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EAACI: A World Hub for Research, Innovation and Education

The world is evolving rapidly, and after the COVID-19 pandemic, the transition has become even faster. Facing a changing world, EAACI needs to keep a smart development strategy. New scenarios will have a major impact on the traditional ways of performing research, education and communication, as well as on clinical care pathways: EAACI has to adapt quickly to overcome these challenges by developing the capability of thinking outside the box, balancing flexibility with our traditional structured approach. This is fundamental for adapting and integrating allergy, asthma and clinical immunology care into real-world challenges. With the EAACI Research and Outreach Committee and the Knowledge Hub, we anticipated the coming changes and the need for fast and efficient networking aimed at quickly making results available for clinicians and researchers. Integration of omics technology and artificial intelligence analysis techniques to decipher mechanisms of diseases and develop novel diagnostics, as well as prognostic and therapeutic tools including optimal clinical decision support systems at the point of care, will be fundamental as we move forward. EAACI has to promote top clinical, translational and basic research and stay ahead of the field. The focus on real-world evidence and disease registries will provide reliable data to be turned into answers, strategies and information for the general population, and this will be reflected in the EAACI Real Life (EARL) presidential program. We will continue to reinforce our investments in mobile health, science implementation, and environmental health, with both eyes on the "One Health" approach. Patient participation in health policies and disease management should be steadily implemented. Furthermore, strong health economics data and integrated projects will allow us to better understand how different lifestyle patterns can impact on health outcomes, and our HEAD Registry (the Pan-European Health Economics registry for Allergic Diseases) is a perfect example of this approach. EAACI has always valued its close and strategic partnerships and alliances with other scientific societies, its partner national societies and patient organisations, citizens' groups, regulatory bodies, policy makers and industry. Effective agreements with all stakeholders (such as the EAACI-NAS dual membership) allow us a wider vision and an ability to have an important impact in different arenas. Furthermore, strategic multidisciplinary partnerships allow us to access EU or international support for research, quality clinical care and educational projects with greater firepower. In October this year we will be holding the EAACI Forum, involving a variety of stakeholders, and we will also be engaging through other more traditional forums such as PRACTALL, ICON and iCALL, Joint Task Forces, Research Seminars, scientific, educational and lobbying events. We will keep on networking at EU and National levels, involving the European Parliament Interest Group on Allergy and Asthma; our participation in the HCPWP of the European Medicines Agency, BioMed Alliance, European Chronic Disease Alliance and European Federation of Allergy and Airways Diseases Patients' Associations (EFA) allows us to take action stronger and together with our peer Societies. Living during challenging times puts EAACI resources under a huge strain. Keeping all our resources in good standing is a must. Keeping on bringing forward a sound financial plan with constant evaluation of investments and readjustment according to measured value will support the EAACI financial responsibility and transparency, with an eye to the long-term financial perspective.

Finally, yet importantly, our commitment for Allergy and clinical immunology specialty as a career choice is another essential focus for our Academy, involving the recruitment of young doctors and students (the "Allergy College initiative"), and the creation of "early career researchers". Promoting a lifelong passion for Allergy & Clinical Immunology will pave the way to a bright future for our research and for our patients.



Stefano Del Giacco
EAACI President

Stefano Del Giacco,
EAACI President

UNTANGLING
systemic mastocytosis

Many Faces of Systemic Mastocytosis:

Indolent is not Insignificant

Friday 9th June

12:00 – 13:00 (CEST)

Hall F, EAACI 2023 Hybrid Congress

Faculty: Frank Siebenhaar,
Karin Hartmann, Vito Sabato

Join us at this **Blueprint
Medicines-sponsored symposium**
and visit the **Blueprint Medicines
booth** (E70) to learn more about
indolent systemic mastocytosis



Messages from the EAACI board



Keeping EAACI members engaged

EAACI, as a member-oriented society, considers meeting the professional and scientific needs of its membership as one of our main organisational goals. Thanks to the ongoing input and hard work of the whole EAACI family, our Academy's membership has recently reached the astonishing figure of 14,000. This organisational growth is both a great success and a big challenge, as we now need to maintain and strengthen the sense of belonging of our members. Only through this achievement will we be able to increase the global visibility of our Academy, and emphasise its identity. To address these aspects, we launched the myEAACI project in 2021, and I have the great honour of serving as the coordinator of this initiative. In the context of the myEAACI project, we conduct annual surveys to analyse the communication needs of EAACI members, as well as to assess country-specific issues within the allergy discipline, and the overall satisfaction of our members with the Academy. Through this input, we have learnt about the preferred communication channels and the content deemed essential by our members, including key information that should be prioritised on the website, or addressed by mass e-mails, social media and other communication channels.

Moreover, thanks to the feedback obtained through the surveys, several programmes have been initiated within the myEAACI project. One of these addresses dual memberships with national allergy societies. This programme offers a reduced membership fee for those professionals who are already members of one of the national societies affiliated to the EAACI National Allergy Societies committee. Of note, those members engaged under this programme will also keep all the benefits associated with conventional EAACI membership. We are currently working on the promotion and dissemination of this interesting programme, in close collaboration with the national societies. Indeed, we organised a meeting with national societies in Munich in March 2023, in order to address their needs, harmonise the training curricula in allergology throughout Europe, and boost lobbying and advocacy activities at the European level.

EAACI is also sensitive to the issues of our times, and we are offering free membership for 2023 to all Ukrainian colleagues working in Ukraine or working outside Ukraine and holding refugee status.

Another initiative developed in the context of the myEAACI project is the establishment of silver (>10 years), gold (>20 years) and platinum (>30 years) membership categories, as a way to reward loyalty and empower our committed, long-standing members. EAACI also wants to recognise excellence in contributions to research, education and leadership in the fields of allergy and clinical immunology amongst our membership. To this end, we have created the EAACI Fellow category, through which outstanding scientists and clinicians will be justly recognised during the opening ceremony at the annual congress.

We hope that these initiatives, and their successful dissemination and promotion, will contribute to addressing the ongoing needs of EAACI members: "Communication to engage" is very much our motto.



Maria Torres
EAACI Secretary General

Maria Torres,
EAACI Secretary General



A successful start for the EAACI Knowledge Hub: a wide range of opportunities to learn, share knowledge and advance our field



Oscar Palomares
*Editor-in-Chief
of EAACI
Knowledge Hub;
EAACI Executive
Committee,
Member at Large*

The EAACI Knowledge Hub was launched in July 2022 during the EAACI Hybrid Congress in Prague, with the aim of providing clinicians, researchers, healthcare professionals, patients and all stakeholders in the field with a centralised resource for up-to-date and evidence-based information on allergy, asthma and clinical immunology. As we approach one-year since the launch, it is worth taking a look at the updates and developments that have taken place on the platform.

As the Editor-in-Chief of the EAACI Knowledge Hub and on behalf of the editorial team, I am proud to announce that in less than one year this educational platform has been consolidated as the reference hub for learning, sharing research, and advancing our field by providing access to a wide range of resources, including CME-accredited educational courses, interactive Q&A sessions, webinars, guidelines, position papers, scientific articles, and much more.

The EAACI Knowledge Hub is an educational platform that serves a dual purpose: first, it is a place for researchers and healthcare professionals

to create educational content and have access to the most resonant and evidence-based knowledge in the field; and, second, it is a platform that connects our community, including all stakeholders, to promote collaborations with a transformative impact aimed at raising public awareness of allergic diseases and improving the quality of life of our patients.

The EAACI Knowledge Hub has become an essential tool for clinicians, researchers, healthcare professionals, patients, industry partners and all stakeholders who need to stay up to date with the latest cutting-edge developments in the fields of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology. In addition, it has become a great ally for our EAACI family and community of outstanding professionals, giving added visibility to their work.

Over the last year, the EAACI Knowledge Hub has created and launched more than 30 new online educational modules, interactive Q&A sessions, webinars, and many other resources covering highly relevant topics in the field, such as allergen-specific immunotherapy, type 2 diseases, drug allergies, food allergies, anaphylaxis, allergeo-oncology, one

In the Spotlight



health, and asthma, amongst others. A plethora of selected relevant talks from our EAACI annual congresses, master classes, summer and winter schools, industry-sponsored content, as well as guidelines and position papers can also be found in a curated and organised manner, using our search tools.

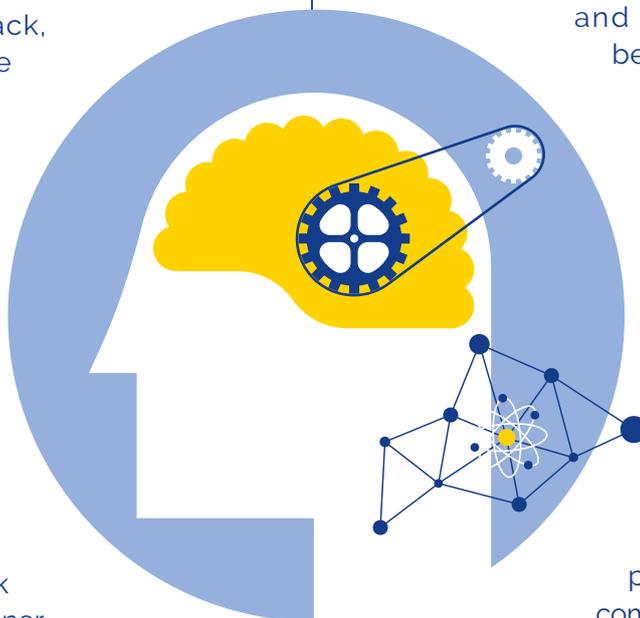
The educational content on the EAACI Knowledge Hub has been accessed by an amazingly large number of viewers and received positive feedback, which has only been possible due to the outstanding panel of speakers and key opinion leaders with world-wide recognised expertise within the covered topics. We are very happy to witness the rapid expansion in the number of collaborations on the EAACI Knowledge Hub, which allows our Sections, Interest Groups, Task Forces and Working Groups to work together in a synergistic manner with our committees, journals, congresses, and all other EAACI resources.

The EAACI knowledge Hub is a platform for the entire EAACI family and for other collaborators all over the globe to contribute with educational activities and to give visibility to their more innovative projects.

Our immediate plans include to continue to extend our current repertory of educational courses and webinars and to consolidate the EAACI Knowledge Hub as the world-reference online educational platform in the fields of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology. We are currently developing new CME-accredited educational courses on the most novel and impactful topics for our community, including artificial intelligence in allergy, angioedema and beyond, effective transition of adolescents and young adults with allergy and asthma, as well as extensions

and updates on our most successful educational courses in allergen-specific immunotherapy, drug allergy, and type 2 diseases. All these educational courses and webinars will be progressively launched and available on the EAACI Knowledge Hub within the next months. As the field of allergy and clinical immunology continues to evolve, we remain committed to being at the forefront of research and knowledge sharing, and to providing a platform for healthcare professionals and researchers with the best practices and tools to facilitate standardised, high-quality care in allergy and asthma. We also intend to contribute to helping and supporting patients to understand their illness and guide them in finding the best way to handle their disease. To that end, we involve all relevant stakeholders including health care policymakers, regulators, competent authorities, industry, and charities to achieve the common goal of the harmonisation of efforts to improve the lives of our patients

The EAACI Knowledge Hub editorial team are proud and grateful for what we have been able to achieve, which has only been possible due to the great contributions of our EAACI family, speakers, industry partners and all stakeholders. We are honoured to have been involved in the conception and implementation of this project, which is now a reality. Alongside all the EAACI family, collaborators, speakers, and professionals who have made the EAACI Knowledge Hub possible, we look forward to continuing to work hard to making the latest knowledge and best practices available to our users. Come and visit to explore for yourself all the possibilities now being offered by the EAACI Knowledge Hub!





Drug Allergy Modules Successful Live Q&A sessions

Drug hypersensitivity reactions represent a relevant health problem across the world and all healthcare professionals can come across patients with these reactions. Nearly 10-20 percent of inpatients, and up to percent of outpatients are considered having drug hypersensitivity reactions. Therefore, drug allergy workup is extremely important since we know that among those who are suspected to have a drug hypersensitivity reaction, less than 40 percent can receive a confirmed diagnosis. During these reactions, diverse clinical conditions which resemble other clinical conditions like viral infection manifestations can occur. Furthermore, precise management can only be achieved by establishment of true diagnosis. Besides, some drug manifestations are life-threatening and can be prevented by early diagnosis and management. In clinical practice, each patient with a drug hypersensitivity reaction deserves an individualized approach and we have to improve our clinical skills by implementing the knowledge we learn from the guidelines into the clinical experience we grow in time.

On July 2 2022, a series of drug allergy modules at the new EAACI e-learning platform, EAACI Knowledge Hub, was launched. This educational tool has provided basic and advanced knowledge on diagnosis and management of common and difficult drug hypersensitivity reactions aiming to provide basic and recent advancements, to harmonize the clinical approach among healthcare professionals, and to facilitate standardized high-quality care in drug allergy. By attending the modules, students, allergy trainees, allergists, all HCPs with the chance to come across drug allergy, and also academicians have had the benefit of updating their knowledge in drug allergy.

This educational tool is consisted of three modules, including 9 lectures given by well-known experts in drug allergy. The first module focuses on the major diagnostic tools in drug allergy, namely skin tests in immediate and non-immediate drug hypersensitivity reactions, drug provocation test, the gold standard diagnostic method



Asli (Gelincik) Akkor
EAACI Knowledge
Hub Deputy Editor



Maria Torres
EAACI Secretary General



Adolescents and young adults: coming up soon

Adolescence is a challenging time for patients, their parents and their healthcare professionals (HCP). Although Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) patients are generally not seen as a vulnerable or 'in need' group, they have an unexpectedly high risk of morbidity and mortality. This includes a surprisingly high rate of asthma death and fatal anaphylaxis, which peaks in AYA. Adolescence is a critical stage of life characterized by rapid biological, emotional and social development. In adolescence, skills for a productive, healthy and satisfying life are developed. As part of this period of growth and development, the status of primary relationships and level of autonomy also shifts. The need to take on responsibility for behaviours and learn to cope with everyday events and challenges falls increasingly on the adolescent. Together with these usual developmental tasks and challenges, adolescents with an allergic disease face additional challenges that may render them more vulnerable to adverse outcomes. This may include psychological issues and difficulties around adherence and self-management, such as risk-taking behaviours. Issues such as exposure to smoking, alcohol, other recreational drugs or food allergens in social contexts are common, as AYA explore their boundaries and are influenced by peer pressure as parents 'let go'. These issues may impact on their asthma control or risk of accidental exposures to foods. Support is therefore vital for this age group. However, a European survey in 2019 found that most HCP have not received training in how to support adolescents and young adults (AYA) with allergic conditions and do not have an established paediatric to adult healthcare transition process. Ensuring that every adolescent has the knowledge and skills to self-manage their allergy with confidence is essential for achieving good mental and physical health and development goals and lower risk of adverse outcomes.

