13 - 16 June 2018
Amsterdam
Netherlands

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME
& call for abstracts
From June 2017, all EULAR education offers under a new and individual membership.

EULAR will combine all its educational offers, from live courses and online courses to books or webinars, under the roof of the EULAR School of Rheumatology. You will find it to be an exciting novel approach to EULAR education.

The EULAR School of Rheumatology enables you to enjoy enhanced access to educational programmes.
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Mission statement
The aim is to provide a forum of the highest standard for scientific (both clinical and basic), educational and social exchange between professionals involved in rheumatology, liaising with patient organisations, in order to achieve progress in the clinical care of patients with rheumatic diseases.
Welcome Address

Dear Colleagues,

The next EULAR Annual European Congress of Rheumatology will take place from 13-16 June 2018 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The annual EULAR Congress continues to be a major event in the calendar of world rheumatology and Amsterdam 2018 will again provide an unique event for the exchange of scientific and clinical information. It will be a platform to facilitate interactions between patients, medical doctors, scientists, health professionals and professionals representing the pharmaceutical industry, both from within Europe and from around the world. In addition, we will also see further results from our initiatives, the School of Rheumatology, the “Don’t Delay, Connect Today!” campaign and the launch of the EULAR Strategy 2018-2023.

EULAR Congresses have, rightly so, received tremendous interest in terms of participation and quality of contributions. This also reflects the availability of increased information on the impact, burden and cost of rheumatic and musculoskeletal diseases for the individual and society, and a significantly improved ability to diagnose and treat them (early). The incorporation of health professional and patient organisations within EULAR has been a unique stimulus for these advances. This intensive cooperation facilitates, for instance, the implementation of recommendations for management/standards of care of musculoskeletal disorders in daily practice - of which we have seen prime examples at our EULAR Congresses.

The EULAR Congress 2018 in Amsterdam will offer a wide range of topics including clinical innovations, clinical translational and basic science. Furthermore, there will be meetings organised by People with Arthritis and Rheumatism in Europe (PARE), Health Professionals in Rheumatology (HPR) and by the health care industry. The WIN/HOT track for the busy clinician who wants an update on What is New and How to Treat the major rheumatic diseases has become a much praised highlight of the EULAR Congress. Another crucial activity of the congress are the poster presentations and poster tours with their highly interactive exchanges among participants. The Amsterdam event will further strengthen the reputation of the EULAR Congress as a highly innovative and informative venue for clinical and translational researchers - not only within the different facets of our discipline (including inflammation, pain, bone, mechanical and inflammatory disorders), but also learning from other relevant disciplines. The Amsterdam meeting will further promote the reputation of the EULAR Congress as the most innovative and informative venue for clinical research for the practising physician. The EULAR EMEUNET organisation of young rheumatologists will continue to attract young colleagues to the meeting and will disseminate the message that rheumatology is one of the most attractive and successful disciplines of medicine.

We are very happy to visit the City of Amsterdam again. In 2006, we were impressed by the magnificent ambiance of canals and canalside houses, galleries, astonishing museums (think Rembrandt, Vermeer, Rubens, Steen and Van Gogh), the Anne Frank House, theatres, music and culinary pleasures. In June even the Dutch weather might be very pleasant. Thus, Amsterdam will provide an excellent background for scientific and clinical exchanges, international collaborations and renewal of friendships. We will take great pleasure in welcoming medical doctors, patients, health professionals and representatives of the pharmaceutical industry to EULAR 2018, and hope that their stay in Amsterdam will be informative, educational and, last but not least, enjoyable.

Johannes W. J. Bijlsma
President of EULAR
Organising Committees

EULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- President  Prof. Johannes W. J. Bijlsma, Netherlands
- President-Elect  Prof. Iain B. McInnes, United Kingdom
- Past President  Prof. Gerd R. Burmester, Germany
- Vice-President representing national PARE organisations  Mr Dieter Wiek, Germany
- Vice-President representing the Health Professionals in Rheumatology  Prof. Tanja Stamm, Austria
- Treasurer  Prof. Annamaria Iagnocco, Italy
- General Secretary  Prof. Ruxandra Ionescu, Romania
- Editor in Chief of the “Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases - The EULAR Journal”  Prof. Josef S. Smolen, Austria
- Editor in Chief of “RMD Open”  Prof. Bernard Combe, France
- Liaison to EMEUNET  Dr Elena Nikiphorou, United Kingdom
- * Liaison to the American College of Rheumatology ACR  Prof. Désirée van der Heijde, Netherlands
- * Liaison Officer, EU Public Affairs  Mr Neil Betteridge, United Kingdom
- * Liaison to the FOREUM Foundation  Prof. Steffen Gay, Switzerland
- * President UEMS Section of Rheumatology  Prof. Nada Cikes, Croatia
- * Executive Director  Dr Julia Rautenstrauch, Switzerland

* These functions are not included in the Congress Programme Committee

EULAR STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

(ex-officio members of the EULAR Executive Committee)

- Investigative Rheumatology  Prof. Xavier Mariette, France
- Clinical Affairs  Prof. Ulf Müller-Ladner, Germany
- Education and Training  Prof. Nemanja Damjanov, Serbia
- Epidemiology and Health Services Research  Prof. Laure Gossec, France
- Musculoskeletal Imaging  Dr Lene Terslev, Denmark
- Paediatric Rheumatology  Prof. Berent Prakken, Netherlands
- PARE  Ms Nele Caeyers, Belgium
- Health Professionals in Rheumatology  Prof. Annette de Thurah, Denmark

