

17th ESPID Research Masterclass

Research Masterclass Application is Closed!

Extended Deadline: Monday, 17 February 2025

The **ESPID Research Masterclass** (ERMC) is held over 2 half-days and is a closed, seminar type of forum for active paediatric infectious diseases (PID) research groups in Europe and is held every year in the days leading up to the ESPID Annual Meeting. The research performed can involve 'bench-type' basic and translational research, as well as 'bed-side' clinical studies (e.g. observational, case-control, randomized controlled, interventional) and epidemiological studies in any area of paediatric infectious diseases.

The format of ERMC is well suited for presenting work-in-progress as well as studies that have been completed. You will gain feedback and input from other research groups, as well as senior research leaders in paediatric infectious diseases, on how to approach the research question, on study design and on presentation and interpretation of results.

1. Why

The primary aim of ERMC is to provide better opportunities for young researchers to present their studies, chair scientific sessions and discuss their research with other junior colleagues as well as with European research group leaders. During the Masterclass, the junior researchers will be trained how to present their data, ask questions or chair a session.

Special emphasis is laid on individual feedback. They will receive guidelines for scientific discussion in a seminar type of positive atmosphere. The second aim of the seminar is to provide the researchers a better view of recent PID research in Europe and also to stimulate discussions of new research collaborations among ESPID members.

2. Who

The ERMIC is based on the attendance of research teams. The research groups should apply their attendance as a group of one (1) senior and a maximum of three (3) junior researchers (maximum group size is four (4) persons). The senior researcher in the group should be an **ESPID member**. Everyone is expected to attend the full ERMIC programme.

3. When

The **17th ERMIC** will take place in Bucharest, Romania on 26th & 27th May 2025, with an evening dinner being held on 26th May 2025. Invited participants are expected to attend **both** days as well as the evening dinner.

- 26th May will be an afternoon session followed with an evening dinner (no lunch is offered on this day)
- 27th May will be a morning session followed by a lunch
- Times for each day will be confirmed to the winning participants

4. Financial Support

- All junior ESPID members participating in the ERMIC will benefit from free registration to the ESPID Annual Meeting.
- Up to 7 successful applicants will benefit from free registration, travel and accommodation (if applicable) subject to the ESPID reimbursement rules.

5. How to apply

All applications must include the following:

- A short summary (max. one page, A4) of current research interests of the group
- A list of 10 recent publications from the group
- A brief CV (max 2 pages) from each junior member including current position, degrees, publications, presentations at (inter)national meetings, and number of years spend on research
- Abstracts* from individual junior members
- A list of the participants (1 senior, max. 3 juniors) with their e-mail addresses
- A one slide power point presentation of the team

* The abstract should not exceed **300 words** in total and must be structured into separate sections. The format of ERMIC is well suited to present work-in-progress resulting in getting valuable feedback and input from other research groups how to approach the research question, as well as discussing the study design with senior research leaders in paediatric infectious diseases and obtain their expert opinion.

The following format for the individual abstract should be used:

- **Title** not exceeding 16 words
- **Authors and affiliations**
- **Research question** including context and purpose of the study
- **Methods** including rationale why a particular method was chosen to answer the research question
- **Results** can be ranging from work in progress, to preliminary data, to more conclusive results
- **Conclusion** including problems encountered, adjustment of methods and work plan for the next year.

Please note that 1-2 of junior members from each team should be ready to give an oral presentation of their research.

Please note when submitting your group application and including the abstracts for consideration at the ESPID Research Masterclass, these abstracts should not be also submitted to the general abstracts section. Further details can be found on the [annual meeting website](#). Applications will be accepted via the annual meeting website by clicking [here](#).

6. What happens then?

Based on the interest of the European PID research groups applying to participate, the ERMIC organizing committee will make the final decision about the topics of the day including the abstracts selected for oral presentation.

All research groups will be directly informed about the selected topics, abstracts and groups.

7. The ESPID Research Masterclass

Presentation Award

On the second day of the ESPID research Masterclass there will be a vote held for the best presentation. Everyone present will be invited to vote. The winning candidate will receive:

- a certificate presented on the day
- will be involved in the planning and delivery of the following year's Masterclass.
- will be given free registration, travel and accommodation (if applicable) subject to the ESPID reimbursement rules for the following year's annual meeting

The society website for the master class information can be [found here](#)