About the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

www.escmid.org
About ESCMID

Mission
The European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases is a non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of infection-related diseases. This is achieved by promoting and supporting research, education, training, and good medical practice.

Background
The Society is registered in Germany, with membership and administration offices in both Munich and Basel. Founded in 1983, ESCMID now has some 3’800 regular members all over the world. Combined with its associated and affiliated memberships, it reaches out to over 33’000 professionals. ESCMID has been an influential component in the professional lives of microbiologists and infectious diseases specialists for more than 25 years and welcomes new colleagues from all nations.

www.escmid.org/society
www.escmid.org/executive
ESCMID Governance
The Society’s executive power is vested in an Executive Committee that is elected by the membership. The Assembly of Members takes place annually at the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID). Representatives of affiliated societies gather at the yearly European Council meeting held during the ECCMID. It serves as a forum for discussion and resolution of professional matters of common interest. It is also held during the annual ECCMID.

Organization

ESCMID Presidents from 1983 to 2011
Membership

Regular Membership  Voting member entitled to all benefits, including official publications. Reduced fees apply for young (≤ 35 years) and retired colleagues. Membership is open to colleagues from all continents.

Honorary Membership  Distinguished physician or scientist elected by the Executive Committee in recognition of outstanding contributions to Science or to the Society.

Affiliated Membership  Member of an affiliated society. They are entitled to receive the electronic ESCMID Newsletter.

Associate Membership  Member of an ESCMID Study Group. No membership dues; no benefits beyond those provided by the Study Group.

Corporate Membership  For companies and other organizations wishing to support ESCMID. Two corporate representatives receive all the benefits of regular members. In addition, up to ten representatives can access CMI online. The corporate membership contract waives any influence on the Society’s activities.

Membership makes you part of a community that benefits from participation in an open and collaborative organization.

The Benefits of Regular Membership

→ Subscription to the monthly issues and supplements of Clinical Microbiology and Infection (CMI), in print and/or online
→ Registration discounts for ECCMID, ESCMID Summer School and other scientific and educational events organized by ESCMID
→ Receipt of ESCMID Newsletter by email and ESCMID Yearbook by post
→ Option to subscribe to several European journals at a preferential rate
→ Access to ESCMID member-only webpages, including the Membership Directory and Online Lecture Library
→ Eligibility for ESCMID Training Fellowships, Research Grants and Observerships
→ Right to vote and influence the future of the Society

Apply for ESCMID Membership: Visit our website and join us now!

www.escmid.org/membership
ESCMID drives scientific knowledge forward by bringing together professionals in the field of clinical microbiology and infectious diseases.

Conferences
Scientific conferences cover a range of current topics from basic science to clinical practice and target different audiences. Depending on the topic and objective, such conferences can be small expert meetings or address a larger audience of interested scientists.

Research Projects
ESCMID encourages its Study Groups and individual members to initiate and participate in research projects and grants funding and administrative support for these projects. Additionally, ESCMID is a partner in several EU funded research programmes [see ‘European Affairs and Projects’].

ESCMID strongly supports individuals active in the field of clinical microbiology and infectious diseases with their postgraduate and continuing medical education (CME). You can benefit from diverse formats:

Postgraduate Courses and Workshops
Two- to four-day events that focus on specific clinical or laboratory issues and are of particular interest to trainees in Clinical Microbiology or Infectious Diseases. They are organized by ESCMID Study Groups, related professional societies or individual ESCMID members under the auspices and with the financial support of ESCMID.

Summer School
The annual one-week course is dedicated to postgraduate and continuing medical education (CME). It covers a broad range of topics and is of interest to young MDs at the end of specialty training, as well as biologists and others working in the field of clinical microbiology and infection.

www.escmid.org/conferences
www.escmid.org/education
www.escmid.org/summerschool
Professionals with a common interest form ESCMID Study Groups. These special interest groups are open to all colleagues (without restriction to Europe) who wish to be involved in discussing and resolving these specific issues.

