



Target Audience

Max. 100 participants: MDs, [micro]biologists, post-doctoral fellows and PhD students who are working in the field of microbiology and are interested in molecular diagnostics.

Faculty Members

- Stephen Bustin, Chelmsford, United Kingdom  
Eric Claas, Leiden, Netherlands  
Sabine Dittrich, Geneva, Switzerland  
Gilbert Greub, Lausanne, Switzerland  
Richard Hodinka, Greenville, SC, United States  
Jim Huggett, Teddington, United Kingdom  
Ruud Jansen, Haarlem, Netherlands  
Mirjam Kooistra, Groningen, Netherlands  
Colin Mackenzie, Düsseldorf, Germany  
Amy Mikhail, London, United Kingdom  
Richard Molenkamp, Leiden, Netherlands  
Jacob Moran-Gilad, Beer-Sheva, Israel  
Bert Niesters, Groningen, Netherlands  
Peter Rådström, Lund, Sweden  
Marijke Raymaekers, Hasselt, Belgium  
Belén Rodriguez Sanchez, Madrid, Spain  
John Rossen, Groningen, Netherlands  
Paul Savelkoul, Maastricht, Netherlands  
Kate Templeton, Edinburgh, United Kingdom  
Lieke van Alphen, Maastricht, Netherlands  
Helke van Dessel, Maastricht, Netherlands  
Inge van Loo, Maastricht, Netherlands  
Els Wessels, Leiden, Netherlands  
Carl Wittwer, Salt Lake City, UT, United States  
Petra Wolffs, Maastricht, Netherlands  
Aldert Zomer, Utrecht, Netherlands

Contact

Contact Person (Scientific Programme)

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Front picture: St. Servaas Bridge Maastricht, @ Kevin van Egmond  
Picture inside: MDx artist impression, @ Mayk Lucchesi  
Picture outside: Front view of the Maastricht University Medical Centre (MUMC), @ MUMC+



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ESCMID Postgraduate Education Course

3rd Course on Principles of Molecular Micro-biological Diagnostics

Maastricht, Netherlands  
17 – 19 January 2018



ESCMID Postgraduate Education Course

3rd Course on Principles of Molecular Micro-biological Diagnostics

Organizers

- ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics – ESGMD
- ESCMID Study Group for Epidemiological Markers – ESGEM
- Maastricht University Medical Centre

Course Coordinator

Paul Savelkoul, Maastricht, Netherlands

Course Objectives

The course provides an actual overview, advantages and pitfalls of the general principles of state-of-the-art molecular techniques in the diagnosis of infectious diseases. Basic features of e.g. NGS as well as advanced features e.g. real-time PCR will be addressed in relation to their diagnostic importance and usefulness. In addition, inter-active discussions on clinical interpretation and application will be held in several specific simultaneous workshops for which participants will be able to register. Each workshop has a limited number of participants. During the workshops specific subjects will be addressed based on case reports. Those will be presented by moderators with active involvement of the audience. In addition, experts in these fields will comment and, when necessary, add in depth knowledge and/or questions from the participants. Finally, additional important general subjects like [low resource] MDx laboratory setup, outbreak upscaling, validation and quality control of the different techniques are presented including future perspectives in the field.

# Course Programme

## Wednesday, 17 January 2018

- 09:00 Registration
- 09:45 Welcome.  
*Paul Savelkoul*
- 10:00 Real-time PCR and melting analysis.  
*Carl Wittwer*
- 10:30 Quantitation.  
*Jim Huggett*
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:30 Pre-PCR processing.  
*Peter Rådström*
- 12:00 PCR mastermix – the underrated ingredient.  
*Stephen Bustin*
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 Parallel interactive workshop 1:  
PCR – Basics/PCR for starters/case reports.  
*Moderators: Marijke Raymaekers, Els Wessels*  
*Experts: Stephen Bustin, Ruud Jansen*
- 13:30 Parallel interactive workshop 2:  
PCR – Advanced/experienced PCR/case reports.  
*Moderators: Richard Molenkamp, Jim Huggett*  
*Experts: Carl Wittwer, Kate Templeton*
- 15:00 Coffee break
- 15:30 Parallel interactive workshop 3:  
Nucleic acid extraction.  
*Moderators: Ruud Jansen, Petra Wolffs*  
*Experts: Peter Rådström, Eric Claas*
- 15:30 Parallel interactive workshop 4:  
Clinical aspects & interpretation of MDx results.  
*Moderators: Colin Mackenzie, Inge van Loo*  
*Expert: Paul Savelkoul*
- 17:00 Alternative PCR approaches: pro's and con's.  
*Els Wessels*
- 17:30 Short presentations about new developments  
by companies
- 18:00 Drinks and snacks

