



Newsletter III; October 2025

Message from the Study group Executive Committee (EC)

Dear ESGCP members

We hope you have a good and joyful season with exiting and interesting professional experiences.

Welcome to new members

ESGCP currently has 900 active members. We appreciate all our members but would especially like to welcome new members. We hope that as our heterogeneous group is growing, we can help and inspire each other further in the field of parasitology.

In this Newsletter we would like to present the following news:

- Google group for ESGCP communications
- News from ESCMID generally
- Parasite Morphology Hub (PMH)
- Webinars
- ESCMID Guidelines for Alveolar Echinococcosis
- Publications
- Funding opportunities from ESGCP

Google group for ESGCP communications:

As mentioned, ESGCP now have 900 members, this is a significant increase in members in the last 1-2 years. While we are very happy for it, this makes communication by mail difficult, due to limitations concerning the maximum number of recipients the sender is allowed to mail within a set time-period before being labeled as a spam-mailer. To overcome this, we have created an ESGCP google group called: Study Group for Clinical Parasitology (ESGCP). Hanne Brekke sent invitations to around 600 people, but so far only 94 have joined. **Together with this Newsletter you will receive a new invitation to join the Google Group, please do so.** If your work-mail will not allow this, let us know so we can send a new invitation to private mail.

News from ESCMID:

ESCMID is electing three new members of the TAE steering committee, and nominations are open for Young Scientist Members to become candidates. We strongly encourage our young ESGCP members to consider this.

ESCMID are hosting a range of post-graduate courses. Although none is in the field of parasitology this fall semester, we strongly encourage you all to have a look at the different available courses at:

<https://www.escmid.org/education/courses/>



Next year's ESCMID Global will be in Munich, Germany, from 17-21 April 2026. Abstract submission for ESCMID Global 2026 opens on 15 October, until 26 November 2025. Information about abstract submission and template can be found on the website.

Registration for ESCMID Global 2026 will open on 29 October 2025. We hope to see as many as possible there. We already know of at least five sessions in the field of parasitology which will be held in Munich (which sessions will be revealed in the next Newsletter this year, join the Google group to get the Newsletter and get to know this 😊).

Please always refer to www.escmid.org for the full and updated set of news from the Society!

ESCMID Global Parasite Morphology Hub (PMH)

Hosted by ESGCP and ESGITM

Morphological diagnosis in parasitology is at risk of disappearance, with established practitioners retiring and the focus shifting towards molecular diagnostics¹.

However, molecular assays are not readily available in the regions which suffer the greatest burden of parasitic infections and even in wealthy countries, molecular diagnosis cannot always bring to a definitive diagnosis and morphology remains the mainstay for diagnosis, especially in cellular pathology/histopathology. Therefore, there is a need to maintain and pass on skills in parasite morphology, especially tissue-based morphology, to the next generation.

To provide a base for this initiative, ESCMID Global is hosting a Parasite Morphology Hub (PMH) in its ESGCP and ESGITM study groups to promote skills in parasite morphology, especially tissue-based parasite morphology.

Activities

PMH will provide training

- Via regular on-line webinars with international experts in the field
- In person, with wet lab educational sessions in major parasite-endemic regions
 - Via morphology focussed journal articles

Membership

Membership of the PMH is open to all ESCMID Global members who are interested in developing and passing on their skills in this area.

ESGCP members wishing to join the Hub should email Dr Míriam Álvarez-Martínez MALVAREZ@clinic.cat and ESGITM members should email Prof Peter Chiodini p.chiodini@nhs.net

¹Bradbury RS, Sapp SGH, Potters I, Mathison BA, Frean J, Mewara A, Sheorey H, Tamarozzi F, Couturier MR, Chiodini P, Pritt B. Where Have All the Diagnostic Morphological Parasitologists Gone? J Clin Microbiol. 2022 Nov 16;60(11): e0098622. doi: 10.1128/jcm.00986-22.



Events WEBINARS:

On 30th October 2025, from 14.00-16.00 (CET), ESGCP and ESGITM will host Parasite Morphology HUB (PMH) webinar:

“Parasite morphology masterclass”.

The webinar will include inspiring and informative teaching from the following parasitology specialists: Dr Bobbi Pritt (Rochester, Minnesota, USA), Dr Blaine Mathison (Salt Lake City, USA), Dr Richard Bradbury (Townsville, Australia) and Dr Charlotte Sriruttan (Johannesburg, South Africa).

Subscription is free and you can still sign up:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Cc81P_jsRwOBLLoShvIm1Q#/registration

On the 4 June 2025 ESGCP and ESGITM held a webinar:

“Leishmaniasis in the face of internal unrest and conflicts in Syria”

We had between 50-60 attendees altogether with a good discussion panel in the end.

For those who were unable to attend live, we are happy to remind that all webinars are recorded and made available in the ESCMID Library following the events. If you would like to listen to the webinar, login into ESCMID website, and look at the ESCMID library.

Guidelines for Alveolar Echinococcosis

The ESCMID Guidelines for the Diagnosis, Clinical Management, and Follow-up of Patients with Alveolar Echinococcosis are among the approved projects supported by the ESGCP, with Beate Grüner (ESGCP-EC elected) serving as the lead.

The call for panel members for the new ESCMID guidelines projects closed on October 10, 2023. The selection process will be finalized by the end of November. Our goal is to create an international, well-balanced, and diverse panel of experts.

The project kick-off is scheduled for January 2026, with the first in-person meeting to take place in April 2026, during ESCMID Global.

We look forward to advancing the clinical guidelines for the management of alveolar echinococcosis under the guidance of ESCMID.

Study Group Publications

ESGCP will receive points for Study Group publications, but there are defined and strict requirements for publishing on behalf of a study group: (i) at least 3 study group members have to be involved from at least 2 different countries and (ii) the study group has to be mentioned in the title, or it has to be written (“on behalf of ESGCP”) among the authors.



If any of our members know of publications in which ESGCP is actively involved and credited, please do not hesitate to let us know for future Newsletters.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FROM ESGCP

ESGCP strives to support its members to attend ESCMID Global and to pursue their research.

Because of this, ESGCP is proud to provide financial support to its members. Please note, importantly, that this study group financial support is distinct from other funding opportunities through ESCMID, and applications must be sent directly to the ESGCP executive committee members!

1A) In-person attendance to ESCMID Global congress upon accepted abstract in the field of parasitology. (Deadline for application are announced each year)

1B) In-person attendance to ESCMID Global congress of organizers of ESCMID-ESGCP on-site or hybrid courses in the field of parasitology, as a recognition and a reward for organizing ESCMID-ESGCP courses. (Deadline for application are announced each year)

2) Top-up funding for ongoing research (Deadline for application 31 st March and 31st October)

Please visit the ESGCP web page for full details! (<https://www.escmid.org/esgcp/>)





ESCMID

Study Group for
Clinical Parasitology
ESGCP

If you have information or suggestions to the ESGCP group please look at the guidelines for the Google Group and preferably use this for communication with the group. If you have information, suggestions or questions to the ESGCP EC please contact us:

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