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Reflections on EAACI's Journey and Vision for the Future

During the past few months, EAACI has renewed its efforts in pursuit of scientific excellence and organisational efficiency. On the initiative of our EAACI sections, interest groups and working groups, many academic and scientific projects have been started with the aim of addressing the most critical clinical and research needs. Following the call for budget applications last year, the EAACI family made a tremendous effort to generate proposals for task forces, guidelines and strategic projects targeted at clinicians, researchers, patients and the lay public. The EAACI leadership would like to acknowledge and thank the irreplaceable role of our sections, interest groups and working groups in guiding and executing the scientific and outreach activities of the Academy. Importantly, thanks to their efforts, successful European projects focusing on allergic diseases are currently being disseminated under the EAACI umbrella.

Advances in the field of allergy and clinical immunology need to be transmitted and communicated to all relevant stakeholders. To this end, EAACI has created a new Tailored Education Committee which will be in charge of developing training programmes about current hot topics, and addressing the requirements of physicians, allied health professionals, scientists, junior and early career members, and patients. EAACI will focus on various cutting-edge platforms to disseminate this material, including our updated Knowledge Hub. EAACI meetings are also very well positioned to train and educate clinicians and researchers. After our successful Annual Congress in Valencia (Spain), EAACI organised another fruitful edition of the Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Meeting (FAAM) in Athens (Greece), and is currently finalising the arrangements for the Immunology Winter School in Schladming (Austria), the Skin Allergy Meeting (SAM) in Bilbao (Spain), and the Allergy School on Allergen Immunotherapy in Cappadocia (Turkey) during the first half of 2025. This programme of events will continue with our 2025 Annual Congress in Glasgow (UK) in June. Other ongoing EAACI educational initiatives include an updating of the training curricula of Allergy/Clinical Immunology specialists and subspecialists, together with the generation of a specific curricula for undergraduate students. To this end, EAACI is collaborating with prominent universities and institutions across Europe. All these activities will ensure the proper training of professionals working in allergy and clinical immunology fields, and will increase the recognition of our discipline as an attractive career choice.

The "One Health" concept highlights the relevance of the well-being of humans, other animals and the whole ecosystem to achieve real planetary health. During the last few years, several EAACI bodies (e.g. the Environmental & Occupational Allergy Interest Group, and the Aerobiology & Pollution, One Health, and Comparative Veterinary Allergology Working Groups, etc.) have focused on distinct components of this complex and multidisciplinary concept. The EAACI leadership thanks these groups for promoting relevant projects and generating valuable scientific documents. It is now time to integrate these efforts in an updated and bolstered EAACI Initiative on Planetary Health, with the aim of engaging in a zero pollution action plan, in an adaptation to climate change plan, and in the promotion of a European biodiversity strategy.

Our organisational growth and outstanding achievements require improved and updated management procedures. To ensure that all initiatives develop in a sustainable and efficient manner, EAACI has created a Quality Management Committee. This board is undertaking tremendous work to generate standard operating procedures for a wide range of EAACI activities, in addition to delineating the roles and duties of the different stakeholders of the Academy.

As EAACI President, I want to express my deepest gratitude to all members of the EAACI family for their valuable contribution to the ongoing success of our Academy. Warm regards



Maria Jose Torres
EAACI President

BECOME AN EAACI MEMBER

Over 14,000 professionals are already members of the largest medical association in Europe in the field of Allergy and Clinical Immunology.



Benefits applied to all categories

- ✓ Free access to online Allergy, PAI and CTA journals
- ✓ Full voting rights & eligibility for election
- ✓ Possibility to join Task Forces
- ✓ 50% Discount EAACI Knowledge Exam

Full Membership

150€*

- ✓ EAACI Annual Congress
Up to 25% discount
- ✓ EAACI Focused Meetings
25% discount
- ✓ EAACI Schools & Master Classes
Up to 40% discount

**For members from countries with a GNP of less than USD 10,000: Full Membership is 75€ and EAACI Allied Health Interest Group Membership is 40€.*

Junior Membership (under 40 years old)

Free

- ✓ EAACI Annual Congress
Up to 55% discount
- ✓ EAACI Focused Meetings
Up to 70% discount
- ✓ EAACI Schools & Master Classes
Up to 50% discount
- ✓ Eligibility for EAACI fellowships & Scholarships
- ✓ Eligibility for EAACI events travel grants

EAACI / NAS Dual Membership

30€

- ✓ EAACI Focused Meetings
25% discount
- ✓ EAACI Schools & Master Classes
Up to 40% discount
- ✓ EAACI Annual Congress member rate discount

This membership only applies to members of National Societies who have signed the EAACI NAS Dual Membership Agreement. Check our National Societies Agreements list at www.eaaci.org/membership

Discover our full membership offer at EAACI.org/membership or send an email to member@eaaci.org

Messages from the EAACI board



Reflections on EAACI Congress 2024 in Valencia

It is with immense pride and gratitude that I reflect on the extraordinary success of the EAACI Annual Congress 2024, held in the vibrant city of Valencia, Spain, from May 31 to June 3. Last year's congress brought together more than 8,000 participants from across the globe, reinforcing EAACI's position as a hub for innovation, collaboration, and excellence in allergy and clinical immunology.

A Focus on Innovation and Patient Care

With the theme "Revolutionising Patient Care Through the Power of Data Science," the congress showcased cutting-edge advancements and transformative discussions in precision medicine, artificial intelligence, allergen immunotherapy, immune modulators, and more. Attendees explored how data science can drive personalised medicine and improve patient outcomes, paving the way for revolutionary approaches to diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.

Our scientific programme delved into pressing topics, including the impact of environmental factors such as climate change, pollution, and urbanization on allergic diseases. These timely discussions underscored the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to address the global challenges facing our field and the health of future generations.

An Unforgettable Venue and City

The Feria de Valencia provided an ideal setting for the congress. This state-of-the-art venue offered both functionality and elegance, perfectly complementing the dynamic nature of our sessions and exhibitions. Beyond the congress walls, Valencia's rich historical heritage, stunning architecture, and renowned culinary scene created a backdrop that was as inspiring as the scientific programme itself. Delegates took full advantage of this unique location to network, collaborate, and enjoy the Mediterranean charm.

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to the people of Valencia and all regions in Spain affected by the recent catastrophic flooding. During the EAACI Executive Committee (ExCom Meeting held in Seville from October 31 to November 2, 2024, the Academy's leadership, unanimously agreed to support relief efforts in Spain. In recognition of the immediate needs of those impacted by the floods, EAACI has pledged a donation of 15,000 euros to the Red Cross of Valencia, who are actively providing aid to victims and working to alleviate the suffering of countless individuals.

A Collective Spirit of Excellence

What truly set EAACI Congress 2024 apart was the collective energy and commitment of its attendees. The presence of leading experts, healthcare professionals, researchers, and industry representatives fostered a collaborative atmosphere that was both scientifically enriching and personally rewarding. Your passion and dedication are what make this event a resounding success year after year.

Looking Ahead

As we celebrate the achievements of the EAACI Congress 2024, we also look forward to the future with optimism and determination. Our shared commitment to advancing the field of allergy and clinical immunology ensures that together, we will continue to push boundaries and create meaningful change for patients worldwide.

Thank you to all who contributed to making this congress an unforgettable experience. We look forward to welcoming you to this year's gathering, where we will once again unite to shape the future of our field.



Mohamed Shamji
EAACI
Secretary General



EAACI
EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF ALLERGY
AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

Winter 
School

IMMUNOLOGY WINTER SCHOOL 2025

Basic Immunology
Research in Allergy and
Clinical Immunology

30 January – 2 February 2025
Schladming, Austria

www.eaaci.org

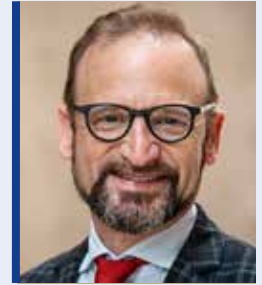
Messages from the EAACI board



EAACI Communication Ongoing Strategy and Future Goals

EAACI Communication Ongoing Strategy and Future Goals

As EAACI continues to grow and evolve, our communication strategy plays an essential role in supporting our mission and strengthening the impact of our work. The role of communications within EAACI is more critical than ever as we engage with a global audience of professionals, researchers, and clinicians dedicated to advancing the field of allergy and clinical immunology.



Oliver Pfaar
EAACI VP
Communications

Ongoing strategy: strengthening connections and knowledge sharing

At EAACI, our communication strategy is built on a foundation of collaboration, transparency, and accessibility. Our key objective is to create a seamless flow of information and foster stronger connections among our community of experts, stakeholders, and the public. We've worked hard to enhance communication channels that serve our members and increase visibility across multiple platforms, from our website and social media to newsletters and digital content.

One of the central elements of our ongoing strategy is the promotion of scientific knowledge and practical expertise. Whether through the EAACI Annual Congress, webinars, or digital content, we are committed to delivering valuable, up-to-date information that helps drive forward research and improve patient care. We aim to make this information not only accessible but engaging, encouraging collaboration across borders to solve the challenges we face in allergy, asthma and immunology.

Future goals: innovation and expansion

Looking ahead, we have ambitious goals to further enhance our communication strategy. We are embracing digital innovation to improve the way we connect with our community and share important research. The rise of digital learning platforms presents a unique opportunity to reach a wider audience and foster ongoing engagement, no matter the geographical distance.

One of the key focuses for the future will be to expand our content strategy to encompass a wider range of formats, including podcasts, video interviews, and interactive media. These initiatives will allow us to delve deeper into the work of our members, highlight cutting-edge research, and address important issues facing our community.

Engaging our community: your role in shaping the future

None of these goals can be realised without the active participation and feedback of our members. We encourage everyone within the EAACI community to contribute to the ongoing conversation, share insights, and become ambassadors for the message of progress and collaboration that defines our work. With your support, we can ensure that EAACI remains at the forefront of scientific communication and collaboration.

Looking ahead together

The future of EAACI communications is bright, and we are committed to making it more dynamic, inclusive and impactful. Thank you for your ongoing support as we work toward our shared goals and a healthier, more sustainable future for all.

Warm regards,



Upcoming Events

Please join us for the EAACI Annual Congress 2025 in Glasgow!



Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

It is with great enthusiasm that I extend a warm invitation to the EAACI Annual Congress 2025, set in the historic and vibrant city of Glasgow, Scotland, from June 13 to 16, 2025. This year's Congress promises to be more than just an event—it is a journey of innovation, inspiration and transformation in the fields of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology.

Under the theme "**Breaking Boundaries in Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology: Integrating Planetary Health for a Sustainable Future,**" we are setting the stage for forward-thinking discussions that will shape the future of our discipline. This Congress is not just an opportunity to exchange knowledge but also to explore the dynamic intersection between human health and the environment, ensuring that we are prepared for the challenges and opportunities of a sustainable future.

Our scientific programme will captivate you with latest breakthroughs and cutting-edge research. The **Plenary Sessions** will set the tone with cutting-edge topics such as the role of microbiota in immune regulation, the latest advancements in drug allergy diagnosis and management, and the intersection of planetary health and allergy in addressing environmental challenges. These sessions, featuring distinguished speakers from around the globe, will provide invaluable insights into emerging therapies, personalised medicine, and the broader implications of environmental factors on allergic diseases.

At the **Innovation Hub**, we will delve into the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in allergy and immunology. With sessions such as "AI in Predictive Modeling for Allergic Disease Management" and "AI in Asthma Management: From Data to Decisions", we aim to showcase how AI is revolutionising diagnostics, predictive care and disease management. Talks by leading experts will highlight AI's



André Moreira
EAACI
VP Congresses

Upcoming Events



applications in anaphylaxis algorithms and digitally enabled care models, while other sessions will explore its role in uncovering phenotypes and improving clinical adherence to guidelines.

Adding a unique dimension to the programme are the **EAACI Enlightening Talks**, which blend cutting-edge science with engaging storytelling. These sessions will feature prominent figures in the field, discussing the evolving journey of asthma and allergy, unveiling the connections between epithelial integrity and allergic diseases, and exploring the impact of climate change on allergies. These talks promise to captivate and inspire, combining high-quality visuals and compelling narratives to make complex topics accessible and relevant.

Beyond the Plenary Sessions, Innovation Hub, and EAACI Enlightening Talks, the scientific programme is packed with **thematic symposia and workshops** covering topics such as food allergy, drug hypersensitivity, sustainable diets, and immune mechanisms in asthma. With its wide-ranging focus, the EAACI Annual Congress 2025 promises to inspire meaningful dialogue, foster cross-disciplinary collaboration, and shape the future of allergy and clinical immunology. Join us in Glasgow to explore, engage and contribute to this transformative journey.

While the scientific programme is undoubtedly brilliant, **the true highlights of the Congress will be shaped by you-through your presentations, the innovative work you showcase, and the connections you forge by networking.** Your contributions will create the most meaningful and impactful programme, driving forward our shared mission to advance allergy and clinical immunology.

Join us in Glasgow for an exceptional and transformative journey, where your professional contributions will take centre stage, inspiring us all to elevate allergy care and clinical immunology to new heights.

Look forward to seeing you in Glasgow for what promises to be an unforgettable Congress.





Update on IG initiatives

Interest Groups (IGs) serve as the foundational pillars of EAACI, driving its scientific and clinical excellence. Their boards and members play a vital role in initiating and leading impactful and innovative scientific projects, such as producing position papers, guidelines, consensus papers, and advancing research through partnerships, both between IGs themselves and in collaboration with EAACI Working Groups. By shaping discussions at EAACI scientific meetings and actively contributing to the scientific programme, IGs are central to EAACI's mission and serve as a dynamic force for progress in the field of allergic diseases.

This year the IG initiatives promise to be equally impactful and engaging.

The Food Allergy IG will launch three Task Forces (TFs) this year. The first of these TFs is the "Food Allergy and Climate Change Task Force", which will evaluate the impact of climate change on different facets of food allergy, including food protein allergenicity, novel food allergens, nutrition, the gut microbiome, and changing dietary patterns. The "FIND" TF project is an update of a survey on oral immunotherapy practices in food allergy and a review of low-dose oral immunotherapy. The final TF will evaluate the natural history of food allergy from childhood to adulthood, especially the prevalence and type of food allergens involved in adult-onset food allergy, and geographical and demographic differences.

