

RESPIRATION DAY 2026

CHRONIC AIRWAY DISEASES AND THEIR COMORBIDITIES

Parma, 26-27 June 2026

RAZIONALE SCIENTIFICO

The aim of the 2026 Edition of "Respiration Day" is to provide the view of where the Respiratory clinicians and researchers are and where they are heading in the field of chronic respiratory diseases, particularly chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, bronchiectasis and their comorbidities, and the role of small airway diseases in these respiratory diseases. The invited members of the Faculty are among the most productive international clinical scientists in the field chronic airway diseases, the audience will be 350 national top national clinical opinion leaders selected from more than 20 countries. The main aim of the meeting is educational, and the speakers have been specifically invited to translate in their lectures the most important recent discoveries to the potential improvement of clinical practice. A significant proportion of time (40%) will be devoted to discussion. The Meeting is divided in 5 sessions.

The first session will focus on the recent advancements in COPD and its comorbidities, and in particular the first lecture will focus on the need to better characterize the different phenotypes included under the umbrella of the term COPD, both in term of etiology and clinical presentation, early diagnosis, and active search of multimorbidity to improve the management of individual patients (Bhatt et al, 2025; Celli et al, 2022). The second lecture will be devoted to novel therapies for COPD, particularly the biologics, with the aim of improved comprehensive and personalized management (Agusti et al, 2025). The third lecture will focus on the major cardiovascular risk in patients with COPD, both in stable and during and in the aftermath of exacerbations of respiratory symptoms (Gale et al, 2025).

The second session will focus on asthma as a disease of both central and peripheral airways (Siddiqui et al, 2026), the need of integration of traditional pharmacological inhalation treatments with systemic agents and/or biologics (Porsbjerg et al, 2023), the third the ongoing research focused on mechanisms rather than clinical treatable traits (Gaberino et al, 2026).

The third session will be devoted to the importance and impact of small airways dysfunction for chronic airway diseases, and in particular on the fundamental role of inhalers but also of their environmental impact, its complex impact on respiratory and non-respiratory components of chronic airway diseases, and last, but not least, how can AI help us to understand the role of small airways dysfunction.

The fourth session will be devoted to the novel discoveries in the field of pathology of chronic airway diseases, and particularly the importance of mucus plugs, and mucociliary clearance.

Finally the fifth session will be devoted to bronchiectasis that in the last 15 years has been discovered to represent not only a treatable trait of other chronic airway diseases but also an independent treatable disease (Burgel and Mall, 2026; Chalmer et al, 2025).

PROGRAMMA

26 June 2026

07:45 – 08:15 Registration of the delegates

08:15 – 09:00 **Welcome Session**

Prof. Dario Olivieri, Professor of Respiratory Disease, University of Parma

Prof. Gaetano Caramori, Pulmonary Disease Unit, University of Parma

Prof. Stefano Bettati, Director Department of Medicine and Surgery – University of Parma

Prof. Paolo Martelli, Rector of the University of Parma

Session 1 **Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) as pulmonary component of multimorbidity**

Chairpersons: Paola Rogliani (Rome) and Leonardo M. Fabbri (Ferrara)

09:00 – 09:25 Novel approaches to the diagnosis and assessment of severity of multimorbid COPD - Surya Bhatt (Birmingham)

09:25 – 09:50 Novel approaches to the pharmacologic management of multimorbid COPD – Bartolome Celli (Boston)

09:50 – 10:15 Cardiovascular risk in stable and exacerbated multimorbid COPD - Filippo Crea (Rome)

10:15 – 11:00 Discussion

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

Session 2 Asthma as a disease of central and peripheral airways

Chairpersons: Alfredo Chetta (Parma) and Klaus Rabe (Kiel)

11:30 – 11:55 Pulmonary pathology of asthma, COPD and chronic bronchitis: role of small airways – Guy Brusselle (Ghent)

11:55 – 12:20 Integrated pharmacologic and biologic treatment of severe asthma
Matteo Bonini (Rome)

