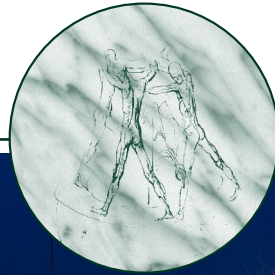


Eighth International Congress on Spondyloarthropathies

Second Announcement
& Call for Papers



Gent, Belgium
October 4 - 6, 2012

Deadline for Abstract Submission: June 1, 2012

www.spa-congress.org

Presidents

Paul Bowness (UK) paul.bownes@imm.ox.ac.uk

Robert Inman (Canada) robert.inman@uhn.ca

Local Organising Committee

Dirk Elewaut (Belgium) dirk.elewaut@ugent.be

Filip Van den Bosch (Belgium) filip.vandenbosch@ugent.be

Honorary Chair

Herman Mielants (Belgium) herman.mielants@ugent.be

Scientific Committee

Jürgen Braun (Germany)

Maxime Breban (France)

Matthew Brown (Australia)

Robert Colbert (USA)

Dirk Elewaut (Belgium)

J.S. Hill Gaston (UK)

Muhammad Asim Khan (USA)

Robert Landewé (The Netherlands)

Marjatta Leirisalo-Repo (Finland)

Jose A. Lopez de Castro (Spain)

Rik Lories (Belgium)

Walter Maksymowych (Canada)

Helena Marzo-Ortega (UK)

Roger Sturrock (UK)

John Reveille (USA)

Martin Rudwaleit (Germany)

Georg Schett (Germany)

Jochen Sieper (Germany)

Filip Van den Bosch (Belgium)

Désirée van der Heijde (The Netherlands)

Rubén Burgos Vargas (Mexico)

Invited Speakers and Chairs

All Speakers and Chairs are invited by the Presidents and the Local Organising Committee.

Welcome Address

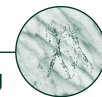
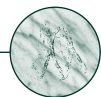
Welcome to the eighth International Congress on Spondyloarthropathies. The field of SpA research has seen huge advances on many fronts since the inaugural Congress: the themes in the 1998 program would be notable for the absence of biologic therapy, quantitative MRI, and the biology of ERAP1.

Over the ensuing years, the Congress has become the premier international research meeting focussing on SpA. The Eighth International Congress on Spondyloarthropathies will continue this strong tradition by convening a broad range of researchers spanning molecular biology and cellular immunology, genetics, epidemiology, and clinical research including imaging and clinical outcomes. The success of the meeting has been attributed to the high calibre of the research, a format which involves multidisciplinary expertise, and a venue which encourages both social and scientific interactions.

The program for the meeting showcases advances in genetics, immunology, bone biology, and inflammation in the gut and skin, as well as bone and joint. These major themes will be presented in a series of state-of-the-art lectures by international experts in the respective fields. Recognizing the high calibre of the abstracts submitted to this meeting in the past, the program this year will include more time dedicated to podium presentations of abstracts of exceptional quality. It is the goal of the meeting not only to contribute to disseminating these recent advances, but also to contribute to advancing the field of SpA research through communication and collaboration. This Congress has proved to be an ideal forum to build those synergies.

As Co-Presidents of the 2012 Congress, we extend a warm welcome to this exciting meeting and to the warmth and charm of the host city of Gent.

Paul Bowness and Robert Inman,
Presidents,
8th International Congress on Spondyloarthropathies



Instructions for abstract submission are available at www.spa-congress.org.
 Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their abstracts by e-mail by the beginning of July 2012.

Deadline for Abstract Submission: JUNE 1, 2012

Abstracts dealing with one of the topics below can be submitted:

- Genetics of SpA
- Innate and adaptive immunity in SpA
- Microbes, the gut and SpA
- Imaging in SpA
- Treatment of SpA
- Bone biology and Osteoimmunology
- Animal models of SpA
- Epidemiology, Cohorts and biomarkers of SpA
- Clinical Research in SpA

The majority of the submitted abstracts will be accepted for poster presentation. Ample time will be devoted to poster viewing and poster discussions. The Scientific Committee will select a limited number of abstracts for oral presentation.

OPENING KEYNOTE LECTURES

Chairs: Rob Inman (Canada) & Paul Bowness (UK)

- 16.15 **Welcome**
- 16.30 **Osteoimmunology: How does the immune system communicate with the skeleton?**
Hiroshi Takayanagi (Tokyo, Japan)
- 17.15 **Innate immune sensing and SpA**
Luke O'Neill (Dublin, Ireland)

SESSION 1

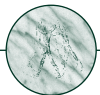
Challenges in Axial SpA - Sponsored by Abbott

Chairs: Dirk Elewaut & Filip Van den Bosch (Belgium)

- 18.00 **Axial SpA, concept and diagnosis**
Désirée van der Heijde (Meerssen, Netherlands)
- 18.30 **Treatment challenges in axial SpA**
Jochen Sieper (Berlin, Germany)
- 19.00 *Opening Reception & Walking Dinner*

Best Clinical Abstract and Best Basic/Translational Science Research Abstract Awards

An award will be presented to the submitters of the Best Clinical Abstract and the Best Basic/Translational Science Research Abstract. These abstracts will also be selected for oral presentation.



SESSION 2

Genetics of SpA

Chairs: Maxime Breban (France) & Roger Sturrock (UK)

- 08.30 **Advances in the genetics of AS**
Matthew Brown (Brisbane, Australia)
- 09.00 **Advances in the genetics of PsA**
Proton Rahman (Newfoundland, Canada)
- 09.30 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 09.45 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 10.00 *Poster Viewing 1 and Coffee*

SESSION 3

Pathogenesis of SpA

Chairs: Hill Gaston (UK) & Jose Lopez de Castro (Spain)

- 10.45 **Cellular immunology of SpA**
Dominique Baeten (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
- 11.15 **Biology of B27**
Robert Colbert (Bethesda, USA)
- 11.45 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 12.00 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 12.15 *Lunch*

SESSION 4

Gastrointestinal Inflammation and SpA

Chairs: Filip Van den Bosch (Belgium) & Robert Colbert (USA)

- 13.15 **Gut microbiome and immunity**
Charles Elson III (Birmingham, USA)
- 13.45 **Gut inflammation in SpA**
Dirk Elewaut (Gent, Belgium)
- 14.15 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**

SESSION 5

Biologics in SpA: State of the Art and Future Therapies

Chairs: Rubén Burgos Vargas (Mexico) & Robert Landewé (The Netherlands)

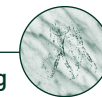
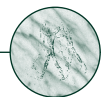
- 14.30 **Biologics in SpA: Success, challenges**
Jochen Sieper (Berlin, Germany)
- 15.00 **Biologics in SpA: Future directions**
Iain McInnes (Glasgow, Scotland)
- 15.30 *Poster Viewing 2 and Coffee*

SESSION 6

Imaging of SpA

Chairs: Helena Marzo-Ortega (UK) & Jürgen Braun (Germany)

- 16.15 **Advances in SpA imaging**
Mikkel Østergaard (Copenhagen, Denmark)
- 16.35 **Challenges in imaging-clinical correlations**
Walter Maksymowych (Alberta, Canada)
- 17.00 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 17.15 **Microanatomy of enthesitis in AS and PsA**
Dennis McGonagle (Leeds, UK)
- 20.00 *Gala Dinner at the Opera House*



SESSION 7

Bone Remodelling in SpA

Chairs: Rik Lories & Dirk Elewaut (Belgium)

- 08.30 **Bone homeostasis**
Steven Goldring (New York, USA)
- 09.00 **Bone turnover and inflammation**
Georg Schett (Erlangen, Germany)
- 09.30 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 09.45 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 10.00 *Poster Viewing 3 and Coffee*

SESSION 8

Selected Short Oral Abstract Summaries

Chairs: Walter Maksymowych (Canada) & Jochen Sieper (Germany)

- 10.45 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 10.51 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 10.57 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 11.03 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 11.09 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 11.15 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**

SESSION 9

Earlier Diagnoses, Improved outcomes - Sponsored by MSD

Chairs: Martin Rudwaleit (Germany) & Irene van der Horst (The Netherlands)

- 11.30 **Referral strategies and earlier diagnosis**
Filip Van den Bosch (Gent, Belgium)
- 12.00 **Can we halt structural progression in AS?**
Jürgen Braun (Herne, Germany)
- 12.30 *Lunch*

SESSION 10

Selected Short Oral Abstract Summaries

Chairs: Désirée van der Heijde (The Netherlands) & John Reveille (USA)

- 13.30 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 13.36 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 13.42 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 13.48 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 13.56 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**
- 14.02 **Selected Oral Abstract Summary**

SESSION 11

Epidemiology, Cohorts and Biomarkers AS

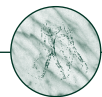
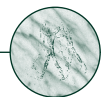
Chairs: Muhammad Asim Kahn (USA) & Marjatta Leirisalo-Repo (Finland)

- 14.15 **Epidemiology of SpA**
John Reveille (Houston, USA)
- 14.40 **Early cohorts**
Martin Rudwaleit (Berlin, Germany)
- 15.05 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 15.18 **Oral Presentation of Selected Abstract**
- 15.30 *Poster Viewing 4 and Coffee*

SESSION 12

Biologics: Mechanisms for Long-Term Treatment Success -
Sponsored by Pfizer**Chairs: Rob Inman (Canada) & Paul Bowness (UK)**

- 16.15 **Understanding immunogenicity and exploring clinical implications**
Gertjan Wolbink (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
- 16.40 **Real-life data from the European biologics registries**
Tore Kvien (Oslo, Norway)
- 17.05 **Q&A**
- 17.15 *Farewell Reception and Walking Dinner*



Date

Thursday, October 4 - Saturday, October 6, 2012

Venue

'Het Pand', Onderbergen 1, 9000 Gent

Direct numbers during the Congress:

Phone: +32 (0)9 264 83 05, fax: +32 (0)9 264 83 96

'Het Pand' is a medieval convent located in the heart of the city, owned by the University of Gent and used as an exclusive Congress Centre.

'Het Pand' is located next to the St Michiels Church, within walking distance from the hotels. The short walk to the congress venue will give the participants a general impression of Gent's architectural splendour (St Bavo's Cathedral, St Nicholas' Church, Town Hall, Castle of the Counts).

Parking Facilities

The centre of the city is largely car free.

Hotels can be reached and participants are advised to park their cars at the car park 'Sint Michiels' which is located opposite 'Het Pand'. In order to reach this parking, participants are advised to enter the city from the southern part of the ring road and to follow the signs P7 "Parking Sint Michiels".

How to reach Gent

Gent can be reached easily by air, train, or car. Gent is located at approximately 50 km from Brussels.

By air: Brussels Airport (www.brusselsairport.be), home base of Brussels Airlines (www.brusselsairlines.be) is a major European airport. There are two direct trains per hour between Brussels airport and Gent. For detailed train information, go to: www.b-rail.be

By car: As Belgium has the most dense highway network in Europe, Gent can be reached easily by car from all over Europe. Entering Gent from the E40 or the E17 motorway, follow the parking route (P-route) to P7, 'Sint Michiels Parking'. This parking is located opposite 'Het Pand'.

By train: Upon arrival at Gent St-Pieters railway station take tram 1, 10, 11 or 12 (every 6 minutes), get off at stop 'Korenmarkt' and cross the bridge. You will find 'Het Pand' right behind the St Michiels Church on your left-hand side.

Detailed tourist information is also available at www.visitgent.be.

Language

The official congress language is English.

Liability

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

Organisation and Administration

MEDICONGRESS

Kloosterstraat 5

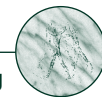
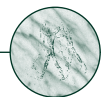
B-9960 Assenede, Belgium

Phone: +32 (0)9 344 39 59

Fax: +32 (0)9 344 40 10

E-mail: congresses@medicongress.com

Programme developed in collaboration with Wonder Reizen, Lic. A 5603



Registration

	Until July 15, 2012	As of July 16, 2012	As of October 1, 2012
Participant	€ 600,00	€ 650,00	€ 700,00
Non-MD	€ 500,00	€ 550,00	€ 550,00
Student with Abstract	€ 500,00	€ 500,00	-
Gala Dinner at the Opera	€ 50,00	€ 50,00	€ 50,00*

*If seats are available

- The registration fee includes access to all lectures, workshops, coffee breaks, lunches and Opening Reception and Farewell Walking Dinner as indicated in the programme. Participants also have free access to the exhibition.
- Separate registration for the Gala Dinner at the Opera House is mandatory.
- Medicongress will send a confirmation of registration by email after receipt of both the registration form and the payment.

How to Register

Register and pay online via secured booking form at www.spa-congress.org

Payment

Payment is to be made by credit card. All major credit cards are accepted.

Cancellations

Cancellations received no later than August 31, 2012, entitle registered persons to a 50% refund. Name substitutions are possible at an extra charge of € 100,00.

**Register on-line at
www.spa-congress.org**

Hotel Accommodation

A number of hotel rooms have been booked at special group rates, including breakfast and VAT. The below rates are only valid for reservations made through Medicongress.

Housing requests are filled in order of receipt. If the hotel of your choice is filled, you will be assigned to another hotel. Hotel availability cannot be guaranteed after September 7th.

Any requests for hotel accommodation must be accompanied by a credit card number, in order to secure the room. This credit card **will not be charged** by the organizers but only serves as a reservation guarantee. Delegates will have to pay their hotel room and personal expenses at the hotel. In case of no show the full reservation will be charged.

A hotel confirmation will be sent by email after receipt of the registration form and housing request and payment of the registration fee.

For hotel reservations or hotel bookings, please contact: veerle@medicongress.com.

• Marriott****

Located at the famous 'Graslei'. One of the newest hotels in Gent, only 2 minutes away from the congress centre.

Single € 175,00 Double € 195,00

• Hotel de Flandre****

Located a stone's throw from Het Pand and the heart of the city

Standard Single € 149,00 Standard Double € 159,00
Executive Single € 169,00 Executive Double € 179,00

• Ghent River Hotel****

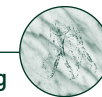
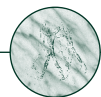
Located on the right bank of the Leie at a 5 minutes' walk from Het Pand

Standard Single € 149,00 Standard Double € 159,00
Executive Single € 169,00 Executive Double € 179,00

• NH Gent Belfort (former Sofitel)****

Located opposite the Town Hall

Single € 139,00 Double € 149,00



• **Sandton Grand Hotel Reylof******

The newest hotel in Gent. 5 minutes away from the congress centre.

Charme Single € 149,00

Charme Double € 159,00

Deluxe Single € 169,00

Deluxe Double € 179,00

• **Cour St George – St Jorishof*****

Located opposite the Town Hall

Single € 125,00

Double € 135,00

• **Gravensteen*****

Located in the heart of the city near the Castle of the Counts in a 19th century mansion renovated in its original Second Empire style

Standard Single € 119,00

Standard Double € 129,00

Executive Single € 134,00

Executive Double € 144,00

• **Novotel*****

This hotel is located in the centre of the city and offers well-known standards of quality

Single € 139,00

Double € 159,00

• **Ibis Cathedral****

Located next to the famous St.-Baafs Cathedral in the centre of the city

Single € 105,50

Double € 122,00

• **Ibis Opera****

Located in the direct neighbourhood of the famous Opera in the centre of the city

Single € 98,50

Double € 115,00

Cancellation of hotel accommodation

Cancellations must be sent in writing to veerle@medicongress.com. Each hotel has its own cancellation policy. These are available on the website.

**Book your hotel on-line at
www.spa-congress.org**



