

ESPN RESEARCH CONFERENCE

FLORENCE 2026
12-14 MARCH

**Complement-mediated
kidney diseases in the era
of complement inhibitors:
future perspectives**

PROGRAMME

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Scientific Programme

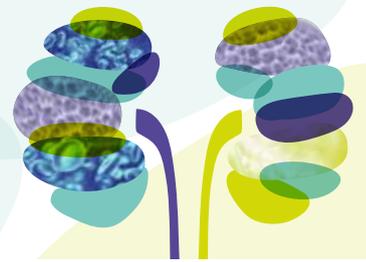
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FLORENCE 2026
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Dear colleagues and dear friends,

We are excited to host you in the 2nd **ESPN Research Conference** from March 12-14, 2026.

During the next 2 days, scientists and clinicians are going to share research and inspiring new ideas on the interplay of complement and kidney disease. The program ensures extensive discussions during the scientific sessions and networking activities to advance research ideas, promote collaboration, and establish innovation.

We have reserved a large space for free oral presentations and posters, allowing young and more experienced researchers to interact, presenting and discussing their latest work with experts in the field.

Let's enjoy discussion, the exchange of ideas and experiences in order to gain insights into disease mechanisms and effects of novel treatments in a stimulating retreat atmosphere!

Thank you for coming to Florence!

Marina Vivarelli
Scientific Chair

Nicole van de Kar
Scientific Co-Chair

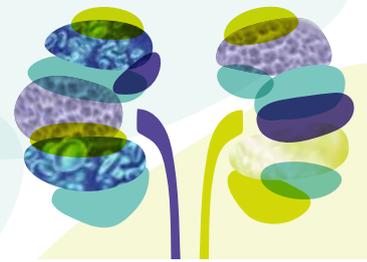
Francesco Emma
ESPN President

Thursday, 12 March 2026

- 14:00** *Participants check-in and registrations*
16:00
- 16:00** Greeting by ESPN President
Francesco Emma (*Italy*)
- 16:05** Greetings by the Conference Chairs
Nicole Van De Kar (*The Netherlands*), **Marina Vivarelli** (*Italy*)
- 16:10** **KEYNOTE SESSION**
17:30 **INTRODUCTION TO THE COMPLEMENT SYSTEM**
- 16:10** The C cascade in health and disease
Leendert Trouw (*The Netherlands*)
- 16:40** Discussion
- 16:50** When and why does C dysregulation affect the kidney?
Matthew Pickering (*United Kingdom*)
- 17:20** Discussion

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Thursday, 12 March 2026

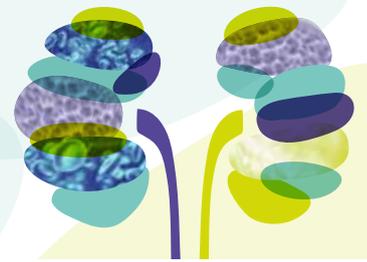
- 17:45** ABSTRACT SESSION
19:00 BASIC SCIENCE OF COMPLEMENT IN KIDNEY DISEASE
Moderators: **Seppo Meri** (*Finland*), **Matthew Pickering** (*United Kingdom*)
- 17:45** Unraveling the lectin complement pathway dynamics in childhood IgA nephropathy
Srishti Sahu¹, **Kevin Cote**¹, **Lison Lachize Neanne**¹, **Hélène Mathieu**¹, **Amandine Badie**¹, **Olivia Boyer**¹, **Julien Hogan**¹, **Lapeyraque Anne Laure**¹, **Renato Monteiro**¹, **Alexandra Cambier**² (¹*France*, ²*Canada*)
- 17:52** Discussion
- 17:55** Tacrolimus causes endothelial injury via glycocalyx loss and impaired complement regulation
Sanaa Mahmud, **Saghar Zekri**, **Efigenia Rouvas**, **Carolina Ortiz**, **Chia Wei Teoh**, **Christoph Licht** (*Canada*)
- 18:02** Discussion
- 18:05** Loss of DAF in neutrophils attenuates proteinuria in a murine model of FSGS
Carolina Bigatti¹, **Lorenzo Cocchini**¹, **Andrea Angeletti**¹, **Paolo Cravedi**² (¹*Italy*, ²*United States*)
- 18:12** Discussion
- 18:15** Altered neutrophil extracellular trap dynamics in C3 glomerulopathy
Priyanka Khandelwal Raheja, **Kenia Perez Vazquez**, **Anu Kaskinen**, **Ayuni Ratnayake**, **Meeraj Khan**, **Christoph Licht** (*Canada*)
- 18:22** Discussion
- 18:25** POSTER WALK
- 19:00** Free time
20:00
- 20:00** *Dinner at the hotel's restaurant*

