

OCTOBER 2025



NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the 79th European Cystic Fibrosis Society Newsletter.

To renew your membership or become an ECFS member, [register now](#) to benefit from our vast resources and support network.

4-7 JUNE 2025
MILAN, ITALY
48th EUROPEAN
CYSTIC FIBROSIS
CONFERENCE



ISSUE #79

In this Issue

A letter from our President Jane Davies

2

Annual General Meeting

3

Conference Highlights

4-6

ECFS Conference 2026

7

Basic Science Conference 2026

8

Fellowship Applications

9

Upcoming Webinars

10

Upcoming Events

11

Misc Items

12

Contact Us

13

Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I hope this message finds you well and that you had a chance to enjoy a restful summer.

This June, we gathered in Milan for the Annual General Meeting during the European Cystic Fibrosis Conference – a vibrant and inspiring event.

At the Opening Plenary, **Prof. Pierre-Regis Burgel** received the ECFS Award and delivered an inspiring keynote that set the tone for the conference. The Gerd Döring Award, recognising outstanding early-career research, was presented to **Mattijs Bulcaen** for his impactful paper [Prime editing functionally corrects cystic fibrosis-causing CFTR mutations in human organoids and airway epithelial cells](#).

The ECFS has established a new 'Outstanding Contribution Award' to be presented to an Allied Health Professional (AHP) with the aim to honour a current Society member who has achieved excellence in the CF field over the course of their career, or who has had a more recent achievement with major impact. We were delighted to present this award to **Chris Smith** at the Closing Plenary.

We were thrilled to present Young Investigator Awards to **Christopher Short**, **Arianna Venturini**, **Cristian Crisan**, and to support 20 young researchers with Travel Grants. [You can find more details about ECFS Awards here.](#)

Many of the conference sessions and symposia were recorded and are now available on the ECFS Education platform, with unlimited access for members. If you missed any talks, I highly encourage you to catch up!

With nearly 2000 participants, the Milan conference was a resounding success. Huge thanks to Conference Presidents **Francesco Blasi** and **Carlo Castellani**, and Conference Vice President **Nicoletta Pedemonte**, the Scientific Committee, Steering Committee, and all speakers, moderators, and presenters for their incredible contributions.

Looking ahead, we're already preparing for next year's conference in Lisbon, Portugal (3 – 6 June 2026). Save the date! Abstract submissions will open in December – don't miss the opportunity to share your research.

Best wishes,

Jane Davies
ECFS President

PROFESSOR JANE DAVIES



"As always, we welcome your contributions – please send us articles or updates you'd like to share in future editions."

The Annual General Meeting took place during the 48th European Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Milan, Italy on 06 June 2025.

As usual, we had a very busy agenda with reports from the **ECFS President**, **ECFS Secretary** and **ECFS Treasurer** followed by reports from the **Directors** of the ECFS projects.

Starting in 2026, ECFS membership fees will increase for the first time in over a decade. Regular membership will rise by €15 (to €135), and corporate membership by €30 (to €250). Discounted categories – including Allied Health Professionals, PhD students, Post-Docs, and early career professionals – will remain at €50, while retired members active in ECFS projects will continue to receive free membership. A discounted 3-year subscription (€345 instead of €405) will be available for 2026 – 2028.

Additionally, the term “Physician <35 years old” will be updated to “early career professional,” defined as a clinician still in training or a Post-Doc within three years of their PhD. ECFS will also continue offering joint membership with ERS (€165 full / €80 discounted).

You will find the full minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting [here](#).

ECFS BOARD



Andrea Gramegna
Standards of Care Director



Chris Smith
Education Director



Gemma Stanford
Allied Health Representative



Kevin Southern
Past Standards of Care Director



Silke van Koningsbruggen-Rietschel
Board Member



Carlos Farinha
Board Member

We warmly welcome **Andrea Gramegna** as the new Standards of Care Director and thank **Chris Smith** for continuing as Education Director. Looking ahead to 2026, two Board positions will be open, and members are encouraged to consider standing for election.

