

Romanian National Congress of Anatomical and Molecular Pathology

First Edition

Congresul Național Român de Anatomie Patologică și Patologie Moleculară

Prima Ediție

16 - 18 April 2026

Hotel Novotel, Bucharest

16 - 18 aprilie 2026

Hotel Novotel, București

PROGRAM





SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM – UNIPAT INAUGURAL CONGRESS 2026

16 – 18 April 2026, Bucharest, Novotel Hotel

DAY 1: Thursday, 16th April (08:30 – 18:15) | Paris Hall

07:30 – 08:30 | REGISTRATION (*badge and bag pick up*)

08:30 – 08:50 | Official Opening and UNIPAT President's Remarks and Awards

UNIPAT President, Prof. Univ. Dr. Diana N. Ionescu, Canada

08:50 – 09:00 | "Biblioteca de Biomarkeri": Concept and Continuity

Prof. Univ. Dr. Diana N. Ionescu, Canada

09:00 – 10:30 | Session I: Library of Biomarkers: UPPER GASTROINTESTINAL CANCERS

(multidisciplinary session following cancer care pathway)

Chair: Prof. Univ. Dr. Celia Mărginean (USA)

- 09:00 – 09:10 Role of the Gastroenterologist, **Dr. Irina Dragomir, Cluj-Napoca**
- 09:10 – 09:25 Role of the Medical Oncologist, **Prof. Univ. Dr. Cornelia Nițipir, Bucharest**
- 09:25 – 09:35 Role of the Radiation Oncologist, **Dr. Alexandra Cîrstea, Bucharest**
- 09:35 – 09:50 Role of the Pathologist, **Dr. Ana Maria Fit, Cluj-Napoca**
- 09:50 – 10:30 Multidisciplinary Discussion
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break & Visit the Exhibition Area**

11:00 – 12:30 | Session II: Library of Biomarkers: ENDOMETRIAL CANCER

(multidisciplinary session following cancer care pathway)

Chair: Prof. Univ. Dr. Diana N. Ionescu (Canada)

- 11:00 – 11:10 Role of the Gynecologist, **Dr. George Iancu, Bucharest**
- 11:10 – 11:25 Role of the Medical Oncologist, **Dr. Dragoș Median, Bucharest**
- 11:25 – 11:35 Role of the Radiation Oncologist, **Prof. Univ. Dr. Gabriel Kacsó, Cluj-Napoca**
- 11:35 – 11:50 Role of the Pathologist, **Prof. Univ. Dr. Raluca Balan, Iași**
- 11:50 – 12:00 Role of the Geneticist, **Dr. Florina Nedelea, Bucharest**
- 12:00 – 12:30 Multidisciplinary Discussion



12:30 – 13:30 **Networking Lunch: Meet Your Colleagues**

13:30 – 15:35 | Session III: Thoracic Pathology

Chair: Dr. Emilian Olteanu (UK)

13:30 – 14:00 Case-Based Challenges in Thoracic Pathology
Dr. Emilian Olteanu, UK, Dr. Robert Barna, Timișoara

14:00 – 14:15 Promises and Pitfalls of Liquid Biopsy
Dr. Alon Vigdorovits, Oradea

14:15 – 14:30 Germline Testing in Lung Cancer: Caprice or Necessity?
Prof. Univ. Dr. Adrian Trifa, Timișoara

14:30 – 14:40 **Question & Answer Session**

14:40 – 15:20 AstraZeneca Educational Symposium: *Precision Diagnostics in NSCLC: Navigating the Present and Mapping the Future*
Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Pop, Oradea, Prof. Univ. Dr. Laura Mazilu, Constanța

15:20 – 15:35 Medison Educational Symposium: *Redefining Lung Cancer Diagnosis: Pathology Insights and Oncologist Perspectives*
Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Pop, Oradea, Prof. Univ. Dr. Laura Mazilu, Constanța

15:35 – 16:00 **Coffee break & Visit the Exhibition Area**

16:00 – 18:15 | Session IV: Molecular Pathology

Chair: Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Pop (Oradea)

16:00 – 16:15 How to Set Up a Molecular Laboratory
Prof. Univ. Dr. Cătălin Marian, Timișoara

16:15 – 16:45 **Question & Answer Session**

16:45 – 17:25 AstraZeneca Educational Symposium: *All You Need to Know About HER2*
Prof. Univ. Dr. Diana N. Ionescu, Canada, Dr. Mihai C. Stoicea, Bucharest

17:25 – 17:45 AstraZeneca Educational Symposium: *From Genetics to Targeted Therapy: The Clinical Impact of MMR Testing in Endometrial Cancer*
Associate Professor Dr. Maria Olinca, Bucharest



17:45 – 18:00 BMS Educational Symposium: Biomarkers for Personalized Colorectal Cancer Treatment – MMR / MSI

Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Pop, Oradea

18:00 – 18:15 Regina Maria Healthcare Network Educational Symposium:
Comprehensive Genetic Testing in Cancer: National Genetic Testing Program and Beyond

Dr. Andreea Catană, Cluj-Napoca



DAY 2: Friday, 17th April (09:00 – 18:45) | Paris Hall

08:50 – 09:00 **A Positive Start of the Day**

09:00 – 11:00 | Session V: Breast Pathology

Chair: Conf. Univ. Dr. Bogdan Fetica (Cluj-Napoca)

09:00 – 10:00 Diagnostic Challenges in Breast Cancer Pathology: Clues to Accurate Diagnosis

Prof. Univ. Dr. Nour Sneige, USA

10:00 – 10:30 Eli Lilly Educational Symposium: *Red Flags in Establishing Tumor Grading and High-Risk Characteristics in Early Breast Cancer*

Dr. Mihai C. Stoicea, Bucharest and Prof. Univ. Dr. Laura Mazilu, Constanța

10:30 – 10:50 AstraZeneca Educational Symposium: *The Evolving Landscape of Metastatic Breast Cancer Diagnostics*

Conf. Univ. Dr. Bogdan Fetica, Cluj-Napoca

10:50 – 11:00 **Question and Answer Session**

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break & Visit the Exhibition Area**

11:30 – 12:30 | Session VI: Hepatobiliary and Digestive Tract Pathology

Chair: Prof. Univ. Dr. Celia Mărginean (USA)

11:30 – 12:00 Frozen Section Challenges in Gastrointestinal Pathology

Prof. Univ. Dr. Celia Mărginean, USA

12:00 – 12:30 Astellas Educational Symposium: *CLDN18.2 in Gastric Cancer: From Biomarker to Interpretation in Clinical Practice*

Dr. Simona Costache, UK

12:30 – 13:15 **Networking Lunch: Meet the Expert**

13:15 – 16:00 | Session VII: Old Challenges and Current Solutions

Chair: Prof. Univ. Dr. Diana N. Ionescu (Canada)

13:15 – 14:00 Not So Unusual Thyroid Carcinomas

Prof. Univ. Dr. Vania Nose, USA

14:00 – 14:45 „I can't keep-up!” The Rapidly Evolving Complexity of Pathology: An Algorithmic Approach to My Daily Cases

Prof. Univ. Dr. Abbas Agaimy, Germany



- 14:45 – 15:15 WHO 2026 Classification of Tumors of the Female Genital Tract:
An Update in Cervical Pathology
Prof. Univ. Dr. Simona Stolnicu, Târgu-Mureș
- 15:15 – 15:45 Malignancy in Disguise: Diagnostic Pitfalls in Pediatric Hematopathology
Prof. Univ. Dr. Gabriela Gheorghe, USA
- 15:45 – 16:00 Question & Answer Session**
- 16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break & Visit the Exhibition Area**
- 16:30 – 18:45 | Session VIII: Dermatopathology ([link to slides](#))**
Chairs: Prof. Univ. Dr. Doru Andea (USA) and Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Cotoi (Târgu-Mureș)
- 16:30 – 16:55 Fun, Rare, Unusual, and Must-Know Adnexal Tumors
Prof. Univ. Dr. Doina Ivan, USA ([Link to Prof. Ivan slides](#))
- 16:55 – 17:20 From Sydney to Europe: Diagnostic Insights in Inflammatory
Dermatopathology
Dr. Oana Crainic, Australia
- 17:20 – 17:45 Critical Melanoma Parameters: Measurement, Interpretation, and Impact
Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Cotoi, Târgu-Mureș
- 17:45 – 18:10 Merkel Cell Carcinoma: What Lies Beneath
Prof. Univ. Dr. Anjela Galan, USA
- 18:10 – 18:35 The Many Faces of Melanocytic Lesions: Mimics, Misdiagnoses, and
Moments of Clarity
Prof. Univ. Dr. Aleodor Andea, USA
- 18:35 – 18:45 Question & Answer Session**

Networking meeting: LeDome Restaurant, 19:30 (optional participation, the spots are limited, fee must be paid for at the event registration desk)



DAY 3: Saturday, 18th April (09:00 – 14:00) (*parallel sessions*)

Paris 1 Hall

08:00 – 08:50 **UNIPAT Annual General Meeting**
(onsite & online, UNIPAT members only)

Paris 1 Hall

09:00 – 11:00 | Session IX: Digital Pathology and Artificial Intelligence

Chair: Prof. Univ. Dr. Sabina Zurac (Bucharest)

