



## ESCCA NEWSFLASH

MARCH 2021

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### Editorial

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Dear ESCCA Member, dear colleagues and friends,

The Virtual Conference is approaching fast – only one month to go!

Without much further ado: check out the latest news on the following pages.

See you soon,

On behalf of the ESCCA board

Paula Fernandez  
ESCCA President

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## ESCCA Virtual Conference

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The latest version of the programme is online, now including Best Oral Abstract presentations. See the [Conference website](#).

### Extended early registration fee deadline!

As the Corona virus continues to firmly holds us in its grip, we decided to extend the early registration fees until 15 April 23:59:59 CET for all participant categories!

We hope that this gesture will enable more participants around the world to join us on the virtual platform in April. Regardless the time zone, you won't miss anything! All 48 lectures, 24 Best Abstract Presentations and 19 Oral Poster Presentations will remain on demand for 6 months after the Conference!

### Guest educational track: Antigen-specific Immunity

The Organisers from the highly successful MASIR (Measuring Antigen-specific Immune Responses) conference series have joined forces with ESCCA to form a new interface between clinical cell analysis and cutting edge immunology.

In the wake of huge immunotherapeutic successes in many areas of medicine, particularly cancer, this new, dedicated guest track will reflect the latest developments in this new exciting area. In 5 sessions with 10 interesting lectures we will focus in particular on the application and monitoring of immunotherapies. [Watch the introduction to this track](#)

### Virtual platform – sneak peek

The virtual platform for our Conference is ready and has been filled with the scientific programme elements and the sponsor booths. The related congress app is almost ready to be launched!

Would you like a sneak peek? Even though a general example, get a glimpse of the platform possibilities in this short '[walkthrough](#)'.

You will get all that, and more, tailor-made to ESCCA!

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## ESCCA Elections 2021

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The online elections to renew positions in the ESCCA executive Board and a Financial Auditor have started. All active members have received an invitation to vote per email. The online voting will end on Thursday 22 April at 13.00 hrs. The election results will be announced that same day during the General Assembly starting at 16.40 hrs.

Your vote and active participation count!

To vote, simply log in to the [membership section](#) and go to the page 'ESCCA Board Elections 2021'.

The agenda for the General Assembly are available in the [membership section](#).

We hope to welcome you in the General Assembly. Non-members are cordially invited to attend as well.

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## Recent publication ESCCA/ISCCA protocol on CSF

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Find below a summary of a recent publication of an ESCCA/ISCCA collaboration:

Del Principe MI, Gatti A, Johansson U, Buccisano F, Brando B. **“ESCCA/ISCCA protocol for the analysis of cerebrospinal fluid by multiparametric flow-cytometry in haematological malignancies”** *Cytometry B Clin Cytom.* 2020 Dec 25. doi: 10.1002/cyto.b.21981.

Central nervous system (CNS) involvement is a main cause of mortality in several haematological malignancies. Early detection of CNS disease at presentation or suspected relapse is pivotal for patient management and monitoring.

Flow cytometry processing and analysis of CSF samples is therefore instrumental; however, it requires careful consideration and poses some challenges.

In this position paper, the authors discuss critical points of CSF processing and highlight potential pitfalls with respect to sample storage, processing, data interpretation and reporting.

The technical approach described was developed by a Working Group of ESCCA and the Italian Society for Clinical Cell Analysis (ISCCA), and has been proposed by the latter as a national guideline.

If followed, these recommendations provide the first step towards improving immunophenotypic diagnosis of CSF infiltration. Harmonising a multiparameter approach across several laboratories would allow comparison of data from different centres, and collection of more precise information on the incidence of CNS involvement and its characteristics. It would also allow evaluation of the quality of response to intrathecal therapy. This approach can improve patient care by providing the data required for employing flow cytometric CSF evaluation to drive the number and schedule of therapeutic lumbar punctures, thereby reducing the risk of CNS relapse as well as avoiding excess neurotoxicity and, ultimately, benefiting patients.

On behalf of the ESCCA/ISCCA Working group  
Ulrika Johansson and Francesco Buccisano

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## ESCCA 2021 Virtual Conference Sponsors

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ESCCA would like to thank [the sponsors](#) who have committed themselves to the 2021 Virtual Conference. For their programme activities during the Virtual Conference, [click here](#). This page will be regularly updated!

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## Premier sponsor



Beckman Coulter Life Sciences is proud to share with you our scientific program at virtual ESCCA 2021.

Beckman Coulter Life Sciences believe in APD technology, why? Because state-of-the-art flow cytometers with APD detection systems simplify:

- Daily QC
- Creation of compensation library of APD gain settings
- Simple creation of high-complexity assays
- Removing the arduous task of spectral compensation

Hear from the scientific experts addressing the latest innovations and trends utilizing the APD technology in the laboratory environment. During our ESCCA partner presentation you will learn from Francoise Durrieu about the Implementation of the new DxFLEX clinical flow cytometer in a Hematology laboratory.

In our well established “Meet the Expert” series you will learn about:

- “Towards a new standard in flow-cytometric MRD assessment in AML: Innovative consensus approach of the I-BFM-FLOW network” **by, Barbara Buldini and Michael Dworzak**
- “Workflow optimization in clinical high-throughput flow cytometry: handling of reagents and sample preparation, data acquisition and data interpretation applying artificial intelligence” **by, Wolfgang Kern**
- “EU IVDR regulation: understanding the new requirements for a smooth transition” **by, Maurizio Suppo**
- And many more....

The full program is available at the [ESCCA website](#) with more details on all eight sessions.

To attend our “Meet the Expert” sessions you are routed to the **Beckman Coulter digital campus**, where you will find more product information, webinars and expert sessions.



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