Educational Course on Infections and Complications After Stem Cell Transplantation and CAR T-cell Therapy

Madrid, Spain | 19-21 November 2026

EBMT Infectious Diseases IDWP

EBMT Complications CWP

WORD OF WELCOME

How to survive allogeneic haematopoietic cell transplantation and CAR T-cell therapy

Treatment-related mortality and morbidity remain major challenges in allogeneic haematopoietic cell transplantation and in CAR T-cell therapy. Both infections and non-infectious complications are major problems. Losing a patient's life due to a treatment-related complication is always a tragedy for everyone involved. The good news is that optimising prevention and management of complications improves survival and reduces morbidity. The course will specifically focus on practice-based topics that are underrepresented in articles or books. Attendees will receive hands-on teaching by clinical experts on how to improve competence and skills. After this course, the attendees and their respective patients will be better able to survive allogeneic haematopoietic cell transplantation and CAR T-cell therapy.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Madrid.

Yours sincerely,

Dina Averbuch — Infectious Diseases Working Party Chair
Jan Styczynski — Infectious Diseases Working Party Secretary
Olaf Penack — Complications Working Party Chair
Lars Klingen Gjærde — Complications Working Party Secretary
Rafael de la Cámara — Local Organiser
Michelle Kenyon — EBMT Nurse Expert

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Thursday, 19 November 2026

Infectious Diseases and Complications Working Parties — Joint Programme

14:45 - 15:00 Welcome Message Rafael de la Cámara (ES)

15:00 - 16:30 Joint Session 1
CAR-T Cytopenia, Infections, Sepsis and CRS

Panellists: Olaf Penack (DE), Lidia Gil (PL), Rafael Duarte (ES), Michelle Kenyon (UK) Ana Alarcon Tomas (ES), Javier Ramos López (ES)

We will interactively go through patient cases. Recognition of infections vs. CRS vs HLH and treatment will be covered. Management of cytopenia and infections will be discussed including anti-microbial prophylaxis

15:00 - 15:25	Keynote lecture: Cytopenia, CRS and fever after CART	Rafael Duarte (ES)
15:25 - 15:50	Keynote lecture: Management of infections after CART	Lidia Gil (PL)
15:50 - 16:00	Case 1: A long-term CAR-T survivor with fever, cytopenias and splenomegaly	Pedro José Mirete (ES)
16:00 - 16:30	Panel discussion and interactive discussion between patient after CAR-T (Javier Ramos López), physician (Ana Alarcon Tomas) and nurse (Michelle Kenyon)	

16:30 - 17:00 Coffee Break

17:00 - 18:30 Joint Session 2
CNS infections and neurologic complications after cellular therapy

Panellists: Charlotte Graham (UK), Jan Styczynski (PL), Dionysios Neofytos (CH), Dilnasheen Safdar (PK), Roser Velasco (ES), Rafael de la Cámara (ES), Rafael Martínez Mateo (ES)

We will interactively go through patient cases. Neurological symptoms and the pathway to a diagnosis are discussed. We will highlight the management of infections and neurological complications in the early and late phases after CAR-T.

17:00 - 17:20	Keynote lecture: Infections vs. ICANS, vs. non-ICANS neurotoxicity	Roser Velasco (ES)
17:20 - 17:40	Keynote lecture: Management of CNS infections after cellular therapy	Dionysios Neofytos (CH)
17:40 - 17:50	Case 1: Against the pressure: a neurologic twist after stem cell transplant	Pedro de Vasconcelos (PT)
17:50 - 18:00	Case 2: Relapsing encephalopathy in a heavily pretreated allogeneic HSCT recipient	Giovanni Massobrio (IT)
18:00 - 18:30	Panel discussion and interactive discussion between patient after CAR-T (Rafael Martínez Mateo), physician (Rafael de la Cámara, Charlotte Graham) and nurse.	

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18:30 - 19:15	**IDWP Oral Session**	
	Chairs: Lidia Gil (PL) and Simone Cesaro (IT)	
18:30 - 18:40	When Morphology Misleads	Yuval Gutbir (IL)
18:40 - 18:50	Aortitis with Neurovascular Complications	Alaa Atamna (IL)
18:50 - 19:00	Recurrent Fever After Allogeneic Transplantation: A Complex Case	Monica Melchio (IT)
19:00 - 19:10	When Anemia Persists: A Diagnostic Puzzle	Nevena Bešević (RS)
19:10 - 19:15	Q&A	

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Friday, 20 November 2026

Complications Working Party (CWP) Programme

09:00 - 10:00 CWP Session I
Prophylaxis to prevent CRS, ICANS and other neurologic complications (pro/con)
Panellists: Alberto Mussetti (ES), Roser Velasco (ES)

