



GASTROINTESTINAL INFLAMMATION AND NEOPLASIA

April 24-25, 2026

Symposium 243
WARSAW, POLAND



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10,5 credit hours (CME) have been awarded by the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS).

PREFACE

With great pleasure and anticipation, we invite you to the international Falk Foundation Symposium on “**Gastrointestinal Inflammation and Neoplasia**” which will take place in Warsaw.

This meeting will bring together scientists and clinicians from across the field of gastroenterology to examine the epidemiological foundations, pathophysiological mechanisms, and clinical manifestations of a broad spectrum of gastrointestinal diseases - including eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE), inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), microscopic colitis, celiac disease, and selective gastrointestinal neoplasias. With the participation of leading experts in our field, we will engage in discussions on the latest insights into the pathophysiology, epidemiology, approved and emerging diagnostic approaches, and evidence-based and emerging medical, endoscopic and surgical treatment strategies—placing particular emphasis on the practical implications of recent scientific breakthroughs.

We are confident that this symposium will not only foster scientific advancement but also strengthen professional connections among those committed to improving patient care in gastrointestinal health.

The setting in Warsaw - a dynamic city where cultural heritage meets modern scientific progress - offers an inspiring backdrop for collaboration and forward-thinking dialogue.

We look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a stimulating and impactful meeting with ample time to interact with a well-recognized international faculty and lots of opportunities for networking. Meet old and make new friends.

Axel Dignass, Michał F. Kamiński, Julia Mayerle and Edyta Zagórowicz

GASTROINTESTINAL INFLAMMATION AND NEOPLASIA

April 24-25, 2026

Scientific Organization:

Axel Dignass, Frankfurt, Germany
Michał F. Kamiński, Warsaw, Poland
Julia Mayerle, Munich, Germany
Edyta Zagórowicz, Warsaw, Poland

Congress Venue:

Hilton Warsaw City
Grzybowska 63
00-844 Warsaw
Poland

For admission to scientific events your name badge should be clearly visible.

Accompanying persons are not permitted during the conference at any time.

Call for Posters:

An ePoster session will be held.
For details see page 10.

Start of Registration:

Thursday, April 23, 2026
16:00 – 20:00 h
at the congress office

Publication Date of the Final

Program:
April 2026

The final program will be available on the website www.falkfoundation.org one week before the start of the symposium.

FRIDAY, 24.04.2026

9:00 Welcome
Axel Dignass, Frankfurt; Edyta Zagórowicz, Warsaw

SESSION I

Epidemiology and pathophysiology of immune-mediated gastrointestinal disorders

Chairs *Marcin Dziekiewicz, Warsaw; Gerhard Rogler, Zurich*

09:10 EoE
Christopher Ma, Calgary

09:30 Celiac disease
Jonas Ludvigsson, Stockholm

09:50 Microscopic colitis
Darell S. Pardi, Rochester

10:10 IBD
Britta Siegmund, Berlin

10:30 **Coffee break with ePoster session**

SESSION II

Current diagnostic and monitoring strategies of immune-mediated gastrointestinal disorders

Chairs *Axel Dignass, Frankfurt; Jaroslaw Regula, Warsaw*

11:00 EoE
Ulrike von Arnim, Magdeburg

11:20 Celiac disease
Carolina Ciacci, Salerno

11:40 Microscopic colitis
Piotr Eder, Poznan

12:00 IBD
Ana Gutierrez Casbas, Alicante

12:20 **Lunch break with ePoster session**

SESSION III

Current treatment strategies in immune-mediated gastrointestinal disorders

Chairs *Grazyna Rydzewska, Warsaw; Britta Siegmund, Berlin*

14:00 EoE: Diet, steroids or more?
Edoardo V. Savarino, Padova

14:20 Celiac disease: Gluten free diet and more
Detlef Schuppan, Mainz

14:40 Microscopic colitis: Current strategies for uncomplicated and refractory disease
Andreas Munch, Linköping

