



Dear Friends,

We are very excited for the upcoming ESCMID Annual meeting in Vienna, Austria! We hope to see all of you in April!

1. [ESCMID 2025](#) Annual Meeting April 12- 15th in Vienna, Austria.



We are pleased to announce 2 phage-dedicated sessions at ESCMID 2025!

Educational ESGNTA session Friday 11 April 2025 Hall 5

Session title: Going Viral! Phage Therapy Clinical rounds

Chaired by Greg German and Ameneh Khatami

Talk title: Clinical cases and lessons from the STAMP protocol

Speaker: Holly Sinclair, AU

Talk title: Difficult cases treated with phages

Speaker: Ghady Haidar, US

Talk title: Challenging osteoarticular cases treated with phages

Speaker: Tristan Ferry, FR

Talk title: Treating urinary tract infections with phages: dream or reality?

Speaker: TBD

Educational Session on Saturday April 12th Hall 14

Including ESCMID Study Group for Forensic and Postmortem Microbiology (ESGFOR), ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA), SEIMC (Sociedad Española Enfermedades Infecciosas Microbiología Clínica), International Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (ISAC)

Session title: Traumatic wound infections: diagnosis and treatment options

Talk title: Multidrug-resistant infections after trauma in warzone

Speaker: Shehan Hettiaratchy, UA

Talk title: Fungal infections during natural disasters

Speaker: Anuradha Chowdhary, IN

Talk title: Bacteriophage therapy for multidrug-resistant wound infections in trauma
Speaker: Tristan Ferry, FR

Talk title: Infection of burn wounds
Speaker: Nur Benzonana, TR

One-hour Oral Session

Saturday April 12th 11:00-12:00 Hall 13

Chaired By Zuzanna Drulis Kawa and Helena Zemlickova

Session Title: Around the lab in 80 ways: a journey through innovative therapeutics

Talk title: Eosin Y and Ceragenin combinations for enhanced antimicrobial photodynamic therapy
Speaker: Yamak Tekintas, TR

Talk title: Hijacking intrinsic resistance in Mycobacterium abscessus
Speaker: Gregory Phelps, US

Talk title: Identification of compounds capable of removing established bacterial biofilms
Speaker: Thomas Inzana, US

Talk title: In vivo expression of an mRNA encoded multimechanistic mAb combination against Staphylococcus aureus and protection in a disease model
Speaker: Sellman Bret, US

Talk title: Tripartite bacteriophage-based strategy to combat human clinical pathogens
Speaker: Panos Kalatzis, DK

A Phage E-Poster session on April 13th: "The enemy of my enemy: From jumbo phages to cocktails for difficult to treat Infections"

There will be many other phage related talks presentations and posters throughout the whole conference.

2. Upcoming Conferences

2.1 Medical Biodefense Conference April 8-10 in Munich, Germany with phage session



www.biodefense.de



https://conference.instmikrobiobw.de/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/MBDC2025_Flyer.pdf

Contact +49 (0)89 992 692 3277

biodefense@bundeswehr.org

2.2 State of the Art in the Era of Microbiome Study: Current Approach and Future Perspectives

A workshop supported by ESGNTA and organized by members of our SG and from the ESGHAMI on State of the Art in the Era of Microbiome Study: Current Approach and Future Perspectives.



This workshop will take place on May 5-6 In Beautiful Turin, Italy. More information can be found on the ESCMID site @ [ESCMID: State of the Art in the Era of Microbiome Study: Current Approach and Future Perspectives](#). Registration is open until April 15th. And attendance grant applications are open until 16th March 2025.

2.3 [Advances in Phage Therapeutics](#) June 16-17 Braga, Portugal



The **1st International Symposium on Advances in Phage Therapeutics** (www.skyros-congressos.pt/PhageTherapy), will take place on **June 16-17, 2025**, in Braga, Portugal.

This symposium will bring together, researchers, healthcare professionals and experts to share insights and explore progress in areas such as genomics, bioinformatics, and genetic engineering related to phage therapy.

