



# 23<sup>rd</sup> Belgian Congress on Rheumatology



2 - 4 October 2019

**Preliminary Programme  
& Call for Abstracts**

[www.rheumacongress.be](http://www.rheumacongress.be)

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## Congress Secretariat

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**MEDICONGRESS**

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## Welcome Address & Call for Abstracts

Dear Colleagues,

The Royal Belgian Society for Rheumatology has the great pleasure of announcing the **23rd Belgian Congress on Rheumatology**, taking place in Leuven on **2- 4 October 2019**.

The congress will take place at the University Hall of the KU Leuven. The Hall was originally built by the weavers to be used for trading fabric. The Fabric Hall is currently the central place for student enrolment. The lectures will be held at the Promotion room: this oak-panelled hall, lined with the portraits of former rectors, is the location where the university convenes for its most prestigious activities such as the celebration of honorary doctorates and public PhD defences. The exhibition will take place in the Jubileum Hall, located opposite the Promotion room. This arcaded hall was built in 1680 on top of the original cloth hall.

The KBVR-SRBR also has the pleasure to invite you to submit an abstract and present your scientific work at the 23rd Belgian Congress on Rheumatology.

All topics in the area of rheumatologic research are welcomed. We would be pleased to receive proposals representing every field of our participants' interests.

Abstracts are now to be submitted via an online submission platform. Submission details and author guidelines are available on the congress website: [www.rheumacongress.be](http://www.rheumacongress.be)

The deadline for abstract submission is 15 May 2019. All accepted abstracts will be displayed as posters with a reviewer tour hosted during the congress. Consequently, we remind you that the presence of the presenting author is required in order to contribute to the discussions during this tour. The Scientific Committee will further select a limited number of abstracts for oral presentation.

The 'Thieves Market' has secured its permanent time slot in the programme. For this session - dedicated to trainees and young rheumatologists - we look forward to receiving your most remarkable clinical cases! The best cases will be the core of the 'Thieves Market'.

Together with the KBVR-SRBR Board members, we hope to welcome you to BCR'19 in Leuven and remain,

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Maria Stoenoiu  
Scientific Organiser

## Wednesday, 2 October

- 10.00 **Young Investigator Meeting**
- 12.00 Welcome Lunch in the Exhibition Hall
- 12.30 **Opening Ceremony**  
*Maria Stoenoiu, Scientific Organiser, Dirk Elewaut and Catherine Bailleux, KBVR-SRBR*

### SESSION 1

- 12.50 **Vesalius Lecture**  
**Outcome measures in rheumatology, from trial to practice - How out come measures have transformed rheumatology**  
*Maarten Boers (The Netherlands)*
- 13.35 **Abstract Presentations**
- 14.05 FWRO/FRSR Award Ceremony  
*René Westhovens (KUL) and Philippe Carron (UGent)*
- 14.30 **Update in Therapeutics**
- 15.00 **Update in Therapeutics**
- 15.30 Coffee Break in the Exhibition Hall

### SESSION 2

- 16.00 **Treatment of Sjogren's disease – State-of-the-Art**  
*Isabelle Peene (AZ Sint-Jan)*
- 16.30 **SpA: State-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment of peripheral spondyloarthritis - Worth the attention?**  
*Philippe Carron (UGent)*
- 17.00 **Update in Therapeutics**
- 17.30 **Update in Therapeutics**
- 18.00 Walking Dinner in the Exhibition Hall

## Wednesday, 2 October

### SESSION 3 - Ethics & Economy

- 19.30 **Health professionals: Current and future projects**  
**Overview of the organization of Belgium's healthcare**
- 19.45 **Patient associations: Current and future activities**  
**How to increase visibility and awareness**
- 20.00 **BRV-ARB presentation**  
*Laurent Méric de Bellefon (CNDG, CHU Saint-Pierre Brussels, UCL)*
- 20.15 **The bionic patient: consumer technology including wearables changing clinical practice**  
*Will Dixon (United Kingdom) and Thijs Swinnen (KUL)*
- 21.30 Panel Discussion
- 22.30 End of Day 1