10:00 - 11:00 CWP Session II
Detailed info about complications experienced by CAR-T and alloHCT candidates (pro/con)
Panellists: Lars Klingen Gjærde (DK), Hélène Schoemans (BE), Mercedes Montoro (ES), David Alonso Hernández (ES)
Case presentation "An unexpected happy ending: Infusion of a mistaken unrelated donor bone marrow product resulting in durable engraftment despite profound HLA mismatch" by Gloria Miguel (ES)

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 - 12:00 The use of ECP in modern cGvHD management
Industry Symposium, kindly sponsored by Therakos

11:30 - 11:50 The combination of ruxolitinib and ECP as a highly effective second line treatment for chronic graft-versus-host disease – new evidence from the largest cohort to date — Andrea Várkonyi (HU)

11:50 - 12:00 Q&A

12:10 - 14:10 CWP Open Study Meeting
Speakers: Lars Klingen Gjærde (DK), Ivan Moiseev (RU), Michelle Kenyon (UK), Olaf Penack (DE), Hélène Schoemans (BE), Charlotte Graham (UK), Alberto Mussetti (UK), Zinaida Perić (HR)

14:10-15:00 Lunch Break

15:00 - 16:00 CWP Session III
Early advance care planning directives (pro/con)
Panellists: Hélène Schoemans (BE), Michelle Kenyon (UK), Jennifer Vidrine (UK), Javier Ramos López (ES)
All patients should discuss palliative care from transplant/cell therapy referral onwards vs. patients should only discuss symptom control and advance care planning when there is no hope for cure

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16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break	
16:30 - 17:15	**HSCT-TMA in Pediatric Patients: Early Identification, Risk Stratification, and Targeted Treatment** Industry Symposium, kindly sponsored by Alexion	
16:30 - 16:35	Introduction and housekeeping	Daniele Avenoso (IT)
16:35 - 16:55	Clinical Hurdles in HSCT-TMA: Disease, Recognition, and Risk Factors	Christopher E. Dandoy (US)
16:55 - 17:10	Complement Inhibition in Pediatric Patients with HSCT-TMA: Insights from Phase 3 Clinical Data	Daniele Avenoso (IT)
17:10 - 17:15	Q&A	
17:20 - 18:20	**CWP Session IV** **Reducing the risk of relapse is more important than preventing GVHD: a thin line between GVHD and relapse (pro/con)** Panellists: Ivan Moiseev (RU), Alberto Mussetti (ES), Zinaida Perić (HR), Javier Ramos López (ES)	

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Infectious Diseases Working Party (IDWP) Programme

08:30 - 09:30	**IDWP Session I — Diagnostics of post-transplant infectious complications**	
	Chairs: Małgorzata Mikulska (IT) and David Navarro (ES)	
08:30 - 08:50	Diagnostics of infections, including NGS, biomarkers and more	David Navarro (ES)
08:50 - 09:10	Radiology in infections in transplantation	Claus Peter Heussel (DE)
09:10 - 09:20	Case 1: When the Pieces Don't Fit: A Multisystem Mystery After Allogeneic HSCT	Angeliki Georgopoulou (GR)
09:20 - 09:30	Q&A	
09:30 - 11:00	**IDWP Session II — Fungal infections**	
	Chairs: Rafael de la Cámara (ES) and Dionysios Neofytos (CH)	
09:30 - 09:50	Emerging fungal infections and resistance	Ana Alastruey (ES)
09:50 - 10:10	Prophylaxis, treatment	Dionysios Neofytos (CH)
10:10 - 10:30	New antifungals	Jan Styczynski (PL)
10:30 - 10:40	Case 1: When the gut suffers... What lies beneath?	Karla Fernanda Rodríguez (SV)
10:40 - 11:00	Q&A	
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break	
11:30 - 12:00	**The use of ECP in modern cGvHD management** Industry Symposium, kindly sponsored by Therakos	
11:30 - 11:50	The combination of ruxolitinib and ECP as a highly effective second line treatment for chronic graft-versus-host disease – new evidence from the largest cohort to date	Andrea Várkonyi (HU)
11:50 - 12:00	Q&A	
12:10 - 14:10	**IDWP Open Study Meeting**	
	Speakers: Rafael de la Cámara (ES), Jan Styczynski (PL), Dionysios Neofytos (CH), Jose Luis Piñana (ES), Simone Cesaro (IT), Lidia Gil (PL), Dina Averbuch (IL), Małgorzata Mikulska (IT), Per Ljungman (SE)	
14:10 - 14:50	Lunch Break	