15:00 IBD: Treatment goals in 2026
Alessandro Armuzzi, Milan

15:20 **Coffee break with ePoster session**

SESSION IV

Diet and microbiome based approaches in immune-mediated gastrointestinal disorders

Chairs *Milan Lukas, Prague; Harry Sokol, Paris*

16:00 EoE: Elimination diet or more?
Alfredo J. Lucendo, Tormelloso

16:20 Celiac disease: Modern strategies to improve and monitor adherence to lifelong diet
Luca Elli, Milan

16:40 IBD: Is nutrition an underutilized therapeutic option?
Iris Dotan, Petah Tikva

17:00 IBD: The relevance of the microbiome in pathophysiology and treatment
Harry Sokol, Paris

SATURDAY, 25.04.2026

SESSION V

Special situations

Chairs *Anita Gasiorowska, Lodz; Malgorzata Zwolinska-Wcislo, Krakow*

09:00 Refractory celiac disease and differentials
Michael Schumann, Berlin

09:20 Acute severe colitis
David Laharie, Bordeaux

09:40 Immune-mediated gastrointestinal disorders during pregnancy and lactation
Uma Mahadevan, San Francisco

10:00 Management of complicated fibrostenosing EoE
Alain Schoepfer, Lausanne

10:20 **Coffee break with ePoster session**

SESSION VI

Gastrointestinal tract neoplasia and differentials

Chairs *Cesare Hassan, Milan; Michal F. Kaminski, Warsaw*

10:50 Colorectal cancer screening and surveillance by primary colonoscopy: Nordic and beyond
Cesare Hassan, Milan

11:10 Colorectal cancer screening and surveillance by FIT
Antoni Castells, Barcelona

11:30 Endoscopic resection of colonic and rectal lesions: On the oncological edge
Nastazja Pilonis, Warsaw

11:50 Early onset colorectal cancer
Willem Bemelman, Amsterdam

12:10 **Presentation of poster awards**
Axel Dignass, Frankfurt; Edyta Zagorowicz, Warsaw

12:30 **Lunch break with ePoster session**

SESSION VII

Tips and tricks for excellent gastroenterologists

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- Chairs** *Fernando J. Magro Dias, Porto; Andreas Sturm, Berlin*
-
- 13:30** Impaired coagulation: What gastroenterologists need to know
Jeanin van Hooft, Leiden
-
- 13:50** Pitfalls in sampling: We need to consult our pathologist
Rafal Peksa, Gdansk
-
- 14:10** FMT: Pitfalls and tips
Jaroslav Bilinski, Gdansk
-
- 14:30** State of the art: Management of antibiotic-associated colitis
Christoph Högenauer, Graz
-
- 14:50** **Coffee break with ePoster session**

SESSION VIII

Treatment decisions: Pro and cons

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- Chairs** *Ailsa Hart, London; Edyta Tulewicz-Marti, Warsaw*
-
- 15:20** Strictureing Crohn's disease: Medical, endoscopic or surgical treatment?
Pro conservative treatment *Florian Rieder, Cleveland*
Pro surgery *Willem Bemelman, Amsterdam*
-
- 15:50** De-escalation of medication for IBD: Continue forever or time to scale down?
Ailsa Hart, London
-
- 16:10** Top-down or step-up approach in IBD: Still unresolved?
Pro top down *Nurulamin Noor, Cambridge*
Pro step-up *Andreas Sturm, Berlin*
-
- 16:40** Cancer surveillance and prevention in IBD: Universal or individualized approaches?
Fernando Velayos, San Francisco
-
- 17:00** Closing remarks

LIST OF SPEAKERS, MODERATORS AND SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZERS

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ePOSTER SESSION

ePosters will be displayed on our screens on April 24-25, 2026. We kindly ask the authors to be present during coffee and lunch breaks on both days to discuss their work.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Please submit your abstract by January 19, 2026, using our online submission system (<https://poster.falkfoundation.org>). The system will guide you through the submission process and provide further information on formatting requirements.

