

12-14 April
2018
Genoa



Scientific endorsement by



XVII

MEDITERRANEAN CONGRESS OF RHEUMATOLOGY



**EFFECTS OF THE DIET AND THE CLIMATE IN RHEUMATIC
AND MUSCULOSKELETAL DISEASES**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

PATRONAGES



Italian Society of Rheumatology
(Società Italiana di Reumatologia – SIR)



European League Against
the Rheumatism (EULAR)



The University of Genoa



The Department of internal medicine
and medical specialties (DiMI),
University of Genoa



The IRCCS Polyclinic Hospital
San Martino Genoa

WELCOME

From at least 2,000 years the Mediterranean area with the connected Black and Red Sea populations has been the “CRIB” of the culture, science and good life.



12-14 April
2018
Genoa

What means good life?

What means good life? Good life mean an acceptable style of life, even modest but healthy, and of course, it includes good food and good climate! Today, we recognize that, among the multiple risk factors involved in the development of several diseases, environmental and nutritional components play an important role. The rheumatic diseases are among the most common diseases in the general population and the effects of wrong diets and non healthy environment/ style of life, are recognized as important promoters for their development. Correct diet represents also part of a correct management of the Rheumatic & Musculoskeletal Diseases. Already from the beginning, the Mediterranean Congress of Rheumatology has presented the experiences regarding the characteristics of the Rheumatic Diseases in

such area, and comparing their epidemiology among the European countries. This 2018 edition of the Congress will focus about the effects of the diet and the climate on the most frequent Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases, including their early diagnosis and advanced therapies. The Congress topics will be discussed in sequential sessions and will include appropriate presentations on nutritional and environmental factors that will integrate the clinical and drug treatment lectures. Of course, participants will have the occasion to taste personally in spring time, the therapeutical effects of the mediterranean diet and climate “available” for all participants during the Congress that will be held in the Old Harbour of Genoa.

Maurizio Cutolo
Congress Chairman

*On behalf of the Board of the Mediterranean Congress of
Rheumatology and of the Italian Society of Rheumatology*





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M. Cutolo *Genoa, Italy*

On the behalf of the Board of the Mediterranean Congress of Rheumatology
and of Italian Society of Rheumatology

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MEDICAL TEAM

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A. Sulli
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PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

THURSDAY April 12th, 2018

| hrs | PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM | LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM | TRAMONTANA ROOM |
|-------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 11.00 | Opening Registrations and Exhibition | | |
| 13.30-14.00 | OPENING CEREMONY | | |
| 14.00-14.30 | LECTURE: The diet in rheumatic autoimmune diseases: a recipe for therapy? | | |
| 14.30-15.40 | FIRST SESSION Early Rheumatoid Arthritis | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | |
| 15.40-16.10 | LECTURE Mediterranean Diet in the 3 rd Millennium: Just Prevention or even Therapy? | | |
| 16.10-16.40 | LECTURE Epigenetic Effects of the Mediterranean Diet | | |
| 16.40 | START THE POSTER EXHIBITION | | |
| 16.40-17.10 | Coffee break | | |
| 17.10-18.20 | SECOND SESSION Gouty Arthritis and dismetabolism | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | |
| 18.20-18.50 | LECTURE Metabolic effects of Glucocorticoids: is there a safe dosage? | | |

FRIDAY April 13th, 2018

| hrs | PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM | LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM | TRAMONTANA ROOM |
|-------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| 08.30-09.40 | THIRD SESSION Osteoarthritis and its management | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | |
| 09.40-10.50 | FOURTH SESSION Autoinflammatory and Rare Connective Tissue Diseases | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | PEDIATRIC SESSION Pediatric Rheumatology in the Mediterranean area |
| 10.50-11.20 | Coffee break | | |
| 11.20-11.50 | SATELLITE LECTURE | SATELLITE LECTURE | SATELLITE LECTURE |
| 11.50-12.50 | SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM | SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM | SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM |
| 12.50-14.00 | POSTER TOUR | | |
| 13.00-14.00 | Lunch | | |
| 14.00-14.30 | LECTURE Sun, vitamin D and rheumatic diseases | | YOUNG PATIENTS AND RHEUMATOLOGISTS SESSION The impact of nutrition and lifestyle on RMDs |
| 14.30-15.00 | LECTURE Fostering physical activity together with correct nutrition: a successful approach but rarely respected in RMDs | | |
| 15.00-16.10 | FIFTH SESSION From Raynaud's phenomenon up to systemic sclerosis | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | |
| 16.10-16.40 | LECTURE Balneotherapy and RMDs: when where and how to choose | | |
| 16.40-17.10 | Coffee break | | |
| 17.10-18.30 | SIXTH SESSION Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and related syndromes | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | PATIENT SESSION Open Questions to the Physician Nutritionist and to the Dietician |



