Reflecting on Progress: A Journey through EAACI’s Achievements in the Last Two Years

NAS Committee activities at the EAACI Congress 2024 in Valencia

EAACI launches an immunonutrition guidelines project

Matching a scientific spirit with a deep sense of belonging: JMA fully engaged in EAACI 2022–2024 events
Dear EAACI Review readers

Welcome to the latest edition of the EAACI Review, specially curated to coincide with the highly anticipated EAACI Congress 2024. Packed with the latest updates, highlights and insights, this issue will be a useful resource for anyone interested in EAACI and our leading scientific meeting for allergists and clinical immunologists this year, as well as other important upcoming events.

But that’s not all. We also have some exciting news for all members of the EAACI extended family who are passionate about learning: the much-coveted T2 modules are now accessible for free online on the Knowledge Hub! Immerse yourself in a treasure trove of captivating talks designed to deepen your understanding of various topics across our field. From allergy to immunology and beyond, there’s something for everyone to explore. Don’t miss out on this extraordinary opportunity to expand your horizons and refine your skills – visit the Knowledge Hub website and embark on an educational cruise with EAACI.

And there’s even more to celebrate: we’re thrilled to announce the official launch of the EAACI podcast! We hope you will join us to share news of all the latest scientific breakthroughs, listen to inspiring interviews with top doctors, researchers and professors, and get an exclusive glimpse into the future of allergy and clinical immunology. Through the medium of audio podcasts, the aim is to disseminate scientific and health content in an engaging and accessible format, fostering a sense of community and collaboration among EAACI family members. Whether you’re on your daily commute, hitting the gym, or enjoying some downtime, our podcasts offer a convenient way to stay informed and inspired.

But the commitment to innovation doesn’t stop with the content alone. By integrating audio products into elegantly designed formats and social media posts, EAACI has the ability to communicate messages more effectively. These multimedia formats not only help to capture attention but also enhance comprehension and retention of information, ensuring that our high-quality content resonates with audiences far and wide.

Join EAACI on an enthralling journey as we continue to communicate, inform and engage with members of our own community and with the wider public!
Reflecting on Progress:
A Journey through EAACI's Achievements in the Last Two Years

Dear EAACI Review readers

As I bid farewell to my term as President of EAACI, I am thrilled to reflect on the remarkable advancements and successes that have characterised the last two years for the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI). I am very happy to say that our commitment to advancing knowledge has left a global footprint through our courses, events, projects, and science.

First and foremost, I would like to highlight the two exceptional annual Congresses we have held, from the groundbreaking hybrid format of the EAACI Congress 2022 in Prague, where I took over as the new EAACI President, to the resounding success of the EAACI Congress in Hamburg last year, which marked a significant milestone as the first major event following the pandemic, where the scientific community reunited to engage in discussions and exchange knowledge.

Secondly, our Focused Meetings like SAM, DHM, ISAF, PAAM, FAAM and ISMA-RHINA, as well as our Master Classes, brought together experts and enthusiasts to delve into specialised topics, whereas our Allergy Schools provided invaluable opportunities to learn and grow, with unforgettable memories for our younger members.

The Knowledge Hub, launched in 2022, is now the pivotal platform for the promotion of science and innovation within our community. I am very proud today that the EAACI Knowledge Hub stands out as the go-to place for the latest developments in allergy, asthma, and immunology, fostering exchange with experts and advancing our mission.

Also, I must acknowledge the outstanding work of our Board of Officers and ExCom, with a great effort, often behind the scenes, to make things possible, and of Sections, Interest Groups, Working Groups, Committees and Task Forces, whose dedication has led to the publication of many EAACI position papers and guidelines, underscoring our commitment to remaining at the forefront of our field. Examples are the “New Clinical Guidelines for the Diagnosis of Immediate-type Food Allergies” or the groundbreaking and revolutionary “Nomenclature of Allergic Diseases and Hypersensitivity Reactions: Adapted to Modern Needs.”

Finally, of course, a big thank you to all of you, the EAACI members: it is thanks to you, your enthusiasm, and your participation that our Academy has been able to achieve these unbelievably great results. Our community cannot wait for the time to meet up at our upcoming congress in Valencia: the motto “Revolutionising Patient Care Through the Power of Data Science” explains well what our participants will be able to enjoy in the beautiful Spanish city. To conclude, let me extend my best wishes to the incoming President, my esteemed colleague Maria Torres, and I eagerly anticipate continuing to meet you all at our future events. Thank you for your support!

Warm regards,

Stefano Del Giacco
During spring 2024, elections were organised for the boards of EAACI sections, interest groups and working groups. These elections are fundamental to ensuring the correct functioning of the EAACI family and the continuing development of the Academy’s strategic goals. The disparate composition of the EAACI family helps to guarantee the representation of different countries and professional backgrounds, in agreement with the Academy’s core values of equity and representativeness.

The elections are organised following a fully transparent and democratic procedure ensuring that the views and preferences of EAACI members are listened to and translated into the structure and activities of the Academy. EAACI boards cover all areas in the specialty. In recent years, a big effort has been made to identify new areas of interest, leading to the creation of new EAACI working groups focused on mast cell diseases, one health or epithelial cell biology.

Moreover, each board also invites a junior member (JM) representative who is fully integrated into the scientific output of the group, and serves as liaison between the board and the JMs in the corresponding section or interest group.

The elected boards of the sections, interest groups and working groups develop strategic tasks ensuring the scientific quality and good performance of EAACI’s activities. They are also responsible for proposing sessions, speakers and hot topics for the EAACI Annual Congress. As such, the elected boards represent the core of the EAACI Scientific Programme Committee. Moreover, the sections and interest groups also directly organise focused meetings on distinct fields within the allergy discipline (asthma, upper airway diseases, food allergy, drug allergy, molecular allergology, and skin allergy) on a regular basis. The elected boards can also propose Allergy Schools and Master Classes to cover relevant topics of interest for EAACI’s membership. Allergy Schools have an educational purpose and are meant for a broader audience, whereas the Master Class format addresses the expert community within a certain field. All these events are highly appreciated by EAACI members and constitute valued resources for boosting the reputation of the Academy. Additionally, the boards of sections, interest groups and working groups are also involved in the generation of the scientific output of the Academy.

Under the initiatives of the boards, EAACI organises task forces which are composed of members with expertise in specific areas. Upon ExCom approval, the task forces generate EAACI position papers, which disseminate the Academy’s official position on an area of interest. These documents are highly appreciated by EAACI members. Moreover, the boards of sections, interest groups and working groups can also generate EAACI guidelines. These initiatives address relevant diseases or interventions in allergology (allergen immunotherapy, biologicals, food allergy, drug allergy, allergic asthma, or immunonutrition), and follow a state-of-the-art methodology to produce systematic reviews and to provide recommendations which are valuable for daily clinical practice.

In summary, the EAACI strategic goals could not be achieved without the hard work – all of it voluntary – of all the board members of our sections, interest groups and working groups, and the EAACI leadership would like to express their highest gratitude to them and all the members of the EAACI family for their continuing commitment and support.
Dear EAACI Review readers

It is with great enthusiasm that we extend a warm welcome to you for the upcoming EAACI Congress 2024, scheduled to take place in Valencia from May 31st to June 3rd, 2024. As the Vice President of Congresses, I am honoured to address you on behalf of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

We are approaching our highly anticipated annual EAACI Congress, which will take place in one month. This event brings together scientists, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders from around the world who are dedicated to the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. The Congress is an important platform for our community to collaborate, share knowledge, and collectively advance our understanding of this crucial domain.

Our congress, themed "Revolutionizing Patient Care Through the Power of Data Science," offers an exceptional intellectual journey. We are thrilled to present a dynamic program comprising of over 150 scientific sessions that are meticulously curated to inform and inspire you. These sessions will provide you with invaluable insights and help you broaden your skillset. Additionally, our comprehensive program includes practical workshops that will spark your curiosity and enhance your expertise.

Additionally, as a participant, you will have the opportunity to engage with renowned experts from all over the world who will share their expertise, experiences, and the latest advancements in various areas such as precision and personalized medicine, artificial intelligence and data science, allergen immunotherapy, immune modulators, biologicals, prevention of allergic diseases, novel treatment in allergy and asthma, innovative approaches in clinical trials, one health, and many more.

Our EAACI Congress 2024 promises to be an unforgettable experience, an opportunity for us to collectively contribute to the advancement of our field and strengthen the bonds of our professional community.

I am excited to meet you in Valencia and share inspiring moments during the EAACI Congress 2024. Let’s make it a resounding success!

Warm regards.

Mohamed Shamji
EAACI VP Congresses
Anticipation is growing as the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2024 approaches, offering a wide range of innovative knowledge, opportunities for making connections with fellow professionals, and the rich promise of the entire Scientific Programme that our event delivers. Being held from 31 May to 3 June 2024 in Valencia, Spain, this year’s EAACI Annual Congress will be a significant focal point for an international community of dedicated researchers, clinicians and industry experts in allergy and clinical immunology.

Under the theme of “Revolutionising patient care through the power of data science,” EAACI 2024 aims to underscore the critical role of personalised care, data science and the one health approach in advancing allergy and clinical immunology. The event will feature a diverse and dynamic Scientific Programme carefully crafted to inform and inspire. With over 150 scientific sessions, attendees will have ample opportunities to gain invaluable insights and expand their skills. Some session highlights to look out for include:

1. **Best Tools for Allergy and Asthma Translational Research:** Explore the cutting-edge tools and techniques driving translational research in allergy and asthma, which provide new avenues for diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

2. **How Data Science Fuels Innovation in Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology:** Delve into the transformative role of data science in driving innovation across the spectrum of allergy, asthma and immunology, from predictive analytics to personalised treatment strategies.

3. **Navigating the Asthma Maze in Children:** Gain insights into the complex landscape of asthma in children, including phenotypic variations, innovative treatments and preventive measures to improve long-term outcomes.

4. **Immunotherapy for Food Allergy – What’s New?:** Explore the latest advancements and emerging trends in immunotherapy for food allergies, which offer hope for patients and clinicians alike.

5. **New Directions in Immunotherapy and Vaccinology:** Explore the frontiers of immunotherapy and vaccines, exploring novel approaches and strategies to combat a wide range of allergic and immunological disorders.

6. **Unveiling the Influence of Environmental Threats on Immune Response:** Investigate the intricate interplay between environmental factors and immune response, shedding light on potential mechanisms underlying allergic diseases.

7. **Cutting-Edge Approaches to Managing Food Allergies:** Explore innovative strategies and interventions for managing food allergies, from early detection to personalised dietary interventions.

8. **EAACI Guidelines – Key Highlights:** Stay up-to-date with the latest guidelines and recommendations from the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, offering practical insights for clinical practice.

In addition to its groundbreaking Scientific Programme, the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2024 will provide numerous occasions for networking, collaboration and professional development.

We eagerly look forward to welcoming you to this extraordinary event in Valencia, where you will have the opportunity to share your research, collaborate with colleagues and learn from some of the brightest minds in our field.
The EAACI National Allergy Societies (NAS) Committee is a platform which brings together 57 NAS from 40 European countries, the Chairpersons of the International Societies Council and EAACI representatives to facilitate constant communication and improve collaboration on various issues and activities. The NAS Committee focuses on describing needs and developing regional applicable policies for education and research, and for patient-oriented, diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. The main goals of our Committee are the establishment and improvement of cooperation with other EAACI Committees, as well as with EAACI Sections, Interest Groups and Working Groups, in addition to increasing the awareness of societies of each other for possible future collaborations. The NAS Committee promotes the exchange of information between societies and highlights EAACI support for local meetings and educational activities. Increasing and leading a strong collaboration with the EAACI Junior Members Assembly is one of our most imperative duties.