Friday, 13 March 2026

- 08:00** MEET THE EXPERT
09:00 TOUGH GENETIC CASES
Mathieu Lemaire (*Canada*), Marina Noris (*Italy*)
- 09:00** SESSION 1
10:30 ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COMPLEMENT DIAGNOSTICS AND GENETICS
- 09:00** Functional tests
Prohaszka Zoltan (*Hungary*)
- 09:20** Discussion
- 09:30** Genetic diagnostics
Marina Noris (*Italy*)
- 09:50** Discussion
- 10:00** C3 nephritic factors and autoantibodies
Marloes Michels (*The Netherlands*)
- 10:20** Discussion
- 10:30** Coffee break
11:00
- 11:00** SESSION 2
12:30 ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COMPLEMENT THERAPEUTICS
- 11:00** Overview of C inhibitors: approved
Gema Ariceta (*Spain*)
- 11:20** Discussion
- 11:30** Overview of C inhibitors: the pipeline
Edwin Wong (*United Kingdom*)
- 11:50** Discussion
- 12:00** Infectious risk of C inhibitors in children
Carla M. Nester (*USA*)
- 12:20** Discussion
- 12:30** Group photo
12:45

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Friday, 13 March 2026

12:45 Lunch at the hotel's restaurant
14:00

14:00 **SESSION 3**
15:30 **COMPLEMENT-MEDIATED TMA**

14:00 Role of complement in paediatric TMA with pathogenic variants and anti-factor H antibodies
Elena Goicoechea (Spain)

14:20 Discussion

14:30 Role of complement in other forms of pediatric TMA
Mathieu Lemaire (Canada)

14:50 Discussion

15:00 Future perspectives in treatment of complement-mediated TMA
Sally Johnson (United Kingdom)

15:20 Discussion

15:30 **ABSTRACT SESSION**
16:30 **CLINICAL FEATURES OF COMPLEMENT-MEDIATED KIDNEY DISEASES**
Moderators: **Sophie Chauvet (France), Caroline Duineveld (The Netherlands)**

15:30 Atypical HUS in children and adults with the hot spot C3 gene variant p.Arg161Trp: a cohort study
Lieke Ter Steeg, Romy Bouwmeester, Kioa Wijnsma, Lambertus van den Heuvel, Jack Wetzels, Caroline Duineveld, Nicole Van De Kar (The Netherlands)

15:37 Discussion

15:40 C3G in children and adolescents what can be learned from a long term follow up
Yael Borovitz, Hadas Alfandary, Amit Dagan, Orly Haskin, Shelly Levi, Gilad Hamdani, Amit Even Haim, Daniel Landau (Israel)

15:47 Discussion

15:50 Complement activation in podocytopathies: a pilot study to determine its pathogenic role
Manuela Colucci, Marina Vivarelli, Giorgio Martelli, Antonio Gargiulo, Martina Riganati, Giulia Ricci, Francesco Emma, Federica Zotta (Italy)

15:57 Discussion

Friday, 13 March 2026

16:00 POSTER WALK

16:45 SESSION 4
17:45 IGA NEPHROPATHY AND IGA VASCULITIS

16:45 Role of complement in the pathophysiology of IgAN and IgA vasculitis
Jonathan Barratt (*United Kingdom*)

17:05 Discussion

17:15 Treatment options targeting complement in IgAN and IgA
Louise Oni (*United Kingdom*)

17:35 Discussion

18:00 ABSTRACT SESSION
19:00 "COMPLEMENT THERAPEUTICS"
Moderators: **Francesco Emma** (*Italy*), **Carla M. Nester** (*USA*)

18:00 Discrepancy between clinical response and pathology result? Questions remain after one year treatment with Pegcetacoplan in a 14 year old girl with rapidly progressive C3 glomerulopathy
Dominique Trouet, Annick Massart, Emilie Desclée, Amélie Dendooven (*Belgium*)

18:07 Discussion

18:10 SEISMIC: a multi-stakeholder summit to address the diagnosis, treatment, and access to novel therapies for C3G and IC-MPGN
Carla M. Nester¹, Marina Vivarelli², Howard Trachtman¹, Marianne Silkjær Nielsen¹, Lindsey Fuller¹, Susan Brisendine¹, Laurel Damashek¹, Angel Morales¹, Joshua M. Tarnoff¹ (¹*United States*, ²*Italy*)

18:17 Discussion

18:20 In vitro effect of complement inhibitors in patients with C3 glomerulopathy (C3G) and immune complex-mediated membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis (IC-MPGN)
Sofia Padoa, Zahra Imanifard, Rossella Alberta Piras, Francesca Penati, Elena Bresin, Ariela Benigni, Giuseppe Remuzzi, Marina Noris, Roberta Donadelli (*Italy*)

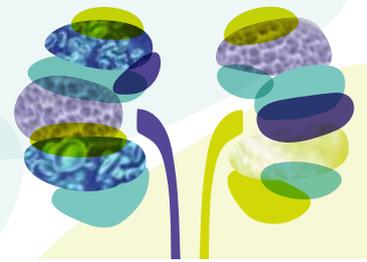
18:27 Discussion

18:30 POSTER WALK

20:30 Dinner at Boccanegra Restaurant - Via Ghibellina 124/R, Firenze

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Saturday, 14 March 2026

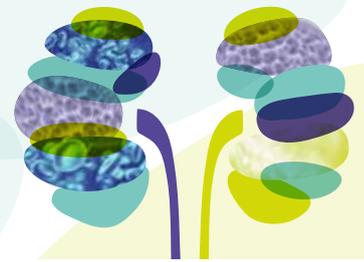
- 08:00** MEET THE EXPERT
09:00 TOUGH PATHOLOGY CASES
Francesca Diomedi-Camassei (*Italy*), Ian Roberts (*United Kingdom*)
- 09:00** SESSION 5
10:30 C3 GLOMERULOPATHY AND IC-MPGN
- 09:00** Complement biomarkers in C3G and IC-MPGN
Sophie Chauvet (*France*)
- 09:20** Discussion
- 09:30** The clinical spectrum of C3G and IC-MPGN
Maddalena Marasà (*Italy*)
- 09:50** Discussion
- 10:00** Current challenges of complement therapeutics in C3G
David Kavanagh (*United Kingdom*)
- 10:20** Discussion
- 11:00** SESSION 6
12:30 COMPLEMENT DYSREGULATION IN OTHER KIDNEY DISEASES
- 11:00** Complement in kidney transplant humoral rejection
Moglie Le Quintrec (*France*)
- 11:15** Complement in ANCA vasculitis
Andreas Kronbichler (*Austria*)
- 11:30** Discussion
- 11:45** Complement in membranous nephropathy
Anne-Els Van De Logt (*The Netherlands*)
- 12:00** Complement in FSGS
Andrea Angeletti (*Italy*)
- 12:15** Discussion
- 12:45** Lunch at the hotel's restaurant
14:00

Poster Session

- P01** Citokine network and biomarkers in kidney grafted patients
Andreea Liana Bot (Rachisan), Bogdan Bulata, Cornel Aldea, Dan Delean
(Romania)
- P02** Pediatric C3 glomerulopathy: findings on clinical course and treatment outcomes
Bahriye Atmis, Gökem Sahin, Nimet Şaşmaz Nurdağ, Kivilcim Eren Ateş, Gulfiliz Gonlusen, Aysun Karabay Bayazıt *(Turkey)*
- P03** Predictors of kidney biopsy in pediatric acute post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis: clinical and laboratory determinants
Bahriye Atmis, Gökem Sahin, Nimet Şaşmaz Nurdağ, Kivilcim Eren Ateş, Gulfiliz Gonlusen, Aysun Karabay Bayazıt *(Turkey)*
- P04** Outcomes in children and adults with antiglomerular basement membrane disease
Adriana Suhlrie¹, Wilbert Van der Meijden¹, Stanislas Faguer², Frederico Alberici³, Anisa Idrizi³, Vincent Audard², Aude Servais², Olivia Boyer², Dieter Haffner¹, Nele Kanzelmeyer¹ *(¹Germany, ²France, ³Italy)*
- P06** Unmasking C3 glomerulonephritis: a pediatric case highlighting diagnosis complexity and efficacy of C3-target therapy
Laura Alconcher, Analia Sanchez Lucero, Celia Dos Santos, Fernanda Toniolo
(Argentina)
- P07** Systematic review of efficacy and safety of avacopan in real-world clinical practice
Ilay Berke¹, Felix Keller\Clemens Untersulzner¹, Jae li Shin², Peong Gang Park², Sarah Soyeon Oh², Andreas Kronbichler¹ *(¹Austria, ²South Korea)*
- P08** Evaluating a rapid test for factor H autoantibodies in complement-mediated thrombotic microangiopathy suspicion. A case series
Jean Grandy, Nicole Bascur, Paola Krall, Andrea Lazcano *(Chile)*
- P09** Complement activation as a distinctive biomarker in a prospective cohort of pediatric idiopathic nephrotic syndrome: differentiating FSGS from MCD progression
Diane Leenhardt, Kevin Cote, Bonnefoy Arnaud, Roy Jean-Philippe, Lison Lachize Nianne, Srishti Sahu, Hélène Mathieu, Stéphan Troyanov, Lapeyraque Anne Laure, Alexandra Cambier *(Canada)*
- P10** Complement activation in primary membranous nephropathy – association with clinical outcome
Anu Kaskinen, Priyanka Khandelwal, Valentina Bruno, Daniel Cattran, Christoph Licht *(Canada)*
- P11** Unraveling the lectin complement pathway dynamics in childhood IgA nephropathy
Srishti Sahu¹, Kevin Cote¹, Lison Lachize Nianne¹, Hélène Mathieu¹, Amandine Badie¹, Olivia Boyer¹, Julien Hogan¹, Lapeyraque Anne Laure², Renato Monteiro¹, Alexandra Cambier² *(¹France, ²Canada)*

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Poster Session

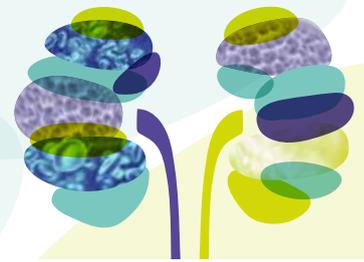
- P12** Pegcetacoplan as prophylaxis to prevent relapse following kidney transplant in a difficult C3 glomerulopathy child with a multifactorial genetic background
Luca Antonucci, Marco Busutti, Isabella Guzzo, Francesca Diomedi-Camassei, Caterina Mele, Francesco Emma, Marina Vivarelli (*Italy*)
- P13** Evaluation of the alternative complement pathway in pediatric patients with typical hemolytic uremic syndrome
Federica Zotta, Debora Vezzoli, Luca Antonucci, Antonio Gargiulo, Donata Santarsiero, Caterina Mele, Francesco Emma, Marina Vivarelli (*Italy*)
- P14** Atypical HUS in children and adults with the hot spot C3 gene variant p.Arg161Trp: a cohort study
Lieke Ter Steeg, Romy Bouwmeester, Kioa Wijnsma, Lambertus van den Heuvel, Jack Wetzels, Caroline Duineveld, Nicole Van De Kar (*The Netherlands*)
- P15** Eculizumab in Shiga toxin-associated hemolytic uremic syndrome: a single center experience
Federica Zotta, Debora Vezzoli, Luca Antonucci, Antonio Gargiulo, Donata Santarsiero, Caterina Mele, Francesco Emma, Marina Vivarelli (*Italy*)
- P16** C1q nephropathy in a child with nephrotic syndrome - case report
Venetsyia Bozhanova, Emiliya Kostadinova, Tsvetomira Bozhanova, Tsvetana Popova, Stanimira Elkina (*Bulgaria*)
- P17** Discrepancy between clinical response and pathology result? Questions remain after one year treatment with pegcetacoplan in a 14 year old girl with rapidly progressive C3 glomerulopathy
Dominique Trouet, Annick Massart, Emilie Desclée, Amélie Dendooven (*Belgium*)
- P18** SEISMIC: a multi-stakeholder summit to address the diagnosis, treatment, and access to novel therapies for C3G and IC-MPGN
Carla M. Nester¹, Marina Vivarelli², Howard Trachtman¹, Marianne Silkjær Nielsen¹, Lindsey Fuller¹, Susan Brisendine¹, Laurel Damashek¹, Angel Morales¹, Joshua M. Tarnoff¹ (¹*United States*, ²*Italy*)
- P19** Transcriptomics linking complement and proteinuric chronic kidney disease
Vienna Fu¹, Priyanka Khandelwal¹, John Hartman², Sean Eddy², Christoph Licht¹ (¹*Canada*, ²*United States*)
- P20** IC- MPGN – novel therapies for young children
Ramona Stroescu, Elena Cuceu, Steflea Ruxandra, Mihai Gafencu (*Romania*)
- P21** Tacrolimus causes endothelial injury via glycocalyx loss and impaired complement regulation
Sanaa Mahmud, Saghar Zekri, Efigenia Rouvas, Carolina Ortiz, Chia Wei Teoh, Christoph Licht (*Canada*)

Poster Session

- P22** Acute poststreptococcal glomerulonephritis in two sisters with dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa
Emiliya Kostadinova, Tsvetana Popova, Dima Zlateva, Ivelina Jordanova, Venetsyia Bozhanova (*Bulgaria*)
- P23** Clinical features of complement-linked pediatric kidney disease: insights from a national cohort in Albania
Armida Ajasllari, Ariana Strakosha (*Albania*)
- P24** Rare but treatable: excellent long-term outcomes in infantile aHUS
Ruth Schreiber, Michael Geylis, Eyal Kristal (*Israel*)
- P25** Eculizumab as rescue therapy in complement-driven pediatric rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis: a mechanism-based case series
Luigi Cirillo, Samantha Innocenti, Andrea La Tessa, Mariapia Carafa, Glenda Cancila, Carmela Errichiello, Elisa Buti, Giulia Sansavini, Francesca Becherucci, Paola Romagnani (*Italy*)
- P26** C3G in children and adolescents what can be learned from a long term follow up
Yael Borovitz, Hadas Alfandary, Amit Dagan, Orly Haskin, Shelly Levi, Gilad Hamdani, Amit Even Haim, Daniel Landau (*Israel*)
- P27** Loss of DAF in neutrophils attenuates proteinuria in a murine model of FSGS
Carolina Bigatti¹, Lorenzo Cocchini¹, Andrea Angeletti¹, Paolo Cravedi² (¹*Italy*, ²*United States*)
- P28** Management and renal outcome in pediatric-onset C3 glomerulopathy: a retrospective single-center study.
Carmen Larramendi, Mercedes López González, Carla Soto Santoyo, Maria Alejandra Gabaldón Domínguez, Manuel Hernández González, Roger Colobran Oriol, Hector Ríos Duro, Victor Perez Beltrán, Gema Ariceta, Gloria Fraga Rodríguez (*Spain*)
- P29** A novel form of complement-mediated thrombotic microangiopathy by sialyltransferase ST3GAL1 deficiency
Michiel Oosterveld, Noortje De Haan, Esther de Boer, Peter Lighthart, Richard Pouw, Sylvia Neri, Arie Hoogendijk, Masja De Haas, Hans Wandall, Taco Kuijpers (*The Netherlands*)
- P30** Abundant neutrophil extracellular trap (NET) formation in C3 glomerulopathy
Christoph Licht, Priyanka Khandelwal Raheja, Patrick Walker, Kim O'sullivan, Michael Hickey (*Canada*)
- P31** Altered neutrophil extracellular trap dynamics in C3 glomerulopathy
Priyanka Khandelwal Raheja, Kenia Perez Vazquez, Anu Kaskinen, Ayuni Ratnayake, Meeraj Khan, Christoph Licht (*Canada*)

