinelli G., Parafloriti A., Caporali R.F., Ramming A., Ciccio F. (Italy & Germany)
- P103 Disease-specific regulation of the immune checkpoint VISTA in Inflammatory Rheumatic Musculoskeletal Disorders (I-RMDs)**
Roman I., Ney L., Lalazi B., Tsiami S., Kiltz U., Baraliakos X., Schütz C. (Germany)
- P104 Trained-like immune signatures in $\gamma\delta$ T cells and NK cells from patients with spondyloarthritis**
Romero-García H.A., Sánchez-Pérez S., Romero-López N., Ortega-Mejía I.I., Prieto-Chávez J.L., Casasola-Vargas J.C., Domínguez-López M.L., Burgos-Vargas R., Romero-López J.P. (Mexico)
- P105 Human endogenous retrovirus-derived peptides from an HLA-B27 region variant (rs13202464) are presented by HLA-B27: A candidate mechanism in ankylosing spondylitis**
Marston J.L., Romero-López J.P., Casado-Lima B., Bowness P., De Mulder-Rougvié M., Reyes-Gopar H., Nixon D.F. (USA, Mexico & UK)
- P106 Exhaustion escape in axial spondyloarthritis: A transcriptionally distinct checkpoint-expressing CTL subset retains cytotoxic effector potential**
Tang M., Qiayum Z., Lim M., Inman R.D. (Canada)

- P107 Targeting NAD⁺ metabolism in spondyloarthritis: Impact of anti-TNF therapy and NAD⁺ supplementation**
Vellón-García B., García-Delgado G.M., López-Medina C., Llamas-Urbano A., Romero Zurita L., Hanaee Y., Ortiz-Buitrago P., Merlo-Ruiz C., Abalos-Aguilera M.C., Martínez-Moreno J.M., Puche-Larrubia M.A., Arias-de la Rosa I., López Montilla M.D., Ortega-Castro R., Calvo-Gutiérrez J., Ladehesa-Pineda M.L., López-Pedraza C., Escudero-Contreras A., Villalba J.M., Barbarroja N., Collantes-Estevez E., Pérez-Sánchez C. (Spain)
- P108 Dynamic orchestration of Th17, TRM, and MAIT cells links the gut–joint axis during spondyloarthritis development in the SKG model**
Verhoeven F., Guet L., Favier B., Romand X., Demougeot C., Wendling D., Prati C., Baillet A., Hannani D. (France)

Microbes, the gut and SpA

- P109 Proinflammatory strains of *Mediterraneibacter gnavus* are enriched during spondyloarthritis and bolster disease severity in animal model**
Jacoutot M., Dias Munhoz D., Beaufrère M., Boukamel A., Gautreau G., Bergot A.S., Said-Nahal R., Robert V., Karpman P., Frison E., Ouahbi D., Lamarque D., Bazin T., Manuella T., Dumas E., Maraquin P., Chatel J.M., Langella P., Elewaut D., Thomas R., Breban M., Glatigny S. (France, Belgium, Brazil & Australia)
- P110 Characterization of the articular microbiome in experimental spondyloarthritis**
González-Chávez S.A., Prieto-Carrasco R., Muñoz-Muñoz V., Pacheco-Silva C., Varela-Rodríguez H., Pacheco-Tena C. (Mexico)
- P111 Donor versus placebo faecal microbiota transplantation for axial spondyloarthritis: Protocol for a double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomised trial**
Raanes S.S., Johnsen P.H., Goll R., Østgård R.D., Hansson P., Elvenes J., Hansen I.M., Njøs H., Heiberg M., Hagfors J., Bakland G. (Norway & Denmark)
- P112 Response-dependent gut microbiome trajectories during biologic therapy in radiographic axial spondyloarthritis: 2-year results from GESPIC**
Rios Rodriguez V., Essex M., Torgutalp M., Proft F., Haibel H., Protopopov M., Rademacher J., Siegmund B., Forslund S.K., Poddubnyy D. (Germany, The Netherlands & Canada)

- P113 Bacterial translocation in spondyloarthritis: Evaluation before and 3 months after initiation of BIOlogic DMARDs (TEARE Bio study)**
Verhoeven F., Miceli-Richard C., Ramon A., Vauchy C., Meyer F., Pais De Barros J.P., Saas P., Prati C., Desmarests M., Wendling D. (France)

