

**ECTS Academy
Mentors List**

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Scandinavia - Denmark | Bente Langdahl, PhD, DMSc | Professor, Consultant | | Department of Endocrinology and Internal Medicine THG Aarhus University Hospital DK-8000 Aarhus C Denmark Email: bente.langdahl@aarhus.rm.dk |
| Scandinavia - Denmark | Moustapha Kasseem, MD,PhD,DSc | Professor Endocrinology and Metabolism | | University Hospital of Odense, Winslowsparken 25.1 DK-5000 Odense C Denmark email: mkassem@health.sdu.dk |
| Scandinavia - Norway | Erik Fink Eriksen, MD, DMSc | Professor | | Dept. of Endocrinology, Morbid Obesity and Preventive Medicine Oslo University Hospital Pb 4596 Nydalen N-0424 Oslo Norway Email: e.f.eriksen@medisin.uio.no> |
| Scandinavia – Finland | Outi Mäkitie | Professor of Pediatric Endocrinology | I am pediatric endocrinologist and presently Professor of Pediatric Endocrinology at University of Helsinki, Finland. I have a long career in clinical pediatric endocrinology and pediatric metabolic bone diseases and have carried out active research at University of Helsinki, Finland. My research group focuses on clinical and translational research on metabolic bone diseases. The main areas | Outi Mäkitie, MD PhD Sigrid Jusélius Professor of Pediatric Endocrinology Children's Hospital, University of Helsinki Mailing address: |

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|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | | <p>include pediatric primary and secondary osteoporosis and genetic causes of osteoporosis, mineral disorders and skeletal dysplasias. We have performed several clinical studies, including randomized intervention studies, on vitamin D.</p> <p>Publications: over 180 publications listed in the Pubmed</p> | <p>Haartman Institute, room E364 Haartmaninkatu 3 (P.O. BOX 21) FI-00014 University of Helsinki Finland</p> <p>email: outi.makitie@helsinki.fi tel. +358 50 4270856</p> |
| Scandinavia - Finland | Riku Kiviranta, M.D., Ph.D | Principal Investigator Adjunct Professor in Molecular Me dicine | My laboratory is focused on the molecular regulation of bone remodeling. Using modern molecular biologic approaches combined with genetically modified animal models we study epigenetic and transcriptional regulation of osteoblast and osteoclast differentiation and function. | <p>Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics University of Turku Kiinamylynkatu 10 20520 Turku Finland</p> <p>Tel: +358 2 333 7569 +358 50 338 8227 (Mobile)</p> <p>Fax: +358 2 333 7300 E-mail: rikkiv@utu.fi</p> |
| UK/IRE | Eugene McCloskey MD FRCPI | Professor of Adult Bone Diseases | Eugene McCloskey is Professor in Adult Bone Diseases in the Academic Unit of Bone Metabolism and Mellanby Centre for Bone Research at the University of Sheffield. In addition to clinical work, his research interests include clinical trials (design, conduct and analysis), vertebral fracture definition, osteoporosis epidemiology, fracture risk assessment (the FRAX tool) and bone health in cancer. | <p>Prof Eugene McCloskey MD FRCPI Professor of Adult Bone Diseases Sheffield Director of MRC-Arthritis Research UK Centre for Integrated research in Musculoskeletal Ageing (www.cimauk.org) Academic Unit of Bone Metabolism, Department of Oncology and Metabolism The Mellanby Centre For Bone Research (www.mellanbycentre.org) The University of Sheffield</p> |

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| | | | | <p><u>Postal address:</u> Metabolic Bone Unit Northern General Hospital Herries Road Sheffield S5 7AU UK Secretary: Gill Higginbottom Phone: (+44) (0)114 271 4705 Fax: (+44) (0)114 261 8775 Email: g.k.higginbottom@sheffield.ac.uk</p> |
| UK/IRE | Gudrun Stenbeck, PhD | | | <p>Brunel University London, Uxbridge, UB8 3PH, United Kingdom Email: gudrun.Stenbeck@brunel.ac.uk</p> |
| UK/IRE | Richard Eastell, MD, FRCP, FRCPATH, FMedSci | Professor of Bone Metabolism, Head of the Academic Unit of Bone Metabolism, Director of the Mellanby Centre for Bone Research Metabolic Bone Centre, | | <p>Mellanby Centre for Bone Research Metabolic Bone Centre, Northern General Hospital, Herries Road, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S5 7AU, England e-mail: r.eastell@sheffield.ac.uk</p> |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| UK/IRE | Stuart Ralston, MD, FRCP, FMedSci, FRSE | Professor of Rheumatology | | Arthritis Research UK Centre for Genomic and Experimental Medicine Institute of Genetics and Molecular Medicine University of Edinburgh Western General Hospital Edinburgh EH4 2XU UK eMail: stuart.ralston@ed.ac.uk |
