

Postgraduate course Programme

How do I do a systematic review and meta-analysis?

Pavia, Italy

25 – 28 May 2026



How do I do a systematic review and meta-analysis?

Pavia, Italy



Faculty Members

Italy	Luigia Scudeller
Kosovo	Blin Nagavci
Israel	Mical Paul
Israel	Leonard Leibovici
The Netherlands	Mariska Leeflang
Romania	Cristina Nicoleta Ciurea
Italy	Valeria Scotti

Day 1 Monday, 25 May 2026

Introduction into systematic reviews

Chair: Luigia Scudeller

13:30 – 13:45	Opening remarks Luigia Scudeller
13:45 – 14:00	Why systematic reviews matter, especially in infectious diseases (ID), infection control (IC) and clinical microbiology (CM) Leonard Leibovici
14:00 - 14:15	Research integrity and Conflicts of Interests in Research Luigia Scudeller
14:15 - 14:45	From clinical problem to PICOS Mical Paul
14:45 – 15:45	Develop PICOs to review topics (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Cristina Nicoleta Ciurea)
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break

Systematic review methods

Chair: Blin Nagavci

16:00 – 16:20	Systematic review protocol Mical Paul
16:20 – 16:40	Building a search strategy Valeria Scotti
16:40 – 18:00	Search strategy per PICO/ systematic review (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Valeria Scotti)

Day 2 Tuesday, 26 May 2026

Systematic review methods (cont'd)

Chair: Mical Paul

08:30 – 09:00	Screening of studies: abstracts and full-texts Cristina Nicoleta Ciurea
09:00 – 10:00	Screening abstracts and full-texts (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Leonard Leibovici)
10:00 – 10:15	Building an effective data extraction form Luigia Scudeller
10:15 – 10:30	Break
10:30 – 12:00	Data extraction from 2 RCTs (practical on RCTs in ID/IC/CM) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Nicoleta Ciurea)
12:00 – 12:30	Including observational studies in systematic reviews Mical Paul
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 – 14:30	Data extraction from observational studies (practical on observational studies in ID/IC/CM) Group 1 (Nicoleta Ciurea) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Leonard Leibovici)
14:30 – 15:30	Diagnostic systematic reviews Mariska Leeflang
15:30 – 18:00	Open coffee and Social activity

Day 3 Wednesday, 27 May 2026

Compiling and appraising the quality of the evidence

Chair: Leonard Leibovici

08:30 – 09:15	Risk of bias assessment of RCTs Cristina Nicoleta Ciurea
09:15 – 10:30	Risk of bias of RCTs (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Leonard Leibovici)
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – 11:30	Risk-of-bias assessment of observational studies Mical Paul
11:30 – 12:45	Risk of bias observational studies (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Leonard Leibovici)
12:45 – 13:15	Lunch break
13:15 – 14:15	Risk of bias assessment of diagnostic studies in CM Mariska Leeflang
14:15 – 15:00	Meta-analysis fundamentals Leonard Leibovici
15:00 – 15:30	Draw a forest plot (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Leonard Leibovici)
15:30 – 16:00	Heterogeneity assessment and investigation Leonard Leibovici
16:00 – 16:30	Analyse the forest plots generated above (practical, with open coffee) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Leonard Leibovici)
16:30 – 17:00	Publication bias or small studies' effect? Mical Paul
17:00 – 18:00	GRADE, focusing on ID, IC and CM Blin Nagavci

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**Day 4 Thursday, 28 May 2026****Completing a systematic review****Chair:** Luigia Scudeller

08:30 – 09:00	GRADE for diagnostic systematic reviews, focusing on ID, IC and CM Mariska Leeflang
09:00 – 10:00	GRADE a systematic review in ID, IC or CM (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Mariska Leeflang)
10:00 – 10:45	Overview of AI tools for Systematic Reviews Valeria Scotti
10:45 – 11:00	Break
11:00 – 11:20	Critical appraisal of Systematic Reviews in ID/ IC/CM Luigia Scudeller
11:20 – 12:00	Critical appraisal of a systematic review in ID, IC or CM (practical) Group 1 (Luigia Scudeller) Group 2 (Mical Paul) Group 3 (Blin Nagavci) Group 4 (Mariska Leeflang)
12:00 – 12:20	ESCMID strategic priorities for research, education and global impact, overview of ESCMID Guidelines Programme and how you can contribute Luigia Scudeller
12:20 – 12:30	Closing remarks Luigia Scudeller
12:30 – 13:30	Goodbye Lunch

Programme

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