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) transition guideline was developed in 2020 by a multi-stakeholder Task Force from across Europe using evidence-based principles and published to support HCP in effectively managing AYA. Its recommendations have been favourably reviewed



Marta Vazquez-Ortiz



Graham Roberts
*on behalf of the
EAACI Task Force on
adolescent and Young
adults with allergies
and Asthma*

In the Spotlight



by AYA and parents from across Europe. The Task Force then published a 'Toolbox' position paper in 2022 addressed at HCP, AYA, families and the wider community. The aim of this was to facilitate the implementation of the guideline recommendations, and ultimately help support AYA develop the knowledge and skills required to effectively self-manage their health independently.

Finally, the taskforce has conducted several educational initiatives for HCP aiming to improve their skills, knowledge and attitude to implement effective transition for AYA in their clinical practice. This includes delivering an EAACI Masterclass in Geneva in 2022, and a mini-masterclass at the EAACI meeting in Hamburg on Sunday the 11th June. To facilitate access and flexible learning opportunities for more colleagues, the Task Force has now developed an engaging interactive eLearning resource for the EAACI Knowledge Hub. This will include two modules covering the challenges faced by AYA with allergies and asthma, how we can work with them for better self-management as well as the practical organisation of transition in clinical practice. The modules will include mini-lectures covering key aspects and advice, real-life challenging scenarios from clinic, testimonies from patients and families in a story-telling format, as well as interactive tasks, questions, and reflection time to promote active learning and help you put your new skills into practice.

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Allergen immunotherapy (AIT) modules on the Knowledge Hub



Magdalena
Zemelka-Wiacek
EAACI Knowledge
Hub Deputy Editor

A comprehensive educational course on allergen immunotherapy (AIT) was launched on the EAACI Knowledge Hub in June 2022, featuring three lectures by renowned experts in the field. An unrestricted grant from Stallergenes Greer supported this module. Since its launch, the AIT course has become a highly sought-after educational resource, amassing over 10,000 views and solidifying its status as the most successful course on the platform. This educational resource focuses on imparting a fundamental and advanced understanding of the tolerance induction facilitated by AIT and the adept management of allergy-afflicted patients to obtain optimal clinical outcomes.

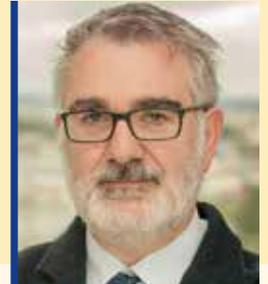
The first module (already launched) highlights the significance of fitted solutions using credible diagnostic instruments, merging component-resolved diagnosis with mobile health technology. It also discusses the efficacy of AIT, utilising predictive biomarkers for patient stratification in harmony with a personalised approach, as well as the immunological mechanisms underlying both sublingual and subcutaneous immunotherapy. We are pleased to announce that our upcoming second module will be dedicated to the latest advances in clinical trial methodology AIT. It will also touch on the topic of real-world studies that might involve populations that are not well represented in randomised controlled trial (RCTs). During this module, we will delve into essential topics such as clinical and laboratory study endpoints, biomarkers and clusters, and the differences between pre-seasonal and perennial AIT. Recognising the importance of pharmaco-economics in the context of AIT, this module will also delve into the financial implications of allergy treatments, providing an essential perspective for informed decision-making in clinical practice. As the AIT modules continue to evolve, it promises to deliver even more valuable insights, delving into cutting-edge topics such as novel patient enrollment strategies, a combination of AIT and biologicals for long-term effect and sustainability, novel preparations and adjuvants used in AIT. Since immunotherapy shows promising results in the treatment of food allergies, we also hope to discuss the best strategies for enrollment strategies that ensure the safety and effectiveness of treatment.

Discover the latest news about AIT in our upcoming module, led by renowned authorities in the field. Dive into cutting-edge research, novel treatment approaches, and the latest advancements in personalised medicine. Join us for this exciting opportunity to expand your knowledge, and contribute to the evolution of allergy care! There will also be live Q&A sessions. The date will be announced by email, and the session will be held online. Participate and debate!

In the Spotlight



EAACI Knowledge Hub in the spotlight: EoE Webinar



Constantinos Pitsios
EAACI EoE Working
Group Chair

Aiming to offer a short educational course on Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE), addressed to both patients and physicians, EAACI's EoE Working Group has created a Webinar, composed of four videos, that can be found on the Knowledge Hub.

EoE is an immune-mediated chronic disease, characterised by marked eosinophil-predominant inflammatory infiltration of the esophagus. EoE was only defined as a distinct clinicopathological syndrome in the early 1990s. It is currently the second most common cause of chronic esophagitis, after GERD, with a rapidly increasing incidence noticed during the last decades.

EoE is often triggered by allergens, mainly food allergens but also airborne ones. It is a disease with characteristics of a Th2-immune disorder and most patients have anamnesis of concomitant atopic diseases. However, its pathophysiology is not the same as those of IgE-mediated allergies. It is a cell-mediated disorder, deriving from a complex interplay between environmental, genetic and epigenetic factors.

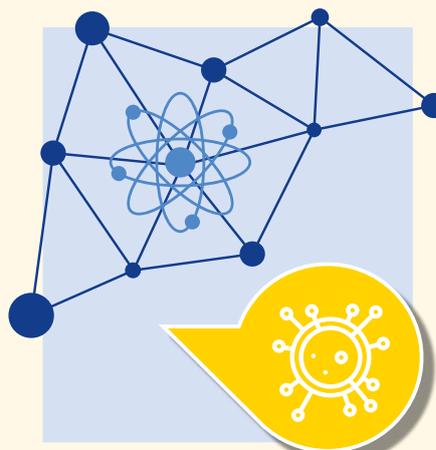
Three different endotypes of EoE have been suggested, defined according to the age-group at the onset of the disease (pediatric or adult), the atopic status (present or absent), the endoscopic phenotype (appearing normal, inflammatory or fibrostenotic) and response to topical steroids (sensitive or refractory). These endotypes often present overlapping clinical features. Most cases of EoE are diagnosed in children or in the third decade of life, with a variety of symptoms, different in each age group. In toddlers, feeding disorders and failure to thrive are the prominent clinical symptoms, while

in schoolchildren GERD-like symptoms are usually noticed. Food impaction and dysphagia are often noticed

in adolescents and adults with EoE. A fibrostenotic phenotype with esophageal strictures is observed in late-onset cases of EoE. Diagnosis of EoE is clinicopathological and, in most cases, characteristic features are revealed during esophageal endoscopy. A cutoff of at least 15 eosinophils/high-power field (hpf), revealed in the biopsies, sets the definitive diagnosis. The "3D" EoE treatment mnemonic stands for drugs, diet and dilation. Pharmaceutical therapy usually starts with monotherapy, using PPIs or local corticosteroids. An elimination diet is a treatment approach that can be used as a monotherapy or in combination with drug therapy. Various dietary

approaches are available, from an elemental formula diet, with the complete avoidance of food allergens, to an allergy-test-based one. An elemental formula seems to be the most efficacious diet approach but is difficult to be adopted in age groups other than toddlers and may cause nutritional problems. The adaptation of an empirical elimination diet, with the avoidance of certain food categories, seems to be the most practical one.

A multidisciplinary approach is mandatory to set the proper diagnosis and suggest tailor-made treatment decisions. Given that it is a chronic disorder, with an impact on patients' everyday lives and psychological status, health professionals should take patients' needs and opinions into consideration, in order to achieve patients' adherence to the treatment and to achieve a high quality of life.





Skin allergy meeting: SAM Digital 2023

SAM DIGITAL 2023, the online EAACI-ESCD Skin Allergy Meeting, was held on 24–25 March and was a unique event providing the latest updates in skin allergy and related disorders. This was the seventh time that this biannual congress has been held. It was organised jointly by EAACI and the European Society of Contact Dermatitis (ESCD) and is the leading European Meeting devoted to skin allergy.

The meeting was chaired by Jose Luis Garcia-Abujeta (EAACI Dermatology Section, Chair), Jeanne Duus Johansen (ESCD President) and overseen by Mohamed Shamji (EAACI Vice President, Congresses).

In total, 347 participants from 59 countries joined from all over the world. The program was executed by 38 faculty members, leading experts in their field, and topics were covered in 8 thematic sessions: atopic dermatitis, allergic contact dermatitis, urticaria, cutaneous drug allergy, food and the skin, angioedema, hot topics, and pediatric contact dermatitis.

In these thematic sessions, talks were given on new guidelines, such as on the EAACI Guidelines on biologicals for treatment of children and adults with moderate to severe atopic dermatitis (presented by Peter Schmid-Grendelmeier, Switzerland), Updates on ESCD's European baseline series of contact allergens (presented by Mark Wilkinson, UK) and on the EAACI/GA2LEN/EDF/WAO Urticaria guideline (presented by Marcus Maurer, Germany).

Reviews of disease entities were presented, such as the talk given on 'The many faces of Atopic Dermatitis' (Emma Gutmann, USA), who explained the hypotheses of disease initiation, clinical types, biomarkers and, and taught us that tape strips is a valid method to sample skin cells. Markus Ollert (Luxembourg) taught us to diagnose those patients suffering from atopic dermatitis. In the Contact Dermatitis session, new allergens in relation to cosmetics (Olivier Aerts, Belgium) and occupational environments (Wolfgang Uter, Germany) were also discussed.



Jose Luis Garcia-Abujeta



Jeanne Duus Johansen
EAACI-ESCD SAM
Digital 2023 Chairs

EAACI Events



Clive Grattam (UK) talked about when to consider the diagnosis of urticaria, whilst Pavel Kolkir (Germany) talked about the possible biomarkers to use for it.

In the Cutaneous Drug Allergy session, the focus was on how to diagnose non-immediate (Margari-da Gonçalo, Portugal) and immediate (Annick Barbaud, France) drug reactions, and Knut Brockow (Germany) gave an update on cutaneous reactions to vaccines.

In the Food and Skin session, Peter Schmid-Grendelmeier (Switzerland) updated us on the relationship between atopic dermatitis and food allergy. Jose Luis García-Abujeta (Spain) presented the innovations that the European "new cuisine" has brought about, in terms of new additives, food techniques and new foods from other countries in relation to occupational allergies in restaurant workers and their customers. Ana Giménez Arnau (Spain) spoke to us about immediate skin reactions (contact urticaria, protein contact dermatitis) in relation to exposure to food.

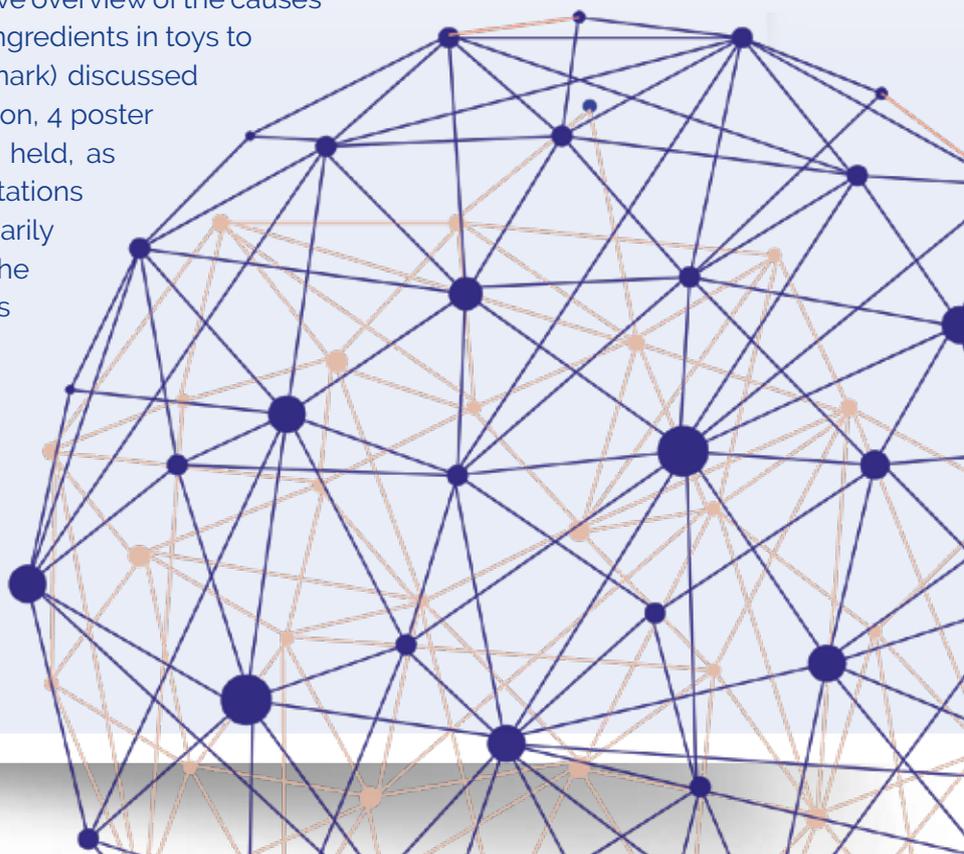
The session on Angioedema discussed the challenges in the classification of this pathology (Emek Kocatürk, Turkey), new treatments for hereditary angioedema due to C1 inhibitor deficiency (Anna Valeriewa, Bulgaria) and the evolution of the objectives for its treatment (María Teresa Caballero, Spain).

In the Hot Topic session, amongst other things, we heard about allergy to tattoos in an overview given by Thomas Rustemeyer (The Netherlands) who presented data on the different types of cutaneous reactions to permanent tattoos and difficulties in using conventional patch tests to identify contact allergy to ingredients of the ink. Also in this session, new treatment options for chronic pruritus (Martin Metz, Germany) and mastocytosis (Sigurd Broesby-Olsen, Denmark) were discussed.

"Meet the Experts: How to handle difficult cases" was a very popular session, and took place in the morning of the second day. There was a limited participation to promote discussions on cases presented by both experts and participants.

The final session concerned Pediatric Contact Dermatitis, and An Goossens (Belgium) gave an extensive overview of the causes of contact allergy in children, from ingredients in toys to medical devices. Tove Agner (Denmark) discussed hand dermatitis in children. In addition, 4 poster sessions covering 35 posters were held, as well as 2 sessions with oral presentations of the latest research news, primarily presented by young researchers. The best posters and oral presentations were rewarded with a prize. The meeting was successfully orchestrated by the many chairpersons and the technical team from EAACI.

The next SAM will be held in 2 years time, when we hope to see you.





EAACI Master Class on Exposures in a changing environment

The EAACI Master Class on Exposures in a changing environment – working together to prevent airways disease, was held in the lively city of Madrid, Spain at the SAN PABLO CEU University, on 5–6 May, 2023. In this unique opportunity, EAACI gathered experts in the field, including scientists and healthcare professionals to deliberate further on this subject. This Master Class provided novel insights into the health hazards of different air components from indoors, outdoors and from workplaces, with special focus on allergy and asthma. The growing evidence of environmental risk factors for airways disease highlights the importance of prevention strategies for improving patient management and broader public health. The Master Class focused on relevant compounds of chemical pollution and particulates (e.g. traffic pollution, diesel exhaust, NOx, volatile organic compounds, occupational exposures, and indoor exposures), bioaerosols (pollen, fungal spores, microbes) and their immune activating potential, as well as effects on allergies due to global environmental changes. The goal was to address this complex and increasingly dire multi-exposure problem by promoting collaboration among different scientific disciplines – between the basic scientist and the clinician, to effectively address patient health and well-being as well as the broader environmental disease burden at a population level due to poor air quality.