| UK/IRE | Claire Edwards | | My research interests are in the role of the bone microenvironment in the pathogenesis of cancer-induced bone disease. My laboratory is focused upon multiple myeloma and prostate cancer bone metastases, combining advanced cell and molecular biology, with in vivo models of cancer-induced bone disease and clinical samples. Current areas of interest include obesity, adipokines, bone marrow adipocytes, metabolism and bone pain. | University of Oxford, Nuffield Dept. of Surgical Sciences & Nuffield Dept. of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology & Musculoskeletal Sciences Email : claire.edwards@ndorms.ox.ac.uk |
| UK/IRE | Debbie Mason | BSc PhD | I have led 35 research projects (£6.4M external research funding) funded by Arthritis Research UK, BBSRC, NISCHR, TSB, Ser Cymru and Industrial partners. My research elucidates molecular signalling mechanisms, particularly those that link mechanical loading to inflammation and pain, to provide new therapeutic targets for musculoskeletal diseases. My work on glutamate signalling in bone and joint tissues, has revealed glutamate receptors as therapeutic targets for | School of Biosciences, Sir Martin Evans Building, Museum Avenue, Cardiff CF10 3AX. Phone: +44(0)2920874561 Email: masondj@cf.ac.uk |

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| | | | arthritis. I am CoPI and Research Director of the Arthritis Research UK Centre of Excellence in Biomechanics and Bioengineering. | |
| UK/IRE | Colin Farquharson | | <p>My research programme is focused on the fundamental/translational mechanisms underpinning bone growth and development with a specific focus on the genetic and endocrine control of skeletal development. Amongst other achievements my group has proven a critical role for SOCS2 in regulating epiphyseal chondrocyte and osteoblast responses to growth hormone. This negative control suppresses STAT phosphorylation to inhibit linear growth and bone accretion. I have also provided major insights into how pro-inflammatory cytokines and glucocorticoids impair linear bone growth and this work is in collaboration with colleagues at the University of Glasgow. Defining mechanisms of skeletal biomineralisation is another central theme pervading his work. I discovered a bone-specific phosphatase, PHOSPHO1, and together with colleagues at the Burnham Institute, San Diego we substantiated its non-redundant functional role in bone mineralisation; genetic PHOSPHO1 ablation results in hypomineralised, functionally impaired skeletons with bowing of bones and spontaneous fracture (co-ablation of alkaline phosphatase produces complete lack of skeletal mineralisation). In collaboration with colleagues at the RVC I have shown that matrix mineralisation drives osteocyte formation and E11 expression and that</p> | <p>Chair of Skeletal Biology The Roslin Institute and R(D)SVS University of Edinburgh Easter Bush Midlothian EH25 9RG U.K. Tel: +44 (0)131 651 9176; Reception: 651 9100 Fax: +44 (0)131 651 9105 email: colin.farquharson@roslin.ed.ac.uk http://www.roslin.ed.ac.uk/research/people.php/Colin.farquharson</p> |

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|--------|----------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| | | | stabilisation of E11 protein (by cysteine protease inhibitors) is essential for the acquisition of the osteocyte morphology. Building on current knowledge and expertise my research intentionally benefits from applications in both animal and human biology | |
| UK/IRE | Duncan Bassett | Professor of Endocrinology | Our current research is focussed in two main areas. Firstly, we are determining the cellular and molecular basis of bone and cartilage disease by analysing the skeletal phenotypes of mice generated by the International Knockout Mouse Consortium (www.boneandcartilage.com). Secondly, we are defining the cell specific actions of thyroid hormone in the developing and adult skeleton and investigating its role in tissue repair and degenerative skeletal disease (http://dx.doi.org/10.1210/er.2015-1106). | Imperial College London Molecular Endocrinology Laboratory, Room 10N6 Commonwealth Building, Hammersmith Campus Du Cane Road, London W12 0NN UK. Tel: +44 (0)20 8383 4613 (Office) Tel: +44 (0)20 8383 8324 (Laboratory) email: d.bassett@imperial.ac.uk web: www.imperial.ac.uk/people/d.bassett |