- 09:00 – 09:15 Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools in Pathology: Friends or Enemies?
Dr. Cristiana Popp, Bucharest
- 09:15 – 09:30 Urothelial carcinoma - Artificial Intelligence-Based Identification of Emboli
Prof. Univ. Dr. Sabina Zurac, Bucharest
- 09:30 – 09:45 Quality Assurance in Digital Pathology
Dr. Emilian Olteanu, UK
- 09:45 – 10:15 Advancing Pathology Education through Digital Technologies
Prof. Univ. Dr. Raj Singh, USA (*online*)
- 10:15 – 10:35 Roche Educational Symposium: *Pixels to Precision: Unlocking Next-Gen IHC and ISH Diagnosis in Lung and Breast Carcinomas*
Dr. Mihai C. Stoicea, Bucharest
- 10:35 – 10:45 Antisel RO Educational Symposium: *From Biopsy to Clinical Insight: A Fully Automated Workflow in Anatomical and Molecular Pathology*
Dr. Cristian Butnaru
- 10:45 – 11:00 Philips & Dacorum Educational Symposium: *Anatomical Pathology in the Digital Era: from Analogue to Unlocking Digital Collaboration and AI supported Workflows*
Prof. Univ. Dr. Ovidiu Pop, Oradea
- 11:00 – 11:30** **Coffee break & Visit the Exhibition Area**



11:30 – 14:00 | Session X: Quality Assurance in Pathology

Chair: Dr. Mihai C. Stoicea (Bucharest)

- 11:30 – 11:45 Tissues and Issues: Navigating Artifacts
Dr. Irina Nechiforiuc, Bucharest
- 11:45 – 12:00 Models of Expert Consultancy in Pathology
Assistant Professor Dr. Maria Hendea, Cluj-Napoca
- 12:00 – 12:30 Driving Improvement and Shared Learning in Molecular Pathology Through EQA (EMQN)
Victoria Williams, UK
- 12:30 – 12:45 Strategizing IQA and EQA for Optimal Laboratory Performance
Dr. Ariana Neicu, Bucharest
- 12:45 – 13:15 Odyssey Q: Why Should You?
Dr. Mihai C. Stoicea, Bucharest
- 13:15 – 14:00 Question & Answer Session**

Paris 2 Hall

09:00 – 14:00 | YOUNG PATOLOGISTS FORUM

Coordinators: Dr. Anca Toma (Bucharest) and **Dr. Miruna Popescu** (Germany)

- 09:00 – 10:00 Mentors' Advice in Charting Your Career Course
Special Guest: Prof. Univ. Dr. Abbas Agaimy, Germany, **Prof. Univ. Dr. Vania Nose**, (USA)
- 10:00 – 11:00 Your Cases in the Spotlight! Case Presentations by Young Pathologists (I)

A RARE CASE OF LYMPH NODE FILARIASIS CO-EXISTING WITH HODGKIN LYMPHOMA

Coman Andrei, Sticlaru Liana

DEDIFFERENTIATED MESONEPHRIC-LIKE ADENOCARCINOMA OF THE OVARY ASSOCIATED WITH ENDOMETRIOSIS: A DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGE REQUIRING INTEGRATED MORPHOLOGICAL AND MOLECULAR ANALYSIS

Grigore Rares, Birceanu Adelina, Turcu Tudor, Risnita Ana-Roxana, Birceanu Gabriela, Preoteasa Vladimir, Stroescu Cezar, Chirculescu Raluca

UNUSUAL PRESENTATION OF SOLITARY FIBROUS TUMORS IN THE PERIPROSTATIC REGION: REPORT OF TWO CASES WITH BENIGN AND MALIGNANT FEATURES

Gurau Alina-Mihaela, Muresan Horatiu-Alin



BEYOND THE BLADDER: INTEGRATING CLINICAL HISTORY TO NAVIGATE DIAGNOSTIC PITFALLS IN METASTATIC BREAST CANCER

Köteles Maria Magdalena, Ardelean Alexandru-Nicodim, Tica Ovidiu

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break & Visit the Exhibition Area**

11:30 – 12:30 Your Cases in the Spotlight! Case Presentations by Young Pathologists (II)

PILOMATRIX-LIKE HIGH-GRADE CARCINOMA OF THE URINARY BLADDER: A RARE DIAGNOSIS CHALLENGE

Mocanu Raluca, Cioplea Mirela, Coman Andrei, Borcea Alexandra-Maria

A SMALL NODULE WITH A BIG HISTORY: METASTATIC CHORDOMA

Neamtu Andreea-Adriana, Goldenberg Alicia, Andea Aleodor

POTENTIAL ROLE OF COL11A1 IN BREAST CANCER PROGRESSION: PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF 12 CASES

Onofrei (Popa) Andreea, Mihalache Daniela, Mehedinti Mihaela-Cezarina

12:30 – 14:00 What's your diagnosis? Interactive Assessment on Digital Slides
Precongress online access and anonymous assessment available: [Link to scanned cases](#)

Coordinator: Dr. Florina Vasilescu, Bucharest

14:00 – 14:10 **CONGRESS CLOSING REMARKS (PARIS 1 HALL)**

UNIPAT Founder President, Prof. Univ. Dr. Diana N. Ionescu