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14:50 - 16:15	**IDWP Session III — Bacterial infections & Vaccinations**	
	Chairs: Simone Cesaro (IT) and Rafael Cantón (ES)	
14:50 - 15:10	Resistant bacteria	Rafael Cantón (ES)
15:10 - 15:30	Empirical treatment febrile neutropenia/treatment of carbapenem resistant and MDR Gram-negatives	Dina Averbuch (IL)
15:30 - 15:50	Vaccination	Per Ljungman (SE)
15:50 - 16:00	Case 1: Beyond the Obvious—A Diagnostic Pitfall Following Allogeneic Stem Cell Transplantation	Tobias Möller (DE)
16:00 - 16:15	Q&A	
16:15 - 16:30	Coffee Break	
16:30 - 17:15	**HSCT-TMA in Pediatric Patients: Early Identification, Risk Stratification, and Targeted Treatment** Industry Symposium, kindly sponsored by Alexion	
16:30 - 16:35	Introduction and housekeeping	Daniele Avenoso (IT)
16:35 - 16:55	Clinical Hurdles in HSCT-TMA: Disease, Recognition, and Risk Factors	Christopher E. Dandoy (US)
16:55 - 17:10	Complement Inhibition in Pediatric Patients with HSCT-TMA: Insights from Phase 3 Clinical Data	Daniele Avenoso (IT)
17:10 - 17:15	Q&A	
17:20 - 18:45	**IDWP Session IV — Viral infections**	
	Chairs: Dionysios Neofytos (CH) and Jose Luis Piñana (ES)	
17:20 - 17:40	CMV	Per Ljungman (SE)
17:40 - 18:00	HHV6, ADV	Rafael de la Cámara (ES)
18:00 - 18:20	BK, HSV	Simone Cesaro (IT)
18:20 - 18:30	Case 1: Balancing Viral Control and Immunosuppression After Allo-HCT	Anna Frączkiewicz-Jabłońska (PL)
18:30 - 18:45	Q&A	

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Saturday, 21 November 2026

Infectious Diseases and Complications Working Parties — Joint Programme

09:00 - 10:30 Joint Session 3

Pulmonary infections and complications after alloSCT

Panellists: Lars Klingen Gjaerde (DK), Jose Luis Piñana (ES), Dina Averbuch (IL), Anne Bergeron (CH), David Alonso Hernández (ES)

We will interactively go through patient cases. Recognition of infections, complications and their treatment will be covered. Pre-transplant assessment of co-morbidities and risk factors will also be discussed. Finally, we will discuss practical tips for patients recovering from HSCT, supporting patients in return to society, work, family, and their rehabilitation. Example pulmonary rehab, referral criteria and limitations.

09:00 - 09:20	Keynote lecture: Infections vs. BOS, COP, other causes	Anne Bergeron (CH)
09:20 - 09:40	Keynote lecture: Management of pulmonary infections	Jose Luis Piñana (ES)
09:40 - 09:50	Case 1: Lost in the Airways	Isca Hershkowitz (IL)
09:50 - 10:00	Case 2: Pulmonary and cerebral lesions following allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation	Estela Carvalho de Sousa (PT)
10:00 - 10:30	Panel discussion and interactive discussion between patient after alloSCT (David Alonso Hernandez), physician (Lars Klingen Gjaerde) and nurse	

10:30 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 - 12:30 Joint Session 4

Gastrointestinal and hepatic infections/complications after alloSCT

Panellists: Zinaida Perić (HR), Per Ljungman (SE), Michelle Kenyon (UK), Małgorzata Mikulska (IT), Alberto Mussetti (ES), David Alonso Hernández (ES)

How to recognize and treat infectious and non-infectious gastrointestinal complications. Case presenter will be covered in interactive fashion. Infectious and non-infectious hepatitis is also a topic. We will discuss symptoms and differential diagnosis. Finally, we will discuss the pros and cons of using a neutropenic diet in allo SCT.

Special dietary measures - low bacteria/ safer eating in neutropenia, low residue diet/ gut rest (in GvHD), role of probiotics.

11:00 - 11:20	Keynote lecture: Infections vs. GVHD vs. Toxicity GI / Liver, nutrition	Zinaida Perić (HR)
11:20 - 11:40	Keynote lecture: Management of GIT infections	Małgorzata Mikulska (IT)
11:40 - 11:50	Case 1: An unexpected masquerader: early gastrointestinal symptoms after allogeneic transplantation	Cecilia Vismara (IT)

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11:50 - 12:20	Panel discussion and interactive discussion between patient after alloSCT (David Alonso Hernández), physician (Zinaida Perić) and nurse (Michelle Kenyon)
12:20 - 12:50	**Closing Remarks**
	Dina Averbuch (IL), Michelle Kenyon (UK) and Olaf Penack (DE)

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