Treatment of SpA

- P114 Treatment persistence of original versus biosimilar TNF-alpha inhibitors in spondyloarthritis: A Portuguese multicentre real-world study**
Almeida I., Saraiva L., Henriques C., Matos A., Almeida S., Cunha A., Rodrigues S., Tremoceiro J., Natal M., Bernardes M., Raimundo D., Martins C., Rodrigues M.M., Carones A., Reynolds L., Miguel C., Sushko U., Novais T., Matias C., Oliveira D., Fonseca R., Teixeira P.M., Samões B., Silva L., Rua C., Pacheco M.S., Nero P., Carneiro H., Silva-Dinis J., Dias J.M., Gonçalves H., Marona J., Tavares-Costa J., Araújo F., Manica S., Mateus M., Garcia J., Couto M. (Portugal)
- P115 Twenty years of real-world biologic treatment trajectories in spondyloarthritis: Drug survival, switching patterns, and remission outcomes from the HUR-BIO Registry**
Ayan G., Kiliç L., Kalyoncu U. (Turkey)
- P116 Four distinct targeted therapy response trajectories in axial spondyloarthritis: Evidence for earlier treatment initiation**
Burrows D., Ehrhardt M.J., Barnett R., Sengupta R. (UK)
- P117 Infliximab vs adalimumab for uveitis prevention in ankylosing spondylitis: A meta-analysis**
Chen S., Zhang Y., Gu J. (China)
- P118 Efficacy of upadacitinib in normalizing faecal calprotectin in patients with spondyloarthritis and psoriatic arthritis**
de la Torre-Rubio N., Merino-Argümanez C., García-Magallón B., Godoy-Tundidor H., Nuño-Nuño L., Martín-Bescos A., Coronado-González M., Calvo-Sparks C., Mazo P., Sanz-Sanz J. (Spain)

- P119 Impact of filgotinib on MRI inflammatory and structural lesions in the spine of patients with axial spondyloarthritis: 52-week results from the Phase 3 OLINGUITO trial**
Maksymowych W.P., Navarro-Compán V., Machado P.M., Gheyle L., Mangili A., Le Brun F.-O., Muller K., de Hooge M., Lambert R.G.W., Landewé R., Østergaard M., Baraliakos X. (Spain, UK, Belgium, Canada, The Netherlands, Denmark & Germany)
- P120 Impact of filgotinib on MRI inflammatory and structural lesions in the sacroiliac joint of patients with axial spondyloarthritis: 52-week results from the Phase 3 OLINGUITO trial**
Baraliakos X., Navarro-Compán V., Machado P.M., Gheyle L., Mangili A., Le Brun F.-O., Muller K., de Hooge M., Lambert R.G.W., Landewé R., Østergaard M., Maksymowych W.P. (Germany, Spain, UK, Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, The Netherlands & Denmark)
- P121 Multidrug exposure may trigger iatrogenic treatment failure in spondyloarthritis: Insights from historic real-world data of the Leeds Specialist Spondyloarthritis Service**
Fakih O., Weddell J., Meridor K., Barr A., Freeston J.E., Vandevelde C., Marzo-Ortega H. (UK & France)
- P122 Difficult-to-manage axial spondyloarthritis: Clinical profile, associated factors and treatment trajectories from the ESPALDA registry**
Sommerfleck F., Garcia Salinas R., Casasola Vargas J.C., Guaracha Basanez G.A., Londono J., Gamboa R., Fernandez Avila D., Vila D., Mestanza Peralta M., Then Baez J., Dufau E., Bermudez Bermejo P., Macias Oviedo L., Duran Barragan S., Valdez F., Barcia Cansino M.A., Medina G., Casallas L., Castillo Ortiz A.A., Chinchay L., Caballero L., Benegas M., Medina D., Vega C., Melgarejo P., Gomez A.B., Ferreyra Garrot L.G., Candia D.L., Gil Calderon D.R., Rivera V., Eguez Del Pozo M.F., Sanchez Prado E., Avellanal V., Marin Zucaro N., Brance L., Bautista-Molano W. (on behalf of ESPALDA-PANLAR)
- P123 Effectiveness of adalimumab and secukinumab with and without concomitant csDMARD use in patients with psoriatic arthritis - A retrospective cohort study**
Gerritsen S.M., Mahler E.A.M., Vriezekolk J.E., van Herwaarden N., den Broeder A.A., van der Horst-Bruinsma I.E., den Broeder N., Leijten E.F.A. (The Netherlands)

