

JANUARY 2026



Welcome to the 80th European Cystic Fibrosis Society Newsletter.

To renew your membership or become an ECFS member, [register now to connect with professionals in the cf community and benefit from our vast range of resources.](#)

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# Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I hope you are well and that you had a good start of the year. 2025 was a great year for the ECFS with the Basic Science Conference in Lido di Camaiore, the Annual Conference in Milan, and a number of meetings of Working Groups and Special Interest Groups.

There will be ECFS Board elections in 2026 as Dorota Sands and Carsten Schwarz will complete their second term in June. Carlos Farinha is stepping down from the ECFS Board as he is taking over the reins of the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis.

I would like to encourage you all to consider your own nomination or to nominate an ECFS member you believe would benefit the ECFS community by being actively engaged in the Board. Please consider how important these elections are for the future of the Society. Further information about the elections is included later in the Newsletter.

We have recently opened our memberships for 2026 and I encourage you all to become an ECFS member once more. Planning for the 2026 conferences is well underway and you can find all information on the 21st Basic Science Conference in Malta and on the 49th European CF Conference in Lisbon, Portugal on the website. The registration for the conference in Lisbon is now open and I hope to see you all there. We have had a fantastic number of abstracts submitted this year so I would like to thank all those who have submitted and all the speakers who have accepted to contribute to these conferences. We have excellent programmes and courses planned and we look forward to your participation.

This year again, the ECFS award, the Gerd Döring Award and the Outstanding Contribution Award for Allied Health Professionals will be presented at the June conference. The ECFS award honours a person who has made an outstanding contribution to our basic understanding of cystic fibrosis or to the treatment or care of people with cystic fibrosis. The Gerd Döring award honours an exceptional young European scientist in early career. The Outstanding Contribution Award for Allied Health Professionals honours a current Society member who has made either a sustained commitment, achieving excellence in the CF field over the course of their career, or who has had a more recent, specific achievement with major impact. More information is enclosed in this newsletter. Please send in your nominations for these important awards.

The European Post-Doctoral 3-year Research Fellowship is another project that continues this year. This important project will help to foster basic and translational research on CF and bring new young talented researchers into the field. We have received six applications which are currently being reviewed, and the successful awardee will be announced at the conference in June.

Best wishes,

**Jane Davies**

ECFS President

PROFESSOR JANE DAVIES



**“Please contact us if you have news items you would like to have included in future Newsletters or published on our website.”**

# Become an ECFS Member

2026



Membership	Professional Group	Benefits	Cost
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Medic / Physician</li> <li>Scientist</li> <li>Researcher</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Education Platform*</li> <li>Annual JCF Online Subscription</li> <li>Reduced Conference Registration Fees</li> <li>Receive Member Newsletters</li> <li>Voting Rights</li> </ul>	€135
			€165 + ERS
			€345 3 year
			€435 + ERS 3 year
Allied Health Professional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dietitian / Nutritionist</li> <li>Early Career Professional</li> <li>Laboratory Technician</li> <li>Nurse</li> <li>Occupational therapist</li> <li>PhD Student</li> <li>Pharmacist</li> <li>Physiotherapist</li> <li>Physiologist (Respiratory, Exercise, other)</li> <li>Psychologist</li> <li>Research Coordinator</li> <li>Social Worker</li> <li>Other, please email: <a href="mailto:membership@ecfs.eu">membership@ecfs.eu</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Education Platform*</li> <li>Reduced Conference Registration Fees</li> <li>Receive Member Newsletters</li> <li>Voting Rights</li> </ul> <p>If you would like JCF Access, please contact: <a href="mailto:membership@ecfs.eu">membership@ecfs.eu</a>. This is an extra €30 per year.</p>	€50
			€80 + ERS
			€150 3 year
			€240 + ERS 3 year
Early Career Professional <span style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px 10px; border-radius: 10px;">NEW!</span>	Member is a medically qualified doctor still in training, who has not yet obtained a full specialist or consultant qualification, OR, a Post-Doc in the first three years after their PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Education Platform*</li> <li>Reduced Conference Registration Fees</li> <li>Receive Member Newsletters</li> <li>Voting Rights</li> </ul> <p>If you would like JCF Access, please contact: <a href="mailto:membership@ecfs.eu">membership@ecfs.eu</a>. This is an extra €30 per year.</p>	€50
			€80 + ERS
Corporate	Individuals affiliated with pharmaceutical or biopharmaceutical industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual JCF Online Subscription</li> <li>Receive Member Newsletters</li> </ul>	€250
Community	Individuals affiliated with patient representative organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Education Platform*</li> <li>Annual JCF Online Subscription</li> <li>Reduced Conference Registration Fees</li> <li>Receive Member Newsletters</li> </ul>	€100
Emeritus	Retired members still actively engaged in an ECFS Project or Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to Education Platform*</li> <li>Reduced Conference Registration Fees</li> <li>Receive Member Newsletters</li> <li>Voting Rights</li> </ul>	Free