SATURDAY April 14th, 2018

| hrs | PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM | LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM | TRAMONTANA ROOM |
|-------------|---|--------------------------------|---|
| 08.30-09.40 | SEVENTH SESSION Spondyloarthritis and Psoriatic Arthritis | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | SPECIAL ULTRASOUND SESSION What about pitfalls and misinterpretations related to the nutritional status in Rheumatic Diseases? |
| 09.40-10.50 | EIGHTH SESSION Osteoporosis and Life style | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | PATENT SESSION The cold hand: from symptom to diagnosis |
| 10.50-11.20 | <i>Coffee break</i> | | |
| 11.20-11.30 | NINTH SESSION Sjögren syndrome today | related ORAL COMMUNICATIONS | PATENT SESSION Balneotherapy explained |
| 12.30 | CLOSING REMARKS | | |

PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

We invite all Congress participants to attend the seven Lectures which will be held during Thursday 12 April and Friday 13 April, 2018.

Nine Scientific Sessions and related Oral communications will be held over the three days. Other interesting Sessions dedicated to Patients will take place between Friday and Saturday; a Pediatric Session on Friday, as well the SPECIAL Ultrasound Session will run in parallel to the other Scientific Sessions on Saturday. Satellite Lectures and Satellite Symposia will occupy the slots from 11.20 to 12.50 on Friday 13 April, 2018. Poster Exhibition and Tour are planned before afternoon Coffee break on Thursday 12 April and before lunch on Friday 13 April.

IMPORTANT NOTICE for Scientific Sessions

We invite all Congress participants to attend the nine Scientific Sessions which will be held during Thursday 12, Friday 13 and Saturday 14 April, 2018 into the "Platea Maestrale" Room.

Each Session will focus on the priority themes* listed below.
In parallel with each Session will correspond the related Oral Communication Session.

- Epidemiology, nutritional aspects and environmental factors
- The early disease: clinical features and diagnostic tools
- Management: from guidelines up to the last treatment issues
- Management: non pharmacological aspects and unmet needs

*The speeches which differ from the above mentioned titles and thematic are indicated in the following Program.





THURSDAY April 12th, 2018

13.30-14.00

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

OPENING CEREMONY

Welcome from Local Academic,
Hospital and Government Authorities

14.00-14.30

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

The diet in rheumatic autoimmune diseases:
a recipe for therapy?

Speaker:

Y. Shoenfeld (Tel-Aviv, Israel)

Chair:

M. Cutolo (Genoa, Italy)

14.30-15.40

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

FIRST SESSION

Early Rheumatoid Arthritis

Speakers:

14.30 I. McInnes (Glasgow, UK)

14.45 G. Burmester (Berlin, Germany)

15.00 B. Combe (Montpellier, France)

15.15 Z. Szekanecz (Debrecen, Hungary)

Chairs:

G. Burmester (Berlin, Germany), C. Montecucco (Pavia, Italy)

14.30-15.40

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

FIRST SESSION

Early Rheumatoid Arthritis

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

R. Caporali (Pavia, Italy)

15.40-16.10

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

Mediterranean Diet in the 3rd Millennium:
Just Prevention or even Therapy?