- P124 Clinical outcomes following withdrawal of upadacitinib in patients with axial spondyloarthritis who achieved remission: Findings from the phase 3, placebo-controlled, double-blind SELECT-AXIS 2 trial**
Deodhar A., Kishimoto M., Poddubnyy D., Maksymowych W.P., Lagunes-Galindo I., Kato K., Parikh B., Carter K., Philips C., Baraliakos X. (USA, Japan, Canada & Germany)
- P125 Impact of treatment with upadacitinib on non-nociceptive pain and its relevance for the presence of residual symptoms in axial spondyloarthritis: Results from a multicountry observational study**
Poddubnyy D., Navarro-Compán V., Basu N., Naffaa M.E., Gao T., Urbanik J.R., Saffore C.D., Parikh B.K., Taylor P.C., Mease P.J. (Canada, Germany, Spain, UK, Israel & USA)
- P126 Real world data comparing the safety and adverse event profiles of biologic therapies and targeted synthetic DMARDs in ankylosing spondylitis**
Heydari-Kamjani M., Murphy J., Krupinski L.D., Magrey M.N. (USA)
- P127 Distinct peripheral blood transcriptomic signatures associated with disease activity in axial spondyloarthritis**
Heydari-Kamjani M., Richardson B., Krupinski L.D., Tamilselvan B., Frumker L., Cameron M., Cameron C., Magrey M.N. (USA)
- P128 Can a multidisciplinary model improve the management of complex IBD-SpA Cases? Insights from Gastroenterology-Rheumatology-Pharmacy Multidisciplinary Meetings**
Juárez-García M., Navarro-Compán V., Suárez-Ferrer C., Amiama C., Bohórquez C., Tornero C., Martín-Arranz E., Peiteado D., Poza J., Rueda J.L., Sánchez Azofra M., Monjo I., González M.A., Castillo I., Noci J., Villalba A., Bonilla G., de Miguel E., Martín-Arranz M.D., Plasencia-Rodríguez C. (Spain)
- P129 Reasons for treatment discontinuation and adverse event patterns in a two-decade spondyloarthritis biologic registry**
Kart Bayram G.S., Ayan G., Firlatan Yazgan B., Bulat B., Kustas A.A., Donmez D., Bulut S., Akdoğan A., Karadag O., Apras Bilgen S., Ertenli A.I., Kiraz S., Kilic L., Kalyoncu U. (Turkey)

- P130 Digital behavioral therapy improves outcome in patients with axial spondyloarthritis and persistent pain: Results from a randomized controlled trial**
Kiefer D., Sonkaya Y., Krause D., Voglau M., Mintrop B., Redeker I., Baraliakos X., Kiltz U. (Germany)
- P132 Predictors of a positive response to NSAIDs and physical exercise in patients with axial spondyloarthritis in Sub-Saharan Africa**
Lebughe P.L., Mavinga A.N., Ndaie G.M., Mbuyi J., Mulumba C.B., Mbuyi-Muamba J.M. (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- P133 Predictors of treatment response to IL-17 inhibitors in patients with axial spondyloarthritis: A multicenter real-world longitudinal study**
Oh S., Yang J., Park H.W., Lee B.W., Park Y., Kwok S.K., Ju J.H., Kim W.U., Park S.H., Lee J.J. (Republic of Korea)
- P134 Who benefits most from intensive treatment in early psoriatic arthritis? Insights from an IPD meta-analysis and causal machine learning**
Lema Martinez J.M., Jiang Y., Kang J.H., De Marco G., den Broeder A.A., van Herwaarden N., Koc G.H., Vis M., Kok M.R., Luime J.J., Marzo-Ortega H., Mulder M.L.M., Tchetverikov I., Massa S., Coates L.C. (UK & The Netherlands)
- P135 Durability of inhibition of structural damage progression and improvements in joint disease activity with guselkumab in active and erosive psoriatic arthritis: Week 48 results from APEX**
Ritchlin C.T., Mease P.J., Coates L.C., Kollmeier A.P., Zhou B., Jiang Y., Bensley K., Im K., Batra R., Lozenski K., Fakharzadeh S., Chakravarty S.D., Rahman P., van der Heijde D. (USA, UK, Canada & The Netherlands)
- P136 Integrated proteomics and machine learning reveal predictors of TNFi response in psoriatic arthritis**
Martin-Salazar J.E., Arias-de la Rosa I., López-Montilla M.D., Ortiz-Buitrago P., Puche-Larrubia M.A., Ruiz-Ponce M., Pérez-Sánchez C., Barranco A.M., Ábalos-Aguilera M.C., Romero-Zurita L., Moreno-Caño E., Escudero-Contreras A., Collantes-Estévez E., López-Medina C., Barbarroja N. (Spain)

- P137 Bimekizumab treatment in routine clinical care for axial spondyloarthritis: Interim observational evidence of patient-reported outcome improvements from the European, multicentre SPEAK study**
Baraliakos X., Kiltz U., de Vlam K., Ruyssen-Witrand A., Ramírez-García J., Walsh J.A., Poddubnyy D., Nicholls D., Oortgiesen M., Castagna F., Bonny M.A., Korjagina M., Bajracharya R., Öhagen P., de la Loge C., Ganz F., Tillett W. (Germany, Belgium, France, Spain, USA, Canada, Australia, Italy, Belgium, The Netherlands, UK, Sweden & Switzerland)
- P138 Bimekizumab demonstrated remission and low disease activity to three years in patients with axial spondyloarthritis: Exploring different definitions of remission and low disease activity using results from two phase 3 studies**
Ramiro S., Gossec L., Nikiphorou E., Proft F., Dubreuil M., Elmoufti S., de la Loge C., Ganz F., de Peyrecave N., Marten A., Boonen A. (The Netherlands, France, UK, Germany, USA & Belgium)
- P139 Impact of bimekizumab on MRI inflammatory and structural lesions in the sacroiliac joints of patients with non-radiographic axial spondyloarthritis: 2-year results from a phase 3 study and its open-label extension**
Maksymowych W.P., Ramiro S., Poddubnyy D., Gensler L.S., Lambert R.G.W., Prajapati C., Marten A., Østergaard M., Baraliakos X. (Canada, The Netherlands, Germany, USA, UK & Denmark)
- P140 Bimekizumab demonstrated sustained improvements in pain and fatigue following early control of inflammation in patients with axial spondyloarthritis over 3 years: Results from 2 phase 3 studies and their open-label extension**
Navarro-Compán V., Ramiro S., Kiltz U., Dubreuil M., Poddubnyy D., Magrey M., Deodhar A., Elmoufti S., de la Loge C., Baraliakos X. (Spain, The Netherlands, Germany, USA, Canada & Belgium)
- P141 Secukinumab and ixekizumab in spondyloarthritis: Real-world retention data at 24 months**
Moreno Morales J., Gonzalez Ponce C.M. (Spain)

- P142 Baseline clinical profile of patients with psoriatic arthritis with axial involvement treated with secukinumab in real clinical practice in Spain**
Moreno Martínez M.J., León Torralba P., Arévalo Ruales K., Aguilar M., Eyre-Olmos C., Moreno M., Almodóvar R., Fernández Prada M., de la Morena I., Castillo Dayer P.V., Castillo A.C., de la Torre N., Marín J., Villaverde V., Senabre Gallego J.M., González Ferrández J.A., Candelas G., Urruticoechea Arana A., Martínez-Prada C., Montolio Chiva L., Macia-Villa C., Moreno Ramos M.J. (Spain)
- P143 Guselkumab response and inhibition of structural damage progression in active psoriatic arthritis across APEX participant subgroups**
Mease P.J., Ritchlin C.T., Coates L.C., Kollmeier A.P., Zhou B., Jiang Y., Bensley K., Im K., Batra R., Lozenski K., Chakravarty S.D., Rahman P., van der Heijde D. (USA, UK, Canada & The Netherlands)
- P144 Effect of guselkumab and golimumab combination therapy on magnetic resonance imaging-detected inflammation and damage in phalangeal joints of the hands and feet and entheses of the heels among participants with active psoriatic arthritis: Findings from the phase 2a AFFINITY study**
Wellen J., Li M., Wang T., Cheng E., Zhou B., Reynoso E., Seridi L., Lozenski K., Scher J.U., Ritchlin C.T., Bird P., Østergaard M. (USA, Australia & Denmark)
- P145 Effects of non-pharmacological short-term group intervention in patients with spondyloarthritis and residual pain: A comparative analysis of rehabilitation and psychotherapy**
Patti G.D., Liberatore D'Agostino A., Di Vittori L., Spagnolo G., Iodice D., Sarri S., Cristiano F., Magnanini C.T., Masnata R., Boni V., Natalello G., Ortolan A., D'Agostino M.A., De Lorenzis E. (Italy)
- P146 Targeted therapies and the rates of achievement of targets in different disease activity indices, as well as potential obstacles, in patients with psoriatic arthritis (PSA)**
Demir E., Pehlivan Y. (Turkey)

