



## Your Monthly News & Updates

### Announcements and Events

#### Education and Events:

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**Job Opportunity:**

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**Suggested Reading:**

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SPAIN  
**GIRONA**  
24-27 APRIL 2026



## Where cutting edge bone and mineral research meets a vibrant Catalan city

As the European Calcified Tissue Society (ECTS) prepares for its 53rd Annual Congress, excitement is building around this year's host city: Girona, Spain. From 24–27 April 2026, delegates from around the world will gather at one of the region's premier meeting spaces to explore the newest advances in musculoskeletal science.

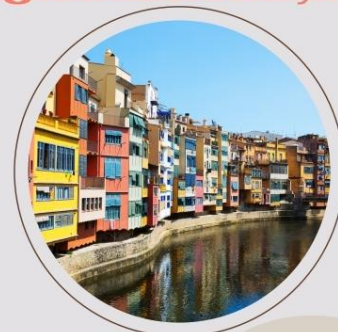
## Spotlight on the ECTS 2026 Congress, Girona, Spain

**The Venue: Congress Center Girona** will serve as the official venue for ECTS 2026. Located at Passeig de la Devesa, 35, 17001 Girona, it offers modern architecture surrounded by the greenery of La Devesa Park - an inspiring setting for scientific exchange.

**Register Today!**

### A Hub for Scientific Excellence

ECTS 2026 promises an engaging and diverse programme, including plenary lectures by global leaders, symposia on emerging research, interactive workshops, and poster sessions showcasing innovation across basic, translational, and clinical science. The Congress Center Girona's versatile facilities make it ideally suited for such a multi-faceted programme.



### Girona: Where History Meets Innovation

Beyond the congress halls, Girona offers a unique blend of medieval charm and contemporary culture. Known for its well preserved Jewish Quarter, colorful riverside houses, and world class cuisine, the city is an inspiring backdrop for scientific collaboration and discovery. ECTS highlights Girona as a "vibrant city" and an exceptional place for professionals to gather, learn, and connect.

### Looking Ahead

With registrations already open, anticipation is growing for what promises to be a landmark congress in an exceptional location. The ECTS 2026 Congress in Girona offers an unmissable opportunity to engage with the latest scientific advances in bone and mineral research.

ECTS CONGRESS | SPAIN | **GIRONA**  
24-27 APRIL 2026

[Register Today](#)

**Rare Disease Day (28 February 2026): keeping rare bone disease on the agenda at ECTS.** By Natasha Appelman-Dijkstra, ECTS Rare Bone Disease Action Group

Rare Disease Day takes place on the **last day of February** each year — in 2026 this is **Saturday 28 February** — to raise awareness and accelerate change for people living with a rare disease and their families.



Within ECTS, the **Rare Bone Disease Action Group (RBDAG)** works to connect clinicians and researchers across Europe, translate emerging evidence into practice, and build collaborative projects that can move the field forward.

Last year we announced the launch of a **condition specific registry for Melorheostosis**, a collaborative effort of the ECTS RBDAG and ERN BOND experts. This year we are proud to [highlight the publication of the dataset, \*Developing a standard dataset in the European registries for rare endocrine and bone conditions—a Melorheostosis dataset. Orphanet J Rare Dis 20, 331 \(2025\).\*](#)

[Read More](#)

***Proposal from the ECTS Clinical action group to prepare “clinical action recommendations on bone health in transgender individuals”.***

**Summary:** The ECTS Clinical action group is preparing clinical action recommendations on bone health in transgender individuals. The manuscript will summarize current evidence and propose clinical



recommendations for diagnosis and treatment. It will also outline future research priorities.

**Who we're looking for:** We invite early- to mid-career ECTS members to contribute actively to this initiative, preferably those with clinical experience with these patients and/or publications. Usually around 3 investigators will be invited as co-authors.

**How to get involved:** If you are interested in participating, please email: [rt.dejongh@amsterdamumc.nl](mailto:rt.dejongh@amsterdamumc.nl), by deadline two weeks after ECTS-newsletter sent out with a brief description of your background (including clinical experience, interest and/or publications in transgender bone health).

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### **Call for Participation – Contribute to the ECTS Delphi Consensus on Anabolic Response Criteria for Osteoporosis.**

**Summary:** The ECTS Clinical Action Group, enriched with Michael Laurant, Giovanni Adami and Evelien Gielen, is preparing a Delphi method consensus paper on anabolic response criteria in osteoporosis. Several recent papers have used various criteria to define an appropriate or desirable response to anabolic bone therapies, but there is still a lot of heterogeneity and discussion on this topic. The paper will summarise current evidence, discuss and propose different considerations for response criteria, to foster an ECTS-driven proposal for consensus and research on this topic.



**Who we're looking for:** We invite ECTS members with clinical experience on using anabolic bone therapies to contribute actively to this initiative via the Delphi method. We aim to collect opinions from a globally representative group, including both young and more experienced ECTS-members, from different countries. All survey

respondents will be acknowledged in the manuscript, and depending on the level of input a few of them may also qualify co-authorship criteria.

**How to get involved:** If you are interested in participating, please email [michael.laurent@imelda.be](mailto:michael.laurent@imelda.be) by deadline two weeks after ECTS-newsletter sent out, with a brief description of your background, interest in response to anabolic therapies in osteoporosis, and, when available, publications on anabolic therapies.



## *News from the world*

**News from the World: FDA approves Bone Mineral Density (BMD) as the first surrogate endpoint for osteoporosis clinical trials.** By Alanna Green

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the use of DXA bone mineral density (BMD) as a surrogate endpoint for clinical trials testing therapies for osteoporosis. This can replace fractures as an endpoint, drastically reducing the duration of clinical trials, and thereby the cost of running these trials.

This achievement comes from the SABRE study led by Dennis Black, Richard Eastell and Mary Bouxsein. SABRE used data from 52 randomised clinical trials testing osteoporosis drugs including >160,000 patients.

Professor Richard Eastell, Professor of Bone Metabolism at the University of Sheffield, said: “This FDA qualification is a major advance for osteoporosis research and a powerful example of how collaborative science can deliver real-world impact. By helping to establish bone mineral density as a validated surrogate for fracture risk, this work will accelerate the development of new treatments and ultimately help prevent fractures that can profoundly affect patients’ lives.”

Read more [here](#) and find out about the SABRE study [here](#).

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**Editor in chief:** Antonio Maurizi

**Co-editors:** Elisa Pucci, Geert Carmeliet, Imana Sokolovic, Alexander Rauch, Elena Tsourdi, Alanna Green.

ECTS - European Calcified Tissue Society

Washington 40, Rue, Brussels, 1050

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