Any queries? [membership@ecfs.eu](mailto:membership@ecfs.eu)

\* Education Platform includes:  

- eLearning Programme on CF
- Conference Webcasts
- Webinar Recordings

ERS  
European Respiratory Society

# ECFS 2026 Board Elections

The ECFS cordially invites nominations for three Board positions.



**Dorota Sands**  
~  
ECFS  
Board  
Member



**Carsten Schwartz**  
~  
ECFS  
Board  
Member



**Carlos  
Farinha**  
~  
ECFS  
Board  
Member

Dorota Sands and Carsten Schwarz will complete their second term on the ECFS Board in June 2026. Another space will open on the Board as Carlos Farinha moves into his new role leading the Journal of Cystic Fibrosis.

We remind you that as per our constitution, article 4-04, the elected officers of the Board shall represent different European countries and there should be no more than 2 elected members from one country.

Please take a moment to review the current Board composition at <https://www.ecfs.eu/society-details/ecfs-board>

**Job description and person specifics are available for Board members here:**

[ECFS Board Member Job Description](#)

Nominations should be submitted to our ECFS Executive Director **Christine Dubois** ([christine.dubois@ecfs.eu](mailto:christine.dubois@ecfs.eu)) by 3 April 2026.

- Each nomination must include a personal statement, confirmation of the candidate's agreement, and a CV.
- All nominees must be current ECFS members.

Information about the nominated candidates will be shared with members for an online vote ahead of the Annual General Meeting in June, where the election results will be announced.

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



# ECFS Winter Meetings Brussels January 2026

The ECFS Board, the Standards of Care, ECFS Clinical Trials Network and the ECFS Patient Registry Steering Committees met in Brussels for their annual winter meetings at the end of January. This was an excellent opportunity to meet across ECFS projects, discuss common subjects, find new opportunities for co-operation, and catch up with colleagues.

# 21st ECFS Basic Science Conference 2026

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



## SAVE THE DATES!

## Early Registration

## More information

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

The ECFS Basic Science Conference is a premier annual event for scientists dedicated to cystic fibrosis research, providing a platform to showcase the latest advancements in the field. The programme will feature a series of symposia with distinguished European and international guest speakers, alongside presentations selected from submitted abstracts. **Batsheva Kerem** (IL) will serve as the conference chairperson, supported by **Isabelle Sermet** (FR) and **Jennifer Bomberger** (US). Further details can be found here: <https://www.ecfs.eu/bsc2026>

## 2026 CHAIRPERSONS



**Batsheva  
Kerem  
(IL)**  
Conference  
Chairperson

## PROGRAMME

## WEDNESDAY 11

WEDNESDAY 11	
Young Investigators Workshop .....	14:30 - 17:30
Conference Opening .....	15:30 - 17:30
Opening Keynote .....	15:30 - 17:30