| UK/IRE | Isabel Orriss | | The main focus of my current research is to investigate the cellular mechanisms regulating skeletal mineralisation and vascular calcification with a particular focus on the role of extracellular nucleotides and purinergic signalling. Additional projects examine the regulation of bone cell function by a range of local factors. Due to the nature of my research I have extensive experience in primary bone cell and smooth | Contact information: Dept of Comparative Biomedical Sciences, Royal Veterinary College, London. Email: iorriss@rvc.ac.uk |

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| | | | muscle cell cultures. | |
| UK/IRE | Dagan Jenkins | | <p>My lab works on rare skeletal disorders, especially those caused by mutations affecting primary cilia, phospholipid signaling and ribosome biogenesis, and we have discovered mutations causing Carpenter, Lenz-Majewski, 3MC and Turner syndromes, in recent years [refs 1-4]. We develop mouse and zebrafish models of these disorders and, using quantitative proteomics and RNAseq, we characterise the effect of specific mutations within causative genes on key skeletal cell lineages. Using zebrafish we also conduct high-content drug screens to identify potential therapies for rare and common skeletal disorders, and we have recently identified compounds that prevent skull malformations (craniosynostosis) in an exact genetic mouse model of this condition.</p> <p>Ref 1: Jenkins et al. Am J Hum Genet. 80:1162-70 Ref 2: Twigg, Jenkins et al. Am J Hum Genet. 91:897-905 Ref 3: Sousa, Jenkins et al. Nat Genet. 46:70-6 Ref 4: Rooryck et al. Nat Genet. 43:197-203</p> | <p>Contact information: Dr Dagan Jenkins Lecturer in Molecular Medicine UCL Institute of Child Health 30 Guilford Street London WC1N 1EH</p> |

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|--------|----------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| UK/IRE | Richard Oreffo | DPhil DSc (Oxon) CBIol FRSB | <p>Research interests are primarily centred on harnessing the potential of skeletal stem cells, whether derived from embryonic, fetal and/or adult sources, for the development of unique tissue engineering approaches for new cartilage and bone formation for orthopedic application. In parallel he is interested in understanding bone development; including the role the role of epigenetics in musculoskeletal diseases, in particular osteoarthritis.</p> <p>Richard Oreffo holds the chair of Musculoskeletal Science and is co-founder and Director of the Centre for Human Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration at Southampton</p> | <p>Chair in Musculoskeletal Science Bone and Joint Research Group Centre for Human Development, Stem Cells and Regeneration, Human Development and Health, Institute of Developmental Sciences, University of Southampton, Southampton, SO16 6YD, UK.</p> <p>Tel: 44 (0)-2381 208502; Fax: 44-(0)-2381 205525 Email: roco@soton.ac.uk ; www.stemcells.org.uk ; Skype: rocosoton</p> |
| UK/IRE | Kassim Javaid | | <p>My research areas is epidemiology of bone diseases with foci on secondary fracture prevention, vitamin D through the life course and rare bone diseases. We have research cohorts in secondary fracture and rare bone diseases as well as work looking at national and international audit data for fracture liaison services. We have a rich multidisciplinary team including biostatisticians, epidemiologists, basic science and health economists with close interfaces with clinical work in rheumatology, trauma and orthopaedics and oncologists.</p> | <p>University of Oxford, NDORMS, kassim.javaid@ndorms.ox.ac.uk</p> |

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|--------|------------------|--|---|--|
| UK/IRE | S. Faisal Ahmed | | Research activities include understanding secondary osteoporosis and skeletal fragility in children and adults with childhood-onset chronic disease, novel methods of imaging and participation in multicentre clinical trials of bone protective therapy in children. I have mentored and supervised clinical and non-clinical fellows who have now become independent clinicians and researchers and am also a member of the UK MRC's Clinical Training & Career Development Panel. | Samson Gemmell Chair of Child Health Consultant in Paediatric Endocrinology Zone 1, Ground Floor, Office Block School of Medicine, University of Glasgow Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow Govan Road, Glasgow G51 4TF, United Kingdom faisal.ahmed@glasgow.ac.uk +44 141 451 5841 Developmental Endocrinology Research Group Research Gate |