The NAS Village is an important feature of each EAACI annual congress. After recent digital NAS villages, this year the NAS Village will be organised as a physical event again in Valencia, as last year in Hamburg. National Allergy Societies which have already accepted an invitation to contribute to the NAS Village will have complimentary booths in the Exhibition Hall during the entire Congress. As EAACI values the presence of NAS members very highly, two valid exhibitor badges will also be provided for the Exhibition Hall, in addition to each complimentary booth. National Allergy Societies will be able to present their societies and activities including details of local meetings, publications and journals. There will be opportunities to share their brochures and videos and much more. The NAS Village provides the perfect environment for NAS to gather together in a friendly warm environment, to make and renew contacts, and plan for future collaborations.

One of the other important NAS Committee activities during the EAACI Congress 2024 in Valencia will be the National Allergy Societies Forum. This Forum is a special session in the scientific program of the Congress, at which different NAS member countries will present themselves. In the planning of the NAS Forum, topic and speaker proposals were requested from NAS members. Recent developments and hot topics will also be discussed during the Forum.

An NAS Committee business meeting will also take place in Valencia, in which individual NAS members will have the opportunity to take the stage, and describe their society’s activities and expectations. After general discussions and further proposals, plans for our next activities will be reviewed in this inspiring business meeting.

I am very much looking forward to the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2024 in Valencia, and hope to meet many of you in our NAS Village, at the NAS Forum and at the NAS Committee business meeting to be held at the Congress.

Kindest Regards
The enriching experience of sharing personal research at EAACI congresses

As a researcher and clinician, I have had the privilege of attending and presenting at numerous international congresses throughout my academic career. My first EAACI congress was in 2009 in Warsaw, where I presented a poster on 'Distribution of peanut in the home environment'. Since then, I have tried to attend every annual EAACI congress and have ensured that I submitted an abstract, delivered a presentation or was part of the organising committee each year. These experiences have been invaluable, offering a multitude of benefits both personally and professionally.

Throughout my academic career, the EAACI congresses have offered me the opportunity to stay abreast of the latest developments and trends in the field of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology. Attending the plenaries and symposia by leading experts has provided valuable insights into emerging research areas and methodologies. By attending postgraduate education courses, workshops and learning lounges, I was able to learn from the interactive discussions surrounding topical areas of practice and research.

Presenting at EAACI congresses over the years has provided me with a platform for disseminating my MSc, PhD and subsequently my team’s research findings to a global audience. This exposure has allowed for the exchange of ideas and insights with fellow allergy doctors and researchers from diverse backgrounds. Through discussions and interactions at these congresses, I have gained valuable feedback and perspectives on my research area of interest, as well as forming new collaborations that have led to various studies, including the cohorts studied within my PhD in the UK, US and Sweden.
As I have progressed through my academic career, I have been honoured to be invited to give plenaries, symposia, workshops and learning lounges at EAACI Congress and Focus meetings. The process of preparing and delivering a presentation has helped me enhance my communication and presentation skills, to effectively convey ideas and research findings in an engaging and informative way. Participating in panel discussions, and pro–con debates has allowed me to learn to engage in critical dialogue and debate, enriching my understanding of contemporary issues and debates within allergy.

Forging connections with colleagues from around the world has led to further research collaborations including with investigators in Spain, Geneva and Sweden in the Pronuts study,5-7 US researchers in the Stopping Eczema and Allergy (SEAL) study,8-10 and US, Canadian and multiple European countries in the Global Assessment of Psychosocial Services in food allergic individuals (GAPS) study.11 12

After meeting various members of the EAACI Pediatric Section Board at EAACI congresses, I was asked to apply to join the Board and was delighted to serve as the Chair for the Pediatric Section from 2019–2022, which resulted in many more invitations to join reviews, guidelines, surveys, task forces and research programmes.

In addition to the academic benefits, attending EAACI congresses has offered me opportunities for cultural enrichment and exploration by immersing myself in the host country’s culture, cuisine and traditions. Forging connections with colleagues from around the world has often extended beyond the EAACI congress itself, leading to lasting friendships and collaborations that have enriched both my professional and personal life.

Reference

Transforming management of indolent systemic mastocytosis* with precision medicine

Blueprint Medicines-sponsored symposium

Friday 31st May | 12:00 –13:00 (CEST)
Sevilla Room

Systemic mastocytosis is driven by KIT D816V mutation in ~95% of cases.¹

For patients with indolent systemic mastocytosis (ISM), who experience a spectrum of debilitating symptoms, the emergence of novel targeted treatments brings an opportunity to transition from best supportive care to disease modifying therapy.

Join Prof. Massimo Triggiani, Dr. Ivan Alvarez-Twose and Dr. Frank Siebenhaar as they discuss the latest updates in diagnosis and precision medicine approaches in ISM.

To learn more about ISM, visit the Blueprint Medicines booth: D30

¹La indicación de mastocitosis sistémica indolente (MSI) está aprobada por la EMA pero no está autorizada en España. Avapritinib (AYVAKYT) está comercializado en España para las indicaciones de mastocitosis sistémica avanzada (MS avanzada) y tumores del estroma gastrointestinal (GIST) con mutación PDGFRA D842V.

Dear EAACI members

The Beat Allergy Walk & Run has been a beloved tradition at the EAACI Annual Congresses for years, and you’ve enjoyed being a part of it. It is our pleasure to announce that the EAACI Congress 2024 will feature the EAACI Beat Allergy Walk & Run on June 1, as always. You can participate in the run by choosing to cover a distance of either 2.5 km, 5 km or 10 km, by walking or running. This event provides a fun opportunity for all of us to gather together and enjoy the sport amidst the beautiful surroundings. It’s a great chance to have some fun, meet new people, and make some wonderful memories of the congress and the hosting city.

Moreover, with your contributions the Beat Allergy Walk & Run will continue to do give all its earnings to 826 Valencia, which is a nonprofit organization in Valencia dedicated to empowering under-resourced students with their writing skills.

**MAIN DETAILS:**

- **Date:** 1 Jun, 2024
- **Time:** 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM
- **Distance:** 2.5k - 10k
- **Registration:** until 28 May, 2024, 11:59 PM

We hope that you will join us and contribute to the Beat Allergy Walk & Run this year on June 1st at the Palau de la Música.

