ECTS Newsletter

Your monthly news & updates

Announcements and Events

Society's life:

- ECTS 2025 Annual Congress Programme Suggestions. Submit your suggestions here.
- ECTS membership renewal for 2024 is now open: new members joining from October will automatically be given the following year's membership. Renew your membership here.
- Watch the ECTS 2023 Aftermovie here or search the best photo of you in the ECTS 2023 photo gallery here.
- Are you following us on social media? You can stay connected with the ECTS outside of this newsletter. We are regularly sharing updates, important deadlines and it is a great way to connect with your fellows too! Twitter ECTSoc, Twitter ECTS_Science, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram
- ECTS Be part of ECTS in 2023: become member of a dynamic community in the musculoskeletal field and take advantage from a wide range of benefits. - Join or renew your membership now – View the membership benefit
- Let us know if you would like to be actively involved in ECTS activities and you may be called to be part in one of our committees or action groups. Become an ECTS member here and complete an online form here

Education and Events:

- Webinar Bone, Muscle & Beyond: Bone health in low and middle income countries - Thursday, 25 January, 4:00 - 5:00 PM CET. Register here.
- Catch up with your education in the ECTS eCampus! We have interesting live webinars, lectures and more! - Check it out
- IHN Core Educational Curriculum Slide Toolkit. Check it out.

- Save the Date for ECTS 2024 in Marseille France, 24-28 May 2024. Website is now live.

Job Opportunity:

- Do you have an exciting job opportunity that you would like to share with the ECTS Community? Submit your job posting here.

Suggested Readings:

- How are osteoblasts affected by thyroid hormone receptors TRα1 and TRβ1? Read the article
- How do nocebo responses contribute to treatment discontinuation of subcutaneous anti-osteoporotic drugs in clinical practice? Read the article

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Unlocking the mysteries of calcified tissues in Marseille's heart of the Mediterranean, ECTS Annual Meeting 2024! By Aline Bozec, Basic Science Chair

After the successful ECTS Annual Meeting in Liverpool 2023, where we reconnected in person after a long hiatus, we are looking forward to the **ECTS Annual Meeting in Marseille, taking place from 25th to 28th May 2024**. In addition to showcasing cutting-edge research and the latest breakthroughs in the musculoskeletal realm, our goal is to **create a stimulating environment for successful scientific exchanges and professional development within our musculoskeletal community**. We also aim to provide an exceptional opportunity to strengthen existing collaborations and forge new connections during the pre-congress venue on May 24th.

The ECTS 2024 Scientific Program Committee has curated a program that caters to the interests of clinicians, basic scientists, and health professionals. This program includes a **Basic Science section of ECTS 2024.**

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ECTS Annual Meeting 2024: The highlights of the clinical program. By Núria Guañabens, Clinical Co-chair

This year the Marseille congress program has been designed to bring together the latest advances in clinical science and updates on challenging clinical practice issues. Thus, in the main program we will have a joint ECTS-ASBMR debate on the clinical utility of bone turnover markers in the management of osteoporosis, a topic discussed from a practical perspective, as well as an update on the mechanisms and management of osteoporosis in premenopausal women.

Two hot topics are cellular senescence, which will be discussed in the Big Clinical session from the point of view of senescence and the skeleton, including the role of senolytics, and also, the topic of anabolics, from the perspective of what we know and don't know about them.

Other topics will include the clinical implications of bone marrow adiposity, the importance of nutrition in bone health and the bone involvement in arthritis.

Read more

Report on the online clinical training course on Metabolic Bone Diseases (07 and 21 November 2023 & On-demand until 15 February 2024). By Elena Tsourdi

The last edition of the clinical training course on Metabolic Bone Diseases spanned over two days in November 2023 and offered a very interesting and multi-faceted programme.

The initial session on *Diabetes mellitus and bone fragility* covered epidemiological aspects of diabetic bone disease (Dr. Jakob Starup-Linde) with a focus on bone mineral density, bone strength/microarchitecture and fracture risk in type 1 & 2 diabetes mellitus. Dr Martina Rauner elaborated on pathophysiological aspects of this entity comprising direct bone effects (i.e. proinflammatory state, reduced bone vascularization and increased cellular senescence) as well as indirect bone effects

(i.e. impact of hypoglycemia and diabetic complications). The session was concluded by Dr. Tatiane Vilaca focusing on management of diabetic bone disease and highlighting the fact that antiresorptive and anabolic therapies have shown efficacy in reducing fracture risk in individuals with type 2 diabetes mellitus, with the evidence being more robust for antiresorptive drugs, while evidence in type 1 diabetes mellitus is scant.

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News from the world: Benefits and Risks of Using Artificial Intelligence in Writing Scientific Articles in Medicine with a Musculoskeletal Example. By Barbara Hauser and Chat GPT

One of the biggest science stories in 2023 according to the newspaper Guardian was the mainstream use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in particular the use of large language models such as ChatGpT. AI will undoubtedly become a transformative force in the field of musculoskeletal science, influencing various aspects, including scientific article writing. The integration of AI brings about both benefits and risks that researchers and authors need to carefully consider. What are the potential benefits of using AI when drafting a scientific article? AI is generally fast and efficient unlike humans. AI tools can significantly enhance the efficiency of literature reviews and data analysis and can quickly sift through vast amounts of information and extract key findings. In addition to speed and efficiency AI-powered language models, such as natural language processing, may assist in improving the overall writing quality of scientific articles. They can suggest grammatical corrections, enhance readability, and offer constructive feedback on writing style. Additionally, AI algorithms are excellent in analyzing complex datasets and identifying patterns. This capability potentially aids researchers in uncovering hidden correlations within medical data, leading to more robust scientific insights. Lastly, automated citation and referencing can streamline the process of citing relevant studies and accurate referencing which may reduce the likelihood of errors.

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