Speaker:

A. Trichopoulos (Athens, Greece)

Chair:

S.G. Sukkar (Genoa, Italy)

16.10-16.40

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

Epigenetic Effects of the Mediterranean Diet

Speaker:

A. Martinez (Pamplona, Spain)

Chair:

S.G. Sukkar (Genoa, Italy)

16.40-17.10

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

START THE OOSTER EXHIBITION

16.40-17.10

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

Coffee break

17.10-18.20

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

SECOND SESSION

Gouty arthritis and dismetabolism

Speakers:

17.10 Nutritional aspects - including weight loss - for gout:
an update from clinical epidemiology
S. M. Nielsen (Copenhagen, Denmark)

17.25 F. Sivera (Alicante, Spain)

17.40 P. Richette (Paris, France)

17.55 L. Punzi (Padua, Italy)

Chairs:

L. Punzi (Padua, Italy), P. Richette (Paris, France)

17.10-18.20

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

SECOND SESSION

Gouty arthritis and dismetabolism

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

S. Grazio (Zagreb, Croatia)

18.20-18.50

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

Metabolic effects of Glucocorticoids:
is there a safe dosage?

Speaker:

J.W.J. Bijlsma (Utrecht, The Netherlands)

Chair:

M. Cutolo (Genoa, Italy)



FRIDAY April 13th, 2018

08.30-09.40

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

THIRD SESSION

Osteoarthritis and its management

Speakers:

- 08.30 C. Scire (Ferrara, Italy)
- 08.45 The early disease: new aspects on the role of imaging
A. Iagnocco (Turin, Italy)
- 09.00 J.Y. Reginster (Liège, Belgium)
- 09.15 G. Herrero-Beaumont (Madrid, Spain)

Chairs:

M. Galeazzi (Siena, Italy), J.Y. Reginster (Liège, Belgium)

08.30-09.40

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

THIRD SESSION

Osteoarthritis and its management

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

G. Sebastiani (Rome, Italy)

09.40-10.50

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

FOURTH SESSION

Autoinflammatory and Rare Connective Tissue Diseases

Speakers:

- 09.40 Autoinflammatory diseases: diagnostic criteria, guidelines and advances
M. Gattorno (Genoa, Italy)
- 09.55 Focus on familial Mediterranean fever
H. Lachmann (London, UK)
- 10.10 Beyond for the vasculitis risk in the Mediterranean
A. Gul (Istanbul, Turkey)
- 10.25 Focus on Behçet disease
L. Cantarini (Siena, Italy)
- 10.40 NEWS - Short report on a new European Project- ERN, on Rare Connective Tissue Diseases - ReCONNET
M. Mosca (Pisa, Italy)

Chairs:

M. Gattorno (Genoa, Italy), H. Lachmann (London, UK)

09.40-10.50

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

FOURTH SESSION

Autoinflammatory and Rare Connective Tissue Diseases

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

M. Inanc (Istanbul, Turkey)

09.40-10.50

TRAMONTANA ROOM

Pediatric Rheumatology in the Mediterranean area

Concomitant Session

Speakers:

- 09.40 Multinational Study on epidemiology, treatment and outcome of children with idiopathic juvenile arthritis
A. Ravelli (Genoa, Italy)
- 10.10 Longitudinal evaluation of growth and puberty development in LES at pediatric onset
N. Ruperto (Genoa, Italy)
- 10.40 Discussion

Chairs:

A. Martini (Genoa, Italy), A. Ravelli (Genoa, Italy)

10.50- 11.20

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

Coffee break

11.20-11.50

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

TRAMONTANA ROOM

Concomitants SATELLITE LECTURES

11.50-12.50

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

TRAMONTANA ROOM

Concomitants SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

12.50-14.00

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

POSTER TOUR

13.00-14.00

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

Lunch



FRIDAY April 13th, 2018

14.00-14.30

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

Sun, vitamin D and rheumatic diseases

Speaker:

M. Cutolo (Genoa, Italy)

Chair:

G. Minisola (Rome, Italy)

14.00-16.40

TRAMONTANA ROOM

YOUNG PATIENTS AND RHEUMATOLOGISTS SESSION

The impact of nutrition and lifestyle on RMDs

Concomitant Session

Speakers:

- 14.00 People's perceptions on nutritional aspects and rheumatic disease: Completion of the "Truth or myth" questionnaire by the audience
- 14.10 Nutrition and rheumatic disease: are we really what we eat?
E. Philippou (Nicosia, Cyprus - London, UK)
- 14.30 The sun and rheumatic disease: friend or foe?
M. Cutolo (Genoa, Italy)
- 14.50 The impact of diet in rheumatic diseases
C. Daïen (Montpellier, France)
- 15.10 Analysis and sharing of the results of the "Truth or myth" questionnaire at the end of the Session
- 15.20 "Your 5-a-daY" VIDEO for a healthy and "joint-friendly" exercise regime that can be undertaken as part of the daily routine
L. Bacocoli - Personal trainer Virgin Active Village (Perugia, Italy)
- 15.30 WORKSHOP
Problem based cases and discussion
(Participants will be divided in groups)
M. Kouloumas (Nicosia, Cyprus), D. Wiek (Hünxe, Germany)
Chairs:
A. Alunno (Perugia, Italy), M. Kouloumas (Nicosia, Cyprus),
E. Nikiphorou (London, UK), D. Wiek (Hünxe, Germany)

14.30-15.00

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

Fostering physical activity together with correct nutrition: a successful approach but rarely respected in RMDs

Speaker:

G. Kitas (Manchester, UK)

Chair:

S. Bombardieri (Pisa, Italy)

15.00-16.10

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

FIFTH SESSION

From Raynaud's phenomenon up to Systemic Sclerosis

Speakers:

- 15.00 U. Muller-Lardner (Bad Nauheim, Germany)
- 15.15 M. Matucci Cerinic (Florence, Italy)
- 15.30 C. Denton (London, UK)
- 15.45 O. Distler (Zurich, Switzerland)

Chairs:

C. Denton (London, UK), V. Smith (Ghent, Belgium)

15.00-16.10

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

FIFTH SESSION

From Raynaud's phenomenon up to Systemic Sclerosis

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

A. Sulli (Genoa, Italy)

16.10-16.40

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

LECTURE

Balneotherapy and RMDs: when, where and how to choose

Speaker:

A. Fioravanti (Siena, Italy)

Chair:

T. Bender (Budapest, Hungary)

16.40-17.10

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

Coffee break



FRIDAY April 13th, 2018

17.10-18.30

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

SIXTH SESSION

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and related syndromes

Speakers:

- 17.10 G. Bertsias (Heraklion, Crete/Greece)
- 17.25 *The early disease: clinical features and diagnostic investigations*
D. Boumpas (Athens, Greece)
- 17.40 A. Doria (Padua, Italy)
- 18.00 *The antiphospholipid syndrome:
news on management and unmet needs*
A. Tincani (Brescia, Italy)

Chairs:

D. Boumpas (Athens, Greece), M. Mosca (Pisa, Italy)

17.10-18.30

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

SIXTH SESSION

Systemic Lupus Erythematosus and related syndromes

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

P. Miossec (Lyon, France)

17.10-18.30

TRAMONTANA ROOM

PATIENT SESSION

Open Questions to the Physician Nutritionist and to the Dietician

SESSIONE DEDICATA AI PAZIENTI

Domande libere al Medico nutrizionista ed alla Dietologa

Concomitant Session

Chairs:

R. Gradaschi (Genoa, Italy), S.G. Sukkar (Genoa, Italy)

SATURDAY April 14th, 2018

08.30-09.40

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

SEVENTH SESSION

Spondyloarthritis and Psoriatic Arthritis

Speakers:

- 08.30 R. Lories (Leuven, Belgium)
 - 08.45 N. Akkoc (Izmir, Turkey)
 - 09.00 R. Ramonda (Padua, Italy)
 - 09.15 F. Ciccia (Palermo, Italy)
- Chairs:
S. D'Angelo (Potenza - Matera, Italy), R.Lories (Leuven, Belgium)

08.30-09.40

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

SEVENTH SESSION

Spondyloarthritis and Psoriatic Arthritis

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

R. Gerli (Perugia, Italy)

08.30-09.40

TRAMONTANA ROOM

SPECIAL ULTRASOUND SESSION

What about pitfalls and misinterpretations related to the nutritional status in Rheumatic Diseases?

