



# ESGCD

ESCMID STUDY GROUP  
FOR CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE

European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases



## Newsletter Summer 2024

### Message from the Study group Executive Committee

Dear colleagues, friends and ESGCD study group members,

The temperatures are hotting up and we are all looking forward to summer break. Before you take some well-earned downtime, please think about supporting your fellow members by nominating them for an [ESCMID: Awards](#). There are lots of categories, Excellence in science, lifetime achievement, young investigator, outstanding contribution to the field of infection, emerging young investigator, and TAE outstanding trainee. There is so much good work going on out there, from very dedicated members, so let's take the time to get them some recognition.

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](mailto: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,

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.



## CDI sessions at ESCMID Global 2026

I am pleased to be able to tell you that we have two sessions accepted for ESCMID Global 2026, submission this year were very competitive, so to still get two accepted is great news, and keeps *C. diff* very much on the agenda. Thank-you to everyone who came to the workshop at the study group meeting in Vienna to help us to shape the submissions.

Co-organisers: ESCMID Study Group for *Clostridioides difficile* (ESGCD), ESCMID Study Group for Veterinary Microbiology (ESGVM)

Session type: 1-hour Symposium

Session title: One Health beyond AMR: the challenge of *Clostridioides difficile* infection control outside the hospital

Category: 8. Healthcare-associated infections, infection prevention & control

Talk title: *Clostridioides difficile* in extra-human sources

Talk title: Dynamics of transmission of *Clostridioides difficile* within and outside the Hospital

Proposing Entity: ESCMID Study Group for *Clostridioides difficile* (ESGCD) Session type: Meet-the-Expert Session title: Novel therapeutics for *C. difficile* infection Category: 5. New antibacterial agents, PK/PD & Stewardship

Don't forget to start thinking about your abstract submission for next year, the oral presentations and posters were exceptional this year, but let's try to get even more *C. diff* on the programme.

We look forward to seeing you in Munich!

## Recent publications

There have been some important publications recently, including one led by our Educations Officer on the need for *C. diff* to be classed as a priority pathogen. We are also 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.

1. *Clostridioides difficile* should be considered a bacterial priority pathogen. Smits WK, Garey KW, Riley TV, Han YW, Young VB, Heritage J, Lillis CJ, Lyras D, Rupnik M, Johnson S. Lancet Microbe. 2025 Jun 26:101184. doi: 10.1016/j.lanmic.2025.101184. Online ahead of print.
2. [Newly emerging metronidazole-resistant \*Clostridioides difficile\* PCR ribotype 955 identified in Poland, 2021 to 2023 but not in Czechia, 2012 to 2023 and Slovakia, 2015 to 2023.](#) Zikova J, Szarek K, Kabała M, Wultańska D, Frankowska N, Iwanicki A, Hinc K, Mucha A, Komarnicka J, Jagielska A, Kuijper E, Krutova M, Pituch H. Euro Surveill. 2025 May;30(21):2400675. doi: 10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2025.30.21.2400675.PMID: 40444372



## Educational events

We have been involved in organising and supporting some educational events, see below. If you have an event for which you would like sponsorship, please see our new guidelines on our webpage.

### Events that have occurred

ASM Microbe 2025, Los Angeles, California

Co-organizing groups: ESCMID Study Group for Clostridioides difficile (ESGCD), ESCMID Study Group for Host and Microbiota Interactions (ESGHAMI)

Session type: Table talk

Title: The Frontier of Fecal Microbiota Transplant and Live Biotherapeutic Products in Treating Clostridioides difficile Infection (CDI)

Speaker: Erik R. Dubberke, MD, MSPH in place of Dina Kao, MD

Brief description: Lessons learned on efficacy and how to safely administer fecal microbiota products reviewed, with look to cultivatable live biotherapeutic products in the future.

John Heritage, our Patient Representative, has delivered a recorded account as evidence of the experience of both caring for someone with CDI, and being a sufferer himself to the West Yorkshire Care Board in July.

### Planned events

The C diff Trust, the first charity for C diff in the UK and Ireland, is hosting the [Combatting CDI Conference](#) in November, at the Royal Armouries in Leeds, UK. The conference is free to attend for healthcare professionals, and travel grants are available. There is a great programme of national and international expert speakers, with a focus of how we can reduce the harmful impacts of Cdiff.

### Webinars

We will soon be kicking off our webinar series for this year, with the first session scheduled for September 2025. The first webinar will be on antimicrobial resistance of C. difficile, and cover resistance to metronidazole (dr. Jane Freeman), vancomycin (dr. Taryn Eubank), fidaxomicin (dr. Curtis Donskey) and linezolid (dr. Andrea Brenciani). Details will be announced in the near future via the ESGCD mailing list, as well as our LinkedIn page.

*In early June the world of leaf and blade and flowers explodes, and every sunset is different*

*John Steinbeck*