The abstracts will be reviewed by the scientific organizers, with preference given to those that align thematically with one of the meeting sessions. Accepted abstracts will be published in the final program.

Abstract submitters will be informed about acceptance and receive further instructions in January/February 2026.

For the first author of an accepted abstract, registration fee and accommodation (April 23-26, 2026) will be covered during Symposium 243. Travel expenses will not be covered.

POSTER AWARDS

Prizes of up to EUR 3.000, along with coverage of travel expenses, will be awarded for the best posters.

Winners will be invited to give a short presentation (2-5 minutes) of their poster during the award ceremony.

REGISTRATION



You can register for the event via our homepage:

www.falkfoundation.org

Registration is only possible online.

You will receive an automatic confirmation of registration by e-mail.

Please transfer the congress fee to the bank account listed in the e-mail within two weeks.

CONGRESS FEES

Scientific Program of Symposium 243 EUR 300

Students (copy of student ID required) EUR 150

The congress fees include:

- Pre-Opening and Welcome on Thursday, April 23, 2026
- Refreshments during coffee breaks
- Lunch on Friday, April 24 and on Saturday, April 25, 2026
- A copy of the final program

CONGRESS OFFICE AND REGISTRATION

Opening Hours:

Thursday, April 23: 16:00 – 20:00 h

Friday, April 24: 08:00 – 17:00 h

Saturday, April 25: 08:00 – 17:00 h

The Falk Foundation will take pictures during the meeting. Additionally, parts of the meeting might be recorded. By participating all attendees consent and agree with the recording and the photo shoots.

ARRIVAL

Hilton Warsaw City

Grzybowska 63
00-844 Warsaw
Poland

By car

There is an underground car park in the hotel at approx. 180,-- PLN (42,-- EUR) per 24 hours.

By plane

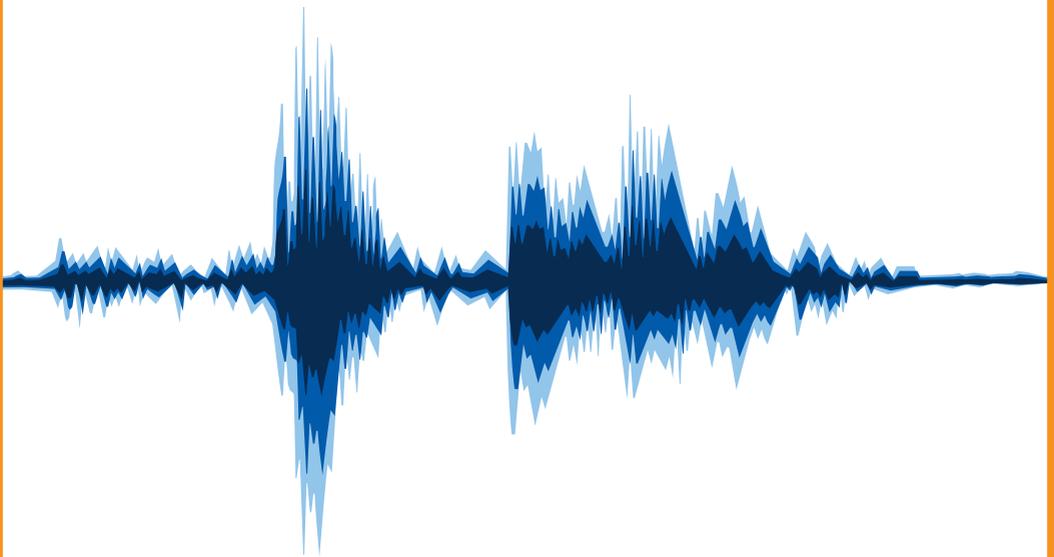
The international Warsaw Frederic Chopin Airport is 20 min (8km) away by taxi. By bus and tram it takes approx 40 min (exit Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego).

By train

Warsaw Central Railway Station is 5 min away by taxi or 17 min by public transport.



**Registration via www.falkfoundation.org
or simply scan and register**



Together we know more. Together we do more.

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