



Dear ESGNTA members,

We hope you're all enjoying the July–August break. It's also a great opportunity to share some updates about our study group and upcoming events.

This newsletter highlights a number of conferences—many of which will be of interest to you, and several are supported by or involve ESGNTA. Below is the ESGNTA session scheduled for ESCMID Global, April 2026 in Munich.

A reminder: elections for our SG Executive Committee are planned for 2026, so please be prepared to vote and consider running.

1. Upcoming Conferences

1.1 [Evergreen Phage Meeting](#)

August 3-8, 2025

The University of Knoxville, Tennessee, USA

Themes for this year includes the following tracks:

Phage Biology, Evolution, Ecology, and

Therapeutics: Continuing the core tracks that built Evergreen's legacy

Diagnostics: Phage-based tools for infection detection and microbiome analysis.

Regulation & Policy: Navigating the evolving landscape of phage therapy approvals and global standards.

Biomanufacturing & Scale-Up: Bridging research and industry to bring phage-based products to market.

From Classroom to Career: Connecting students, postdocs, and industry leaders to foster professional growth.



1.2 15th Annual Oxford Bacteriophage Conference 2025



Oral Abstracts: 30 Jun 2025 | **Early registration:** 15 Jul 2025 (extended) | **Poster Abstracts:** 15 Aug 2025 | **Digital Posters and flash-talk videos:** 25 Aug 2025 | **Standard Registration Deadline:** 29 Aug 2025

1.3 Phage Protein Meeting 2025 in Ghent University, Belgium September 10-11, 2025



The Phage Protein Meeting 2025

Join us for the inaugural **Phage Protein Meeting**, a premier event dedicated to advancing phage protein research. This gathering will bring together leading experts and emerging researchers to explore groundbreaking discoveries in **phage lysins, tail fibers, tailspikes, depolymerases, and tailocins**. Engage with thought-provoking discussions, cutting-edge research, and inspiring keynote addresses, including a special talk by **Lone Brøndsted**. Experience an immersive **two-day program** designed to foster collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange. Set in the beautiful city of **Ghent, Belgium**, this event offers a unique opportunity to connect with like-minded professionals in a dynamic and engaging environment. Don't miss your chance to be part of this exciting conference

—**secure your spot today!**

1.4 43rd Annual Meeting of the European Bone & Joint Infection Society, Bologna, Italy September 11-13, 2025

At this conference, ESGNTA members will contribute to ***Key Session 3: Everything You Want to Know About Phage***. In addition to this session, there will be several phage-related short presentations and posters. More information is available here: <https://ebjis.org/2025-programme/>



1.5 Conference on Bacteriophages: Biology, Dynamics, and Therapeutics

Washington, DC • October 12-14, 2025
Washington Hilton • 1919 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009



Conference on
Bacteriophages
Biology, Dynamics,
and Therapeutics

- Lead by Dr. Graham Hatfull of the University of Pittsburgh and Dr. Robert (Chip) Schooley of the University of California in San Diego
- Sunday, October 12 to Tuesday, October 14, at the Washington Hilton Hotel, in Washington, DC
- Register now!

1.6 ESCMID Postgraduate Education Courses & Workshops 2026: Phage-Derived Proteins: From Genomic Discovery to Therapeutic and Diagnostic Applications

Wrocław, Poland

March 3-4 2026

University Library in Wrocław

Stay tuned for full details!

Please contact Prof. Zuzanna Drulis-Kawa with questions zuzanna.drulis-kawa@uwr.edu.pl



2. **Five** ESGNTA Sessions Approved for ESCMID 2026, Munich!

We're happy to announce that five sessions have been accepted by the ESCMID Global Scientific Committee. The sessions and speakers are listed below—please note that changes may occur during conference planning due to availability or scheduling conflicts.

Notably, this will be the first year featuring the EUCAST Phage Susceptibility Subcommittee, and we look forward to welcoming all relevant participants to that session.

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| Co-organisers: ESCMID Study Group for Implant-associated Infections (ESGIAI), ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA) |
| Session type: 1-hour Symposium |
| Session title: Bacteriophages in implant-related infections: translating a century-old concept into a modern solution for AMR |
| Category: 8. Healthcare-associated infections, infection prevention & control |
| Talk title: Bacteriophage therapy in cardiac and orthopaedic device-related infection |
| Speaker: Tristan Ferry, Male, FR |
| Talk title: Challenges and future directions of phagotherapy in multidrug-resistant implant infections |
| Speaker: Rob Lavigne, Male, BE |

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| Co-organisers: ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA) |
| Session type: 2-hour Symposium |
| Session title: Cracking the phage code: from clinical insights to precision design |
| Category: 5. New antibacterial agents, PK/PD & Stewardship |
| Talk title: Phage therapy in cystic fibrosis patients: a randomised controlled trial |
| Speaker: Robert Schooley, Male, US |
| Talk title: Randomised controlled trials of phage therapy in diabetic foot ulcers |
| Speaker: Ran Nir-Paz, Male, IL |
| Talk title: Machine Learning based approach to predict bacteriophage hosts |
| Speaker: Mette Voldby Larsen, Female, DK |
| Talk title: Cell-free production of personalised therapeutic phages |
| Speaker: Christina Ludwig, Female, DE |