We encourage everyone to participate in the Beat Allergy Walk & Run, whether you are a seasoned runner or simply want to take a leisurely stroll. It is a great way to get some exercise, meet new people, and get to know Valencia’s atmosphere and environment. You can also bring your friends and family along, as this event is open to all ages.

You can find more information about the run and register [here](#).
Valencia: the place to be this year for allergists and clinical immunologists

The EAACI Congress 2024 will be held in Valencia, Spain, from the 31st of May to the 3rd of June 2024. From the EAACI we encourage you to attend probably the biggest Congress in Allergy throughout the world. Under the banner of “Revolutionising Patient Care Through the Power of Data Science,” The EAACI wants to emphasize the significance of Allergy and Clinical Immunology through Personalized Care, Data Science, and the One Health approach.

Valencia is a charming and vibrant city. A place of contrasts that awaits the traveler with a beautiful historic center along with futuristic buildings. This is Valencia, one of the most welcoming cities in Spain to spend a few days and share scientific content in the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, as well as project with colleagues from over the world. Beyond the cultural effervescence of its streets, you always want a walk or a good swim on its Mediterranean beaches. You will not have visited Valencia if you don’t taste the internationally renowned and tasty Paella. We invite you to enjoy it in many of the restaurants that Valencia has and with the landscape of La Malvarrosa Beach, even better. Try horchata, a very sweet and tasty refreshing milkshake. Valencia offers over 300 days of sun a year. Bring your summer clothes and enjoy walking, running or biking in the old Turia Riverbank.

With regards its scientific content, you will enjoy top international speakers talks about precision and personalised medicine, artificial intelligence & data science, allergen immunotherapy, immune modulators, biologicals, prevention of allergic diseases, novel treatment in allergy and asthma, innovation in novel approaches in clinical trials, one health and much more!!

Valencia, with its Mediterranean light, its mild climate and convenient venue (Fira de Valencia) has everything to predict that the EAACI Congress 2024 will be a total success. Have you already registered?
Exiting News Alert: EAACI launches the first EAACI Podcast

We have launched the first official podcast of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, where you will be able to dive into the latest breakthroughs and discover inspiring interviews with renowned doctors, researchers, and professors. Join us as we navigate through the present advancements and set our sights on the exciting future developments in the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology!

In the first EAACI podcast episode, our host Professor Mohamed Shamji, together with Professor Stefano del Giacco and Professor Maria J. Torres, delve deep into the upcoming EAACI 2024 Congress. Discover all the latest details and breaking news for our upcoming annual Congress!

On our second episode, our host Professor Mohamed Shamji, engages in thought-provoking conversations with esteemed guests as Cevdet Ozdemir, EAACI NAS Committee Chair, Elleni Sofia Vaia, EAACI NAS Secretary and Mattia Giovaninni, EAACI JM Assembly Secretary, during the EAACI National Allergy Societies Committee Meeting held in Munich. Together, they provide exclusive insights into the strategies, challenges, and collaborative efforts shaping the upcoming EAACI Congress.

Our third episode, Professor Mohamed Shamji, together with Professor André Moreira and Professor Mübeccel Akdis, both distinguished co-chairs of the Scientific Programme Committee, embark on an immersive exploration of the plenary sessions and symposia awaiting attendees at the highly anticipated EAACI Congress 2024. Discover exclusive information, cutting-edge updates and invaluable insights that will give you a preview of this extraordinary event.

Finally, on our fourth episode of the official EAACI podcast, our host, Professor Mohamed Shamji, interviews Professor Abul Abbas, the director of the course “Immunology Update: Selected Topics in Basic and Translational Immunology”, which will be held on 31 May, during the first day of the upcoming EAACI Congress. Discover exclusive information about this course which will provide a comprehensive review of basic immunology topics, focusing on recent advances and their relevance to the pathogenesis and treatment of immune-mediated diseases.
Reduce false positives. Increase diagnostic confidence.

IMMULITE 2000/2000 Xpi 3gAllergy assays minimize the likelihood of false-positive results caused by cross-reactive carbohydrate determinants.

Anti-CCD IgE antibodies are present in 20–25% of allergy patients. These antibodies can produce false-positive results caused by cross-reactive carbohydrate determinants (CCDs).1,2

Diagnostic impact of CCDs in different allergy blood testing technologies3,4

Liquid-phase allergy diagnostic procedures are often less affected by anti-CCD IgE.3 The cellulose used as a carrier material in solid-phase technologies may have residual CCDs on the surface. Patients with anti-CCD IgE tested with solid-phase technologies are at risk of being diagnosed with elevated IgE titers for individual allergens.3,4

IMMULITE® 3gAllergy® liquid allergen technology is a bead-based approach that reduces the need for additional allergy testing and the risk of false-positive results.

Learn more about the advantages of liquid-phase technologies in allergy testing and discover the broad testing menu from Siemens Healthineers.


Product availability may vary from country to country and is subject to varying regulatory requirements. Please contact your local representative for availability.
Efficient and effective communication between healthcare professionals and patients is essential for nurturing a successful therapeutic alliance. Telemedicine is a longstanding practice, but witnessed unprecedented adoption during the COVID-19 pandemic and has continued to do so since that time. The publication of the EAACI Position Paper on telemedicine[1] will serve as a foundational document for various purposes. The paper summarises and describes telemedicine’s terminology and the most important forms of remote care and reciprocal, digitally-enabled communication among health care professionals and patients in the field of immunology, asthma and allergology, as well as describing telemedicine’s models of delivery, the tools used, and their effectiveness. Ensuring a standardised understanding among readers and assessing telemedicine application in asthma and allergy care, as well highlighting its significance in modern healthcare, were also other main goals.

Benefits like emphasising time and cost savings or specialist availability are listed, though acknowledging the inability to entirely replace in-person visits for specific clinical assessments and tests release is a main conclusion. Despite compelling arguments advocating for telemedicine as an independent healthcare tool, it is deemed essential to maintain face-to-face models alongside telemedicine, tailored to individual needs. This pivotal EAACI Position Paper critically reviews existing evidence, deliberates on the advantages and risks, and charts future trajectories. The expanding use of mobile technologies among patients is driving the evolution of telemedicine, while advancements in wireless telecommunication technologies present both opportunities and challenges for its further development in the allergy and asthma field.