Study Groups

- Antibiotic Policies
  www.escmid.org/esgap
- Antimicrobial Resistance in Anaerobic Bacteria
  www.escmid.org/esgarab
- Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance
  www.escmid.org/esgars
- Biofilms
  www.escmid.org/esgb
- Clinical Parasitology
  www.escmid.org/escp
- Clostridium difficile
  www.escmid.org/escd
- Coxiella, Anaplasma, Rickettsia and Bartonella
  www.escmid.org/escar
- Epidemiological Markers
  www.escmid.org/esgem
- Food- and Water-borne Infections
  www.escmid.org/efwisg
- Fungal Infection
  www.escmid.org/efisg
- Helicobacter
  www.escmid.org/ehsg
- Meningitis
  www.escmid.org/emesg
- Molecular Diagnostics
  www.escmid.org/esgmd
- Nosocomial Infections
  www.escmid.org/esgni
- Primary Care Topics
  www.escmid.org/esprit
- Viral Hepatitis
  www.escmid.org/esgvh

www.escmid.org/studygroups

Awards, Grants and Fellowships

ESCMID supports both young clinicians and researchers as well as established scholars with awards, grants and fellowships to acknowledge achievements in the disciplines of clinical microbiology and infection, as an incentive for future accomplishments and to support training and research where needed.

Awards, Grants and Fellowships

- Award for Excellence in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
  in recognition of an outstanding lifetime contribution to science, education or professional affairs in the field of infection

- Young Investigator Award for Research in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
  rewards outstanding research and stimulates further studies at the highest scientific level

- Research Grant
  for outstanding research projects proposed by young ESCMID members

- Training Fellowship
  for advanced training of young ESCMID members in a clinical or research unit abroad, covers travel and living expenses

- Observership
  for ESCMID members intending to visit a foreign laboratory or hospital from one day to one month to learn good clinical and/or laboratory practice

- Travel Grant for Training in Foreign Institutions
  covers travel costs of young European scientists for a brief training period abroad

- Travel Grant and/or Free Registration
  awarded to ECCMID abstract authors on a competitive basis for an excellent submission

- Attendance Grant for Educational and Scientific Meetings
  supports young colleagues (ESCMID members or non-members) attending an event organized or endorsed by ESCMID

www.escmid.org/awards&grants
www.escmid.org/observership
ECCMID – European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

About ECCMID

ECCMID takes place annually in the spring and is now recognized as the largest European forum for presentation and discussion of research in the fields of clinical microbiology and infection from academia, the clinical setting and industry. The first European Congress of Clinical Microbiology (ECCM) was organized in 1983 in Bologna. After the Society’s adoption of infectious diseases in the late eighties, the first ECCMID was held in 1991 in Oslo. Initially a biannual congress, ECCMID became an annual event after 1999 in Berlin. ECCMID venues are strategically selected to ensure easy access for colleagues from different areas of Europe on a rotating basis. Since its initiation, ECCMID has grown in size and stature and now attracts 7’000 to 8’000 participants every year. The number of submitted abstracts has risen to almost 3’000 of which 65% are accepted for oral or poster presentation. ECCMID is a congress that the industry has continued to support by offering sponsored symposia as well as a large and comprehensive exhibition of laboratory equipment, diagnostic tools and pharmaceutical products.

Scientific Programme

The scientific programme of ECCMID is a synthesis of current priorities in the fields of clinical microbiology and infection. The diagnosis, treatment, epidemiology and prevention of infectious diseases, as well as the related basic microbiology, are addressed by leading scientists. Keynote lectures, symposia, meet-the-expert sessions, educational workshops, as well as poster and oral sessions guarantee exposure to recent scientific developments. Many subjects are addressed in interactive sessions to maximize the educational aspect. Delegates can take advantage of continuing medical education credits for attending ECCMID.

European Network Corner

ECCMID has also become a favoured occasion for project groups to meet and interact. ESCMID Study Groups, networks and project teams in the field of clinical microbiology and infection, funded by the European Commission or other sponsors realize that the European Network Corner provides a unique opportunity to present their work to a larger scientific community, exchange views with colleagues and attract new members.

Raising Public Awareness

Success and failure in managing infectious diseases have a significant impact on public health. The ESCMID Executive Committee is well aware of this fact and keeps the public informed about key findings concerning public health factors related to the practice of infectious disease medicine through press conferences.

www.escmid.org/eccmid
Clinical Microbiology and Infection (CMI)

CMI is the official peer-reviewed ESCMID publication which includes monthly issues and supplements devoted to special themes. The scope of the journal comprises basic and clinical microbiology and parasitology; diagnosis, management and treatment of bacterial, viral, fungal and parasitic infections; epidemiology, prophylaxis and vaccination; molecular pathogenesis of infectious diseases; nosocomial infections, infections in the immune-depressed host and host defence mechanisms. Members have direct online access to CMI via the ESCMID website.

ESCMID Website

The website is the central information hub covering all ESCMID activities and projects. It targets ESCMID members, professionals in the field of infection, opinion leaders (e.g. politicians, journalists) as well as the general public.

ESCMID members have access to special features of the website. Popular services such as the Membership Directory, the Online Lecture Library and CMI online can be quickly accessed after logging in.