The Environmental & Occupational Allergy IG has two significant initiatives. The first, "European Network for the Phenotyping of Occupational Asthma (E-PHOCAS-Phase II)" is a project that aims to establish standardised methods for classifying occupational asthma, enhance diagnostic precision, and improve patient outcomes. The second project "Occupational Mite Allergy and Asthma" focuses on a specific and often under-recognised aspect of occupational allergies, investigating the role of mite exposure in occupational allergy and asthma.

The Allergen Immunotherapy IG has embarked on updating its landmark guidelines and position papers, which previously shaped immunotherapy practices worldwide. Building on this legacy of success, the group aims to incorporate the latest advancements in allergen immunotherapy to further elevate standards of care and improve patient outcomes.

The Drug Allergy IG was highly productive in 2024, with nine TFs continuing



Constantinos Pitsios
EAACI Executive
Committee 2024-26,
Interest Group
Representative



EAACI Initiatives



their important work into 2025. These initiatives address critical areas, such as updating the guidelines on skin testing for drug allergies and harmonising protocols for cross-reactivity and safe alternatives in beta-lactam antibiotic allergies. A TF on establishing a new nomenclature for drug allergy is making good progress. Additionally, two TFs focus on pediatric populations: one on the diagnosis and management of Severe Cutaneous Adverse Reactions (SCARs) in children and another on hypersensitivity to biologicals in children. Other ongoing initiatives include TFs on adverse reactions to anticoagulants, updating the classification of hypersensitivity to NSAIDs, hypersensitivity to excipients in drugs, and advancing the mast cell activation test as a diagnostic tool for drug allergies.

The EAACI TF on Non-Scientifically Validated Diagnostic Tests, established by the [Allergy Diagnosis and Systems Medicine IG](#), aims to assess and mitigate the impact of unvalidated diagnostic tests in clinical practice. The project focuses on raising awareness about their risks, addressing associated challenges, and providing evidence-based recommendations to promote accurate and reliable allergy diagnosis.

To conclude, these ongoing initiatives reflect the continued commitment of EAACI and its IGs to advancing the field of allergology. By addressing key challenges such as food allergy, occupational asthma, allergen immunotherapy, drug allergy and diagnostic accuracy, these projects demonstrate EAACI's dedication to improving patient care and shaping the future of allergy research and treatment.





EAACI unveils groundbreaking guidelines for IgE-Mediated Food Allergy Management

New evidence-based approach to food allergy management

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) has released the updated "Clinical Guidelines on the Management of IgE-mediated Food Allergy" in their journal, *Allergy*. Led by international experts Prof. Alexandra Santos, Dr. Carmen Riggioni, Prof. George du Toit, and Dr. Isabel Skypala, a team of worldwide specialists in food allergy have developed these comprehensive guidelines based on a systematic review of evidence using the Grading of Recommendations, Assessment, Development and Evaluations (GRADE) approach.

The guide was presented during the biannual congress of FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 from 21-23 November in Athens, Greece. These guidelines offer a holistic approach to IgE-mediated food allergy management, combining traditional approaches with new treatments that have gathered enough scientific evidence to support their use. The new EAACI guidelines provide clear recommendations for healthcare professionals on how to best manage food allergy, improving the quality of life for millions of food allergy sufferers worldwide.

*****Higher Expectations for Food Allergy Sufferers: EAACI Guidelines Recommend Best Practice in Food Allergy Management*****

The "EAACI Guidelines on the Management of IgE-mediated Food Allergy" recommend a comprehensive approach, including:

- Allergen avoidance and dietary advice from specialised dietitians
- Prescription of medication to treat allergic reactions
- Provision of written treatment plans
- Education on recognizing allergic symptoms and the use of emergency medication
- Prescription of adrenaline auto-injectors
- Psychological support for patients with significant anxiety
- New treatments such as omalizumab
- Oral immunotherapy for peanut, milk, and egg allergies in children and adolescents

These recommendations could significantly improve the management of IgE-mediated food allergies, reduce the risk of severe reactions, and enhance the quality of life for patients and their families.

The "EAACI Guidelines on the Management of IgE-mediated Food Allergy" represent a significant step forward in food allergy management. By combining traditional approaches with innovative treatments, they offer new hope for patients struggling with food allergies. The emphasis on personalized care, including dietary, medical, and psychological support, could transform the lives of millions worldwide affected by IgE-mediated food allergies.



Alexandra F. Santos
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London, United Kingdom

In the Spotlight

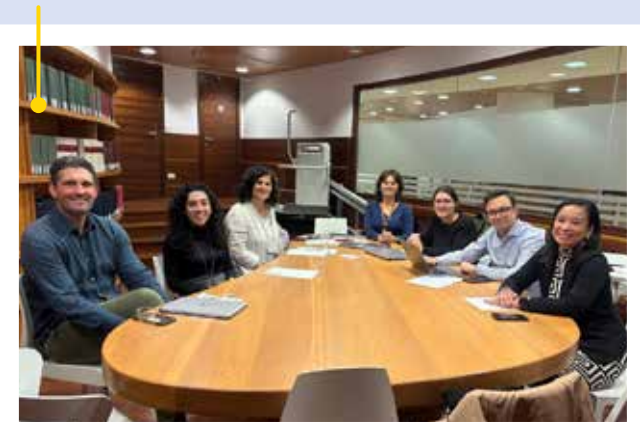


Ensuring organisational processes and outcomes meet quality standards: A new vision for EAACI

Quality assessment is the collection and analysis of data through which the degree of conformity to predetermined standards and criteria for any activity or organisation are identified. It is a continuous process. Since its original foundation in 1952, EAACI has aimed to improve the quality of health care, research and education in the area of allergy and immunology. With this aim, EAACI organises many activities that are provided for (and by) doctors, nurses, dieticians and, of course, patient organisations. EAACI has always aimed to provide high quality outcomes, meaning a high degree of excellence. As a new vision, EAACI now aims to certify the quality of its activities and organisation. So, in 2024 a Quality Committee was founded with the objective of ensuring quality in all EAACI activities and in its organisation. The Quality Committee is co-chaired by Jean Christoph Caubet from Switzerland and Gülfem Çelik from Turkey. Arzu Bakırtaş is the Secretary, with the other members being Stefania Arasi, Montserrat Alvaro Lozano, Marina Sabate Bresco and Francesco Cinetto. Cathy Persidis, from EAACI HQ, is the managing assistant.

As a first step, this brand new committee has targeted the development of EAACI Centres of Excellence (ECE). The objective of these centres is to improve the quality of patient care and education, and they will be of particularly

Members of the newly formed EAACI Quality Committee.



Gülfem Çelik
EAACI Quality Committee,
Co-chair



Christoph Caubet
EAACI Quality Committee,
Co-chair

importance for the performing of efficient multicentred studies that are needed in many field of allergy and immunology. This project is expected to be introduced in the early months of 2025.

The committee also aims to review all the organisational processes of EAACI and to ensure that every activity has established quality requirements.



Molecular Allergology Pocket Guide: An essential tool for daily clinical practice

Since the early 1980s, starting with the identification and cloning of the first allergens from pollen and mites, innovations in science and technology have greatly facilitated the identification and subsequent production of purified allergens from multiple sources. Today, 1120 allergens from different sources, e.g., animals, fungi and plants, are listed in the WHO/IUIS Allergen Nomenclature database, and the number is still increasing each year[1]. The availability of single allergen components and the development of chip-based systems have tremendously changed in vitro IgE diagnosis, allowing a personalised approach to the management of allergic diseases. On the other hand, the huge number of available allergens and results to be interpreted have led to new challenges in IgE-diagnostics. The Molecular Allergology User's Guide (MAUG), first published in 2016 and updated in 2022, provides state-of-the-art information on allergen molecules, their clinical relevance and application in diagnostic algorithms for clinical practice, all compiled in one large volume by almost 100 experts in the field [2,3].

Although the new edition of MAUG (MAUG 2.0) is the most comprehensive and most recent book on Molecular Allergology, its size doesn't make it the most practical resource for daily clinical practice. Therefore, a new task force (TF) was initiated with the objective of further promoting Molecular Allergology by creating a condensed "pocket guide" that provides essential information and clinical algorithms in a more manageable format.

The TF, in a collaborative effort that included members of the MAUG 2.0 editorial team (Christiane Hilger, Karin Hoffmann-Sommergruber, Alexandra Santos, Leticia de la Vecillas and Stephanie Dramburg), EAACI junior members (Mattia Giovannini and Riccardo Castagnoli) and members of the Interest Group of Allergy Diagnosis & Systems Medicine (IGADSM) (Alma Villaseñor, Simon Blank and Annette Kuehn), worked closely with the authors of the original chapters to create the pocket guide version of MAUG 2.0, compiling key information in a practical and easy-to-use format.



Christiane Hilger
*Chair of the TF, Past Chair
IG Allergy Diagnosis &
Systems Medicine*



Alma Villaseñor
*Chair IG Allergy Diagnosis
& Systems Medicine*



Stephanie Dramburg
*Secretary IG Allergy Diag-
nosis & Systems Medicine*

In the Spotlight



The pocket guide contains two major sections taken from MAUG 2.0:

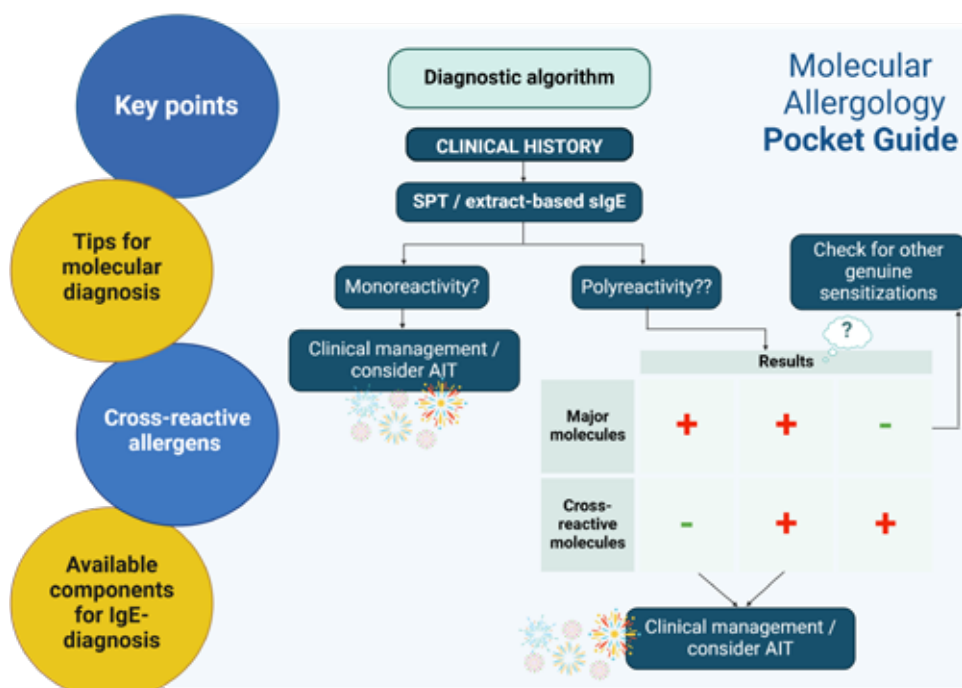
- Section B, containing chapters which relate to clinical practice and provide hands-on information for 22 allergen sources. Each chapter contains essential knowledge required for molecular diagnosis of a specific allergen source.
- Section C, containing chapters which refer to 11 families of cross-reactive molecules and provide important information on IgE-cross-reactivity, guiding the diagnostic interpretation of polysensitisation to cross-reactive allergen families.

All these chapters follow the same structure: key information, tips for molecular diagnosis, a table of available allergens, and a diagnostic algorithm. Allergen tables are limited to the currently commercially available molecules, not all of which may yet be available in all countries. The pocket guide is meant to assist clinicians who are less familiar with single or multiplex molecular IgE diagnostics, but it is still very useful for clinicians and researchers with a strong background in molecular allergology, as the field is expanding rapidly and it is difficult to keep up with the rising number of allergens available for diagnosis.

The layout of the pocket guide is similar to MAUG 2.0, enabling quick navigation between the two. However, the pocket guide only contains the essentials for daily practice, ensuring that it is a practical and indispensable tool for clinicians. Readers are invited to consult the corresponding chapters in MAUG 2.0 for comprehensive background information. Both the book and pocket guide are also great sources for educational purposes, and are freely available for download on the EAACI Knowledge Hub (LINK).

We would like to express our special thanks to all authors of MAUG 2.0 for their collaboration and to EAACI for supporting the TF. Their contributions have been invaluable in the creation of the pocket edition of MAUG 2.0. We hope readers will enjoy the guide and find it helpful in their daily clinical practice.