This position paper was collaboratively developed by the EAACI Telemedicine Task Force, comprised of a diverse panel of experts including immunologists, allergists, physiologists, pulmonologists, ENT doctors, pediatricians, and primary care professionals. Their enthusiastic and multidisciplinary approach has resulted in the creation of this valuable document, aimed at facilitating the implementation of telemedicine in clinical practice. The Task Force members are now working on further documents which will be of help with telemedicine implementation in clinics and healthcare practices.

Reference
The prevalence of N-ERD (NSAID-exacerbated respiratory disease) syndrome is reported to be 0.5 to 5.7% in the general population. N-ERD syndrome is also known as Widal syndrome, Samter’s triad or aspirin exacerbated respiratory disease (AERD). N-ERD often begins with nasal symptoms, which are later joined by chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyposis (CRSwNP), asthma, and respiratory hypersensitivity reactions following the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). In the setting of chronic respiratory disease, the type 2 inflammatory endotype is predominant in approximately 80% of patients with CRSwNP, making biologics directed against IL-4, IL-5, IL-13, and IgE of high clinical interest, particularly in patients with severe CRSwNP and N-ERD or severe asthma and N-ERD.

Aspirin therapy after desensitisation (ATAD) is a treatment option that has been used in N-ERD patients with CRSwNP and/or asthma, among other therapies. With the approval of monoclonal antibodies for CRSwNP and asthma, the question arises to what extent ATAD is still useful in the treatment of chronic inflammatory airway diseases against or in combination with biologics? While safety aspects, especially in long-term treatments speak in favour of biologics, both methods are interesting from an efficacy perspective, with the quality of evidence also in favour of biologics. It is important to mention that ATAD using acetylsalicylic acid preparations remains an off-label therapy in N-ERD, whereas biologics are authorised for both severe uncontrolled asthma and CRSwNP. By contrast, it should be noted that in the phase-III studies of biologics, N-ERD patients only represented a subgroup, and were insufficiently diagnosed and classified. Cost–benefit aspects are clearly more favourable for ATAD, where quality-adjusted life years (QALYs; a generic measure of disease burden) can be obtained for c.10% of the price of biologics with ATAD. Thus, the use of ATAD in CRSwNP and asthma patients needs to be discussed from different medical and socioeconomic points of view, and may be used alternatively or in combination with monoclonal antibodies. Accordingly, both ATAD and biologics therapies continue to play a role in the modern treatment of N-ERD patients and should be used judiciously to complement each other. Their value must be continuously reviewed and adapted to the latest scientific findings.

Reference
The EAACI Workgroup on Immunomodulation and Nutrition was established within the Academy’s Immunology Section in 2021. The Workgroup’s board consists of Carina Venter (Chair), Franziska Roth-Walter (Secretary), Emilia Vasilopolou, Roberto Berni-Canani and Diego Peroni. Task forces within the Workgroup have already published several task force reports, systematic reviews and position papers which contribute to the prevention and management of food allergy, eczema, asthma, allergic rhinitis and respiratory infections. One aspect that the Workgroup has focused on is the role of immunonutrition in the context of allergic disease and other non-communicable diseases. Immunonutrition can generally be defined as the direct and indirect effects of nutrients, including macronutrients, vitamins, minerals and trace elements on immune system development, functionality and responsiveness. Recently, there has been an explosion of interest in understanding how long-term dietary habits impact chronic immune-mediated disorders and responses to infections. The “complicated tango” between nutrients, microbiome, epithelial barriers, metabolism and the immune system may be critically important for disease prevention and disease treatment. The EAACI Atlas of Allergy states that the prevalence of allergic diseases is rising dramatically, with many nutritional and environmental factors considered to play a role in disease risk and pathology. Alongside this increase in allergic diseases, there is also an increase in many other immune-mediated disorders (e.g. autoimmune disease and type 2 diabetes), suggesting a common root cause. Equally important is the immune system’s ability to defend against infection, while avoiding collateral damage to host tissues. There is a generally accepted consensus, which accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic, that there is an urgent need to increase our knowledge on the effects of nutrients on the immune system, especially the basic mechanisms and processes underpinning immunonutrition. Nutrition has critical roles in allergic and infectious diseases. The influence of nutrition on the immune system may prevent these diseases and improve treatment outcomes via its antibacterial, antiviral and immunoregulatory effects. Our current understanding of the role of nutrition on the immune system has identified some common nutritional factors that are important
for prevention and treatment of both viral and allergic diseases. There is robust data showing that changes in food patterns over time (e.g. high-fat, fried, low-fibre, ultra-processed and convenience foods) are associated with changes in the microbiome of the gut, skin, lung and nose, and with an increase in barrier- and immune-related diseases e.g. food allergies, eczema, asthma, allergic rhinitis and viral diseases.

The Workgroup is pleased to announce that EAACI has funded an innovative and new Immunonutrition Guidelines Project in 2024, under the leadership of Liam O'Mahony and Carina Ven- ter. An Expert Panel (Liam O'Mahony, Roberto Berni Canani, Ibon Eguiluz-Garcia, Carina Ven- ter, Rosan Meyer, David Fleischer, Franziska Roth-Walter, Emilia Vassilopolou, Graham Roberts, Isabel Skypala, Alexandra Santos, Milena Sokolowska, Pete Smith, Jens Walter; Maria Torres, Stefania Arasi), who are leading the guidelines, met for the first scoping meeting in March 2024. There are currently no clinical guidelines concerning immunonutrition in prevention and management of allergic diseases. Indeed, one of the main reasons that may have limited the growth of studies and clinical implementation in this area is the lack of any clear guidelines. The work proposed in this new project will support the development of clear guidelines, which will provide guidance on research and clinical implementation that can be adopted as standards around the world.

While there are many areas that could be focused on, we will first develop guidelines on:

1. diagnosis of poor immune health related to nutrition (e.g. using questionnaires [nutrition, lifestyle], blood tests, the microbiome, practical tools)
2. weaning food recommendations for optimal immune health (e.g. feeding the microbiome, epithelial barrier, infection prevention, immune system regulation).

An additional Expert Panel will help with the creation of the methodological approach required for these systematic reviews. External experts will be invited for each of the focus areas. organisation representatives are encouraged to join us to help develop and disseminate the guidelines.

These guideline initiatives demonstrate that EAACI is a world-leading organisation, supporting our vision of a future world without allergies, and the Workgroup is very honoured to lead this exciting project.
The National Allergy Societies (NAS) Committee meeting was held on 2–3 February 2024, at the Hilton Munich Airport Hotel, in the lively city of Munich, Germany. This year, we held a two-day meeting in a hybrid format, with a wonderful physical attendance and good online participation. It was a great pleasure for both NAS Secretary Elleni Vaia and me to meet with our colleagues again.

In terms of both speakers and participants, this year’s event was a very distinguished meeting. I would like to express our deepest gratitude and thanks to the EAACI Leadership, the EAACI Headquarters team and representatives of member societies who attended both physically and online, sharing information about their activities and projects. Indeed, I would like to express special thanks to the representatives of member societies who were able to attend physically: Italian Association of Hospital and Territorial Allergists and Immunologists (AAIITO), Association Belge de Formation Continue en Allergologie (ABEFORECAL)-(Belgium), German Society for Allergology (AeDA), Albanian Society of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology (ASAACI), Austrian Society for Allergology and Immunology (ÖGAI), Bulgarian Society of Allergology, Czech Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Georgian Association of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (GAACI), Gesellschaft für Pädiatrische Allergologie und Umweltmedizin e.V. (GPA)-(Germany), Greek Paediatric Allergy Society, Hungarian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Kosov Immunology Asthma and Allergy Association (KIAAA), Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Macedonian Respiratory Society (MRS), North Macedonian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Society of Pulmonologists of the Republic of Macedonia, Polish Society of Allergology, Romanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (RSACI), Spanish Pediatric Society of Clinical Immunology, Allergy and Asthma (SEICAP), Academy of Pediatric Allergy and Asthma (CAAAD-Türkiye), Turkish National Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (TNSACI).
On the first day of our meeting, after a welcoming message and a short presentation of participants, EAACI President Stefano Del Giacco shared an outline of the principal EAACI activities over the last year. I then gave an update on NAS Committee activities during the last year. EAACI Secretary General Maria Torres informed us of the MyEAACI project. Tomás Chivato, VP Education & Specialty presented details of educational projects within EAACI and discussed how to promote our specialty. Afterwards, Oscar Palomares, Editor-in-Chief of the Knowledge Hub, our platform dedicated to science, described recent activities, and how to access educational modules and scientific resources. We completed the day with a very nice dinner.

In the morning of the second day, Markus Ollert, EAACI VP Science, presented scientific outputs to us in detail, following which EAACI guidelines on environmental science, allergic asthma, drug allergy, allergen specific immunotherapy and food allergy were reviewed by Ioana Agache, Ibon Eguiuluz, Patrizia Boadonna, Marek Jutel and Graham Roberts, respectively. The breakthrough new EAACI nomenclature was then introduced. Ioana Agache, Research and Outreach Committee Chair, informed us of the highlights of that committee including HEAD registry, the EAACI research network and educational modules. EAACI VP Congresses Mohamed Shamji presented details of the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2024, which will be held on 31 May–3 June 2024 in Valencia, Spain. Current information about the Congress organisation, as well as information on the upcoming NAS Village, were shared. EAACI Junior Member Assembly Secretary Mattia Giovannini presented JM activities and collaborations with the NAS Committee. The EAACI Patient Organisation Committee was introduced by Ozlem Ceylan, who is its Chair. EAACI VP Communications Lugger Klimek spoke about EAACI’s various communication platforms. In the final talk before the coffee break, EAACI Member at Large Asli Akkor presented initiatives of the Turkish National Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.

Eventually, all representatives of member National Allergy Societies, either present or online, had the opportunity to describe their societies’ activities and expectations. After general discussions and further proposals, plans for next activities were reviewed. It was a very satisfying and inspiring meeting.

I hope very much to meet you at the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2024 in Valencia, Spain, and am pleased to invite you to our NAS Village and the NAS Forum which will be held during the Annual Congress.

Kindest Regards
Welcome message from the Organizing Committee

Greetings from ISMA-RHINA 2024! As we gather in the vibrant city of Helsinki, we are thrilled to welcome you to an event that promises to unravel the latest frontiers in the dynamic realm of allergology.

In the past decade, molecular allergology has evolved into a transformative force, significantly impacting allergy diagnosis and allergen immunotherapy. The intricate link between allergen molecules and allergic phenotypes, along with their role as biomarkers for immunotherapy and key contributors to food allergy diagnostic algorithms, has redefined the landscape. Technological innovations, such as microarray and multiplex technologies, coupled with revolutionary techniques for simultaneous single-cell analyses, have ushered in an era of unprecedented research opportunities often referred to as the era of “big data.”

ISMA stands as the premier platform for discussing the newest developments in molecular allergology and understanding their far-reaching implications for allergy diagnosis and therapy.

RHINA, an interactive interdisciplinary EAACI Focused Meeting, has been meticulously crafted to facilitate clinical, scientific, and bench-to-bedside discussions among clinicians, scientists, and industry colleagues. This focus meeting is a catalyst for scientific collaborations, aiming to seamlessly translate emerging discoveries in ENT, Allergen Immunotherapy (AIT), and biologicals in upper respiratory disciplines into tangible benefits for our patients. Challenges in clinical practice, disease mechanisms, advances in novel therapeutics, regulatory issues, and EAACI guidelines will take centre stage at ISMA-RHINA 2024, showcasing an interdisciplinary collaborative approach from the EAACI ENT section, Immunotherapy Interest Group (ITIG), Biologicals Working Group, Asthma, and Immunology sections.
ISMA-RHINA 2024 brings together a diverse assembly of clinicians and scientists, ranging from junior researchers to key opinion leaders, in a focused meeting dedicated to the myriad aspects of upper, lower airway, and ocular diseases. We extend a warm welcome to speakers and participants from across the globe, inviting you to share your knowledge, engage in enriching discussions, and contribute to a truly interactive interdisciplinary dialogue.