Concomitant Session

Speakers:

- 08.30 Ultrasound in Rheumatology: what, why, when do we assess
musculoskeletal tissues and other organs?
A. Iagnocco (Turin, Italy)
- 08.50 Tips and tricks for pitfalls and misinterpretations related
to the nutritional status in Rheumatic Diseases
C. Martinoli (Genoa, Italy)
- 09.20 Clinical cases: Ultrasound examinations in patients with
nutritional status abnormalities
C. Martinoli (Genoa, Italy), B. Ruaro (Genoa, Italy)

Chair:

A. Iagnocco (Turin, Italy)



SATURDAY April 14th, 2018

09.40-10.50

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

EIGHTH SESSION

Osteoporosis and life style

Speakers:

09.40 L. Carmona (Madrid, Spain)

09.55 L. Sinigaglia (Milan, Italy)

10.10 M.L. Brandi (Florence, Italy)

10.25 J.A.P. Da Silva (Coimbra, Portugal)

Chairs:

M.L. Brandi (Florence, Italy), L. Carmona (Madrid, Spain)

09.40-10.50

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

EIGHTH SESSION

Osteoporosis and life style

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

R. Ionescu (Bucharest, Romania)

09.40-10.50

TRAMONTANA ROOM

PATIENT SESSION

The cold hand: from symptom to diagnosis

SESSIONE DEDICATA AI PAZIENTI

La mano fredda: dal sintomo alla diagnosi

Concomitant Session

Speakers:

The cold hand: the symptom

F. Ingegnoli (Milan, Italy)

The cold hand: the diagnosis

V. Smith (Ghent, Belgium)

Chairs:

V. Smith (Ghent, Belgium), F. Ingegnoli (Milan, Italy)

10.50-11.20

POSTER & EXHIBITION AREA

Coffee break

11.20-12.30

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

NINTH SESSION

Sjögren syndrome today

Speakers:

11.20 New nutritional aspects as possible risk factors: the role of salt
G. Valesini (Rome, Italy)

11.35 A. Tzioufas (Athens, Greece)

11.50 X. Mariette (Paris, France)

12.10 L. Quartuccio (Udine, Italy)

Chairs:

X. Mariette (Paris, France), A. Tzioufas (Athens, Greece)

11.20-12.30

LEVANTE-PONENTE ROOM

NINTH SESSION

Sjögren syndrome today

Concomitant Session and related Oral Communications

Chair - INTRODUCTION:

N. Damjanov (Belgrade, Serbia)

11.20-12.30

TRAMONTANA ROOM

PATIENT SESSION

Balneotherapy explained

SESSIONE DEDICATA AI PAZIENTI

La balneoterapia spiegata: Come usarla?

Concomitant Session

Speakers:

T. Bender (Budapest, Hungary)

A. Fioravanti (Siena, Italy)

Chairs:

L. Di Matteo (Pescara, Italy), Z. Szekanecz (Debrecen, Hungary)

12.30-13.00

PLATEA MAESTRALE ROOM

CLOSING REMARKS

*Further variations to the Scientific Program should be expected before the Congress



SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstract submission deadline: 15 December 2017

Abstract notification: 15 January 2018

Submission

Abstracts should be submitted **no later than December 15th, 2017** by the online abstract submission.

Abstracts received by e-mail or by fax will not be considered: should you have any problems with the online submission please contact the Organizing Secretariat AIM Group International – AIM Italy (info@mediterraneanrheuma.com).

Free Registration for presenters of accepted Abstract of these categories:
Young Rheumatologists (under 40)
and EMEUNET Members.

Important notice for Presenting Authors

Further to the Italian regulations for CME accreditation and for Continuing Medical Education-EACCME, please note that the abstract submission will be complete only when the following documents of the Presenting Author are provided:

- CV in European format of the Presenting author
 - Disclosure form (for Continuing Medical Education - ITALIAN CME) and the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (for Continuing Medical Education -EACCME) of the Presenting author.
- In the closing phase of the online abstract submission area you will need to Upload both documents.

DOWNLOAD AND FILL IN THE DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE ONLINE ON THE CONGRESS WEBSITE - IN THE SESSION "SUBMIT THE ABSTRACT".