Christiane Hilger, Alma Villaseñor, Karin Hoffmann-Sommergruber, Alexandra Santos, Leticia de la Vecillas, Stephanie Dramburg, Simon Blank, Annette Kuehn, Mattia Giovannini, Riccardo Castagnoli
Members of the TF Beyond MAUG: Molecular Allergology in Clinical Practice





New insights in beta-lactam cross-reactivity

Beta-lactam antibiotics are still considered one of our most useful anti-infectious agents. Avoidance of them due to a presumed allergy to penicillin or one of the other beta-lactams often leads to the choice of a second or third line treatment. This has been proven to lead to higher costs and more postoperative infections, as well as prolonged treatment and higher readmittance rates. One of the most worrying consequences of the use of non-beta-lactam alternative antibiotics is the rise of antimicrobial resistance and, as a consequence, an inability to treat infections.¹⁻⁷ A recent article in the *Lancet* by Naghavi et al. estimated that between now and 2050, 39 million people will die due to antibiotic treatment failure.⁸

It is well known that a patient's penicillin allergy label is often false, for example because side effects have been mistaken for allergic symptoms, or because the symptoms are part of the infection and not due to treatment. Unfortunately, once a label is in place, re-evaluation is seldom undertaken. In an acute situation, evaluating a penicillin or beta-lactam allergy by means of skin test and/or provocation tests is often not possible and, if a beta-lactam is the preferred option, we rely on cross reactivity tables to advise us about safe alternatives within the beta-lactam group.⁹⁻¹⁵

A recent poster presented at the EAACI Congress 2024 by Hutten et al. showed that our confidence in these tables may be overrated. Although mostly in agreement, there are some striking differences between three of the most used cross reactivity tables worldwide as well as the recently published Dutch guideline.⁹⁻¹⁵ Romano for instance states that amoxicillin and ampicillin have a similar ring in the R1 chain, while according to Trubiano they share an almost identical R1 chain; in daily practice, this will be clinically irrelevant, since it will be avoided in both cases. When the cross reactivity between aztreonam and cefixime is assessed, however, Trubiano mentions no shared cross reactivity with a beta-lactam ring which reads as safe, while Romano states that they share an identical ring in the R1 structure. Since this implies that aztreonam is potentially unsafe in cefixime allergic patients and vice versa, this will most certainly lead to avoidance. These are only two examples. Hutten and coworkers have demonstrated that the four tables that they compared were discrepant without clinical relevance (making no difference in clinical decisions) in 122 cases, while the discrepancy was relevant (safe for use vs avoidance) in 272 cases (article under review; updated data obtained by personal communication with the authors).⁹⁻¹⁵



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Scientific Update



Furthermore, it has also been shown that internal discrepancies can be found in these tables; these were only partly solved by later published errata, so depending on whether one reads horizontally or vertically, the cause of cross reactivity could differ. In only one case, would this lead to clinically different advice.¹⁰⁻¹³

To avoid the risk of inadvertent allergic reactions, a harmonisation of these tables is warranted, and this work is being undertaken by the EAACI Task Force on Harmonising Beta-lactam Cross Reactivity and Safe Alternatives. Taken together, these tables encompass 51 beta-lactams. Since no author has previously included all beta-lactams, information regarding cross reactivity is missing in several cases, e.g. cefetamet and cefotetan. The Task Force will also fill such gaps in knowledge.

A last point of interest is the accessibility of these data. Although these tables are available in scientific literature, it is not always easy to use them to find an alternative beta-lactam due to their lay-out. It is even more difficult if a patient reports a presumed allergy to multiple beta-lactams. A digital tool for clinicians that merges all the information regarding cross reactivity could be particularly useful in selecting a safe beta-lactam, even in a case of multiple sensitivities. A second advantage would be that, in areas where access to scientific literature is not widely available, a website with such a digital tool could enable medical professionals to choose a different beta-lactam instead of a different antibiotic group. Such a tool is considered a medical device in Europe and as such it is subjected to European legislation. Currently, one is under review by the notified body and depending on its decision, it could be on the market this year.

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EAACI Task Force Report on Endotyping in Chronic Rhinosinusitis



Adam M. Chaker
EAACI ENT Section, Chair

Offering the right treatment for the right patient (effective, targeted, well tolerated), precision medicine holds great promise, even for chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS).

Both those of us who were sceptical and those who were enthusiastic about the new opportunities offered 5 years ago have probably been proved wrong. Yes, we see outstanding success in new biological therapies in CRS, but yes, we also need to switch treatments in poor-responders and, moreover, we can't easily predict which of our patients will have a response that really changes their life for the better. Targeted therapies need better understanding of the underlying nature of the disease - the "endotype".

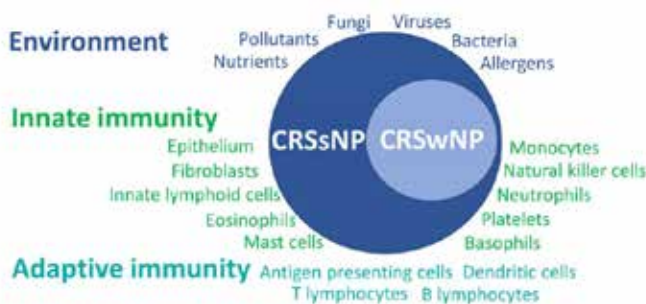


Figure 2 | A schematic diagram of the different environmental and immunological entities that affect the endotype of chronic rhinosinusitis (CRS). CRSsNP=CRS with nasal polyps.

In their recent article published in *Allergy*¹, Professor Sanna Toppila-Salmi, the past Chair of the ENT Section, and her colleagues on the EAACI Task Force on Endotyping in CRS provide the current state of the art in our understanding of these endotypes – simply put, a molecular phenotype. A better understanding of CRS as the immune-pathology of the mucosa, of pathomechanisms, barrier properties of the airway epithelium, host-environment interactions, and the role of environmental agents, is the rationale for diagnostic endotyping, thus enabling targeted treatment (see "Figure 2", which is taken directly from the article).

The review used a PRISMA approach for literature search, and more than 950 publications were screened, with 168 publications being included. The literature about pathomechanisms and involved functional compartments of the airway epithelium and the immune system have been systematically dissected, and subtypes of disease such as CRS with or without nasal polyps, co-morbid asthma or NSAID-intolerance were all considered. A short paragraph on diagnostic endotyping bridges this article to daily clinical practice. The paper further sketches an outlook on laboratory testing and on potential unmet needs; in Europe and post-industrial societies we see a T₂-bias, while these T₂ inflammations vary in detail quite often, as in vivo T₂ mediators may be pleiotropic but not synonymous or arbitrary. It is with this T₂ bias that we have to learn to make better use of new and established anti-T₂ options: the era of targeted treatment in CRS using endotyping is evolving but not yet here.

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SAM 2025



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Immunoology Winter School 2025: Top scientific discussions in the Austrian Alps

The EAACI Immunology Winter School organised by the Basic & Clinical Immunology Section has taken place annually since it first began 23 years ago in Davos, Switzerland. The Winter School is an excellent forum for junior scientists and clinicians in the fields of basic and clinical immunology, allergy and asthma to present their data and discuss innovative science in a friendly environment.

The EAACI Immunology Winter School 2025 will take place in Schladming, Austria on **30 January-2 February 2025**. We have selected an inspiring line up of six keynote speakers who will share their newest discoveries in fields including immune-stromal communication in the airways (**Clare Lloyd**), mast cell-peripheral neuron axis in allergy (**Nicolas Gaudenzio**), antigen-specific T Cells in food allergy (Cecilia Berin), human early life development in single cell atlases (**Muzlifah Haniffa**), mechanisms of humoral adaptive immunity (**Yolanda R. Carrasco**) and gene-environment interactions in asthma (**Klaus Bønnelykke**). Moreover, participants will enjoy a practical course on "Molecules in allergology: From immunological knowledge to clinical application", led by **Eva Untersmayr**, which will count on the expertise of the faculty of the Basic and Clinical Immunology Section. Additional poster sessions and social activities will complete the program, leading to many fruitful collaborations and fostering scientific exchange.

Based on the quality of their submitted abstracts, 70 Junior Members from Europe and beyond will be selected to attend and have the opportunity to be part of the upcoming EAACI Immunology Winter School 2025. Travel grants for 10 participants and 6 awards for the best poster presenters are also guaranteed!

We look forward to meeting you in Schladming!



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Co-Chair WS 2025 Austria,
VP Education & Specialty



Record attendance at the EAACI Allergy School 2024

The Allergy School on Insect Venom Hypersensitivity and Mastocytosis was held in Bilbao, Spain, from 19 to 21 September. It was chaired by Dr Arantza Vega Castro and Dr Elisa Boni, past and current chairs of the Insect Venom Hypersensitivity WG respectively, and was attended by 19 expert speakers from 10 countries, with 155 participants coming from 26 countries – a record attendance and participation. The EAACI Allergy Schools facilitate learning in a friendly environment, in which EAACI Junior Members are able to easily participate and collaborate with each other and with the experts leading the sessions. At this Allergy School, a total of 51 abstracts were received and defended by their authors. The 6 best studies were selected for oral presentation and discussion, the remaining 45 were defended by participants in poster presentations during the meeting.

Different aspects of mastocytosis were addressed, such as how to clearly identify mastocytosis patients who develop venom allergy, the clinical phenotype and new treatments, and how to recognise alpha-tryptasemia and its relation to hymenoptera venom allergy. Proper insect identification by an entomologist as a tool to improve diagnosis was also discussed. A review of current techniques for diagnosing Hymenoptera venom allergy and current algorithms was presented, as were key points for prescribing Hymenoptera venom immunotherapy, phenotyping of patients for both diagnosis and treatment to increase diagnostic accuracy and therapeutic efficacy, how to manage patients allergic to rare insects, and the changing environmental factors influencing venom allergy, including occupational aspects of the disease. Discussions also looked to the future management of various aspects of venom-allergic patients and how to promote changes in practice.

The workshops were well attended. For the first time at an EAACI meeting, live bee and wasp sting tests were performed on chicken skin to train participants in this technique. Other workshops focused on how to identify risk factors for patient non-responders or for those with a bad tolerance to treatment, how to deal with diagnostic complications, lack of venom products, and how to manage venom immunotherapy reactions.

Highlights of the debates included the indication or non-prescription of VIT in patients with local reactions, the need for prospective studies to establish criteria such as the lack of efficacy in Api m10 allergy sufferers currently supported only by a retrospective study, and the safety of using rapid regimens and simultaneous administration of multiple venoms to avoid unnecessary patient visits.

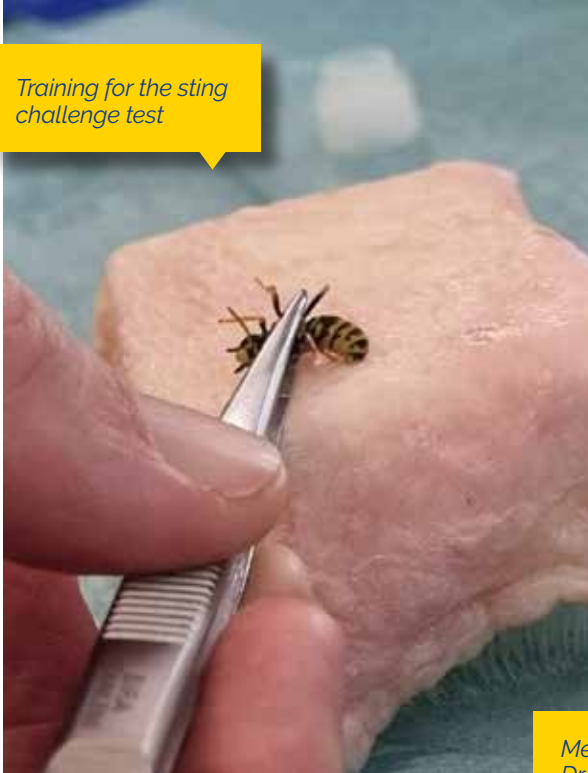


Arantza Vega Castro
*Insect Venom
Hypersensitivity WG,
Chair (2022–2024)*

EAACI Events



Training for the sting challenge test



*Members of the Organising Committee:
Dr David González de Olano, Dr Christine Breyneart, Dr Arantza Vega Castro,
Dr Elisa Boni and Dr Patrizia Bonadonna*



Participation in the poster presentations



FAAM-EUROBAT 2024

Celebrating advances in food allergy and anaphylaxis research

The **FAAM-EUROBAT 2024** conference was held from 21–23 November in Athens, the historical capital of Greece, one of the most ancient cities in the world and famous as the birthplace of democracy. This great scientific event brought together over 550 attendees from over 25 countries to share the latest advancements in food allergy and anaphylaxis research.

FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 featured impactful sessions, pro and con debates, workshops and plenary discussions, highlighting new evidence and the importance of collaboration in tackling critical health challenges in food allergy and anaphylaxis. Attendees gained insights into groundbreaking research, were encouraged to participate in interactive sessions, and had opportunities to network with global experts.

One of the standout moments was the launch of **World Anaphylaxis Awareness Day** on 21 November, established by EAACI to raise global awareness of the life-threatening condition of anaphylaxis. This landmark initiative, introduced during the Opening Ceremony, set the tone for an inspiring and impactful meeting which focused on evidence based information and cutting-edge science of anaphylaxis and its management, whilst employing a comprehensive “bench to bedside” approach.

A key highlight of the conference programme was the plenary session, which included the much-anticipated launch of the **EAACI Food Allergy Guidelines**, a clinical practice milestone providing comprehensive recommendations for best practice and improvement of patient outcomes. Tanya and Nadim Ednan-Laperouse, founders of The Natasha Allergy Research Foundation, delivered a touching and important testimonial, sharing their powerful personal story and ongoing advocacy efforts, including **Natasha's Law**, mandating more precise allergen labelling to protect food allergy sufferers. This plenary session underscored the vital connection between patient advocacy and scientific progress.

Attendees also engaged in thought-provoking discussions **during workshops**, including more profound insights into food allergen immunotherapy and exploring novel immune mechanisms to enhance treatment effectiveness.

The **Poster Sessions** showcased cutting-edge research, highlighting innovative approaches and practical solutions to advance allergy and immunology care. Over three days, **FAAM-EUROBAT 2024** offered



Sophia Tsabouri
EAACI Pediatric
Section, Chair;
FAAM-EuroBat,
Co-Chair

EAACI Events



an exceptional platform for knowledge exchange and networking, fostering collaborations among clinicians, researchers and patient advocates.

As the meeting concluded, participants left inspired and with an expanded professional network in food allergy and anaphylaxis, well able to advance patient care worldwide. FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 celebrated scientific progress and reinforced the importance of global cooperation in addressing the pressing health challenges in food allergy and anaphylaxis.

We are all truly thankful for the energy, engagement and collaborative spirit of all the participants, as well as for their insightful discussions over the three days of **FAAM-EUROBAT 2024**. EAACI is the leading allergy and clinical immunology organisation and is committed to advance the field of food allergy and anaphylaxis, and to promote excellence in clinical care, research and education, and in allergy and clinical immunology training.