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Poster Session

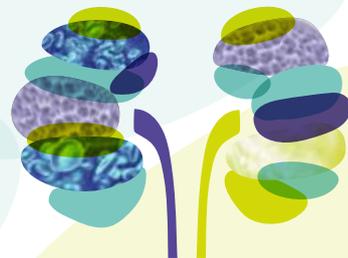
- P32** Complement biomarkers in thrombotic microangiopathy: Protocol of a systematic review
Priyanka Khandelwal Raheja, Nafees Sathik, Sameer Parashar, Devendra Patel, Christoph Licht, Rupesh Raina (*Canada*)
- P33** Comparison of serum and salivary creatinine levels in preterm neonates
Vesna Stojanovic, Nenad Barišić, Milica Milojković, Milica Jarić (*Serbia*)
- P34** Case of complement-mediated TMA with neurological manifestations: evidence of blood–brain barrier leakage, magnetic neuroimaging, and neurocognitive evaluation
Anu Kaskinen, Shih-Han Susan Huang, Jocelyn Garland, Fahad Hannan, Arenn Jauhal, Christopher Patriquin, Christoph Licht (*Canada*)
- P35** The long-term efficacy of Budenofalk® in the combination therapy of IgA nephropathy (IgAN): single-centre paediatric case series
Joanna Śladowska-Kozłowska, Burkhard Tönshoff (*Germany*)
- P36** Long-term efficacy and safety of ravulizumab in children with atypical hemolytic uremic syndrome: real-world evidence
Malamati Kanata, Antonios Gkantaras, Athanasia Chainoglou, Maria Fourikou, Prohaszka Zoltan, Ioannis Goulas, Konstantinos Kollios, Stella Stabouli (*Greece*)
- P37** Therapeutic response patterns in pediatric C3 glomerulopathy: meta-analysis of standard treatment and the role of complement inhibitors
Malamati Kanata, Ioannis Goulas, Athanasia Chainoglou, Kleo Evripidou, Stella Stabouli (*Greece*)
- P38** Complement activation in podocytopathies: a pilot study to determine its pathogenic role
Manuela Colucci, Marina Vivarelli, Giorgio Martelli, Antonio Gargiulo, Martina Riganati, Giulia Ricci, Francesco Emma, Federica Zotta (*Italy*)
- P39** A pediatric patient with alternative complement pathway dysregulation and an unusual presentation
Luca Antonucci, Federica Zotta, Antonio Gargiulo, Francesca Diomedi-Camassei, Francesco Emma, Marina Vivarelli (*Italy*)
- P40** Atypical post-infectious glomerulonephritis in children: clinical and genetic insights from a single-center case series
Luca Antonucci, Antonio Gargiulo, Federica Zotta, Francesca Diomedi-Camassei, Marina Noris, Francesco Emma, Marina Vivarelli (*Italy*)
- P41** Autoimmune dysregulation and broad spectrum of manifestations in TMA
Edoardo La Porta, Stefano Volpi, Serena Arrigo, Roberta Caorsi, Maria Carla Giarratana, Mario Giordano, Ottavia Exacoustos, Simona Matarese, Gabriele Mortari, Enrico Verrina (*Italy*)

Poster Session

- P42** In vitro effect of complement inhibitors in patients with C3 glomerulopathy (C3G) and immune complex-mediated membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis (IC-MPGN)
Sofia Padoa, Zahra Imanifard, Rossella Alberta Piras, Francesca Penati, Elena Bresin, Ariela Benigni, Giuseppe Remuzzi, Marina Noris, Roberta Donadelli (*Italy*)
- P43** The long-term efficacy of Budenofalk® in the combination therapy of IgA nephropathy (IgAN): single-centre paediatric case series
Joanna Śladowska-Kozłowska (*Germany*)
- P44** Azithromycin as adjunctive therapy in established STEC-HUS: a pediatric case report
Simona Matarese, Edoardo La Porta (*Italy*)
- P45** Are we diagnosing C3G correctly? Coding accuracy and complement diagnostic gaps in the CompCure multinational cohort
G. Bassanese¹, J. Zieg², O. Boyer³, S. Loos¹, A. Lungu⁴, K. Arbeiter⁵, B. Adams⁶, T. Kersnik Levart⁷, M. Vivarelli⁸, F. Schaefer¹ (¹*Germany*, ²*Czech Republic*, ³*France*, ⁴*Romania*, ⁵*Austria*, ⁶*Belgium*, ⁷*Slovenia*, ⁸*Italy*)
- P46** Serum C3 trajectories reflect disease activity and are associated with clinical outcomes in primary MPGN - Findings from the CompCure Registry
G. Bassanese¹, J. Hofstetter¹, A. Pasini², L. Peruzzi², E. Vidal², G. Ariceta³, A. Bouts⁴, A. Karabay Bayazit⁵, M. Vivarelli², F. Schaefer¹ (¹*Germany*, ²*Italy*, ³*Spain*, ⁴*The Netherlands*, ⁵*Turkey*)

