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# Speaker and faculty biographies



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Friday 27 November - Thyroid

#### **AWARDS**

- -Schering Prize, Italian Society of Endocrinology, Verona, 1988.
- -Harington-De Visscher Prize, European Thyroid Association, Dublin, 1992.
- -Fondazione SIE Career Award, Italian Society of Endocrinology, Turin, 1999.
- -Bernard Pimstone Memorial Lecture, Society for Endocrinology, Metabolism, Diabetes of South Africa, Cape Town, 2008
- -Aldo Pinchera Award, European Thyroid Association, Leiden, 2013
- -Plenary Lecture, International (World) Thyroid Conference, Orlando, USA, 2015
- -George Murray Lecture Award, British Thyroid Association, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK, 2016

#### POSITIONS

- -Secretary of the European Thyroid Association 2008-2013
- -Member of the Committee for Clinical Affairs, American Thyroid Association 2007-2009
- -President of the Italian Thyroid Association, 2016-2017
- -Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Endocrinological Investigation, 2010-
- -Executive Committee Member of the European Group on Graves' Orbitopathy (EUGOGO)
- -Full Professor of Endocrinology, University of Insubria, Varese, 2000-2020
- -Director, Residency Program in Endocrinology & Metabolism, University of Insubria, Varese, 2003-2020

#### INVITED TALKS

-61 National Meetings and 110 International Meetings

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

-338 full papers on peer-reviewed International Journals (cumulative Impact Factor: >1250), including 4 papers in the New England Journal of Medicine, 3 papers in Endocrine Reviews, 2 papers in Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology, 1 paper in Nature Reviews, 49 papers in the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, 16 papers in the European Journal of Endocrinology, 17 papers in Thyroid

-81 chapters on textbooks or monographs.

H-index: Google Scholar: 79; WEB of Science (ISI): 52; Scopus: 58. Google Scholar Citations: 22700





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### **Kristien Boelaert (UK)**

Friday 27 November - Thyroid

Kristien Boelaert is a Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Birmingham and a Consultant Endocrinologist at University Hospitals Birmingham. Her clinical research interests include the management of thyroid dysfunction, nodules and cancer as well as endocrine disorders in pregnancy. Her laboratory research programme focuses on the pathogenesis of thyroid cancer and she is involved in a number of clinical trials in the field of thyroid diseases. She was the Clinical Lead for the NICE Guidelines on Thyroid Diseases and leads the National Consensus Statements on Management of Thyroid Cancer, having previously been involved in the 2014 BTA Thyroid Cancer guidelines. She has drafted guidance for the SfE and the ESE on management of thyroid dysfunction during COVID-19. Kristien's research continues to attract funding from major grant awarding bodies and she has a rapidly growing list of publications (h-index = 42) and numerous invitations to speak at international conferences. She is Senior Editor for Endocrine Connections and BMC Endocrine Disorders and serves on the Editorial Boards of several endocrine journals including Lancet Diabetes & Endocrinology. She is a member of the Society for Endocrinology Council and Clinical Committee, The ATA Awards Committee, the Endocrine Society Annual Steering Meeting Committee and the RCP Specialist Certificate Examination Board.







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#### Monday 23 November - Calcium & Bone

Dr Alexander Comninos is a Consultant & Honorary Senior Lecturer in Endocrinology at Imperial College London. He leads the Imperial Fracture Liaison Service and the Imperial Endocrine Bone Unit, where he has established the popular Endocrine Bone Teaching Clinics as well as 'Alex's Osteoblast' webinar series. His special interests include reproductive endocrinology and related calcium disorders including osteoporosis and hyperparathyroidism.

Dr Comninos joined Imperial College School of Medicine on Academic and Music Scholarships in 1997. He completed an intercalated BSc in Endocrinology in 2001, for which he was awarded first class honours. On completion of his medical degree, he trained in Endocrinology in leading London hospitals and was awarded an NIHR Academic Clinical Fellowship to continue his research alongside his training. He was subsequently awarded a prestigious Wellcome Trust PhD Research Fellowship and an NIHR Clinical Lectureship.

Dr Comninos has authored over 50 peer-reviewed publications and has presented his work in invited talks internationally. He has won several international awards including several Outstanding Abstract Awards and the Best Oral Presentation in Reproductive Science from the American Endocrine Society, as well as the Clinical Endocrinology Trust Prize, Early Career Prize and Leadership Development Award from the UK Society for Endocrinology, whose science committee he has recently been elected to.

He is a newly-appointed Head of Academic Tutoring at Imperial and continues to publish research in notable journals including The Lancet, The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism, The Journal of Clinical Investigation and Nature Reviews Endocrinology, attracting extensive international media attention (including BBC, Newsweek, The Times, Reuters, New York Post), alongside his clinical Consultant Endocrine practice.







