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EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF ANDROLOGY

European Academy of Andrology
Newsletter
Edition December 2024

Note from the President

Dear EAA Members,



The second half of 2024 brought our most important biennial event – the 13th ECA in Stockholm. It was a great success and I owe big thanks to Jan-Bernd Stukenborg and the Local Organising Committee for their efforts, including securing a wonderful social event at the famous Stockholm City Hall. I thank also the Programme Organising Committee (POC) who put together an exciting scientific programme. My appreciation goes also to the Professional Congress Organisers from Asszisztencia.

The reports from the ECA and the associated events can be found in this newsletter. Importantly, the General Assembly held in connection with ECA ratified the inclusion of NYRA as the young arm of the Academy, and we updated the EAA Statutes accordingly. The Executive Council was partly renewed, with Giovanni Corona taking over the post of the EAA Secretary from Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts who stepped down after six years of excellent service.

With my best wishes for the holiday season,
Hermann Behre

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Report from ECA2024

13th European Congress of ANDROLOGY ECA Stockholm 2024

The 13th European Congress of Andrology (ECA2024) was held on 4-6 September 2024 in Stockholm, Sweden.Two accompanying educational events preceded the Congress.

Andrology Day 2024

The event, organised by the Swedish Society of Andrology, was held at the Karolinska Institute.The agenda covered various aspects pertaining to male health, including testosterone deficiency, the long-term effects of childhood cancer treatment in men, reproductive health, and male contraception. The speakers presented talks in English and Swedish. The event was open to the general public and was well attended.

The ANDRONET-EAA Course for Andrologists

Andrônet

The EAA organised jointly with the ANDRONET COST Action a pre-Congress Course: “What should the andrologist know in 2024”, which was held on 4 Sept 2024 at the venue just before the start of the Congress.

The course was moderated jointly by the ANDRONET leader Rafael Oliva and two clinical co-Chairs of the POC; Francesco Lombardo and Zsolt Kopa. The faculty included eight POC members, and the interesting programme covered clinical and basic hot topics in andrology.

The main Congress

The ECA2024 was organised by the local organising committee (LOC), led by Jan-Bernd Stukenborg, Mats Holmberg, Lars Björndahl and João P. Alves-Lopes, as well as the professional congress organizers Asszisztencia, known to all EAA members as the EAA Office service providers. The comfortable venue in the old brewery on a hill overlooking the heart of Stockholm, and a perfect sunny weather contributed to the fantastic atmosphere at the ECA.



Jan-Bernd Stukenborg,the LOC Chair, welcoming the ECA participants

At the core of the ECA was the scientific programme, comprising multiple symposia running in three parallel tracks: clinical and translational andrology, uro-andrology and basic science in andrology *(see the box below)*.

The scientific programme was prepared by the POC co-chaired by Francesco Lombardo (I), Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts (DK) and Zsolt Kopa (H), which comprised a multidisciplinary team of experts: Marij Dinkelman-Smit (NL), Aleksander Giwercman (S), Alberto de la Iglesia (E/F), Emmanuele Jannini (I), Niels Jørgensen (DK), Csilla Krausz (I), Stefan

ECA2024 in numbers:

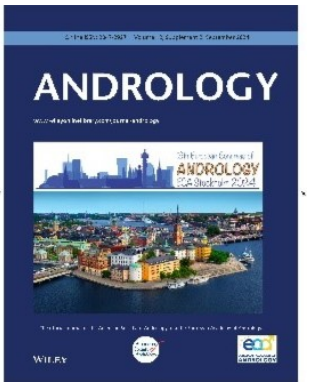
- 384 attendees
- 49 countries represented
- 217 submitted abstracts
- 2 pre-Congress courses

Schlatt (D), Frank Tüttelmann (D) and ex-officio: Hermann Behre (D) and Jan-Bernd Stukenborg (S).