## Thursday, 18 January 2018

- 09:00 Highlights of interactive workshops day 1.  
*Petra Wolffs*
- 09:30 Molecular typing for infection control.  
*Lieke van Alphen*
- 10:00 Molecular diagnostics in low resource settings.  
*Sabine Dittrich*
- 10:30 Molecular diagnostics for outbreaks in low  
resource settings.  
*Amy Mikhail*
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:30 Parallel interactive workshop 5:  
Starting MDx in low resource settings.  
*Moderators: Sabine Dittrich, Amy Mikhail*  
*Experts: Lieke van Alphen, Eric Claas*
- 11:30 Parallel interactive workshop 6:  
Typing, resistance and virulence.  
*Moderators: Paul Savelkoul, John Rossen*  
*Expert: Petra Wolffs*
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Next-generation sequencing:  
current methods {theory}.  
*Aldert Zomer*
- 14:30 ISO-certification/quality control for  
molecular diagnostics.  
*Bert Niesters*
- 15:00 Coffee break
- 15:30 Parallel interactive workshop 7:  
Broad-range PCR – clinical interpretation  
of results.  
*Moderators: Paul Savelkoul, Mirjam Kooistra*  
*Experts: Gilbert Greub, Colin Mackenzie*
- 15:30 Parallel workshop 8:  
CE-IVD, regulations and guidelines.  
*Moderators: Marijke Raymaekers,*  
*Richard Molenkamp*  
*Expert: Bert Niesters*
- 17:00 Applications of NGS.  
*Jacob Moran-Gilad*
- 18:00 Departure [by special bus from  
Hotel van der Valk]
- 18:30 Social activity
- 20:00 Dinner
- 22:30 Departure
- 23:00 Arrival [Hotel van der Valk]

## Friday, 19 January 2018

- 09:00 Highlights of interactive workshops day 2.  
*Lieke van Alphen*
- 09:30 Molecular detection of antimicrobial  
resistance.  
*To be confirmed*
- 10:00 MALDI-ToF-MS.  
*Gilbert Greub*
- 10:30 Coffee break
- 11:00 Near bedside MDx applications.  
*Richard Hodinka*
- 11:30 Parallel interactive workshop 9:  
Molecular diagnostics – when to use  
[commercial vs. in-house].  
*Moderators: Eric Claas, Colin Mackenzie*  
*Experts: Richard Hodinka, Kate Templeton*
- 11:30 Parallel interactive workshop 10:  
MALDI-ToF and its clinical applications.  
*Moderators: Gilbert Greub,*  
*Belén Rodriguez Sanchez*  
*Expert: Helke van Dessel*
- 13:00 Future developments in molecular  
diagnostics.  
*Jacob Moran-Gilad*
- 13:30 Closing lunch
- 14:30 End of meeting & departure



# Organization

## Course Venue

Hotel van der Valk  
Nijverheidsweg 35  
6227 AL Maastricht  
Netherlands

[www.hotelvandervalkmaastricht.nl](http://www.hotelvandervalkmaastricht.nl)

## Registration Procedure

Register now online on the ESCMID website at [www.escmid.org/education](http://www.escmid.org/education). Registration deadline is 8 December 2017.

## Registration Fee

- EUR 500 for ESCMID members  
(Full Membership/Young Scientist Membership)
- EUR 600 for all others

The fee includes all lectures and workshops, lunches, coffee & drinks, social programme including one evening dinner. Accommodation and travel are not included.

## Attendance Grants

ESCMID provides a number of attendance grants for ESCMID “young scientist members”. The grant covers the registration fee. Accommodation and travel are not included. Please apply via the ESCMID website at [www.escmid.org/education](http://www.escmid.org/education) before 7 November 2017. Applicants will be informed about their acceptance by 1 December 2017.

## CME Accreditation

The organizers of the course will apply for European CME accreditation through EACCME and for accreditation through NVMM (Dutch Society for Medical Microbiology).