ESCMID Yearbook

The Yearbook is published and presented each spring at the annual ECCMID. It is also sent to all regular members via post. This publication gives a comprehensive overview of the Society’s activities over the past year.

ESCMID Newsletter

The electronic newsletter, which includes timely information of interest to professionals in the field, is distributed to the ESCMID membership and members of affiliated societies.

www.escmid.org/CMI
www.escmid.org/news
www.escmid.org/onlinenews
Medical Guidelines

The development and dissemination of clinical and laboratory practice guidelines according to evidence-based medicine is a high priority of ESCMID, especially in areas where European diagnostic and therapeutic guidelines do not yet exist or need to be harmonized.

ESCMID Online Membership Directory
Members can access contact details of fellow members from all over the world.

ESCMID Online Lecture Library
This is a database containing slides, video and audio streams and transcripts of scientific and educational presentations from ESCMID events – such as ECCMIDs, conferences, courses and Summer Schools – that is freely accessible to ESCMID members.

ESCMID Training and Career Centre
We offer an individualized online platform for the publication of notices of those seeking or offering positions. It aims to foster the mobility and career options for trainees or young specialists and researchers in the disciplines of infection.

Survey on professional affairs in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
The Survey is a database containing comprehensive information on how the specialities Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases are organized across Europe. It can be accessed via the ESCMID website.

European Affairs and Projects

The goal of the EU Public Affairs Programme is to strengthen the involvement of ESCMID and its members in EU research and policy initiatives. This includes the participation of ESCMID in several EU-funded research programmes and the co-organization of EU conferences and workshops in the field of public health. ESCMID informs its members of European funding opportunities and represents the interests of the community of clinical microbiologists and infectious disease specialists in European institutions.

ESCMID is a partner of GRACE, a network of excellence funded by the Sixth Framework Programme of the European Commission. It is devoted to tackling the increasing problem of resistance to antibiotics when dealing with lower respiratory tract infections, such as bronchitis or pneumonia.

ESCMID is one of the partners of the TROCAR project (Translational Research on Combating Antimicrobial Resistance), which is a research project funded by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission. The driving concept of TROCAR is to investigate the fundamentals of the epidemiology of new highly virulent multiresistant strains.

EUCAST
EUCAST [European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing] is a professional network of national breakpoint committees and microbiology experts from all European countries. EUCAST promotes and coordinates the harmonization of European clinical and epidemiological breakpoints for new and existing antibiotics as a basis for effective therapeutic use and the surveillance of resistance. EUCAST is convened by ESCMID and co-financed by ECDC and the national breakpoint committees as well as by ESCMID itself.
Cooperative Initiatives

ESCMID maintains cooperative partnerships with many other professional societies and organizations. The Society also participates in scientific projects and networks, takes a leadership role in the consultation process with European health authorities, and cooperates with healthcare industry representatives in the areas of research and development, science communication, awards, grants and fellowships. Especially important are cooperative initiatives with societies that share a similar mission with ESCMID such as API, ASM, CMA, ERS, FEMS, IACMAC, IDSA and ISC. Examples of such cooperation are joint scientific conferences, symposia and workshops, joint fellowships, joint medical practice guidelines, joint professional and public awareness campaigns and joint membership schemes.

Affiliation and ESCMID European Council
Affiliation with European national societies and other societies in the field promotes the wider interests of the respective memberships and strengthens cooperation across Europe in science, education and professional affairs. Representatives of the societies affiliated with ESCMID constitute the European Council. Members of affiliated societies are entitled to subscribe to CMI at a preferential rate and to receive the ESCMID Newsletter.

ESCMID Collaborative Centres (ECC)
The ESCMID Collaborative Centres are infectious disease and/or clinical microbiology centres of excellence in Europe. They welcome ESCMID members from abroad to learn about organizational routines and about diagnostic and therapeutic procedures and to establish new contacts and foster international exchange.

Corporate Membership Programme
Medicine is a joint enterprise involving academia, hospitals, governments, industry and the public. Given the complexity of most current problems, progress is best achieved by cooperation. To this end ESCMID offers a number of opportunities for interaction among all parties involved in human infection. Companies are invited to participate in ECCMIDs and Study Groups with the aim of exchanging expert opinion and advancing medicine. Examples of collaboration include: fostering antibiotic R&D to overcome and prevent resistance, development of in vitro diagnostics and determination of antibiotic breakpoints.

UEMS
ESCMID cooperates with the Sections of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) focusing on training programmes, specialty recognition and professional affairs with the goal of further harmonization within Europe.

www.escmid.org/council
www.escmid.org/ECC
www.escmid.org/corporate