- 8 plenary lectures
- 16 sessions
  - 62 invited speakers
  - 29 free short talks
  - 187 posters



The POC co-Chairs:F. Lombardo (Clinical Science), E. Rajpert-De Meyts (Basic Science) and Z. Kopa (Urology)



The high-profile plenary lecturers presented excellent talks on basic or translational discoveries: Luca Jovine, Peter Y. Liu (ASA-EAA lecture), Anna-Maria Andersson (ESE-EAA lecture), Steven Ramm, Joris Veltman, and on the current clinical conundrums: Giovanni Corona (ESSM-EAA lecture), Sabine Kliesch & Philippa Sangster.
(A collection of photos from the Congress is now available in the photo gallery on the EAA Member Portal – enjoy the memories!)

The abstract submissions broke the ECA records and provided a great overview of current state of andrology in Europe and beyond (published in Andrology). The three best abstracts selected by the POC were presented at the opening session as “Golden Oral Communications” by Francesco Lotti (clinical), J. Richard Pilsner (translational) and Viola H. Lobert (basic). Collaborating European societies, ESAU and ESHRE, held special sessions focused on andrological urology and fertility preservation, respectively.

The Network of Young Researchers in Andrology (NYRA), participated for the first time as a part of the EAA, and organised a dedicated NYRA session focused on basic aspects of male reproduction. The session opened with an excellent talk given by Lena Arévalo (E), the 2024 recipient of the annual NYRA Young Investigator Award.



Lena Arévalo (centre) receiving the NYRA Award from the Board members G. Saritas (left) and D. Marcu

Two well-attended poster sessions provided additional opportunities to young andrologists to present and discuss their projects. Ten excellent posters received EAA-sponsored best posters awards (Isabel Andersson, Kristina Fagerkvist, Daniela Fietz, Muriel Heitsch, Katarzyna Marchlewska, Gina Esther Merges, Hans Christian Schuppe, Johanna Steingröver, Tamas Takacs, Peter Zarén), which were announced at the Closing Ceremony, together with numerous travel grants issued by the EAA and the International Society of Andrology (ISA). The Executive Council uses this opportunity to thank these societies and express gratitude to Rafael Oliva and the leaders of the ANDRONET COST Action for supporting the travel of more than 90 participants.



The Welcome Reception at the Stockholm City Hall.

The ECA was also a great opportunity for informal networking, with an excellent social programme.

The undisputed highlight was a festive Welcome Reception in the Stockholm City Hall – a historical landmark and the place of Nobel prize celebrations., made possible by the gracious support of the City of Stockholm.

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EAA General Assembly

The EAA held the General Assembly in connection with the ECA in Stockholm, on 5 September 2024.

Activity Reports. The busy agenda included reports of the activities of the EAA Officers and the Executive Council; President Hermann Behre, Secretary Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts and Treasurer Davor Ježek. The EAA financial report was approved by two Auditors, Andreas Meinhardt and Jan-Bernd Stukenborg, and the Assembly. The Auditors kindly agreed to serve for two more years. Subsequently, Aleksander Giwercman (Chief Editor of *Andrology*) presented the latest achievements of the journal, and the (co) Chairs of several committees presented short reports: Csilla Krausz (Accreditation and Examinations), Zsolt Kopa (Education) and Giovanni Corona (Clinical Guidelines). Paulo Navarro Costa summarised the EMQN collaboration. The President of NYRA, Alberto de la Iglesia presented a brief report on the network's impressive activities during the transition period since the NYRA-EAA merger pre-approvement in 2022. He introduced the new Executive Board (2024-26), with Daniel Marcu taking over the NYRA Presidency.

Statutes Revision. The EAA Secretary, Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts, presented proposed changes in the EAA Statutes (Bylaws), with the most important points concerning creating a new NYRA-EAA membership category for young researchers in training, and adding the NYRA President as an ex-officio member of the Executive Council, which should also have flexibility regarding the member number. The proposals were approved unanimously by the General Assembly.

Renewal of the Executive Council. Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts stepped down after 6 years of service as the Secretary, and the General Assembly approved unanimously her successor, Giovanni Corona of Bologna.



The newly elected EAA Secretary, Giovanni Corona, surrounded by the two other Officers: Davor Ježek (left) and Hermann Behre.