Let’s embark on this exciting journey together at ISMA-RHINA 2024, where we collectively shape the future of allergology.

The Organizing Committee

Milena Sokolowska  
ISMA-RHINA 2024 Chair

Sanna Toppila-Salmi  
ISMA-RHINA 2024 Chair

Valérie Hox  
ISMA-RHINA 2024 Co-Chair

Barbara Bohle  
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Mohamed Shamji  
EAACI Vice-President  
Conferences

Philippe Gevaert  
ISMA-RHINA 2024 Co-Chair
Catalyzing Scientific Collaboration: The Impact of the RHINA Symposium on Allergologic Research and Education

The RHINA Symposium, hosted in the serene and picturesque city of Helsinki, stands as a beacon of innovation and collaboration in the fields of allergology and rhinology.

RHINA Symposium distinguishes itself not only through its cutting-edge scientific agenda but also by its intimate scale, which fosters unparalleled opportunities for multidisciplinary networking. Helsinki’s serene beauty and vibrant cultural scene provide the perfect setting for this gathering, which focuses on the latest advancements in allergology and rhinology. The symposium’s size and the welcoming atmosphere of the city encourage deeper connections among attendees, facilitating exchanges that transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries.

The RHINA Symposium’s agenda, meticulously curated to cover a wide array of topics from biomarkers in inflammatory airway disease to the practical management of non-allergic rhinitis, benefits significantly from the event’s intimate nature. This setting allows for more engaged discussions, personalized interactions, and the establishment of collaborative relationships that are often challenging to forge in larger, more impersonal conferences.
Helsinki, known for its innovation and collaborative spirit, mirrors the symposium’s goals, making it an ideal host city.

One of the symposium’s key discussions centers on the role of biomarkers in personalizing treatment for inflammatory airway diseases. In the close-knit environment of the RHINA Symposium, researchers, clinicians, and industry professionals can delve into nuanced conversations about how biomarker research can be translated into clinical practice. This intimate setting enhances the potential for multidisciplinary collaboration, with insights from various fields converging to propel the field forward.

The exploration of disease mechanisms from bench to bedside is another area where the symposium’s intimate setting plays a crucial role. The detailed discussions that emerge from sessions on chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS) and other airway diseases benefit from the direct and personal exchange of ideas. Helsinki’s conducive atmosphere for innovation supports these exchanges, fostering an environment where scientific inquiry can flourish.

Furthermore, the symposium’s focus on the evolving landscape of biologic therapy and its implications for sinus surgery is enriched by the opportunity for specialists from different areas to network and share insights. The intimate environment encourages open dialogues about clinical experiences, research findings, and therapeutic strategies, enhancing the learning experience for all participants.

The RHINA Symposium also places a strong emphasis on Junior Member program focusing on career development and mentorship, recognizing the importance of supporting the next generation of scientists and clinicians.

The exploration of artificial intelligence (AI) in allergology and rhinology represents one of the symposium’s most forward-looking topics. The intimate setting allows for dynamic discussions about the integration of AI into clinical practice, with experts from technology, medicine, and research fields coming together to envision the future of healthcare. Helsinki’s reputation as a hub for technology and innovation makes it the perfect backdrop for these discussions, encouraging a multidisciplinary approach to tackling the challenges and opportunities presented by AI.

In conclusion, the RHINA Symposium, with its unique combination of an intimate setting and a multidisciplinary approach, offers an unmatched opportunity for networking and collaboration in the fields of allergology and rhinology. Helsinki, with its natural beauty, cultural richness, and innovative spirit, enhances the symposium experience, encouraging connections that span disciplines and geographies. As attendees return to their respective fields, the insights and relationships forged in Helsinki promise to drive forward the frontiers of research and patient care in inflammatory airway diseases.
The Junior Member Assembly (JMA) for the term 2022–2024 has exhibited remarkable involvement across various events organised by EAACI through a wide variety of activities.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the EAACI meetings in 2022 were held online, but this did not affect the participation of JMA members, who took part in ISMA–RHINA Digital 2022 (4–5 November) and in FAAM–EUROBAT Digital 2022 (1–3 December). At FAAM–EUROBAT, for example, JMA members presented original data through posters and oral presentations concerning the basophil activation test (BAT) in drug hypersensitivity reactions, and also presented a systematic review of food allergic reactions.

Later, in-person EAACI meetings were restored in 2023, although some of the events organised maintained a hybrid format, combining online and face-to-face formats. In early 2023, the Immunology Winter School 2023 (26–29 January) was held in Davos, Switzerland, chaired by Milena Sokolowska and Cezmi Akdis. This edition was special because of the celebration of its 20th anniversary, where particular sessions and events, such as the Immunology treasure hunt on Environment and Immunology, were organised, with the active presence of members of the JMA.

The Skin Allergy Meeting (SAM) 2023 (24–25 March) had an online format, and JMA members were actively involved, chairing different sessions. At the same time, the EAACI Allergy School 2023 (focused on food allergy diagnosis, treatment and prevention) was also held in Taormina (Italy, March 2023), where, in addition to the contribution of the JMA from a scientific perspective, a social event for JMs was organised, intending to promote networking among the Academy’s JMs. Similarly, during the DHM Hybrid 2023 held in Verona (April 2023), with the
invaluable support of Patrizia Bonadonna (the local Organising Chair). JMA members presented different sessions and helped in the organisation of a social event providing the opportunity for JMs to meet face-to-face with colleagues from all over the world, while enjoying a fantastic Italian aperitif.

