

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organization

Summit Chair

Daniel A. Grande, PhD, Manhasset New York, US

Scientific Program Committee

Susan Chubinskaya, US

Giuseppe Filardo, CH

Daniel A. Grande, US

Yves Henrotin, BE

Elizaveta Kon, IT

Fabio Sciarretta, IT

Kenneth Zaslav, US

Local Hosts

Joaquim Miguel Antunes Correia Oliveira, Braga, Portugal

Rui Reis, Braga, Portugal

Congress Organizing Office

Cartilage Executive Office GmbH

Spitalstrasse 190A | CH-8623 Wetzikon, Zurich, Switzerland

office@cartilage.org | www.cartilage.org

Congress Venue & Official Hotel

Hotel Pestana Douro Riverside

Av. Escritor Costa Barreto 60, 4420-445 Porto, Portugal

+351 22 976 1100

The ICRS has secured a substantial block of quality hotel rooms at competitive rates at the Pestana Douro Riverside. The booking link is available on the event website: <https://cartilage.org/8th-icrs-summit-porto-2026/accommodation>.

Course Language

The official course language is English. No simultaneous translation will be provided.

Call for Abstracts - Poster Presentations

We invite early-career scientists and clinicians **under the age of 40** with compelling new research, emerging data, or critical findings related to cartilage regeneration and joint preservation to present their work as a poster. The best posters will be showcased onsite, and the very best will face off in a final session to compete for an award.

- Abstract Submission will open on April 1, 2026
- Abstract submission will close on April 30, 2026

Important Dates

Deadline Course Registration Early Fee	June 15, 2026
Deadline Cancellation of Registration (refund 50%)	June 15, 2026
Hotel Reservation Deadline	June 15, 2026
Deadline Course Registration Normal Fee	September 30, 2026
Increased Late Fee as from	October 1, 2026

REGISTRATION & FEES

Register online at <https://cartilage.org/8th-icrs-summit-porto-2026/registration/>

	Early Bird until Jun 15	Normal Fee Jun 16 – Sep 30	Late Fee from Oct 1
Junior Members, Residents, Students & Physician Assistants, Physiotherapists*	€ 299*	€ 399*	€ 499*
ICRS Members	€ 399	€ 499	€ 599
Non-ICRS Members	€ 499	€ 599	€ 699
Industry Associates	€ 599	€ 699	€ 799

All attendees must register online through this website. Students, residents, physiotherapists, nurses and PAs must provide proof of their training /residency or professional status to receive our highly reduced registration rates. This document must be sent to our office at office@cartilage.org immediately after registration to confirm the specially reduced registration fee.

The registration fees include: Access to all lectures & exhibition, welcome reception, coffee breaks, course registration material and event app, certificate of attendance.

Registration Cancellation & Name Change: Written notification is required for all congress cancellations and name changes. Notifications should be sent to the Cartilage Executive Office office@cartilage.org. Refunds for cancellations are as follows: 50% refund for cancellations before June 15, 2026. No refund thereafter. Name changes will be charged a € 100 fee.

Payment: Fees are in Euro and are accepted as follows: Bank Transfer, Credit cards (VISA, AMEX, Mastercard).

ICRS Membership Benefits

Attendees who apply for ICRS membership right before registration will immediately benefit from the highly reduced members' fee. Membership applications should be made online before course registration. Please note that ICRS Members not in good standing with their membership dues for 2026 will be charged the non-member fee.

Course & Faculty Dinner

Friday, October 09, 2026, from 19:30 to 23:30 h
Casa Ferreirinha - ticket € 100

Disclaimer

ICRS and the course organizers cannot accept any liability for the acts of any suppliers to this meeting nor of the safety of any attendee while in transit to or from, or at the event. All participants are strongly advised to carry proper travel- & health insurance.

Event Cancellation

ICRS may elect to cancel the Summit due to circumstances beyond our control, such as disaster, severe weather, pandemic disease, civil commotion or government laws or regulations. In the event of such cancellation, all Summit registrants will be notified by email at the address provided in the ICRS database and registration fees will be partially refunded. Other costs incurred by the registrant, such as airline or hotel penalties, are the responsibility of the registrant.

WELCOME

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 8th ICRS Summit, taking place in Porto, Portugal, from October 8–10, 2026. Set along the Douro River near Porto's historic center, this forward-looking Summit will bring together global leaders and clinicians to explore the future of cartilage repair, regeneration, and joint preservation.

The scientific program will feature cutting-edge advances including next-generation cartilage regeneration, gene and cell-based therapies, organoids, cell-free approaches, injectable orthobiologics, and joint preservation strategies. Join us for an inspiring exchange of ideas, innovation, and collaboration.

Daniel A. Grande, PhD, Summit Chair

Key Topics

- NextGen Cartilage Regeneration
- Cell-Free Therapies for Joint Health
- Cutting-edge developments in injectable orthobiologics, co-morbidities and joint preservation
- and much more...