| BNL | Hans van Leeuwen | Director of Research and Education Professor of Calcium and Bone Metabolism | | Erasmus MC P.O. Box 2040, 3000 CA Rotterdam, The Netherlands Email: j.vanleeuwen@erasmusmc.nl |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------|---------------------|-------|---|--|
| BNL | Astrid Bakker, PhD | | Basic Science | Dept Oral Cell Biology Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam MOVE Research Institute Amsterdam Gustav Mahlerlaan 3004 1081LA Amsterdam, The Netherlands e-mail: a.bakker@acta.nl |
| BNL | Bram van der Eerden | | <p>Over the last decade, my main interest was the fundamental and clinical consequences of disturbances in calcium, phosphate and vitamin D homeostasis on bone metabolism. This was primarily achieved through the use of mouse models that were deficient for several calcium channels and other proteins involved in phosphate homeostasis and vitamin D biosynthesis. I have employed many techniques throughout the years, which have predominantly focused on phenotyping of skeletal elements, using microcomputed tomography, 3-point bending, mineralization studies, histomorphometry, primary bone cell cultures and protein and RNA profiling but also on discovery of novel genes and compounds in bone metabolism, using human bone cell cultures. In more recent years, I also became involved in epidemiological and genetic association studies as well as exome-sequencing of families to discover new genes related to calcium, phosphate and bone metabolism.</p> | Department of Internal Medicine Erasmus MC, room Ee585b Wytemaweg 80 3015 CN Rotterdam The Netherlands Tel: (31)10-7032841 Fax: (31)10-7044862 Email: b.vandereerden@erasmusmc.nl |

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|--------|---------------------|--|--|--|
| BNL | Carola Zillikens | Associate professor of endocrinology at the department of Internal Medicine and head of the Bone Center at Erasmus | Carola Zillikens, MD, PhD, is associate Professor and staff member at the Department of Internal Medicine, section Endocrinology, of Erasmus Medical Center Rotterdam, the Netherlands. She is head of the Erasmus MC Bone Center, a multidisciplinary expertise center for patients with metabolic bone diseases and disorders of calcium and phosphate homeostasis. Her research topics concern the genetic background of complex diseases such as osteoporosis and obesity, the relation of osteoporosis with chronic diseases and mortality and the genetic background of unexplained familial osteoporosis and atypical femur fractures. She is principal investigator in several multi-center trials on treatment of osteoporosis. | Carola Zillikens Internist-endocrinologist Erasmus MC PO BOX 2040 3000 CA Rotterdam The Netherlands Tel: 0031-10-7035168 Email: m.c.zillikens@erasmusmc.nl |
| BNL | Teun de Vries | | After obtaining a Ph.D at the University of Nijmegen in the field of melanoma pathology, I pursued my career in the bone field at the Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam since 1999. I study the origin of osteoclast. Which precursor cells are prone to differentiate into osteoclasts? Osteoclast formation is further studied in relation to bone inflammatory diseases such as periodontitis. | Department of Periodontology, Academic Centre for Dentistry Amsterdam (ACTA), University of Amsterdam and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Gustav Mahlerlaan 3004, 1081 LA Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Phone: +31-20- 5980223, e-mail: teun.devries@acta.nl |
| BNL | Nathalie Bravenboer | | | VU University Medical Center Department of Endocrinology Boelelaan 1117 1081 HV Amsterdam Email: n.bravenboer@vumc.nl |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| BNL | Jenneke Klein-Nulend | Full Professor | | ACTA-VU, Dept Oral Cell Biology, Amsterdam, NL. Chair founded by ACTA at the VU University Amsterdam Directorate Board member of the Research Institute MOVE Email : j.kleinnulend@acta.nl |
| BNL | Fernando Rivadeneira, MD, PhD | | | Genetic Laboratory - Room Ee 579, Department of Internal Medicine, Erasmus MC PO Box 2040, 3000CA Rotterdam, The Netherlands, f.rivadeneira@erasmusmc.nl. |
| BNL | Joop van den Bergh, MD, PhD | | Prof. Joop van den Bergh, MD, PhD is registered as internist- endocrinologist. He is Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Hasselt (Biomedical Research Institute), Belgium and Professor of Bone Quality and Metabolic Bone Disorders at Maastricht UMC, The Netherlands. He is director of the bone quality and imaging study group at the Faculty of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences at Maastricht University, The Netherlands. His research focuses on metabolic bone diseases, bone imaging and biomechanics. | Maastricht University Medical Center, Dept of Internal Medicine/Rheumatology PO Box 5800 6202 AZ Maastricht The Netherlands Email : Jvdbergh@viecuri.nl |