THURSDAY 12

<b>THURSDAY 12</b>	
Symposium 1	Nonsense Mutations & Translational Correction
Symposium 2	Gene Therapy & Genome Editing
Symposium 3	Inter-organ Crosstalk & Physiology
Flash Posters 1	16:30 - 17:30
ECFS Working Groups	17:30 - 18:00
Poster Session 1	18:00 - 19:30

**FRIDAY 13**

<b>FRIDAY 16</b>	
Symposium 4 <b>Metabolic Dysfunction in CF</b>	<b>08:45 - 10:30</b>
Symposium 5 <b>Vascular and Cardiovascular complications</b> - a patient organisation-initiated symposium	<b>11:00 - 12:45</b>
Flash Posters 2	<b>18:30 - 19:30</b>
Poster Session 2	<b>21:30 - 23:00</b>

SATURDAY 14

Symposium	Time
Symposium 6 Organ-on-a-Chip & New Models	08:45 - 10:30
Symposium 7 Systems Biology & Multi-omics and CFTR structure	11:00 - 12:45
Symposium 8 Infection and Immunology in the CFTR modulator era	14:15 - 16:00
Conference Closing and Closing Keynote	16:30 - 17:45
Dinner and Social Event	20:00 - 24:00

## SAVE THE DATES!

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

EARLY MARCH 2026

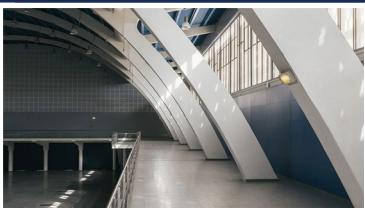
19 MARCH 2026

[WWW.ECFS.EU/LISBON2026](http://WWW.ECFS.EU/LISBON2026)

#ECFS2026



AUDITORIUM



PAVILIONS



ROOMS



FOYERS

# 49th European Cystic Fibrosis Conference

3 - 6 JUNE 2026 | LISBON, PORTUGAL

We are actively preparing the 49th European Cystic Fibrosis Conference that will take place from 03 to 06 June 2026 in Lisbon, Portugal. We are delighted to share that 741 Abstracts and 29 Cases were submitted.



Carlos Farinha  
~  
ECFS2026  
Conference  
President



Pilar  
Azevedo  
~  
ECFS2026  
Conference  
Vice President



Luísa  
Pereira  
~  
ECFS2026  
Conference  
Vice President

This in-person conference will be the perfect opportunity to exchange ideas and network. The Scientific Committee and the Steering Committee have prepared an exciting programme covering all fields of cystic fibrosis and we would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment. The programme of the conference will also include two plenary sessions, workshops and ePoster sessions for oral presentations of selected abstracts, satellite symposia from the industry and much more.