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# Mirjam Christ-Crain (Switzerland) Tuesday 24 November – Adrenal & Thursday 26 November - Pituitary

Mirjam Christ-Crain is full Professor of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism at the University of Basel and the University Hospital of Basel, Switzerland. She studied medicine in Basel and Vienna and did her MD in the year 2000 at the University of Basel and her PhD 2007 at the University of London followed by her habilitation at the University of Basel in 2007. From 2009 to 2015 she had a research professorship of the Swiss National Science Foundation. Her main research interest is on vasopressin-dependent disorders of fluid homeostasis, i.e. diabetes insipidus and hyponatremia. She authored and co-authored more than 200 publications including high-ranked publications in the New England Journal of Medicine and The Lancet and received several honours and awards for her research, most recently the European Journal of Endocrinology Award 2019. Since 2013 she is Deputy Chief at the Clinic for Endocrinology, University Hospital Basel and since 2014 she is Head of the Department of Clinical Research at the University of Basel.





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## Philippe Froguel (Italy)

**Wednesday 25 November – Diabetes** 

Philippe Froguel passed his Medical Degree in 1986 and he obtained a PhD in 1991 from Paris University. He is currently Professor of Genomic Medicine and head of genomics of common disease in the department of metabolism at the Hammersmith hospital, Imperial College London, UK. He is also Professor of Endocrinology at Lille University hospital, France, director of the Inserm/CNRS/Lille-University/Pasteur Institute/University hospital of Lille UMR1283 "Functional(epi)genomics and mechanisms of type 2 diabetes and related disorders", Director of the French laboratory of excellence on diabetes research (laBex) EGID (250 people), of the Genomics equipment of excellence in genomics (Equipex) LIGAN-personalized medicine, and of the new French National Center for Precision Medicine in diabetes PreciDIAB. PF's scientific carrier is focused on the genetics of diabetes and obesity. He is author of >720 Pubmed indexed publications and his H-index is 171. He is among the world most highly cited researchers (according to Clarivate HCR ranking 2019) in medical research (120K citations). Among other things, PF has identified in 1992 the first diabetes gene (glucokinase), in 1998 the most prevalent cause of monogenic obesity (MC4R), in 2007 the first gene for common obesity (FTO) and has published in 2007 the first Genome Wide Association Study (GWAS) in T2D. His current main interest is precision and personalized medicine in metabolic diseases and co morbidities.







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## Juan Carlos Galofré (Spain)

Friday 27 November - Thyroid

Professor of Medicine and Consultant in Endocrinology at the Clínica Universidad de Navarra (Pamplona) Spain. He combines clinical work with research and academic duties.

**Training and Education:** He graduated from Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona School of Medicine. Following a residency in Endocrinology at University of Navarra Medical School, he completed a Clinician fellowship in Endocrinology at Department of Endocrinology at the Cardiff School of Medicine (UK).

He received his PhD in Physiology at the University of Santiago de Compostela.

He competed his training in thyroid diseases as Visiting Professor in the Thyroid Research Unit, Department of Medicine, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York University (NY), and in the Department of Endocrine Neoplasia and Hormonal Disorders, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center at University of Texas, Houston (TX).

**Academic Positions:** He served as Vice-dean for Education in the School of Medicine (Universidad de Navarra). He had a key role in the setting up, development and implementation of the current integrative curriculum of the University of Navarra School of Medicine.

**Positions in Scientific Societies and Institutional boards:** Past Chair of the Thyroid Core Group from the Spanish Society of Endocrinology (SEEN). The Thyroid Core Group is the leading study group for thyroid diseases in Spain. It is made up of several different areas covering the full spectrum of thyroid disorders. Investigator from IDISNA (Navarra Health Research Institute).

Member of the Editorial Board of Endocrinología Diabetes y Nutrición, the official journal of the Spanish Society of Endocrinology and Nutrition.

**Scientific production:** Author of more than 70 articles published in peer review scientific journals, editor of 4 books and author of more than 30 book chapters.