| BNL | Peter Bisschop, MD, PhD | | Main Activities: Patient care, Research, Teaching Focus of Research: Role of the hypothalamus and autonomic nervous in neuro-endocrine regulation of bone and energy metabolism | Academisch Medisch Centrum Meibergdreef 9 1105 AZ Amsterdam Email: p.h.bisschop@amc.uva.nl |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| DACH | Serge Ferrari | | | Université de Geneve Division of Bone Diseases, HUG Genetics and metabolism of osteoporoses Email: Serge.Ferrari@unige.ch |
| DACH | Klaus Engelke | | | Institute of Medical Physics Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg Email: klaus.engelke@imp.uni- erlangen.de |
| DACH | Uwe Kornak | | | Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin Institut für Medizinische Genetik und Humangenetik Augustenburger Platz 1 13353 Berlin Email: uwe.kornak@charite.de |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| DACH | Franz Jakob | | | <p>Orthopedic Center for Musculoskeletal Research Experimental and Clinical Osteology Orthopedic Department University of Würzburg Brettreichstraße 11 D-97074 Wuerzburg Germany</p> <p>Experimental Labs Stem Cell Group: Orthopedic Center for Musculoskeletal Research IGZ Section D, 1st floor Friedrich-Bergius-Ring 15 97076 Würzburg Email:f-jakob.klh@uni-wuerzburg.de</p> |
| DACH | Matthias Schieker | | | <p>Klinik für Allgemeine, Unfall-, Hand- und Plastische Chirurgie Klinikum der Universität München, Campus Innenstadt Nußbaumstr. 20 D-80336 München Email: Matthias.Schieker@med.uni- muenchen.de</p> |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| DACH | Lorenz Hofbauer | | | <p>Universitätsklinikum Dresden Medizinische Klinik und Poliklinik III Bereich Endokrinologie, Diabetes & Osteologie Fetscherstr. 74 D-01307 Dresden Email: Lorenz.Hofbauer@uniklinikum-dresden.de</p> |
| DACH | Barbara Obermayer-Pietsch | Professur für Endokrinologie und Osteologie | | <p>Universitätsklinik für Innere Medizin Endokrinologie-Laborplattform Klin. Abt. für Endokrinologie und Diabetologie Medizinische Universität Graz Auenbruggerplatz 15 A-8036 Graz barbara.obermayer@medunigraz.at</p> |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| DACH | Arndt Schilling | | <p>Professor Schilling conducts research in the field of wound healing and failure to heal.</p> <p>Following his studies in medicine and molecular biology at the Universities of Göttingen and Hamburg, he completed his PhD at the Universitätsklinikum Hamburg Eppendorf in the Department for Trauma, Hand and Reconstructive Surgery. Following work as one of Germany's first full-time medical researchers in trauma surgery, he took on a junior professorship in 2007 at TUHH to learn more about the art of engineering for biomedical research. Since November 2010 he has led the research department at the Clinic for Plastic Surgery and Hand Surgery at Krankenhaus rechts der Isar. He is fascinated by the disease-related basic science of tissue regeneration and repair.</p> | <p>Technische Universität München Arcisstraße 21 D-80333 München Email: a.schilling@tum.de</p> |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| DACH | Felix Eckstein | | | Director Institute of Anatomy & Musculoskeletal Research Paracelsus Private Medical University Strubergasse. 21, A 5020 Salzburg, Austria Email: felix.eckstein@pmu.ac.at |
| DACH | Heidi Siggelkow | | | MVZ ENDOKRINOLOGIKUM Göttingen, Zentrum für Hormon- und Stoffwechselerkrankungen, Nuklearmedizin und Humangenetik, In Zusammenarbeit mit der Universitätsmedizin Göttingen Osteologisches Zentrum DVO, Von-Siebold-Str. 3, 37075 Göttingen E-Mail: hsiggel@med.uni-goettingen.de |
| DACH | Claus-C. Glüer | | | Sektion Biomedizinische Bildgebung Klinik für Radiologie und Neuroradiologie MOIN CC Am Botanischen Garten 14 24118 Kiel - Germany Email: glueer@rad.uni-kiel.de |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| FR | Martine Cohen-Solal | | | Inserm U1132 & USPC Paris-Diderot Department of rheumatology Hôpital Lariboisière Email: martine.cohen-solal@inserm.fr |
