



International Congress on Spondyloarthritis

7 - 9 September 2022
Ghent, Belgium

www.spa-congress.org



Preliminary Programme

Presidents

Francesco Ciccia (Italy)
Walter P. Maksymowych (Canada)

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Filip Van den Bosch (Belgium)

Honorary Scientific Committee

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Herman Mielants (Belgium – Founder)
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Robert Landewé (The Netherlands)
Rik Lories (Belgium)
Helena Marzo-Ortega (UK)
Percival Sampaio-Barros (Brazil)
Jose Scher (USA)
Georg Schett (Germany)

Dear colleagues and friends,

Welcome to the **13th International Congress on Spondyloarthritis**, which will take place on the 7 – 9 September 2022 in the beautiful city of Gent as a wholly in-person meeting. The congress has grown over the years to become the premier international event in the field of the Spondylarthritides. Indeed, the attendance has almost quadrupled since 1998 to include scientists, medical doctors, allied health professionals, pharmaceutical industry representatives and people affected by these conditions from all over the world.

The success of the Gent congress has been underpinned by the quality of the scientific contributions including the state-of-the-art lectures given by carefully chosen guest speakers and selected abstract presenters.

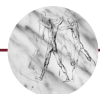
The programme for the 2022 congress will offer a wide range of topics including basic and clinical translational research, genetics, imaging and therapeutics. A highly regarded part of the meeting are the poster sessions which provide the perfect frame for stimulating and interactive multidisciplinary exchanges among attendees. This year will mark the first year that we will have poster tours for each of the sessions. In addition, we have planned lively debates on highly controversial topics in clinical and basic science which promise to be educational as well as entertaining.

The “Gent Oration” - aimed to honor a scientist or clinician who is recognized internationally as having made major contributions throughout their career - will be given by Professor Jürgen Braun.

The social programme including the Walking Dinner at the Opening Reception, Gala dinner and Farewell Drink are sure to give you the opportunity to catch up with old and new friends and enjoy the magic of Gent.

As co-presidents of the **13th International Congress on Spondyloarthritis** we would like to welcome you to this exciting occasion which we are sure will once again, provide the best platform for vibrant scientific and clinical discussions in all aspects of these fascinating group of diseases.

Francesco Ciccia and Walter P. Maksymowych
Congress Presidents



12.50 **Welcome Address**
 Francesco Ciccia and Walter P. Maksymowych, Congress Presidents

SESSION 1: State-of-the-Art Symposium

13.00 INV1 **A risk benefit analysis of JAKi in rheumatology**
 Jasvinder Singh, USA

13.30 INV2 **JAKi-mechanism of action: What explains their efficacy in SpA?**
 John O'Shea, USA

SESSION 2: Genetics Corner

14.00 INV3 **Family studies in Axial Spondyloarthritis: What have we learnt?**
 Félicie Costantino, France

14.25 INV4 **Genomic dissection of the causes of ankylosing spondylitis**
 Matthew Brown, UK

14.50 INV5 **From GWAS to function: Using functional genomics to identify the mechanisms underlying ankylosing spondylitis**
 Matteo Vecellio, UK

15.10 **Coffee Break and Poster Session A**

SESSION 3: Innovations in Core Outcomes

16.10 INV6 **The Updated ASAS Core Set: What are the controversies and remaining unmet needs?**
 Victoria Navarro-Compan, Spain

16.30 INV7 **Novel biomarker technologies for axSpA: Lessons learned from RA and PsA**
 Hussein Al-Mossawi, UK

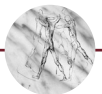
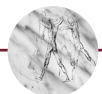
16.50 **Selected Oral Presentations I**

17.50 **Grand Debate**
 Moderator: Francesco Ciccia, Italy

INV8 **Motion: The primary etiopathological lesion in axial spondyloarthritis is enthesitis**
 Dennis McGonagle, UK

INV9 **Counter motion: The primary etiopathological lesion in axial spondyloarthritis is marrow-centric**
 Walter P. Maksymowych, Canada

18.30 Opening Reception and Walking Dinner



The Ghent SpA Oration

Chair: Walter P. Maksymowych, Canada

08.30 INV10 **What happened in the field of axial spondyloarthritis in the last decades? A personal view**
Jürgen Braun, Germany

09.30 **Selected Oral Presentations II**

10.30 Coffee Break and **Poster Session B**

Session 4: Gut Corner

11.30 INV11 **Gut ache: The outcome of dysbiosis in the joint**
Ranjeny Thomas, Australia

11.50 INV12 **Investigating the microbiota in gut & joint disease using transgenic mouse models and germ-free mouse**
Lars Vereecke, Belgium