Notification

Acknowledgement of receipt of the submission will be sent to the e-mail address stated under section "Personal details".

Notification on acceptance of the abstracts will be e-mailed by **January 15th, 2018**.

The registered author will receive all information concerning the abstract and is responsible for informing the other authors of the status of the abstract.

The presenting author of the accepted abstract must register and attend the Congress.

Instructions

Upon submission, indicate your preferred presentation form (oral or poster) and one of the following category that best describes the abstract:

- Autoinflammatory and Rare Connective Tissue Diseases
- Gout and arthritis in dismetabolic conditions
- Osteoarthritis: Thermal and pharmacological management
- Osteoporosis/Osteomalacia and malabsorption
- Psoriatic arthritis / spondyloarthritis
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Sjögren Syndrome and endocrine rheumatic disorders
- Systemic lupus erythematosus / Antiphospholipid syndrome
- Systemic Sclerosis and Raynaud phenomenon

Abstract Guideline

The complete abstract must not exceed 3.200 characters including spaces (approx. 350 words). Structured abstracts are mandatory.

The abstracts should state clearly:

- > Purpose
- > Methods
- > Results
- > Conclusions

Tables, charts or other graphics could be included as only one image in jpeg format.

It is the author's responsibility to submit a correct abstract; any errors in spelling, grammar or scientific fact will be reproduced as typed by the author, if accepted.

Please follow carefully the instructions reported in the online pages and fill in all the requested fields, in order to guarantee a correct and complete publication of the text.

Changes to abstracts can only be accepted until the deadline and can be added in the text using the User ID and Password received upon submission.



SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

ORAL COMMUNICATION AND POSTER

The Scientific Committee will select the abstracts in order to allocate them in the sessions as oral presentation or as poster. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be sent to the corresponding author **by January 15th, 2018**.

The presenting author of the accepted abstract must register and attend the Congress.

Publication of Contributions

All the abstracts submitted and accepted will be published in an issue of the **Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology Journal** and will be available on USB sticks.

You will be able to collect it at the registration desk.

Important notice for Authors

Information for authors submitting abstracts: Further to the Italian regulations for CME accreditation, please be aware that the **Abstracts accepted as Oral communications** will appear on the Final Scientific Program exclusively with the name of the Presenting Author.

However, all the abstracts submitted in an issue of the Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology Journal (and available on USB sticks will be distributed on-site) will be fully published with the names of all the authors.

With regard to the accepted Posters they will fully appear with the names of all the Authors on both Final Scientific Program and the issue of the Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology Journal.

CME Credits

UEMS - European Union of Medical Specialists

An application will be made to the EACCME® for CME accreditation of this event.

ITALIAN CME - Continuing Medical Education

The Congress will be accredited by the National Commission for Continuing Education with the educational objective finalized to the development of individual professional skills and technical know-how for the following disciplinary areas:

•Medical Surgeon

(Disciplines: Rheumatology, Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Anatomic Pathology, Anaesthesia and Reanimation, Clinical Biochemistry, Cardiology, Dermatology and Venereology, Endocrinology, Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology, Medical Genetics, Geriatrics, Food and Nutritional Hygiene, Respiratory Illnesses, Infectious Diseases, Metabolic Diseases and Diabetes, Sports Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, General Medicine, Internal Medicine, Legal Medicine, Thermal Medicine, Nephrology, Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Clinical Pathology, Paediatrics, Dietetics) ;

- Biologist;
- Dietician;
- Physiotherapist;
- General Nurses; Paediatric Nurses;

for nr. 700 participants.

Credits will be recognized only upon presence at 90% of the scientific sessions

CME credits: n. to be defined

CME ID: to be defined

CME Provider

AIM Education - Provider n. 93
Via G. Ripamonti, 129
20141 Milan, Italy
Tel. +39 02 56601.1
Fax +39 02 70048585
cme@aimgroup.eu
www.aimeducation.it



GENERAL INFORMATION

CONGRESS VENUE

Built in 1926 and designed for storing goods, the "Magazzini del Cotone" building is Porto Antico's main structure. Renovated in 1992 by architect Renzo Piano, these spaces are confirmed as one of the most popular locations for conventions, conferences and all types of events. A mix of innovation and tradition.



