19th Belgian Congress on Rheumatology
Organised by the Belgian Royal Society for Rheumatology

23 – 25 September 2015
C-mine, Genk

Scientific Organiser
Béatrice André

Local Organising Committee
Piet Geusens
Pascale Volders

Final Programme
Welcome to Genk

Dear colleagues and friends,

As Organising Committee, we look forward to welcoming you to the 19th Belgian Congress on Rheumatology, taking place in Genk on September 23 - 25, 2015.

The Congress will take place at the extraordinary C-mine site in Genk founded on the vestiges of the coal mines of Winterslag.

Like last year, we will start earlier on Wednesday and finish earlier on Friday.

The scientific programme has been coordinated by Béatrice André, who has put together a varied and interesting programme with state-of-the-art keynote lectures and oral communications. Again a quiz is organised, a poster tour and 4 workshops for early risers. Furthermore 9 Updates in Therapeutics are scheduled.

New this year is the Thieves Market: residents and young rheumatologists will present their remarkable clinical cases.

We sincerely hope to welcome you to the hospitable city of Genk!

Pascale Volders and Piet Geusens
Wednesday, September 23

09.30  Pre-Congress Meetings

Young Investigator Meeting
Chairpersons: Dominique Deseny, ULG, Julie Duerex, UCL and Ellen De Langhe, KUL

10.00  Susceptibility to lipotoxicity is exacerbated in bone marrow derived MSC isolated from patients suffering of osteonecrosis of the femoral head
Céline Gillet, D. Spruyt, A. Dalla Valle, N. Gaspard, J. Lechanteur, A. Heuschling, V. Gangji, J. Rasschaert

10.15  The effect of tofacitinib in a TNFα independent arthritis model
Katelijne De Wilde, J. Coudenys, K. Debusschere, E. Verheugen, F. Windels, D. Elewaut

10.30  FOXP3+ regulatory T cells, in contrast to invariant Natural Killer T cells, are unable to modulate arthritis in TNFΔARE mice
Koen Venken, T. Decruy, P. Jacques, D. Elewaut

10.45  Over-expression of ubiquitin-specific peptidases in systemic sclerosis fibroblasts increases responses to TGFβ
Christine Galant, J. Marchandise, J. Duerex, M. Stoenoiu, F.A. Houssiau, B.R. Lauwerys

11.00  Mechanism of BMP- and CaP-induced bone formation by human periosteum derived cells
Johanna Bolander, W. Ji, L. Geris, V. Bloemen, Y.C. Chai, J. Schrooten, F.P. Luyten

11.15  Serum- and scaffold-free technology for in vivo bone and cartilage formation using human periosteum-derived cells
Luis Filipe Freitas Mendes, Y.C. Chai, W.L. Tam, L. Geris, S.J. Roberts, F.P. Luyten

11.30  Osteogenesis induced by frizzled-related protein (FRZB) is linked to the netrin-like domain
Sarah Thysen, F. Cailotto, R. Lories

11.45  Suramin increases the proteoglycan content during chondrogenesis by reducing matrix metalloproteinase activity and protects against osteoarthritis in a mouse model
Laura-An Guns, F. Cailotto, R.J. Lories

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Wednesday, September 23

11.30  Welcome Lunch

12.30  Opening Ceremony and Award Presentation

SESSION 1
Chairpersons: Valérie Gangji (ULB) and Ruth Wittoek (UGent)

13.00  Introduction to the Vesalius lecture
Piet Geusens, Maastricht UMC, UHasselt and ReumaClinic Genk

13.15  Vesalius lecture
From anti-resorptive to osteo-anabolic therapy in preventing fractures
Socrates Papapoulos, Leiden, The Netherlands

14.00  Abstract Presentations

Osteonecrosis of the femoral head is associated with low bone mass
Audrey Heuschling, M.S. Soyfoo, J.-P. Hauzeur, V. Afzali, R. Moreno-Reyes, C. Gillet, V. Gangji

The prevalence of vertebral fractures in spondylarthropathies: Relation to disease characteristics, bone mineral density, syndesmophytes and history of back pain and trauma
Piet Geusens, L. De Winter, D.H.F. Quaden, J. Vanhooft, V. Somers

Loss of Anp32a increases severity of osteoarthritis in different mouse models: A role for reactive oxygen species?
Fredenique M.F. Comelis, L. Storms, R.J. Lories

14.30  Quiz
Quizmasters: Laurent Méric de Bellefon, UCL and Isabelle Peene, AZ Sint-Jan

15.00  Coffee Break
Wednesday, September 23

SESSION 2
Chairpersons: Clio Ribbens (ULG) and Patrick Verschueren (KUL)

15.30 Epigenetics in RA
Steffen Gay, Zurich, Switzerland

16.10 Surgery of the knee for rheumatologists
Jan Victor, UZ Gent

16.40 Update in Therapeutics – Pfizer
Axial SpA in the spotlight: Effect of etanercept in the non-radiographic population
Maxime Dougados, Paris, France

17.10 Update in Therapeutics – Roche
Optimising therapy in rheumatoid arthritis
Ernest Choy, Cardiff, UK

17.40 Walking Dinner

SESSION 3 - Ethics & Economy
Chairpersons: Piet Geusens (Maastricht UMC, UHasselt and ReumaClinic Genk) and Pascale Volders (ReumaClinic Genk)

19.00 The future of healthcare in Belgium
Minister Jo Vandeurzen
Flemish Minister of Welfare, Public Health and Family

20.00 Reimbursement of medications: Issues and solutions
Katelijne De Nys
Head Clinical Trial Center UZ Leuven & Chair of the Commissie Tegemoetkoming Geneesmiddelen (CTG) van het RIZIV / Commission de Remboursement des Médicaments (CRM) de l’INAMI

22.00 Closing Remarks

Thursday, September 24

WORKSHOPS

07.30 Workshop 1: Sicca Syndrome
Muhammad Soyfoo, ULB

07.30 Workshop 2: Communication of diagnosis and therapy
Kristien Van der Elst, KUL and Nele Caeyers, ReumaNet

SESSION 4
Chairpersons: Patrick Durez (UCL) and Peggy Jacques (UGent)

08.30 Therapeutic drug monitoring of biologicals: Towards personalized dosing
Ann Gils, KUL

09.00 Abstract Presentations

Widespread pain is highly prevalent in patients with axial spondyloarthritis: A topographical analysis of body charts and the relationship with key clinical variables
Thijs Swinnen, E. Raddoux, T. Van Rietvelde, W. Dankaerts, R. Westhovens, K. de Vlam

Remission induction with DMARD combinations and glucocorticoids is not superior to remission induction with MTX monotherapy and glucocorticoids: Week 52 results of the high-risk group from the CareRA trial

Coping styles of patients with early rheumatoid arthritis during the first four months of treatment: A preliminary analysis of baseline and week 16 data within the CareRA trial
Kristien Van der Elst, D. De Cock, S. Meyfroidt, J. Joly, P. Moons, P. Verschueren, R. Westhovens

09.30 Traveller arthritis: Chikungunya
Fabrice Simon, Marseille, France

10.00 Coffee Break
Thursday, September 24

**SESSION 5**

*Chairpersons: Piet Geusens (Maastricht UMC, UHasselt and Reuma-Clinic Genk) and Valérie Badot (ULB)*

10.40 **Belgian Rheumatology in Review (clinical)**
Anne Durnez, UCL, CHIREC, AZ Jan Portaels and Marie Vanthuyne, UCL

11.00 **Update in Therapeutics – Abbvie**
*How do patients’ beliefs impact adherence?*
John Weinmann, London, UK

11.30 **Update in Therapeutics – Amgen**
*Understanding the similarities and differences in long-term therapy of osteoporosis with anti-resorptives*
Socrates Papapoulos, Leiden, The Netherlands

