



ESCCA NEWSFLASH

JUNE 2021

ESCCA Elections 2021

The new ESCCA Board was installed after the General Assembly of 22 April 2021.

Farewell..... Silvia Della Bella, Alexandra Fleva and Frank Preijers resigned as Board member.

ESCCA thanks them for their massive contributions and unwavering support to ESCCA. It has been a great pleasure to work with them!

THANK YOU



ALEXANDRA FLEVA



FRANK PREIJERS



SILVIA DELLA BELLA

It has been a great pleasure to work with you!

..... and welcome to the new Board members!



Juan Flores-Montero (Salamanca, ES)

Secretary

Born in Venezuela, where I also got my MD degree. After training and a few years of practice as an Internal Medicine specialist, I started working in flow cytometry 20 years ago. I'm currently responsible for Flow Cytometry instruments and procedures at the General Cytometry Service of the University of Salamanca (Spain) within the University's core services for research support (NUCLEUS).



Willemijn Hobo (Nijmegen, NL)

Treasurer

Willemijn Hobo is Principle Investigator at the Radboudumc Department of Laboratory Medicine – Laboratory of Hematology. Her research focuses on deciphering mechanisms underlying immune dysfunction in cancer patients and development of novel therapeutic approaches to (re)establish immune-mediated tumor control.



Evdoxia Gounari (Thessaloniki, GR)

I have a degree in Medicine, a postgraduate diploma and a doctoral dissertation, all obtained in Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. My specialty is Biopathology/Laboratory Medicine, which includes training in haematology, immunology, biochemistry, microbiology and internal medicine. My specialized involvement with the subjects of immunology and haematology, as well as the method of flow cytometry begins in 2007, within the framework of my doctoral dissertation.



José-Enrique O'Connor (Valencia, ES)

Enrique O'Connor is currently Full Professor at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of the University of Valencia and director of the Laboratory of Cytomics, a joint Research Unit of the University of Valencia and the Principe Felipe Research Center.

For the full CVs and information on the other Board members, visit the website:

<https://escca.eu/about/escca-executive-board>

The Virtual Conference was a big success! Over 420 participants from 48 countries attended. In the evaluation the scientific programme was very well rated and 90% of the respondents would recommend the Conference to a colleague. The opportunity to follow the sessions on demand was also highly appreciated by the respondents.

We thank all the attendees who took the time to fill out the evaluation. This is really helpful and appreciated, and important for shaping future meetings.

In the next News Flash we will summarise the most frequently mentioned comments and recommendations.

The scientific presentations are available at the [post-conference platform](#) until 15 October 2021.

There, you will also find the Scientific Industrial Partner Presentations and other sponsor sessions. Do check them out at the platform, or via the [ESCCA Official Youtube channel](#) (don't forget to subscribe)!

Last but not least, we warmly thank Mario D'Atri for his excellent support to ESCCA for the social media management during the Conference and beyond!

Session summaries



Lidia Gackowska



Izabela Kubiszewska

Lidia a and Izabela, two of our loyal Polish Conference volunteers, summarised three hemato-oncology sessions. We thank them for this work!

Interested to have your summary in the next News Flash?

Contact the ESCCA Secretariat at b.schmidt@yourconferencesupport.com.

PAR01: Monitoring response to therapy by flow in myeloma based on circulating tumor plasma cells and immune cells - Alberto Orfao

One of the conference's leading thematic panels, like every year, were hemato-oncology matters. The session was opened by lectures about diagnosis, therapy monitoring and evaluation of residual disease among patients with multiple myeloma (MM). The issue, not easy, was presented in a simple and transparent way, so that difficult matters fell into place and stayed in mind. It was enourmously interesting combination of two points of view: scientist-diagnostician and clinician. The first lecture presented the MM working group summary, which involved many aspects, such as selection of material for testing. The age-old question: what is better - peripheral blood or bone marrow? Prof. Alberto Orfao raised very interesting topic of possible use of peripheral blood to MRD monitoring as less invasive material for the patient. This makes it possible to perform the MRD examination more frequently.

Additionally, he pointed to the simultaneous option of evaluating MRD and patient's immune status which can be further used for example in CAR-T innovative method of treatment. Despite the clinician's viewpoint that the decision to undertake further treatment depend on MRD status, still there is no evidence recommendations for MRD driven therapeutic strategies. Moreover, MRD evaluation methodology (especially using flow cytometry method) requires work on method improvement in order to obtain the highest detection of the residual cancer cells.

PAR05: News and Views on CAR-T Cell Therapy - Michael Hudecek

The afternoon hematology-oncology session meeting was dedicated entirely to CAR-T therapy. In the first presentation Dr. Michael Hudecek focused on a very interesting aspect of using SLAMF7 (CD319) receptor, as a potential target in CAR-T therapy in multiple myeloma (MM), especially in comparison to standard BCMA CAR-T therapy. He also characterised all complicated procedures preparing CAR-T cells. The speaker passed really interesting information about the possibility of controlling the therapy, thereby preventing side effects, such as „cytokine storm“. Next presentation in whole was dedicated to discussing monitoring the effectiveness of CAR-T therapy by the use of flow cytometry in the context of patients with lymphoproliferative diseases. Not only there was a very interesting comparison introduced - use of several different reagents to evaluate refractoriness to used treatment, but also particularly interesting cytometric evaluation of changes in cells' phenotype in several time points in the course of therapy. All presentations were ended with a lively and comprehensive discussion with the audience.

PAR09: Flow-cytometric approach to MDS - Uta Oelschlaegel

The following panel concerning hematology-oncology issues was dedicated to myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS). The first speaker encouragingly began from representing WHO methods and guidelines used in MDS diagnostics. However, he focused all attention on genetic researches aspect. The lecture was valuable especially to geneticists, although the reference to the cytometric researches was missing, particularly connection of specific mutation linked to immunophenotypic aberrancies. The second presentation presented by Dr. Uta Oelschlaegel valuable knowledge compendium about MDS cytometric diagnostic. Not only she showed some aspects of cells properties which should be noticed, but most of all she pointed step by step technical details of preparing probes which can significantly influence the final test result. Dr. Oelschlaegel also paid a lot of attention to discuss in detail differences between scored systems used in MDS. In summary, she said that flow cytometry is fast and robust diagnostic tool placing important place in confirming or excluding MDS and its prognosis.

ESCCA 2022 Belfast

ESCCA 2022 will be held in wonderful Belfast.

We so much look forward to meeting you in person again!



You will enjoy this compact and walkable city, one of the fastest growing tourist destinations in Europe that has been awarded Best Events Destination in 2018 and 2019. The vibrant city offers a range of tourist hotspots, restaurants and cafes.

The Conference venue, the ICC Belfast, is located only 8 minutes away from the George Best City Airport and a 5 minutes' walk to the heart of the city. It is located beside the river Lagan, overlooking picturesque views of the river.

ESCCA 2022

21 – 24 September 2022

<https://www.escca.eu/escca2022>

ESCCA 2021 Virtual Conference Sponsors

ESCCA would like to thank [our sponsors](#) for having supported the 2021 Virtual Conference.

Several of our sponsors' presentations are available on the [ESCCA Official Youtube channel](#).

Premier sponsor



Beckman Coulter Life Sciences Expands High Content Analysis with the NEW DxFLEX, Europe's First 13-colour Flow Cytometer for the Clinical Laboratory



Beckman Coulter Life Sciences has introduced the DxFLEX, Europe's first CE-IVD, 13-colour clinical flow cytometry system. The DxFLEX uses avalanche photodiode (APD) technology, which creates a highly sensitive semiconductor electronic device able to convert light to electricity. This addresses the limitations of traditional PMT-based flow cytometers.

Beckman Coulter Life Sciences first harnessed the use of fiber optics in their flagship research flow cytometry system, the CytoFLEX. The use of APD technology transforms the way a compact flow cytometry instrument can deliver high content research analysis.

"The DxFLEX flow cytometer opens up the possibilities for large hospitals and commercial laboratories looking to expand their high content analysis work with a compact, easy to use system," said Dr. Mario Koks, vice president and general manager of Beckman Coulter Life Sciences Cytometry Business Unit.