The major learning objectives of the Master Class were:

- To develop an improved understanding of the relationship between environmental exposures and airway disease in the context of climate change in different settings (outdoor, indoor, occupational)
- To develop deeper insights into exposure assessment and exposure characterizing techniques for chemical pollutants, particulates and bioaerosols
- To develop an improved understanding of the epidemiology and risk factors for airways disease in different exposure settings
- To develop deeper insights into measuring adverse respiratory health outcomes and their clinical relevance
- To develop an improved understanding of preventive approaches to airways disease in the context of climate change



Mohamed Jeebhay



Carmen Galan
*On behalf of the Organising
Committee*

EAACI Events



In this Master Class, experts in the fields of environmental and occupational allergy and asthma covered the following topics through lectures, interactive workshops, case presentations and group quizzes:

- Global environmental changes, environmental variability and environment–environment interactions
- Exposure assessment approaches for outdoor air pollutants
- Exposure assessment approaches for aeroallergen (pollen, mold, microbes) monitoring
- Pathophysiological mechanisms and interaction of pollutants and bioaerosols with the human immune system
- Epidemiology of airway effects associated with chemical pollutants and bioaerosols
- Indoor, outdoor and occupational risk factors for airways disease
- Monitoring for airways disease – clinical and epidemiological aspects
- Prevention of airways disease

By stimulating inter-professional and transnational exchanges of experience and expertise, both on exposure and clinical problems, this Master Class contributed towards expanding scientific knowledge and increased awareness of environmental exposures from multiple sources (anthropogenic and natural sources) and their concomitant influences on respiratory health encountered in everyday clinical practice and scientific research. Participants acquired the latest knowledge in the field and obtained cutting-edge training of the most updated techniques used in various aspects of scientific research and clinical practice. This exchange ultimately enabled participants to develop innovative solutions in exposure assessment and epidemiological research as well as diagnosis and prevention of airways disease, particularly in the context of ongoing climate change.

This Master Class is intended primarily for clinicians, allergologists, pneumologists, epidemiologists, occupational and environmental scientists, with some experience in treating and conducting research on airways disease. Further information and the detailed programme is accessible at: https://eaaci.org/events_masterclasses/master-class-2023-madrid-spain/

We look forward to welcoming you to our Master Class 2023!





EAACI Allergy School in Taormina: Advancing Patient Care for Food Allergy

The EAACI Food Allergy School 2023, which was held from March 23rd to 25th in Taormina, was a great success, and we are proud to have hosted such a brilliant event. The Allergy School was focused on food allergy, and during the sessions we witnessed a great level of engagement from our community of health care professionals and researchers. The Food Allergy School in Taormina was a fantastic opportunity for clinicians, other healthcare professionals and scientists to come together and discuss of the latest scientific advances and the best practice in food allergy.

We counted with 23 Faculty members well gender balanced (61% female) from 8 different European countries (including UK, Italy, Spain, Austria, Switzerland, Ireland, Netherlands and France) and 88 participants from 26 different countries around the world as far as Sri Lanka, with Portugal, Romania, Belgium, Spain, Italy and the United Kingdom with the largest number of attendees. We would like to express our gratitude to all the speakers, chairs, and participants for their interest and overwhelmingly positive feedback. The hard work and commitment of everyone involved in the organisation and delivery of the Food Allergy School were truly appreciated! The event was a remarkable experience in a beautiful setting, and we hope that it has helped to advance knowledge of food allergy and ultimately to impact on the improvement of patient care. Food allergy is a growing health concern, with an increase in prevalence, persistence, and severity over time. The impact of food allergy on patients' lives is not limited to dietary restrictions but also includes social restriction and psycho-social consequences for both patients and their families. Therefore, a precise diagnosis, as well as a patient-tailored management of food allergy, is crucial. Healthcare professionals and researchers working in the field of food allergy need to be aware of new food allergens, potential cross-reactivity, novel diagnostic tests, and innovative approaches to the treatment and prevention of food allergy. The Food Allergy School in Taormina covered various aspects of food allergy, from epidemiology to the practical management of food allergy. The educational aims of the event were to provide attendees with the latest advances on the epidemiology and psychological and socio-economic burden of food allergy, patterns of sensitization and cross-reactivity



Alexandra Santos
Allergy School in
Taormina Organising
Chair



Alberto Alvarez-Perea
Allergy School in
Taormina Organising
Chair

EAACI Events



to different food allergens, natural history, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and practical management of food allergies. We believe that this edition of the Food Allergy School has helped attendees gain a better understanding of food allergy and its diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. After this meeting, attendees are now aware of all the cutting-edge information on food allergy diagnosis and prevention. They have also updated their knowledge about state-of-the-art clinical care and evidence to support emerging tests and treatments for food allergy. Attendees had the opportunity to have practical hands-on experience on skin prick testing, oral food challenges and other diagnostic modalities, that they can bring to their day-to-day clinical practice. They also had the opportunity to discuss their own research and/or clinical cases with their peers and the expert faculty. Oral abstract and poster prizes were awarded to the best presentations. The Food Allergy School also provided a platform for networking and informal interactions with faculty and other attendees. This allowed participants to ask questions and to understand different perspectives and to share experiences from different parts of Europe and the world, contributing to more homogeneous and standardized care for food allergic patients around the globe. The Food Allergy School was aimed at healthcare professionals interested in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of food allergy, and researchers and scientists interested in immunonutrition were also welcome. The participation of junior members was especially encouraged and travel grants were awarded to participants who submitted high quality abstracts.

We would like to extend our gratitude to all the participants, speakers, chairs, sponsors and the EAACI Headquarters team who made the Food Allergy School in Taormina a success. We hope that everyone involved has gained a better understanding of food allergy and its diagnosis, treatment, and prevention, and has enjoyed the networking and the visit to Taormina, as much as we have. Together, we can continue to improve patient care and further our understanding of food allergy!





What to expect from EAACI 2023? Innovative knowledge, connecting with passionate professionals and a promising Scientific Programme

The European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI) Hybrid Congress 2023 is a highly anticipated event for researchers, clinicians, and industry experts in the field of allergy and clinical immunology. Our Annual Congress will take place from 9-11 June 2023 in Hamburg, Germany, and aims to explore innovative knowledge to contribute to the continuous development of our specialties. The motto for this year's congress, "Pathways from precision medicine to personalised health care in allergy and asthma," reflects the exciting and innovative approach that will be highlighted during the event. As leading experts in the field, we are proud to host the largest and most significant gathering of researchers, clinicians, and industry experts from around the globe. In the fields of allergy and asthma, personalised medicine has the potential to transform patient diagnoses, management, and treatment. By combining relevant information with innovative technologies, we can gain an improved understanding of the mechanisms behind these diseases and develop more targeted and effective treatments. Our motto for the EAACI Congress 2023 reflects the growing importance of this approach. Our Scientific Programme has been carefully developed to ensure that attendees have access to the most relevant and timely topics, delivered by leading experts in the field. One of the main focuses of the scientific programme is personalized medicine in allergy and asthma, which is increasingly gaining attention in our scientific community. EAACI Hybrid Congress 2023 will feature presentations from leading experts in the field and will become a key space for us to address the priorities in our field and collectively find new ways to improve our patients' lives. In addition to a comprehensive scientific programme, the EAACI Congress 2023 will provide countless opportunities for networking, collaboration, and professional development. The event will bring together a vast community of experts, including clinicians, researchers, and industry professionals, from all over the world. This is a unique opportunity to engage with colleagues and peers who share your passion for advancing the field of allergy and clinical immunology. We are thrilled to welcome you to this event and involve you in numerous ways to make it a successful and enriching experience. Your participation is essential, and we are honoured to count on it. Together, we will explore the latest developments of biomarkers and immunotherapies, including allergen immunotherapy (AIT) and ways to enhance allergy diagnoses and treatment. Join us for this extraordinary event, where you will have the chance to share your research, collaborate with colleagues, and learn from the brightest minds in the field. We look forward to welcoming you to Hamburg and online for our most anticipated event!



Mohamed Shamji
EAACI VP Congresses



Mübeccel Akdis
SPC Chair



Andre Moreira
SPC Co-Chair



EAACI'S RESEARCH AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

latest news

EAACI's Research and Outreach Committee (ROC) was created following the ExCom decision at its strategic meeting in September 2019 as a key tool for allergy, asthma and clinical immunology research through the coordination and support of the research community. It serves as a platform for in-depth knowledge exchange between clinicians and basic and translational scientists working in the field of allergy and asthma, and also as an infrastructure monitoring the current trends, barriers and opportunities in allergy and asthma research, which are the basis for formulating EAACI's research agenda for 2022–2023. It was agreed that research on better means to prevent, cure or alleviate the suffering caused by allergic and immunological diseases – as illustrated by the major advantages in managing allergy and asthma with targeted immunotherapy with disease modification potential (AIT, biologicals and small molecules) – is a sound investment, reducing disability and health care costs, prolonging productive lives, and creating jobs. With allergic diseases and asthma as prototypes of environmentally-driven diseases, Planetary Health is another key feature of EAACI's research agenda. Both these directions need support from a multidisciplinary approach to patient care from pediatric care to adulthood, and in translational and applied clinical research (patient-oriented) and quality assessment, as key features such as precision medicine omics, big data and AI are also prioritised. With the digital health industry building a foundation for increasingly connected services – including pharmacy fulfillment and diagnostic capabilities – telemedicine is rewriting healthcare standards as new policies emerge, and thus it too has been prioritised. Last but not least, with the advent of disease registries and of other sources of high-quality real-world evidence, a new methodological approach is needed to ensure that high standards of quality are reached when real-world data are collected and analysed and provide a framework to implement them as supportive tools for randomised controlled trials when formulating guidelines for clinical practice.



Ioana Agache
EAACI ROC Chair

Several specific ROC projects are highlighted in this update report:

EAACI's Research Network aims to identify where allergy and asthma research is performed, how it is organised and by whom it is funded. This information is of great relevance to researchers, funding bodies and policy makers. It aims to establish a reliable, comprehensive and continuously up-to-date online database of allergy and asthma research throughout Europe which will be useful for researchers, scientific organisations and funding agencies. It should guide the future of allergy and asthma research in Europe, and encourage synergies and cooperation, reduce duplication of efforts and identify gaps and priorities that need attention from funding organisations. The database was launched in January 2023 and is available for researchers to join at <https://www.eaaciresearchnetwork.org/>.

New EAACI initiatives



EAACI's Health Economics Registry

(HEAD). Allergic diseases and asthma stand amongst the most common chronic diseases globally, incurring a substantial global health burden. However, their actual impact is difficult to estimate due to the lack of representativeness and incompleteness of relevant data. Delivering high quality allergy care throughout Europe requires documentation of management patterns together with a thorough evaluation of the impact of allergic diseases. The main purpose of the HEAD registry is to harmonise allergic diseases and asthma management in Europe, under the auspices of EAACI. The registry study started with a cross-sectional, retrospective evaluation with two concrete goals: (a) to describe patterns of care for allergic diseases and asthma across Europe; and (b) to evaluate the impact - in terms of use of resources (healthcare perspective), costs (societal perspective), and disability and personal costs (individual perspective). HEAD started collecting data in May 2022 and the first analysis is planned for May 2023. There are currently five countries and more than 40 centres recruiting patients. All interested allergy centres are welcome to join this effort! Please contact us at science@eaaci.org.

The T2 disease educational module

is the first CME accredited self-sustainable educational module included in the EAACI Knowledge Hub. It is an interactive e-learning/blended resource aiming to improve the diagnosis and management of T2 diseases as a long-term condition for children and adults. Module 1, the T2 complex endotype (7 separate submodules) was launched in May 2022 and is CME accredited. Module 2, diagnosis of T2 disease (asthma, AR, CRS, AD, food allergy) is currently under preparation and will be ready for use in May 2023.

Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning.

A survey was conducted to understand the background knowledge and the expectations of EAACI members in this area and a tailored educational module with several levels is currently under development with focus on basic AI models and AI application in asthma, recurrent pediatric wheeze and precision immunology.

Translational tools database and evaluation.

This project is focused on the continuous appraisal of the best tools for allergy and asthma translational research - bench to bedside and bedside to practice. There are several domains of the database, each lead by a separate Working Group: (a) bioassays, biochemical, cell-based, high-throughput screenings; (b) cell and animal models; (c) biorepositories, and best practices to collect, maintain and share biospecimens; (d) biomarkers; (e) research platforms integrating clinical and omics data; (f) data reuse and interoperability, tool sharing, and collaboration protocols; (g) protocols for high-dimensional data; (h) the engineering medical interface; and (i) optimal end-points for clinical trials. Each tool is evaluated for five criteria: (a) reproducibility, reliability, robustness; (b) biological relevance; (c) suitability for developing treatments and interventions; (d) suitability for testing the efficacy and effectiveness of already existing treatments and interventions; and (e) suitability for dissemination and implementation of research for system-wide change (e.g. non-invasive, point of care, cheap and reliable).

Methodology for guidelines for clinical practice.

In November 2021 EAACI became a full member of the Guidelines International Network (GIN). All EAACI Guidelines are currently indexed in the prestigious GIN international guideline library and registry of guidelines in development, powered by EBSCO, that contains guidelines from across the globe in many languages, both published and in development. The EAACI ROC organised a special session at the GIN International Conference on next generation guidelines – critical evaluation of RWE and implementation into GRADE methodology and further continued in March 2023 with the creation of a discussion platform in the format of a workshop attended by workshop peer allergy and respiratory societies (AAAAI/WAO/APAACI/SLAAI/ERS/ATS/ACCP), regulatory bodies (EMA/FDA/PEI/NICE), representatives from GIN and from GINA, GOLD and ARIA.

Stay tuned for more on ROC activities in the upcoming issue of the EAACI Review!



Endoscopic Scoring of Nasal Polyposis

Chronic rhinosinusitis with nasal polyps (CRSwNP) is an inflammatory disease of the nasal and paranasal sinus mucosa, affecting 4% of the general population. Nasal endoscopy confirms the presence of nasal polyps in this disease, often associated with a high degree of type 2 inflammation. Novel biotherapeutics are currently becoming available for this type of CRSwNP.

To monitor treatment efficacy, the easiest and safest way to assess nasal polyp burden is by endoscopic examination. Endoscopic scoring of nasal polyps enables clinicians to follow up on disease severity and to document the effect of an intervention in daily practice as well as in a research context. However, the use of different nasal polyp scoring systems since the early 1990s complicates comparison of clinical trial results.

In this situation, the new Position Paper "Endoscopic Scoring of Nasal Polyposis" resulting from a Task Force with experts in the field of CRSwNP, originated by the EAACI Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Section, aims to provide a unified endoscopic nasal polyp scoring system that can serve as a standard for reference for researchers, but also as a useful tool for practitioners involved in the management of nasal polyposis. Notably there is a long-standing experience, and this scoring system has been the primary endpoint in most clinical trials in CRSwNP in the past two decades.



Philippe Gevaert
EAACI Endoscopic Nasal
Polyp Scoring Task Force,
Chair



Ludger Klimek
EAACI Vice President
Communications

Scientific Update



NASAL POLYP SCORE	POLYP SIZE
0	No polyps
1	Small polyps in the middle meatus not reaching below the inferior border of the middle turbinate
2	Polyps reaching below the lower border of the middle turbinate (the scoring is modified to accommodate patients who have had a middle turbinectomy, such that the polyp must reach the top of the inferior turbinate to be graded as Score 2)
3	Large polyps reaching the lower border of the inferior turbinate or polyps medial to the middle turbinate (large polyps of score 2 with additional polyps medial and beyond the borders of the middle turbinate)
4	Large polyps causing complete obstruction of the inferior nasal cavity (large polyps touching the floor of the nose)

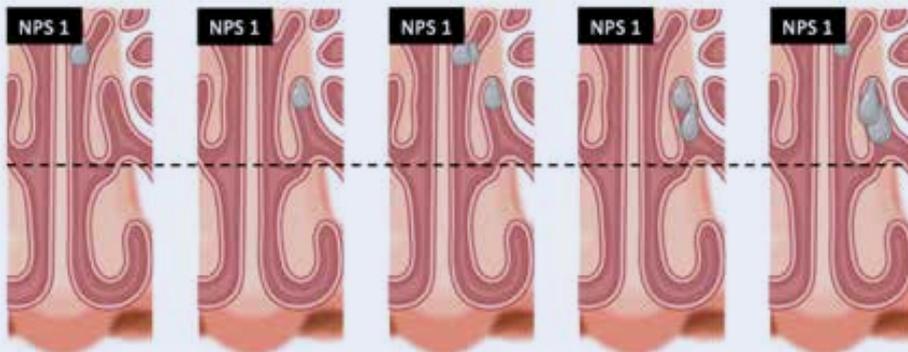
Table 1. Nasal Polyp Score: reading principles (after Gevaert et al., with permission). General rule: a score can only be attributed if the criteria of the lower scores are met

Figure 1. Visual representations of the Nasal Polyp Score (NPS) (after Gevaert P. et al., with permission).

NPS 0 = No polyps.

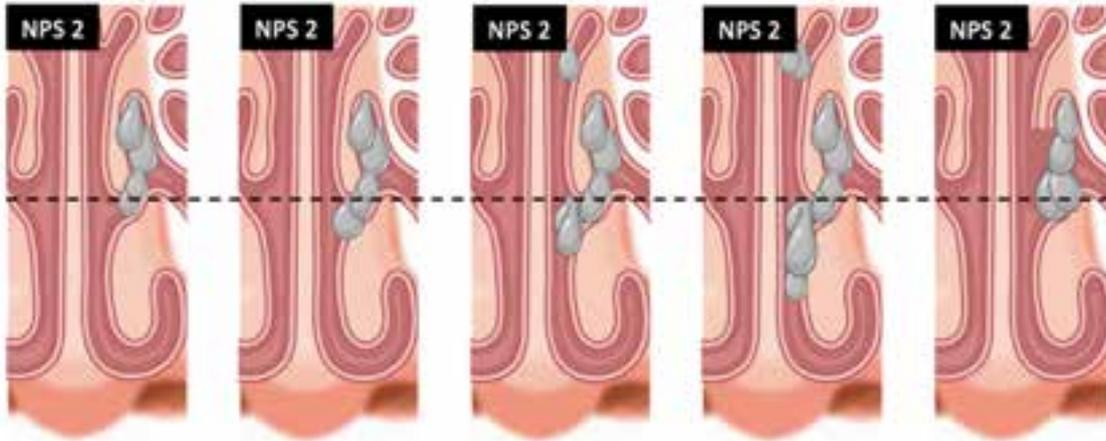


NPS 1 = Small polyps in the middle meatus not reaching below the lower border of the middle turbinate.

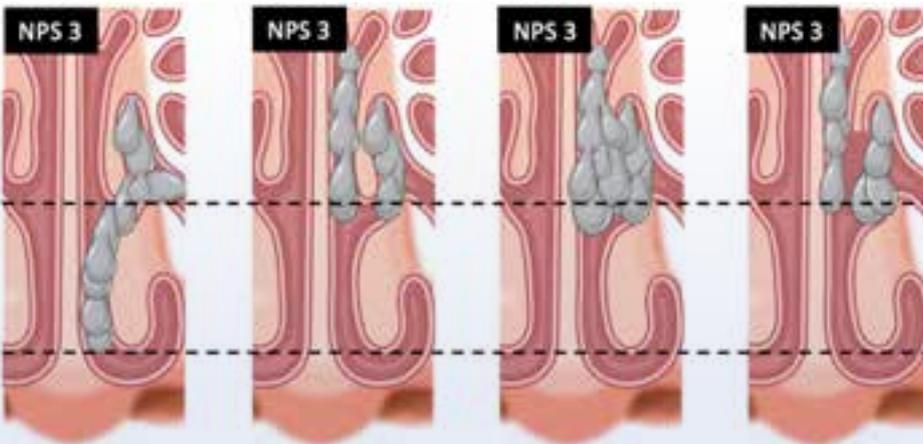




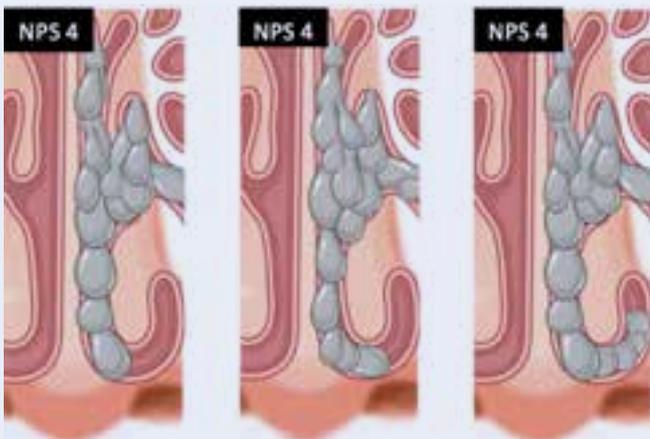
NPS 2 = Polyps reaching below the lower border of the middle turbinate (the scoring is modified to accommodate patients who have had a middle turbinectomy, such that the polyp must reach the top of the inferior turbinate to be graded as Score 2).



NPS 3 = Large polyps reaching the lower border of the inferior turbinate or (large) polyps medial to the middle turbinate (Large polyps of score 2 with additional polyps medial and beyond the borders of the middle turbinate).



NPS 4 = Large polyps causing complete obstruction of the inferior nasal cavity (Large polyps touching the floor of the nose).



Scientific Update



This Position Paper added four comprehensive reading principles. Before the nasal polyp scoring process can start, a well-performed nasal endoscopy is required and (especially for clinical trials, with different physicians doing nasal endoscopies and blinded readers scoring the videos) it is mandatory to train investigators to perform the procedure in a standardised way to create high quality videos and maximise test-retest reliability. The patient should be in an upright position, in a chair that can be reclined, and blow the nose to clear it from secretions before a local decongestant and anesthetic spray is applied. The patient should be instructed to breathe through the mouth during the course of the examination.

Comprehensive reading principles and judgement training are mandatory to align the blinded readers and minimise inter-reader variability. Ideally, in a trial context, the recorded videos are blinded and subsequently scored by two independent and trained readers. In the case that both readers attribute a different



score to the video, a third independent and trained reader makes the final decision. A unilateral score from 0 (absence of polyps) to 4 is given, based on the definitions described in Table 1 as presented in Figure 1. The total nasal polyp score (NPS) is the sum of the scores for both nostrils, thus ranging from 0 to 8, and is based on the continuous extension of nasal polyps beyond clear landmarks such as the upper and lower borders of the middle and inferior turbinate. This implies that a score can only be attributed if the criteria of the lower scores are met.

In contrast to patient-reported outcomes, endoscopic nasal polyp scoring is an objective measurement that isn't affected by the placebo effect if scored by independent blinded readers. It is safer and cheaper compared to computed tomography (CT) imaging and therefore better suited for regular assessments of the extent of the disease. Since the early 1990s a variety of endoscopic staging methods have been proposed and used in clinical research, making it hard to compare results from different studies.

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EAACI ALLERGY EDUCATIONAL NEEDS IN PRIMARY CARE PEDIATRICIANS TASK FORCE SURVEY: UPDATE

Primarily Care (PC) is vital as the first point of contact for patients with allergic symptoms but there are considerable barriers to service implementation and development, including a lack of a synergistic collaboration between specialized and PC settings, as well as slow improvement of services despite strong public and political engagement (1-2).

A previous EAACI position paper from the EAACI Allergy Educational Needs in Primary Care Task Force (EAACI-AENPC-TF) survey of general practitioners, identified specific areas of skill training and educational needs for General Practitioners (GP's) managing allergic conditions in PC (3). It highlighted the critical need to improve allergy training at undergraduate and postgraduate level. It also identified the need for future research and practice, which should include clinical and research opportunities for potentially more feasible and cost-effective approaches to allergic disease management in PC settings. This research brought to light the fact that allergic diseases present challenges that make it essential for GP's to coordinate care delivery with other health care professionals involved in diagnosis and treatment of allergic diseases. This research also raised some issues concerning the provision of and lack of investment in allergy services in PC settings, in turn leading to suboptimal recognition and management of allergy. Allergy education provision for GP's was shown to require improvement and clearly fails to empower healthcare professionals to discern between allergies requiring full investigation and management, self- or parental-diagnosed allergy or symptoms which may have no association with allergy.

There are many published papers regarding allergy management in PC but only one has specifically



Martha Cabrera
Task Force Chair
On behalf of the
EAACI-PCPs-TF

Scientific Update



assessed the role of Primary Care Paediatricians (PCPs) and this was limited to immunotherapy (4). A subgroup analysis from the study performed on GPs, the educational needs of PCPs were examined (n=37). This limited data, along with the results of a pilot study published in January 2023 in *Pediatric Allergy and Immunology* (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/pai.13907>) (5), suggested that there is a need for a large-scale study to uncover the educational needs of generalist paediatricians (whether in primary or specialized care).

As diagnosis and management of allergic diseases are constantly evolving, and aiming to provide information about the current educational needs of European PCPs, the EAACI Allergy Educational Needs in PCPs Task Force (EAACI-PCPs-TF) invited members of PCP Scientific Societies to participate in an online survey which recruited from 1 February until 31 March 2023, in six languages (English, Italian, Spanish, French, German and Ukrainian) with the aim of assessing their allergy interest and educational needs.

At the end of recruitment we have explored global database, and its preliminary descriptive statistics included 1,991 PCPs: from Ukraine (n=422), Italy (n=402), Spain (n=393), Portugal (n=153), France (n=105), Germany (n=101), Switzerland (n=50), Belgium (n=49), Austria (n=46), Slovenia (n=31), Sweden (n=29) and others within Europe (n=568). Area of practice: Allergist+Paediatric Allergist 64 (3.5%); Generalist Physician 178 (9.7%); Paediatrician 1,452 (79.5%); Primary Care Paediatrician with special interest in allergology 133 (7.3%). Main employer: Contracted to State or District Health Service 1,301 (65.3%); Private Practice 380 (19.7%); University, College or Equivalent 72 (6.7%); Retired, not currently working 18 (0.9%); Other 27 (1.4%). 61.7% had awareness of guidelines for onward allergy referral in their countries but only 22.3% were aware of the EAACI competencies document for allied health professionals for allergy.

Up to 58.4% have access to allergy investigations but 6.2% don't have access to them. 1,151 (57.8%) consider that the patient's condition could be diagnosed and treated and 1,063 (67.6%) perform immunotherapy follow-up in their practice or by referring to a specialized service. Some 5.7% stated there were no allergy specialists in their health care system.

1,208 (62.6%) reported seeing between 0 -10 patients per week and 546 (28.3%) 11-25 patients whose main complaint was an allergic problem, and the majority of them (91.9%) assess patients with allergic pathology. Respondents felt most confident in the management of eczema/atopic dermatitis (87.4%) and rhinitis/asthma (86.2%), and least confident in latex allergy (30.8%). 868 (43.6%) and 1,117 (46.1%) received allergy training as undergraduates and postgraduates respectively. 908 (45.7%) and 906 (45.5%) prefer traditional and e-Learning and assessment, respectively.

After analysis of this data, the EAACI-PCPs-TF submitted an abstract to the EAACI 2023 Congress in Hamburg and will complete its statistic stratifying by countries. We also aim to have a strategy proposal for PC and submit a call to action to address the knowledge and skills deficits identified amongst PCPs, in order to improve outcomes.

This survey represents the first step underpinning any training program for PCPs who will be seeing patients with allergy. Ultimately, this study will lay the foundation for the planning of a training program for any PCPs caring for patients with allergic conditions at the frontline, as a part of general professional training to reinforce appropriate management including referral to specialist care.

We believe that a unified, worldwide approach to allergy education and training, and the harmonization of undergraduate education, has the potential to significantly improve knowledge, skills and practice, and improve the quality and consistency of patient care.

In addition, we propose that a network of collaboration across healthcare systems be established, to improve the prevention, management, diagnosis and treatment of allergic diseases in our areas and make



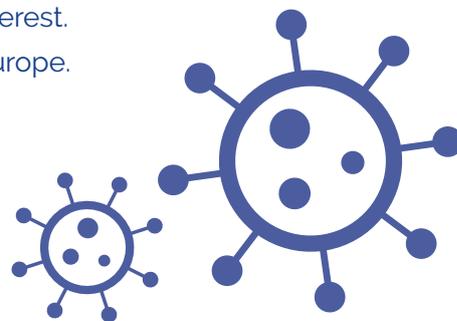
systems more sustainable and accessible, with greater coverage for citizens (1). It is also evident that if the role of PC providers in the diagnosis and management of allergic disease is to be strengthened, good communication and trust between primary and specialist care is critical, and scientific societies are encouraged to strengthen their own collaboration with PC colleagues and support their training needs. Certainly, we believe that, through teaching activities such as those already offered on EAACI's recently launched e-learning platform, we can improve the quality of PC practice and strengthen the critical role of PCPs in the diagnosis and management of allergic diseases who are often the first contact for patients and their families.

Finally, this TF believes that the strategies to support PC in the diagnosis and management of allergic disease should be consolidated within a consensus policy document for stakeholders. This would be key to ensuring that a unified, collaborative and synergistic approach is applied to supporting the delivery of high-quality allergic disease care within PC.

Furthermore, in addition with the previous EAACI-AENPC-TF recommendations, we wish to highlight future research opportunities as well as serving as a reference for what can be expected from GP's and PCPs at PC settings across Healthcare Systems in Europe.

Ultimately this TF will complete a strategy proposal with the following priorities:

- a. The inclusion of 'Allergy' in the undergraduate curricula across Europe.
- b. The inclusion of an Allergy as a Teaching Module in the PC postgraduate curricula across Europe as part of general professional training.
- c. Outreach specialized allergy training among pediatricians with interest.
- d. Common evidence based referral criteria and pathways across Europe.



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Allergy School 2023

EAACI Allergy School on Anaphylaxis: Anaphylaxis revisited

21-23 September
Izmir, Turkey



eaaci.org



The multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children: **Scientific updates from EAACI task forces & position papers**

In mid-March 2020, pediatricians and immunologists in countries particularly affected by the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic noticed a sudden increase in the number of children with fever and multi-organ hyperinflammatory damage rapidly progressing to shock. This phenomenon contrasted with initial reports of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome with Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), and a relatively mild course of severe coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in children.