* These functions are not included in the Congress Programme Committee
CONGRESS PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Scientific, Health Professionals, PARE

› The EULAR Executive Committee Members (excluding functions marked with*)
› The EULAR Standing Committee Chairpersons
› Prof. Robert Landewé, Netherlands
   Chairperson of the Scientific Programme Committee
› Prof. Thomas Dörner, Germany
   Chairperson of the Abstract Selection Committee
› Prof. João Fonseca
   Past-Chairperson of the Scientific Programme Committee
› Prof. Francis Berenbaum, France
› Prof. Leonard Calabrese, United States
› Prof. Loreto Carmona, Spain
› Prof. Piet Geusens, Netherlands
› Prof. Martin Herrmann, Germany
› Prof. John Isaacs, United Kingdom
› Mr Marios Kouloumas, Cyprus
› Prof. Anne-Marie Malfait, United States
› Dr Elena Neumann, Germany
› Dr Caroline Ospelt, Switzerland
› Dr Daniel Prieto-Alhambra, United Kingdom
› Dr Yeliz Prior, United Kingdom
› Dr Sofia Ramiro, Netherlands
› Prof. Alexander So, Switzerland
› Dr Leonie Taams, United Kingdom
› Prof. Tsutomu Takeuchi, Japan
› Prof. Lai-Shan Tam, China, People’s Republic of
› Prof. Angela Tincani, Italy
› Prof. Filip van den Bosch, Belgium
› Prof. David Walsh, United Kingdom
Scientific Programme

The scientific programme will start on Wednesday, 13 June 2018 at 13:00 and will finish on Saturday, 16 June 2018 at 15:00.

The congress will cover the broad spectrum of the rheumatic diseases and include state-of-the-art lectures, basic science and clinical symposia, abstract sessions, presentations and discussions of difficult cases, workshops and special interest group sessions. Abstracts can be submitted on the following topics (for instructions, see “Abstract Information” in this programme on pages 11-13).

Sessions of the Health Professionals in Rheumatology and of EULAR PARE (People with Arthritis/Rheumatism in Europe) will extend and complement the programme on all days.

BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

01. Genomics, genetic basis of disease and antigen presentation
02. Adaptive immunity (T cells and B cells) in rheumatic diseases
03. Innate immunity in rheumatic diseases
04. Cytokines and inflammatory mediators
05. Cartilage, synovium and bone
06. Rheumatoid arthritis - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
07. Spondyloarthritis - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
08. SLE, Sjögren's and APS - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
09. Systemic sclerosis, myositis and related syndromes - etiology, pathogenesis and animal models
10. Basic science in paediatric rheumatology
CLINICAL TOPICS BY DISEASE
11. Rheumatoid arthritis - prognosis, predictors and outcome
12. Rheumatoid arthritis - comorbidity and clinical aspects
13. Rheumatoid arthritis - biological DMARDs
14. Rheumatoid arthritis - non biologic treatment
15. SLE, Sjögren’s and APS - treatment
16. SLE, Sjögren’s and APS - clinical aspects (other than treatment)
17. Vasculitis
18. Scleroderma, myositis and related syndromes
19. Spondylarthropathies - treatment
20. Spondylarthropathies - clinical aspects (other than treatment)
21. Psoriatic arthritis
22. Osteoarthritis
23. Osteoporosis
24. Crystal diseases, metabolic bone diseases other than osteoporosis
25. Infection-related rheumatic diseases
26. Fibromyalgia
27. Back pain, mechanical musculoskeletal problems, local soft tissue disorders
28. Paediatric rheumatology
29. Other orphan diseases

CLINICAL TOPICS BY AREA OF RESEARCH
30. Diagnostics and imaging procedures
31. Public health, health services research, and health economics
32. Epidemiology, risk factors for disease or disease progression
33. Validation of outcome measures and biomarkers
34. Rehabilitation
35. Education

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN RHEUMATOLOGY ABSTRACTS

PARE/PATIENT ABSTRACTS

> POSTER VIEWING
Time will be reserved for poster viewing on Thursday 14 June, Friday 15 June and Saturday 16 June 2018

> GUIDED POSTER TOURS
Guided poster tours on selected topics will take place during the official poster viewing times

> SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME
The Scientific Programme will be published end of April 2018 on the EULAR website: www.congress.eular.org
# Time Schedule

## Wednesday, 13 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:00 - 14:00</td>
<td>Opening Plenary Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:15 - 15:45</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:45 - 16:15</td>
<td>Coffee break and visit of the exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:15 - 17:45</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>Exhibition closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18:15 - 19:45</td>
<td>Satellite symposia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20:00 - 22:00</td>
<td>Networking Platform</td>
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## Thursday, 14 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:15 - 09:45</td>
<td>Satellite symposia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:45 - 10:15</td>
<td>Coffee break and visit of the exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 - 11:45</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 13:30</td>
<td>Poster tours, poster viewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>Coffee break and visit of the exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:15</td>
<td>Exhibition closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30 - 19:00</td>
<td>Satellite symposia</td>
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## Friday, 15 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08:15 - 09:45</td>
<td>Satellite symposia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:45 - 10:15</td>
<td>Coffee break and visit of the exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 - 11:45</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 - 13:30</td>
<td>Poster tours, poster viewing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>Coffee break and visit of the exhibition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:15</td>
<td>Exhibition closes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:30 - 19:00</td>
<td>Satellite symposia</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:30</td>
<td>EULAR Congress Dinner</td>
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## Saturday, 16 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:45</td>
<td>Exhibition opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00 - 10:30</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 - 12:00</td>
<td>Poster Tours, Poster viewing and coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 13:30</td>
<td>Scientific sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13:45 - 14:45</td>
<td>Congress Highlights sessions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Exhibition closes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abstract Information

PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY

1. Abstracts must be submitted in one of the three different categories:
   a. Medical or Research Professional/Clinician
   b. Health Professional/Practice and Research
   c. PARE Member/Patient

   The categories are subdivided into topics (see pages 8-9). The correct category and topic must be selected to ensure correct scoring. The content of the abstract must be topic related.