| FR | Roland D. Chapurlat, MD, PhD | Professor of Rheumatology Chief, Department of Medicine Chief, Division of Rheumatology Chief of Clinical Research | Roland Chapurlat research activities consist in examining the determinants of bone fragility. He is working to develop imaging and biological markers in the field of osteoporosis and he is studying the relationships of bone physiology with other organs (kidney, vessels, joints). He is involved in the evaluation of the natural history of fibrous dysplasia of bone and in the development of new biological treatments for this disease. | INSERM UMR 1033 Director, National Reference Center for fibrous Dysplasia of Bone Pavillon F, Hôpital E Herriot, 69437 Lyon cedex 03, France roland.chapurlat@inserm.fr |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| FR | Bernard Cortet | Professeur des Universités Praticien Hospitalier | | HÔPITAL ROGER SALENGRO 59037 LILLE CEDEX Email : bernard.cortet@chru-lille.fr |
| FR | Eric Lespessailles | Associate Professor Rheumatology | | CHR La Source - rhumatologie 14, avenue de l'hôpital 45067 ORLEANS Email: eric.lespessailles@chr-orleans.fr |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| FR | Thierry Thomas | Professor of Rheumatology | | Unité de Rhumatologie CHU DE SAINT ETIENNE HÔPITAL DE BELLEVUE 42055 ST ETIENNE CEDEX 2 Tel : + (33) 4.77.12.76.49 Email: thierry.thomas@univ-st-etienne.fr |
| South Europe | Adolfo Diez-Perez, MD | Professor of Medicine | | Autonomous University of Barcelona Department of Internal Medicine Institut Mar Investigació Mèdica (IMIM) Dr Aiguader 88, 2nd floor. Suite 200.10 08003 Barcelona, Spain E-mail: ADiez@parcdesalutmar.cat |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------------|--------------------------|--|---|---|
| South Europe | Nuria Guanabens, MD, PhD | Professor of Medicine, University of Barcelona. Department of Rheumatology, Hospital Clínic, Barcelona. | Fields of interest: Bone turnover markers, bone disease in primary biliary cirrhosis, bone disease of liver transplantation and advanced cirrhosis, and Paget's disease of bone. Research area: The clinical application of bone turnover markers and regulators of osteoclastic and osteoblastic activity in osteoporosis and Paget's disease. Also, the pathogenesis of bone disease in chronic cholestasis, including in vitro studies in bone cell cultures. | Department of Rheumatology, Hospital Clínic, Barcelona, Spain. +34932275400 (ext 2236) Email: nguanabens@ub.edu |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------------|------------------|--|--|---|
| South Europe | SIMONE CENCI, MD | Head of Age Related Disease Unit, Division of Genetics and Cell Biology, San Raffaele Hospital, Milan. | Current research activity involves the biology of normal plasma cells (PC), terminally differentiated effectors of Ab responses, and their malignant degeneration, multiple myeloma. We are interested in the role of autophagy in PC ontogenesis and myeloma, in search for new prognostic markers and molecular targets against PC malignancies. Synergic studies on the skeletal microenvironment and bone cells explore the vicious relationship of myeloma with the bone marrow | Division of Genetics and Cell Biology, San Raffaele Hospital, Milan. Phone: +39 02 26436783; Email: cenci.simone@hsr.it |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| South Europe | Anna Villa, PhD | Director of Research, Head of Unit at the Institute of Genetics and Biomedicine (IRGB), at the National Research Council (CNR) in Milan. | <p>Anna Villa strongly contributed to the molecular dissection of Osteopetrosis, identifying the first gene responsible for autosomal recessive osteopetrosis (ARO), TCIRG1, widening the molecular dissection of this complex and heterogeneous inherited skeletal defects. In more recent studies she contributed to the characterization of two other forms of ARO due to defects in the Grey Lethal and Pleckstrin genes, respectively, and identified genetic defect in genes encoding for RANKL and RANK as responsible for the osteoclast-poor Osteopetrosis. Currently, Dr. Villa's group is involved in the identification of candidate genes responsible for novel forms of ARO and ADO by genome wide sequencing and, in parallel, testing novel gene correction approaches, in animal models (i.e. in utero stem cell transplantation in the murine model of osteopetrosis TCIRG1 gene defect correction by gene targeting in murine iPSC obtained from the oc/oc mouse model of osteopetrosis).</p> | <p>Istituto di Ricerca Genetica e Biomedica, Unità Operativa di Milano, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, 20138 Milan, Italy; Humanitas Clinical and Research Center, 20089 Rozzano, Italy; e-mail address: Anna.Villa@humanitasresearch.it - Telephone: 0039 02 82245160.</p> |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