This new pediatric entity appears about four weeks after the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus infection, and the clinical and laboratory picture of MIS-C resembles Kawasaki disease (KD), toxic shock syndrome (TSS), and macrophage activation syndrome (MAS), although there are some essential differences from these three disease entities. Therefore, KD, TSS, and MAS have been seen as crucial points of reference in differential diagnosis and empirical treatment, as well as in understanding the pathomechanism of MIS-C.

In response to the emergence and an increasing number of sick children with MIS-C, EAACI established a task force (TF) within the Immunology Section in May 2021. This TF aimed to describe the state-of-the-art immunologic phenomena in MIS-C and guide clinicians in diagnosing and managing MIS-C. Over several months of work using a web-based Delphi process, this multidisciplinary group proposed a standardised clinical management algorithm for diagnosing and treating children with MIS-C.



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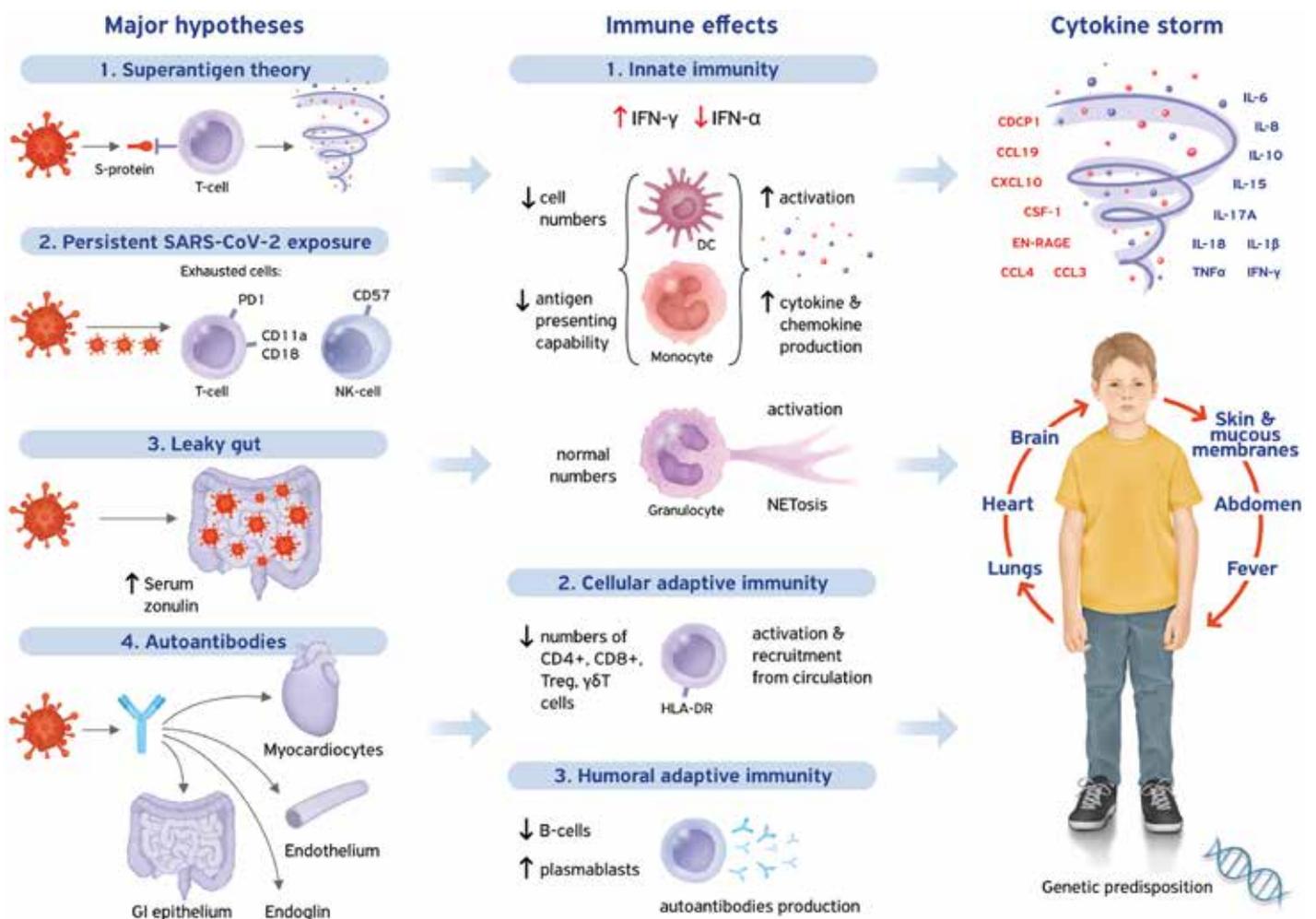
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Despite a relatively large number of reports, to this day, the immune mechanism leading to MIS-C is unclear and depends on the activation of several pathways leading to excessive inflammation. The contributing mechanisms include the release of superantigens, persistent SARS-CoV-2 infection, leaky gut, and autoantibody production, leading to imbalanced interferon (IFN) signaling, overactivation of innate, adaptive cellular, and humoral immunity and – finally – the cytokine storm and hyperinflammation (see Figure 1).

Current management of MIS-C consists of supportive treatment in combination with immunosuppressive and/or immunomodulatory drugs. Systemic steroids and intravenous immunoglobulin are the most commonly used. Despite an excellent overall short-term outcome, patients with MIS-C should be observed regularly after hospital discharge, with attention to cardiac disease, organ damage, and inflammatory activity. COVID-19 vaccination is a safe and effective means of preventing MIS-C. Pending further research, we propose a convenient and clinically practical algorithm for managing MIS-C, developed by the EAACI Basic and Clinical Immunology Section.

Figure 1. A flowchart synthesising the hypothesised immunologic mechanisms underlying the development of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) and its clinical manifestation.





NAS Committee meeting 2023

This year's National Allergy Societies (NAS) Committee meeting was held on Saturday 11 March at the NH Airport München in Germany. It was a hybrid meeting format, with a good physical attendance rate. It was a pleasure to be able to meet with colleagues face-to-face once again and discuss priorities in our field, given that this was the first physical meeting since 2020, when we collectively decided to organise online meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and it was a pleasure to meet again face to face with colleagues and discuss the priorities in our field. Online attendance was also highly appreciated.

We were joined at the meeting by a number of very distinguished speakers and participants. I want to thank all the EAACI Leadership, EAACI Headquarters team and especially the representatives of member societies who attended physically: the Italian Association of Hospital and Territorial Allergists and Immunologists (AAIITO), German Society for Allergology (AeDA), Association Nationale de Formation Continue en Allergologie (ANAFORCAL), British Society for Allergy & Clinical Immunology (BSACI), Bulgarian Society of Allergology, Academy of Pediatric Allergy and Asthma (CAAAD-Türkiye), Danish Society for Allergology, German Society for Allergology and Clinical Immunology (DGAKI), Dutch Society of Allergology, Georgian Association of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (GAACI), Ärzteverband Deutscher Allergologen, Gesellschaft für pädiatrische Allergologie und Umweltmedizin (GPA), Polish Society of Allergology, Romanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (RSACI), Spanish Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (SEAC), Spanish Pediatric Society of Clinical Immunology, Allergy and Asthma (SEICAP), Societe Luxembourgeoise d'Allergologie et d'Immunologie, Society of Pulmonologists of the Republic of Macedonia, Società Italiana di Allergologia, Asma ed Immunologia Clinica (SSAIC), Swiss Society for Allergology and Immunology (SSAI), and the Turkish National Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (TNSACI), as well as all the representatives of member societies who participated online.



Cevdet Ozdemir
National Allergy
Societies Committee,
Chair

From the EAACI Family



On behalf of the NAS Committee, I would like to thank my colleague Elena Bradatan for her work and support as the NAS Committee Secretary in the past term, and I am also pleased to introduce Elleni Vaia as the new NAS Committee Secretary.

After a welcoming message, a minute's silence was held for healthcare workers and people who lost their lives in the devastating earthquake that struck Türkiye on 6 February.

Following my presentation of an update on NAS Committee activities over the last year, EAACI President Stefano del Giacco shared an overview about the EAACI vision and upcoming projects. EAACI Secretary General Maria Torres informed us about the MyEAACI project and offered an update on the conditions for membership and the current strategies to attract new members to the EAACI Family. EAACI IT & Development Manager Charalampos Kostaras then described the novel developments in the EAACI membership portal, which is a very user-friendly platform. Tomás Chivato, VP Education & Specialty informed us about the educational activities within EAACI and about how to promote our specialty. Oscar Palomares, Editor in Chief of the EAACI Knowledge Hub, our newest platform dedicated to science, described the Hub's recent activities, and how to access educational modules and scientific resources. Markus Ollert, EAACI VP Science presented scientific output in detail. Ioana Agache, Chair of the EAACI Research and Outreach Committee (ROC) told us about the novel innovative research and knowledge exchange network that will ensure EAACI's position as the global leader in promoting and supporting research and development, in addition to ongoing registries. EAACI VP of Congresses Mohamed Shamji announced



Attendees at the NAS Committee meeting 2023

details of the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2023, which will be held on 9–11 June 2023 in Hamburg, Germany. Additionally, he gave an overview about the NAS Village project and highlighted the importance of our engagement to make this a successful experience for all our sections. Former EAACI President, Marek Jutel, who is the Deputy Editor of Allergy, EAACI's official journal, presented the recent increasing trend and achievements of the journal, placing it firmly as the leading journal in the field. VP of Communications Ludger Klimek informed us about EAACI's communication platforms. During the final presentation, Leticia De las Vecillas Sanchez, Chair of the EAACI Junior Member Assembly, highlighted the various activities that involve our Junior Members and outlined potential collaboration opportunities with the NAS Committee. The meeting was a great success, with both physical and online representatives from member National Allergy Societies taking turns to describe their respective societies activities and expectations. After a fruitful discussion and the submission of further proposals, the group reviewed plans for upcoming activities. Overall, the meeting was extremely satisfying and provided a stimulating environment for all attendees. I hope to see you at the EAACI Hybrid Congress 2023 in Hamburg, Germany, and look forward to perhaps meeting you at the NAS Village and the NAS Forum during the Annual Congress.



The EAACI Website: A **key tool** for your online communication

In this digital age, online communication has become more important than ever. With the advent of social media, instant messaging, and video conferencing, the ways we interact with each other have fundamentally changed.

This shift has also had an impact on organisations like our Academy, which has had to adapt its communication strategy to meet the demands of the modern world. The EAACI website is a vital tool in this effort. It provides a central hub for members to access information about the organisation and its activities, as well as a platform for online communication. Here are some of the ways the EAACI website is helping its members to find information and communicate online:



Filippo Fassio
EAACI Website Editor

Up-to-date information

One of the most important features of the EAACI website is that it provides up-to-date information about the Academy's activities. Members can access information about upcoming events, including webinars and conferences, as well as news about the latest research in the field of allergy and clinical immunology. This information is crucial for members who want to stay informed about the latest developments in their field, and the EAACI website (with its direct access to the EAACI Knowledge Hub) is the best place to find it.

Professional development

The EAACI website is also a valuable resource for members who are interested in professional development. The website provides access to a wide range of educational resources, including webinars, courses, and other training materials. Members can use these resources to develop new skills, learn about the latest research in their field, and stay up-to-date with the latest trends and developments in allergy and clinical immunology. Moreover, if you are looking for a new professional opportunity, you will find an updated selection of available positions in the Job Centre.

From the EAACI Family



Online publications

The EAACI website is also a platform for the organisation's online publications. Members can access EAACI's journals, including Allergy and Pediatric Allergy and Immunology, as well as the current issue and all past issues of the EAACI Review. These publications provide members with valuable insights into the latest research in the field, as well as news and updates about the organisation's activities.

Online networking

Another important feature of the EAACI website is its networking capabilities. Members can connect with each other through the myEAACI portal, which contains a constantly updated membership directory. This online networking is especially important for members who are unable to attend conferences and other events in person, as it allows them to stay connected with their peers and colleagues from around the world. In conclusion, the EAACI website is a key tool for carrying on online communication within our Academy. It provides members with up-to-date information about the organisation's activities, a platform for online networking, resources for professional development, and access to the organisation's online publications. As the demands of the digital age continue to evolve, the EAACI website will remain an important resource for members who want to stay informed, connected, and engaged in the field of allergy and clinical immunology.





Explore and Refresh your Knowledge of Molecular Allergology with MAUG 2.0!

In the past four decades, innovations in bioscience and technology have facilitated the identification and production of well-defined, extremely pure molecules for component-resolved diagnosis (CRD), allowing a personalised diagnostic work-up and management of allergic diseases. In addition to individual molecules, chip-based test systems have evolved, enabling the simultaneous detection of specific IgE antibodies directed towards more than 100 allergenic molecules within one test run.

To give a structured overview of the biological features of allergenic molecules and the added diagnostic value of molecular IgE testing, the first edition of the "EAACI Molecular Allergology User's Guide" (MAUG 1.0) was launched in 2016, and rapidly became a key reference for clinicians, scientists and interested readers with a background in allergology, immunology, and biology.

Since then, researchers have discovered novel allergens as well as allergen sources (e.g. due to the introduction of new food sources like edible insects), and studies have provided new evidence to broaden the understanding of molecular IgE testing and sometimes challenge previous concepts. The identification of IgE antibodies to specific allergen molecules allows not only the distinction of genuine from cross-reactive immune responses, but also finds other applications, e.g. in individualized risk assessments, monitoring of environmental exposure or the detection of specific allergens in foods. Further, our knowledge of the role of immunoactive substances, such as ligands, keeps increasing and is leading to a better understanding of the allergic immune response towards different allergens.

This constant increase of new information made an update of MAUG 1.0 necessary to summarise the multitude of new evidence and provide state-of-the-art information on the currently known allergen molecules and their relevance for the diagnostic work-up of allergic patients in a clinical setting.

Under the guidance of a new editorial team and with the support of the MAUG initiator Paolo Matricardi, more than 100 authors enthusiastically shared and discussed new data, expert opinion and perspectives to create MAUG 2.0, a handbook of



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From the EAACI Family



45 chapters with more than 1000 references and 200 intuitive figures. The Second Edition contains updated information on biological and biochemical features of known and newly discovered allergen molecules, allergen families, available test systems and, of course, instructions for the clinical use of molecular IgE tests including clinical cases and a multitude of diagnostic algorithms.