During the EAACI Annual Congress 2023 (9–11 June) in Hamburg, Germany, the JMA proposed and organised three sessions and a scientific symposium, as well as the traditional JM case report and JM poster sessions. For the first time, the JMA organised an “Initiatives symposium”, supported by Mohamed Samji (EAACI VP Congresses), where JMs and seniors explained their experience with different EAACI activities, such as the fellowship programme, mentorship programme, and the Allergopharma award. An educational symposium was also organised to amplify the impact of research, focused on soft skills over science. The Allergy College programme allowed 6 students to enjoy the meeting in person, in addition to the “Tell us about your project initiative” participants. Moreover, the JMA actively engaged in various meetings focusing on projects, and on collaborations with EAACI journals, including Allergy, PAI and CTA.

The latter part of the year witnessed continued engagement from JMA members, participating in events such as the Allergy School On Anaphylaxis in Izmir, Turkey (September 2023), and the Summer Symposium on Epithelial Cell Biology in London (September 2023). Furthermore, during the ISAF Hybrid 2023 in Rome, Italy (6–7 October), JMA members assumed scientific roles, presenting their findings and chairing sessions, highlighting the organisation of a Mentor Class, supported by Ibón Eguiluz, the Asthma Section Chair. The year concluded with the PAAM Hybrid 2023 in Porto, Portugal (2–4 November), where the JMA coordinated the Clinical Village, showcasing the latest algorithms and fostering discussions on hot topics. Additionally, the JMA maintained active involvement in meetings beyond EAACI, including at the World Immune Regulation Meeting (WIRM), the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAAI) Annual Meeting, and other congresses of sister societies. In summary, the JMA demonstrated a robust presence across EAACI events, contributing significantly to scientific and social aspects during the 2022–2024 term. Indeed, they were directly involved in the scientific organisation, being part of the scientific program committee for several events. The JMA extends its gratitude to all of the EAACI leadership for their efforts in involving them. A special appreciation is extended to all EAACI JMs for their exemplary contributions, enriching each event with their scientific endeavours.
To avoid being misunderstood by patients and colleagues, allergists must always use clear medical terms whilst at the same time adhering to up-to-date nomenclature in their professional and public communications. Integrating language diversity in scientific and medical communications engages with diverse audiences in their native languages, improving accessibility and enriching the impact of the scientific information being communicated.

The use of any approved visual resources available is also important to convey scientific information since it can often transcend language barriers and make complex concepts more accessible. Furthermore, collaborating with social media channels and other multilingual platforms further supports appropriate online dissemination. A revised nomenclature for allergy was presented in an EAACI position statement back in 2001. In 2023, in the new era of targeted and personalised disease management, a further position paper presented a new classification system for allergic disorders founded on disease mechanisms. This classification represents a significant shift in our current understanding and management of allergic diseases, and is aligned with patient-tailored therapies and advances in precision medicine.

Alongside diverse scientific content in a range of publications, and presentations and other educational resources, translations into various European languages aim to ensure that a broader audience can access and understand this essential revised scientific information.

Linguistic diversity is enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (EU). Understanding linguistic nuances and cultural contexts helps in crafting communications that resonate with diverse audiences. Europeans have a positive attitude towards multilingualism, but effective supporting policies and initiatives are still needed to strengthen the opportunities of all citizens. The right to free movement across the EU, increasing labour mobility and tourism, along with non-
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

EU newcomers, has created the need for allergy specialists to adapt to the complex needs of multilingual communication and use of proper scientific language. Language barriers can significantly impact allergy management. Effective communication between healthcare providers and patients is crucial for accurate diagnosis, proper treatment, and overall patient safety and quality of medical care. During acute reactions, quick and accurate communication is crucial. In cases such as anaphylaxis and severe angioedema, linguistic obstacles may complicate allergy management. Language barriers may lead to misunderstandings about a patient’s symptoms, medical history, or the nature of their allergies and exposures. The inability to communicate effectively may hinder a patient’s ability to convey potential allergen exposure scenarios, making it challenging for healthcare providers to identify and address triggers. For example, considerable confusion exists between the local names of different insects, especially vesps, and it is therefore recommended that allergists know the scientific Latin designations as well as common names by which these are recognised in various European languages, and even the terms used in other parts of the world, including North America, in selected cases. Misunderstandings can result in performing incomplete allergy tests for different venoms which may lead to misdiagnosis and no specific appropriate therapeutical approach. By addressing language barriers and avoiding miscommunication in allergy management, healthcare providers can ensure that patients receive accurate diagnoses, appropriate treatments, and the necessary support to effectively manage their allergies.

Embracing linguistic diversity in medical and scientific communication will require the use of trained translators and interpreters, even with the contribution of artificial intelligence, as well as the active involvement of specialists all over Europe, sharing and utilising multilingual materials and instructions, visual aids and diagrams, with an awareness of cultural differences. Our support of an inclusive and equitable scientific community encourages diverse perspectives, fosters global collaboration, and ensures that the benefits of scientific advancements reach everyone.

Further reading


| jnurstu.2015.03.012. |
Dear Primary Care Paediatricians Scientific Society Boards

The EAACI Allergy Educational Needs in PCPs Task Force (EAACI-PCPs-TF) invited members of PCP Scientific Societies to participate in an online survey, which recruited from 1 February until 31 March 2023, is written in six languages (English, Italian, Spanish, French, German and Ukrainian) with the aim of assessing their allergy interest and educational needs.

On behalf of the EAACI-PCPs-TF, we would like to express our gratitude for participating in the survey dissemination through your members’ networks.

In this short piece, the EAACI-PCP-TF would like to share with the participating local Scientific Societies the results of the survey, published in Pediatric Allergy and Immunology with free access:


And the corresponding free access link to the journal is: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/pai.14116

This survey represents the first step underpinning any training program for PCPs who will be seeing patients with allergy. This Position Paper could be included in your local newsletter distribution in order to send all the PCP participants feedback after the end of the survey data assessment.

Thank you so much for your valuable help
EAACI Knowledge Hub is on Instagram!

A place to find fantastic opportunities to learn about the most recent developments in the allergy, asthma and immunology fields, as well as exchange with experts!
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