

Symposium 221



# IBD Management in the New Decade: Old Myths and New Realities

October 2-3, 2020  
Megaron Athens International  
Conference Center  
Athens, Greece



Preliminary  
Program

Application for  
CME credits  
submitted

▶	Preface . . . . .	2
▶	Scientific Program . . . . .	4
▶	Posters . . . . .	8
▶	List of Speakers, Moderators and Scientific Organizers . . . . .	9
▶	Information . . . . .	14

CME credits for the Symposium 221 have been applied for at the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS). The number of credits awarded will be printed in the final program.

## Preface

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is our great privilege and honor to invite you to the historical city of Athens, the birthplace of democracy and the cradle of philosophy, classical theater, fine arts, and harmony, for the occasion of the first IBD Symposium in Greece, “IBD Management in the New Decade: Old Myths and New Realities’.

In the past 50 years we have witnessed astonishing achievements in the field of inflammatory bowel diseases (ulcerative colitis and Crohn’s disease). Landmark studies have dramatically improved our knowledge regarding the aetiopathogenesis, the clinical manifestations, the diagnostic modalities, the prognosis and the therapeutic approaches of patients with these life-long incapacitating diseases. We have been able to diagnose the disease early, stratify better our patients into separate groups with different disease location and behavior, develop better markers to monitor the course of disease and prognose disease progression, establish highly specialized treatments to block individual pathways of inflammation, and identify better targets of treatment to avoid ominous long-term outcomes, such as surgeries, bowel insufficiency and somatic and functional disability. As a result, although curing the disease is still a distant dream, many of our patients, and especially those with more aggressive course of IBD, can run a nearly normal life.

These achievements have come after a long and sometimes painful battle of many cooperating disciplines against established dogmas and prejudices. The Athens IBD Symposium aims at reviewing the old myths critically and welcoming the dawn of the next decade and whatever new achievements it brings. The invited speakers, an interesting mixture of first-class scientists of different geographic representation, were selected in order to address these difficult topics not only by established evidence-based data but also by their personal experience in the countries they practice. These topics will cover a wide spectrum of disease constituents and we hope that speakers will shake those of the old myths who pose a burden to further investigation and treatment of IBD and will enlighten us with a critical appraisal of the new diagnostic and therapeutic modalities ending in a proposal for precision medicine therapeutics and patient stratification.

We, as organizing committee, are grateful to the FALK Foundation for granting us the honor to organize the first Hellenic IBD Meeting in a magnificent venue, the Athens Concert Hall (‘The Megaron’), and we hope to see you in the fascinating, relentlessly alert city of Athens next October.

G. J. Mantzaris

M. Diculescu

A. Dignass

G. Rogler

B. Vucelic



# IBD Management in the New Decade: Old Myths and New Realities

**October 2-3, 2020**

**Megaron Athens International  
Conference Center  
Athens, Greece**

**Start of Registration:**

Thursday, October 1, 2020  
16.00 - 21.00 h  
at the congress office

**Setting Up of Poster Session:**

Thursday, October 1, 2020  
16.00 - 21.00 h

**Congress Venue:**

Megaron Athens International  
Conference Center  
Vass. Sofias & Kokkali  
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Greece

**Symposium 221 is organized  
by Falk Foundation e.V.**

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G. Rogler, Zurich (Switzerland)  
B. Vucelic, Zagreb (Croatia)

**Official Language:**

English

**Call for Posters:**

A poster session will take place.  
For details see page 8

**Publication Date of the Final Program:**

September 2020

The final program will be available on  
the homepage [www.falk-foundation-symposia.org](http://www.falk-foundation-symposia.org) one week before the start  
of the symposium.



## Friday, October 2, 2020

**9.00** Welcome and introduction

G.J. Mantzaris,  
Athens

### Session I Etiopathogenesis

**Chair:** G. Bamias, Athens; G. Rogler, Zurich

**9.10** East *versus* West: What have we learnt from epidemiology and how can we apply this knowledge in clinical practice?

