



ESCCA NEWSLETTER

June 2022

Editorial

Dear colleagues and friends,

“We all hope it will be in person next time.” This comment from the 2021 Virtual Conference hit the nail on the head. We are so excited that we can finally organise an in-person meeting again after two years!

Let's *ESCCape* to Belfast! Meet old friends and colleagues, make new contacts and be inspired by speakers and colleagues from around the world.



Find out more about ESCCA 2022 and Belfast in this newsletter.

Other news includes the ESCCA Schools activities, the IVDR regulation and more. Enjoy reading.

Paula Fernandez
ESCCA President



Programme

We did our best to compose an interesting programme for you, designed to provide you with many high quality presentations that will no doubt stimulate intellectual discussions. Renowned international keynote speakers have agreed to share their knowledge with you during plenary keynote sessions and interactive case presentation sessions: Nina Babel (Berlin), Kimberly Gilmore (London), Dario Campana (Singapore), Hyun-Dong Chang (Berlin), and Andrew Filby (Newcastle). Last but not least Paul Robinson will honour the late Howard Shapiro in his memorial lecture *No people like flow people*.

We have put together 3 parallel educational tracks - for you to compose your personal programme in the congress app: Advances in haemato-oncological diseases, Fundamentals in Clinical Flow and Antigen specific immunology in disease.

Finally, we have no less than 5 pre-conference training courses on Wednesday morning 21 September. Do register early - there are only 20 places available per course! For the descriptions and programmes, [click here](#).

Registration & Call for abstracts

Registration and abstract submission are open. The Scientific Committee welcomes the submission of abstracts for original research papers for oral or posters presentation during the Conference. The top 8 oral abstracts will be presented in two plenary sessions, one presenter will be selected for the ESCCA Best Oral Abstract Award. The best poster will be awarded with the ESCCA Best Poster Award.

Submit before the deadline of 30 June! Only on-time abstracts will be considered for oral presentation.

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

Key dates

30 June 2022

15 July 2022

5 August 2022

15 September 2022

Deadline for abstract submission

Notifications of acceptance

Early registration fee deadline

Regular registration fee deadline; online registration closed

Social programme

There will be enough time for social mixing and mingling.



The **Welcome Reception** will take place in the impressive City Hall in the heart of the city. After the Reception explore what Belfast has to offer! The Cathedral Quarter is home to a bustling culture and arts scene, cosy pubs, underground music venues and a host of contemporary restaurants to suit all tastes.



We thank Belfast City Council for their kind generosity for the use of City Hall



The Conference Dinner will be held in **Titanic Belfast**, the very place where Titanic was designed, built and launched. This impressive museum tells the story of Titanic from her conception, through her construction and launch, to her maiden voyage and subsequent place in history. A must visit if you have the chance during your stay in Belfast. Join us there to enjoy a nice three-course dinner, music and dance, and above all the company of your friends and colleagues.

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

9th Prague International School

The 9th edition of the Prague school on flow cytometry will be held virtually, from 24-27 October 2022.

Last year this highly rated course was attended by 49 participants from 24 countries from Europe, Africa, Asia, North and South America.

The interactive programme on advanced applications in hematology-oncology and immunology will feature, amongst others,

- State of the art Panel designs, Analysis strategies and Interpretation following ESCCA, ICCS, ELN, ERIC and EuroFlow Guidelines
- Guidelines for validation and ISO 15189 accreditation
- Training for ESCCA certification for cytometry operators and cytometry specialists
- Special guest speaker: Sindhu Cherian – Past president of ICCS.

Get 1 year free participation in the ESCCA Interlaboratory Comparison Programme.

Extended registration deadline: 30 July 2022.

All interested clinical cytometrists from Ukraine are welcome to attend the course as our guests, free of charge!

For more information, visit the Meetings page <https://www.escca.eu/meetings>

ESCCA Certification Exams

ESCCA is aware of the technical complexity and constant evolution of cytometry instrumentation and its applications that require continuous training and education. We also aim to help ESCCA members, and especially the young scientists, to attain excellence in their work in cytometry. In order to attest the level of excellence of cytometrists the ESCCA Education and Accreditation Committee has created the European Cytometry Certificate.

Since it's implementation in 2018, 25 candidates have passed the exam successfully. The Corona pandemic made it clear that a virtual version of the exam was needed. The work for the development of the 1st level online exam has nearly completed.

We'll update you as soon as you can register for the online exam!

New IVDR Regulations

New European Union *In Vitro* Diagnostics Regulations (EU IVDR)

Many of our members have asked questions around working under the planned new EU IVDR. The time-line for these regulations to come into play has changed, creating extended valuable time to prepare for them.

We recognise the importance of working together with industry to support development of high quality CE-IVD assays suitable for use in routine laboratories.

Additionally, we acknowledge that it is necessary that our flow laboratories can continue to provide in-house developed assays as part of our service: we work in a constantly evolving field, and thus require the capacity to provide cutting edge service to our users.

Application of in-house assays requires robust validation procedures and compliance with ISO-15189:2012 accreditation.

Therefore, we have a pre-course on assay validation at this year's ESCCA conference. We also have a full session on assay validation during the conference.

Would you be keen to participate in a working group on how to meet some of the less straight-forward aspects of the ISO15189 standards? We will send out a survey monkey shortly, and this will give you the opportunity to let us know if you would like us to provide guidance around ISO15189 for flow labs and if so, if you have any specific areas of the standards you are interested in. So please look out for this Survey Monkey and stay in touch with us!

Follow ESCCA!

We have added Instagram! Do you already follow us via the other channels?



Our 2022 main sponsors

We thank our **Premier sponsors** Beckman Coulter and BD Biosciences for their support.



Beckman Coulter Life Science is welcoming you to the ESCCA 2022.

Stop by our booth to explore our innovative solutions like the new CellMek SPS Sample Preparation System for clinical flow cytometry labs.

In these days of staff shortages, supply chain challenges and unpredictable peaks in demand for test results, achieving lab efficiency has never been more important.

Learn how to unlock the power of lean to reduce process waste and optimize workflow efficiency.

Whether you want to optimize the processing of your lab developed tests or you are looking for workflow optimized in-vitro diagnostics.

Beckman Coulter Life Sciences is your partner on the patients journey and offers solutions to the most demanding needs of modern clinical flow cytometry.

Join our Scientific program in our “Meet the Expert Sessions“ and interact with other likeminded scientists enabling you to share your expertise, knowledge and learn from your peers in the research community.

See you in Belfast!

[Join ESCCA as a member](#)