# **HIGHLIGHTS IN RHEUMATOLOGY 2021**

# PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS PROF. FRANCESCO CICCIA

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

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**ROYAL CONTINENTAL HOTEL** 

#### Scientific Rationale

Rheumatological diseases represent an important cause of morbidity and mortality. They encompass a complex spectrum of inflammatory diseases with varying prevalence in the general population. Among them rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and spondyloarthritis (SpA) represent the the more prevalent diseases in the general population and with the possibility of therapeutic intervention thanks to the increasingly consistent advent of innovative pharmacological therapies.

Nonetheless, these pathologies are serious due to an imprecise knowledge of the physiopathological mechanisms and a considerable high diagnostic delay which becomes dramatic for the SpAs with an estimated average time of diagnosis from the onset of symptoms of about 8 years. Other less prevalent systemic rheumatic diseases such as connective tissue diseases and vasculitis, are also burdened by the same diagnostic delay and by the absence of specific therapies that are guided by the knowledge of the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying them with the consequence of irreversible organ damage, disability and high mortality.

The "Highlights in Rheumatology 2021" congress aims to address the most important rheumatological diseases in their entire cognitive spectrum, from pathophysiological aspects including mouse models, to diagnostic and therapeutic aspects. To this end, the most important national and international experts, engaged in the translational, clinical and therapeutic research of these pathologies, confront each other in three days of interventions aimed at defining and discussing the most recent scientific contributions relating to systemic inflammatory rheumatic diseases in the prospective vision of How the knowledge of these pathologies can change in the near immediate future.

	SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM • DAY 1- October 8, 2021	
1:15 - 1:30	REGISTRATION CME WELCOME	F. Ciccia
	Session 1: Ankylosing Spondylitis	Chair: D. Baeten, J. Graticos Masmitja
1:30 - 1:50	Recent advances in Genetic of AS	M. Brown
2:10 - 2:30	AxSpA autoimmune or autoinflammatory disorder?	D. Mauro
2.30 – 2:50	Murine Models	R. Thomas
2:50 - 3:10	Imaging in AS	AM. Iagnocco
3:10 – 3:25	Young Talk	L. Bucci
3:25 – 3:4	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	D. Baeten, J. Graticos Masmitja
3:45 – 4:05	Coffee break	
	Session 2: Ankylosing Spondylitis	Chair: M. Brown, C. Selmi
4:05 – 4:25	A tale of two cells: Th17 and Tregs in Ankylosing Spondylitis	D. Simone
4:25 – 4:45	Gender and AS susceptibility and therapeutic response	I. VAN DER HORST BRUINSMA
4:45 – 5:05	Treatment options to stop radiographic progression in axial SpA	J. Sieper
5:05 – 5.25	New therapeutic strategies in AS	J. Reveille
5:25 – 5:40	Young Talk	M. Vecellio
5:40 – 5:55	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)  End of the first day	M. Brown, C. Selmi
5:55-6:15	The lecture has not been included in the educational program CME  Head to Head trials in SpA	Presenter: F. Ciccia Speaker: J. Sieper

	SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM • DAY 2 – October 9, 2021	
	Session 3: Psoriatic Arthritis	Chair: R. Scarpa, G. Schett
8:30 – 8:50	Pathogenesis of PsA	R. Lories
8:50 - 9:10	Factors influencing the choice of biologic in PsA	A. MARCHESONI
9:10 - 9:30	The assessment of psoriatic arthritis and therapeutic implications	E. Lubrano
9:30 - 9:50	Treat to target in PsA	E. Favalli
9:50 – 10:05	Young Talk	L. Costa
10:05 – 10:30	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	R. Scarpa, G. Schett
10:30 - 10:50	(Regarding the subject included in the session)  Coffee break	
40.20 40.50	The lecture has not been included in the educational program CME	Presenter: F. Ciccia
10:30 – 10:50	Treating Psoriatic Arthritis with IL 23 inhibitors: evidence from clinical trials and rationale	Speaker. G. Guggino
	Session 4: Rheumatoid Arthritis	Chair: E. Gremese, CM. Montecucco
10:50 - 11:10	Molecular portraits of RA	M. Lewis
11:10 – 11:30	Pathogenesis OF RA	G. Schett
11:30 – 11:50	Lessons from animal models	J. Wu
11:50 - 12:10	Unmet needs in RA: remission as goal of treatment?	C. Pitzalis
12:10 – 12:25	Young Talk	F. Rivellese
12:25 – 12:50	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	E. Gremese, CM. Montecucco
12:50 - 2:00	Light LUNCH	
1:30 - 2:00	The lecture has not been included in the educational program CME	Presenter: F. Ciccia
	Filgotinib: treatment evolution for RA	Speaker. R. Caporali
	Session 5: Sjogren's syndrome	Chair: R. Giacomelli - E. Tirri
2:00 – 2:20	Biomarkers IN PSS	S. Gandolfo
2:20 – 2:40	Pathogenesis	M. Bombardieri
2:40 - 3:00	Murine models	LIWEI LU
3:00 – 3:20	Lymphomagenesis	X. MARIETTE
3:20 – 3:40	New therapeutic perspectives	G. Guggino
3:40 – 3:55	Young talk:	E. Pontarini
3:55 – 4:10	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	R. Giacomelli – E. Tirri
4:10 – 4:30	Coffee break	
4:10 – 4:30	The lecture has not been included in the educational program CME  Session 6: Giant Cell Arteritis	
120 / ==	Pathogenesis of GCA	F. Ciccia – C. Salvarani
4:30 – 4:50		C. Weyand
4:50 – 5:10	The role of maging in the diagnosis of GCA	N. Pipitone
5:10 - 5:30	Treatment of GCA	C. Salvarani
5:30 - 5:50	New Treatment Options	F. Ciccia
5:50 - 6:00	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	F. Ciccia – C. Salvarani

	SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM • DAY 3- October 10, 2021	
	Session 7: Systemic sclerosis	Chair: F. Perosa - G. Triolo
8:30 - 8:50	Pre-scleroderma	R. Giacomelli
8:50 - 9:10	Murine Models	A. Ramming
9:10 - 9:30	Assessment	G. Cuomo
9:30 - 9:50	Therapy	C. M. Mihai
09:50 - 10:00	Young Talk:	V. Liakouli
10:00 - 10:10	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	F. Perosa – G. Triolo
10.10 - 10:30	Coffee break	
	Session 8: Systemic Lupus Erythematosus	Chair: A. De Paulis, G.C. Tsokos
10:30 - 10:50	SLE: from Bed to Bench and Back	G. C. Tsokos
10.50 - 11:10	Podocyte function in autoimmune and non-autoimmune kidney diseases	G.C. Tsokos
11:10 - 11.30	Lupus Nephritis	G. Bertsis
11:30 - 11:50	Prevention of Cardiovascular disease in SLE	S. Fasano
11.50 - 12.10	Questions and discussion (Regarding the subject included in the session)	A. De Paulis, G.C. Tsokos
12.10 - 1:30	Light Lunch	
1:30 - 2:00	Concluding remarks	F. Ciccia

CME Evaluation test

### **LEGEND**

AS (Ankylosing Spondylitis)

AxSpA (Axial Spondylarthritis)

PsA (Psoriatic Arthritis)

RA (Rheumatoid Arthritis)

pSS (primary Sjogren's Syndrome)

GCA (Giant Cell Arteritis)

SLE (Systemic Lupus Erythematosus)