- P147 Icotrokinra, a targeted oral peptide, in participants with moderate-to-severe plaque psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis: Results from a pooled analysis of the phase 3 ICONIC-LEAD, ICONIC-ADVANCE 1, and ICONIC-ADVANCE 2 trials**
McInnes I.B., Gold L.S., Bissonnette R., Lebwohl M.G., Reyes-Servin O., Cafone J., Yang Y.W., Chakravarty S.D., Iaconangelo C., Li S., Shagroni T., Lozenski K., Armstrong A.W., Merola J.F. (UK & USA)
- P148 Real-world effectiveness of bimekizumab in clinical practice: 12-month results from a longitudinal cohort study**
Rodríguez-Muguruza S., Castro S., Del Castillo N., Veloza C., Just M., López Broseta P., Fontova R. (Spain)
- P149 Biological DMARDs improve function by suppressing inflammation in patients with axial spondyloarthritis: A causal mediation analysis in the METEOR registry**
Sepriano A., Ramiro S., van der Heijde D., Moltó A., van Gaalen F., Bergstra S.A., Landewé R. (Portugal, The Netherlands & France)
- P150 Potential difficult-to-manage phenotype among axial spondyloarthritis patients non-eligible for Janus kinase inhibitors**
Silva C., Rua C., Patela M., Fernandes M.A., Vieira R., Meirinhos T., Pinto A.S. (Portugal)
- P151 The impact of Mediterranean diet and nutritional factors on disease activity in axial spondyloarthritis: A literature review**
Radic M., Simac Prizmic P., Radic J., Matijas M., Vodanovic A., Perkovic D. (Croatia)
- P152 Comparative real-world effectiveness, drug survival, and patient-reported outcomes of subcutaneous infliximab strategies in axial spondyloarthritis: A prospective cohort study**
Skouvaklidou E., Deligeorgakis D., Mpitouli A., Tsafis K., Kougkas N. (Greece)
- P153 Patient-initiated follow-up supported by asynchronous telemedicine in spondyloarthritis: Subgroup analysis of a randomised controlled trial**
Smits M.L., Salmani H., Boonen A., Hermans K., Vonkeman H.E., van Tubergen A., Webers C. (The Netherlands & Belgium)

- P154 The ASAS core set for the assessment of axial spondyloarthritis in daily practice**
van Tubergen A., Smits M.L., Baraliakos X., Moltó A., Nikiphorou E., Navarro-Compán V. (The Netherlands, Germany, France, UK & Spain)
- P155 Revised ASAS-SPARTAN 2025 classification criteria and treatment outcomes in axial spondyloarthritis: Evidence from a large observational registry**
Steimer A., Brändli J., Aeberli D., Andor M., Bürki K., Kyburz D., Nissen M.J., Möller B., Adler S., Rodrigues C.L., Grosswiler S., Dan D., Brühlhart Bletsas L., Förger F., Distler O., Micheroli R., Ciurea A. (Switzerland)
- P156 Impact of sonelokimab, a novel IL-17A/F-inhibiting Nanobody, on clinical and imaging outcomes in axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA): Results of a Phase 2 study supported by F-NaF PET imaging and MRI**
Brikena L., Kiltz U., Sewerin P., Hautzel H., Ramming A., Akbar-Haase R., Millar V., Nadimpalli M., Thomas M., Pereira A., Cullen E., Reich K., Baraliakos X. (Germany & Switzerland)
- P157 Persistence, effectiveness, safety, and patient reported impact of guselkumab and IL-17 inhibitors in psoriatic arthritis: Full population results of the PsABIOnd global observational study over 12 months**
Gossec L., Sharaf M., Behrens F., Lubrano E., Kishimoto M., Baraliakos X., Silva R.Q., Rampakakis E., Köleséri L., Lozenski K., Soriano E.R., Rahman P., Siebert S. (France, UAE, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Hungary, USA, Argentina, Canada & UK)
- P158 Dual targeted therapy in treatment-refractory psoriatic arthritis: Effectiveness and safety in a case series**
Andrade S., Khmelinskii N., Ávila-Ribeiro P., Ochôa Matos C., Resende C., Lopes A.R., Fonseca J.E., Silva G., Antunes J., Vieira-Sousa E. (Portugal)
- P159 Multiple biologics switching as a marker of suspected difficult-to-manage axial spondyloarthritis: Insights from the Arab world PROSPA study**
Zemrani S., Rostom S., Hmamouchi I., Ben Abdelghani K., Tekaya R., Boussaa H., Hamdi W., Mahmoud I., Hannawi S., Asal A., Dougados M., Bahiri R. (Morocco, Tunisia, UAE, Iraq & France)