J.M. Burisch,  
Hvidovre/  
Copenhagen

**9.30** Lost in translation: What should the clinician know about genetics?

J. Halfvarson,  
Örebro

**9.50** Microbiota and microbiome in IBD: Pathogenetic pillar, source of biomarkers, or therapeutic target?

H. Sokol,  
Paris

**10.10** Of mice and men: New immunological pathways in IBD

J. Lee,  
Cambridge

**10.30** **Coffee break with poster session**

### Session II Diseases mimicking and/or complicating IBD: Have we made any progress?

**Chair:** K.H. Katsanos, Ioannina; B. Vucelic, Zagreb

**11.00** TB or not TB?

G.A. Watermeyer,  
Cape Town

**11.20** Is it Behcet's disease or Crohn's disease?

M. Toruner,  
Ankara

**11.40** CMV: A innocent bystander or a true pathogen?

B. Siegmund,  
Berlin

**12.00** Microscopic colitis or early IBD?

A. Münch,  
Linköping

**12.20** **Lunch break with poster session**



## Friday, October 2, 2020

### Session III

#### Advances in imaging and endoscopy

**Chair:** A. Eliakim, Tel Aviv; M.F. Neurath, Erlangen

- |              |  |                            |
|--------------|--|----------------------------|
| <b>14.20</b> | What makes ultrasonography a reliable diagnostic and monitoring tool in IBD?         | C. Maaser,<br>Lüneburg     |
| <b>14.40</b> | The new CD-capsule endoscopy: A breakthrough?  | U. Kopylov,<br>Tel Aviv    |
| <b>15.00</b> | New modalities for identifying and treating precancerous lesions                     | R. Kiesslich,<br>Wiesbaden |
| <b>15.20</b> | <b>State-of-the-Art Lecture:</b><br>Can endoscopy predict the response to treatment? | M.F. Neurath,<br>Erlangen  |
| <b>15.40</b> | <b>Coffee break with poster session</b>  |                            |

### Session IV

#### How do I optimize treatment with...

**Chair:** M. Diculescu, Bucharest; M.C. Dubinsky, New York

- |              |   |                             |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>16.10</b> | 5-ASA   | H. Herfarth,<br>Chapel Hill |
| <b>16.30</b> | Thiopurines   | P. Irving,<br>London        |
| <b>16.50</b> | Biologics   | S. Ghosh,<br>Birmingham     |
| <b>17.10</b> | <b>State-of-the-Art Lecture:</b><br>Can we predict the course of Crohn's disease? | M.C. Dubinsky,<br>New York  |
| <b>17.30</b> | <b>Networking with light refreshments</b>   |                             |



## Saturday, October 3, 2020

### Session V

#### Case-based presentations: How do I treat this patient?

**Chair:** F. Gomollón, Zaragoza; G. Rogler, Zurich

- |             |  |                                  |
|-------------|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>9.00</b> | A 16-year old girl with new onset moderate-to-severe Crohn's disease                       | J. Lindsay,<br>London            |
| <b>9.15</b> | A 67-year old man with moderate-to-severe steroid-dependent colitis                        | A. López-Sanromán,<br>Madrid     |
| <b>9.30</b> | A 35-year old lady with Crohn's disease on infliximab and azathioprine who became pregnant | C.J. van der Woude,<br>Rotterdam |
| <b>9.45</b> | A 54-year old patient with antibiotic refractory pouchitis                                 | P. Gionchetti,<br>Bologna        |
- 10.00 Coffee break with poster session**

### Session VI

#### Biologics and beyond

**Chair:** G.J. Mantzaris, Athens; B.E. Sands, New York

- |              |  |   |
|--------------|--|---|
| <b>10.30</b> | Presentation of Poster Awards                                | M. Diculescu,<br>Bucharest<br>G. Rogler,<br>Zurich<br>B. Vucelic,<br>Zagreb |
| <b>10.45</b> | Beyond anti-TNF $\alpha$ biologics                           | B.G. Feagan,<br>London/Ontario  |
| <b>11.05</b> | How should I choose the best biologic for my patient?        | B.E. Sands,<br>New York   |
| <b>11.25</b> | The new small molecules: A revolution or lost expectations?  | R. Panaccione,<br>Calgary   |
| <b>11.45</b> | Fecal microbiota transplantation in IBD: Science or fiction? | P. Moayyedi,<br>Hamilton  |
- 12.05 Lunch break with poster session**



# Saturday, October 3, 2020

## Session VII

### Hitting the bullseye: Choosing new therapeutic targets in IBD

**Chair:** A. Dignass, Frankfurt; I.E. Koutroubakis, Heraklion

- |              |   |                         |
|--------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>13.00</b> | Is fecal calprotectin a validated therapeutic target?           | E. Louis,<br>Liège      |
| <b>13.20</b> | Should we strive for transmural healing in Crohn's disease?     | F. Rieder,<br>Cleveland |
| <b>13.40</b> | Histologic healing is not target in ulcerative colitis: Really? | F.J. Magro,<br>Porto    |
| <b>14.00</b> | Treat-to-target or treat-to-trough?                             | B. Verstockt,<br>Leuven |
| <b>14.20</b> | <b>Coffee break with poster session</b>                         |                         |

## Session VIII

### Surgical therapy: Is it still the last therapeutic resort?

**Chair:** W.A. Bemelman, Amsterdam; I. Papaconstantinou, Athens

- |              |   |                             |
|--------------|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>14.50</b> | IPAA surgery in the next decade: Where do we stand?                             | J. Warusavitarne,<br>London |
| <b>15.10</b> | Old tricks and new surgical innovations for Crohn's disease                     | P.G. Kotze,<br>Curitiba     |
| <b>15.30</b> | Robot-assisted surgery in IBD: Much ado about nothing or a new wonderful world? | M. Turina,<br>Zurich        |