12:20 – 12:55 Mechanism directed treatment in chronic airway diseases - Klaus Rabe (Kiel)

12:55 – 13:30 Discussion

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

Session 3 Small airways dysfunction in chronic airway diseases

Chairpersons: Marco Contoli (Ferrara) and Lies Lahousse (Ghent)

14:30 – 14:55 Early origins of asthma: What happens to the airways? – Erika Von Mutius (Munich/Boston)

14:55 – 15:20 Pathophysiology of small airway diseases (SAD) – Omar Usmani (London)

15:20 – 15:55 Artificial intelligence in chronic airway diseases – Alvar A Agusti (Barcelona)

15:55 – 16:40 Discussion

16:40 – 17:00 Coffee break
17:00 End of Day 1

27 June 2026

Session 4 Mucus and mucociliary clearance in chronic airway diseases

Chairpersons: Pierre Regis Burgel (Paris) and Min Zhang (Shanghai)

09:00 – 09:25 Clinical role of central and peripheral airway diseases in asthma - Maarten Van den Berge (Groningen)
09:25 – 09:50 Mucus plugs in chronic airway diseases - Alejandro A. Diaz (Boston)
09:50 – 10:15 The pathobiology and treatment of mucus plugs in asthma and COPD - John Fahy (San Francisco)
10:15 – 11:00 Discussion
11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break

Session 5 Bronchiectasis as treatable trait of chronic airway diseases or as an independent disease entity

Chairpersons: Pieter Goeminne (Sint-Niklaas) and Carlo Castellani (Genova)

11:30 – 11:55 Novel approaches to the diagnosis and assessment of severity of bronchiectasis - Stefano Aliberti (Milan)

11:55 – 12:20	Novel approaches to the pharmacologic management of bronchiectasis – Michal Shteinberg (Haifa)
12:20 – 12:55	Mechanism directed treatment approach: triple therapy in cystic fibrosis - Pierre Regis Burgel (Paris)
12:55 – 13:30	Discussion
13:30	Take-home messages and conclusions

ACRONIMI:

COPD: Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

SAD: Small airway diseases

AI: Artificial Intelligence

SCIENTIFIC REFEREE:

Prof. Dario Olivieri, Professor of Respiratory Disease, University of Parma, Italy

Prof. Gaetano Caramori, Pulmonary Disease Unit, University of Parma

SEDE DELL'EVENTO:

Starhotels Du Parc

Viale Piacenza, 12/c, 43100 Parma PR

OBIETTIVO FORMATIVO: Documentazione clinica. Percorsi clinico-assistenziali diagnostici e riabilitativi, profili di assistenza - profili di cura

ORE FORMATIVE: 10

CREDITI FORMATIVI: 3

ID EVENTO: 482645

DESTINATARI DELL'INIZIATIVA

Professione: Medico Chirurgo

Discipline: Allergologia ed immunologia clinica; Geriatria; Malattie dell'apparato respiratorio; Medicina interna; Medicina del lavoro e sicurezza degli ambienti di lavoro; Medicina Generale (Medici di famiglia)

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Stefano Aliberti	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio	Humanitas University, Milan, Italy	Direttore del Programma di Fellowship in Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio, Dipartimento di Scienze Biomediche