|--------------|-----------------|--|---|--|
| South Europe | Iacopo Chiodini | Assistant Professor , Department of Clinical Sciences and Community Health University of Milan. | Iacopo Chiodini has been interested in studying the skeletal consequences of the endocrine diseases. In particular, the research activity of Iacopo Chiodini is focused on the bone involvement in the condition of glucocorticoid excess (both clinically overt and subclinical) and on the diabetes-related osteoporosis. | Department of Clinical Sciences and Community Health University of Milan, Unit of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases Fondazione IRCCS Cà Granda-Ospedale Maggiore Policlinico Pad. Granelli, Via Francesco Sforza 35, 20122 Milan, Italy. Phone +3902550333355, Fax +390250320605 Email: iacopo.chiodini@policlinico.mi.it; iacopo.chiodini@unimi.it. |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| South Europe | Antonella Forlino, PhD | Associate Professor, Department of Molecular Medicine, Biochemistry Unit, University of Pavia. | Dr Forlino research activity is focused on the molecular, biochemical, and functional study of skeletal heritable diseases. Her principal research field is the study of the classical dominant and recessive forms of the brittle bone disease Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI). She is generating and using in vitro (fibroblasts and osteoblasts from murine models and OI patients) and in vivo (mice and zebrafish) models both the investigate the pathophysiology of the diseases as well as to develop novel gene and drug therapeutic approaches. | University of Pavia, Dept of Molecular Medicine, Biochemistry Unit Via Taramelli 3/B Pavia 27100 Italy. Email: aforlino@unipv.it - Phone +39-0382-987235 |
| South Europe | Filomena Cetani, PhD | Assistant Professor Endocrine Unit 2, University Hospital of Pisa, Pisa. | Clinical research in the field of bone and mineral metabolism with particular regard to primary hyperparathyroidism. Studies on the molecular pathogenesis of familial and sporadic parathyroid diseases and in particular sporadic and familial parathyroid carcinoma. Proteomic studies aimed to search for novel biomarkers for the early diagnosis of sporadic parathyroid carcinoma. | Endocrine Unit 2, University Hospital of Pisa, Pisa.Fax +39050996551 - Email cetani@endoc.med.unipi.it |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| South Europe | Luigi Gennari | Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, Surgery and Neurosciences, University of Siena, Siena. | Clinical and translational research on bone and mineral metabolism. Major research fields have been focused on the genetics and pharmacogenetics of osteoporosis, Paget's disease of bone, and male osteoporosis. Ongoing research activities include studies on the identification of new genes for Paget's disease and the characterization of molecular mechanisms of neoplastic degeneration of pagetic tissue, the characterization of extraskeletal consequences of p62/SQSTM1 mutations, the epigenetics of osteoporosis and other metabolic bone disorders, the pathogenetic mechanisms of diabetic bone disease, and studies on the preventive effects of probiotics in women during menopause transition. | Department of Medicine, Surgery and Neurosciences, University of Siena, Policlinico Santa Maria alle Scotte, Viale Bracci, 53100-Siena, Italy. Phone: +39 0577 585364. Email: luigi.gennari@unisi.it. |

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| South Europe | Nicola Napoli | Assistant Professor, Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes, University Campus Bio-Medico, Rome; Adjunct Assistant Professor of Medicine, Washington University in St Louis, St Louis, MO, USA. | Dr Napoli research interests are focused on the interplay between glucose homeostasis and bone metabolism and on the study of medical treatment for bone fragility. Moreover, part of his research is dedicated to genetic characterization of bone impairment in patients with bone loss following anti-cancer treatment. Evaluation of risk factors for fractures in diabetics, the interaction between vitamin D and pancreatic function, the selective effect of adipokines on trabecular or cortical bone, are some of the topics so far explored. At the moment he is working on the characterization of bone turnover and risk of fractures in patients with Late Autoimmune Diabetes of the Adult (LADA), Type 1 diabetes and metabolic syndrome. His group is also studying the effect of insulin resistance on bone quality in both obese and diabetic patients and assessing their resistance to fracture. | Department of Endocrinology and Diabetes, University Campus Bio-Medico, Via Alvaro del Portillo, 21-00128, Rome, Italy. Email: n.napoli@unicampus.it or niconap@hotmail.com. |