### Key Dates to Remember

Notification of acceptance  
Early registration deadline

Early March 2026  
19 March 2026

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

## 49TH EUROPEAN CYSTIC FIBROSIS CONFERENCE

# List of Symposia

<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 4</b> <b>FRIDAY, JUNE 5</b> <b>SATURDAY, JUNE 6</b>					
	<b>Auditorio I</b>	<b>Auditorio V</b>	<b>Auditorio II</b>	<b>Sala 5A+B</b>	<b>Auditorio III+IV</b>
<b>09:00</b>	<b>SYMPOSIUM 01</b> Early phase clinical trials: present and future perspectives	<b>SYMPOSIUM 02</b> Translational microbiology: testing our patients or patience	<b>SYMPOSIUM 03</b> Rethinking the load: reducing treatment burden in the era of CFTR modulators	<b>SYMPOSIUM 04</b> Bridging evidence and empathy in psychosocial care	<b>SYMPOSIUM 05</b> The carrier dilemmas
<b>10:00</b>					
<b>11:00</b>	<b>SYMPOSIUM 06</b> Detection and treatment of pulmonary exacerbations	<b>SYMPOSIUM 07</b> Difficult to treat infections – fungi and NTM	<b>SYMPOSIUM 08</b> Decoding rare CFTR variants: from molecular mechanisms to therapeutic opportunities	<b>SYMPOSIUM 09</b> Gastrointestinal health – from research to clinical practice	<b>SYMPOSIUM 10</b> Breathless not clueless: tackling dyspnoea in cystic fibrosis from diagnosis to action
<b>12:00</b>					
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 4</b> <b>FRIDAY, JUNE 5</b> <b>SATURDAY, JUNE 6</b>					
	<b>Auditorio I</b>	<b>Auditorio V</b>	<b>Auditorio II</b>	<b>Sala 5A+B</b>	<b>Auditorio III+IV</b>
<b>09:00</b>	<b>SYMPOSIUM 11</b> What's the magic number for cystic fibrosis? Rethinking care in a changing world	<b>SYMPOSIUM 12</b> Moments that matter: navigating the cystic fibrosis journey together	<b>SYMPOSIUM 13</b> Navigating Ageing in Cystic Fibrosis – The Multidisciplinary Team necessity	<b>SYMPOSIUM 14</b> Gene therapy for cystic fibrosis – from CFTR gene correction or replacement to phenotypic improvement	<b>SYMPOSIUM 15</b> Moving forward with registries
<b>10:00</b>					
<b>11:00</b>	<b>SYMPOSIUM 16</b> One size fits all? Opportunities and challenges for co-recruitment in trials	<b>SYMPOSIUM 17</b> Back to normal? Rethinking cystic fibrosis across the lifespan	<b>SYMPOSIUM 18</b> Nutrition and Endocrinology in cystic fibrosis: Lessons from the past and new directions	<b>SYMPOSIUM 19</b> Molecular insight into clinical microbiology	<b>SYMPOSIUM 20</b> From CFSPID designation to adulthood
<b>12:00</b>					
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 4</b> <b>FRIDAY, JUNE 5</b> <b>SATURDAY, JUNE 6</b>					
	<b>Auditorio I</b>	<b>Auditorio V</b>	<b>Auditorio II</b>	<b>Sala 5A+B</b>	<b>Auditorio III+IV</b>
<b>09:00</b>	<b>SYMPOSIUM 21</b> Grand Rounds in Clinical CF	<b>SYMPOSIUM 22</b> Telehealth in CF Care: Are we all doing it, and how do we do it better?	<b>SYMPOSIUM 23</b> Clinical management of hepatobiliary disease in cystic fibrosis	<b>SYMPOSIUM 24</b> Registries in the real world: which purposes can they fulfil?	<b>SYMPOSIUM 25</b> Epithelial repair: bridging basic mechanisms and clinical applications
<b>10:00</b>					

# Grand Rounds in CF

After the success of last year's session, we will be organising a Grand Rounds in Clinical CF session again this year.

Submission of cases for this session are open to all disciplines. The presenting author of the case study has to be a medical trainee or fellow. The submission must have been supervised by the presenting author's mentor. Besides a free registration to the conference, each presenter of a case study will receive an award of €500.

**The session will be held 09:00 – 10:30, Saturday, 06 June 2026.**

More information can be found here: <https://www.ecfs.eu/lisbon2026/clinical-cases>

# Meet the Experts

Meet the Experts sessions are small interactive sessions led by experts to stimulate discussion, answer questions and offer advice. The format encourages a more personal approach to learning. Each session is limited to 50 participants. Attendance is free for registered participants.