Inside the Porto Antico (Old Harbour) is the "Magazzini del Cotone" Conference Centre at the sea level with ample spaces and all possible solutions for big international events.

An Auditorium of 1,480 seats, divisible into two mirror like rooms seating 740 each and a central stage designed as a theatre structure, adjustable to different heights perfect also for musical performances.

Thirteen modular rooms (2780 seats) and 8,500 square meters of exhibition space: charming rooms with views of the sea that adapt themselves to diverse fittings. The Conference Centre, fitted with the most advanced audio and video equipment, combines the charm of old architecture and modern and cutting-edge functionality.

HOW TO REACH THE VENUE PORTO ANTICO - CONGRESS CENTRE "MAGAZZINI DEL COTONE"

Tel. +39 010 2485626

Fax +39 010 2758929

www.centrocongressigenova.it



FROM AIRPORT

- Taxi: about Euro 15,00 (one way)
- Bus: 30 minutes with shuttle bus Volabus Euro 6,00 (stop Piazza De Ferrari).
- Than from Piazza De Ferrari: subway to St. Giorgio Stop and than 15-minute walk, direction Porto Antico.



FROM TRAIN STATION GENOA (Piazza Principe)

- 15-minute walk direction Porto Antico
- Bus: 10 minutes, line 1 or 9, from Marittima Principe F.S. to Piazza Caricamento Terminal
- Subway: 5 minutes direction Brignole, San Giorgio Stop



FROM HIGHWAY

Exit from Genoa Ovest and take speed city motorway direction; after 3 km exit at Genoa Porto Antico; at the end of the road continue 50 m. and turn right at 2nd intersection to access Porto Antico.





GENERAL INFORMATION

ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT



AIM Group International – Milan Office
Via G. Ripamonti, 129 – 20141 Milan, Italy
Ph. +39 02 566011 – Fax. +39 02 70048578
info@mediterraneanrheuma.com
www.mediterraneanrheuma.com

SECRETARIAT AND REGISTRATION DESK

The on-site registration desks will be open during the following days:

- Thursday April 12th, 2018 11.00-19.00
- Friday April 13th, 2018 08.00-19.00
- Saturday April 14th, 2018 08.00-13.00

ADMISSION

Participants are kindly requested to wear their badge during all congress activities. The badge will admit to the scientific sessions, exhibition area, coffee breaks and lunches.

LANGUAGE

The official language is English.
No simultaneous translation will be provided.

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES

Attendance certificates will be delivered to all regularly registered participants at the end of the meeting.

Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi access is provided throughout the "Magazzini del Cotone" Congress Centre.
To connect to the service, search your wireless networks and select MCR 2018. Following the online procedure you will enjoy of FREE Wi-Fi access during the congress.

VISA

All foreigners intending to enter Italy must provide the documentation required to justify the reasons and duration of their stay as well as, in some prescribed cases, the availability of adequate economic means and lodging.
In some cases you need a visa, application for which can be made at the Italian Diplomatic and Consular Representations in your country of residence.

Don't you have an EU passport or EU valid documentation? Do you need a Visa?

If you have doubts visit **NOW** the website of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

http://www.esteri.it/visti/index_eng.asp

Find out whether, depending on your citizenship, country of long-term residence, and the duration and reasons for your stay, you need a Visa to enter Italy.

Find out which documents are required in order to apply for your visa.

ATTENTION

VISA application may even require 120 days!
Check it NOW

VISA application fee is from
€ 35,00 to € 116,00 per person to be paid
at application, in local currency,
to the Consulate or Embassy directly.

Presentation of the documentation requested does not necessarily ensure issuance of the VISA

AIM Group will be glad to assist you if you need any written invitation or other document to support your VISA Application. Feel free to contact us at visa@aimgroup.eu

GUARANTEE LETTER for CHINESE Citizen

If you are a citizen of China

(RPC – 中華人民共和國 – 中华人民共和国)

in accordance to the agreements between the Authorities your are demanded to obtain a guarantee letter issued by AIM Group as Local Organizer of the Conference. Please contact us at visa@aimgroup.eu for more instructions.