(Left to right): Ozlem Ceylan (EAACI Patients Organisations Committee Chair), Maria Torres (EAACI President), Tanya and Nadim Ednan-Laperouse (founders of The Natasha Allergy Research Foundation), Mohamed Shamji (EAACI Secretary General) and Asli Akkor (EAACI NAIS Chair).





Upcoming plans and opportunities for JM participation

The EAACI JM Assembly was first established in 2001 aiming to encourage young clinicians and basic scientists in the field of allergy and clinical immunology and support their scientific activities under the auspices of EAACI. During the last 23 years Junior Members (JMs) under the age of 35 have had the opportunity to participate in all EAACI activities and benefit from their commitment to the Academy. Many JMs have been empowered over the years and EAACI has acknowledged Juniors as the keystone for a stronger and more ambitious future.

JMs have the opportunity to participate in EAACI Focused Meetings (PAAM, FAAM-Eurobat, ISAF, DHM, SAM, ISMA- RHINA), to apply for travel grants and fellowships, and to take part (in large numbers and achieving high scores!) in scientific quizzes and allergy exams which take place once a year.

Winter Schools and Allergy Schools have been organised by prominent members of the Academy focusing on JMs. Participants have the opportunity to spend 2-3 days in a closed, smaller meetings (~250) and exchange ideas and clinical data with their colleagues from other parts of the world (and not only within the European countries borders). Furthermore their contact with the EAACI Leadership during these events supports their scientific skills as well as their communication ones. In that way they can build stronger engagement in their field. We strongly support these initiatives and hope they continue in the same manner without change.

EAACI further supports JMs and invests in them with the Mentorship program, offering them the opportunity to be mentored by highly respected scientists (including past EAACI JMs among the mentors), allowing them to work further on their projects and finalise their collaborations by submitting scientific work for publishing into one of the three top-rated, high impact factor EAACI journals.

The EAACI journals (Allergy, PAI, CTA) have been focusing on JMs to submit innovative ideas and work, and many courses regarding the steps of the writing and reviewing process aimed at JMs have been held during EAACI events. A Graphic Designer Masterclass (a new course started in Valencia 2024, organised by graphic designer Anna Globinska) had a great approval rate and high participation from JMs, and the JMA aims to make it a permanent event with a greater impact and bigger participation next time.



Aspasia Karavelia
EAACI JMA, Chairperson



Rubén Fernandez Santamaria
EAACI JMA, Secretary

From the EAACI Family



This year, EAACI aims to further support the JMs and focus on undergraduate students. EAACI is planning to launch a new initiative, the Clinical Research Challenge (CRC), to further support medical and biomedical students in addition to the successful Allergy School program. The CRC will focus on familiarising students with the process of writing and reviewing articles, focusing on the basics. The aim of this initiative is to invest in future authors and raise the quality of their papers.

Furthermore, EAACI has decided to raise the age limit of JMs to 40, in line with other scientific societies, taking into account the educational programs of both European and non-European countries.

The JM Assembly is the only multidisciplinary Section of EAACI. Representatives of the JMA represent all Juniors and participate actively in the scientific program of the EAACI Annual Congress, in task forces, campaigns, position papers, guidelines, reviews, editorials, podcasts and webinars. The Skin Allergy Course (SAC), which takes place every year under the auspices of the Dermatology Section, is co-organised by the JM representative of the Section, offering JMs the opportunity to take part in an one day intensive course.

JMs involved in other Societies often lay the groundwork for building closer relationships with other Sister Societies, starting productive collaborations.

JMs are currently half of the active EAACI membership, and after the rise of the age limit we expect them to be around 60–70% of the Academy's members.

Educate young minds to build a better world



EAACI invests in JMs since our juniors are the future leaders in the field, and the history of the Academy has shown that by focussing on juniors you gain highly educated members in terms of science communication and administrative skills in the future.

The JMA's future plans include the establishment of a common worldwide educational program and a focus on better engagement of JMs with the Academy. For this reason, there is always an opportunity for younger members to voice our opinions, and for us to enjoy a number of social events during scientific meetings. Our empowering Social Media accounts also aim to build communication bridges.



Introducing the new EAACI Website Editor: Enhancing your online experience

As EAACI continues to evolve, so does our commitment to delivering an outstanding digital experience for our members and visitors. My name is Daniela Carvalho, and I am honoured to serve as the EAACI Website Editor. In this role, I aim to ensure that our online presence reflects the dynamic, diverse and innovative spirit of our organisation while providing a seamless, engaging and informative user experience.

The EAACI website is not just a repository of information; it is a vibrant hub where the global allergy and clinical immunology community connects. From cutting-edge research to announcements about upcoming events, our website serves as a vital resource for healthcare professionals, researchers and students.

Our goal is to make the website a reliable companion in your professional journey. Whether you are searching for educational materials, accessing the latest guidelines, registering for an event or reading thought-provoking articles, the EAACI website is designed to meet your needs.

It is important to highlight that none of this would be possible without incredible teamwork and the support I receive from EAACI Headquarters. Behind every update, feature enhancement or successful content initiative lies a collaborative effort with our dedicated EAACI staff. From technical experts ensuring the site runs smoothly to communications specialists who help shape our messaging, the Headquarters team plays a crucial role in bringing our shared vision to life.

A critical part of the team's role is ensuring the website remains user-friendly and accessible. In today's fast-paced world, users expect quick and easy navigation, visually appealing designs, and content that is both informative and inspiring.

The EAACI website is also a platform to celebrate our members' achievements and milestones. From showcasing successful events to highlighting individual accomplishments, we aim to foster a sense of



Daniela Carvalho
EAACI Website Editor

From the EAACI Family



belonging within the EAACI family. If you have a story to share, a publication to feature, or an event to promote, I encourage you to reach out to the following e-mail: dfcarvalhog@gmail.com. Together, we can spotlight the extraordinary work happening across our network and inspire others to get involved.

The digital landscape is ever-changing, and staying ahead requires adaptability and innovation. Working together with the extraordinary team at EAACI Headquarters, I am focused on finding and implementing new features, including enhanced search capabilities, interactive tools and exclusive member content. These upgrades are all aimed at empowering you to make the most of your EAACI membership while fostering collaboration across the allergy and immunology community.

As we embark on this journey of change, your feedback is invaluable. What would you like to see more of on the EAACI website? Are there particular resources or functionalities you find especially useful—or those you feel are missing? Please don't hesitate to share your thoughts.

Serving as the EAACI Website Editor is a privilege, and I am deeply committed to ensuring the website remains a valuable resource for all who use it. By continually enhancing our online presence, I hope to contribute to EAACI's mission of improving the lives of individuals affected by allergic and immunologic diseases worldwide.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the EAACI Headquarters team, whose expertise and unwavering support are at the core of our success.

Thank you for your continued engagement with EAACI; I look forward to helping you navigate and benefit from all the website has to offer. Together, let us make this platform a true reflection of our remarkable EAACI community.





Upholding High Ethical Standards in EAACI & Beyond

The doctor-patient relationship has changed more in the last 50 years than in the last 25 centuries. Social changes, the development of medicine and the intervention of new agents have all contributed to this. Today we live in a world that is characterised by being vulnerable, uncertain, unmanageable, noisy, complex, ambiguous, anxious and hyperconnected. In the world of health, we need ethical references that allow us to carry out our healthcare, teaching, research or management activities with the highest quality standards.

Technological advances such as Telemedicine, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, gene editing and therapy represent an opportunity to create precision medicine. These advances must be respectful of ethical principles. We must fulfill our commitments responsibly. We must work to maintain and improve our professional competence, honesty with patients, confidentiality and appropriate relationships with the patient, as well as the quality of assistance, accessibility to care, fair distribution of resources, scientific knowledge, trust versus conflict of interest, and our professional responsibilities.

Our value as professionals depend on different competencies: theoretical knowledge, practical skills, positive attitude, ethics and communication. Communication must be efficient, effective, and also affective.

We have the daily challenge of being competent. We can define professional competencies as a set of skills that allow us to solve problems



Tomás Chivato
*EAACI Ethics Committee,
Chair*



From the EAACI Family



of increasing complexity in diverse work scenarios, in an autonomous and flexible way that allows transfer to new situations, as well as the construction of a position that integrates cognitive and skill aspects, ethical elements and critical thinking required to confront reality and make proposals for improvement to our daily practice.

The EAACI Executive Committee, Sections, Interest Groups, journals, website, Knowledge Hub and annual congresses must work to make the world a better place for allergic patients. EAACI must generate knowledge, transmit knowledge and

apply knowledge. This knowledge must be scientifically true, ethically good and aesthetically beautiful, remembering the classical Greek philosophers: **verum, bonum, pulchrum**.

Since the time of Hippocrates of Cos (450 BC) the principles of beneficence, non-maleficence, justice and equity have been a guide for health professionals. In the 20th century, the principle of autonomy was added to daily practice. These ethical principles help ensure that patients are treated with respect and dignity, that their well-being comes first, and that healthcare resources are distributed fairly. Privacy, confidentiality and professional secrecy are essential in the doctor-patient relationship.

Will 5P medicine (precision, participatory, population-based, preventive and personalised) preserve the principle of justice? Will Personalised Medicine affect the principle of equity?

We have help in our daily practice, such as clinical research ethics committees or healthcare ethics committees. And in a world as complex as today's, the principles of bioethics are relevant. The concept of One Health is also essential; animals and plants must be cared for if we want to have a future on our planet Earth.

The Ethics Committee is a permanent body of EAACI aimed at ensuring high ethical standards in all areas of EAACI activity and beyond, as the European reference structure in the field of ethics in allergy and clinical immunology for training and good practice, research and management of allergic diseases, patient information, patient care and public health issues concerning the field of allergy and clinical immunology.





The EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Exam:

Linking relevant knowledge and advances to training and education

The EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Exam is an essential assessment tool for healthcare professionals, to certify their expertise in a rapidly evolving specialty.

The EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Examination Committee aims to improve and enhance the educational framework for professionals in the field of allergy and immunology throughout Europe. During the 2024–2026 mandate, the Committee's objective is to increase both the quality and relevance of the Knowledge Exam, and align European training standards with the latest advancements in research and clinical practices.

The Committee provides a dynamic and innovative exam, which serves as an educational opportunity for doctors, facilitating mobility between European centres and enhancing professional qualifications. Beyond improving clinicians' CVs, taking the EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Exam has long-term implications for patient care, as it recognises optimally-trained professionals, capable of addressing the evolving challenges in allergy and immunology at a European level.

Under the current leadership of Chair, Ileana Ghiordanescu, and Secretary, Chiara Tontini, working with the esteemed past Chair, Knut Brockow, and UEMS Chair, Norbert Mulleneisen, the Committee is taking important steps to refine the Knowledge Exam. The Committee's primary goal is to improve the Exam's content, ensuring it is not only aligned with current practice, but also capable of testing the true depth of knowledge of allergists and clinical immunologists. To elevate the quality of the Exam, the Committee constantly expands and en-



Ileana Ghiordanescu
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Knowledge
Examination
Committee, Chair



Chiara Tontini
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From the EAACI Family



riches the existing question bank, by meticulously revising outdated items, eliminating irrelevant material, improving the quality and readability of the questions, and introducing new questions designed to better capture the evolving nature of the specialty. Furthermore, the Committee has an established collaboration with the University of Bern, and plans to increase the number of expert question reviewers, to enhance objectivity and eliminate potential biases. By implementing these updates, the Committee aims to create a fair, thorough, and dynamic assessment process.

Ensuring security and transparency in the Knowledge Exam process are also key priorities, as they are essential for maintaining the integrity and validity of the Exam and its results. In line with these goals, the Committee is exploring the feasibility of returning to in-person exams. This change could help bolster the overall candidate experience, and ensure a secure and professional assessment environment.

The current mandate aims to align the EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Exam with the European Training Requirements (ETR) for the Allergy and Clinical Immunology specialty. To achieve this, the Committee is collaborating closely with the Union of European Medical Specialists (UEMS) and the CME & Specialty Committee. These collaborations ensure that the Exam blueprint is consistent with the latest evolving European curricula. Additionally, the Committee plans to update the Exam's literature list, by incorporating recent publications, current guidelines and position papers in the field. As a result, the Knowledge Exam content will reflect the most up-to-date scientific research, clinical guidelines and best practices, hence adequately preparing candidates for the challenges they will encounter in their profession.

By refining the EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Exam, the Committee is not only working to improve the qualification process for future European specialists, but is also ensuring the quality and security of medical education at large. Through strategic collaborations, innovative updates to the Exam structure, and alignment with the latest research and clinical guidelines, the Committee is laying the groundwork for a more skilled, competent and well-prepared workforce to join the field of allergy and clinical immunology. As a result, the EAACI-UEMS Knowledge Examination Committee is poised to continue shaping the future of the specialty in Europe, ultimately benefiting both professionals and patients alike.





Analysing the educational needs of EAACI members, non-members and patients

EAACI plays a pivotal role in advancing the understanding and management of allergic diseases. As we investigate the educational needs of EAACI members, non-members and patients, it becomes clear that effective disease management is not merely a product of technological advancements but also heavily relies on comprehensive education.

The initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic provided a stark reminder of the critical role education plays in disease management. The efforts to curb the virus's spread were significantly bolstered by the rapid dissemination of information among both healthcare professionals and the general public. This situation underscored the necessity for the scientific community to take a lead in knowledge dissemination to prevent the emergence of less reliable information sources.

Despite the high prevalence of allergic diseases, their representation within medical education and public awareness remains surprisingly limited. A recent study highlighted a concerning trend within Spanish universities, where allergy is taught as an independent subject in only 43% of medical schools. Even more alarming is the fact that allergists are involved in teaching this subject in only 26% of these institutions. This lack of focus on allergic diseases in medical education is mirrored globally, as noted by the World Allergy Organization, which emphasises the increasing prevalence of allergic diseases and the urgent need for clinicians to possess a fundamental understanding of allergy diagnosis and management.