| Region | Name | Title | Research Area / Fields of Interest | Contact Details |
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| South Europe | Anna Teti | Full Professor, Department of Biotechnological and Applied Clinical Sciences, University of L'Aquila. | Professor Anna Teti has a long-standing expertise in bone cell biology with an internationally established reputation. In vitro and in vivo studies have a special emphasis on the mechanisms of bone remodelling. Antiresorptive agents are being tested to prevent or cure bone metastases and osteoporosis in experimental animals. Recent work analysing the osteoblast transcriptome under microgravity has identified a novel signalling molecule involved in osteoblast metabolism and osteoblast-osteoclast cross-talk. | Department of Biotechnological and Applied Clinical Sciences, University of L'Aquila, Via Vetoio (Coppito 2), 67100 Coppito, L'Aquila, Italy. Phone: +39 0862 433511 / 0862 433513; Fax:+39 0862 433523; Email: annamaria.teti@univaq.it. |
| South Europe | Alfredo Scillitani, PhD | | Alfredo Scillitani is interested in studying secondary osteoporosis due to endocrine diseases. In particular his research is focused on skeletal involvement in glucocorticoid and mineralcorticoid excess and in sporadic and familial primary hyperparathyroidism. | Unit of Endocrinology, Department of Internal Medicine, Ospedale "Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza", alscill@tin.it, a.scillitani@operapadrepio.it, |

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| South Europe | Maria Grano, PhD | Full Professor of Histology, School of Medicine and School of Dentistry, University of Bari, Italy. | Professor Maria Grano has maintained a long-term interest in investigation of mechanisms regulating bone remodelling. She was also involved in studies of solid tumour malignancies with bone involvement, in psoriatic arthritis and periodontitis. She is a cell biologist and has been engaged in research on bone cell biology for 29 years. The investigator has recently discovered that the myokine Irisin plays a central role in the control of bone mass, driving positive effects on cortical mineral density and geometry in vivo. She is also interested in the biology and function of the crosstalk between muscle and bone. She is involved in several projects supported by European and Italian Space Agency in the field of osteoporosis and muscle atrophy related to microgravity and to several bone-related pathologies as principal investigator. | Full Professor of Histology, School of Medicine and School of Dentistry, University of Bari, Italy. Department of Emergency and Organ Transplantation (DETO) Medical School University of Bari Italy. e-mail: maria.grano@uniba.it - telephone number: +39 080 5478361 - Mobile Phone +39-348-0802936. |
| CEE | Jan Stepan, MD, DMSc. | Professor of Biochemistry | | Charles University Faculty of Medicine Prague Czech Republic Email: endojs@seznam.cz |

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| CEE | Peter Lakatos, MD, PhD, DSc | Full professor of medicine and endocrinology, Head of the Clinical Research Laboratory | Dr. Lakatos and his research group have actively participated in the development and introduction of biochemical and densitometric methods in the management and research of osteoporosis. In the 80's, he was among first to develop an osteocalcin radioimmunoassay. He directs basic and clinical research programs in the field of metabolic bone diseases with a special interest in osteoporosis and thyroid hormone-stimulated bone loss. During the last decade, his major interest has been in the genetic background of metabolic bone diseases. Dr. Lakatos also conducts drug development studies. | Semmelweis University Email: lakatos.peter@med.semmelweis-univ.hu |
| CEE | Slobodan Vukicevic, MD, PhD | Full Professor | | Laboratorij za mineralizirana tkiva Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu Šalata 11, 10000 Zagreb e-mail: vukicev@mef.hr |
| CEE | Catalina Poiana, MD, PhD | | | Endocrinology Department, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, 34-36 Aviatorilor Blvd, 011863, Bucharest, Romania, E-mail: endoparhon@gmail.com |