REGISTRATION

| REGISTRATIONS FEES (All fees are 22% VAT included) | Within 15 Decembre 2017 | Within 12 March 2018 | From 12 March 2018 and on site |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Delegate | € 350,00 | € 470,00 | € 530,00 |
| Students/Trainée* | € 150,00 | € 180,00 | € 210,00 |
| Healthcare Professional** | € 150,00 | € 180,00 | € 210,00 |
| Patients*** | € 50,00 | € 50,00 | € 50,00 |
| Young Rheumatologists (under 40) and EMEUNET Members **** | Free Registration | | |

* In order to benefit from the special fee, a submission of your status confirmation (approval letter signed by the Head of Department or copy of your status ID) must be sent to the organizing secretariat by e-mail or by fax.

** Nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and other nearby allied health professionals. A letter of confirmation of your status from the Head of Unit or Institute must accompany the formal registration form.

*** For Patient sessions on nutrition and healthcare

**** Free Registration only for presenters of accepted Abstract of these categories

Registration fees include:

- Admission to the scientific sessions
- Congress bag with complete meeting materials
- Certificate of attendance
- Access to the exhibition and poster area
- Coffee breaks and lunches, as indicated in the program

Name Changes

After March 12, 2018 sponsors who wish to make name changes will be charged of an handling fee of € 50,00 (VAT 22% included) per name change. A new registration form for each replacement participant will be required before the name change can be processed. Individuals may make name changes only in exceptional cases.

Cancellation Policy

Notification of cancellation must be sent in writing to AIM Group International. Cancellations will be accepted **until December 31st, 2017** with a refund of all prepaid fees except for a 30% administration charge. No refunds will be made for cancellations received after this date.

CONGRESS DELEGATE PACKAGES

| PACKAGE (All fees are 22% VAT included) | Within 15 Decembre 2017 | Within 12 March 2018 | From 12 March 2018 and on site |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PACKAGE A | € 650,00 | € 750,00 | € 850,00 |
| PACKAGE B | € 550,00 | € 660,00 | € 720,00 |

All packages include registration fee and city tax

For Hotel Reservation in Genoa, please note that AIM Group International has been appointed as Official Bureau of the XVII Mediterranean Congress

Package A includes:

- Admission to the scientific sessions
- Congress bag with complete meeting materials
- Certificate of attendance
- Access to the exhibition and poster area
- Coffee breaks and lunches, as indicated in the program
- Hotel accommodation **4 stars** for 2 nights taxes included (roulette formula)
 - Double Room: available just on request (the difference in price and city tax for the accompanying person are not included, to be paid directly at the hotel)
 - Extra night/s: available just on request - Price per room per night is € 155,00 (€ 2 City Tax per person and per day is not included, to be paid directly at the hotel)

Package B includes:

- Admission to the scientific sessions
- Congress bag with complete meeting materials
- Certificate of attendance
- Access to the exhibition and poster area
- Coffee breaks and lunches, as indicated in the program
- Hotel accommodation **3 stars** for 2 nights taxes included (roulette formula)
 - Double Room: available just on request (the difference in price and city tax for the accompanying person are not included, to be paid directly at the hotel)
 - Extra night/s: available just on request - Price per room per night is € 130,00 (€ 1 City Tax per person and per day is not included, to be paid directly at the hotel)

The Organizing Secretariat AIM Group International will be at disposal to suggest special package solutions for Students/Trainée, Healthcare Professional and Patients.

For any further information please contact AIM Group International at:

Ph. 0039 02 566011

e-mail: info.hotel@mediterraneanrheuma.com



CONTACT

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KEY DATE



ABSTRACT

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE
15 December 2017

ABSTRACT NOTIFICATION
15 January 2018

REGISTRATION AND PACKAGES

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE
15 December 2017

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE
12 March 2018

ON SITE REGISTRATION
From 12 March 2018 and onsite

Visit the Congress website
www.mediterraneanrheuma.com

and watch the video with the interview performed
by the Congress Chairman

Prof. Maurizio Cutolo
On behalf of the Board of the
Mediterranean Congress of Rheumatology
and of the Italian Society of Rheumatology