

# WSC Spotlight: Novel Therapeutic and Diagnostic Approaches for COVID-19 and Sepsis

A Free Online Congress by  
the Global Sepsis Alliance

To be held completely online  
on April 27, 2022

Information and free registration:  
[wscspotlight.org](http://wscspotlight.org)

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Global  
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## Welcome to the WSC Spotlight: Novel Therapeutic and Diagnostic Approaches for COVID-19 and Sepsis

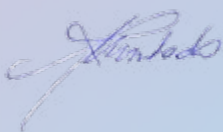
The world is rapidly changing - and the challenges for the delivery of medical care growing. Last year's optimism that the COVID-19 pandemic would soon come to an end has now been replaced with the understanding that we need to build knowledge and develop new treatment modalities. The pandemic has generated global awareness around how an infectious insult may cause the patient to rapidly deteriorate and possibly die, a process which has been known to global experts as sepsis for many decades.

The Global Sepsis Alliance will address the need for global education around strategies in the management of sepsis - whether caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus or not - in the post-pandemic era with a World Sepsis Congress Spotlight on April 27, 2022. Our aim is to cover all topics covering the constellation of threatening infections and our bodies' response to them, with the provision of state-of-the-art emerging knowledge.

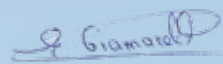
The Congress Program has been drafted to cover all novel aspects of our understanding of bacterial and viral sepsis from new methods of diagnosis and risk assessment to novel treatment modalities - taking into consideration the need to bring together a representative faculty of experts from all continents. We are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a, yet undefined, change of the world map of antimicrobial resistance. Our WSC Spotlight aims to present sepsis and infection in the landscape of the challenges of antimicrobial resistance - and to propose solutions.

Bacterial and viral sepsis are emerging threats to society. The role of modern healthcare providers is to gain a thorough understanding of the challenges and to deal with them in a strategic and holistic manner. Education is the only way. We at the Global Sepsis Alliance feel proud to present a complete and up-to-date program meeting these needs.

As Program Chairs, we cordially invite you to join us for this free online congress at [wscspotlight.org](http://wscspotlight.org) on April 27, 2022.



Flavia Machado  
Program Chair  
Vice President Global Sepsis Alliance  
Brazil



Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis  
Program Chair  
Chair European Sepsis Alliance  
Greece

Scientific Committee:

Simon Finfer, Shevin Jacob, Tex Kissoon, Imrana Malik,  
Konrad Reinhart, Luregn Schlapbach, Manu Shankar-Hari,  
Louise Thwaites, Tom van der Poll

Project Manager:

Marvin Zick

<p><b>Session 1:</b></p> <p>Could Enhanced Pathogen Diagnostics Change Sepsis Management?</p> <p>09:00h Berlin Time</p>	<p><b>Session 2:</b></p> <p>Biomarkers in the Diagnosis and Management of Sepsis and COVID-19</p> <p>11:00h Berlin Time</p>	<p><b>Session 3:</b></p> <p><b>Panel:</b> Knowledge from COVID-19 to Improve Sepsis Care and Vice Versa</p> <p>12:30h Berlin Time</p>	<p><b>Session 4:</b></p> <p>How to Make the Most of Existing and Frugal Technologies</p> <p>14:00h Berlin Time</p>
<p><b>Session 5:</b></p> <p>Antibiotics and Antivirals - How to Improve Efficacy and to Minimize Harm</p> <p>15:30h Berlin Time</p>	<p><b>Session 6:</b></p> <p>Update on Adjunctive Sepsis and COVID-19 Therapies</p> <p>17:00h Berlin Time</p>	<p><b>Session 7:</b></p> <p><b>Pro-Con:</b> Are Personalized Interventions in Sepsis Even Possible?</p> <p>18:30h Berlin Time</p>	<p><b>Session 8:</b></p> <p>Innovations in Quality Improvement Strategies in All Settings</p> <p>19:30h Berlin Time</p>

## Session 1: Could Enhanced Pathogen Diagnostics Change Sepsis Management?

Wednesday, April 27  
at 09:00h Berlin Time  
(click to see your local time zone)

Opening Remarks: Flavia Machado & Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis  
Moderator: Louise Thwaites, Oxford University Clinical Research Unit, Vietnam

09:05h Berlin Time

Keynote: The Role of Science and Novel Technologies to Combat 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries Health Threats  
Peter Hotez, Baylor College of Medicine & Texas Children's Hospital, USA