Invitation to the ECA2026. The leaders of the andrology team at the Modena University; Prof. Manuela Simoni and Dr. Daniele Santi presented a nice invitation to the next ECA in Modena (Italy) which will take place in September 2026. Follow the EAA website for the final dates.

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New Honorary Members of EAA

At the Opening Ceremony of the ECA2024 in Stockholm, two scientists were distinguished with honorary EAA memberships for their long service:

• Jorma Toppari – former EAA President (2010–14), and the Chief Editor of the *Int. J. Androl.* (2001–09), who served on the EAA Executive Council for 22 years. He is a prominent clinical and basic scientist in the field of paediatric endocrinology and andrology.
• Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts – the last Chief Editor of *Int J. Androl.* (2009–12), the first co-Editor of *Andrology* (2012–16), and a former EAA Secretary (2018–24). She is known in the field of developmental aspects of testis disorders, especially testicular cancer.



EAA President Hermann Behre announcing the new Honorary Members: Jorma Toppari and Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts.

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EAA-Training Centre Directors' meeting and Accreditation update

A face-to-face meeting of the EAA-Training Centres Directors was held on the eve of the ECA on 3 Sept. 2024. After the welcome address by EAA President Hermann Behre, Csilla Krausz, the Chair of the Accreditation Committee, summarised the recent activities of the Committee, including resuming site visits interrupted and postponed in recent years during the COVID-19 crisis. She was happy to announce that in 2024 the EAA accredited a new EAA-Training Centre in Naples (Italy) led by Prof. Rosario Pivonello.



R. Pivonello introducing the new EAA Centre in Naples



C. Krausz and K. Jeszenoi explaining the EAA Centre accreditation procedure

Csilla Krausz introduced Krisztina Jeszenoi, the EAA Office contact person for EAA Centre Directors, who presented the accreditation flow chart. The planned improvements in the centre evaluation procedures include standardised self-reporting, minimal quality requirements and the obligatory checks for site-visits. Emmanuele Jannini presented a summary of educational activities of the EAA, with a focus on the schools and courses, and the rules of obtaining EAA endorsement. The participants discussed options and initiatives for new courses and webinars.

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ANDROLOGY American Society of Andrology EAA EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF ANDROLOGY

News from the Journal

Andrology award

The Chief Editors and the Board of Associate Editors awarded the Andrology Award 2022 to the article: *Romano L, Pellegrino R, Sciorio C, Barone B, Gravina AG, Santonastaso A, Mucherino C, Astretto S, Napolitano L, Aveta A, Pandolfo SD, Loizzo D, Del Giudice F, Ferro M, Imbimbo C, Romano M, Crocetto F. Erectile and sexual dysfunction in male and female patients with celiac disease: A cross-sectional observational study. Andrology. 2022 Jul;10(5):910-918.*
The lead author, Dr Lorenzo Romano presented a summary of the study at the Opening Session of the ECA2024 in Stockholm. Congratulations!



Dr L. Romano (Awardee) and A. Giwercman (Chief Editor)

Special issues

In October 2024, *Andrology* released a thematic issue of high scientific quality: ***Male Contraception - Current Perspectives***, edited by Christina Wang, Maria Cristina Meriggiola and Dimitrios G. Goulis. Among the articles, the issue contains the important clinical practice guidelines on male contraception, commissioned and endorsed jointly by the EAA and the American Society of Andrology (ASA).
A new special issue currently open for submissions: ***Testicular Cancer***, guest editors: Kristian Almstrup (DK) and Ludmila Boublikova (CZ).



Editorial Assistants

The Boards of the EAA and ASA have decided to support part-time editorial assistants for the Chief Editor and the Deputy Editor (Wei Yan), who will be located on the two sides of the Atlantic. The assistants will help with running the review process, solicitate new special issue ideas, promote the journal and establish *Andrology* on relevant social media platforms.

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News from NYRA

The AndroConnect webinar series, a popular new educational initiative of NYRA, tailored for the young scientists in training in andrology / reproductive biology, have been completed for 2024 after five successful editions, with the following presenters: Vincent Lucas Fischer & Samuel Young (*Truion*); Lilly Elsner (*Jack Fertility*), Logan Nickels (*MCI*) and Rita Vassena (*fecundis*). The webinars will return in 2025.

New NYRA School. This new school will be devoted to methods in basic science of special interest to young researchers. The first edition; the NYRA-Andronet School on the "Omics of male germ cells: Transcriptomic analyses" will take place in February in Copenhagen (see the Event Calendar).

The 17th NYRA Meeting. The annual NYRA meeting will take place on 12-13 April 2025, in connection with the European Testis Workshop (ETW2025), in De Ruwenberg, the Netherlands.

Attention all young scientists in training: register with the Network and take advantage of the special EAA-NYRA membership fee of 25€ (https://nyra-youngresearch.eu/).

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Reports from EAA Schools

8th Edition of the EAA Ultrasound School



The oldest EAA Ultrasound School, dedicated to educating high-quality level operators in the ultrasound of male genital tract and penile ultrasound, was again organised by Francesco Lotti and Andrea Isidori in the EAA Training Centres of Florence and Rome, respectively. The theoretical part took place in Florence (April 24, 2024). There were 11 participants from several countries: Paczkowska Katarzyna (Poland), Beltran Del Rio Hassan (Mexico), Szabó Balázs (Hungary), Soczomski Przemyslaw (Poland), Czeloth Karen (UK), Vasquez Franco Andrea (Colombia), Rührup Jessica (Switzerland), Sokol Piotr (Spain), Trusila Andrej (Belarus), Byczkiewicz Piotr (Poland), and Axelsson Jonatan (Sweden).The practical part is being carried out in the Centres of Florence and Rome. The final examination wil take place in Rome in the spring of 2025.
The next edition of the Ultrasound School will take place in the spring of 2025 – watch the EAA website for the announcement and information on how to apply.

3rd ANDRONET-EAA School in Basic Semen Examination

ANOVA
Andrologi • Sexualmedicin • Transmedicin
Karolinska Universitetssjukhuset

Training School Basic Semen Examination was run Sept 30-Oct 4. Due to limited availability of practical tutors, only four could participate this time.

All four participants passed both theory and practical exam. The course is identical with the course developed by the Special Interest Group in Andrology of ESHRE. It started on the Monday afternoon and continued with theoretical seminars and practical training until the Friday afternoon. The plan is to repeat the course next year, hopefully with some more participants.

2nd EAA School in Microsurgery



The 2nd edition of the Andrological Microsurgery School, also known as the Budapest Microsurgery Week, was organised by Zsolt Kopa and the EAA Training Centre at the Urology Department of the Semmelweis University, in Budapest, Hungary (14-18 Oct 2024).

This event featured a limited number of participants to ensure a high-quality learning experience, combining experimental microsurgical training with live surgical demonstrations.

This year, nine participants attended, selected from the waiting list, including colleagues from Mexico (2), Poland (2), Russia (1), Bulgaria (1), Slovenia (1), and Italy (2).

Next Clinical Andrologist Examination

The next examination for the EAA-endorsed Clinical Andrologist certificate will be held on 6-7 March 2025, in connection with the 6th EAA-ANDRONET Budapest School (4–6 March 2025).

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Reports from other EAA-endorsed events

10th European Testicular Tumor Workshop (ETTW)

The Workshop, following the tradition of nine Copenhagen Testicular Cancer Workshops held every 3-5 years in Denmark, successfully restarted the gathering of scientists and clinicians interested in testicular cancer. The meeting was held on 9-11 October 2024 in an interesting historical venue of an old abbey located in the heart of Prague, Czech Republic.The Workshop was organised by Ludmila Boublikova (Prague University) and Kristian Almstrup (Copenhagen University, EAA member).



The comprehensive scientific programme covered practically all aspects of testicular cancer, with focus on germ cell-derived tumours: from epidemiology, genetics and epigenetics, through pathology and clinical management. Importantly, the Workshop was attended and endorsed by representatives of several international consortia, such as TECAC and MaGIC. Several EAA members were present as well, including Past President Csilla Krausz who was among the speakers.