**Thursday 04 June 07:45 – 08:45**

- Pharmacy in action: the evolving roles of specialist CF pharmacists
- Sensitive, non-invasive outcome measures for CF lung disease in cystic fibrosis
- Breathing Smarter, Coughing Better

**Friday 05 June 07:45 – 08:45**

- The Role of Emerging Diagnostics in Cystic Fibrosis Microbiology
- Learning from listening: understanding the value of qualitative research in cystic fibrosis
- Decoding the Report: Applying Genetic Findings in CF Patient Management

## PRE-CONFERENCE COURSES

# Pre-conference Courses

**TUESDAY 2 JUNE 08:00 – 17:00 AND WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 08:00 – 12:30**

## New era of CF care, Fitness testing and prescribing to stay active through a lifespan

This short course is jointly organised by the ECFS Physiotherapy Specialist International Interest Group and the ECFS Exercise Working Group. At the end of the Short course, the participant will be able to:

- Demonstrate an improved understanding of the ECFS standards for exercise testing and their application in clinical practice.
- Perform a range of exercise tests, including Wpeak testing, the 6-Minute Walk Test (6MWT), the Shuttle Test, and assessment of muscle function.
- Discuss case studies, effectively translating theory into clinical practice.
- Gain insight into telehealth and its applicability to exercise testing and long-term health monitoring.

The course is intended for all members of the multi-disciplinary team. In particular, we invite Physiotherapists, Physiologists & Exercise Physiologists and all staff interested in long-term health monitoring.

**TUESDAY 2 JUNE 12:30 – 16:30**

## CF Nutrition Guidelines: What should you know? From Evidence to Everyday Practice

This pre-conference short course offers healthcare professionals an exceptional opportunity to learn directly from leading experts in CF nutrition. Held over a single afternoon, the programme is divided into two focused sessions.

The first session will provide an up-to-date overview of the latest CF nutrition guidelines—serving as an essential introduction for those new to CF care and a valuable refresher for more experienced clinicians.

The second session will explore emerging and evolving areas where current guidance is limited or still developing. Topics will include discontinuation of tube feeding, obesity, PERT management in changing pancreatic status and aging. Experts will share their perspectives, followed by structured discussion designed to encourage active participation and critical reflection.

Interactive components will be woven throughout the afternoon, creating space for attendees to exchange experiences, ask questions, and engage in practical, case-based dialogue—ensuring a collaborative and clinically relevant learning experience.

**WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE 08:30 – 16:15**

## Multidisciplinary team insights for lone working physicians from Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)

### BY APPLICATION

For further information about this course, please contact: [education@ecfs.eu](mailto:education@ecfs.eu)

This one-day course will provide doctors working in resource-limited settings from Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) with the key skills and tools to optimise CF care.

Participants will gain knowledge from international experts. Sessions will include practical hands-on training in basic airway-clearance techniques, along with skill building sessions covering practical strategies for nutritional management and essential psychological skills. Real-world clinical case examples will be utilised throughout the day to facilitate understanding, provide a platform for discussing specific challenges in care provision, and collaboratively explore actionable solutions.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

# 49th ECFS Annual Conference Awards

Lisbon, Portugal – 3–6 June 2026

## ECFS Award

The ECFS Award is given annually to honour a person who has made an outstanding contribution to our basic understanding of cystic fibrosis or to the treatment or care of people with cystic fibrosis. The winner of the award will be invited to present a lecture on 03 June 2026 at the Opening Plenary of the annual conference in Lisbon, Portugal. **The deadline for proposals is 17 March 2026. Please email your proposal, accompanied by a detailed nomination statement and curriculum vitae of the candidate to the ECFS Executive Director, Christine Dubois (christine.dubois@ecfs.eu).**

## Gerd Döring Award

The Gerd Döring Award honours an outstanding early-career European scientist annually with a €5,000 research grant. It is awarded based on a significant paper published between 2023–2025, with CVs and personal statements contributing 20% to the evaluation. Eligible candidates are PhD students or postdocs with up to four years of research experience. Nominations from mentors, supervisors, and colleagues are encouraged. **The submission deadline is 17 March 2026. Please send proposals, including a personal statement, nominated paper (PDF), and CV, to the ECFS Executive Director Christine Dubois (christine.dubois@ecfs.eu).**

## AHP Outstanding Contribution Award

The AHP Outstanding Contribution Award is given annually to honour a current Society member who has made either a sustained commitment, achieving excellence in the CF field over the course of their career, or who has had a more recent, specific achievement with major impact. The winner of the award will be invited to present on 06 June at the Closing Plenary of the annual conference in Lisbon, Portugal. **The deadline for proposals is 17 March 2026. Please email your proposal, accompanied by a detailed nomination statement and curriculum vitae of the candidate to Jess Matthews (jess.matthews@ecfs.eu).**

## ECFS Nursing Special Interest Group

The NSiG are funding two awards for the conference this year.

