



European
Cytogeneticists
Association



13th EUROPEAN CYTOGENOMICS CONFERENCE

3 - 5 JULY 2021

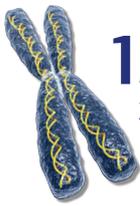
www.eca2021.org



ONLINE CONFERENCE

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT



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WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I hope this letter finds you in good health. What we are going through in these terrible times is no small matter. First of all, please make a note of the 13th European Cytogenomics Conference ECC (online): 3-5 July 2021.

When the pandemic hit last year, our conference was nearly two years away and I thought it might be safe to start organizing. In fact, we had already begun to visit potential convention centres.

Unfortunately, this year the coronavirus has returned with a vengeance, putting the whole world in an incredible situation; the end is not yet in sight. I fear it has also affected some members of our ECA community or their families. The decision to hold an online conference in 2021 was, therefore, not a choice but a necessity, despite the arrival of the vaccine.

The ECA conferences provide an ideal opportunity every two years for members of our community to meet, to renew old contacts and make new ones, and to exchange information and experiences. Unfortunately, this time it will be different. In any case, we will have the opportunity to hear outstanding speakers talk about progress in our fields. I deliberately use the plural, "fields", because of the three different branches of our Association: cytogenomics of humans, non-human animals, and plants. This broad view of life on Earth may also help to understand why SARS-CoV-2 is developing mutations with increasing fitness.

An online conference would mean that we would have to sit in front of a computer for hours. For this reason we have decided on a simplified version of the program, with a reduced number of lectures and without parallel sessions. However, an online conference could provide a greater opportunity to participate, especially for young people, because of no travel and accommodation costs and a reduced registration fee.

The program is almost complete, as you can see on the dedicated web page.

In the second half of 2021, hoping that the vaccination will have substantially improved the situation, we plan to organize a physical General Assembly with Board elections, as required by the statutes.

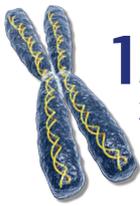
I also want to mention that ECA is present on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Cytogenetic>, where new posts covering a wide range of biological news are regularly placed. These posts also appear on a plain web page at <https://www.e-c-a.eu/EN/CYTOGENOMICS-NEWS.html>.

I look forward to "seeing" you at the conference; though we will not really see each other as it is online. However, I hope we will see numerous contributions in the form of posters which will be available for viewing at the conference. In any case, a few faces will be seen because some abstracts will be selected for oral presentation at the end of various sessions or during the Permanent Working Group meetings. And remember the only non-virtual thing in this virtual conference: poster-prizes!

The website of the ECA is ready to accept registrations and the submission of abstracts.

Kind regards,

Mariano Rocchi
President of ECA



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COMMITTEES

E.C.A. COMMITTEE

Mariano ROCCHI
(President)

Kamlesh MADAN
(1st Vice-President)

Pat HESLOP-HARRISON
(2nd Vice-President)

Konstantin MILLER
(General Secretary)

Jean-Michel DUPONT
(Treasurer)

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Mariano ROCCHI
(Chair)

Claudia HAFERLACH

Damien SANLAVILLE

Emanuela VOLPI

Joris VERMEESCH

Orsetta ZUFFARDI

SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

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ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT

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PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

CME Accreditation

ECA will submit for the European CME credits (ECMEC®s) to the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME®) for the 13th European Cytogenomics Conference - ECA 2021.

3 JULY 2021	4 JULY 2021	5 JULY 2021
Permanent Working Groups		
Poster Session	Full Day Sessions	Full Day Sessions & Closing Ceremony
Opening Lecture		

PRELIMINARY TOPICS & SPEAKERS

OPENING LECTURE

Aneuploidy: Where do we go from here?