SPONSORING OPPORTUNITIES

We are pleased to announce this premium educational event and extend this special invitation to innovative companies specialising in cutting-edge technologies for diagnosing, regenerating, repairing, protecting, or rehabilitating cartilage and joints. This is a prime opportunity for you to showcase your advancements. All sponsorship opportunities can be found here: <https://cartilage.org/8th-icrs-summit-porto-2026/corporate/>

Diamond Partners



Ruby Partners



8TH ICRS SUMMIT

Joint Preservation:
The Regenerative Era is Underway

Porto | Portugal

October 8 - 10, 2026

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Congress Organizing Office:

Cartilage Executive Office GmbH

Spitalstrasse 190A | CH-8623 Wetzikon, Zurich, Switzerland

office@cartilage.org | www.cartilage.org

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM (Preliminary)

Thursday, October 8, 2026

ICRS General Board Meeting

10:00 Registration

13:00 Summit Opening

1.1 Joint Preservation Updates

- NITRO Program Updates
- Moonshot cartilage repair/ DoD grant
- First presentation of data from the Richardson / Keele Trial
- IMPACT study
- Discussion

1.2 Meniscus preservation strategies: the translational frontier

- Meniscus engineering: The future
- The degenerative meniscus: A challenging environment
- Biomaterials for meniscus
- Meniscectomy: Morphological profiling and predictive modeling
- Discussion

1.3 From Bench to Business: Startup Spotlight

- BiomimX
- Terra Quantum
- Vanarix

1.4 Meniscus preservation strategies: The clinical challenge

- The Delphi consensus
- Medial and lateral meniscus root repair – When?
- Orthobiologic injectables and meniscus
- Meniscus: The challenging management in athletes
- Meniscus Discovery channel
- Discussion

1.5 Next Gen Session – Career Mentoring

Welcome Reception



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM (Preliminary)

Friday, October 9, 2026

2.1 Portugal meets ICRS Joint Session

- Osteochondral tissue engineering and biofabricated in vitro 3D models
- Mosaicplasty. Is this still an option in 2026?
- Biomaterials / Tissue engineering
- TBD
- Discussion

2.2 Novel therapeutics for joint regeneration

- Biomaterial Cell therapeutics
- Allogenic Therapy
- Organoids for Regenerative Medicine
- iPSC Cells
- Discussion

2.3 Poster session with coffee

2.4 Orthobiologics – The best injectable

- HA – Eurovisco
- Polynucleotides
- PRP
- Point of care: Bone Marrow vs Adipose tissue
- What is the consensus? The ESSKA-ICRS consensus results
- Discussion

2.5 Orthotinder: Osteochondral lesions

- Osteochondral scaffolds: Aragonite-based
- Osteochondral scaffolds: Collagen-based
- Allografts
- Personalized metal
- Discussion

Industry Lunch Symposia

2.6 Orthotinder: Cartilage regeneration

- MACT
- Chondral membranes
- Minced cartilage
- Umbilical cord stem cells
- Discussion

2.7 Nextgen injectables: Should we abandon cells and go with vesicles or mitochondria?

- Rationale for Mitochondrial TTX
- Mitochondria TTX for OA
- Mitochondria for Cartilage Repair
- EV's for joint homeostasis
- Discussion

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM (Preliminary)

Friday, October 9, 2026

2.8 Cartilage Repair in Other Parts of the World

- Asia
- Europe
- USA
- South America
- Discussion

Updates from the ICRS patient registry

2.9 ICRS and Friends

- AtiO meets ICRS – Clinically relevant biomechanical parameters for cartilage repair
- BA meets ICRS – BARB updates
- ISAKOS meets ICRS – Joint consensus projects
- Discussion

Faculty Dinner

Saturday, October 10, 2026

3.1 Beyond the Knee: Cartilage Preservation in Other Joints

- IVD
- Ankle Joint
- Shoulder
- Hip
- Discussion

3.2 Gene therapy: Bench to Bedside

- Phase 3 Clinical trial of Kolon – TissueGene
- Gene therapy for OA and Cartilage repair
- Gene therapy Clinical Trial
- Discussion

3.3 A new player in the field

- Weight losing drugs in OA/ GLP-1

3.4 Joint Preservation: beyond cartilage

- How much can we push surgical indications? My most complex cases
- Slow-release pain medicine
- Optimizing Outcomes: The Role of Concomitant Surgeries in Cartilage Repair
- Personalizing Cartilage Repair: Factors Beyond Defect Dimensions
- COST NetwOArk
- Discussion

3.5 Selected podium presentations awards

13:00 Congress closing remarks

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY (tentative)

Luca **Andriolo** (IT)
 Giuseppe **Anzillotti** (IT)
 Ambika **Bajpayee** (US)
 Srino **Bharam** (US)
 Leela **Biant** (UK)
 William **Bugbee** (US)
 Nadeen **Chahine** (US)
 Susan **Chubinskaya** (US)
 Camila **Cohen Kaleka** (BR)
 Jari **Dahmen** (NL)
 Francesca **de Caro** (IT)
 Michelle **Delco** (US)
 Francesco **Della Villa** (IT)
 Joao **Espregueira-Mendes** (PT)
 Christopher **Evans** (US)
 Dennis **Evseenko** (US)
 Giuseppe **Filardo** (CH)
 Daniel **Grande** (US)
 Yves **Henrotin** (BE)
 Clark **Hung** (US)
 Marcel **Karperien** (NL)
 Elizaveta **Kon** (IT)
 Aaron **Krych** (US)
 Christian **Lattermann** (US)
 Hennig **Madry** (DE)

Jos **Malda** (NL)
 Bert **Mandelbaum** (US)
 Theodorakys **Marin Fermin** (VZ)
 Tom **Minas** (US)
 Christopher **Nagelli** (US)
 Norimasa **Nakamura** (JP)
 Philipp **Niemeyer** (DE)
 Sylvia **Nürnbergger** (AT)
 Miguel **Oliveira** (PT)
 Emmanuel **Papacostas** (QA)
 Jade **Perry** (UK)
 Rui **Reis** (PT)
 Daniel **Saris** (US)
 Kristof **Sas** (BE)
 Nicholas **Sgaglione** (US)
 Martyn **Snow** (UK)
 Gwennlian **Tawy** (UK)
 Luis **Tirico** (BR)
 Peter **Verdonk** (BE)
 Lucienne **Vonk** (SE)
 Tobias **Winkler** (DE)
 Francis **Wong** (SG)
 Kenneth **Zaslav** (US)