



ESCCA
European Society
for Clinical Cell Analysis



ESCCA NEWSLETTER

January 2026

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Shaping the future of Clinical Flow Cytometry together

As the newly elected president of the society, I am honored to officially address our community for the first time at the start of this new chapter. ESCCA has long been recognized as a leading platform for advancing clinical flow cytometry, and our annual congress is one of the cornerstones of this mission. Each year we gather to share knowledge, discuss hot topics and strengthen the scientific foundation of our discipline.

While scientific dissemination will remain at the heart of our congress, I believe we should go further. We should progressively broaden our scope to make our meeting a dynamic space for scientific interaction and collaboration. This means creating opportunities not only to learn, but also to exchange ideas, challenge assumptions and build strong relationships that extend beyond the congress itself. Identifying peers with common interests as potential partners for Europe-wide collaborations and engaging with industrial associates in a constructive and transparent way will foster innovation that ultimately will benefit science and patient care.

We must be attentive to identifying potential projects, joint initiatives, needs for assay standardization, opportunities to ease the translation of new technologies into routine diagnostics and developing relevant educational activities to serve the Society and its members. Europe will be our initial frame of reference, but our ambition should go further, shaping ESCCA as a truly global reference in clinical flow cytometry.

I encourage each of you (clinicians, scientists and industrial representatives) to embrace this vision and contribute actively. Share your ideas, propose collaborations and help us build a welcoming space for interaction. Together we can make ESCCA a driver for innovation and strengthen its role in the field.

The next opportunity to make this vision a reality will be at our next congress in Salzburg this September. I look forward to seeing you there and working together to shape the future of our discipline.

I would like to conclude this editorial with a heartfelt recognition to our departing board members: Francesco Buccisano (Past President), Ulrika Johansson and Iuri Marinov, who have dedicated several years to bringing our Society to where it stands today. Their contributions have left a lasting mark on ESCCA, and their work will continue to benefit us all for years to come.

On a personal note, beyond their professional contributions, I will truly miss exceptional colleagues they have been. I have learned so much from each of them, and I sincerely hope we can continue to count on their expertise and friendship in the future.



Juan Flores-Montero, ESCCA President

New ESCCA Board

Last year was an electoral year for the ESCCA Executive Board. We had to say goodbye to **Francesco Buccisano**, **Ulrika Johansson** and **Iuri Marinov**. We thank them for their massive contributions and unwavering support to ESCCA. Fortunately, it's not a farewell – they will continue to be involved in the ESCCA Committees.



Former ESCCA Secretary, **Juan Flores Montero** was selected as new **ESCCA President**.

Juan aspires, along with the rest of the board, to lead the society towards greater efficiency in serving the community, enhance its relevance for European cytometrists, and strengthen its connections with additional national societies.

In addition, 3 new Executive Board members were elected. We warmly welcome:



Orianne Wagner-Ballon, new ESCCA Secretary

Orianne is a full Professor of Hematology, specialized in flow cytometry, and currently serve as Vice-president of the French-speaking Cytometry in Hematology Association (CytHem, cythem.fr), within which she co-leads two national working groups focused on Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (PNH) and Chronic Myelomonocytic Leukemia (CMML).



Arianna Gatti

Arianna is an Italian Ph.D Biologist with a more than 25 years expertise in haematology, cytometry and microbiology in a large core laboratory facility in the Western Metropolitan Milan Area. She also is a Board member of the Italian Society of Cytometric Cell Analysis (ISCCA), and a member of the Italian Society of Hematology (SIE) and Association of Italian Clinical Microbiologists (AMCLI).



Florian Kern

Prof. Florian Kern, FRCP, Dr. med. habil (Charité Berlin), Chair in Immunology, Brighton and Sussex Medical School, Brighton, UK. A member and supporter of ESCCA since its early days and specialist doctor/professor of clinical immunology, Florian has used flowcytometry in diagnostics and research since 1991.