Terry Hassold

Washington State University, School of Molecular Biosciences, USA

CLOSING LECTURE

Long-read Sequencing, Disease Variants and Genome Evolution

Evan E. Eichler

University of Washington, Genome Sciences, USA

FACULTY

Genome Integrity and Mechanisms Driving Karyotype Evolution

Aurora Ruiz-Herrera

Department Biologia Cellular, Fisiologia i Immunologia Facultat de Biociències, Barcelona, Spain

Embryo Aneuploidy Testing, Past, Present and Future

Carmen Rubio

Igenomix Valencia, Spain

X-chromosome Regulation and Sex Differences in Brain Anatomy

Christine M Disteche

University of Washington Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, USA

Non-coding Regulation of Sexual Features

Darío Lupiáñez

Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine in the Helmholtz Association Berlin, Germany

Non-invasive Fetal Aneuploidy Screening

Erik Sistermans

Amsterdam Reproduction & Development VU University Medical Center, The Netherlands



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PRELIMINARY TOPICS & SPEAKERS

Mosaic Variants and Clonal Selection in Health and Disease

Gulio Genovese

Stanley Center / Broad Institute, Cambridge, USA

Enhancer Hijacking of BCL11B Defines a Subtype of Lineage Ambiguous Acute Leukemia

Lindsey Montefiori

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Department of Pathology, Memphis, USA

The Impact of Sequencing on Prenatal Diagnosis

Lynn Chitty

Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK

Genome Evolution and Genetic Changes Associated with Individual and Species Differences

Marta Farré Belmonte

School of Biosciences, University of Kent, Kent, UK

Pervasive Chromosomal Instability and Karyotype Order in Tumour Evolution

Roland Schwarz

Evolutionary and Cancer Genomics

Berlin Institute for Medical Systems Biology (BIMSB)

Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC) Berlin, Germany

CNVs as Risk Factors for Neuropsychiatric Conditions

Sébastien Jaquemont

CHU Sainte-Justine, Montréal, Canada

The Global Genome/Genomes Sans Frontiers

Segun Fatumo

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom

Uganda Medical Informatics Centre (UMIC), MRC/UVRI and LSHTM, Uganda

Single-cell Multi-omics to Study Genetic Heterogeneity in Health and Disease

Thierry Voet

Department of Human Genetics, Leuven, Germany

Variability in Spatial Genome Organization

Tom Mistelli

National Cancer Institute, USA

Repetitive DNA, Epigenetic Variability, and Genomic Innovation in Higher Plants

Tony Heitkam

Dresden University of Technology, Dresden, Germany



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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Please proceed to the online abstract system via the official conference web page: www.eca2021.org

GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

- Abstract submission will close automatically at the end of **16 April 2021**.
- Abstracts must be submitted in English via the official conference website: www.eca2021.org. Abstracts sent by e-mail or fax will not be accepted.
- All abstracts may be sent in for a poster presentation. The most significant and original abstracts will be selected for oral presentation in either one of the workshops or in a scientific session. Please indicate in the system, when submitting your abstract, if you do **not** wish to have your abstract evaluated for an oral presentation.
- Please note that at least one author of each abstract **must register** for the conference. Abstracts submitted without any corresponding conference registration will be refused.
- Each submitting author may submit only one (1) abstract to the conference. Please remember that the online abstract submission system does not allow more than one abstract submission per submitting author.
- Please do not send multiple versions of the same abstract.
- The submitting author will be informed by e-mail about the acceptance of his/her abstract soon after the evaluation process is complete. Acceptance is at the discretion of the committee; publication is at the discretion of the journal.

CONTENT

- The abstract should contain the title of the paper, the names of the authors and their departments and affiliations (including the cities and the countries), and the e-mail address of the presenting author.
- Please note that the abstract system does not allow submissions exceeding 300 words (including the title).
- Please do not use tables, images or graphics. If you think it is absolutely necessary to have tables or graphics in the abstract, please contact DEKON by e-mail (eca2021@eca2021.org).
- Please use only standard abbreviations. If necessary please place special or unusual abbreviations in parentheses after the full word appears for the first time.

LIST OF TOPICS

- Abstracts must be allocated to one the following topics:
- Clinical Cytogenomics
- Tumour Cytogenomics
- Prenatal Diagnosis
- Animal and Plant Cytogenomics
- Accreditation, Quality Control, Education
- Genomics
- Other Cytogenomics topics

Please prepare the content of your abstract and paste it to the online form.

The online system allows you to prepare your draft and edit it later, right up to the moment you decide to submit your final abstract.

