

THURSDAY

27 November 2025



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Bridging Meeting in Gastroenterology

Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Courtyard by Marriott

THURSDAY - 27 November 2025

18:00 – 18:15

Opening

18:15 – 18:45

Cultural presentation: Oana Habor: The History of Medical Education in Cluj: Institutional Evolution and Academic Heritage (1775–2025)

19:15 – 21:00

Welcome cocktail

FRIDAY

28 November 2025



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Session of the youth and of the Bridging Meeting alumni

09:00 – 09:05 Introduction: Peter Malfertheiner, Jan Tack, Dan Dumitraşcu

Upper gut

Chairs: Simona Băţaga, Alexander Link, Vasile Drug

09:05 – 09:13 Pantea Monica, Târgu-Mureş: Predictive Value of Clinical and Endoscopic Scores in Upper Gastrointestinal Bleeding Outcomes: A Retrospective Study

09:13 – 09:17 Discussant: Vasile Drug

09:17 – 09:25 Aleksandra Sztogrin-Pluta, Warsaw: Endoscopic treatment for primary neoplasia of the gastroesophageal junction: an outcome study

09:25 – 09:29 Discussant: Simona Băţaga, Târgu-Mureş

09:29 – 09:37 Diana Floria, Iaşi: The non-invasive diagnostic of GERD and the role of pepsin

09:37 – 09:41 Discussant: Jan Tack, Leuven

09:41 – 09:49 Andrei Picoş, Cluj-Napoca: Atomic force microscopy analysis of the dental tissues of surfaces exposed to low oral pH in GERD

09:49 – 09:53 Discussant: Vasile Drug, Iaşi

09:53 – 10:01 Vera Ciornolutchii, Cluj-Napoca: Microbiota of the esophagus: systematic review

10:01 – 10:05 Discussant: Vladimir Milivojevic, Belgrade

10:05 – 10:13 Sabrina Munteanu, Târgu-Mureş: H. pylori Infection and Prolonged PPI Use: Endoscopic and Histologic Perspectives

10:13 – 10:17 Discussant: Christian Schulz, Munich

- 10:17 – 10:25** **Radu Fărcaș, Cluj-Napoca: Gastric juice MicroRNA as biomarkers in Functional Dyspepsia: A Case-Control Analysis**
- 10:25 – 10:29** **Discussant: Alexander Link, Bayreuth**
- 10:29 – 10:37** **Voicu Rednic, Cluj-Napoca: Rapid on-site confocal microscopy using vivascope for tumor biopsies during EUS: a comparative analysis with classical histology**
- 10:37 – 10:41** **Discussant: Anca Negovan, Târgu-Mureș**
- 10:41 – 10:56** **Satellite symposium (Sanofi): AccelRare – Support for Every Medical Decision**
- 10:56 – 11:15** **Coffee break**

Lower gut

Chairs: Piero Portincasa, Miodrag Krstic, Tomica Milosavljevic

- 11:15 – 11:23** **Biljana Knežević, Zagreb: Claudin expression in colon lamina propria mononuclear cells of patients with ulcerative colitis**
- 11:23 – 11:27** **Discussant: Tomica Milosavljevic, Belgrade**
- 11:27 – 11:35** **Mirela Georgiana Perne, Cluj-Napoca: Checkpoint inhibitor-induced colitis: Early diagnosis, Therapeutic management according to severity**
- 11:35 – 11:39** **Discussant: Miodrag Krstic, Belgrade**
- 11:39 – 11:47** **Konrad Lehr, Magdeburg: Microbial interactions in the gut: influence of bacterial communities on fungal colonization in twins**
- 11:47 – 11:51** **Discussant: Teodora Surdea-Blaga, Cluj-Napoca**
- 11:51 – 11:59** **Andrei Pop, Cluj-Napoca: Prevalence and Clinical Aspects of Celiac Disease in Romania**
- 11:59 – 12:03** **Discussant: Marko Banic, Zagreb**