ESCCA 2025: Winners Best Oral Presentation and Best Poster Awards

During the ESCCA 2025 Conference in Montpellier, **Marketa Kubankova**, Max Planck Institute for the Science of Light, Erlangen, Germany, was awarded with the **Best Oral Presentation Award** with her presentation: *Mechanical phenotyping of immune cells in whole blood using deformability cytometry*.

The **Best Poster Award** was presented to **Elena Kulakovskaya**, Dmitry Rogachev National Medical Research Center Moscow, Russian Federation, for her poster: *Flow Cytometry Application for Early Diagnosis of X-Linked Hyper-IgM Syndrome (X-HIGM) in Pediatric Patients*.

We congratulate both winners with this Award, which entitles them to a free registration for ESCCA 2026 in Salzburg.

The cells are alive....



Sixty years after [The Sound of Music](#) made the hills of Salzburg come alive, the city continues to set the stage for inspiration. Next year, it's not the hills but **the cells that are alive with ESCCA in Salzburg** — bringing science, collaboration, and discovery to a city that knows how to resonate.

Anyone who has ever immersed themselves in the magic city of Salzburg can never escape it again. Nestled between the Alps and the Salzach River, Salzburg offers a unique setting where science meets culture.

From its UNESCO-listed Old Town and baroque architecture to Mozart's musical legacy and breathtaking mountain scenery, the city invites discovery, dialogue, and connection.

[Discover more on Salzburg via the Conference website.](#)



The Scientific Committee will foster this scenery and complete the picture with a strong line up of experienced and emerging speakers that will spark interest and discussions on key topics for the field. You will soon be able to check the “Programme at a Glance” on the Conference website.



Some important key dates:

15 May 2026	Opening of registration and abstract submission
25 June 2026	Deadline for abstract submission
around 15 July 2026	Notifications of acceptance
5 August 2026	Deadline early registration fee

www.escca.eu/escca2026

New ESCCA Affiliated Society

ESCCA warmly welcomes the **BSAC - Belgian Society for Advancement of Cytometry** as **ESCCA Affiliated Society**.



Avenue de l'Hôpital 1, 4000 Liège, Belgium

Website: <https://cytometry-bsac.be/>

Members of an ESCCA Affiliated Society are entitled to a reduced fee for the basic ESCCA membership. For more information and to download the application Guidelines for becoming an ESCCA Affiliated Society, visit the website <https://escca.eu/societies/affiliated-societies>.

Meeting calendar

11-12 March 2026	NVC – BSAC Symposium 2026 "Flow across borders" , Antwerp, Belgium
19-20 March 2026	2nd Conference of the Baltic Flow Cytometry Society , Riga, Latvia
9-12 September 2026	ESCCA 2026 Conference , Salzburg, Austria
25-27 November 2026	1st Mediterranean Meeting on Flow Cytometry , Granada, Spain
8-11 September 2027	ESCCA 2027 Conference

Message from our Premier Sponsor at ESCCA 2025/2026



Happy New Year from Beckman Coulter Life Sciences!

We wish you a successful start to 2026. Together, we'll continue empowering flow cytometry labs to achieve more with less—faster.

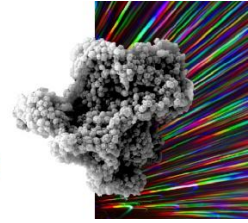
Stay up to date with the recent advancements in MRD research and discover our growing portfolio of molecular and cellular flow cytometry based kits.

In AML MRD research, time is critical—and so is sensitivity.

With superRCA® ultrasensitive mutation detection kits and DURAClone dry antibody panels for rare event cytometry, you can now conduct:

- Early molecular relapse studies using the [NPM1 Mutation Kit](#)
- Leukemic cell relapse studies using [DURAClone RE AML1 and AML2 dry antibody panels](#)

From Phenotype
To Genotype -
**One Platform,
Two Perspectives**



We look forward to meeting you in beautiful Salzburg.

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