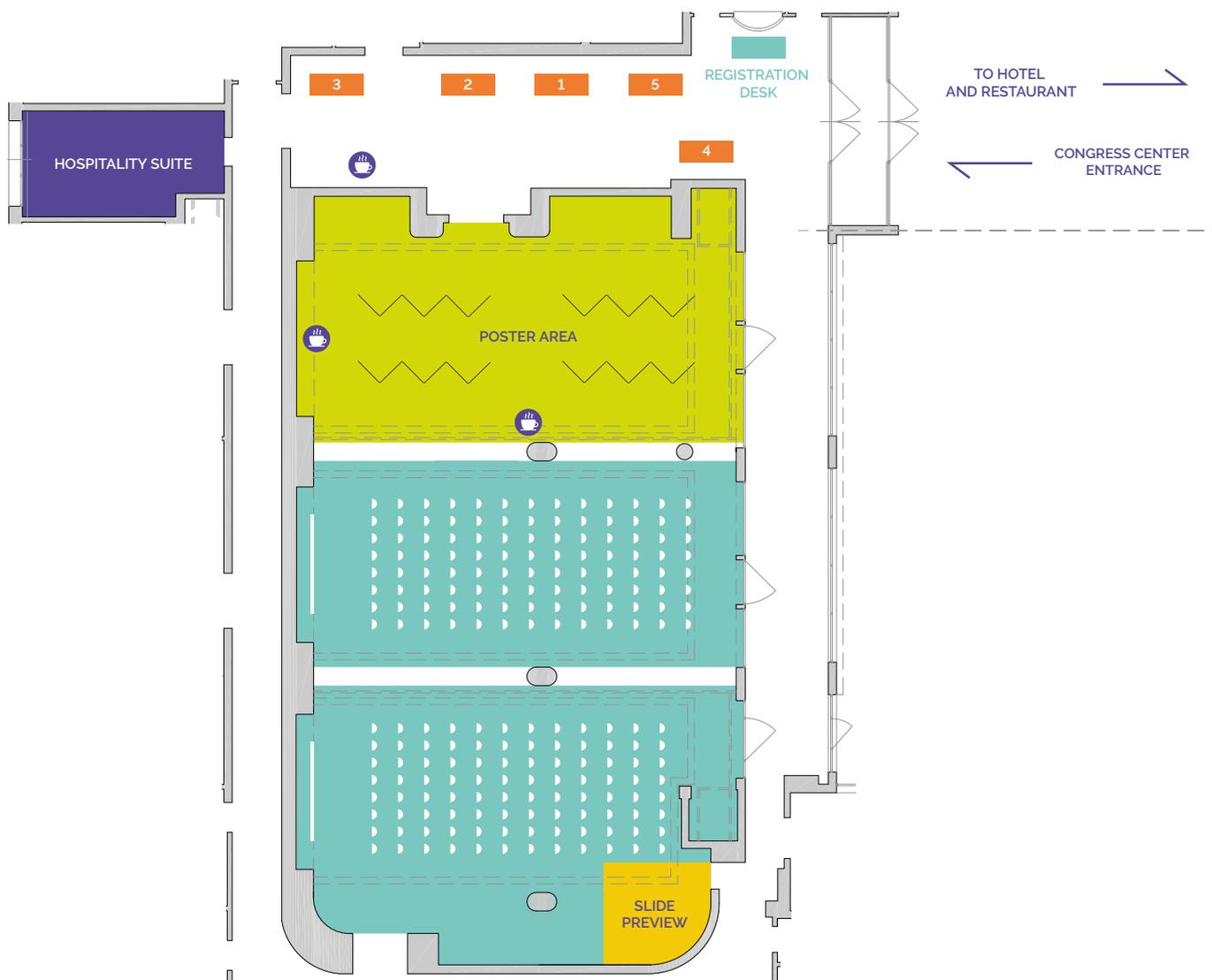
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Congress Map