Please click on the links below for further details. **Deadline: 20 April 2026.**

- [Nursing Innovation and Research Award](#)
- [ECFS Nursing Special Interest Group Travel Grants](#)

# Upcoming Webinars



## Basic Science

**17:00 CET / 16:00 GMT / 11:00 EST / 08:00 PT**

**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 / Mental Health

**12:00 CET / 11:00 UK**

**15-Apr-26**

Topic: Identity and body image

## Standards of Care

**Coming in 2026**

Dates to be confirmed

## Nutrition

**Coming in 2026**

Dates to be confirmed

## Diagnostics

**Coming in 2026**

Dates to be confirmed

## Telehealth

**12:00 CET / 11:00 GMT**

**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

**13:00 CET / 12:00 UK**

**Coming in 2026**

Dates to be confirmed

## Physiotherapy

**13:00 CET / 12:00 GMT**

**21-Apr-26**

Musculoskeletal updates for adults with CF

**13-May-26**

Physical Literacy Milestones in Paediatrics

**MARCH WEBINAR: 16:00 / 15:00 GMT**

**10-Mar-26**

Frailty and aging in CF.

## Patient Registry (ECFSPR)

**14:00 CET / 13:00 GMT**

**13-Feb-26**

Accessing ECFSPR data for collaborative research

## MISC ITEMS



The ECFS would like to thank Monika Mielus for all her work with the society, particularly in her role as Chair of the Nutrition Group. We wish her all the very best as she moves into a new field.

The new ECFSPR website is live and available at: <https://pr.ecfs.eu/>



## News

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ECFS Education Webinars

02 FEB 2026 | 1 MIN READ



Steering Committee Bruxelles

02 FEB 2026 | 1 MIN READ



ECFSPR 2024 Data Highlights Report

21 DEC 2025 | 1 MIN READ

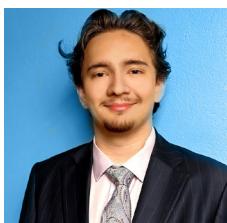


### We are thrilled to announce the launch of the new ECFSPR website!

We think it offers a fresh look, improved navigation and easier access to resources, information and updates from the Registry and we'd really love if you visit to explore our new features, stay informed about recent publica-

tions, and learn more about our work supporting Cystic Fibrosis research across Europe. Although we've gone live, we're continuing to work on content and organisation and would really love to hear your feedback and comments!

The new ECFSPR website is live and available at: <https://pr.ecfs.eu/>



### THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING

**Alen Parvanov** is a 20-year-old student at TU Wien, currently studying Business Informatics. As a member of the CF community himself, he is passionate about contributing to projects that support and strengthen people living with cystic fibrosis.

He has recently joined our team as a part-time volunteer and is already contributing his skills and motivation to support our work. We are excited to have him on board and look forward to continuing the collaboration.

You can connect with Alen on LinkedIn here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/alen-parvanov>

# Upcoming Events



**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



**Scientific Meeting (ScieM)**  
Mukoviszidose e.V. Bundesverband  
Cystische Fibrose (CF)  
21–22 May 2026



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





# European Cystic Fibrosis Society

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

Kastanieparken 7  
7470 Karup  
Denmark  
ph. +45 8667 6260

We'd love your  
feedback on our new  
Newsletter!

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

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

An historic street in Malta