- 12:03 – 12:11** **Mohamad Khalil, Bari: Unraveling the role of gut permeability in health and disease at the translational level**
- 12:11 – 12:15** **Discussant: Simona Grad, Cluj-Napoca**
- 12:15 – 12:23** **Vytautas Kiudelis, Kaunas: Microbiome in microscopic colitis**
- 12:23 – 12:27** **Discussant: Dan Dumitrașcu, Cluj-Napoca**
- 12:27 – 12:35** **Abdulrahman Ismaiel, Cluj-Napoca: Antispasmodics and antidepressants in IBS: network meta-analysis**
- 12:35 – 12:39** **Discussant: Piero Portincasa, Bari**
- 12:39 – 12:47** **Paul Grama, Târgu-Mureș: The Role of Eosinophilic Cationic Protein in IBD**
- 12:47 – 12:51** **Discussant: Ștefan Popa, Cluj-Napoca**
- 12:51 – 12:59** **Nikola Krumina, Riga: Ferritin-serum iron relationship in enteropathy patients evaluated by capsule endoscopy**
- 12:59 – 13:03** **Discussant: Lidia Ciobanu, Cluj-Napoca**
- 13:03 – 13:33** **Satellite symposium (Alfasigma): Dan Dumitrașcu – The Life of Patients with Irritable Bowel Syndrome**
- 13:33 – 14:23** **Lunch break**

State of Art 1**Chair: Peter Malfertheiner, Dan Dumitrașcu**

- 14:23 – 14:38** **Jaroslav Regula, Warsaw: Are blood-based tests for CRC screening ready to use**

Liver-pancreas**Chairs: Meri Trajkovska, Davor Štimac, Ludovico Abenavoli**

- 14:38 – 14:46** **Giuseppe Guido Maria Scarlata, Catanzaro: Applying the combinatorial Metabolic Dysfunction-associated Steatotic Liver Disease nomenclature to patients with Hepatitis C Virus**
- 14:46 – 14:50** **Discussant: Davor Štimac, Rijeka**
- 14:50 – 14:58** **Andrej Belančić, Rijeka: Sneak peek on effectiveness, safety and pharmacoconomics of anti-obesity medicines**
- 14:58 – 15:02** **Discussant: Tomica Milosavljevic, Belgrade**
- 15:02 – 15:10** **Bojan Korica, Belgrade: Potential protective effects of raspberry seed polyphenols in MASLD**
- 15:10 – 15:14** **Discussant: Ludovico Abenavoli, Catanzaro**
- 15:14 – 15:22** **Iulia Minciuna, Cluj-Napoca: Platelet proteomics – a new perspective in MASLD pathogenesis**
- 15:22 – 15:26** **Discussant: Ludovico Abenavoli, Catanzaro**
- 15:26 – 15:34** **Nikola Bakovic, Belgrade: Liver Frailty Index in patients with alcoholic and non-alcoholic liver cirrhosis**
- 15:34 – 15:38** **Discussant: Bogdan Procopet, Cluj-Napoca**
- 15:38 – 15:46** **Catalina Olaru-Stavila, Chișinău: Borreliosis and viral B hepatitis: a misleading association**
- 15:46 – 15:50** **Discussant: Simona Bățaș, Târgu-Mureș**
- 15:50 – 15:58** **Katarina Jankovic, Belgrade: Efficacy and Safety of Atezolizumab and Bevacizumab in the Treatment of Advanced Hepatocellular Carcinoma: Experience from a Tertiary Center**
- 15:58 – 16:02** **Discussant: Alexander Link, Bayreuth**

- 16:02 – 16:10** **Andrei Motofelea, Cluj-Napoca: Ultrasound –CT/MRI fusion imaging in the detection and characterisation of nodules in liver cirrhosis**
- 16:10 – 16:14** **Discussant: Radu Badea**
- 16:14 – 16:22** **Mina Ignat, Cluj-Napoca: Precision medicine in alcohol related hepatitis**
- 16:22 – 16:26** **Discussant: Davor Štimac**
- 16:26 – 16:34** **Max Ole Hubert, Muenchen: Severe Acute Pancreatitis: Why Obesity Is More Than Just a Comorbidity**
- 16:34 – 16:38** **Discussant: Meri Trajkovska, Skopje**
- 16:38 – 16:53** **Satellite symposium (Vedra): A new therapeutic approach in managing dysbiosis associated with chronic stress exposure**
- 16:53 – 17:10** **Coffee break**

State of Art 2

Chair: Peter Malfertheiner, Dan Dumitrașcu

- 17:10 – 17:25** **Jan Bornschein, Oxford: Stomach inflammation and related early neoplastic changes in H. pylori positive patients – the SIREN project**
- 17:25 – 17:40** **Andrada Seicean, Cluj-Napoca: Acute cholecystitis treatment – surgical, endoscopic or conservative?**
- 17:40 – 17:55** **Jan Tack, Leuven: Advices for a successful career in gastroenterology**
- 17:55 – 18:00** **Closing remarks**

SATURDAY

29 November 2025



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EAGEN Postgraduate course

09:00 – 09:10 Introduction
Jan Tack: The mission of EAGEN
Dan Dumitrașcu, Peter Malfertheiner: presentation and objectives of the course

