



Newsletter Winter 2025

Message from the Study group Executive Committee

Dear colleagues, friends and ESGCD study group members,

I am sure you are all on the count down to the Christmas break and looking forward to a Happy New Year for 2026. I hope you all take time to look back over your year, celebrate your achievements, and reflect on the lessons learnt, without punishing yourself for mistakes, for we are all human. The committee looks forward to seeing you all again at ESCMID Global next year, and to new collaborations to help improve CDI.

Please remember, that we are keen to support research projects, and that the membership can be leveraged to answer some pertinent questions. If you have a project/research question that you think the membership can help with, please get in touch.

As always, if you have any items for inclusion in our next newsletter or ideas for future study group activities, please email Dr Wiep Klaas Smits, Educational Officer; W.K.Smits@lumc.nl. This really is your study group! We really do want to hear your suggestions and ideas please don't be shy!

Please make sure you keep us up to date of any upcoming projects that you think the committee can help advise on, and please check out our ESCMID SG webpage [ESCMID: ESGCD](#), and our LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13099388/> for updates and networking. We've also added some new guidance on our webpage on how to apply for sponsorship for meetings relevant to the study group.

With our very best wishes, and with hopes of a very Happy New Year to you all.

Kerrie Davies – (UK) – Chair,

Erik Dubberke (US) – Secretary,

John Coia- (DK) – Treasurer,

Benoit Guery – (Switzerland) - Science officer,

Wiep Klaas Smits– (NL) - Education officer,

John Heritage – (UK) – Patient Representative,

Andrea Marino- (Italy) – TAE Young Science Rep.



Recent publications

We are always interested in publications and research activities of our members, so please let us know when your *C. difficile*-related articles are published. When publishing your research, we would ask that you **add your ESGCD affiliation** to relevant papers that you submit. This helps highlight the impact of our study group to a wider audience. Unfortunately, although the two papers below do include ESGCD members, they cannot be counted in our end of year report, as papers must have three members from two different countries, so its always good to think about those collaborations early!

1. [Patient satisfaction with infection prevention and control interventions in acute hospitals: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#). Skally M, Kearney A, Strawbridge J, Heritage J, Cox C, Bennett KE, Humphreys H, Fitzpatrick F. *BMJ Open*. 2025 Dec 14;15(12):e103431. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2025-103431.PMID: 41397751
2. [Recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* Infections](#). van Prehn J, Kuijper EJ, Dubberke ER. *JAMA*. 2025 Dec 16;334(23):2128-2129. doi: 10.1001/jama.2025.18089.

Xmas webinar competition and travel grants for next year

We held our usual Xmas case presentation webinar on the 16th December 2025. We had four outstanding presentations, with two joint winners, and two joint runners up. The winner won 500 Euro each towards ESCGMID global attendance, and the runners up won 250 euro each.

Congratulations to

Winners - Robyn Traynor and Saoirse Ni Bhaoill

Runners up- Klaudia Szarek and Ian Lors

Travel grants for 2026

If you need help to attend the conference next year, look out for the launch of our travel grants in January 2026. This year it will be done slightly differently as applications will be on a central ESCMID portal <https://www.escmid.org/congress-events/escmid-global/abstracts/submission/grants-awards/>. Applications can be made between 15 January – 12 February, so keep a look out!

ESGCD elections

The Exec Committee will be undergoing elections again for next year. The timeline for these elections is:

- Nomination phase: 06.01. - 03.02.2026
- Election phase: 17.02. - 03.03.2026
- The new Executive Committee takes office at ESCMID Global 2026



ESGCD

ESCMID STUDY GROUP
FOR CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE

European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

As an ESGCD member, you are eligible to participate in these elections, and either nominate yourself or others to stand. You should all have received an email with instructions, but you can access through the ESCMID members portal and navigate to the Study group elections tab.

Wisdom comes with winters

Oscar Wilde