To address the current gaps in education concerning allergic diseases, a multi-tiered approach is essential. At a societal level, raising awareness of the prevalence of allergic diseases can foster increased interest among pre-graduate medical students. This heightened awareness can lead to greater specialisation in allergy and immunology, ultimately benefiting patient care.

Introducing early education about allergies in schools can have a profound impact on raising awareness.



Marta Ferrer
*EAACI Tailored Education Committee,
Chair Dean of the
Universidad de Navarra School
of Medicine*

From the EAACI Family



By connecting theoretical knowledge to personal experiences, such as family members with allergies, or using relatable cultural references (e.g., the sneeze in Snow White), we can cultivate a deeper understanding of allergic diseases from a young age.

Allergists must take the initiative in shaping pre-graduate medical education. By leading the teaching of allergy and immunology, they can ensure that future physicians have a robust foundational knowledge in these areas. Furthermore, incorporating allergy departments into regular medical school rotations can expose students to potential academic career paths in allergy, thereby encouraging specialisation.

One of the significant challenges facing the field of allergology is the lack of standardised residency programs across Europe and the uneven recognition of allergology as a medical specialty. There is a pressing need to harmonise the best training programs across the continent. Although the UEMS Council approved residency requirements in 2019, continuous updates to training programs are necessary to keep pace with ongoing advancements in the field, such as the use of biologics, molecular diagnosis, and food and drug desensitisation.

In addition to technical expertise, the allergology curriculum should emphasise soft skills, interprofessional collaboration, professionalism and ethical considerations. These elements are crucial for developing well-rounded professionals capable of providing comprehensive patient care.

Implementing quality assessment measures for teaching centres can significantly enhance patient care by ensuring the highest standards of training for future allergists. These measures will help identify and address gaps in education, thereby improving the overall quality of care provided to patients with allergic diseases.

In conclusion, the educational needs of EAACI members, non-members and patients are multifaceted and require a comprehensive, multi-tiered approach. By raising awareness, enhancing medical education, standardising residency programs and implementing quality assessment measures, we can address the current gaps in education and improve the management of allergic diseases. The role of education in disease management cannot be overstated, and it is imperative that the scientific community takes the lead in disseminating accurate and reliable knowledge to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.





Introduction to the Food Allergy IG Board and update on activities

The new board members of the Food Allergy Interest Group have a wide range of interests and expertise, covering the whole age spectrum of patients with food allergy:

Chair: Isabel Skypala

Consultant Allergy Dietitian and Clinical Lead for Adult Food Allergy, Royal Brompton Hospital, and Senior Clinical Lecturer, Imperial College, London, UK; has a special interest in plant food allergy, including PFS, LTP and the effects of climate change.

Secretary: Enza D'Auria

Head of the Paediatric Allergy Unit at Buzzi Children's Hospital, Milan, Italy, and Associate Professor of Paediatrics at the University of Milan; paediatric allergist with clinical expertise and special interest in paediatric food allergy, immune-nutrition and microbiota in food allergy.

Simona Barni

Paediatrician in the Allergy Unit at Meyer Children's Hospital, Florence, Italy; her fields of expertise are the management of children with non-IgE mediated food allergy, in particular food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome and eosinophilic esophagitis, and oral immunotherapy of patients affected by IgE mediated food allergies.

Paqui Gomez Perez

Head of the Clinical Food Unit at the Malaga Regional University Hospital, Spain; a clinical researcher focused primarily on the study of food allergies in adolescents and adults.

Felicita Bellutti Enders

Head of the Paediatric Allergy and Clinical Immunology Unit, Basel, Switzerland. She is interested in translational research, especially in biomarkers in different immunological diseases.

Natalia Pérez Sánchez

Allergist working in Malaga University Hospital, Spain. Investigator in different food allergy studies, mainly related to plant food allergy and its treatment with immunotherapy and dietary interventions.

Evaggelia Apostolidou

Paediatric allergist working in the Department of Allergology, General Hospital of Athens Laiko, Athens, Greece.

Bianca Olivieri

Allergist working in Verona. Interested in allergy to Lipid Transfer Proteins and Gibberellin-regulated proteins.



Isabel Skypala
EAACI Food Allergy IG,
Chair



Enza D'Auria
EAACI Food Allergy IG,
Secretary

From the EAACI Family



Meetings

The new Board organised their first on-line meeting on Friday 8 November. The meeting was chaired by Dr Skypala and Dr D'Auria who introduced the board members and outlined the plans for the coming year. The remainder of the session was devoted to presentations on two aspects of food allergy. The first speaker was Dr Carmen Riggioni from The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada, whose talk was entitled "Food immunotherapy – interpreting the systematic review results for the EAACI Food Allergy Management guideline". The presentation provided a fantastic overview on the systematic review findings from recent EAACI guidelines on the management of food allergy. The second speaker was Dr Cristobalina Mayorga, from the Institute of Biomedicine of Malaga (IBIMA). Her presentation was entitled "Immunotherapy for lipid transfer protein allergy – is it effective?", and provided a great insight into the immunological mechanisms of LTP allergy. The meeting was a great success with over 90 participants from all over the globe. Another webinar is planned for spring 2025.



Task Force Proposals

In addition to participating in Task Force (TF) proposals from other EAACI Sections and Interest Groups, the Food Allergy IG have submitted three Task Forces Proposals:

- 1 Food Allergy and Climate Change.** This proposal aims to support the development of a Joint EAACI/AAAAI 'Food Allergy and Climate Change Taskforce (FACCT)'. The TF includes experts representing the Immunology Section, Paediatric Section, Allied Health & Primary Care Section, Immuno-nutrition Working Group, One Health Working Group and Aerobiology and Pollution Working Group. The proposed aims of the Task Force are to examine the effect of climate change on food allergy incidence and prevalence and the impact of climate change (CO₂ emissions) on food protein allergenicity. The Task Force will also investigate the effect of climate change (loss of biodiversity) on the gut microbiome and the role of changing dietary patterns on the emergence of novel food allergens or changing protein allergenicity.
- 2. Oral Immunotherapy Practices in Food allergy:** update of the FIND project. The title of this proposal is "Low dose oral immunotherapy as an alternative for the treatment of severe IgE mediated food allergy – an update of real-world clinical practice". The proposed outcomes are the publication of a position paper and a review article on the clinical use of low-dose oral immunotherapy as an option of severe food allergy treatment
- 3. Natural History and New Onset of Food Allergy:** From Childhood to Adulthood. The primary objective of this Task Force is to investigate the natural history and onset of food allergies from childhood to adulthood, focusing on the progression, persistence and resolution of the main food allergies across different age groups. The secondary objectives are to analyse the prevalence and types of food allergies in adults compared to children and adolescents, and to assess the geographical and demographic differences in food allergy prevalence across various regions, along with examining biomarkers to predict the resolution of the main food allergies in adolescents and adults, including allergen-specific IgE levels, skin prick test results and patient demographics, and to explore the types of new-onset food allergies in adults and the potential factors contributing to their development.



In Memory of Professor Marcus Maurer Berlin, Germany

María Jose Torres, EAACI President

With profound sadness, we share the heartbreaking news of the passing of Professor Marcus Maurer, a long-time and esteemed member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology. On July 31, 2024, during a hike to Monte Giove near his vacation home by Lake Maggiore, Italy, Professor Maurer went missing. After weeks of intensive search efforts, his body was found in the Alpe Pizzocca area by an Italian mountain rescue patrol unit, bringing a tragic end to an agonising period of waiting for his family and all who knew him. He was only 58 years old.

Professor Maurer was not only an extraordinary researcher in clinical allergy but also one of the brightest minds to work in this area. His pioneering research on mast cells, urticaria, and related conditions was groundbreaking, transforming the way we understand and treat these diseases. The global allergy and immunology community will forever be indebted to his contributions, which were truly unparalleled.

After completing medical school at the Universities of Mainz and Berlin, Professor Maurer trained in Experimental Pathology at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston. In 2000, he earned his Board Certification in Dermatology, followed by Allergology in 2003. His renowned research, notably his Habilitation on the physiological and pathological functions of mast cells, laid the foundation for his legacy in the field. His research covered mast cell functions, mechanisms of pruritus and inflammation, and his clinical expertise focused on chronic urticaria, recurrent angioedema, and mastocytosis. Professor Maurer's work was immense,



involving more than 100 funded research projects, and over 800 original and review articles, with an H-index of 100. He also authored over 50 books and book chapters; his total scientific impact factor reached 5780. His national and international collaborations—whether with patients, healthcare providers, or industry—have greatly advanced our ability to treat diseases like urticaria and angioedema. Thanks to his tireless work, the world looks very different for patients with these conditions.

In 2022, Professor Maurer was awarded the EAACI Clemens von Pirquet Award for Clinical Research, and in 2023, he received the APAACI Lifetime Achievement Award. His roles as Executive Director of the Institute of Allergology at Charité University Medicine Berlin, Co-Director of the Institute of Immunology and Allergology at the Fraunhofer Institute for Translational Medicine and Pharmacology ITMP, and Professor of Dermatology and Allergy, speaks to his dedication to both the scientific community and patients.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Marcus was a cherished colleague, companion, and friend. His academic lectures were legendary, and many travelled far just to attend. His wisdom, sense of humour, and tireless support for others, made him a beloved figure within EAACI and beyond.

The loss of Professor Marcus Maurer is immeasurable. The entire EAACI family mourns alongside his family, friends, and colleagues. European and global allergology have lost one of their finest. We will forever honour his memory as a brilliant scientist, a compassionate doctor, and a dear friend.

We are deeply saddened and will remember him always.



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Patient organisation engagement to combat misinformation

In the age of digital media, misinformation about healthcare topics has proliferated, often leading to confusion, mistrust and poor health decisions among patients. As trusted advocates, patient organisations play a critical role in countering this trend by empowering individuals with credible, evidence-based information. Their engagement is vital to ensure patients and caregivers can navigate the vast ocean of online health content with confidence.



Özlem Ceylan
EAACI Patient Organisations
Committee, Chair

→ Educating patients and caregivers

Patient organisations serve as essential educators by providing reliable resources tailored to the specific needs of their communities. Through guides, webinars and online portals, they offer insights on diseases, treatments and preventive care, helping patients distinguish between accurate information and unverified claims. For instance, organisations can effectively counter myths about vaccinations, alternative therapies or treatment options by presenting research-backed information in an engaging, easy-to-understand format tailored to local languages and cultural contexts.

→ Building digital health literacy

To effectively combat misinformation, patient organisations often focus on improving digital health literacy among patients. They teach individuals how to critically evaluate online content, identify trustworthy sources and spot red flags, such as overly dramatic language or lack of cited evidence. Workshops, video tutorials and partnerships with healthcare professionals can amplify these efforts. Digital literacy empowers patients to question dubious claims and seek guidance from reliable entities.

→ Collaborating with experts

Collaboration with healthcare professionals, researchers and policymakers allows patient organisations to strengthen their credibility and extend their reach. By forming advisory boards with medical experts, they ensure their educational materials align with current scientific understanding. Additionally, partnerships with platforms such as social media networks or search engines can help flag and reduce the visibility of misinformation while promoting verified content.

Fighting Disinformation



→ Establishing peer support networks

One of the most effective ways to combat misinformation is through peer influence. Patient organisations often create support groups or forums where patients and caregivers can share experiences and validate information with guidance from trained moderators. These networks foster trust and provide a safe space for discussions, encouraging individuals to seek advice from healthcare professionals and make well-informed health decisions.

→ Advocacy and awareness campaigns

Patient organisations are powerful advocates for combating misinformation at a systemic level. They lobby for stronger regulations against false advertising, collaborate with public health institutions, and engage with media outlets to amplify accurate messaging. Public awareness campaigns can dispel widespread myths and emphasise the importance of consulting healthcare professionals.

→ Engaging on social media

The EAACI₃H (EAACI Three Hubs) initiative will be critical to empower patients by providing accessible, evidence-based knowledge through its *Public, Patients & Outreach Hub*. This innovative program addresses the increasing challenge of misinformation by actively involving members of the EAACI Patient Organisations Committee in creating and disseminating clear, lay-friendly information. By focusing on transparency and patient engagement, this initiative represents a forward-thinking approach to fostering trust and enhancing health literacy within the community.

Given the prevalence of misinformation on social media, patient organisations should actively maintain a presence on these platforms. By sharing infographics, videos and personal stories backed by evidence, they can create engaging content that resonates with their audiences.

→ Encouraging transparency

Transparency is key to building trust. Patient organisations can exemplify this by consistently citing credible sources, disclosing affiliations and communicating in clear, accessible language. These practices not only enhance their credibility but also establish a benchmark for responsible information dissemination, fostering accountability across the healthcare ecosystem.

→ Conclusion

While misinformation may never be entirely eliminated, it is essential to identify the most effective strategies for addressing it and mitigating its impact. Patient organisations are uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between medical expertise and public understanding. By educating patients, promoting digital health literacy and advocating for systemic change, they play a vital role in combating misinformation. Their efforts help ensure that patients and caregivers are equipped with the tools and confidence to make informed health decisions, fostering a culture of trust and accountability in healthcare.

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The man behind the award:

Daniel Bovet's significant impact on our specialty

Philippe Eigenmann reflects on the life and influence of Daniel Bovet (1907–1992)

For several years now, EAACI has honoured researchers with a number of different awards, one of them being the **Daniel Bovet Award** in the field of treatment and prevention of allergic disease. This award was named in honour of Daniel Bovet (1907–1992), a Swiss-born pharmacologist whose pioneering research in the field of antihistamines and other synthetic drugs earned him the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1957.

Born in Neuchâtel, Switzerland, Bovet initially studied zoology and comparative anatomy, receiving his degree from the University of Geneva. Fascinated by the emerging field of pharmacology, he joined the Pasteur Institute in Paris in 1929, where he began his influential research career.