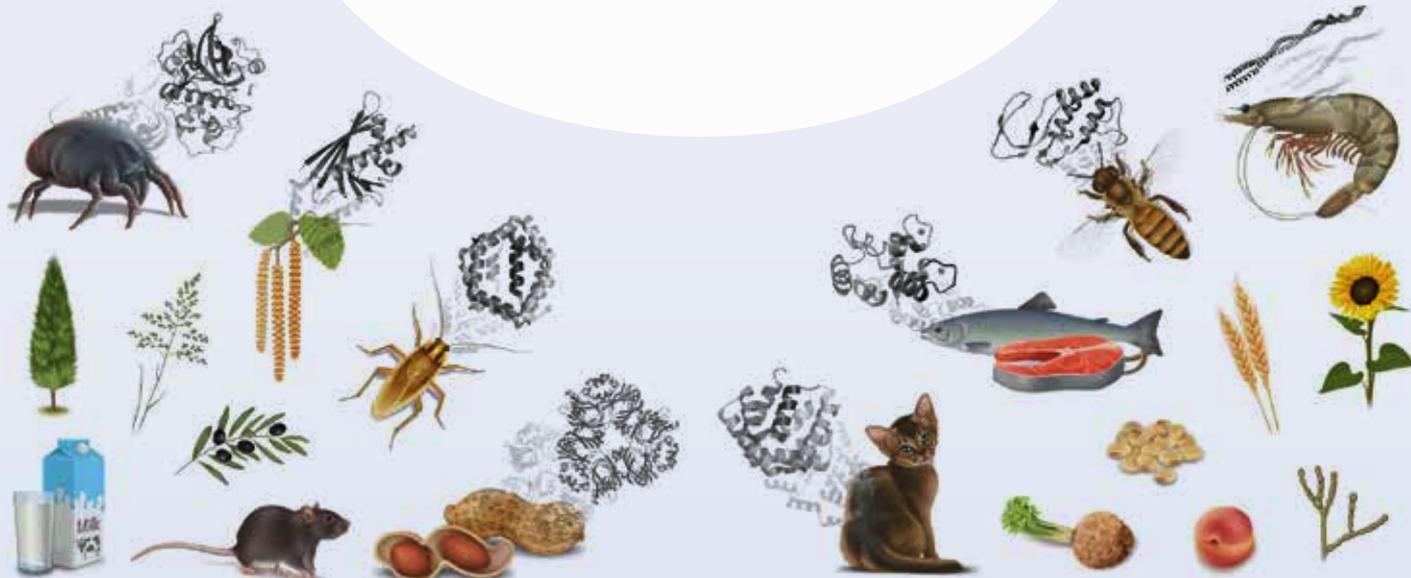
Since its launch at the EAACI Annual Congress in 2022 in Prague, the content has been available on the EAACI Knowledge Hub (https://hub.eaaci.org/resources_documents/molecular-allergology-users-guide-2-0/) and is now also available in an easily citable version in the journal *Pediatric Allergy and Immunology* (<https://doi.org/10.1111/pai.13854>)

We invite all readers to dive into the universe of molecular allergology to explore or refresh their knowledge with the comprehensive EAACI Molecular Allergology User's Guide (MAUG 2.0)!

The editorial team members of the EAACI Molecular Allergology User's Guide 2.0 (MAUG 2.0) during the launch of the online version of MAUG 2.0 at the EAACI Annual Congress 2022 in Prague. From left to right: Alexandra Santos, Stephanie Dramburg, Paolo Matriccardi, Karin Hoffmann-Sommergruber, Christiane Hilger, Leticia de las Vecillas.



Karin Hoffmann-Sommergruber, Christiane Hilger, Alexandra Santos, Leticia de las Vecillas, Stephanie Dramburg (MAUG 2.0 editorial team)





CME & Specialty Committee: Moving forward together



Dario Antolin-Amerigo
*CME and Specialty
Committee, Co-Chair*



Radoslaw Gawlik
*CME and Specialty
Committee, Co-Chair*

It is our great pleasure to introduce ourselves as Co-chairs of the CME and Specialty Committee for this term.

The CME and Specialty Committee aims to pursue a high level of theoretical and clinical competence in the field of allergology and clinical immunology. It is responsible for all issues concerning Continuing Medical Education (CME) and was created to link pertinent structures to organise a fruitful promotion of the specialty throughout Europe.

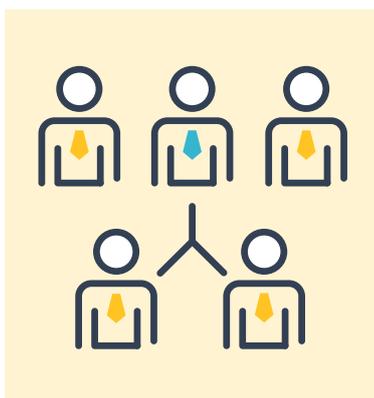
Additionally, the Committee deals with other relevant problems faced by the specialty, including its full recognition, free circulation of specialists within Europe, the relationships between allergology and clinical immunology and other specialties, contacts with regulatory bodies and the UEMS, etc.

One of the main activities of the committee is assessing scientific activities in collaboration with the European Accreditation Council for CME (EACCME). After a preliminary review by EACCME, all applications are transferred to the European Board of Accreditation in Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EBAACI) secretariat for further administrative processing and evaluation of the scientific programme by an independent board of European experts, composed of six members – three from EAACI and three from the UEMS Allergology Section and Board – nominated for four years. EBAACI then recommends the appropriate number of credits to EACCME which then finalises the accreditation process and informs the CME provider of the number of CME credits for their event and provides the required information for issuing certificates.

Additionally, the Chairs of the committee are entitled to attend UEMS meetings, gaining a great opportunity to learn about the mission, objectives and activities of the leading medical education organisation and see examples of the successes of other scientific societies, and thus acquiring a core body of knowledge needed in the specialist training given to allergologists to develop their competences and skills.

As co-chairs, our aim is to pursue excellence in education, to learn from other sister societies, broaden and maintain the collaboration between National Allergy Societies and also, as a new committee, we are always open to receive new ideas for projects.

We very much look forward to working with all interested parties.



Mite – the “diva” in AIT trials



Satellite Symposium (SAT)
Saturday, 10 June 2023
14.30 – 15.30
Hall E or virtual

Chairs Mohamed Shamji, UK
Marek Jutel, Poland

Speakers

- 01 Evolution of mite AIT landscape catalyzed by therapy allergen ordinance (TAO)**
Vera Mahler, Germany
- 02 Filling the knowledge gaps in asthma: Real-world evidence data**
Christian Vogelberg, Germany
- 03 Escalating the strength of clinical outcomes: Biomarkers in the allergen chamber**
Marek Jutel, Poland

Join us at our onsite and virtual booth to learn more!



allergopharma
Allergies in best hands



Update on diversity, equity and inclusion in clinical research and science communication

A constructive approach to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) is useful for improving clinical research and scientific communication in the medical field, to better serve patients. Knowledge of these three closely interconnected values within scientific organisations is important, but moving from words and ambition to action is critical. A call to action to prioritise DEI in all its aspects in clinical research can expand the better understanding of diverse patient communities and help improve patient outcomes. Nurturing DEI also leads to broader perspectives that can better inform critical decisions and create incentivised scientific work environments for everyone.

Transactional and transformative DEI activities in health research departments should be considered imperative. The lack of DEI in clinical research can have a direct negative impact on patient care, so open discussions on unequal access to clinical trials need to be promoted, as well as advocating for fair travel budgets for patients, careful designing of patient information and the encouraging of health literacy. Producing practical guidelines to promote DEI principles and strategies in clinical trials benefits all patients.

Further research is needed to understand the current efforts and attention given to DEI within scientific departments, among young researchers and in academic training programs. Criticism of terminology relating to disability, sex, gender, race, ethnicity and ancestry in research publications and scientific reports should always be taken into account. Recent assessments of the use of terms and symbols in clinical research in both traditional and online publications are beginning to recognise the ways in which language and concepts of difference can be



Maria Beatrice Bilò
EAACI Scientific Media
Communication Committee,
Chair



Florin-Dan Popescu
EAACI Review
Editor

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion



inaccurate and even harmful. Important advice to follow includes addressing assumptions and stereotypes, always using appropriate terminology and inclusive language, ensuring inclusivity in physical spaces, and ensuring appropriate communication approaches, advocacy and education regarding DEI in all its forms. Organisational culture plays a major role in prioritising DEI goals to help increase performance by bringing in different ideas and perspectives, leading to the delivery of quality, compassionate and comprehensive care for all patients.

Optimal implementation of DEI in science communication is an important roadmap to equity in academia. More evidence-based strategies and best practices to improve DEI are also needed in graduate medical education, including in content on academic websites and social media accounts. Although DEI initiatives are progressively being implemented across various areas in science communication, inequities still persist. In order to rectify them, some leading biomedical journals have recently implemented a dedicated DEI editorial position. DEI associate editors are now considered an essential addition by a number of influential scientific publications.

New scientific publications in the field of allergy and clinical immunology have recently approached the wider issue of equity addressed in the relatively new concept of environmental justice by which people have the right to live in a healthy environment, to be protected from environmental hazards, and to participate in decisions that affect their community. Achieving this equity requires investing in at-risk communities to increase access to safe housing, clean air and water, employment opportunities, education, nutrition and healthcare. Through such policies, it is hoped that health equity in allergic diseases can be achieved.



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Junior Members update:

Supporting education, science and innovation for our JMs



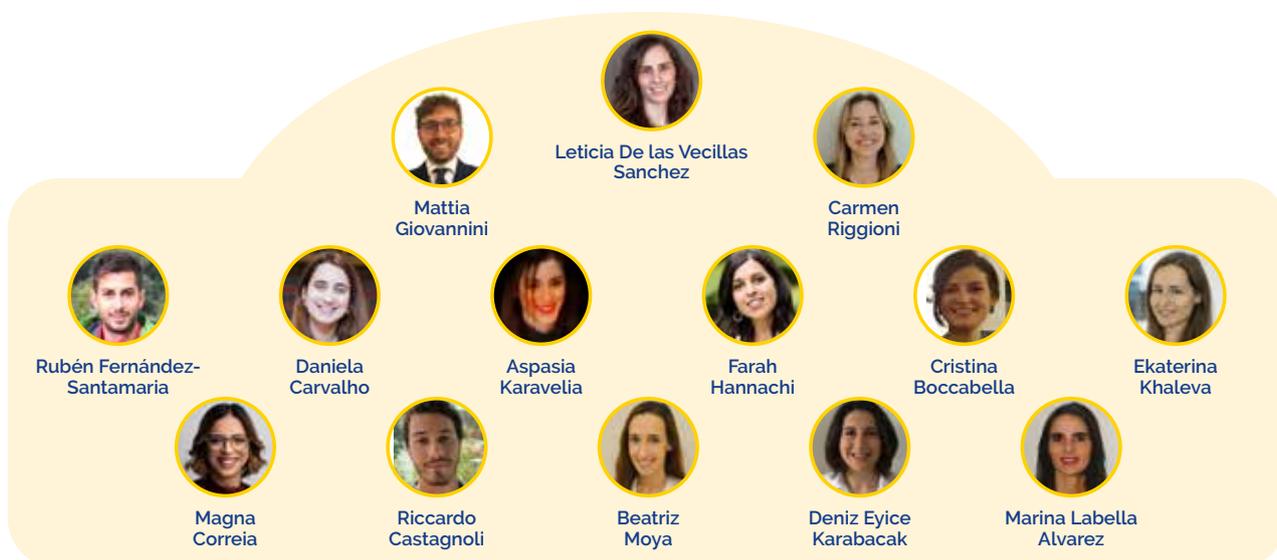
After an open election process targeted at all EAACI Junior Members (JMs), the Junior Member Assembly (JMA) is renewed every two years. Currently, there are 14 members on the board representing different Interest Groups and Sections. The current JMA started in July 2022, formed by specialists in allergy, pediatrics, biology, ENT, pneumology and methodology from seven different European countries. This board provides a multidisciplinary environment and integrates the wide spectrum of profiles that are represented in the EAACI JM community. The 2022–2024 JMA (<https://eaaci.org/section-group/jm-assembly/>; see Figure 1) reflects the convergence of different disciplines focused on the same topic, representing EAACI's commitment to maintaining its international role as a benchmark for education, research and innovation in the fields of allergy, asthma, and immunology among the younger generations.



Leticia de las Vecillas
JMA Chair



Mattia Giovannini
JMA Secretary



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion



JMA educational and scientific activities

Following the brilliant trail forged by previous boards, educational and scientific activities continue. In light of feedback and disruptive thinking targeting the needs of EAACI JMs, the number of activities has been increased and adapted to the current situation in the field. Today, Fellowships (clinical and research), the Mentorship Program (for graduate professionals), and the Allergy School (for undergraduate students) integrate educational activities to cover the concerns of a wide range of young people interested in allergy and immunology. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Allergy School became a hybrid activity allowing undergraduates to enjoy the annual EAACI meeting online, providing them with the same options as other members. Last year, a Hot Topic Review publication was offered to Mentorship Program participants for consideration in the journal PAI. In order to complete the educational cycle and culminate in scientific achievement, this year's offer includes a publication to be considered in the journal CTA, with the same possibility for participants in the Fellowship program. This year, the JMA has launched a new proposal targeting PhD students called "Tell us about your Project". With it, a crucial junior sector with excellent projection to become the future leaders of our field is offered the opportunity to show their communication skills in public outreach as well as the chance to disseminate their scientific achievements, thus contributing to the growth of our scientific area. The JMA collaborates from a scientific point of view with the journals Allergy, CTA and PAI, including to help disseminate their papers, especially through social media channels, to increase their visibility among JMs. Moreover, the most interesting and recent pieces are selected as monthly JM must-read articles. Furthermore, the JMA supports EAACI scientific events throughout the year with active participation and promotion on social media.

EAACI membership benefits

EAACI continues to make tremendous efforts to engage JMs and keep building our speciality. In addition to the initiatives targeted at them, mentioned above, JMs also have several benefits, such as free membership, access to the EAACI journals and the possibility to

apply for travel grants for EAACI events (<https://eaaci.org/about-eaaci/membership/>). Aged up to 35 years old, EAACI JMs can continue enjoying several benefits, such as the EAACI NAS (National Allergy Societies) dual membership with a reduced fee (<https://eaaci.org/about-eaaci/membership/>). The JMA interacts with the EAACI NAS coordinating and disseminating its projects through national channels.

JMA's Social Media channels

The JMA social media channels have become a pivotal tool to integrate and upgrade EAACI communications with our juniors. Today, a dedicated Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/eaacijm/>) and a Twitter account (@EAACI_JM) are great channels to get daily information about scientific, educational and EAACI news of interest for JMs. Recently, the JMA monthly e-bulletin has been renewed with a most attractive visual frame and includes relevant content such as Knowledge Hub news and other information related to the EAACI Family, becoming a great doorway to reach the EAACI junior community. The JMA joined the #OneHealth365 initiative, an innovative aimed at promoting sustainable practices in our field and creating a healthier world for all. Don't forget to add your own #OneHealth365 picture of you using a recyclable cup!

Interaction with scientific societies

The JMA collaborates annually with other organisations in the field, e.g., AAAAI, ERS and ERhS, providing reciprocal opportunities to participate at respective annual congresses. Scientific collaborations have been included to create a solid interactive net with young sections of EAACI's sister societies. The JMA was invited to participate at the yEFIS (Young European Federation of Immunological Societies) hybrid 1st Symposium in November 2022, where the EAACI JMA Chair and Secretary (Leticia de las Vecillas and Mattia Giovannini, respectively) presented and promoted EAACI. Also, a fruitful discussion among the junior representatives of the EMEUNET, ESID juniors and young EHA was held online about the future of young professionals in Europe. Education, science and innovation are all integral parts motivating us to continue supporting JM needs and promoting the role of JMs within EAACI as a fundamental pillar of the Academy.