## Session IX

### State-of-the-Art Lecture: IBD Management in the New Decade

**Chair:** J. Schölmerich, Hofheim; N. Tözün, Istanbul

- |              |  |  |
|--------------|--|--|
| <b>15.50</b> | IBD precision medicine therapeutics and patient stratification | C. Fiocchi,<br>Cleveland<br>D. Iliopoulos,<br>Torrance/Los Angeles |
| <b>16.20</b> | Closing remarks  | G.J. Mantzaris,<br>Athens<br>A. Dignass,<br>Frankfurt              |



## Poster Session

Posters will be exhibited on October 2-3, 2020. The authors will be in attendance during coffee and lunch breaks on both days. The setting up of the poster session starts on Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 16.00 h. The authors are asked to mount their poster on Thursday.

## Call for Posters

Please submit your poster abstract before **June 1, 2020**. Only one-page abstracts not exceeding 300 words, written in English will be accepted.

Abstracts must be submitted via our Internet Abstract Submission System (<https://poster.falkfoundation.com>) where further information regarding the submission format and the submission process is available.

The abstracts will be selected by the scientific organizers, preference being given to those thematically related to one of the sessions of the program. The accepted abstracts will be printed and distributed to the participants of the congress together with the documents of the meeting.

The authors will receive notification about acceptance and further instructions in **July 2020**.

Contact address for further information on the poster session:

Falk Foundation e.V.  
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Leinenweberstr. 5  
79108 Freiburg  
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Web address for submitting poster abstracts:  
<https://poster.falkfoundation.com>

For the **first author** of an accepted poster, expenses for accommodation (October 1-4, 2020) and fees for the scientific program will be covered during Symposium 221. Travel expenses will not be covered.

## Poster Awards

Three prizes will be awarded for the best poster presentations. **For the presentation of poster awards, award winners will be asked to give a short presentation (2–5 minutes) of their poster.** Award winners will be presented with a certificate and prize money of €1,500, €1,000 and €500. Travel expenses will additionally be covered for the first author of an awarded poster.

# List of Speakers, Moderators and Scientific Organizers

## **Prof. Dr. George Bamias**

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## General Information

**Prior** to the opening of the congress in Athens

Falk Foundation e.V. Telephone: +49-761-1514-125  
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Leinenweberstr. 5 Email: symposia@falk-foundation-symposia.org  
79108 Freiburg  
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## Congress Office and Registration

**During** Symposium 221

**Congress Office Telephone:** +49-175-7795-327

### Opening Hours:

Thursday, October 1, 2020	16.00 – 21.00 h
Friday, October 2, 2020	8.00 – 17.30 h
Saturday, October 3, 2020	8.30 – 16.30 h

### Workshop Venue:

Megaron Athens International  
Conference Center  
Vass. Sofias & Kokkali  
11521 Athens  
Greece

## Congress Fees

Scientific Program of Symposium 221	EUR 300
Students (copy of student ID required)	EUR 150

\* \* \*OR\* \*

Day Ticket	EUR 180
Students (copy of student ID required)	EUR 90

### The congress fees include:

- Pre-Opening and Welcome on Thursday, October 1, 2020
- Refreshments during coffee breaks
- Lunch on Friday, October 2 and on Saturday, October 3, 2020
- Snacks during scientific discussion on Friday, October 2, 2020
- A copy of the abstract volume
- A copy of the final program

## Registration

Congress registrations must reach the Foundation e.V. by **July 1, 2020, at the latest.**

After receipt of the registration form, each participant will be provided with confirmation of his registration/invoice. On presentation of this confirmation at the congress office in Athens participants will receive the congress folder containing name badges, admission tickets and the abstract volume.

In the event of registration cancellations, a handling fee of EUR 20 will be deducted from the refund. All participants will receive a written confirmation of attendance at the end of the meeting.

## Admission to Scientific Events

For admission to scientific events your name badge should be clearly visible. Accompanying persons are not permitted during the conference at any time.

## Arrival

### By plane

Athens International Airport “Eleftherios Venizelos” is located in Spata, 33 km southeast of Athens and serves all international and domestic flights. The airport is easily accessible from MAICC and the city center via motorway, express bus or metro. An average journey by taxi from the airport to the city center should take approximately 40-50 minutes, depending on traffic.

### By Metro

There is direct access from the airport and the city center to MAICC (metro station “Megaron Moussikis”) on metro line 3 (blue line). Please visit the Athens Metro website for detailed information at [www.stasy.gr](http://www.stasy.gr) [www.oasa.gr](http://www.oasa.gr)

### By Bus

The following buses, express buses and trolley buses pass and stop near MAICC:

- Buses: 550, A5
- Express Buses: X95 (direct airport line), E14
- Cable „Trolley” Buses: 3,10

For more information about the public transportation network in Athens please visit: [www.oasa.gr](http://www.oasa.gr)





## Organized by:

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