09:20h Berlin Time

What Is Missing in Surveillance of AMR Bacteria in Hospitals in LMICs and HICs?  
Direk Limmathurotsakul, Mahidol-Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit, Thailand

09:35h Berlin Time

Rapid Multiplex Diagnostic Evaluation for Sepsis Using Isothermal Rolling Circle Amplification (RCA)  
Eran Zahavy, BATM Advanced Communications, Israel

09:50h Berlin Time

Direct From Blood Pathogen Diagnosis Using Cell-Free DNA  
Maiwenn Kersaudy-Kerhoas, Heriot-Watt University, Scotland

10:05h Berlin Time

Developing a Target Product Profile for Sepsis Diagnostic Platforms Applicable to High Global Sepsis Burden Settings  
Cecilia Ferreyra, Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics, Switzerland

10:20h Berlin Time

Accessible and Affordable Scale-up of Diagnostics for Sepsis in Africa  
Cheikh Tidiane Diagne, Institut Pasteur, Senegal

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## Session 2: Biomarkers in the Diagnosis and Management of Sepsis and COVID-19

Wednesday, April 27  
 at 11:00h Berlin Time  
 (click to see your local time zone)

Moderator: **Binila Chacko, Christian Medical College Vellore, India**

11:00h Berlin Time

Host Response Biomarkers in Sepsis and COVID-19:  
 What Are the Differences?  
**Tom van der Poll, Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

11:15h Berlin Time

Blood Transcriptomics in Sepsis and COVID-19: What Have We Learned?  
**Brendon Scicluna, University of Malta, Malta**

11:30h Berlin Time

The Procoagulant States of Sepsis and COVID-19: How Alike Are They?  
**Marie Scully, University College London Hospitals, United Kingdom**

11:45h Berlin Time

Biomarkers of Endothelial Activation and Function in Sepsis and COVID-19: Guide  
 for Targeted Therapy?  
**Peter Pickkers, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands**

12:00h Berlin Time

Procalcitonin in Sepsis and COVID-19: When Should We Use It?  
**Evdoxia Kyriazopoulou, University of Athens, Greece**

## Session 3: Knowledge from COVID-19 to Improve Sepsis Care and Vice Versa

Wednesday, April 27  
 at 12:30h Berlin Time  
 (click to see your local time zone)

### Panel Discussion

Moderator: **Madiha Hashmi, Ziauddin University, Pakistan**

12:30h Berlin Time

Why Severe COVID-19 Belongs Under the Umbrella of Sepsis  
**Janet Diaz, World Health Organization, Switzerland**

12:35h Berlin Time

Novel Insights in the Pathophysiology of Sepsis and Its Sequelae by COVID-19  
**Hallie Prescott, University of Michigan, United States of America**

12:40h Berlin Time

The Role of Policymakers and Media for Awareness and Management of Pandemics  
 and Sepsis  
**Abdulelah Alhawsawi, Global Sepsis Alliance, Saudi Arabia**

12:45h Berlin Time

The Challenges to Evaluate Novel Therapeutic Approaches During Pandemics  
**Nils Riedemann, InflaRx, Germany**

12:50h Berlin Time

Lessons Learned by Researches in LMICs  
**Flavia Machado, Global Sepsis Alliance, Brazil**

12:55h Berlin Time

*Discussion by the Panelists*

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## Session 4: How to Make the Most of Existing and Frugal Technologies

Wednesday, April 27  
at 14:00h Berlin Time  
(click to see your local time zone)

Moderator: **Traci Wolbrink, Harvard Medical School, United States of America**

14:00h Berlin Time

Point-Of-Care Peritoneal Dialysis - A Cost Effective, Greener Alternative for Renal Replacement Therapy  
**John Knight, George Institute for Global Health, Australia**

14:15h Berlin Time

Wearable Devices for Sepsis Care in Low-Resource Settings - Getting Past the Noise  
**Louise Thwaites, Oxford University Clinical Research Unit, Vietnam**

14:30h Berlin Time

Neonatal Technologies: From Development to Prime Time  
**Rishi Kamaleswaran, Emory University, United States of America**

14:45h Berlin Time

From Triage to Follow-Up Care: Smart Quality Improvement  
**Mark Ansermino, Center for International Child Health, Canada**

15:00h Berlin Time

The Strengths and Limitations of Adopting Technology for Sepsis Management in LMICs - Lessons Learned From Experiences With Point-Of-Care Ultrasound  
**Liz Joeques, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom**