Journey to untie the knot of childhood food allergy: An allied health professional's perspective

In this fascinating article, Mairéad Sheehan, an Allergy Nurse working at Childrens Health Ireland, in Dublin (Ireland), provides an interesting and heartfelt perspective about how a nurse takes an anxious adolescent through a series of oral food challenges.



Mairéad Sheehan
cANP Paediatric Allergy,
Childrens Health Ireland,
Dublin

“

I walk onto our allergy unit. It is filled with an assortment of families: the seven-year-old reading a fantasy novel; the two-year-old twins with their wooden blocks on the floor, ready for a day of fun; the 4-year-old smiling after commandeering his mother's phone! Then I see him, a boy aged 14, sitting quietly on his bed with his knees bent up under his chin, his eyes wide, fearful and gazing at the scene around him, his mum at his side perched at the edge of her chair. He is the one I go to first....

Why him? They are all here for oral food challenges. All our families are equally as important and vulnerable, concerned, and hopeful.

But his journey – I will call him Liam – Liam's journey has been different.

Thirteen years living with with food allergy. Multiple food allergies. "But, look: great news! All his numbers are trending down. Sure, that is just brilliant. Come in for some oral food challenges. Great!"

Here he is: day one, day one of a huge journey, a monstrous valley between two mountains, one mountain often littered with jagged rocks, scant

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion



shelter and exposed to the elements. But it's familiar. He manages okay, doesn't he?

The other mountain looks lush, it is sunnier, with whispers of freedom and growth.

To travel across though, he must trust this bridge. It appears rickety, half hidden in clouds: it is the only route we have and feels even more of a threat than the shadowed mountain he knows.

So here I am, his allergy nurse. I will connect with him, it is what I do, it is how I nurse. We will repair the bridge together before he starts his journey and then I will walk with him, hand in hand if needed... I see only him.

The rest of the team are admitting and organising the joyful group of allergy families, procedures are busy, six patients and their parents, lots to prepare, lots of tasks.

But Liam, his mum and I sit in a bubble. Time stands still.

We talk. We talk about his fear of allergic reactions: he has no personal memory of ever having one; all his thoughts are based around stories he has frequently heard. The triggers for a repeat event have been around him for his whole life; his loved ones frightened by that one experience, understandably. Don't touch it, be careful, read that, check that, it could kill you...

Now here he is. "Today you eat it..."

What?

A huge journey, as I said. One so tangled up in the chronology of childhood, I think it becomes an integral part of who you are. Undoing that knot is not easy, its unfair... but its all we have: no time machine for us to go back and re-evaluate the tests from 13 years ago and "get those foods in!"

We must cross this rickety bridge together, get him on to the other side, let him cut loose some of those allergens. let's dig into your immune system and get it to answer us properly, I tell him. If it doesn't like the allergen it will tell us; if it's in a bad mood and really hates the allergen today I have all the cool medicines that will ease its anger..

I am asking Liam to trust me, to trust us... It's a huge journey, as I said.

But he agrees. Let's try. He trembles taking that first step on to the bridge. His heart rate objectively nodding along at pace! His whole being embracing an experience, an unpredictable experience.

He crossed the bridge, I let go of his hand pretty quickly, I knew he was there.

He went home elated, he came back for more. On one crossing, the bridge lost a few bits of rope and swung in the breeze, shook him, indeed his immune system was a bit annoyed that day, gave us its answer with no uncertainty!

Liam was familiar with the bridge now, trusted us, trusted himself. In the end, he delivered his pen with minimum support, he felt the wave of homeostasis spread and understood: his ally, his friend, his pen would ease the anger. And it did, of course.

Onwards with life and all the ups and downs it brings but now with only one allergen to avoid and a kit he trusts.

This is the reason why I do what I do.





Climate Change



Marilyn Valentin Rostan

Latin American Society of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology, President Elect and member, Department of Pollution, Pediatrician, Allergist and Immunologist



Marilyn Urrutia-Pereira

Latin American Society of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology, Department of Pollution, Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Medicine, Federal University of Pampa, RS, Brazil

Increased social inequalities and vulnerabilities, deforestation, land degradation, and global climate variability can potentially lead to extreme weather events with potential negative health effects. In a recent study, Hartinger and colleagues¹ published the results of a survey on climate change and its effects on human health in the South American continent.

The four main conclusions generated by the study are listed below:

1. Climate change is harming the health of South Americans; it is time to act now.

- More frequent and intense heat waves have put children under one year of age and adults over 65 years of age at risk.
- Potential loss of regional income associated with reduced labour productivity, with the construction and agriculture sectors being the most affected.
- Significant interference in food systems, which represents a serious threat to food security in the region.
- The increase in ambient temperature and the greater incidence of droughts, changes in land use and deforestation have led to an increase in the occurrence of forest fires and the exposure of the populations residing in these regions.
- Changes in environmental conditions have also affected the geographic distribution of infectious diseases, particularly dengue. Climate change may facilitate viral exchange between previously geographically isolated wild species, leading to interspecies transmission and disease emergence.

2. The countries of South America must increase their preparation to protect the population from the impacts of the climate crisis on health.

Understanding, evaluating, and monitoring the impacts of climate change on health and the health co-benefits of climate actions is essential for the development of adaptation plans and policies that can protect the health of the South American



& ITS IMPACT ON HEALTH IN LATIN AMERICA

population against increased floods as a result of climate change. Improving the capacity and resilience of the health system is essential, and resources must be allocated to train and educate health professionals so that they can recognise, prevent, and address the health consequences of climate-related hazards.

3. South America must continue and accelerate its efforts towards a zero carbon transition.

South America must continue and accelerate efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, reduce land-use change linked to deforestation, decarbonise its energy and transportation system, and increase production and use of renewable energy. Switching to clean fuels can also significantly reduce exposure to household air pollution and reduce health inequities between urban and rural areas.

4. Latin American countries need serious financial commitments to respond to the challenges posed by climate change.

The implementation of climate change adaptation policies and actions for the health and well-being of populations is an urgent investment that requires government support, with transparent financial commitments and a concrete budget allocation. The implementation of accelerated climate measures requires the support of key actors and sectors of society, such as policy makers, scientists, the media and the general public.

We thank EAACI for the space provided to share this harsh reality of the impact of climate change on the population of Latin America.

Reference

- Hartinger SM, Yglesias-González M, Blanco-Villafuerte L, Palmeiro-Silva YK, Lescano AG, Stewart-Ibarra A, et al. The Lancet Countdown South America 2022 report on health and climate change: trust the science. Now that we know, we must act. *The Lancet Regional Health of the Americas* 2023, 100470. DOI: 10.1016/j.lana.2023.100470.





EAACI POC: representing patients across the globe

The EAACI Patients Organisation Committee (POC) aims to be the patients reference body in the field of allergology, representing patients of all nationalities across the globe, and promoting patient-centred healthcare in the specialty. The POC is currently comprised of representative from 33 patient support organisations working at national, regional and international levels. Activities undertaken by the POC include:



Özlem Ceylan
EAACI Patients
Organisation
Committee, Chair

- **Providing** EAACI with the patient and carer real life experience of living with allergic diseases and asthma;
- **Engaging and contributing** patient perspectives through participation in EAACI Sections, Conferences, Interest Groups, Working Groups, Committees, and Task Forces;
- **Building** cross-sector alliances and promoting collaboration between patient group members and other EAACI members, policy makers, and industry representatives with specific focus on priorities that are common across geographies;
- **Bringing** patient organisations from around the world to discuss, align and promote patient organisation-led education, advocacy and research initiatives; and
- **Building** broad-based awareness of the burden of allergic diseases and asthma.



Advocacy and Outreach



The POC meets 4 to 6 times per year virtually and, pre-Covid, would meet in person at one EAACI conference per year and at focused meetings such as FAAM and PAAM. These sessions provide the forum to discuss common issues, align on actions and share best practices. Most recently, the POC has provided a good platform to discuss international efforts at CODEX and engage in global research priorities. The POC board consists of 7 members representing patients from diverse regions, to best integrate patient perspectives into the scientific community:

Özlem Ceylan has a BSc degree in Engineering and professional experience in Project Management, CRM and HRM. Living with multiple allergies and raising a child with EoE, she decided to build a safe and supportive environment for allergy patients. She is the Founding President of the [Living with Allergy Association](#) based in Turkey and works closely with a wide patient community to ensure that they have a voice in key healthcare discussions. She serves as the Chair of the EAACI POC.

Maria Said is the Chief Executive Officer of [Allergy & Anaphylaxis Australia \(A&AA\)](#), also a Director of the [National Allergy Council](#). In 2022 Maria was awarded the honour of being a Member of the Order of Australia for her tireless work in the field of allergy and anaphylaxis. A registered nurse, Maria has been a member of A&AA since 1993 when her son was diagnosed with severe atopy including food allergy. Maria has led the organisation since 1999.

Jennifer Gerdts is the Executive Director of [Food Allergy Canada](#), a national non-profit charity helping Canadians live safely and confidently with food allergy. The organisation focuses on improving the daily quality of life of individuals and families by providing education and support needed to effectively navigate food allergies and acting as the national voice on key advocacy issues. Jennifer's interest in food allergies is driven by the experience of raising twin boys with multiple food allergies.

Marcia Podestà, Attorney at Law, MMR, IT Law, is the current President of [Food Allergy Italia](#) and its founder in 2002. She has over 20 years of experience in governance, managing a not-for-profit association, legal affairs, and EU and international health policy, driving strategic change to achieve strategic objectives. She is currently the Vice President of the EFA and a Codex Alimentarius Delegate.

Demet Stadler is a board member of [Living with Allergy Association](#) based in Turkey. She has a BA degree in Economics and Administrative Sciences and 15 years of professional experience in Human Resources Management. She became a patient advocate due to her daughter's life-threatening food allergies. She is currently the Secretary of the EAACI POC.

Angel Sánchez has a degree in veterinary medicine from the Complutense University of Madrid, a diploma in public health from the National School of Health of Spain and a Master's in Environmental Policy and Management from the Carlos III University of Madrid. He has worked in different positions in the Community of Madrid, the Madrid City Council and Canal de Isabel II. He has been the President of the [AEPNAA](#) since 2016.

Professor Dr Gustavo Marino is the Head of the Allergy and Immunology Department at Austral University, Argentina. He has more than 25 years experience in the field of allergy. He became a professor in Pharmacology at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and the Interamericana University. Since 2005, he has been organising patient workshops to teach about food allergy. He is the co-founder of [SOS Alergia](#), with a mission to "improve the quality of life of the patients who suffer from allergies".

If you require any further information or would like to engage with the EAACI POC please kindly contact ozlem.ceylan@alerjidernegi.org.tr.



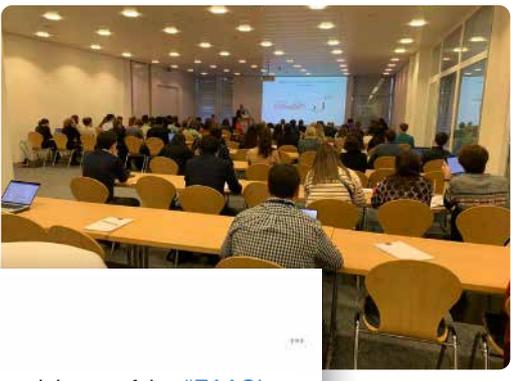
Immunology Winter School #EAACIWS23 in Tweets

Tweet
 Rubén @rub1991
 For the first time, and due to the 20th anniversary of the #EAACIWS23 special workshop sessions are held. There, the relationship between environment and immunology is discussed in small groups of enthusiastic JM participants! @EAACI_JM@EAACI_HQ



Tweet
 Florin-Dan Popescu @FlorinDanPopesc
 Use the hashtag #EAACIWS23 for posts related to #EAACI #Immunology #WinterSchool Follow @MilenaSokolows1 @budgiethii @AkdisCezmi@liam_OMahony1 @Palomares_Lab @ridgek@rubn1991@WeichhartLab @TEiwegger @akash__kothari @florindanpopesc @EAACI_HQ @EAACI_JM @EAACI_HQ

Florin-Dan Popescu Retweeted
 Rubén @rub1991 · 27 Jan
 Second day of the #EAACIWS23 begins. Full of science, enthusiasm and looking forward to learn! @EAACI_JM@EAACI_HQ



Thread
 Matthew Burgess @MattOBurgess
 The special environment and Immunology workshop for the 20th anniversary of winterschool concludes with standup talks from the junior members. Very high quality pitches from all groups in a short amount of time! #EAACIWS23



Tweet
 Matthew Burgess @MattOBurgess
 Returning to the originator of the #EAACI-WS23 with a comprehensive talk on the numerous effects of modern environmental factors on our epithelial barriers



Tweet
 Juan C Ivancevich MD @Aller_MD
 Top story: @budgiethii: 'Congratulations to our four speakers in the first junior session; Jitesh Chauhan, Angel Maldon adorable, Ryo Matsuoka and Katie Ridge. #EAACIWS23, see more https://tweetedtimes.com/Aller_MD?s=tnp

EAACI on Social Media



Tweet

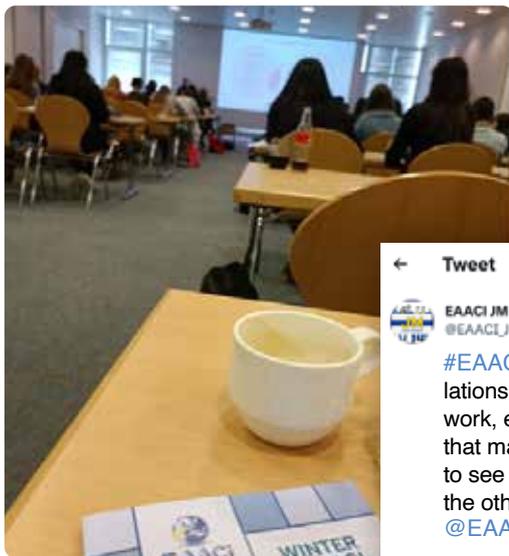
Interasma @Interasma

Top story: @budgiethai: 'Congratulations to Srinidhi Sudharson, Lu Yao, Jose Antonio Canas and Hang Du for great talks in the second set of oral abstracts #EAACIWS23', see more <https://tweetedtimes.com/Interasma?s=tnp>

Tweet

Tereza Svábová @TeraSvab

A fantastic experience! Thank you so much #EAACI #EAACIWS23 #WinterSchool2023 #Immunology



Tweet

Alexandra Santos @alex_fsantos

#EAACIWS23

Alexandra Santos @alex_fsantos · 27 Jan
Guided tour of SIAF by @AkdizCezmi himself!! What a privileg... #EAACIWS2023

Tweet

EAACI JM @EAACI_JM

#EAACIWS23 in Davos is over! congratulations to all junior members for their hard work, enthusiasm and excellent contribution that made this meeting a success! we hope to see you at the next Winter School, and in the other activities organised by #EAACI! @EAACI_HQ

Thread

Karen McCarthy @Karen_N_McC

Delighted to have had the opportunity to present our research on respiratory mucosal tissue resident memory T-cells and SARS-CoV-2 infection/vaccination at EAACI Winter School, Davos. Such an interesting meeting and an excellent programme of speakers! #EAACIWS23 @ICATProgramme

Matthew Burgess @MattOBurgess · 28 Jan
Congratulations to Mario Perez - Diego, Annalisa Villa, Sofia Malm Tillgren and Karen Mccarthy for their fantastic oral abstract presentations. #EAACIWS23





Posts from the Drug Hypersensitivity Meeting 2023 on Instagram and Facebook



eaaci • Follow

[#HappeningNow](#) at the Drug Hypersensitivity Meeting 2023, we are in the final stages of preparing to gather more than 800 professionals, both onsite in Verona and online through our digital platform, to discuss the latest advancements in drug hypersensitivity. We are deeply grateful for the engagement of our community of professionals and researchers, whose collaboration has been instrumental in making this event possible.