At the Pasteur Institute, Bovet worked alongside renowned pharmacologist Ernest Fourneau, who inspired Bovet's interest in understanding how chemical substances could impact biological processes, particularly those related to allergic reactions and the immune system. In 1937, Bovet made



Philippe Eigenmann
*Recipient of the 2025
Daniel Bovet award*





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a groundbreaking discovery with the development of the first synthetic antihistamine. Boveri's antihistamine drugs could block allergic symptoms by inhibiting histamine receptors in the body. This discovery laid the foundation for allergy treatment, providing a major therapeutic breakthrough in our specialty. Clearly, Boveri's work on antihistamines went on to revolutionise the treatment of allergies and significantly advanced pharmacology. His achievements in this area were particularly impressive given the limitations of medical technology at the time. The development of antihistamines not only transformed allergy treatment but also opened the door for new studies into the action of various neurotransmitters and how drugs could be used to manage their effects.

In addition to his work on antihistamines, Boveri was involved in other areas of pharmacology. He explored the effects of synthetic compounds on the nervous system, particularly focusing on curare-like substances, which block nerve impulses to muscles. This research had profound implications for the development of muscle relaxants used in surgery and anaesthesia, contributing to the development of safer and more effective surgical procedures



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by allowing controlled muscle relaxation during surgery, a breakthrough in anaesthesia that continues to benefit medical practice. In 1947, Boveri moved to Italy, where he helped establish the National Research Council's Institute of Pharmacology in Rome. He continued his research and later joined the faculty of the University of Sassari. Throughout his career, Boveri published extensively, contributing significantly to the pharmacological sciences. In 1957, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in recognition of his discovery of antihistamines and his contributions to pharmacology and medical science.

Daniel Boveri's life and achievements had a lasting impact on medicine. His work not only improved the lives of millions of allergy sufferers but also advanced scientific understanding of how drugs interact with the body's chemical systems. His innovations remain foundational to the fields of allergy and anaesthetic pharmacology, and his legacy is celebrated in the world of medical science as one of the key contributors to modern therapeutic drug development. With the award given in his name, EAACI honours and remembers Daniel Boveri as a researcher who provided our specialty with an essential pharmacological agent to treat allergic diseases.

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The empowering and motivating impact of EAACI Congresses

As an allergist clinical research physician, I had the great privilege of attending and also presenting data from my area of interest at the EAACI Congress 2024. From posters to oral abstracts to plenary sessions, the EAACI Annual Congresses from 2015 to 2024 have offered me a multitude of professional benefits each year: continuous learning from experts and collaborations with colleagues from around the world^[1-3], presenting the results of my studies^[4-7], chairing sessions and, more recently, being honoured to chair the Task Force on the European Network on Therapeutic Education for Patients with Asthma.

Throughout all these years I have tried not only to attend each EAACI Congress in person but also to present and/or be part of the organising committee when invited. In 2021, during the first EAACI Hybrid Congress, I had my first presentation on bronchial allergen challenges in clinical research in a "plenary session" with a majority online audience. Even though atypical, it was a great experience due to the exchange of invaluable knowledge. The process of preparing and delivering the presentations enabled me to improve my communication and presentation skills to effectively convey the results of my research.

Back in 2015, EAACI initiated a Task Force intending to gain a better understanding of how allergen exposure chambers/units can generate knowledge on respiratory allergies and can contribute to the clinical development of treatments for these conditions. In 2019, researchers working with these facilities worldwide agreed to provide information on the technical parameters of the most active chambers. I happily joined this Task Force and contributed to the report providing an overview of technical standards and comprehensive insights into the technical setups of allergen exposure chambers facilities around the world.^[8]

As I progressed through my clinical research career and after meeting various members of the EAACI Asthma Section Board at EAACI congresses, I was asked to apply to join the Board myself, and I am now thrilled to serve as the Secretary for the Asthma guidelines. Since 2023, integrating nasal and bronchial challenges in clinical



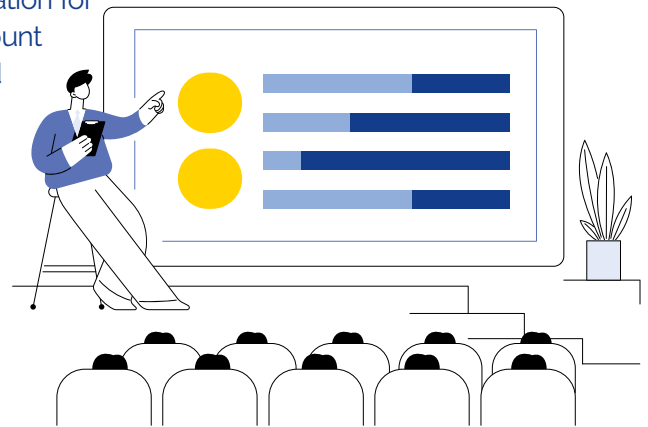
Alina Gherasim
EAACI Asthma Section,
Board Member 2022-2024
EAACI Guidelines on
Allergic Asthma, Secretary
Task Force on the
European Network
on Therapeutic Education
for Patients with
Asthma, Chair



practice has been a challenge and represents an ongoing debate. Still under discussion, this controversy demands the exchange of ideas and insights with colleagues and researchers from diverse backgrounds. This topic is closely related to the availability of allergen extracts for allergen exposure in Europe for nasal, conjunctival and bronchial challenges. This is an aspect that requires full involvement, with the devotion of much free time, and needs strong collaboration with suppliers and agencies which I am pleased to provide.

I have also been pleased to contribute to a comprehensive and interesting workgroup report: "The bronchodilator and anti-inflammatory effect of long-acting muscarinic antagonists in asthma: an EAACI position paper", which was recently approved.^[9] Another fruitful collaboration led to another workgroup report which reviewed the current information about nasal allergen challenge, focusing on the practical aspects and application for diagnosis of difficult rhinitis phenotypes taking into account the particular context of practice in the United States and the European Union.^[3]

Each time I attend an EAACI conference, I'm motivated to be more active in my field - and to better prepare my presentations for future EAACI conferences! I'm constantly on the lookout for new ideas, collaborations and opportunities to keep up to date with the latest developments and trends in the field of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology.



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The power of science beyond borders: Celebrating a successful FAAM- EUROBAT 2024

EUROBAT FAAM 2024 was a great success, bringing together leading allergy experts from around the world to share cutting edge research and build local and international connections. While all the sessions were amazing and discussed timely and critical issues, I would like to highlight a few of the focus areas that I found particularly memorable. While there are increasing therapeutic options available to patients, there are often barriers to accessing these therapies. It was great to see several sessions exploring how to make a wider array of therapies more accessible to patients. This is a critical issue, as social determinants of health can be an imposing barrier for patients whose disease could be treated if they are able to get the care they need.

There is a critical challenge in bridging the gap between research and clinical practice. While amazing research uncovers critical changes that are needed to improve health outcomes, it can take decades for this research to result in common changes in clinical practices. The discussions around this challenge are both motivating and essential to ensure that our advances in research are able to directly impact our patients in a timely manner.

Both routine clinical practice and clinical trials generate a massive amount of data. These datasets are a rich source of information for the scientific community; however, identifying efficient methods to thoroughly dissect these datasets to extract leads and discoveries can be challenging. Several sessions and after hours conversations discussed this important process to help facilitate effective use of currently under-utilised data that lie within each academic institution or laboratory. Collaborative efforts to analyse and interpret this data will undoubtedly yield insights that enhance our overall approach to allergies.



Sharon Chinthrajah
*Associate Professor
of Medicine
(Sean Parker Center
for Allergy and Asthma
Research - Clinic)
and of Pediatrics,
Stanford University*



.....

Alongside the amazing sessions at FAAM-EUROBAT 2024, it was equally exciting to witness the data from allergy centres around the world. The establishment of these centres of excellence in each country reflects a growing recognition of the impact of allergy on public health. The EAACI community is continually expanding, and it's truly fantastic to meet new faces and encounter upcoming trailblazers within this dynamic field. These interactions are invaluable, as they foster a spirit of collaboration and support. Engaging with professionals who share similar passions and experiences not only enriches our knowledge but also provides opportunities for networking and mentorship. The chance to connect with mentors and collaborators who have unique viewpoints and experiences can help us seize opportunities for growth in our own careers.

In conclusion, the convergence of leading experts at this event represents a powerful opportunity for collaboration, learning and professional growth. Together, we are not only expanding our horizons through cutting-edge discussions and insights but also building a community dedicated to excellence in allergy management. This collective effort will ultimately pave the way for improved outcomes for patients and a brighter future for allergy research.





An international tapestry of knowledge at EAACI 2024 Congress

Ana-Maria Copaescu gives us a short insight into her experiences and memories of EAACI 2024.

The EAACI 2024 Congress was a remarkable convergence of minds – an extraordinary event that showcased the best of our field. Reflecting on my experience, I am filled with profound gratitude and inspiration for being part of such a dynamic and enlightening event.

From the moment I arrived, it was evident that this Congress was more than just a series of lectures and presentations; it was a vibrant community of professionals, researchers and practitioners from all corners of the globe, united by a common goal: to advance our understanding and treatment of allergic diseases. The diversity of perspectives and expertise at the Congress was astounding, underscoring the importance of international collaboration in our field.

One of the most striking aspects was the large number of topics covered. From cutting-edge research on the molecular mechanisms of allergy to practical workshops on the latest diagnostic and therapeutic techniques, there was something for everyone. I was particularly impressed by the sessions on emerging therapies, which highlighted the potential of novel biologics and personalised medicine to revolutionise how we treat allergic conditions. These presentations expanded my knowledge and sparked new ideas for my research and clinical practice. Of course, I was very impressed by the quality of the drug allergy research and diligently attended each session. The keynote lectures were a highlight of the Congress, featuring some of the most respected and influential figures in our field. Their insights into the current state of allergy research and



Ana-Maria Copaescu
EAACI Member; Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine, Division of Adult Allergy and Clinical Immunology, McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), Montreal, Canada

EAACI Culture Chronicles



their future visions were thought-provoking and motivating.

In addition to the formal sessions, the Congress provided numerous opportunities for networking and collaboration. The poster sessions and exhibition halls were bustling with activity as delegates engaged in lively discussions and exchanged ideas. I enjoyed meeting colleagues from various countries, each bringing unique perspectives and experiences. These interactions were invaluable, as they broadened my professional network and fostered a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose. The EAACI 2024 Congress also strongly emphasised the role of young researchers and clinicians in shaping the future of our field. I was inspired by the enthusiasm and creativity of these young scientists, and I am confident that they will continue to drive innovation and progress in allergy and clinical immunology.

One of the most memorable moments of the Congress was the discussions on global perspectives and developments toward penicillin allergy delabelling. The speakers, representing different regions of the world, shared their insights

on the unique challenges and opportunities faced by their respective countries. This session underscored the importance of a global approach to allergy research and treatment, as it highlighted the interconnectedness of our efforts and the need for cross-border collaboration.

As I reflect on my time at the EAACI 2024 Congress, I am reminded of the words of the renowned immunologist, Dr Paul Ehrlich, who once said: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams". This Congress was a celebration of our collective dreams and aspirations, and it reinforced my belief in the power of knowledge, collaboration and innovation to transform the lives of patients with allergic diseases.

In conclusion, the EAACI 2024 Congress was an authentic international tapestry of knowledge and innovation in allergy and clinical immunology. It was a privilege to be part of it, and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn, share and grow alongside my esteemed colleagues. I leave the Congress with a renewed sense of purpose and a deepened commitment to advancing both allergy and clinical immunology science and practice.





SLaai

A catalyst in the fight against allergic diseases in Latin America

The Latin American Society of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (SLaai) has established itself as a lighthouse in the fight against allergic and immunological diseases in our region. Through a series of strategic initiatives and a tireless commitment to excellence, SLaai has significantly transformed patient care, scientific research and professional training in the field



Marilyn Valentin Rostan
Latin American Society of Allergy and Immunology (SLaai), President (2023–2025)



Enrique Farias Aquino
Latin American Society of Allergy and Immunology (SLaai), Board Member



A bridge of knowledge through continuing education

The SLaai has been key in the implementation of world-class continuing medical education programs. Through highly specialised webinars and masterclasses, it has made the latest developments and best practices in the diagnosis and treatment of allergic and immunological diseases available to thousands of professionals. These virtual activities, especially relevant in the globalised context marked by the pandemic, have allowed specialists to stay updated and improve the quality of care for their patients.

Beyond Europe



Congresses: a space for innovation and exchange

The conferences organised by the SLaaI have become undisputed references in the region. These events bring together the most prominent experts in the field, who share their latest research and debate the challenges and opportunities facing the specialty.

The active participation of the SLaaI in international conferences has allowed it to strengthen ties with sister societies and position Latin America as a key player in research and clinical practice in allergy, asthma and immunology.

Social networks: a direct channel to the community

The SLaaI has been able to take advantage of the power of social networks to disseminate scientific information in a clear and accessible way. Through its profiles on various platforms, the organisation shares news, scientific articles, recommendations and clinical practice guides, reaching a wide and diverse audience. This dissemination work has been essential to demystify allergic and immunological diseases and promote the search for timely medical care.



Promoting research and innovation

The SLaaI has promoted clinical research in the region through projects, the creation of collaborative networks and the promotion of the publication of results in high-impact scientific journals. Thanks to these initiatives, significant advances have been made in the knowledge of allergic and immunological diseases, and new prevention and treatment strategies have been developed.

Influencing public policies

The SLaaI has been a key player in the formulation of public policies related to allergic and immunological diseases. Through the development of clinical guidelines based on scientific evidence and advocacy actions, the organisation has managed to influence decision-making at the national and regional level, thus guaranteeing access to adequate diagnosis and treatment for all patients.

Benefiting millions of people across Latin America and beyond

By strengthening collaboration networks at the regional and international level, giving greater visibility to the specialty, empowering patients through information and education, promoting clinical research and innovation, involvement in public policy development, and by promoting the improvement of the quality of care for patients with allergic and immunological diseases, the SLaaI has proven to be a fundamental catalyst for the development of allergology, asthma and immunology in Latin America. Its commitment to excellence, innovation and collaboration has enabled significant achievements to benefit millions of people.