2. Splitting of data originating from the same study across several abstracts and/or topics is not permitted and will lead to rejection of the abstracts.

3. Please read all instructions carefully before preparing your abstract.

4. For standardisation, the acceptable length of the abstract is not more than 3600 characters and 55 lines, authors' details and headers included. This also includes non-visible characters such as spaces as well as punctuation.

5. The abstract should be structured into the following sections:
   a. A title which clearly indicates the nature of the investigation
   b. Background
   c. Objectives
   d. Methods
   e. Results
   f. Conclusions
   g. References

   Up to two tables can be included in the results section with the following criteria:
   • Maximum number of columns: 12
   • Maximum number of rows: 20
   • If a second table is added the number of columns and rows decreases by the number of columns/rows used in the first table

6. One graph/image can be included with the following criteria:
   Image width: min. 50 pixels - max. 750 pixels
   Image height: min. 50 pixels - max. 750 pixels
   Image quality: min. 96 dpi - max. 300 dpi
   Image file size: min. 40 KB - max. 1000 KB
   Allowed file type: gif, jpg

7. Abstracts can be saved in “Draft” status to be re-edited and modified until the submission deadline (31 January 2018, 23:59 CET). Therefore, the submitter will be required to create a user account.

8. Abstracts fulfilling all criteria can be saved in “Final submission” status. Only abstracts in “Final submission” status will be regarded as successfully submitted and considered for the congress. Abstracts in “Final submission” status can be re-edited and modified until the submission deadline (31 January 2018, 23:59 CET).
9. An abstract can only be submitted if the “Rules and Regulations, including the EULAR Embargo Rules” on the online abstract form are read and accepted.

10. Conflict of interest: it is the intent of EULAR to provide high-quality sessions focused on educational content that is free from commercial influence or bias. Thus the submitting author of an abstract is requested to declare any potential conflicts of interest for all authors during the abstracts submission.

11. The presenting author can be any of the listed authors without affiliations to industry.

12. The inclusion of trade names/brand names is not allowed in the abstract. The mentioning of agents/molecules must follow the scientific standard for publications.

13. Abstracts accepted for the congress are subject to the “EULAR Embargo Rules” and the “Transfer of copyright” as published on the EULAR Website www.congress.eular.org. With the submission of an abstract the authors agree to the embargo rules and the transfer of copyright.

14. The corresponding author has the right to grant, and does grant, on behalf of all authors an exclusive licence on a worldwide basis to the BMJ Publishing Group Ltd and EULAR to publish the abstract (if accepted) in any media and to exploit all subsidiary rights.

15. Only abstracts that contain original data can be submitted.

16. Abstracts should not be submitted if the following applies:
   a. the abstract contains data that has been published or accepted for publication in a print or online journal
   b. the abstract contains data that was presented at a scientific meeting more than 12 months prior to EULAR 2018

17. Abstracts containing data that has been presented or will be presented at a different scientific meeting during a 12 months period prior to EULAR 2018 can be submitted. This fact must be indicated on the submission form.

18. Abstracts having been submitted for publication or to a scientific meeting, but are pending acceptance, can be submitted without restrictions. However, once the abstract has been accepted by EULAR it is automatically subject to the EULAR Embargo Rules.

19. The reviewers will judge the abstracts according to the scientific or clinical value, relevance to EULAR, suitability of methods to aims, conclusions confirmed by objective results, objectivity of statements, description of methods used, ethics, originality of work, standard of English and overall impression.

20. Please ensure that your abstract does not contain spelling, grammatical or scientific errors, as it will be reproduced exactly as submitted. No proofreading will be done.

21. Abstract acceptance will be in one of three categories: oral presentation, poster presentation, publication only.
22. Should the abstract be selected for oral presentation, the authors, represented by the presenting author will have to sign an agreement to grant EULAR the right to record the presentation (audio and slide) and subsequently use it for educational purposes (with or without a fee). The full text of the agreement can be found on the EULAR Website.

23. Accepted abstracts will be published in a supplement to the Annals of Rheumatic Diseases. Information on accepted abstracts (title and authors) will also be available online on the EULAR Website about one month prior to the congress. Published abstracts will be available in the EULAR Abstract Archive during and after the congress.

24. The submission of an abstract constitutes a formal commitment by the presenting author to present the abstract (if accepted) orally or as a poster in the session and the time assigned by the EULAR Scientific Committee. We therefore recommend that submitters of abstracts register for the congress simultaneously with the abstract submission.

25. Abstracts not adhering to these guidelines will be rejected. If you do not agree with any of these rules, you should not submit an abstract. The final decision about acceptance of an abstract will be taken by the EULAR Scientific Committee. EULAR does not correspond on the reasons for acceptance/rejection of an abstract.