12.10 INV13 **Decrypting the conundrum of intestinal inflammation in AS pathogenesis**
Daniele Mauro, Italy

12.30 **Lunch**

Keynote Basic Science Lecture

Chair: Francesco Ciccia, Italy

13.30 INV14 **Advances in fibroblast biology that impact spondyloarthritis**
Chris Buckley

14.10 **Selected Oral Presentations III**

15.25 Coffee Break and **Poster Session C**

16.30

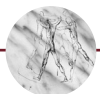
Grand Debate

Moderator: Walter P. Maksymowych

Motion: Axial inflammation in PsA is distinct from axSpA
INV15 (PRO) Dafna Gladman, Canada
INV16 (CON) Robert Landewé, The Netherlands

17.15

End of day 2



Session 5: Therapeutics Corner

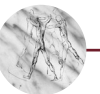
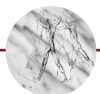
- 08.30 INV17 **Priority targets from early phase trials in SpA and PsA**
Iain McInnes, UK
- 08.50 INV18 **Common pitfalls in the analysis and interpretation of axSpA RCTs**
Alex Sepriano, Portugal
- 09.10 INV19 **Emerging technologies in drug delivery: The promise of nanotherapeutics**
Hua Pan, USA
- 09.30 Flash Oral Presentations IV
- 10.15 Coffee Break and **Poster Session D**

Session 6: Basic Science: Stromal Cells and Innate Immunity in SpA Pathogenesis

- 11.15 INV20 **The stromal code in SpA**
Rik Lories, Belgium
- 11.35 INV21 **Stromal cells: Commanders of joint inflammation, or innocent bystanders?**
Eric Gracey, Belgium
- 11.55 INV22 **MIF-neutrophil-bone axis in AS pathogenesis**
Nigil Haroon, Canada

Session 7: Imaging Corner

- 12.15 INV23 **What does molecular imaging tell us about tissue reparation in axSpA?**
Andreas Ramming, Germany
- 12.35 INV24 **Trials and tribulation of CT in axSpA: Is there a final verdict?**
Torsten Diekhoff, Germany
- 12.55 INV25 **Artificial intelligence, machine learning and radiomics for imaging in rheumatology**
Berend Stoel, The Netherlands
- 13.30 Farewell Reception



Pre-congress Review Course*

Participant MD/student	€ 250,00
Industry participant	€ 400,00

*Limited number of seats available!

Congress	Until 30/06	As of 01/07	As of 01/09
Participant MD	€ 600,00	€ 650,00	€ 700,00
Student/researcher non-MD with Abstract*	€ 350,00	€ 400,00	€ 400,00
Industry Participant	€ 800,00	€ 850,00	€ 900,00
Congress Dinner on Thursday 8 September	€ 75,00	€ 75,00	€ 75,00

The registration fee includes:

- Access to all lectures
- Access to the exhibition
- Coffee breaks and lunches as mentioned in the programme
- Opening Reception & Walking Dinner on Wednesday 7 September
- Farewell Reception on Friday 9 September

Separate registration for the Pre-Congress Review Course on Wednesday 7 September and the Congress Dinner on Thursday 8 September is mandatory.

Participation into the Opening Reception & Walking Dinner and the Farewell Reception is free but pre-registration is mandatory.

Payment

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

Cancellations

Cancellations received no later than 15 August, entitle registered persons to a 50% refund. In order to cancel your registration and/or hotel booking please contact Sarah Volckaert: sarah@medicongress.com.

A number of hotel rooms have been booked at special group rates, including breakfast and VAT.

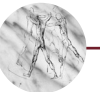
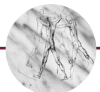
The rates are available on the website (<https://spa-congress.org/hotel-accommodation>) and are only valid for reservations made through Medicongress.

Housing requests are filled in order of receipt. If the hotel of your choice is filled, you will be assigned to another hotel. Hotel availability cannot be guaranteed after August 15.

Any requests for hotel accommodation must be accompanied by a credit card number, in order to secure the room. This credit card will not be charged by the organisers but only serves as a reservation guarantee. Participants will have to pay their hotel room and personal expenses at the reception of the hotel. In case of late cancellation or no show, the room will be charged on the credit card.

A hotel confirmation will be sent by email after receipt of the registration form and housing request and payment of the registration fee.

Each hotel has its proper cancellation policy. For details, see the hotel accommodation section of www.spa-congress.org.



General Information

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

Wednesday 7 September – Friday 9 September 2022

Language

The official congress language is English.

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 lunches will be served in the exhibition area/

WiFi

Free WiFi is offered to all participants and exhibitors. The WiFi access code will be available onsite.

Liability

Neither the organisers nor Medicongress accept liability for damages and/ or losses of any kind which may be incurred by Congress participants during the Congress. Participants are advised to take out insurance against loss, accidents or damage which could be incurred during the Congress.

Organisation and Administration

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