## Session 5: Antibiotics and Antivirals - How to Improve Efficacy and to Minimize Harm

Wednesday, April 27  
at 15:30h Berlin Time  
(click to see your local time zone)

Moderator: **Lowell Ling, Asia Pacific Sepsis Alliance, Hong Kong**

15:30h Berlin Time

PK/PD to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance  
**Alex Soriano, Hospital Clinic Barcelona, Spain**

15:45h Berlin Time

Meropenem/Vaborbactam: A New Weapon in the ICU  
**Mario Tumbarello, University of Siena, Italy**

16:00h Berlin Time

Remdesivir and Novel Antivirals: Is It Prime Time?  
**Matteo Bassetti, University of Genoa, Italy**

16:15h Berlin Time

Colistin and Fosofmycin: The End of an Era or the Requisition of Potent Drugs?  
**Ana Gales, Federal University of São Paulo, Brazil**

16:30h Berlin Time

Procalcitonin for Early Stop of Antibiotics: Antimicrobial Stewardship and Impact on Outcome  
**Mihaela Lupse, Iuliu Hațieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy Cluj-Napoca, Romania**

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## Session 6: Update on Adjunctive Sepsis and COVID-19 Therapies

Wednesday, April 27  
 at 17:00h Berlin Time  
 (click to see your local time zone)

Moderator: **Luis Antonio Gorordo Del Sol, Global Sepsis Alliance, Mexico**

17:00h Berlin Time

Lessons From COVID - What We Can Pick From COVID and Test for Sepsis in the Future?  
**Sheila Myatra, Tata Memorial Hospital, India**

17:15h Berlin Time

Anakinra Treatment - Which COVID-19 Patients Benefit?  
**Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis, European Sepsis Alliance, Greece**

17:30h Berlin Time

Vilobelimab Phase III Study in COVID-19 Sepsis  
**Alexander Vlaar, Amsterdam UMC, The Netherlands**

17:45h Berlin Time

The Approach to Immunomodulatory and Adjunctive Therapy in Children with Sepsis  
**Luregn Schlapbach, Global Sepsis Alliance, Switzerland**

18:00h Berlin Time

The Approach to Immunomodulatory and Adjunctive Therapy in Adults with Sepsis  
**Sarah Sasson, University of New South Wales, Australia**

## Session 7: Pro-Con: Are Personalized Interventions in Sepsis Even Possible?

Wednesday, April 27  
 at 18:30h Berlin Time  
 (click to see your local time zone)

### Panel Discussion

Moderator: **Teresa Kortz, University of California, United States of America**

18:30h Berlin Time

Pro: We Can Use Biomarkers to Translate Host Information Into Medical Intervention  
**Mihai Netea, Radboud University, The Netherlands**

18:45h Berlin Time

Con: It Is Impossible to Transfer Existing Evidence to Clinical Routine  
**Lorraine Ware, Vanderbilt University, United States of America**

19:00h Berlin Time

A Pragmatic Balance: Where Does Current Knowledge Lead Us?  
**Nuala Meyer, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, United States of America**

19:15h Berlin Time

*Discussion by the Panelists*

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## Session 8: Innovations in Quality Improvement Strategies in All Settings

Wednesday, April 27  
 at 19:30h Berlin Time  
 (click to see your local time zone)

Moderator: *Alison Fox-Robichaud, Global Sepsis Alliance, Canada*

19:30h Berlin Time

Todo sobre mi madre - Empowering the Parents, Empowering the Patient  
*Jos Latour, University of Plymouth, United Kingdom*

19:45h Berlin Time

Using AI to Improve Sepsis Management - Lessons Learned From Development and Implementation of the Artificial Intelligence Clinician  
*Aldo Faisal, Imperial College, United Kingdom*

20:00h Berlin Time

Improving Early Recognition of Pediatric Sepsis by Digital Support Systems  
*Fran Balamuth, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, United States of America*

20:15h Berlin Time

Untangling Sepsis Heterogeneity - Applying Data-Driven Phenotypes to Future Trial Design  
*Chris Seymour, University of Pittsburgh, United States of America*

20:30h Berlin Time

Prioritizing Quality Improvement for Sepsis in Emergency Medicine  
*Annet Alenyo, African Federation of Emergency Medicine, Uganda*

Closing Remarks: *Niranjan 'Tex' Kissoon, President Global Sepsis Alliance*

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- World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID)

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