26. If the presenting author needs to be changed, a request, indicating the listed co-author who takes over the presentation, needs to be sent to MCI not later than 15 April 2018.

27. If you need to withdraw your abstract, a written statement reflecting the reasons for this decision must be sent to the EULAR Secretariat or MCI not later than 1 April 2018.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT PRESENTATIONS

› If an abstract is selected for **oral presentation**, the presenting author, as specified at submission, will be requested to present it in the assigned session. Details will be communicated to the author by mid-April 2018.

› If the abstract is selected for oral presentation, the authors, represented by the presenting author, will have to sign an agreement to grant EULAR the right to record the entire presentation (audio and slide) and subsequently use it for educational purposes (with or without a fee).

› If an abstract is **accepted as a poster presentation**, the presenting author will be requested to be available for discussion during the corresponding poster viewing session.

› Posters will be set up close to the exhibition area.

› For further information contact: [eular.abs@mci-group.com](mailto:eular.abs@mci-group.com)
Travel Bursaries

Every year EULAR awards a number of travel bursaries to the first/presenting author of an abstract accepted for oral or poster presentation at the annual EULAR Congress.

A travel bursary is to facilitate attendance at the EULAR Congress and includes:

› free full registration
› three nights hotel accommodation (single use), in the travel bursary hotel(s)
› a cash amount of EUR 350 for travel and living expenses

The age limit to apply for a scientific travel bursary is 40 years. There is no age limit for Health Professionals (HPR) (other than physicians) and patients.

Persons who receive full or partial financial support from industry sources are not eligible for EULAR Travel Bursaries.

The cash amount of the travel bursary will be fully paid on-site at the congress only, and only to the eligible person. No pre- and post-payments will be made in any cases.

Applications should be submitted via the electronic application system.

**Important information**

Please apply for a travel bursary as soon as you have submitted your abstract – but note that this is a separate process and requires a separate application!

Deadline for travel bursary application **28 February 2018**!
EXHIBITION

During the congress, EULAR will present an attractive exhibition to all delegates. The abstract poster presentation area is embedded in the exhibition. Coffee and other refreshments will be available in the exhibition and poster area. The exhibition will open officially on Wednesday 13 June 2018.

Exhibition hours will be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>13 June 2018</td>
<td>12:00 - 18:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14 June 2018</td>
<td>08:00 - 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>15 June 2018</td>
<td>08:00 - 17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>16 June 2018</td>
<td>08:45 - 14:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SATELLITE SYMPOSIA

A number of satellite symposia will be organised during EULAR 2018 at the following times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>13 June 2018</td>
<td>18:15 - 19:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14 June 2018</td>
<td>08:15 - 09:45 and 17:30 - 19:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>15 June 2018</td>
<td>08:15 - 09:45 and 17:30 - 19:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Satellite symposia are governed by EULAR Guidelines. Symposia are strictly prohibited during the official programme hours. All symposia and special events must be approved by EULAR.

General Information

CONGRESS VENUE: DATES AND LOCATION

The Annual European Congress of Rheumatology EULAR 2018 will be held at:

**RAI Amsterdam**
Europaplein
NL 1078 GZ Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www.rai.nl

RAI Amsterdam is situated 8 minutes from Amsterdam’s city centre and 15 minutes from Amsterdam Airport Schiphol. EULAR 2018 delegates can easily reach the congress venue by public transport.
SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

EULAR Secretariat
Seestrasse 240
CH-8802 Kilchberg/Zurich
Switzerland
Tel: +41 44 716 3030
Fax: +41 44 716 3039
E-mail: eular@eular.org
Website: www.eular.org
www.congress.eular.org

ORGANISING SECRETARIAT

Registration, abstract handling, partnership & investment opportunities, hotel reservations

EULAR 2018
c/o MCI SUISSE SA
Rue du Pré-Bouvier 9
1242 Satigny-Geneva
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 33 99 590
Fax: +41 22 33 99 601
E-mail: eular@mci-group.com
Website: www.mci-group.com

LOCAL ORGANISING AGENCY

Social events, excursions, transfers, company events

MCI Amsterdam
Schipluidenlaan 4
1062 HE Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 20 570 96 00
Email: eular18.soc@mci-group.com
Website: www.mci-group.com/thenetherlands
ITALIAN PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

EULAR 2018 has chosen MCI Rome to collect - on behalf of EULAR - all applications from pharmaceutical companies and file them with the appropriate Italian Health Ministry officials. For further information, please contact:

MCI Rome
Attn. Mrs Maria Grazia Paolelli
Via della Ferratella in Laterano 41
00184 Rome
Italy
Tel: +39 06 70 49 5693
Fax: +39 06 70 96 292
Email: mariagrazia.paolelli@mci-group.com

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

A certificate of attendance will be given with the congress bag to each participant. EULAR intends to apply for CME accreditation.

CONGRESS DOCUMENTS AND BADGES

Congress documents should be collected on-site at the registration desk at the congress venue. Name badges must be worn visibly at all times during the congress and in the exhibition area.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

During official coffee breaks, complimentary coffee and tea will be served in the exhibition/poster area. Restaurants and sandwich bars are available in the congress venue.

INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

It is recommended that participants obtain adequate cover for travel, health and accident insurance before they depart from their countries. EULAR and MCI as organisers cannot accept responsibility for personal injuries, or loss of, or damage to, private property belonging to congress participants.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official congress language is English. No simultaneous translation is provided.
EULAR Online Courses: Learn and qualify anywhere!

Shape your future with EULAR’s Online Courses:

- Regular quality control by appointed experts
- Six online courses of between one to two years duration
- Flexible learning approach - no extra or hidden costs
- Internationally recognised
- Low and middle income countries receive 25% discount

Expand your knowledge with the EULAR Textbook:

Published by leading medical publisher, BMJ, the EULAR textbooks are heavily subsidised by EULAR. Individuals in low and middle income countries qualify for a 25% discount.

Learn more at eular.org/education
Follow EULAR on Twitter and Facebook at @eular_org
PRIVATE EVENTS POLICY

All requests from companies/organisations to host private events during the congress must be submitted in writing to the EULAR Secretariat in Kilchberg by 1 March 2018 at the latest.

SERVICES FOR THE DISABLED

All the rooms at the congress venue are fully accessible to participants with disabilities.

SMOKING POLICY

Smoking in the congress venue is not permitted.

TRAVELLING TO AMSTERDAM

By Plane

Amsterdam is a national and international gateway. Amsterdam Airport Schiphol is considered one of the best airports in the world and is located just 20 minutes from the city centre and 15 minutes from RAI Amsterdam whether you travel by car, train, taxi or bus. The Amsterdam Airport website (www.schiphol.nl) provides information including: up-to-the-minute flight information, connecting transport facilities to RAI Amsterdam and business facilities.

By Train

Centraal Station, Amsterdam’s main train station, has regular and efficient connections within the Netherlands and to the neighbouring countries. The RAI has its ‘own’ station, RAI Amsterdam, which is located a stone’s throw from the RAI complex and is easy to reach from anywhere in the Netherlands. When you leave the station follow the signs for RAI Amsterdam. For further information consult the NS (Dutch railways) travel planner by visiting: www.ns.nl/en.

GETTING AROUND IN AMSTERDAM

Amsterdam has an outstanding public transportation service, but the compact city centre means most facilities and sights are within walking distance of each other. The city’s network of canals also offers a unique opportunity via the water.

Amsterdam’s compact size means that almost everything is within walking distance. Nevertheless, the public transport network is efficient, modern, reliable and inexpensive. Amsterdam’s public transport company is GVB, which transports one million passengers within greater Amsterdam by tram, bus, metro and ferry every day. An efficient train system completes the offering.
Taxis
Amsterdam has a variety of taxi firms which supplements its excellent public transportation network. TCA operates 1500 drivers and 1300 vehicles. Taxi fares from RAI Amsterdam to hotels and to the airport in Amsterdam are regulated by special flat rates to guarantee that delegates are not overcharged.

Passengers at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol can also opt for electrically powered Tesla taxis. These vehicles make a major contribution to sustainable mobility at the airport.

Metro
The Amsterdam Metro is a mixed subway and above-ground commuter rail with various lines. Tram 4 runs between the RAI (Europaplein stop), Amsterdam's city centre and Amsterdam Central Station. You can reach the RAI from the Amstel railway station by taking Metro 51 and Bus 65. Metro 51 also runs to Amsterdam Central Station. Metro 50 runs regularly between the Amsterdam Sloterdijk and Gein stations and stops at the RAI Amsterdam station.

Cycling
Amsterdam is one of the most bicycle-friendly large cities in the world and is a centre of bicycle culture with good facilities for cyclists such as bike paths and bike racks. In 2013, there were about 1 200 000 bicycles in Amsterdam outnumbering the amount of citizens in the city. Bicycle rentals are readily available throughout the city. Central Station, Leidseplein and Dam Square are all major rental hubs.
Facts about Amsterdam and The Netherlands

The Netherlands is the main constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. It is a small, densely populated country located in Western Europe with three island territories in the Caribbean. Amsterdam is the country’s capital, while The Hague holds the Dutch seat of government and parliament. The port of Rotterdam is the largest port in Europe and was the world’s largest port between 1962 and 2004. The name Holland is also frequently and incorrectly used to refer informally to the whole of the country of the Netherlands.

“Netherlands” literally means “lower countries,” influenced by its low land and flat geography, with only about 50 percent of its land exceeding one metre above sea level. Most of the areas below sea level are man-made. Since the late 16th century, large areas (polders) have been reclaimed from the sea and lakes, amounting to nearly 17 percent of the country’s current land mass. The Netherlands is the world’s second-largest exporter of food and agricultural products, after the United States. This is partly due to the fertility of the soil and the mild climate. The Netherlands was the third country in the world to have an elected parliament, and since 1848 it has been governed as a parliamentary democracy and a constitutional monarchy, organised as a unitary state. The Netherlands has a long history of social tolerance and is generally regarded as a liberal country, having legalised abortion, prostitution and euthanasia, while maintaining a progressive drugs policy. In 2001, it became the world’s first country to legalise same-sex marriage.

The Netherlands is also a part of the Schengen Area. The Netherlands has a market-based mixed economy. In 2013, the United Nations World Happiness Report ranked the Netherlands as the seventh-happiest country in the world, reflecting its high quality of life.
When people think of the Netherlands, many of them think of tulips and windmills but the country has much more to offer.

Amsterdam was founded in the middle Ages near a dam on the River Amstel. The city truly blossomed in the early 17th century, when it became the world’s largest centre for trade and art. The historic heart of the city known as the “Grachtengordel” (canal ring) has remained beautifully intact to this day.

Today, with two leading universities and several laboratories, Amsterdam is now firmly on the world map as a knowledge centre. The city attracts many prominent academics as well as those involved in innovative science and research.

Amsterdam is a historic city with a modern outlook that meshes business growth with sustainable initiatives. The city is regarded as one of the top 10 most important commercial centres in the world.

Amsterdam has been a centre of creativity and culture for centuries. The famous Rijksmuseum features works by 17th century Dutch Masters such as Rembrandt and Vermeer. The Van Gogh Museum houses some of the eponymous artist’s greatest works. Other heritage treasures include the Anne Frank House, the Rembrandt House and the baroque Royal Palace on Dam Square. Even frequent visitors will always find something new to appreciate.

Amsterdam is a vibrant, dynamic city in which people feel free. Free to be who they are, and to write or say what they want. The city is famous for its tolerance. This has been expressed since the 17th century in the city’s wide diversity of people, businesses and events. With 180 different cultures, Amsterdam is amongst the most diverse cities in the world.
A recent report published by the Economist Intelligence Unit found that Amsterdam is among the safest cities in the world, ranking fifth on the global index and second in Europe. Amsterdam is therefore a place in which international EULAR delegates will be able to move freely and safely.

Just 15 minutes from the center of Amsterdam, the villages of Marken and Volendam offer an unrivalled collection of authentic Dutch houses and windmills.

**CLIMATE**

Amsterdam is as its best from May (when the tulips are out) to August (when the days are the longest). The climate is moderate maritime, with warm summers and cool winters, and typically high humidity. You always have a chance of seeing rain in Amsterdam.

**CREDIT CARDS**

Major Credit Cards (Visa, American Express, Eurocard/Mastercard, Diners Club) are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.

**CURRENCY**

The Dutch currency is the Euro (1 Euro = 100 cents).

**ELECTRICITY**

The electricity power supply in Amsterdam is 220 Volt with a European standard plug.

**LANGUAGE**

The official language in the Netherlands is Dutch, however nearly everybody speaks English.

**SHOPPING**

Amsterdam’s specialist stores make shopping in the city special. Amsterdam’s best shops are in charming canal houses on cobblestone streets. This village like atmosphere makes shopping a delight.
TIME

The Netherlands follow Central European Time (CET) which is GMT +1 hour in winter and GMT + 2 in summer.

TIPPING

Locals in Amsterdam usually tip when they have received good service. In general, people tend to tip 10 percent in restaurants (however restaurants do not charge extra on the bill). Tipping taxicab drivers and hotel personnel is also customary in Amsterdam.

VISA

You may need a Schengen visa to stay in the Netherlands for a period of maximum 90 days in any 180-days period (short stay visa). Whether you need a Schengen visa or not depends on your nationality. An application for a Schengen visa must be submitted to the consulate at least 15 working days before the intended visit.

You do NOT need a visa for the Netherlands if you are:
› a citizen of any EU country/Schengen country
› from a country listed on the Foreign Ministry list (https://ind.nl/EN/individuals/residence-wizard/pages/non-visa-countries.aspx)
› and not staying more than 90 days

In this case, a passport or ID Card valid for the duration of your stay is sufficient.

For more detailed information, please visit:

If you should need a visa, please apply early enough to allow sufficient handling time to the authorities. You may ask the EULAR Organising Secretariat for an official letter of invitation (proof of registration required).
Official Events

OPENING PLENARY SESSION AND NETWORKING PLATFORM

Wednesday, 13 June 2018 - 13:00-14:00 / 20:00-22:00

The Opening Plenary Session will take place on Wednesday, 13 June 2018 from 13:00 to 14:00 at the congress venue.

The Networking Platform will be held in the evening of Wednesday, 13 June 2018 at 20:00 at the Strand Zuid located next to the congress venue.

All registered participants are cordially invited to these two events.

EULAR CONGRESS DINNER

Friday, 15 June 2018 - 20:00-24:00

Price: EUR 95 per person (not included in the registration fee)

Detailed information on the EULAR 2018 Congress Dinner will be announced at a later stage.

The Congress Dinner is a great opportunity to dine and meet with friends and colleagues from around the world in a relaxed atmosphere, enjoying the unmatched charm and fascination of Amsterdam. Those who have shared this evening with us in previous years would not want to miss it. Come and join us as well!
Registration Information

Registration to the EULAR 2018 Congress will open on 1 October 2017. For further information please refer to the EULAR Congress Website (www.congress.eular.org)

Take additional advantage of the early all-inclusive fees and register before 1 February 2018!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>All-inclusive</th>
<th>Until 31 January 2018</th>
<th>As of 1 February 2018</th>
<th>After 16 May 2018 &amp; on site</th>
</tr>
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<td>EUR 845</td>
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<td>EUR 180</td>
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<td>Trainee ⁴</td>
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<td>Patient ⁵, ⁶</td>
<td>EUR 39</td>
<td>EUR 39</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Registration fee includes Dutch VAT

THE EULAR ALL-INCLUSIVE FEE - THE KEY TO A FULL YEAR PERMANENT CME/CPD EDUCATION

When attending the EULAR Congress you will not only enjoy a scientific event that is invaluable in itself but also get the key to a full year extended “Continuous Professional Development”. For a period from July 2018 to June 2019, the registration fee includes the following benefits in a unique package:

› Admission to the scientific sessions from Wednesday, 13 June to Saturday, 16 June 2018 unless otherwise stated
› Opening plenary session and scientific networking platform on Wednesday, 13 June 2018 at the congress venue
› Congress documents, including badge and congress bag
› Mobile congress application with complete programme including all presented abstracts
› Access to the exhibition (limited to healthcare professionals) and posters ⁶
› Free Internet access in designated areas
› Coffee breaks on all days
› Unrestricted access to all accepted abstracts
› One year access to recorded presentations
› One year access to the newest developments and publications in the field of RMDs (does not apply for all registration categories)

¹ Medical or scientific professionals, clinicians, M.D’s, PhD’s
² Nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and other nearby allied health professionals. A letter of confirmation of your status from the Head of Unit or Institute must accompany the formal registration form.
³ Representatives of patient organisations
⁴ The trainee registration is available for “Clinicians in Training” and “Non Tenured Scientists” (scientists not being professor or associate professor) under 35 years of age. A letter of confirmation of your status from the Head of Unit or Institute must accompany the formal registration form.
⁵ A doctor’s certificate must be submitted with the registration form.
⁶ Access to the exhibition is restricted to the “EULAR Village” (non-commercial part).
**CONDITIONS**

Should your registration remain unpaid until **14 February 2018**: Early registrations will be upgraded to the applicable Regular fee.

Should your registration remain unpaid until **30 May 2018**: Regular registration fees will be upgraded to the applicable Late fee.

**GROUP REGISTRATIONS**

For 10 persons and more, please contact MCI for special conditions at [eular.reg@mci-group.com](mailto:eular.reg@mci-group.com).

**CONFIRMATION**

An email/letter of receipt will be sent to you on completion of your registration. This letter must be presented at the registration desk in order to receive the congress documents.

**CHANGES AND CANCELLATION POLICIES**

All cancellations are to be sent to MCI Suisse SA in writing (fax or email). For cancellations received before **Wednesday 9 May 2018** deposits will be refunded less **25% administrative charge**. After this date, no refunds will be possible.

A handling fee of **EUR 40 per registration** will be charged for every registration modification received **after Wednesday 9 May 2018**.

**EULAR 2018 c/o MCI SUISSE SA**  
**Phone:** +41 22 33 99 590 - **Fax:** +41 22 33 99 651  
**Email:** eular.reg@mci-group.com

**Cancellation of congress**

It is mutually agreed that in the event of total or partial cancellation of the congress due to fire, strike, natural disaster (either threatened or actual), government regulations or causes which would prevent its scheduled opening or continuance, the contractual relationship between EULAR and the participant will be terminated immediately and EULAR shall determine an equitable basis for the eventual refund of a portion of the registration or other fees after due consideration of expenditures and commitments already made. Under no circumstances is EULAR responsible for any participant expenses (such as travel and lodging) or any other incidental or consequential damages.

**REGISTRATION DESK OPENING HOURS**  
*(Subject to change)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12 June 2018</td>
<td>17:00 - 20:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>13 June 2018</td>
<td>07:30 - 20:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14 June 2018</td>
<td>07:45 - 19:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>15 June 2018</td>
<td>07:45 - 19:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>16 June 2018</td>
<td>08:30 - 15:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accommodation Information

MCI has reserved a large number of hotel rooms in various hotels in different price categories. The majority of hotels are located in the city centre but also in the surroundings of the congress venue, RAI. Amsterdam attracts many tourists. Hotel reservations will be made on a first come, first served basis. Please book before 25 April 2018 in order to guarantee your booking.

For bookings up to 9 rooms, please use the small groups’ button on the registration page.

For more than 9 rooms please contact MCI Suisse SA for an offer matching your needs: eular.reg@mci-group.com.

ENQUIRIES

Please address all enquiries, requests for additional information and changes or cancellations of room reservations directly to MCI.

EULAR 2018

c/o MCI SUISSE SA
Rue du Pré-Bouvier 9
1242 Satigny - Switzerland
Tel     +41 22 33 99 590
Fax     +41 22 33 99 631
Email:  eular.reg@mci-group.com

RESERVATION AND PAYMENTS

For individual bookings (1 room), a deposit payment covering the first night is required with your reservation. Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of your deposit. This prepaid deposit will be deducted from your hotel bill when checking out from the hotel. For bookings of 2 rooms or more, the full payment is required to confirm your reservation. Additional expenses such as mini-bar and telephone must be paid directly to the hotel.

GROUP RESERVATIONS

Group reservations are managed by separate contracts. For bookings of more than 9 rooms, please contact MCI by email: eular.reg@mci-group.com.

All changes to hotel reservations will be handled by MCI.

Please do not contact the hotel directly.
CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:
Each hotel has its own cancellation conditions. The conditions are available online when you book your hotel and will be sent in our hotel offers for groups of more than 9 rooms.

CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT TIME
Hotel check-in time is 16:00 or earlier. Please note that the hotel guarantees availability of the rooms from the official check-in time only. Should you wish to check-in earlier, extra costs may apply. Please contact MCI for more information. If arriving after 20:00, please notify MCI in advance.

Check-out time is 11:00. Should you wish to check-out later, extra costs may apply. Please contact MCI for more information. Early check-ins and late check-outs cannot be guaranteed free of charge. Please contact MCI by email for more information.

METHODS OF PAYMENT
Payment of registration and hotel deposit must accompany the form and may be made by
› Credit card: EuroCard/MasterCard, Visa, American Express
› Bank transfer to the following account:
  MCI Suisse SA - EULAR 2018
  UBS SA - CP 2600 - CH
  1211 Geneva 2 - Switzerland
  Account n° 240-369393.71L
  Clearing 240 - Swift UBSWCHZH80A
  IBAN: CH18 0024 0240 3693 9371 L
  Mention: EULAR 2018 and the participant’s name
  All costs are to be borne by the ordering customer
› Payment by personal cheques cannot be accepted
› All payments have to be made in Euros (€/ EUR).

EULAR OFFICIAL HOUSING BUREAU
The official registration and housing bureau for EULAR 2018 is MCI Suisse SA.

With careful research and dedicated negotiations, MCI works on your behalf to provide hotel rooms of a high-quality standard at a discounted rate. In addition, when you book your accommodation through MCI, you will also receive a complimentary city transportation pass.

Beware of Unauthorized Hotel Solicitations! Use MCI to Avoid Fraud! While other hotel resellers and travel agencies may contact you offering housing for your trip, they are not endorsed by or affiliated with EULAR. Beware that entering into financial agreements with non-endorsed companies can have costly consequences.
Overall Map
Map - congress centre
Map - West city
Map - City centre
Map - East city
# List of Hotels in Amsterdam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Single use rates from:</th>
<th>Breakfast/pers/night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hotels</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* Van der Valk Hotel Schiphol A4</td>
<td>115.20 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>2* EasyHotel City Arena Blvd</td>
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<td>3* Ibis Amsterdam Airport</td>
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<td>4* Golden Tulip Hotel</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3* Ibis Amsterdam City West</td>
<td>156.00 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>2* EasyHotel City Centre South</td>
<td>157.05 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Mercure Hotel Amsterdam Sloterdijk Station</td>
<td>166.47 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>3* Ibis Amsterdam City Stopera</td>
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<tr>
<td>3* Ibis Amsterdam Centre</td>
<td>176.94 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Ramada Apollo Amsterdam Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Hyatt Place Airport</td>
<td>178.61 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>3* Park Inn Airport</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Dutch Design Hotel Artemis</td>
<td>183.23 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>3* Hotel Casa</td>
<td>187.41 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Mercure Hotel Amsterdam Centre Canal District</td>
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<td>4* Mercure Hotel Amsterdam Airport</td>
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<td>4* Die Port Van Cleve</td>
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</tr>
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<td>2* Max Brown Museum</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* WestCord Fashion Hotel Amsterdam</td>
<td>208.35 EUR</td>
<td>Incl</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rates apply for standard room; other room types like deluxe room, junior suite, suite, etc. are available upon request. All rates are in Euros (EUR) per room, per night, and include City Tax & VAT at the time of printing (April 2017). VAT & City Tax may increase without notice and any such change will be reflected in final rates.
# List of Hotels in Amsterdam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City tax/ pers/night</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance in minutes to congress by taxi</th>
<th>Number on map</th>
<th>Map Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Incl</td>
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<td>Congress Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Single use rates from:</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4* Mercure Hotel Amsterdam City</td>
<td>208.35 EUR</td>
<td>Excl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* Radisson Blu Airport</td>
<td>210.32 EUR</td>
<td>Excl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3* Park Inn By Radisson City West</td>
<td>219.87 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Novotel Amsterdam City</td>
<td>229.29 EUR</td>
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<td>4* Steigenberger Airport</td>
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<td>4* NH Museum Quarter</td>
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<td>4* INK Hotel Amsterdam Mgallery</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* NH Zuid (ex NH Musica)</td>
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<td>4* NH Schiller</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Hotel Jakarta Amsterdam by WestCord</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Hilton Amsterdam</td>
<td>260.70 EUR</td>
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<td>4* Hilton Schiphol</td>
<td>263.16 EUR</td>
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<td>4* NH Caransa</td>
<td>265.94 EUR</td>
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<td>4* DoubleTree by Hilton Centraal Station</td>
<td>271.17 EUR</td>
<td>Incl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* NH Amsterdam Centre</td>
<td>271.17 EUR</td>
<td>Incl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* Sir Adam</td>
<td>271.17 EUR</td>
<td>Incl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* Sir Albert</td>
<td>271.17 EUR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* Park Hotel</td>
<td>271.17 EUR</td>
<td>Incl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* NH City Centre</td>
<td>281.64 EUR</td>
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<td>3* Jaz Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Radisson Blu Amsterdam Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Park Plaza Victoria</td>
<td>302.58 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>4* Crowne Plaza Amsterdam City Centre</td>
<td>Rates upon request</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4* Crowne Plaza South</td>
<td>Rates upon request</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</table>

Rates apply for standard room; other room types like deluxe room, junior suite, suite, etc. are available upon request. All rates are in Euros (EUR) per room, per night, and include City Tax & VAT at the time of printing (April 2017). VAT & City Tax may increase without notice and any such change will be reflected in final rates.
## List of Hotels in Amsterdam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City tax/pers/night</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance in minutes to congress by taxi</th>
<th>Number on map</th>
<th>Map Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>Congress Center</td>
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<tr>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td>Congress Center</td>
</tr>
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**Important Dates**

› Opening of abstract submission:  
  **1 October 2017**  
  [www.congress.eular.org](http://www.congress.eular.org)

› Deadline for abstract submission:  
  **31 January 2018 (23:59 CET)**

› Opening of travel bursary submission:  
  **1 October 2017**

› Deadline for travel bursary submission:  
  **28 February 2018**

› Early registration deadline:  
  **31 January 2018**

› No refund for cancellation of registration after:  
  **9 May 2018**

› Opening of hotel registration system:  
  **1 October 2017**