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| Co-organisers: ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA), EU-CAST Steering Committee |
| Session type: 1-hour Symposium |
| Session title: The future of clinical phage susceptibility testing |
| Category: 3. Bacterial susceptibility & resistance |
| Talk title: Bacteriophage potency determinations: european pharmacopeia vs. real life |
| Speaker: Pieter-Jan Ceysens, Male, BE |
| Talk title: Current EUCAST phage susceptibility reference |
| Speaker: Annika Claßen, Female, DE |

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| Co-organisers: ESCMID Study Group for Biofilms (ESGB), ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA) |
| Session type: 2-hour Educational Session |
| Session title: Strategies to tackle biofilm-associated infections |
| Category: 9. Fundamental microbiology, pathogenesis & immunity to infection |
| Talk title: Pathogenesis of biofilm-associated infections |
| Speaker: Kimberly Kline, Female, CH |
| Talk title: Bacterial regulatory networks influencing infection dynamics during polymicrobial infections |
| Speaker: Katrin Schilcher, Female, AT |
| Talk title: Molecular basis of tolerance and resistance in biofilms |
| Speaker: Tom Coenye, Male, BE |
| Talk title: Assessing <i>in vivo</i> anti-biofilm activity |
| Speaker: Valerie Waters, Female, CA |

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| Co-organisers: ESCMID Study Group for Mycobacterial Infections (ESGMYC), ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA) |
| Session type: 1-hour Symposium |
| Session title: Innovations in the management of tuberculosis and non-tuberculous mycobacteria |
| Category: 2. Bacterial infection & disease |
| Talk title: New diagnostics for mycobacterial infection |
| Speaker: Daniela Cirillo, Female, IT |
| Talk title: Targeting TB and NTM infections with Phage-Derived Tools |
| Speaker: Graham Hatfull, Male, US |

3. G-CPR Events

SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #20 (GCPR20)

June 17, 2025, Pseudomonas Phage Therapy for P. aeruginosa empyema & vascular graft
Speaker: Dr. Georgia Mitropoulou

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #21 (GCPR21)

April 28, 2025, Index Phage therapy cases in Singapore – Reflections and Refinement
(Pseudomonas Vascular and intra-abdominal hardware infections)
Speakers: Dr. Jasmine Cheung, Dr. Andrea LayHoon Kwa

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #22 (GCPR22)

June 17, 2025, Pseudomonas Phage Protocol Input for Adult Non-CF Bronchiectasis
Speakers: Dr. Emma Finlayson-Trick, Dr. Catherine Hogan, Dr. Gannon Yu, Dr. Alborz Shoki
Julie Pauwels

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #23 (GCPR23)

June 25, 2025 100 Phage Therapy Cases
Speakers: Jean-Paul Pirnay, Sabrina Green, and Sarah Djebara
community forum engagement open to the Global Phage Community

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #24 (GCPR24)

Tentative date: July 28, 2025
Topic: NTM/Mycobacteria

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #25 (GCPR25)

Date: TBD
Tentative topic: Update on STAMP protocol

If you are interested in joining the distribution list, please email Gregory.German@unityhealth.to or sign up on phagerounds.com

4. Publications of ESGNTA Members

Don't forget to include the ESGNTA affiliation in your publication—every mention helps! If your publication involves members from multiple countries, it further enhances our visibility within ESCMID, so please ensure ESGNTA is listed as an additional affiliation. Additionally, let us know about your publication so we can help promote it here.



antibiotics

Abedi AO, Abedi AA, Ferry T, Citak M. Current **Applications and the Future of Phage Therapy for Periprosthetic Joint Infections**. *Antibiotics* (Basel). 2025 Jun 6;14(6):581. doi: 10.3390/antibiotics14060581. PMID: 40558171; PMCID: PMC12189447.

ESGNTA affiliation for publications: Add “ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial therapy (ESGNTA)” after your university affiliation

5. Stay tuned for ESGNTA elections – coming in 2026!



Ran Nir-Paz
Chair

Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center. Clinical Microbiology and Diseases
Jerusalem, Israel



Jean-Paul Pirnay
Science Officer

Queen Astrid Military Hospital. LabMCT
Brussels, Belgium



Zuzanna Drulis-Kawa
Treasurer

University of Wrocław. Department of Pathogen Biology and Immunology
Wrocław



Tristan Ferry
Education Officer

Hospices Civils de Lyon. Infectious Diseases
Lyon, France



Gina Suh
Secretary

Mayo Clinic
Rochester, United States

ESGNTA 2024-2026 Board

- Elections every 2 years
 - 4 years maximum at any single position
 - 8 years maximum on the executive board in total
- In 2024, 46% of members voted
- **Next election will be in 2026**
- All members will have the possibility to cast 5 votes

6. Welcome new members!

As of July 13, 2025, ESGNTA now has **566** members!!

On behalf of the ESGNTA Executive Committee,

Chair: Prof. Ran NIR-PAZ

Treasurer: Prof. Zuzanna DRULIS-KAWA

Secretary: Dr. Gina SUH

Science Officer: Dr. Jean-Paul PIRNAY

Education Officer / Clinical Officer: Prof. Tristan FERRY

Email: esgnta.board@gmail.com

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