Alvar Agusti	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	University of Barcelona and Hospital Clinic, Barcelona, Spain	Professor of Medicine at the University of Barcelona and senior consultant at Hospital Clinic, Barcelona, Spain
Stefano Bettati	Medicina Veterinaria	Biologia e Patologia Molecolare	Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy	Direttore del Dipartimento di Medicina e Chirurgia dell'Università di Parma
Surya Bhatt	Medicine	Internal Medicine	University of Alabama, Birmingham, USA	Professor of Medicine - Pulmonary, Allergy, & Critical Care Medicine
Matteo Bonini	Medico Chirurgo	Medicina dello Sport	Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Roma, Italy	Professore Associato in Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio
Guy Brusselle	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	Ghent University, Belgium	Head of the Department of Respiratory Medicine and Professor of Medicine
Pierre Regis Burgel	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	Université Paris-Cité and Cochin Hospital, Paris, France	Professor of Respiratory Medicine
Carlo Castellani	Medico Chirurgo	Pediatria	Istituto Gaslini, Genova, Italy	Dirigente medico e direttore presso l'UOSD del Centro Fibrosi Cistica
Gaetano Caramori	Medico Chirurgo	Biologia Molecolare e Patologia	Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy	Professore Ordinario di Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio presso il Dipartimento di Medicina e Chirurgia (DIMEC)
Bartolome Celli	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Tufts and Harvard Medical	Professor of Medicine

			School, Boston, USA	
Alfredo Chetta	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio	Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria di Parma, Italy	Direttore dell'Unità operativa di Clinica Pneumologica (Dipartimento ad attività integrata Cardio-Toracico-Vascolare)
Marco Contoli	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio	Università di Ferrara, Italy	Professore Associato, Malattie Apparato Respiratorio, Dipartimento di Medicina Traslazionale e per la Romagna
Filippo Crea	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie dell'Apparato Cardiovascolare	Università Cattolica e Policlinico Gemelli di Roma, Italy	Professore Ordinario presso l'Università Cattolica e Direttore del Dipartimento di Scienze Cardiovascolari e Toraciche del Policlinico Gemelli di Roma, Italy
Gaetano Caramori	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie dell'apparato respiratorio	Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy	Professore Ordinario di Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio
Alejandro A. Diaz	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA	Associate professor of Medicine
Leonardo Fabbri	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie Dell'Apparato Respiratorio	Università di Ferrara, Italy	Eminent Scholar in Medicina Respiratoria e Interna
John Fahy	Medicine	Internal Medicine	Airway Clinical Research Center at UCSF and UCSF, San Francisco, USA	Director of the Airway Clinical Research Center at UCSF and Professor of Medicine at UCSF, San Francisco, USA

Pieter Goeminne	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	AZ Nikolaas, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium	MD, PhD Consultant
Lies Lahousse	Medicine	Pharmaceutical Science	Ghent University, Belgium	Professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
Paolo Martelli	Medicina Veterinaria	Privo di Specializzazione	Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy	Rettore
Dario Olivieri	Medico Chirurgo	Tisiologia	Università degli Studi di Parma, Italy	Docente presso la Scuola di Specializzazione in Malattie Respiratorie e Dottorato di Ricerca in Fisiopatologia Respiratoria
Klaus Rabe	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	University of Kiel, Germany	Professor of Pulmonary Medicine
Paola Rogliani	Medico Chirurgo	Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio	Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata", Roma, Italy	Professore Ordinario di Malattie dell'Apparato Respiratorio, Dipartimento di Medicina Sperimentale
Michal Shteinberg	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel	MD, PhD Professor (Associate)
Omar Usumani	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	National Heart and Lung Institute (NHLI), Imperial College London & Consultant, Royal Brompton	Professor of Respiratory Medicine at the National Heart and Lung Institute (NHLI), Imperial College London & Consultant Physician at the Royal Brompton Hospital (RBH)

			Hospital (RBH) and St Mary's Hospital London, ICRRU (Imperial Clinical Respiratory Research Unit), UK	and St Mary's Hospital London, Clinical Director of Respiratory Trials at ICRRU (Imperial Clinical Respiratory Research Unit), UK
Maarten Van Den Berge	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	University Medical Center Groningen, Netherlands	Professor and Pulmonary Physician
Erika Von Mutius	Medicine	Paediatrics	Helmholtz Zentrum München, Research Center for Environmental Health, Munich, Germany	Head of Department Environmental Health
Min Zhang	Medicine	Respiratory Medicine	Shanghai General Hospital, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, School of Medicine, Shanghai, China	Professor, Department of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine