



ESCMID

Study Group for
Mycoplasma and Chlamydia
Infections ESGMAC

ESGMAC Newsletter, February 2025

A Message from the ESGMAC Executive Committee

Dear ESGMAC Members,

The new year has started, time for the February newsletter, which aims to disseminate news and to announce various activities in 2025 to all members of our ESGMAC study group. Feel free to circulate this newsletter among your peers and colleagues.

On the **19th of February 2025**, the third Early Career Mycoplasma and Chlamydia Researcher Conference (ECMCR 2025) is organised. It will take place as a web-symposium. See below for more details.

Also, more dates of planned activities for 2025 are available.

Kind regards from the Executive Committee,

Gilbert Greub, CH (Chair)
Mirja Puolakkainen, FIN (Secretary)
Barbara Van Der Pol, US (Treasurer)
Jørgen Skov Jensen, DK (Science Officer)
Sylvia Bruisten, NL (Education Officer)

New Members

A warm welcome to the many new members!

Since December 2024 more than 30 persons joined ESGMAC, and we are very pleased with this. We have now, in February 2025, reached a total of 134 members.

Hopefully more members will join later this year.

Election of new Executive Committee members

In 2025 two of us, Barbara Van Der Pol and Jørgen Skov Jensen, will have served the full term of 4 years in the Executive Committee. This means that there are presently elections for new ESGMAC Executive Committee members. Please respond to the emails from ESCMID to vote. The outcome for new committee members will be communicated at the ESGMAC annual meeting during the ESCMID Global meeting in Vienna (see below).

Please do not forget to renew your ESCMID membership

ESGMAC Webinars in 2025

Also, in 2025 webinars will be organised, covering topics to increase current knowledge on *Chlamydia* and *Mycoplasma* infections.

Upcoming webinars:

7 May 2025, 4 PM CET

11 June 2025, 4 PM CEST

Please, mark these dates in your calendar.

For these webinars the speakers and titles of the presentations will be announced later.

Early Career Mycoplasma and Chlamydia Researcher Conference 2025 (ECMCR 2025)

On the **19th of February 2025**, from 1 – 4.30 PM CET, the third ECMCR - a Young Investigator Day- will be held as an online symposium.

The program is as follows:

1.00 PM: **Welcome** Jørgen Jensen, Sylvia Bruisten

1.10 PM: **Charlotte Dixon**, Cardiff, UK

Developing a core genome MLST (cgMLST) for Mycoplasma pneumoniae.

1.30 PM: **Karina Büttner**, Zürich, CH

Whole genome sequence capture of sexually transmitted bacteria with a pan-genome panel reveals a novel Chlamydia trachomatis ompA-genotype L4 lineage.

1.50 PM: **Zoïe Alexiou**, Bilthoven, NL

The Netherlands Chlamydia Cohort Study: Impact of Past Chlamydia Infections on Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes.

2.10 PM: **Daniel Rodriguez**, Lausanne, CH:

Characterizing the mechanisms underlying the persistence of Chlamydia trachomatis.

2.30 PM: **Coffee/ tea break**

2.45 PM: **Welcome back** Mirja Puolakkainen, Gilbert Greub

2.50 PM: **Barbara Van Der Pol**, STD Diagnostic Lab, Birmingham, AL, USA:

“Chlamydia keynote lecture.”

3.20 PM: **Simone Adams**, Lausanne, CH:

Characterization of Chlamydia trachomatis proteins upregulated in elementary bodies.

3.40 PM: **Chloë Meewes**, Birmingham, Alabama, USA:

Extracellular miRNAs in Chlamydia trachomatis reinfection reveal promising biomarker candidates for improved clinical management strategies.

4.00 PM: **Sanne Aarnio**, Helsinki, FI:

Chlamydia-Related Bacteria are ubiquitous in the digestive tract of wild birds

4.20 PM: **Closing words** Gilbert Greub, announcement of prices

4.30 PM: **End of meeting**

To join the meeting please use this link (can be shared):

<https://uso6web.zoom.us/j/85069907136?pwd=aargJlhaum44MF8iDldclJGc8qqh7b.1>

Please do not forget to renew your ESCMID membership

Conference announcements



Twelfth Biennial Meeting of Chlamydia Basic Research Society (CBRS) and German Chlamydia Workshop (DCW) combined meeting.

Berlin, Germany, 23 to 27 March, 2025.

<http://www.chlamydiabasicresearchsociety.org/>

ESCMID Global 2025



35th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases (ESCMID Global 2025) 11-15 April, Vienna, Austria.

<https://www.eccmid.org/congress-information/escmid-global-2025>

There will be a 1-hour symposium which was jointly organised by ESGMAC, entitled “Impact on including a measure of viability in molecular diagnostic tests”.

The session is programmed on **Sunday 13 April from 11 am to 12 am in Hall 14**. Petra Wolffs (NL) will start with a talk entitled “Viability markers in support of development of Chlamydia screening recommendations”. Then, Tatum Mortimer (USA) will speak about “Measuring the viability to improve correlation of AMR markers in *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*”.

There will also be a general ESGMAC member meeting in Vienna. The date, time and location will be announced closer to the congress.

Please do not forget to renew your ESCMID membership

STI – HIV 2025



STI&HIV2025

WORLD CONGRESS

July 26-30, 2025 • Montreal, Canada

Previously known as ISSTD this meeting is the largest meeting of the STI research community. Several presentations on Chlamydia and Mollicutes have already been accepted for presentation. Late-breaker abstract deadline **March 31, 2025**.

[Open opportunities for ESGMAC members](#)

Call for Study Group Research Grants: If you want to obtain the endorsement of the ESGMAC Executive Committee for a study group grant idea, please submit your project: see the guidelines on the ESCMID website and the deadlines for 2025. Be sure to describe the study group members involved and the benefits expected for ESGMAC.

If several projects are submitted, the Executive Committee members will rate the projects and select the one to be endorsed by ESGMAC, considering among other criteria the impact of the project on the ESGMAC network.

Please do not forget to renew your ESCMID membership