## Thursday, 3 October

### 08.00 **Workshop 1**

#### **Evaluation of psoriatic arthritis and psoriasis**

*Kurt de Vlam and Adrien Nzeusseu Toukap (KUL and UCL)*

### **Workshop 2**

#### **Autoantibodies in clinical practice**

*Ellen De Langhe and Xavier Bossuyt (KUL)*

### **SESSION 4**

### 09.00 **Abstract Presentations**

### 09.30 **Cardiovascular comorbidities in rheumatic diseases**

*Anne Greet Semb (Norway)*

### 10.15 **Year in Review – Clinical and basic science**

*Béatrice André (CHU de Liège, ULg) and Shan Soyfoo (ULB)*

10.45 Coffee Break in the Exhibition Hall

### **SESSION 5**

11.15 **Update in Therapeutics**

11.45 **Update in Therapeutics**

### 12.15 **The hunt for the wolf: Shaping the treatment of SLE**

*Farah Tamirou (UCL)*

12.45 Lunch in the Exhibition Hall

13.30 Poster Tour in the Exhibition Hall

14.00 **General Assembly**

## Thursday, 3 October

### **SESSION 6**

14.15 **Update in Therapeutics**

14.45 **Update in Therapeutics**

### 15.15 **The power and pitfalls of musculoskeletal ultrasound in daily practice**

*Maria Stoenoiu (UCL)*

15.50 Coffee Break in the Exhibition Hall

### **SESSION 7**

16.20 **Abstract Presentations**

16.50 **Update in Therapeutics**

17.20 End of Day 2

## Friday, 4 October

### 08.00 Workshop 3

#### Ultrasound hands-on: Ankle

Philippe Carron (UGent), Alla Ishchenko (ZNA Jan Palfijn, Middelheim Hospital, UZ Gasthuisberg, KUL), Maria-José Fernandez (Centre Medicis, UZ Antwerpen), Marie Joelle Kaiser (Ulg), Ruth Wittoek (UGent & ZNA Jan Palfijn), Maria Stoenoiu (UCL)

### Workshop 4

#### Axial MRI interpretation

Lennart Jans and Peggy Jacques (UGent)

## SESSION 8

### 09.00 The future treatments of OA

Rik Lories (KUL)

### 09.30 Abstract Presentations

### 10.00 Update in Therapeutics

### 10.30 Update in Therapeutics

11.00 Coffee Break in the Exhibition Hall

### 11.30 Bone and Joint Lecture

#### Rheumatoid arthritis, yesterday and tomorrow

René Westhovens (KUL)

## SESSION 9

### 12.00 Thieves Market

### 12.30 Closure of the Congress

12.45 Farewell Lunch

### 13.30 KBVR-SRBR Board Meeting

## Registration

### Registration Fees

	EARLY Until 31 August	LATE As of 1 September
Members KBVR-SRBR	€ 150,00	€ 250,00
Non Members	€ 250,00	€ 350,00
Trainees in Rheumatology*	€ 50,00	€ 75,00
Other Trainees*	€ 75,00	€ 100,00
Researchers non-MD*	€ 50,00	€ 75,00
Emeriti	€ 50,00	€ 75,00
Workshops**	Free	Free

\* Registration as a trainee or researcher non-MD will only be accepted if accompanied by a copy of your student card or a certificate of your director (proof to be uploaded during the registration process). Without proof the non-member fee will be charged.

\*\* Participation in the workshops is free of charge and is limited to 30 participants.

### The registration fee for participants includes

- Participation in all scientific sessions
- Participation in the hands-on workshops (separate registration required, limited to 30 participants)
- Participation in the 'Updates in Therapeutics' organised by the Industry
- Congress bag with the Programme and Abstracts, tourist info and congress related documents
- Access to the exhibition
- Lunches and coffee breaks

### How to register - Registration opens on 1 June

You can register online through the congress website [www.rheumacongress.be](http://www.rheumacongress.be). Click on 'Registration' for details and access to the online registration form.

When your registration is completed successfully, you will receive an automatic confirmation. You can also print an invoice when you finalise your online registration.

### Changes/Name Substitutions

You will receive a personal link in your final confirmation email. With this link it will be possible to make changes or transfer your registration to a colleague free of charge.

### Cancellations

Participants canceling their registration before 1 September 2018, will receive a full refund, less € 50,00 administration costs. There will be no refunds for cancellations received after this date. Cancellations must be confirmed in writing to the Organising Secretariat. All refunds will be processed after the Congress.

## Hotel Accommodation

A number of hotel rooms have been booked at special group rates, including breakfast and VAT. You can reserve your hotel room through the online registration form (available from 1 June onwards).

Any requests for hotel accommodation must be accompanied by a credit card number, in order to secure the room. This credit card will not be charged by the organisers but only serves as a reservation guarantee.

Participants will have to pay their hotel room and personal expenses at the reception of the hotel. In case of late cancellation or no show, the room will be charged on the credit card.

The list of hotels with rates and cancellation policy will be available on the website on 1 June

## Major Sponsors

The logo for AbbVie, featuring the word "abbvie" in a lowercase, blue, sans-serif font.The logo for Bristol-Myers Squibb, consisting of a blue geometric icon followed by the text "Bristol-Myers Squibb" in a blue, sans-serif font.The logo for Celgene, featuring a blue stylized icon followed by the word "Celgene" in a blue, sans-serif font.The logo for Lilly, featuring the word "Lilly" in a red, cursive script font.The logo for MSD, featuring a green and white stylized icon followed by the letters "MSD" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.The logo for Novartis, featuring a stylized orange and blue icon followed by the word "NOVARTIS" in a blue, sans-serif font.The logo for Pfizer, featuring the word "Pfizer" in a white, sans-serif font inside a blue oval.The logo for Roche, featuring the word "Roche" in a blue, sans-serif font inside a blue hexagonal outline.The logo for Sanofi Genzyme, featuring the words "SANOFI GENZYME" in a blue, sans-serif font followed by a small, colorful icon.