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- P160 The frequency of sarcopenia in patients with psoriatic arthritis: A cross-sectional study**
Aslan B., Erbasan F., Uçar I., Nokay M.T., Yildirim Ö.E., Güloğlu S.B., Aydemir M., Yazisiz V. (Turkey)
- P161 Transition from psoriasis to psoriatic arthritis: Pain perspective from the Turkish National Health Database (e-Nabız)**
Ayan G., Satis H., Ata N., Tascilar K., Armagan B., Babaoglu H., Ulgu M.M., Fidanci A.A., Birinci S., Kucuksahin O., Kalyoncu U. (Turkey & Germany)
- P162 Ochronotic arthropathy mimicking spondyloarthropathy: A case report of alkaptonuria**
Güner İ., Usta B., Kumru B.G., Bilici R. (Turkey)
- P163 Course of disease phenotypes and treatment outcomes in rheumatoid arthritis, axial spondyloarthritis, and psoriatic arthritis randomized-controlled trials: A systematic review and meta-regression analysis**
Calixto O.J., Kiltz U., Imke R., Lalazi B., Klümpers F.E., Sewerin P., Baraliakos X. (Germany)
- P164 Preliminary validation of an organoid-based model for the study of the gut-joint axis in spondyloarthritis**
Gavotti C., Natalello G., Gouze H., Meo M., Ortolan A., De Lorenzis E., Peluso G., Alivernini S., Lizzio M.M., Coppola G., Di Vincenzo F., Cherbuy C., Bazin T., Breban M., Soudy R., Langella P., Di Mario C., Petitto V., Gasbarrini A., Scaldaferrì F., D'Agostino M.A. (Italy & France)
- P165 Prevalence of osteoporosis screening and osteoporotic vertebral fractures in patients with spondyloarthritis and IBD**
Attari H., Génot J., Fauny M., Morizot C., Bauer E., Moret M., Yalo L., Peyrin-Biroulet L., Chary-Valckenaere I., Loeuille D. (France)
- P166 From assessment to action: Physician global assessment and treatment escalation in inflammatory arthritis**
Kart Bayram G.S., Ayan G., Kilic L., Kalyoncu U. (Turkey)

- P167 Effects of rehabilitation in axial spondyloarthritis: A meta-analysis of randomized trials**
Li X.M., Xie Y., Zeng R.S., Wu J.Y., Chen S.D., Gu J.R. (China)
- P168 Modelling the likely impact of patient-initiated follow-up for axial spondyloarthritis patients in NHS rheumatology services**
Vasilakis C., Khodaei S., Fichera E., Cavill C., Benawra J., Gandrup Horan J., Tuytschaever S., Bessa A., Sengupta R. (UK, Denmark & Belgium)
- P169 Switching to IL-23 inhibition after IL-17 or IL-12/23 failure in psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis: Real-world evidence**
Méndez Díaz L., Alvarez Ortiz L., Manzanque Sánchez J., Gil Velez R. (Spain)
- P170 Clinical and self-reported characteristics of comorbid fatigue in axial spondyloarthritis patients - A multicenter study**
Morlà R.M., Frade-Sosa B., Grados D., Gumucio R., Garcia C., Sirvent E., Santo P., Almirall M., Espartal E., Reina D., Roig-Vilaseca D., Clavaguera T., Ponce A., Azuaga A., Ramirez J., Romero Y., Sapena N., Tobalina L., Sanmartí R., Gómez Puerta J.A., on behalf of ESPOcat study Group (Spain)
- P171 Comorbid fatigue and its measurement in axial spondyloarthritis patients**
Morlà R.M., Frade-Sosa B., Grados D., Gumucio R., Garcia C., Almirall M., Espartal E., Clavaguera T., Sirvent E., Santo P., Reina D., Roig-Vilaseca D., Ponce A., Azuaga A., Ramirez J., Romero Y., Sapena N., Tobalina L., Sanmartí R., Gómez Puerta J.A., on behalf of ESPOcat study Group (Spain)
- P172 Sex differences in cardiovascular risk and menopause in patients with axial spondyloarthritis, psoriatic arthritis and psoriasis**
Popa-Diaconu D.A., Barenbrug L., Van den Reek J.M.P.A., Van der Horst-Bruinsma I.E., De Jong E.M.G.J., Van Leuven S.I. (The Netherlands)
- P174 Exploring pain knowledge and attitudes in rheumatology: Clinical decision-making in axial spondyloarthritis**
van der Kraan Y.M., Paap D., Arends S., Reneman M.F., Spoorenberg A. (The Netherlands)