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New EAA Members

We acknowledge newly promoted Academicians and warmly welcome our new members, who have joined the EAA since the previous newsletter (1 July) until the beginning of December 2024.

Regular and NYRA-EAA Members:

Aleksander **Andjelic** (Ljubljana, Slovenia), ,Anil **Can** (Istanbul, Turkey), , Michelle **Christodoulidou** (Leicester, UK),Jayme Cohen (Norwich, UK), Roberto **Curto** (Catania, Italy),Antonio **De Fraia** (Naples, Italy), Justine **Defreyne** (Ghent, Belgium),Mateusz **Dziegala** (Wroclaw, Poland), Haitham **Elbardisi** (Doha, Qatar), Nadir **Fadol** (Doha, Qatar), Juan Diego **Farias Cortes** (Guadalajara, Mexico), Mariola **Krzyscin** (Szczecin, Poland), ,Annalena Liesen (Bonn, Germany), Wojciech **Matuszewski** (Olsztyn, Poland),

Mario Alberto **Meija Barriga** (Mexico), Paul **Mittelstädt** (Altdorf/Zug, Switzerland),Miruna Adriana **Muha** (Bucharest, Romania), Hannah **Nicholson** (Edinburgh, UK), Grzegorz **Nyc** (Radom, Poland), Álvaro **Pascual** (Bellaterra, Spain), Ashay Arun Patil (Mumbai, India), Mark Brian Roa (Muntinlupa, Philippines), Fariba **Saadati** (Münster, Germany), Natalia **Suszczewicz** (Wroclaw, Poland), Andries **Van Huele** (Ghent, Belgium), Ena **Vilagoš** (Zagreb, Croatia).

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Event calendar

22-24 January 2025
2nd EAA School in Genetics
Tallinn, Estonia
https://www.andrologyacademy.net/eaa-school-in-genetics

12 February 2025 14:00-18:30
Essentials of infectious and inflammatory disorders in andrology – what every andrologist needs to know!
EAA Webinar
Organised by the Bonn and Giessen Training Centres
Save the Date!
More information coming soon.

20-22 February 2025
26th Congress of the European Society for Sexual Medicine (ESSM)
Vienna, Austria
https://www.essm-congress.org/



24-28 February 2025
1st NYRA-ANDRONET School "Omics of male germ cells: Transcriptomic analyses"
Copenhagen, Denmark
https://nyra-youngresearch.eu/1st-nyra-andronet-school-omics-of-male-germ-cells-transcriptomic-analyses/
Contact: contact@nyra-youngresearch.eu
Application Deadline: 10 January 2025

4-6 March 2025
6th EAA-ANDRONET Budapest School, and Clinical Andrologist examination
Budapest, Hungary
https://eaaschool.eu/, eaa@asszisztencia.hu
Attention: EAA Travel Grants Available (https://www.andrologyacademy.net/grants)



21-24 March 2025
40th Annual EAU Congress (European Association of Urology)
Madrid, Spain
https://eaucongress.uroweb.org/

29 March-1 April 2025
Joint 50th ASA Annual Meeting & 13th ISA Congress
Washington, DC, USA
https://andrologysociety.org/annual-meeting/
Attention: EAA Travel Grants Available
https://www.andrologyacademy.net/grants (**application deadline: 15 December 2024**)

12-13 April 2025
17th NYRA meeting
De Ruwenberg, Sint-Michielsgestel (near 's-Hertogenbosch), the Netherlands
https://nyra-youngresearch.eu/17th-nyra-meeting-12th-13th-april-2025-the-netherlands/
Contact: contact@nyra-youngresearch.eu

12-13 April 2025
23rd European Testis Workshop (ETW25)
De Ruwenberg, Sint-Michielsgestel (near 's-Hertogenbosch), the Netherlands
https://event.wur.nl/etw2025/home
Attention: ANDRONET Travel Grants Available
https://www.andronet.cat/events/15/european-testis-workshop-2025-etw25-httpseventwurnletw2025home-coorganized-with-andronet

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Edited by the immediate past EAA Secretary (E. Rajpert-De Meyts) and the current EAA Secretary:Giovanni Corona (jocorona@libero.it)

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