



The ESMO World Congress on Gastrointestinal Cancer is the world's leading forum for practicing clinicians and specialists in cancer research to review the state of the art and share the newest information on the management of gastrointestinal cancer.

History

Congress chairs Mario Dicato, MD and Eric Van Cutsem, MD, PhD have been with the Congress since its inception in 1999 as *Perspectives in Colorectal Cancer*, along with Jacques Wils, of Laurentius Hospital, Roermond, The Netherlands, who retired as chair following the 2003 Congress. At the end of 2004, an agreement was reached between the organizers and the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) to collaborate on the development of the Congress, further increasing the educational value of this event and increasing exposure to a wider audience. In 2009, the Congress was host to more than 3,400 attendees from around the world with 100 countries represented.

Professional Education

Since its inception in 1999, the Congress has strived to increase its educational quality and scope for attendees. It has grown into an event that encompasses malignancies affecting every component of the gastrointestinal tract and aspects related to the care of all gastrointestinal cancer patients, including screening, diagnosis, and the latest management options (prevention, treatment, and supportive care) for common and uncommon tumors. With a focus on personalized therapy, multidisciplinary management and unraveling molecular mechanisms, this event educates and updates the broad range of experts who participate in the treatment of gastrointestinal cancers, providing a clear overview for treatment.

The Congress is built around a multi-disciplinary approach provided in plenary lectures by widely recognized experts, complemented with presentations of selected controversial topics, meet the expert sessions, case discussions, and satellite symposia on specific topics.

The World Congress offers continuing medical education credits for physicians through EACCME and ESMO credits.

Endorsements

The ESMO World Congress on Gastrointestinal Cancer is endorsed by the following societies and associations:

- The Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation
- ENETS (European Neuroendocrine Tumor Society)
- EONS (European Oncology Nursing Society)
- EORTC (European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer) – Gastrointestinal Tumor Group
- ESDO (European Society of Digestive Oncology)
- ESO (European School of Oncology)
- ESSO (European Society of Surgical Oncology)
- Europacolon

Congress Chairs



Mario Dicato, MD
Luxembourg Medical Center,
Luxembourg, Luxembourg



Eric Van Cutsem, MD, PhD
University Hospital Gasthuisberg,
Leuven, Belgium

Mario Dicato, MD Luxembourg Medical Center, Luxembourg

Mario Dicato is Professor of Internal Medicine in the Department of Haematology-Oncology at Luxembourg Medical Centre, Luxembourg. He did his postgraduate training at Yale and Harvard University.

Professor Dicato is a member of several scientific societies, including the European Haematology Association, the American Society of Hematology, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the European Society for Medical Oncology. He is currently serving as Chair of the ESMO Symposia Working Group and as a member of the ESMO Educational Steering Committee. Professor Dicato has published more than 100 scientific papers and numerous book chapters. He is a member of the editorial board of several oncology journals.

Eric Van Cutsem, MD, PhD University Hospital Gasthuisberg, Leuven, Belgium

Eric Van Cutsem is Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Leuven, Belgium and is head of the Digestive Oncology department at the University Hospital Gasthuisberg in Leuven. He has a large clinical activity and is involved and/or leads many national and international clinical and translational research projects.

Professor Van Cutsem has published more than 250 peer-reviewed articles in prestigious journals including New England Journal Medicine, Journal of Clinical Oncology, Lancet, Lancet Oncology, JAMA, Annals Oncology and European Journal of Cancer and also more than 400 other texts or chapters in books on gastrointestinal cancer. He is Co-Editor of the reference textbook on gastrointestinal cancer: Principles and Practice of Gastrointestinal Oncology: Second edition, 2008, and has been an editorial board member of numerous prestigious journals, including Journal of Clinical Oncology, Annals of Oncology, and European Journal of Cancer.

Professor Van Cutsem is a member of several scientific organizations, including the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO), European

NeuroEndocrine Tumour Society (ENETS) and many national organizations. He is/was a member of the Scientific Program Committee and/or educational committee for ASCO, ASCO-GI cancers symposium, ESMO and ECCO. Professor Van Cutsem is also a member of the ESMO faculty and of the strategic ESMO Multidisciplinary Oncology Committee.

He served as Secretary of the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer – Gastrointestinal Cancer (EORTC-GI) group from January 2000 to 2003, and was Chair of the EORTC-GI group from 2003 to 2007 and is chairman of PETACC (Pan-European Trials on Adjuvant Colon Cancer) since 2008. He is also chairman the BGDO (Belgium Group of Digestive Oncology) and of the governmental colon cancer prevention task force in Belgium and is president of FAPA (Familial Adenomatous Polyposis Association).

He was awarded several international scientific awards such as the Hubertus Wald Award at the University of Hamburg in 2009 and the San Salvatore Foundation Award in Switzerland in 2010.

2010 Scientific Committee

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