Key changes include the co-option of **Gemma Stanford** as Allied Health Representative and the election of two new Board members. **Kevin Southern** concluded his term as Standards of Care Director, while **Silke van Koningsbruggen-Rietschel** and **Carlos Farinha** ended their Board terms – both were re-elected for a second term.

2025 CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The ECFS Awards at the 48th European Conference



Thank you!



Francesco Blasi
Conference President



Carlo Castellani
Conference President



Nicoletta Pedemonte
Conference Vice President

The 48th ECFS Conference in Milan was a tremendous success, drawing nearly 2,000 participants from across the cystic fibrosis community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Conference Presidents **Francesco Blasi** and **Carlo Castellani** and Conference Vice President **Nicoletta Pedemonte**, for their leadership and dedication.

We are also deeply grateful to the **Scientific and Steering Committees** for curating an outstanding programme, and to all speakers, moderators, presenters, and attendees for their valuable contributions.

Your engagement made the event truly memorable.

We look forward to welcoming you next year in Lisbon, Portugal, for the [49th ECFS Conference](#)!

ECFS Awards Winners



2025 ECFS Award Winner
Pierre-Régis Burgel, MD, PhD



2025 Gerd Döring Winner
Award received by Marianne Carlon on
behalf of winner [Mattijs Bulcaen](#), PhD



2025 ECFS Allied Health Professional
Outstanding Contribution Award Winner
Chris Smith



2025 Young Investigator Award Winners
From left to right: [Arianna Venturini](#), Pozzuoli, IT | [Cristian Crisan](#), Atlanta, US | [Christopher Short](#), London, UK

2025 Travel Grant Award Winners

Maria Bitar	Giovanna Blaconà
Anna Borrelli	Ciarán Carey
Eline Cauwenberghs	Cristian Crisan
Anaïs Daly-Gourdialsing	Daniela Guidone
Leander Jonckheere	Szabolcs Kiss
Mariateresa Lena	Amie Micallef
Pedro Miranda Afonso	Cristina Pastorino
Pranali Raut	Rachel Rollo
Robert David Sandler	Fazilcan Zirek
Amy Simmons	Léa Thoraval
Boróka Borbála Varga	Arianna Venturini
Benedict Young	



2025 Best Poster Winners

Genetics/Diagnosis/Screening: Silvia Caceres, Denver, US
Single measurement quantification and modelling of elexacaftor, tezacaftor and ivacaftor in adults: overlap between full and reduced dosing

Cell Biology/Physiology - Clinical Trials/New Therapies:
Alexander Rotenberg, Odense, DK
The effect of gradual increase in control visit intervals on essential primary endpoints in children 2-18 year old with CF on ETI therapy

Pulmonology/Inflammation/Immunology:
Teresa Fuchs, Innsbruck, AT
Age-dependent changes in inflammatory markers in nasal lavage samples after two years of elexacaftor/tezacaftor/ivacaftor therapy

Physiotherapy/Exercise: Beatrix Riba, Budapest, HU
Physical activity challenges and performance in Hungarian children with cystic fibrosis

Microbiology/Antibiotics: Joke Bastiaenssen, Antwerp, BE
The role of respiratory viruses in pulmonary exacerbations and their interactions with the airway microbiome and immune response in children with cystic fibrosis

Gastroenterology/Endocrinology/Metabolic Complications/

Liver Disease: Josie Van Dorst, Kensington, AU
Microbes, metabolites and inflammation in children with cystic fibrosis

Nutrition/Growth: Zoë Maika, Vancouver, CA
Food insecurity in the pediatric cystic fibrosis population in British Columbia, Canada

Nursing/Psychosocial Issues:

Steve Jones & Nikki Lonsdale, Sheffield, UK
Health care professionals' perceptions of the process of conferring a diagnosis of cystic fibrosis to families: current practice and changes over time