The APD technology in the DxFLEX reduces compensation spillover compared to PMT-based cytometers, delivering greater confidence in results, streamlining the lab's workflow and reducing manual steps. Running compensation on a conventional, photomultiplier tube (PMT) flow cytometer involves significant hands-on time, even when features like auto-compensation setup are available in the software.

“The biggest challenge for user-defined testing, particularly when using 10 or more fluorescent parameters, is the compensation process and the burden it places on lab staff. The time it can take may hold back the overall competitiveness of the lab,” explained Dr. Koksch. “However, incorrect compensation is one of the main reasons for false results when running multi-colour flow cytometry panels in the clinical lab.”

Platinum sponsors



BDB at ESCCA



BD Biosciences actively participated in the ESCCA 2021, held virtually between the 22 and 24 April.

Our participation was themed around our IVDR campaign. Despite our comprehensive portfolio of solutions, we decided to focus on the importance of preparing for the IVDR this year, given its relevance to all stakeholders.

Our focus was reflected in our Industrial Partner Presentation on the afternoon of Friday, 23 April, titled *'Impact of IVDR on an Italian academic diagnostic laboratory'*. Prof. Alessandra Biffi, Chief of the Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Stem Cell Transplant Division at the Padua Hospital in Italy, explained the steps her lab is taking to be ready for IVDR.

Aside from the IVDR-related topics, we hosted customers in a virtual room displaying six presentations during lunch breaks. All these presentations were recorded to be used for the follow-up campaign. The topics covered included the BD Multitest™ TBNK reagent and COVID-19, the BD FACSDuet™ in immunology CD4 and hematology labs, BD OneFlow™ on BD FACSLytic™ flow cytometer, FlowJo and the BD FACS™ workflow manager.

To conclude, BD Biosciences is proud to have been an active participant in the ESCCA 2021, just as we have done previously. We look forward to meeting all the participants again next year.

BD FACSDuet™ Sample Preparation System, BD FACSLytic™ Flow Cytometer with the BD FACSuite™ Clinical and BD FACSuite™ applications, BD Multitest™ 6-Color TBNK Reagent with BD Trucount™ Tubes and BD OneFlow™ reagents are in vitro diagnostic medical devices bearing a CE mark.

BD FACSDuet™ Sample Preparation System and BD FACSLytic™ Flow Cytometer are Class 1 Laser Products.

FlowJo™ software is for Research Use Only, not for use in in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures.

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Thank you for coming to ESCCA 2021! We were in good company.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the organizers and all of you for our great experience at the ESCCA 2021. It is a challenge to prepare and attend virtual events while maintaining connection and closeness with people, however on this occasion we have achieved it. The ESCCA 2021 Virtual Congress allowed all of us to catch up with the latest developments of the clinical flow cytometry environment and we hope that you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Raffle winner

We want to congratulate Lucinda Woodhead from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, UK for winning this year's Cytognos Raffle. We hope you enjoy your 1-year Infinicyt license and get the most of your data analysis.

Did you have time to visit our virtual stand or Cytognos zoom room?

You can have a second chance to re-view all our virtual presentations at the [ESCCA post-congress platform](#) or at our [Cytognos website](#). The recordings cover more than 13 hours of content including scientific and commercial presentations on flow cytometry research, software analysis, hematological and immunological studies, among others.

We truly hope that you enjoyed the ESCCA 2021 virtual meeting and we look forward to meet you next year!

Yours Sincerely,
The Cytognos Team



Thank you for joining Fluidigm at the ESCCA Virtual Conference, we hope you enjoyed taking part in this virtual event. If you are interested, we would like to connect you to one of our representatives - you can then arrange a time to discuss our multi-omics solutions in more detail.

[Yes, put me in touch with the local team!](#)

Our live presentation: *Implementing CyTOF® Technology for Standardized, High-dimensional Assays for Clinical Research*, with Glòria Martrus, is also [now available on-demand](#), please feel free to share this recording with colleagues who might have missed the live session. To find out more about the technologies Glòria talks about in her presentation, please visit our dedicated [Helios™ System](#) page or request a meeting with one of our team.

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