Poster Exhibition

- The selected posters will be displayed in the virtual poster area. Detailed instructions for the virtual poster preparation will be sent to you after acceptance of your abstract.

Selected Oral Presentations

- The most significant and original abstracts will be selected for oral presentation in either one of the workshops or in a scientific session.
- The submitting author will be informed by e-mail about the acceptance of his/her abstract soon after the evaluation process is complete.

ABSTRACT PREPARATION

Please have the following information ready before you begin:

- **For the presenting author :**
 - Full first and family name
 - Department and affiliation
 - Full postal address
 - City and country
 - E-mail address
 - Phone and fax number
- **For each of the co - authors :**
 - Full first and family name
 - Department and affiliation
 - City and country



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REGISTRATION

Please proceed to the online registration system via the official conference web page www.eca2021.org

Registration Fees	Early Bird Before and on 15 May 2021	Early Bird On and after 16 May 2021
E.C.A Member Fee	75 €	100 €
Non-E.C.A. Member	120 €	150 €

- Registration will be confirmed only after full payment has been received. If you have not received a confirmation notice before the conference, please contact the registration secretariat at registration@eca2021.org. Only those participants who complete their registration will have their abstract published.
- Each registered participant is allowed to present only one paper.
- The date of receipt of the registration fee will be considered to be the date of registration, even if the registration form has been received before the deadline for early bird or late registration.
- Taking pictures of the presentation slides is not allowed for copyright reasons as the speakers present previously unpublished scientific data and photographs of patients who have given their consent to present but not to distribute the images.

Congress Participant Fee includes:

- Participation in all virtual scientific sessions
- Entry to the virtual exhibition hall

Cancellation Policy - Registration:

- Requests for cancellation of registration must be received in writing by the E.C. A. 2021 Registration Secretariat (DEKON) by fax at +90 212 347 63 63, or via e-mail to registration@eca2021.org.

- Requests received **before or on 21 May 2021**: a handling fee of 40 € will be deducted from the refund

- Requests received **on or after 22 May 2021**: no refund

Please note that registration refunds will be processed within 30 days after the end of ECA 2021, bank charges will be deducted from the refund.

Fellowships & Prizes

The E.C.A. offers 20 Fellowships with free registration for early-career researchers (defined by the applicants) presenting posters or talks at the 13th European Cytogenomics Conference, 3 - 5 July 2021.

Applicants for a fellowship should apply at least one month before the early registration date. The applications will be assessed by the E.C.A. Committee as appropriate. A decision will be taken before the early registration deadline.

Five poster prizes to the value of 250 Euro each will be awarded at the Conference to participants who present the best posters on work derived from a thesis (still to be completed) or from a degree awarded between 2019 and 2021.



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GENERAL INFORMATION

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IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for Abstract submission

16 April 2021

Notification of acceptance

7 May 2021

Deadline for Early Registration

15 May 2021

Conference Dates and Language

The conference will take place virtually on 3 - 5 July 2021. The official language will be English.

True Automation in Karyotyping!

Ikaros and Metafer by MetaSystems:

Experience an unprecedented workload reduction in routine cytogenetics thanks to artificial intelligence!

- ❑ Complete karyograms from unprocessed metaphases
- ❑ Deep learning based chromosome separation and assignment
- ❑ Automated karyotyping straight from the metaphase finder

Workshop and virtual booth on the ECA 2021!

Automated and Unattended ...

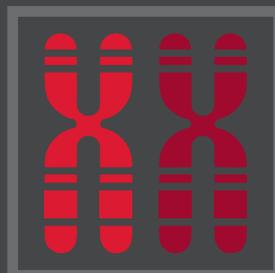
... Metaphase Finding and Image Acquisition



... Separation of Chromosomes



... Karyogram Class Assignment



 **MetaSystems**

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info@metasystems-international.com

Within the European Union Ikaros and Metafer are in-vitro-diagnostic devices (IVD) and are CE marked. Outside the EU and depending on the local regulations these products may not be available for diagnostic purposes. Some of the functionality shown here is not yet part of a released software version and therefore currently not available for use in a diagnostic environment.

www.eca2021.org

Organizing Secretariat

)))DEKON
CONGRESS & TOURISM

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