Hotel Congress Center - Ground Floor



COMPANY	DESK N°
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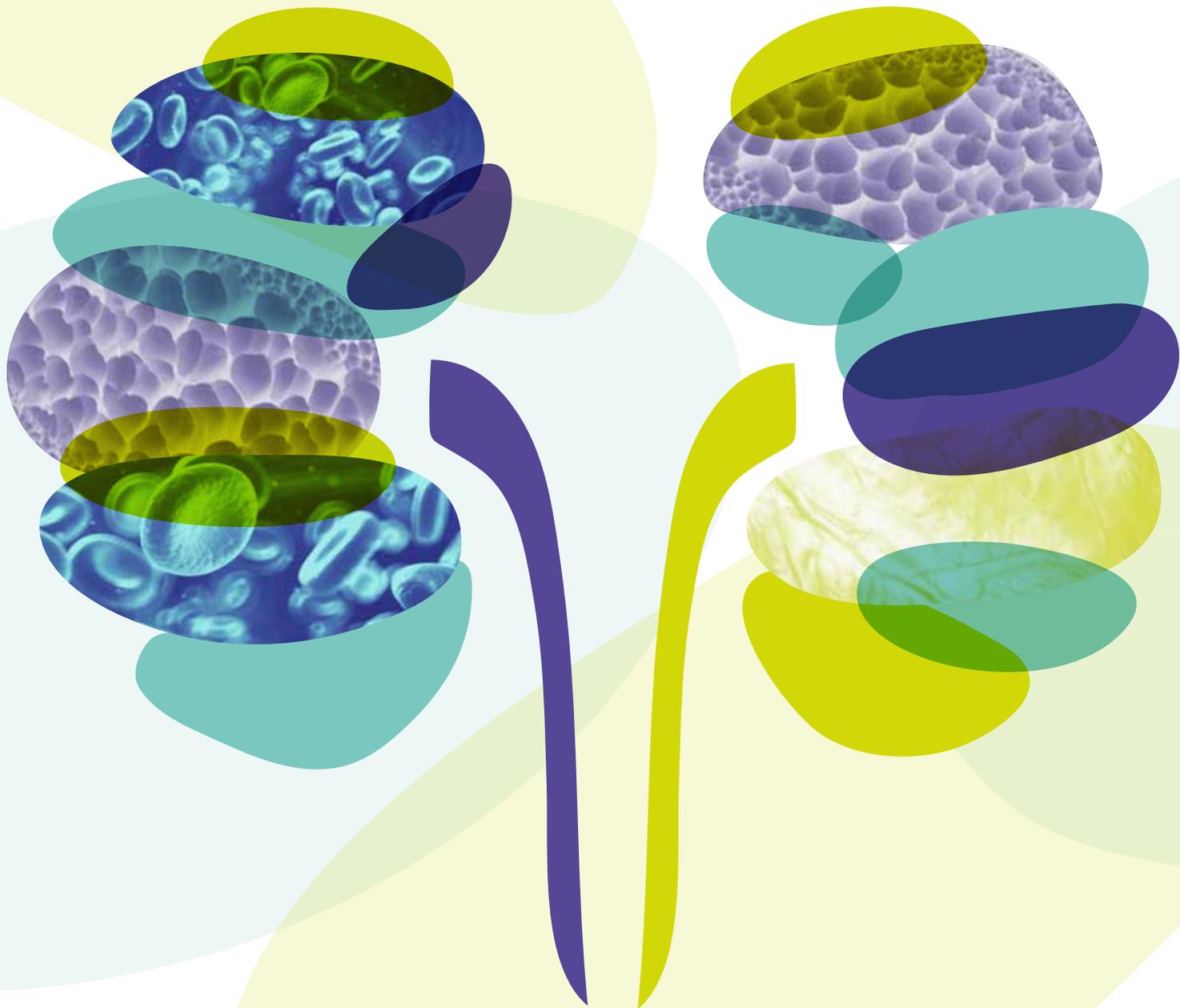
- We are bringing **brilliant ideas** to life in rare disease areas with high unmet patient needs
- We are experts on identifying breakthrough innovations, unlocking new therapies and leveling up global access to new treatments
- Our global operational network and passionate team serve as the foundation for our success

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To transform everyday life for people living with rare diseases.

Mission

To identify, unlock and level up breakthrough therapies for people living with rare diseases.



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group

Viale della Giovine Italia, 17
50122 Florence - Italy
Tel. +39 055 50351 | Fax +39 055 5001912
www.oic.it | infoESPnrc@oic.it