12.00 Lunch

13.00 **Poster Tour**

**SESSION 6**

*Chairpersons: Ilse Hoffman (GZA) and Maria Stoenoiu (UCL)*

14.00 **General Assembly (Part I)**

14.30 **Update in Therapeutics - MSD**
*What is the problem with Axial Spondyloarthritis: The disease or the treatment strategy? Should we stop treating the most severe patients?*
Filip Van den Bosch, Ghent

15.00 **Belgian Rheumatology in Review / Basic and Translational Science**
Philip Remans, Reumacentrum Genk

15.20 Coffee Break

**SESSION 7**

*Chairpersons: Marie-Joëlle Kaiser (ULG) and Laure Tant (ULB)*

16.00 **Therapeutic strategies in RA**
Patrick Verschueren, KUL

16.30 **Abstract Presentations**

*Maintaining remission in Rheumatoid Arthritis while tapering Etanercept: A preliminary evaluation of the TapERA trial*

*Safety, tolerability and feasibility of ultrasound-guided synovial biopsy of wrist and metacarpo-phalangeal joints – An ultrasound follow-up study*
Laurent Meric de Bellefon, P. Durez, A. Avramovska, A. Nzeusseu, B. Lauwerys, F.A. Houssiau, M.S. Stoenoiu

*Quantification of cortical breaks using high-resolution peripheral quantitative computed tomography imaging: A case control study*
M. Peters, A. Scharma, A. van Tubergen, J. Van den Bergh, R. Weijers, D. Loeffen, B. van Rietbergen, C. Arts, Piet Geusens

17.00 **Update in Therapeutics - UCB**
*Early RA – Don’t miss the window of opportunity!*
Patrick Durez, Brussels

17.30 **General Assembly (Part II)**
Friday, September 25

WORKSHOPS

07.30 Workshop 3: Imaging
Bruno Vande Berg, UCL

07.30 Workshop 4: Functional evaluation of the spine
Bernard Poortmans, ULB and Stephanie Grosdent, ULG

SESSION 8
Chairpersons: Bernard Lauwerys (UCL) and Vanessa Smith (UZ Gent)

08.30 Dermatology for the rheumatologists
Petra De Haes, KUL

09.00 Abstract Presentations

Six week treatment of axial spondyloarthritis with an optimal dosage of NSAIDs: Early response in signal intensity on magnetic resonance imaging of the sacroiliac joints

A 24-hour proteinuria cutoff level of 0.7 gram after 12 months of treatment best predicts long-term renal outcome in lupus nephritis: Data from the MAINTAIN Nephritis Trial
Farah Tamiro, B.R. Lauwerys, M. Dall’Era, M. Mackay, B. Rovin, R. Cervera, F.A. Houssiau, for the MAINTAIN Nephritis Trialists

Reliability of the quantitative assessment of peripheral blood perfusion by laser speckle contrast analysis in a systemic sclerosis cohort
Valerie Lambrecht, F. De Keyser, M. Cutole, S. Decuman, B. Ruaro, A. Sulli, E. Deschepper, V. Smith on behalf of the EULAR Study group on Microcirculation in Rheumatic Diseases

09.30 Bone and Joint lecture
Fibrosis
Jean Baptiste Demoulin, UCL

10.00 Update in Therapeutics - Celgene
The efficacy and safety of a novel, oral PDE4 inhibitor for the treatment of PSA
Frank Behrens, Frankfurt, Germany

10.30 Coffee Break

Friday, September 25

SESSION 9
Chairpersons: Pascale Volders (ReumaClinic Genk) and Béatrice André (ULG)

11.00 Thieves Market - Selected Presentations

Langerhans cell histiocytosis with multifocal bone lesions: complete metabolic remission by methotrexate and a local glucocorticoid injection
Olivier Malaise, M. Deneye, D. Betea, T. Racaru, W. Kurth, R. Degives, M.G. Malaise

An ankylosing fever
Caroline Gérard, C. von Frenckell, M. Malaise

Granulomatosis with polyangiitis mimicking breast cancer
Evelien De Boeck, J.F. Van Offel, S. Altintas, L.S. De Clerck