Fatal Anaphylaxis in Australia:



Pete Smith
Professor, Department
of Clinical Medicine,
Griffith University,
Southport, Queensland,
Australia



Jack Garland PhD
Forensic and Scientific
Services, Coopers Plains,
Queensland, Australia

A newly published 20-year retrospective study focusing on forensic pathology cases has revealed critical insights into the specific factors contributing to fatal anaphylaxis cases in Queensland, Australia¹. The research analysed 53 autopsy reports where anaphylaxis was the identified cause of death. Key areas of focus included demographic details, anaphylactic triggers, underlying cardiovascular health, tryptase levels, and postmortem findings.

Demographics and key triggers

The study cohort consisted of 53 individuals with an almost equal gender split (27 males and 26 females), and a mean age of 54 years. The primary triggers identified were medications (43.4%), foods (22.6%), insect stings (9.4%), intravenous contrast (3.8%), and topical chemicals - a hair dye (1.9%). Notably, the specific anaphylactic trigger remained unknown in 17% of cases. This distribution underscores the significant risk medications pose as an anaphylactic trigger, particularly in a population with pre-existing health vulnerabilities.

Impact of cardiovascular disease

One of the study's most striking findings was the high prevalence of cardiovascular disease in fatal anaphylaxis cases: 83.3% of the deceased individuals had documented cardiovascular conditions, including coronary artery disease, cardiac hypertrophy and arrhythmias. This correlation suggests cardiovascular disease as a significant risk factor in fatal anaphylaxis, adding weight to the argument for prioritising cardiovascular health in anaphylaxis management, particularly among high-risk groups. Tryptase levels were significantly higher in individuals with cardiovascular disease, averaging 133.2 µg/L compared to 42.1 µg/L in those without cardiovascular conditions. This distinction reinforces the association between mast cell activation and fatal anaphylaxis, particularly in patients with cardiovascular comorbidities. The mean age of individuals with significant cardiac disease at autopsy was surprisingly young at 44 years of age vs 32 years in those without cardiovascular disease.



A 20-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE

Asthma as a comorbidity in food-triggered anaphylaxis

Asthma was present in 28% of cases, notably higher among those with food-triggered anaphylaxis, where it was documented in 60% of those cases. Interestingly, individuals with asthma were also younger at the time of death, with an average age of 43 compared to 57 in non-asthma cases. These findings highlight asthma's relevance in food-related anaphylaxis deaths, suggesting that age and respiratory comorbidities are critical considerations in managing anaphylactic risk. Additionally, individuals without asthma exhibited higher postmortem tryptase levels (mean 130.4 $\mu\text{g/L}$) than those with asthma (mean 73.2 $\mu\text{g/L}$), which suggests that priming by mechanisms other than those involving mast cells may partially contribute to anaphylactic deaths in asthmatic individuals.



Clinical implications and future directions

The study underscores the importance of cardiovascular disease as a major risk factor in fatal anaphylaxis cases. For clinicians and pathologists, these findings emphasise the necessity for detailed cardiovascular assessment in anaphylactic patients and suggest that cardiovascular health management could be critical in reducing anaphylaxis fatalities. This study adds to the known association of asthma and risk of fatal food reactions. It is novel in demonstrating that tryptase levels were lower in those patients who died from anaphylaxis and that asthmatic patients were on average 12 years younger.



Reference

- 1 Garland, J., Smith, P., Tse, R., Ong, B. & Milne, N. Association Between Cardiovascular Disease and Death by Anaphylaxis: A 20-Year Retrospective Study in Queensland, Australia. *Am J Forensic Med Pathol.* 2024 Jul 16. doi: 10.1097/PAF.0000000000000972. PMID: 39018439.



CAN TAKING A PATIENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY HELP?



Marilyn Urrutia Pereira
Professor,
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Brazil



Dirceu Solé
Professor,
Federal University
of São Paulo,
Brazil

The environmental exposure to which an individual is subjected profoundly shapes their health outcomes across their lifespan. Yet current practice largely neglects characterising health disparities in terms of environmental factors.

The exposome encompasses all non-genetic exposures, at all levels of exposure, that contribute to health outcomes (including individual psychosocial experiences, structural social determinants of health, chemical pollutants and neighbourhood infrastructure).

The exposome framework advances our understanding of how different social and physical exposures produce distinct experiences of stress for individuals from diverse backgrounds, providing clinically pertinent information to better understand our patients' symptoms.

In recent years, there have been ongoing efforts to intervene in potentially harmful environmental exposures, with an emphasis on improving areas with health disparities. Most of these intervention trials have focused on urban settings where harmful environmental exposures have a disparate impact on atopic patients.

Given the challenges that arise when attempting to measure environmental exposure, it is essential to implement the concept of the exposome in clinical practice. Collecting patients' environmental history data provides important support for this.

An environmental history focuses on understanding the quality and extent of hazards in environments where a person spends time and on identifying suspicious patterns or features that require further evaluation. It can help discern the link between environmental factors (activities/location/time/substances) and the nature of the onset, worsening and/or improvement of symptoms. By familiarising clinical teams with their patients' specific community and home environments, treatment plans can be tailored to take advantage of the strengths that these environments offer.

Beyond Europe



When should an environmental history be taken?

Taking an environmental history should be mandatory:

- during a patient's first visit;
- when a patient has a family history of atopy or autoimmune disease;
- during prenatal or preconception counselling;
- when a patient relates the onset of symptoms to environmental exposures;
- when a patient or family has frequent office visits for multiple illnesses;
- when a patient reports intriguing and nonspecific symptoms.

What advantages can environmental histories provide?

Incorporating environmental history taking into the daily routine of health professionals can:

- increase awareness among caregivers of potentially dangerous household conditions and situations to which a patient may be exposed;
- improve understanding of the harmful effects of those conditions on the patient's health;
- help identify and coordinate available community resources to improve the patient's well-being;
- increase awareness and concern about environmental health among families, teachers, the community and competent authorities;
- encourage the creation of green spaces in communities; and
- involve entities responsible for monitoring environmental health services.

Integrating individual environmental data into healthcare settings increases physicians' knowledge of their patients' exposome and, in turn, improves their intervention and treatment decisions across the care delivery continuum, enabling prevention, mitigation and improvement of long-term outcomes, thereby reducing the burden of allergic diseases on our communities.



ISMA-RHINA 2024 on Instagram



eaacihq



eaacihq 🌟 Exclusive perk for ISMA-RHINA attendees! 🌟

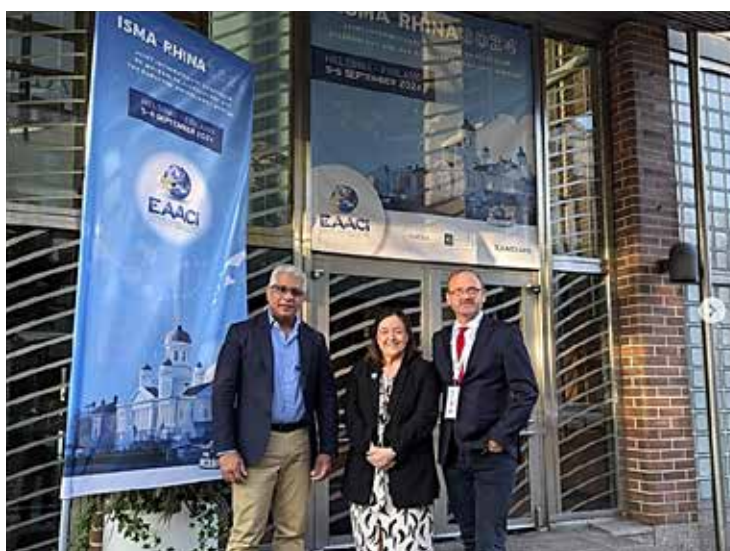
We're excited to offer something special for those joining us at ISMA-RHINA 2024 in Helsinki, Finland on 5-6 September!

By registering, you'll gain exclusive access to the EAACI 2024 Congress Digital Platform.

What you'll find on the digital platform:

- All Congress Sessions: Catch every moment with access to recordings of keynotes, symposia, and workshops.
- Exclusive Content: Enjoy the content available on the platform providing deeper insights and extended discussions on key topics.
- Flexible Viewing: Watch on-demand, whenever it fits your schedule.

Register here and access the platform Link in bio!



eaacihq 🌟 Welcome to Day 1 of ISMA-RHINA 2024! 🌟

The excitement is in the air as we kick off an incredible journey here in Helsinki! Get ready for two days packed with cutting-edge research, insightful discussions, and opportunities to connect with the brightest minds in the field.

Let's make the most of this event—stay curious, engage with peers, and make the most of this EAACI joint event!

Here's to an unforgettable start to ISMA-RHINA 2024!

EAACI on Social Media



eaacihq 🌟 ISMA-RHINA 2024 has kicked off with a bang in Helsinki! 🇫🇮

This morning, we witnessed an inspiring Opening Ceremony led by EAACI President Maria Jose Torres and VP of Congresses Andre Moreira, setting the stage for an unforgettable event.

•The day continued with a thought-provoking Plenary Session, a joint ISMA-RHINA event chaired by Milena Sokolowska and Sanna Toppila-Salmi. Attendees explored groundbreaking insights into Mucosal Immuno-Allergology, covering topics such as epithelial barriers, environmental threats, and the pivotal role of Type 2 immunity in allergy development.

In the afternoon, we delved further into the world of RHINA with a symposium on Sinus Surgery in the Era of Biologics. Esteemed speakers like Stefano del Giaco shared invaluable knowledge on managing CRSwNP and asthma with biologics, backed by real-world evidence.



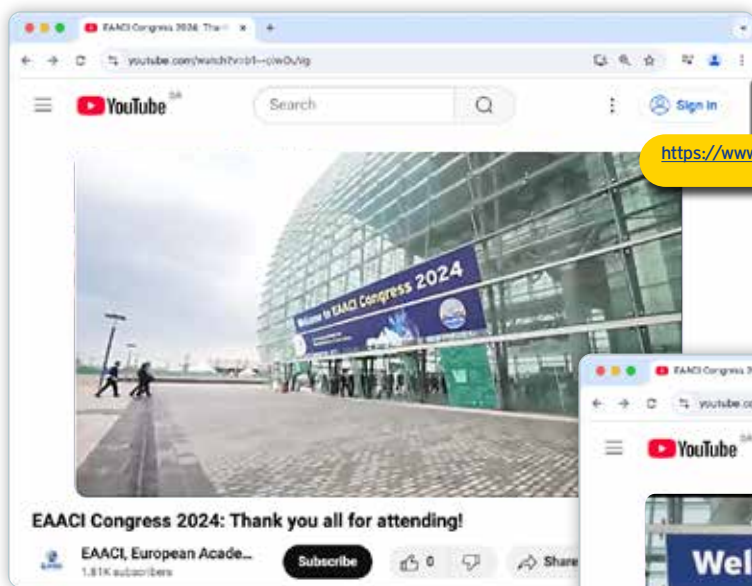
eaacihq 🌟 ISMA-RHINA 2024 has kicked off with a bang in Helsinki! 🇫🇮

We concluded the day with an interactive workshop chaired by Ibon Eguiluz and Inge Kortekaas Krohn. Participants had the chance to engage with experts like Stella E. Lee, gaining insights into career development in rhinology, tips for getting published in high-impact journals, and mastering figure design for publications.

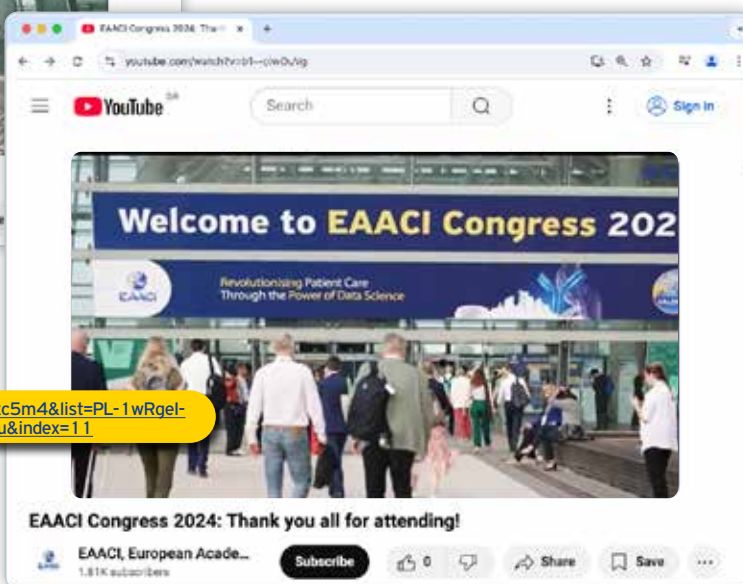
Get ready for Day 2, packed with the latest research and cutting-edge discussions here in Helsinki!