Session I: Liver, pancreas**Chairs: Tamara Milovanovic, Eugen Tcaciuc, Ludovico Abenavoli**

09:10 – 09:25 Ludovico Abenavoli, Catanzaro: The gut–liver axis and the gut microbiota in health

09:25 – 09:40 Davor Štimac, Rijeka: MASLD in obesity – two epidemics

09:40 – 09:55 Horia Ștefănescu: MetALD – more than a name change

09:55 – 10:10 Tamara Milovanovic, Belgrade: Muscles in chronic liver diseases

10:10 – 10:25 Eugen Tcaciuc, Chișinău: HBV reactivation in patients under immunotherapy

10:25 – 10:40 Zeno Sparchez, Cluj–Napoca: Modern Ultrasound techniques in the management of hepatocellular carcinoma

10:40 – 10:55 Bogdan Procopet, Cluj–Napoca: Particularities of portal hypertension in patients with MASLD

10:55 – 11:10 Meri Trajkovska, Skopje: Chronic Pancreatitis: Innovations in multimodal treatment and Complication management

11:10 – 11:25**Satellite Symposium (Salveo): Hepatic Encephalopathy in Decompensated Chronic Liver Disease – Oana Farcău, Horia Ștefănescu (IRGH Cluj)****11:25 – 11:40****Satellite symposium (Opella): Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease associated with metabolic syndrome: therapeutic challenges****11:40 – 12:05****Coffee break****Session 2: Lower gastrointestinal tract****Chairs: Piero Portincasa, Marko Banic, Marcel Tanțău****12:05 – 12:20****Tomica Milosavljevic, Belgrade: Chronic constipation – complexity of multiple causes & targeted therapies****12:20 – 12:35****Piero Portincasa, Bari: Opioid induced constipation – we can do better!****12:35 – 12:50****Teodora Surdea-Blaga, Cluj-Napoca: Obstructive defecatory disorders****12:50 – 13:05****Marcel Tanțău, Cluj-Napoca: Early detection of dysplasia in IBD****13:05 – 13:20****Simona Fourie, Oxford: Unmet needs regarding sexual wellbeing in patients after undergoing stoma formation****13:20 – 13:35****Radu Badea, Cluj-Napoca: Ultrasonographic diagnosis of intestinal diseases****13:35 – 13:50****Dan Dumitrașcu, Cluj-Napoca: The management of chronic diarrhea**

13:50 – 14:10 **Satellite symposium (Biocodex): Practical implications in irritable bowel syndrome: what new evidence does *Bifidobacterium longum* 35624 bring to the management of symptoms?**

14:10 – 15:00 **Lunch break**

15:00 – 15:15 **Marko Banic, Zagreb: The peculiar case of intestinal mucosa: immunity, microbiota and environment**

15:15 – 15:30 **Simona Grad, Cluj-Napoca: Indications of fecal material transplantation**

15:30 – 15:45 **Lidia Ciobanu: Gastrointestinal and liver immune-related adverse effects induced by immune checkpoint inhibitors**

15:45 – 16:00 **Ștefan Popa, Cluj-Napoca: Artificial intelligence in gastroenterology**

16:00 – 16:10 **Satellite symposium (Innergy): The role of intestinal eubiosis in the management of irritable bowel syndrome**

16:10 – 16:25 **Coffee break**

16:25 – 16:40 **Satellite symposium (Abbvie): Leading change in IBD management**

Session 3: Upper gastrointestinal tract

Chairs: Anca Negovan, Christian Schulz, Vladimir Milivojevic

16:40 – 16:55 **Peter Malfertheiner, Muenchen: Gastric microbial ecosystem beyond *H. pylori***

- 16:55 – 17:10** **Vasile Drug, Iași: The management of extra-esophageal GERD – a continuous challenge**
- 17:10 – 17:25** **Simona Bățaga, Târgu-Mureș: Autoimmune gastritis**
- 17:25 – 17:40** **Christian Schulz, Munich: Gastritis chapter closed**
- 17:40 – 17:55** **Anca Negovan, Târgu-Mureș: Modulators of Progression in Preneoplastic Gastric Lesions**
- 17:55 – 18:10** **Vladimir Milivojevic, Belgrade: In search for Helicobacter pylori eradication success; tailored made PCR guided therapy versus empirical treatment**
- 18:10 – 18:25** **Alexander Link, Bayreuth: Beyond Junk: Unlocking the Biomarker and Therapeutic Potential of ncRNAs**
- 18:25 – 18:40** **Closing remarks**