Epidemiology/Registry: Julie Derrien, Brest, FR
Incidence of cystic fibrosis in Brittany (western France): overview of 50 years of monitoring and 35 years of newborn screening

2025 Conference Stats

Country Participation

69 COUNTRIES | 1962 PARTICIPANTS

Country Number of Participants

Total	1962
United Kingdom	505
Italy	189
United States	161
France	113
Germany	102
Belgium	82
Netherlands	63
Türkiye	53
Ireland	49
Canada	47
Argentina	46
Austria	40
Israel	39
Denmark	37
Australia	36
Switzerland	33
Hungary	30
Spain	29
Czech Republic	28
Sweden	25
Norway	23
Poland	21
Portugal	20
Greece	16

Country Number of Participants

Total	1962
Russian Federation	16
Croatia	11
Romania	11
North Macedonia	9
Slovenia	8
Ukraine	8
Slovakia	7
Kazakhstan	6
Lithuania	6
Iran, Islamic Republic of	5
Montenegro	5
Peru	5
Albania	4
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4
Finland	4
Kosovo	4
Paraguay	4
Serbia	4
Uruguay	4
Armenia	3
Azerbaijan	3
Georgia	3
Guatemala	3
Latvia	3

Country Number of Participants

Total	1962
Mexico	3
Morocco	3
New Zealand	3
Brazil	2
Costa Rica	2
Ecuador	2
Estonia	2
Luxembourg	2
Moldova, Republic of	2
South Africa	2
Bulgaria	1
Colombia	1
Cyprus	1
Hong Kong, China	1
Iceland	1
India	1
Kyrgyzstan	1
Lebanon	1
Malta	1
Pakistan	1
Tunisia	1
No Country	1

Total Countries

69

Outstanding volunteers

We would like to thank all the volunteers of this year's conference.

In particular we want to highlight those who went above and beyond to help the conference run efficiently:

- ★ Ida De Fino
- ★ Martina Rossano
- ★ Gloria Delmonte
- ★ Marika Grasso
- ★ Jimena Nieto Noblecia

- ★ Mohammad Arian Ahmadian Shalchi
- ★ Elisa Lovo
- ★ Elisa De Tomi
- ★ Lorenzo Olivieri
- ★ Simone Pagliughi

- ★ Davide Gugliandolo
- ★ Carola Pedroli
- ★ Gaia Saldarini
- ★ Cristian Alin Antichi
- ★ Carla Chernichero



SAVE THE DATES!

- ★ Abstract Submission Open
- ★ Abstract Submission Deadline
- ★ Notification of Abstract Acceptance
- ★ Deadline for Early Registration

WWW.ECFS.EU/LISBON2026

DECEMBER 2025

12 JANUARY 2026

EARLY MARCH 2026

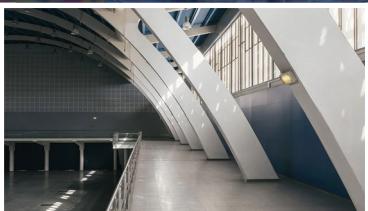
19 MARCH 2026

#ECFS2026

For further details,
click [here](#).



AUDITORIA



PAVILIONS



SINTRA - PALÁCIO DA PENA
© PSML - WILSON PEREIRA



LISBOA - CHIADO © TURISMO DE LISBOA

49th European Cystic Fibrosis Conference

3 - 6 JUNE 2026 | LISBON, PORTUGAL

We're thrilled to invite you to the **49th European Cystic Fibrosis Conference**, taking place in **Lisbon, Portugal, from 3 – 6 June 2026**. Our hosts this year are **Carlos Farinha**, Conference President, **Pilar Azevedo** and **Luisa Pereira**, Conference Vice Presidents.