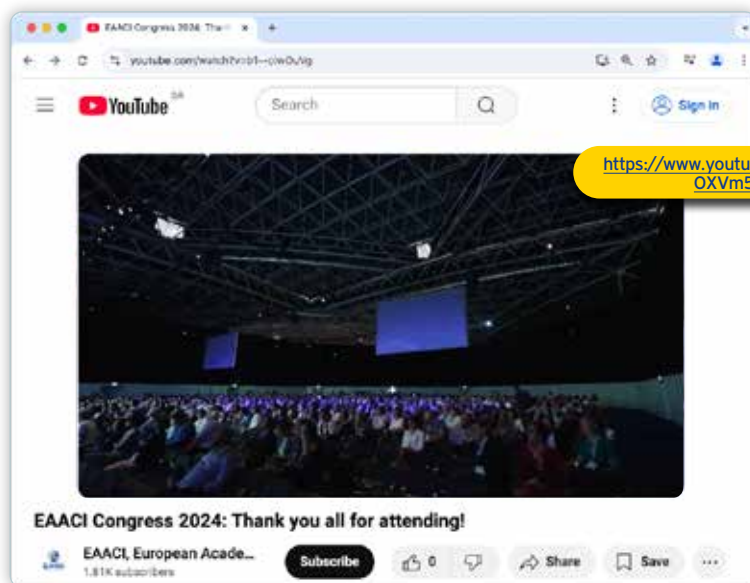
EAACI 2024 Congress in Valencia on YouTube



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q5_Y2i1lq4w&list=PL-1wRgeIOX-Vm519EHnUeMNM56YXnnlkcU&index=9



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4F08GExc5m4&list=PL-1wRgeIOX-Vm519EHnUeMNM56YXnnlkcU&index=11>

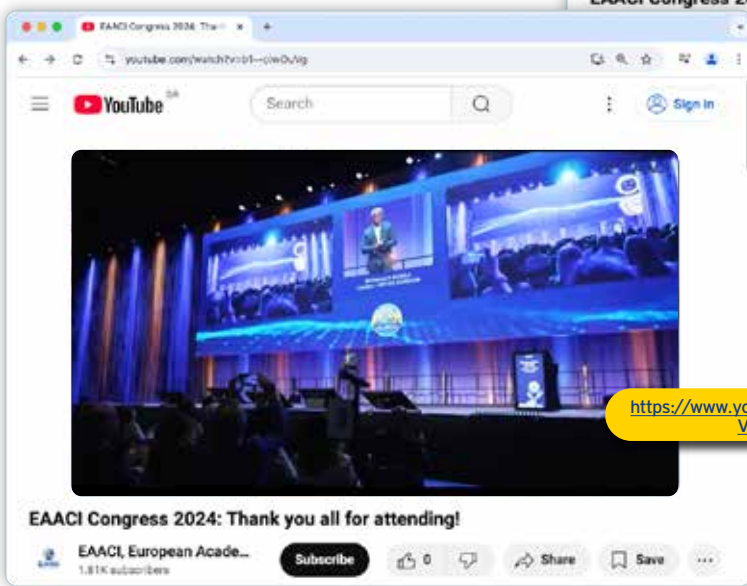
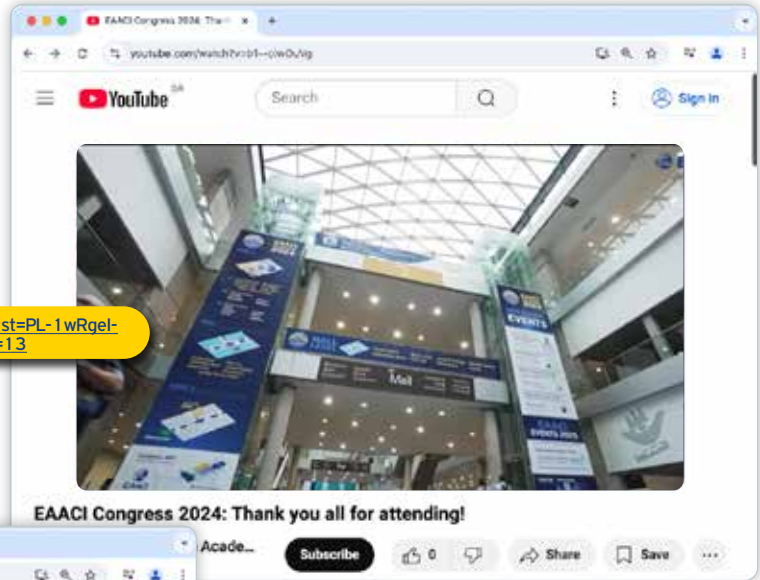


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ID4HnUaB2Kw&list=PL-1wRgeIOX-Vm519EHnUeMNM56YXnnlkcU&index=12>

EAACI on Social Media

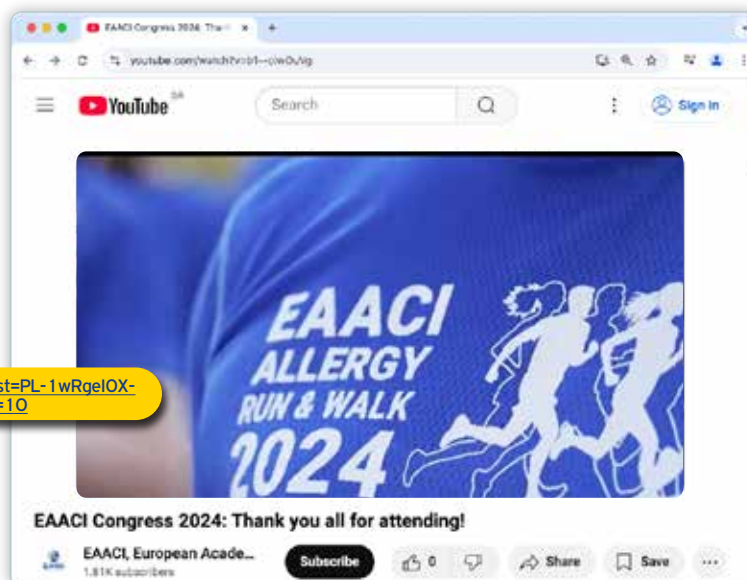


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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1--oiwOuVg&list=PL-1wRgeIOX-Vm519EHnUeMNM56YXnnlkc&index=14>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsj9ADhb3Ds&list=PL-1wRgeIOX-Vm519EHnUeMNM56YXnnlkc&index=10>



Get excited for what's coming ahead!

save the dates for our enriching upcoming Focused Meetings

2025

🕒
23 - 25
October

📍
Palma de
Mallorca, Spain

PAAM

EAACI Pediatric Allergy and Asthma Meeting



2025

🕒
20 - 22
November

📍
Porto,
Portugal

ISAF - RHINA

*EAACI International Severe Asthma Forum
European Rhinallergy Meeting*



2026

🕒
9 - 11
April

📍
Antwerp,
Belgium

DHM

Drug Hypersensitivity Meeting



EAACI on Social Media



FAAM-EUROBAT 2024

on 

EAACI @EAACI_HQ

Day 1 of FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 is underway in Athens! And the first-ever World Anaphylaxis Awareness Day, a milestone in raising awareness and promoting life-saving actions. Let's make history together! <https://ow.ly/STBZ50UzbTq>

#FAAMEUROBAT2024 #WorldAnaphylaxisAwarenessDay

EAACI @EAACI_HQ

Day 2 of FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 is here! Today is packed with groundbreaking discussions, including the launch of the EAACI Food Allergy Guidelines and inspiring allergy prevention and advocacy insights.

#FAAMEUROBAT2024 #FoodAllergy #Anaphylaxis

EAACI JM @EAACI_JM

EAACI JMs @ #FAAMEUROBAT2024! Aspasia, Gonçalo & Kate shared brilliant research on food allergies. Proud of you all!

EAACI JM @EAACI_JM

FAAM-EUROBAT 2024: 550 attendees & the launch of EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day! ☑ Thanks for joining us in Athens! #EAACI #JMs

EAACI JM @EAACI_JM

Thanks to María José Torres & Mo Shamji for inspiring JMs at FAAM-EUROBAT 2024! ☑ Stay tuned for updates on future JM initiatives! #EAACI #JMBOARDMEETING.



EAACI Allergy School 2024 on Facebook



EAACI Junior Members

19 September · 🌐

📅 Today is the first day of the EAACI Allergy School 2024 in Bilbao! We're excited to kick off with a fantastic program. Here's a quick rundown:

- 14:00 - 14:15: Welcome and Introduction
- 14:15 - 15:45: Session I - Exploring the link between Hymenoptera venom allergy and mast cell diseases
- 15:45 - 16:15: Coffee Break
- 16:15 - 17:15: Session II - Comprehensive introduction to Hymenoptera venom allergy and immunotherapy... See more



EAACI

19 September · 🌐

✅ That's a wrap for Day 1 at EAACI Allergy School 2024 in Bilbao! We're beyond excited to welcome experts from around the world as we explore Insect Venom Hypersensitivity and Mastocytosis 🐝.

Today's sessions were packed with fresh insights into diagnosing and managing these conditions, and we ended the day on a high note with our Welcome Reception 🥂.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates tomorrow as we continue this incredible journey! <https://ow.ly/G6ky50TqPkP>

#AllergySchool2024 #EAACI #InsectVenomAllergy #Mastocytosis #Bilbao #Allergology



EAACI on Social Media



EAACI Junior Members
20 September · 🌐

📍 Today at Allergy School 2024: The Sting Challenge Test Workshop
We're all about hands-on learning here in Bilbao! This workshop teaches participants how to perform the Sting Challenge Test, a critical tool for assessing treatment in patients allergic to Hymenoptera venom 🐝.

Under expert supervision, doctors are practicing the procedure with live bees and wasps, using artificial skin to simulate stings. By the end of the day, they'll be ready to apply this life-saving tech... See more



EAACI · Follow
21 September · 🌐

📍 Allergy School 2024: Last Day, Final Stretch!
It's not over yet! As we move toward the Closing Ceremony this evening, today has already been packed with fascinating sessions:

Lecture V: Insects in a Changing World led by Drs. K. Spriggs, A. Vega Castro, and C. Breynaert
Session VI: Exploring the Future of Insect Venom Hypersensitivity with Drs. B.M. Bilò, H. Oude Elberink, and others.... See more





The first EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day: Advancing global education and prevention



Ozlem Ceylan
EAACI POC Chair



Asli Akkor
EAACI NAIS Chair

EAACI proudly launched the inaugural EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day on 21 November 2024, marking a pivotal moment in advancing global efforts to address anaphylaxis. This initiative, announced during the FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 event in Athens, Greece, aims to put the spotlight on this life-threatening allergic reaction, fostering awareness, education and action across the world.



EAACI Campaign



Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially fatal allergic reaction triggered by allergens such as foods, medications, insect stings, or latex. Despite its seriousness, awareness of its symptoms, causes and emergency responses remains alarmingly low. Each year, thousands face life-threatening episodes, with many unaware of how to act swiftly to prevent tragedy.

EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day seeks to address these critical gaps by:

- Educating the public about how to recognise and respond to anaphylaxis.
- Empowering patients with knowledge on prevention and management strategies.
- Supporting caregivers with training to handle emergencies effectively.
- Advocating for policy changes such as improved allergen labelling and better access to emergency medications.

Key highlights from the inaugural EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day

The official launch of the EAACI Awareness Anaphylaxis Day during FAAM-EUROBAT 2024 was marked by a compelling introduction at the Opening Ceremony, setting the stage for a global movement. A standout moment was the plenary session, during which the newly developed food allergy guidelines were presented. Tanya and Nadim Ednan-Laperouse, founders of The Natasha Allergy Research Foundation, delivered a heartfelt testimonial, sharing their personal journey and advocacy work, including the impactful implementation of Natasha's Law, which mandates clearer allergen labelling to protect individuals with food allergies.

The day also provided a platform to amplify the voices of those affected by anaphylaxis. Personal stories shared during the event fostered a deeper sense of empathy and inspired collective action, driving home the urgent need to improve awareness, preparedness and outcomes for those at risk.

Shaping the future of anaphylaxis awareness

EAACI is committed to making EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day an annual event that continues to grow in impact and reach. Future efforts will include:

- Expanding educational campaigns to a broad audience.
- Collaborating with patient organisations and medical societies worldwide.
- Developing innovative tools and resources to improve patient care and preparedness.

By establishing this global day of action, EAACI underscores its dedication to addressing the urgent challenges posed by anaphylaxis. Together, with the support of our members, stakeholders and the wider community, we can drive meaningful change and save lives.

Join the mission

We encourage all EAACI members to take part in this initiative by leveraging the materials available on the EAACI website, sharing awareness campaigns within their networks, and contributing to this growing movement.

The EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day is more than just an event—it is a call for collective action to combat a critical global health issue. Let's unite in our mission to raise awareness, empower patients, and ultimately create a world where no life is lost to anaphylaxis.

Visit the EAACI website for educational materials, downloadable resources and updates on how to get involved: <https://eaaci.org/eaaci-anaphylaxis-awareness-day/>

Together, we can make a difference and ensure that next year's EAACI Anaphylaxis Awareness Day has a great impact.





Notes from the EAACI Review Editor



Florin-Dan Popescu
EAACI Review Editor

EAACI's organisational accomplishments and scientific excellence have been energised in recent months, thanks to the remarkable dedication of the EAACI family, who have contributed to an impressive array of proposals, task forces, guidelines and strategic projects.

These initiatives, driven by the proactive efforts of EAACI's new leadership, sections, interest groups, and working groups, are poised to make a tangible impact on clinicians, researchers, patients and the broader public. This collective effort underscores EAACI's shared commitment to advancing knowledge, improving healthcare, and fostering innovation in allergy and clinical immunology.

As we celebrate these accomplishments, we look to the future with a strong sense of purpose and ambition. "EAACI speaks your language" is an initiative that seeks to embrace the rich linguistic diversity of Europe as a bridge to inclusivity and accessibility. By promoting communication resources, surveys, testimonials, personal experiences within EAACI, and educational materials in multiple European languages, it is hoped that deeper connections will be fostered within our community. This approach ensures that information reaches professionals, patients and stakeholders with a focus on inclusivity, understanding and engagement. The significance of this initiative cannot be ignored. Language is more than just a means of communication; it is a vessel for culture, identity and understanding. In a field as nuanced as allergy and clinical immunology, ensuring accurate and accessible information in multiple languages is a powerful way to eliminate barriers, promote equity and enhance collaboration across borders. #EAACIspeaksyourlanguage is a communication strategy affirming our dedication to inclusivity and our respect for the diversity that defines our continent. We invite all members of the EAACI community to join us in this approach. Your ideas, feedback and support will be invaluable as we build a future in which linguistic diversity is celebrated as a cornerstone of our shared mission.

Together, we can ensure that EAACI truly speaks to everyone by fostering accessibility and meaningful connections across diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

I look forward to making many meaningful connections with you, and take this opportunity to wish you a happy and healthy New Year.



EAACI 2025

13-16 JUNE
GLASGOW
UNITED KINGDOM

Breaking boundaries in Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology:
Integrating Planetary Health for a Sustainable Future



LEARN MORE HERE

www.eaaci.org
#EAACICongress2025