With just a few hours to go, we are finishing everything to ensure a seamless experience for all participants. We are excited to welcome you all to the Drug Hypersensitivity Meeting 2023 and look forward to a productive and enlightening exchange of ideas and knowledge over the next few days.

Together, let's continue to work towards improving the management of drug hypersensitivity and collaborative research. We can't wait to see you all soon!



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eaaci DHM Hybrid 2023
2 w

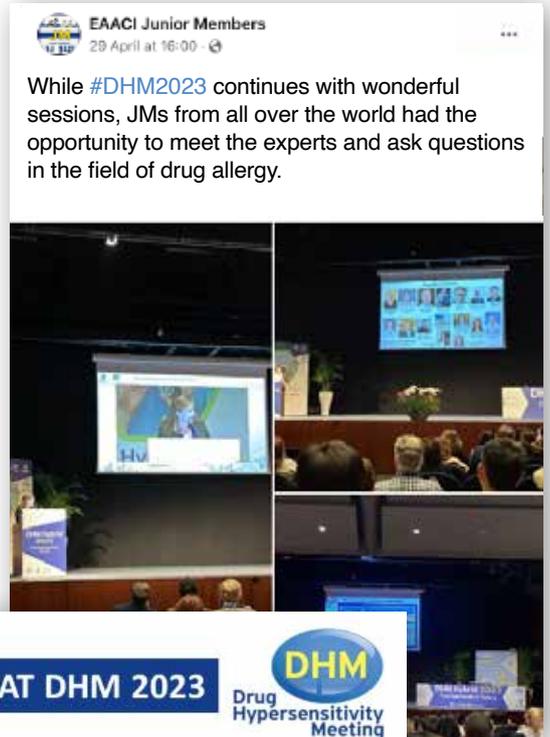
[schroeder_jan_walter](#) Bellissimo ❤️
2 w Reply

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Palazzo della Gran Guardia

That's a wrap!
Wonderful Opening Ceremony with Patrizia Bonadonna, Lene Heise and Franzesco Olivieri!
Thank you so much to all of you who attended today's sessions, poster discussions, and brought a lovely atmosphere to the first day of DHM Hybrid 2023!
We are already getting ready for tomorrow. Can't wait for another excellent day of sharing knowledge, networking, and learning!
Ci vediamo domani



EAACI on Social Media



EAACI JUNIOR MEMBER SOCIAL EVENT AT DHM 2023



Dear EAACI Junior Members,
We would like to invite you to the EAACI Junior Member Social Event that will take place in Verona during DHM 2023.

28 APRIL

18:30-20:00 p.m

Locanda degli Scaligeri, Via Marcantonio Bentegodi, 7.



**Don't miss it!!
We will see you there!**

Marina Labella (Drug Allergy IG)
Daniela Carvalho (Dermatology Section)
Deniz Eyice Karabacak (Allergen Immunotherapy IG)
Rubén Fernández Santamaría (Basic and clinical Immunology Section)



Dear Juniors! Friendly reminder that if you are attending the DHM in Verona, please join us at our JM's event. We will be able to meet, share ideas and have a good time. See you there!

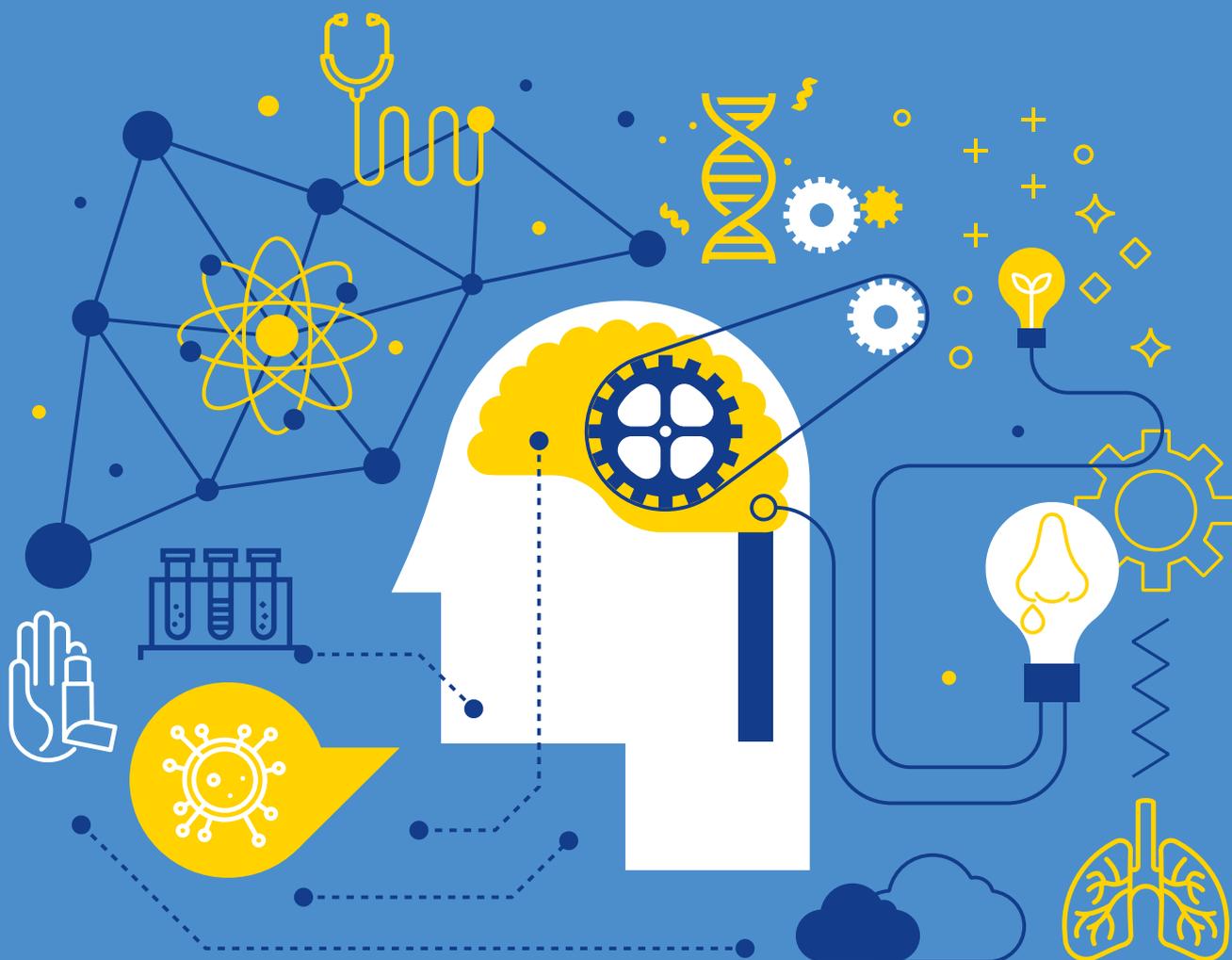
#DHM23 #dhmhybrid2023



eaaci • Follow

Closing and Prize Giving Ceremony!
During DHM's final ceremony we have celebrated together the end of this fantastic event.
Thank you all of you for joining us!
If you want to join EAACI's next event, which will be our Master Class 2023 in Madrid, you can learn more here <https://lnkd.in/eRrnCaUV> #DHMHybrid2023 #masterclass2023

EAACI Knowledge Hub



EAACI Knowledge Hub is celebrating its first and successful year: a fresh and interactive digital platform where science, education, resources, public outreach and vast possibilities to network with your peers are made available to you under one roof.

Whether you are a clinician, researcher, allied health professional or patient, the **EAACI Knowledge Hub** offers infinite possibilities to find up-to-date and trustable content from our experts.

Visit it today at: hub.eaaci.org



Education, science, resources, networking, and public outreach, all under one roof. Earn CME credits, search by topic of interest, discover what's new!

Asli (Gelincik) Akkor
Knowledge Hub Editor



Visit the EAACI Knowledge hub, a brand-new platform which helps us to connect and stay up to date, in our field of allergy, asthma and clinical immunology.

Oscar Palomares
Knowledge Hub Editor



What are you waiting for? Log into the EAACI Knowledge Hub and start your learning journey today! On behalf of the Knowledge Hub Editors.

Magdalena Zemelka Wiacek
Knowledge Hub Editor

EAACI on Social Media



Social Media Campaign for the #DayofImmunology

Tweet

EAACI @EAACI_HQ

The #AllergoOncology #PositionPaper focused on the evidence defining the #microbiota composition as a key determinant of #immunity and #ImmuneTolerance. Take a look at <https://doi.org/10.1111/all.13718>. Happy #WorldDayofImmunology! @AllergyEaaci @EAACI_JM

Tweet

EAACI @EAACI_HQ

Happy #DayofImmunology ! Do you want to understand the impact of the environment on immunological responses? Learn how to do it in a multi-omics approach from EAACI experts

Tweet

Milena Sokolowska @MilenaSokolows1

Celebrating #DayofImmunology having a moment of rest and cleaning space for new ideas. @EAACI_HQ @SIAF_UZH

Tweet

EAACI @EAACI_HQ

Nutrition shapes environment! Can you prevent viral diseases by nutritional interventions? Yes, no, maybe? What do we know? Check out these works by EAACI members <https://doi.org/10.1111/all.15136> & <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35801383/> Happy #DayofImmunology!

EAACI Junior Members

29 April at 18:00

Extrinsic #microenvironmentalFactors may contribute to #allergenicity. What about its impact on #oncology? Explore more at <https://doi.org/10.1111/all.15255> Happy #WorldDayofImmunology! Allergy Eaaci HQ



Meet the new EAACI Social Media Editor!

I am delighted to introduce myself to you in my new role as Social Media Editor, as part of the EAACI Scientific Communication Committee. As a member of the EAACI family and someone who is passionate about digital platforms and their ability to connect people and ideas, I am honoured to be able to contribute to the Academy in this way. Being a strong advocate for responsible and effective online communication, I am excited to take on this new challenge and continue to contribute to the growth and success of our organisation. In today's world, digital media is becoming an increasingly important tool for scientific communication and collaboration. As the EAACI Social Media Editor, my goal is to leverage the power of social media to help connect members of our community, share important news and insights, and spark meaningful conversations that can drive progress and innovation in the field of allergy and immunology. Over the past few years, I have witnessed a remarkable evolution in the way we communicate and share knowledge, particularly within the realm of scientific communication. As an avid advocate for the use of digital platforms, I firmly believe that social media and other online interactive technologies have opened up new and exciting opportunities for researchers, clinicians, and educators to connect, collaborate and exchange ideas in real time, regardless of geographical barriers. As an EAACI Junior Member, I have been at the forefront of promoting the use of these technologies, particularly among younger generations of specialists and residents, recognising the importance of engaging and empowering the next generation of allergists and immunologists. As a current 4th year resident in Immunology and Clinical Allergology at the Coimbra Hospital and University Centre in Portugal, I have seen first hand the transformative power of digital platforms to disseminate cutting-edge research, share clinical insights, and promote education and advocacy efforts. I am deeply committed to continuing this work and leveraging the full potential of digital platforms to drive innovation, collaboration and progress. As the new Social Media Editor, I aim to provide high-quality content that reflects the diversity of our field, the interests of our members and responds to the feedback from our community. I believe EAACI's social media platforms should share a range of relevant news, opinions, articles and significant information which is structured in a way that is helpful and appealing to all members of the EAACI family, both inside and outside our immediate community. One of my key priorities in this role will be to expand our presence on social media platforms like Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram and Facebook even further. By creating and sharing engaging content that resonates with our members and followers, we can help build a vibrant online community that is focused on advancing science and the practice of allergy and immunology. I am committed to exploring new ways to use digital tools and platforms to enhance the EAACI experience for our members. Whether through webinars, podcasts, or other forms of digital content, my goal is to make sure that we provide our members with the resources and information they need to stay informed and connected. I am grateful to the EAACI leadership and online communities for putting their trust in me as the new Social Media Editor. I look forward to accurately promoting news from our Academy, together with ongoing science activities and events, focusing on encouraging the dissemination of scientific information in the context of real-world problems, the allergy specialty, various educational needs, and public campaigns. As we move forward, I am excited to work with the EAACI team and our members to build a robust and engaging online presence for the Academy. If you have any ideas or suggestions for how we can improve our digital strategy, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I look forward to hearing from you and working together to achieve our shared goals.



Helena Pires Pereira



Notes From the EAACI Review Editor: Florin-Dan Popescu



Florin-Dan Popescu
EAACI Review Editor

If you are a clinician, researcher or an allied health professional, scientifically or clinically interested in allergy and/or clinical immunology, then EAACI is the place to be!

By being a member of the EAACI family, you benefit from the exceptional EAACI knowledge hub, with access to the all scientific resources on offer, including EAACI's prestigious journals and leading educational modules. In addition, you have access to recently published position papers, new EAACI initiatives and content from world-renowned meetings, many presented in our EAACI Review. Moreover, EAACI members and junior members (JMs) have access to unique networking opportunities generated in this diverse international community in the allergy and clinical immunology field.

This year marks 25 years since a dedicated membership area was first available on EAACI's internet home page. In that same year, 1998, the first JM Meeting was also arranged and a report of the meeting was presented to the Executive Committee at the EAACI Annual Congress in Birmingham, UK. A number of actions were approved, including those offering reduced congress fees for JMs and introducing an improved grant policy. Furthermore, with the great support of then EAACI President Professor SGO Johansson and Secretary General Professor Sergio Bonini, the first JM and affiliates poster session was organised for the 1999 Annual Congress. When special times embrace amazing people it gets really inspirational!

After all these years, EAACI, through its current leadership and members, remains strongly dedicated to allergy and immunology science, and firmly committed to healthcare. Through its diverse membership, from JMs to seniors, the organisation benefits from a great variety of competencies – skills, knowledge and abilities, characteristics and attributes – that foster innovation and creativity, leading to the highest standards of patient care. The EAACI Review is a place where all these elements are intended to be reflected through high-quality content presented in a friendly and respectful way and in a flexible structure, combining the characteristics of an e-bulletin and a digital newsletter which we hope will reach both members and anyone else interested in the EAACI family.



**European Academy of Allergy
and Clinical Immunology**
9 – 11 June 2023
Hamburg, Germany



EAACI Congress 2023

**Pathways from precision medicine
to personalised health care
in allergy and asthma**

Visit the
website
for more
information

www.eaaci.org

#eaaci2023