



Newsletter January 2026

Message from the Study group Executive Committee

Happy 2026 to everyone! We hope this year will be rich in new collaborations, within ESGLI and with other study groups. We are excited to announce two upcoming webinars and a "Meet the Expert" session at the ESCMID global meeting in Munich.

The election process for the new ESGLI EC for 2026-2028 is currently underway with the nomination phase due to end on the 5th of February 2025. Each nominee must be supported by at least two other members and should have been an active study group member for at least three years. All ESGLI members can then cast their vote for the nominated candidates from the 19th of February until the 5th of March, 2026 with the new executive to take office at ESCMID Global, 2026.

The ESGLI EC

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Educational activities

The next two ESGLI webinars for 2026 have already been scheduled.

The first webinar is a joint one with the ESGPHM subgroup

Title: "The European Reference laboratory in Public Health on *Legionella*: Promoting harmonized Legionnaires' disease diagnostic and detection in the EU/EEA".

Chairs: *Dr Anastasia Flountzi and Dr Aura Aguirre-Beltran*

Speakers:

An update on the epidemiology of Legionella in EU/EEA by *Dr Lara Payne Hallstrom*.

An introduction to the European Union Reference Laboratories by *Dr Andreas Hoefler*.

European Reference Laboratory in Public Health on Legionella by *Dr Camille Jacqueline*.

It will be on the 4th of February at 2:30 pm. Here is the link to join the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ve8SovNrRly8wUGf_7ULUg

The second webinar:

Title: New Insights into Legionella Identification Using MALDI-TOF MS and FT-IR Approaches.

Chair: *Dr Sebastian Crespi*

Speakers:

Comparative Analysis of Legionella Identification by MALDI-TOF MS: Sample Preparation Methods, In-House Library, and Clustering Approaches by *Dr Luna Girolamini*,

FTIR Spectroscopy for Legionella Environmental Surveillance: From Identification to Clustering Analysis by *Prof Dr Sandra Cristino*.

It will be held on the 27th of February at 1:00 pm. Here is the link to join no need to register:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85875939973>

On the 17th of April at the ESCMID Global 2026 event, taking place from 17-21 April, there will be a "Meet the Expert" session on Legionnaires disease: insights from recent large outbreaks" from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm.

Speakers:

Dr Maria Scaturro and Dr Florian Heger



There will be no in person ESGLI meeting in 2026 but the above may be of interest to ESGLI members

Publications

The 2026 started with a new ESGLI accredited publication which meets the established criteria:

Genomic characterization of *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1 ST901 isolates responsible for recurrent travel-associated Legionnaires' disease cases and clusters.

Ricci ML, Fillo S, Giordani F, Ciammaruconi A, Girolamo A, Anselmo A, Monte A, Mentasti M, Cusimano V, Caporali MG, Rota MC, Petzold M, Afshar B, Lista F, Luck C, Scaturro M. Pathog Glob Health. 2026 Jan 14:1-12. doi: 10.1080/20477724.2025.2610657.

ESGLI accredited publications have to meet these criteria:

At least **three study group members** (coming from at least **two different countries**) are in the authors' list with affiliation to the Study Group stated in the section "Author information".

The sentence "**from the Study Group...**" or "**on behalf of the Study Group**" has to be present in the authors' list. Alternatively, the name of the Study group is clearly mentioned in the title.

The most recent publications can be accessed using the link <https://www.escmid.org/esgli/> where they can be downloaded.

Membership!

Please remember to **renew your ESCMID Membership** every two years to continue to access all ESGLI activities!

Also, please continue to inform your colleagues, and other scientists, who might be working in the field to join our group and share their knowledge and ideas.