Carlos
Farinha
~
ECFS2026
Conference
President



Pilar
Azevedo
~
ECFS2026
Conference
Vice President



Luisa
Pereira
~
ECFS2026
Conference
Vice President

Lisbon, Portugal's capital, offers a compelling blend of historical depth and modern vibrancy. From the iconic Belém Tower and Jerónimos Monastery to the lively Bairro Alto district and scenic views along the Tagus River, the city provides a rich cultural experience for all visitors.

The conference will be held at the **Lisbon Congress Centre (CCL)**, a well-established venue with ample space and facilities to support a successful and engaging event.

Key Dates to Remember

Abstract submission opens

Submission deadline

Notification of acceptance

Early registration deadline

December 2025

12 January 2026

Early March 2026

19 March 2026

We look forward to welcoming you to Lisbon for another inspiring ECFS Conference!

21st ECFS Basic Science Conference 2026



For further details, click [here](#).



SAVE THE DATES!

Abstract Submission
Open - 03 Nov 2025

Abstract Submission
Deadline - 01 Dec 2025

Early Registration
Deadline - 04 Feb 2026

More information:
<https://www.ecfs.eu/bsc2026>



11-14 MARCH 2026 | ST PAUL'S BAY, MALTA

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We're thrilled to invite you to the 21st edition of the ECFS Basic Science Conference, set against the stunning backdrop of **St. Paul's Bay, Malta**. This annual gathering continues to be a cornerstone for researchers dedicated to advancing our understanding of cystic fibrosis.

2026 CHAIRPERSONS



**Batsheva Kerem
(IL)**
Conference Chairperson



**Isabelle Sermet
(FR)**
Support co-Chairperson



**Jennifer Bomberger
(US)**
Support co-Chairperson

This year, we're enhancing the programme with new elements. Alongside our hallmark symposia and abstract-driven presentations, we're introducing several sessions designed to broaden engagement and spark fresh dialogue.

These include:

- **Dedicated sessions for young investigators** – offering tailored opportunities for early-career researchers to connect with leading experts.
- **Insights into our ECFS basic science working groups** – Airway Epithelial Cell Models for Theranostics and Intestinal Organoids

We remain deeply grateful to our senior colleagues whose ongoing contributions and mentorship continue to shape the field. Your presence and insights are integral to the collaborative spirit of this conference, and we look forward to the rich discussions your experience brings.

As always, the conference remains a vibrant space for exchanging research, exploring new ideas, and fostering international collaboration in an informal, interactive setting. We especially encourage PhD students and post-docs to join us – your energy and curiosity are vital to the spirit of this event.

We look forward to welcoming you to Malta for what promises to be an inspiring and forward-thinking conference.

Fellowship

Call for Applications



The ECFS is pleased to announce it will continue its Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship programme in 2026.

With the aim to foster basic and translational research on cystic fibrosis, the ECFS will support a European Post-Doctoral 3-year duration Research Fellowship starting from September 2026.



All details on the project and application form can be found [here](#).

Timeline for Call

Applications open
29 October 2025

Applications close
19 December 2025

Evaluation and Selection
January to May 2026

Results
Presented at ECFS annual conference, Lisbon, Portugal, June 2026

Launch
From September 2026, as soon as contract in place with institution.

Upcoming Webinars



Basic Science

5 PM CET / 4 PM GMT / 11 AM EST/ 8 AM PT

20-Nov-25

CFTR from structure to function – what is there to understand?

12-Dec-25

Gene editing for CF – an overview

23-Jan-26

Ionocytes: key players in CF pathophysiology

20-Feb-26

Mucus biology in CF

10-Apr-26

Mouse models for obstructive lung diseases

15-May-26

Host-pathogen interactions in CF – how do epithelial cells talk to pathogens?

Psychosocial Issues

12:00-13:00 CET / 11:00- 12:00 UK TIME

20-Nov-25

Lung transplantation in a new era of cystic fibrosis

04-Feb-26

Men's health

15-Apr-26

Identity and body image

Nutrition

13:00-14:00 CET / 12:00- 13:00 UK TIME

27-Nov-25

Title TBC

Telehealth

12:00-13:00 CET / 11:00- 12:00 UK TIME

04-Nov-25

What is your CF unit capable of in terms of telehealth?