Osteoinsulosis disseminata – A benign bone condition of disseminated enostoses
Hans-Georg Zmierczak, C. Verroken

11.30 Update in Therapeutics – Janssen-Cilag
Psoriatic disease: just joints and skin?
Kurt de Vlam, Leuven, Belgium

12.00 Update in Therapeutics – BMS
Joint destruction and autoantibodies: unique mechanisms and opportunities for intervention
Georg Schett, Erlangen, Germany

12.30 Closure of the Congress
12.45 Lunch

13.45 Meeting of the BRV - Belgische Reumatologen Vereniging / ARB - Association des médecins rhumatologues de Belgique

14.45 KBVR-SRBR Board Meeting
Thursday, September 24

Meeting for Health Professionals in Rheumatology - Morning
Organised by the Belgian Health Professionals in Rheumatology (BHPR) vzw/asbl

Chairpersons: Sophie De Mits and Dieter Van Assche

08.45 Registration*

09.00 Welcome to the Health Professionals in Rheumatology Meeting
Sophie De Mits, Podiatrist, Physical Therapist; Rheumatology, Ghent University Hospital; Podiatry, Artevelde University College Ghent; Rehabilitation Sciences and Physical Therapy, Ghent University
Dieter Van Assche, Physical Therapist, Division of Rheumatology, University Hospitals Leuven; Member of the BHPR vzw/asbl; Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Rehabilitation Science, KU Leuven

09.10 Re-integration in a paid job: Where are we? And where do we want to go?
Advice for daily practice!
Saskia Decuman, Occupational Therapist; Disability Case Manager; Expert Research and Development, Dept. of Benefit of the National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance; Secretary BHPR vzw/asbl

09.40 E-rheumatology: The present and the future of digital health in the management of musculoskeletal diseases
Thijs Swinnen, Physiotherapist; Scientific Co-worker, Division of Rheumatology, University Hospitals Leuven Skeletal Biology and Engineering Research Center, Dept. of Development and Regeneration, KU Leuven; PhD-Candidate Research Group for Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation, Dept. of Rehabilitation Sciences, KU Leuven; Chair BHPR vzw/asbl

10.10 What's hot in Rheumatology? Part I: Research
Flavours of Belgian Health Professionals' research and clinical care:
Reliability and validity of a revised illness perception questionnaire for healthcare professionals
Seher Arat, RN, MSc, KU Leuven; Dept. of Development and Regeneration, Skeletal Biology and Engineering Research Center, KU Leuven

10.25 Coffee Break

10.55 Science and practice of nutrition counseling by health professionals
Tanja Callewaert, Registered Dietitian, Nutritional Consultant, Vice President VBVD (Vlaamse Beroepsvereniging Voedingsdeskundigen & Dietisten); National Delegate ESDN (European Specialist Dietetic Network)

11.40 Belgian Health Professionals in Rheumatology vzw/asbl: Yearly update on ongoing projects
Karlien Claes, Rheumatology Nurse; Rheumatology, Ghent University Hospital; Member of the Working Group Rheumatology Nurses NVKVV; Member of the BHPR vzw/asbl

12.00 Lunch Break

Thursday, September 24

Meeting for Health Professionals in Rheumatology - Afternoon
Organised by the Belgian Health Professionals in Rheumatology (BHPR) vzw/asbl

13.00 General Assembly Belgian Health Professionals in Rheumatology vzw/asbl:
Current projects and future perspectives (welcome to all)

14.00 Time to ACT (workshop): Valued living with acceptance and commitment therapy
Annick Seys, Social Worker; ACT-Trainer and ACT & FAP Therapist; Owner of the ACT Academy

15.30 Coffee Break

16.00 What's hot in Rheumatology? Part II: Clinical
Flavours of Belgian Health Professional's research and clinical care
Shared care consultations between nurses and rheumatologists in the follow-up of rheumatoid arthritis and spondyloarthritis outpatients with low disease activity: Clinical experiences from a monocentric, randomised controlled trial
Karlien Claes, Rheumatology Nurse; Rheumatology, Ghent University Hospital; Member of the Working Group Rheumatology Nurses NVKVV; Member of the BHPR vzw/asbl