The program will explore current and future trends on phage therapy divided into five sessions:

- Session 1: Phage therapy challenges & advances

- Session 2: Personalized phage therapy
- Session 3: Phage pharmacokinetics
- Session 4: Phage therapy for chronic infections
- Session 5: Breakthroughs in phage therapy

The organizing team includes: Joana Azeredo; Ana Oliveira; Diana Priscila Pires; Ivone Martins; Luís Melo; Hugo Oliveira; and Sílvia Santos.

2.4 ASM Microbe June 19-23, 2025, Los Angeles

Session: Phage Based Therapeutics: Progress/Success?

- **On the shoulders of giants: developing an integrated bacteriophage therapy service in Australia** Jonathan Iredell; Westmead Inst./ Univ. of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
- **Phage Therapy: Where Are We Now?** Gina Suh; Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN



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Session: Infectious Disease Through the Lens of Bacterial Co-Infection

- **A Blueprint for Broadly Effective Bacteriophage-Antibiotic Cocktails Against Bacterial Infections** Paul Bollyky; Stanford Univ., STANFORD, CA

Session: Phage Ecology: From Prophage Decision Making to Ecosystem Modulation

- **Geovirology: Bacteriophage influences on bacterial geochemical signatures** Cynthia Silveira; Univ. of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
- **Phage-bacterial coexistence in the gut microbiome** Bryan Hsu; Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

Session: Acting As a Unit: Regulation of Microbial Collective Behaviors from Molecules to Populations

- **Community and Chemical Regulation of Anti-Bacteriophage Immune Systems in Bacteria** Joseph Gerdt; Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN

2.5 [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.

2.6 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!

3. EUCAST PST Subcommittee – Latest Updates

The EUCAST subcommittee on phage susceptibility testing (PST) continues its work on standardizing methods. Monthly meetings of the Scientific Steering and General Committees remain ongoing. The EUCAST website has been updated with the latest information on members and activities (<https://www.eucast.org/ast-of-phages>). A half-day online symposium for all members is planned for March 2025 to discuss progress and future directions.

4. Events since our last newsletter

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #17 (GCPR17)

Dec 6, 2024, Pseudomonas Phage Immunology and Biophysics, Article and Case discussion
Speakers: Dr. Elizabeth Burgener (University of Southern California) and Dr. Paul Bollyky (Stanford)

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #18 (GCPR17)

Feb 10, 2025, Special Session The ELIMINATE Clinical Trial and the use of the Locus Biosciences LBP-EC01 phage cocktail to treat Urinary Tract Infections Speaker: Dr. Paul Kim

Global Clinical Phage Rounds Session #19 (GCPR17)

Feb 24, 2025, Redefining Success Reassessing Bacteriophage Therapy Evaluation in Postoperative Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma with Multidrug-Resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection. Speakers: Dr. Wenfeng Liu, Dr. Yang Zhou

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

5. Publication Opportunity! The Global Landscape of Phage Therapy, special issue of *Int. J. Antimicrob. Agents*

- Dr. Ruby Lin of Phage Australia and Dr. Gina Suh of Mayo Clinic are excited to announce a special issue on Global Landscape of Phage Therapy in **International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents** (impact factor 4.9, CiteScore 21.6) dedicated to exploring the exciting potential of phages as a novel solution to the global challenge of antibiotic resistance.
- Please contact Ruby (ruby.lin@sydney.edu.au) or Gina (suh.gina@mayo.edu) or submit your manuscript [here](#) if you are interested
- Deadline extended to September 30, 2025

6. 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.



Mikael Skurnik, Sivan Alkalay-Oren, Maarten Boon, Martha Clokie, Thomas Sicheritz-Pontén, Krystyna Dąbrowska, Graham F. Hatfull, Ronen Hazan, Matti Jalasvuori, Saija Kiljunen, Rob Lavigne, Danish J. Malik, Ran Nir-Paz & Jean-Paul Pirnay. Phage therapy. *Nature Reviews Methods Primers*. 2025/02/13 2025;5(1):9. doi:10.1038/s43586-024-00377-5

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

7. Welcome new members!

With 167 new members having joined since Jan 1, 2025, ESGNTA has now more than 300 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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