17-Feb-26

How much care can you offer over telehealth (modality)?

24-Feb-26

How can you improve the telehealth care you already offer?

Exercise

08-Jan-26 Title TBC

15-Jan-26 Title TBC

22-Jan-26 Title TBC

29-Jan-26 Title TBC

Physiotherapy

Coming in 2025/26 – Dates to be confirmed

Standards of Care

Coming in 2025/26 – Dates to be confirmed

Diagnostics

Coming in 2025/26 – Dates to be confirmed

Upcoming Events



**ECFS
Winter Board Meeting**
28 January 2026
Brussels, Belgium



**ECFS
Winter Meetings of ECFS Projects**
29–30 January 2026
Brussels, Belgium



**Diagnostic Network
Working Group Meeting**
12–14 February 2026
Prague, Czech Republic



**19th European
Young Investigator Meeting**
25 – 27 February 2026
Paris, France



**21st ECFS
Basic Science Conference**
11 – 14 March 2026
St. Paul's Bay, Malta



**49th ECFS
Conference**
3 – 6 June 2026
Lisbon, Portugal



MISC ITEMS

2024 Journal of Cystic Fibrosis Impact Factor

The European Cystic Fibrosis Society is pleased to announce that the official 2024 Impact Factors (IF) were recently released, and the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis (JCF) has increased its IF from the 2023 IF of 5.4 to 6.0.

The Journal Impact Factor is published each year by Clarivate Analytics. It is a measure of the number of times an average paper in a particular journal is cited during the preceding two years.



This achievement underscores the hard work and dedication of the editorial team, reviewers, and authors. It reflects the high standards and impactful research that the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis consistently delivers.

The ECFS would like to thank the Editor in Chief, Dr. Patrick Flume, and the Editorial Board. Their excellent work has helped JCF gain its current standings and continues to aid its growth.

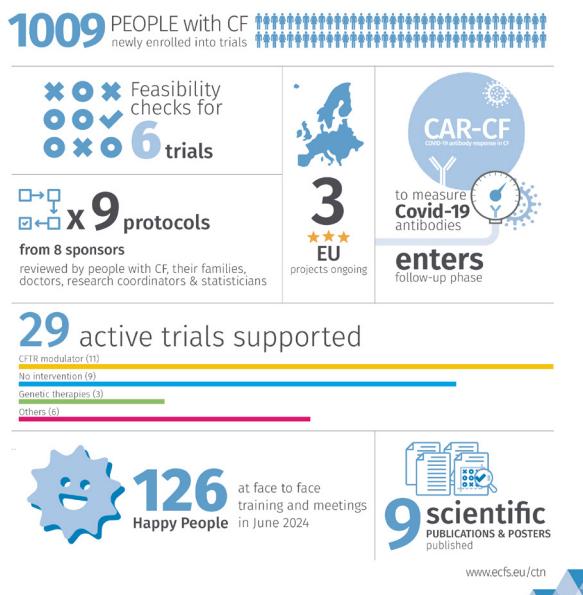
For information on the JCF [click this link](#).

ECFS Clinical Trial Network

2024 was a busy year for the ECFS Clinical Trial Network. [Find out why in the 2024 year report](#).



2024 OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS



An advertisement for Vertex. It features a close-up image of a hand holding a test tube with a blue liquid. The Vertex logo is in the bottom left corner. The text 'Applications now open for the Circle of Care!' is in the bottom right corner, with a small arrow icon.





LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

European Cystic Fibrosis Society



Kastanieparken 7
7470 Karup
Denmark
ph. +45 8667 6260

To contact the
ECFS Clinical Trials Network (ECFS CTN)
[please click here](#)

To contact the
ECFS Patient Registry (ECFS PR)
[please click here](#)