16.30 Closing discussion and future congress, where do we go from here?
Thijs Swinnen

*Free of charge: Includes registration, coffee breaks, lunch and hand-outs. Pre-registration, however, is mandatory.
Registration

**Registration Fees**

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<td>Until August 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Members KBVR-SRBR</td>
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Worksheets**            Free     Free

Health Professionals Meeting*** Free     Free

* Registration as a trainee or researcher non-MD will only be accepted if accompanied by a copy of your student card or a certificate of your director (proof to be uploaded during the registration process). Without proof the non-member fee will be charged.

** Participation in the workshops is free of charge and is limited to 30 participants.

*** Register via: thijs.swinnen@uzleuven.be

The registration fee for participants includes:
- Participation in all scientific sessions
- Participation in the quiz and hands-on workshops (separate registration required, limited to 30 participants)
- Participation in the ‘Updates in Therapeutics’ organised by the Industry
- Congress bag with the Programme and Abstracts, tourist info and congress related documents
- Access to the exhibition
- Lunches and coffee breaks

How to register
You can register online through the congress website [www.rheumacongress.be](http://www.rheumacongress.be). Click on ‘Registration’ for details and access to the online registration form. When your registration is completed successfully, you will receive an automatic confirmation. You can also print an invoice when you finalise your online registration.

Changes/Name Substitutions
You will receive a personal link in your final confirmation email. With this link it will be possible to make changes or transfer your registration to a colleague free of charge.

Cancellations
Participants canceling their registration before September 1, 2015, will receive a full refund, less € 50,00 administration costs. There will be no refunds for cancellations received after this date. Cancellations must be confirmed in writing to the Organising Secretariat. All refunds will be processed after the Congress.

Hotel Accommodation

A number of hotel rooms have been booked at special group rates, including breakfast and VAT. You can reserve your hotel room through the online registration form.

The below rates are only valid for reservations made through Medicongress.

Any requests for hotel accommodation must be accompanied by a credit card number, in order to secure the room. This credit card will not be charged by the organisers but only serves as a reservation guarantee.

Participants will have to pay their hotel room and personal expenses at the reception of the hotel. In case of late cancellation or no show, the room will be charged on the credit card.

There will be bus transport between these hotels and C-mine during the Congress.

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<td>Parking:</td>
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General Information

Venue
C-mine
C-mine 10 bus 2, 3600 Genk
GPS address: Evence Coppéelaan 91, 3600 Genk
www.c-mine.be

How to get there and Car Park
C-mine is located near the E314. Take exit 31 ‘Genk Centrum’ and turn left (direction Genk). At the first traffic lights, turn right. Immediately after the first roundabout, you will see C-mine on your left-hand side.
If you turn left on the first roundabout, you can access underground car park 1.
If you turn left on the second roundabout, you can access car parks 2 and 3.

Public Transport
Take bus lines G3 or G8 at the train station in Genk. They have a stop at C-mine.

Poster Presentations
The poster dimensions are:
• max width: 90 cm
• max height: 120-150 cm (= PORTRAIT position).
Installation:
• Wednesday, September 23 between 12.00 and 20.00 hrs or
• Thursday, September 24 between 08.00 and 10.30 hrs
Removal:
• Friday, September 25 between 12.30 and 14.00 hrs
Tape and scissors will be available on-site.

Accreditation
A request for accreditation has been submitted to the RIZIV / INAMI.

Exhibition
A medical exhibition will be held on the occasion of the Congress. Access is free for registered participants. The exhibition is not accessible for non-MDs.

WiFi
C-mine offers free WiFi via the hotspot of the city of Genk.

Liability
Neither the organisers nor Medicongress accept liability for damages and/or losses of any kind which may be incurred by Congress participants during the Congress. Participants are advised to take out insurance against loss, accidents or damage which could be incurred during the Congress.