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## **Ashley Grossman (UK)**

Tuesday 24 November – Adrenal

Ashley Grossman was awarded an Open Exhibition to St Catharine's College, Cambridge, completed a degree in Psychology and Social Anthropology at the University of London, and then entered University College London where he received a First-Class degree in Anatomy, and the University Gold Medal from UCHMS. He started in the Dept. of Endocrinology at St Bartholomew's Hospital and medical school, eventually becoming Professor of Neuroendocrinology at Barts and the London School of Medicine in 1993. He moved to OCDEM, Churchill Hospital, in 2011 where he was appointed Professor of Endocrinology at the University of Oxford, and in 2012 Senior Research Fellow of Green-Templeton College. Most recently, he has moved to become Consultant in Neuroendocrine Tumours at the Royal Free Hospital, London, in the ENETS Centre of Excellence, and is also Professor of Neuroendocrinology at Barts and the London School of Medicine. He became a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences in 1999. He has published some 500 peer-reviewed papers and nearly 400 chapters and reviews, most recently on hypothalamic and pituitary tumours and endocrine oncology. He has recently published the Oxford Desk Reference in Endocrinology (2018), and Advanced Practice in Endocrinology Nursing (2019). He was awarded the Clinical Endocrinology Trust prize lecture in 2004, the ESE Geoffrey Harris Prize in 2014, and the Iain MacIntyre prize lecture at Barts and the London in 2017: he has been President of the ENEA, the Society for Endocrinology (2012-2014), Chairman of UKINETS (2010-2012), was President of the Pituitary Society (2015-2016), and is President of Endotext.







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#### Mark Gurnell (UK)

Thursday 26 November - Pituitary

Mark Gurnell is Professor of Clinical Endocrinology in Cambridge, where he leads endocrine specialist services. He is also SubDean in the University of Cambridge School of Clinical Medicine, and Head of Undergraduate Assessment. His clinical and research interests are focussed on pituitary, adrenal and thyroid disorders, with particular interests in acromegaly, TSH-secreting pituitary adenomas and primary aldosteronism. As head of the Cambridge Endocrine Molecular Imaging Group (CEMIG), he has led the development of novel techniques for functional imaging and has overseen the introduction of national specialist PET services for pituitary and adrenal disorders. He is also recognised as an expert in the management of patients with unusual thyroid function tests. He currently serves on the Council of the UK Society for Endocrinology (as Treasurer-elect), the Education Committee of the European Society of Endocrinology, the Endocrine Society's ESAP panel, and the Royal College of Physicians (UK) Specialty Certificate Examinations Board (Endocrinology & Diabetes). He holds a number of senior appointments in medical education and chairs the Board of the UK Medical Schools Council Assessment Alliance.







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## **Kris Poppe (Belgium)**

Friday 27 November - Thyroid

Mark Kris Gustave Poppe, M.D., Ph.D. is head of the endocrine unit and coordinator of the thyroid outpatient clinic and research unit at the University Hospital CHU St-Pierre, a teaching hospital from the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), in downtown Brussels.

For more than 20 years, my research is focused on the relationship between thyroid disorders and pregnancy and more in particular on the impact of thyroid disorders on female infertility and the subsequent assisted reproductive technology treatment.

I published more than 70 original and review papers, gave plenary lectures at many European Thyroid and Endocrine meetings, and "meet the Professor" sessions at the Endocrine Society meeting.

I was member of the Executive Board of the European Thyroid
Association (ETA) from 2008-2012 and coordinator of the Belgian Thyroid Club (BTC) from 2009-2015. I'm actually member of the editorial board of the European Thyroid Journal (ETJ).





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### Ljiljana Marina (Serbia)

Tuesday 24 November – Adrenal

Dr. Ljiljana Marina has graduated as MD (2002) and PhD (2018) from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade. Since 2003 she works as a physician at the Clinic for Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolic Disease, Clinical Centre of Serbia. Since 2015 she teaches Internal medicine as a Clinical Assistant at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Belgrade. Her focus areas are in Adrenal and Reproductive Endocrinology. Since 2014 Dr. Marina was actively involved in the work of the ESE Young Endocrinologists and Scientists (EYES). As the committee member and for the last two years a co-chair of EYES Dr. Marina has organized the 2014 Annual EYES Meeting in Belgrade, founded the EYES Newsletter and the EYES Clinical Observership Program and served as the member of the European Society of Endocrinology Executive Committee. Since 2017 she is also a member of the ESE Adrenal and Cardiovascular Endocrinology Focus Area's Expert Panel. She is also a member of the Serbian Medical Society, Serbian Society for Menopause and European Network for the Study of Adrenal Tumors (ENSAT).







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#### Risheka Walls (UK)

Monday 23 November – Calcium and Bone

Risheka Walls (nee Ratnasabapathy) is an Endocrinology and Diabetes Consultant at Imperial College NHS healthcare Trust. Dr Walls completed her undergraduate medical training at Imperial College, London. She was successfully awarded an MRC Clinical Research Training Fellowship and she completed her doctorate also at Imperial College under the supervision of Professor Waljit Dhillo. Her basic sciences doctorate investigated the endocrine role of the arcuate nucleus in rodents. Dr Walls' great passion is in undergraduate teaching and she is the Lead for Digital Undergraduate Medicine at Imperial College, London where she is due to launch a world first in mixed reality teaching.