- P175 Towards standardized physical activity assessment in axial spondyloarthritis: Translation and cross-cultural adaptation of the mSQUASH in 11 languages across 14 countries**
van der Kraan Y.M., Spoorenberg A., Paap D., Benavent D., Navarro-Compán V., López-Medina C., Molto A., Kiefer D., Baraliakos X., Ayan G., Kiliç L., Sepriano A., Moniz A.C., Chimenti M.S., Fiannacca L., Konsta M., de Vries M., Brolin S., Maldonado-Ficco H., Perez-Alamino R., Ibáñez S., Garcia D., Bautista-Molano W., Meghnathi B., Patel P., Kim T.J., Shim S.C., Fong W., Kwan Y.H., Gensler L.S., Kiltz U., Ramiro S., Arends (The Netherlands, Spain, France, Germany, Turkey, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Sweden, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, India, Republic of Korea, Singapore & USA)
- P176 Addressing language barriers in rheumatology outpatient care: Interpreter use and the role of bilingual physicians**
Wivestad G.A., Pripp A., Thesen T., Michelsen B. (Norway)

Venue

De Bijloke
Bijlokekaai 7
9000 Gent
<https://www.bijloke.be/>

De Bijloke is located in the city centre, within walking distance from the hotels.

Dates

Thursday 3 September – Saturday 5 September 2026

Language

The official congress language is English.

UEMS Accreditation

The 15th International Congress on Spondyloarthritis has been granted 13,5 European CME credits.

**Exhibition**

A medical exhibition is held on the occasion of the Congress. Access is free for registered participants. The exhibition is not accessible for non-MDs.

Catering

Coffee breaks and lunch will be served in the exhibition area.

WiFi

Free WiFi is offered to all participants and exhibitors.
Network: Gent Free - wifi – No password required

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Gala Dinner on Friday 4 September	€ 90,00

**Proof of status must be uploaded during the registration process.*

The registration fee includes:

- Access to all lectures
- Access to the exhibition
- Coffee breaks and lunch as mentioned in the programme
- Walking Dinner on Thursday 3 September
- Farewell Aperitif on Saturday 5 September

Participation into the Walking Dinner and the Farewell Aperitif is free but pre-registration is required. Separate registration and payment is required for the Gala Dinner on Friday 4 September.

Payment

Payment is to be made by credit card. Only VISA and MasterCard are accepted.

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Welcome Reception and Walking Dinner on Thursday 3 September

The Welcome Reception and Walking Dinner will take place at De Bijloke and is included in the registration fee. Pre-registration however is required.

Gala Dinner on Friday 4 September



The Gala Dinner will take place at the Handelsbeurs, an impressive historic building with a commanding façade.

Located on the **Kouter**, one of Ghent's most elegant squares, the Handelsbeurs is surrounded by magnificent 18th- and 19th-century buildings. The square is also famous for its traditional flower market, held every Sunday.

The Handelsbeurs itself has a fascinating history. The building dates back to **1738–39**, when it was constructed as a guardhouse for the imperial troops of **Empress Maria Theresa**. Designed in the Rococo style, it was later transformed into a trading exchange. Today, this beautifully preserved monument is one of Ghent's prominent cultural venues and a fitting setting for a memorable Gala Dinner.

Separate registration and payment are required to participate in the Gala Dinner.

Farewell Aperitif on Saturday 5 September

The Farewell Aperitif will take place at De Bijloke and is included in the registration fee. Pre-registration however is required.



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