

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

Dominik Haudenschild, 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 ICERS 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.

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

Course & Faculty Dinner

Friday, October 09, 2026, from 19:30 to 23:30 h

Casa Ferreirinha - ticket € 100

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.

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 ICERS 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 ICERS Members not in good standing with their membership dues for 2026 will be charged the non-member fee.

Disclaimer

ICERS 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. ICERS Event participants are responsible for securing their own insurance coverage for illness, accidents (including rescue and repatriation), theft, and accidental damage to property belonging to themselves or others.

Event Cancellation

ICERS 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 ICERS 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 ICERS 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



ICRS

International Cartilage Regeneration
& Joint Preservation Society



8TH ICERS 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

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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 | Ross Uhrich (US)
- Moonshot Cartilage Repair / ARPA-H contract | Nadeen Chahine (US) & Clark Hung (US)
- First Presentation of Data From the Richardson/Keele Trial | Martyn Snow (UK)
- IMPACT Study | Daniel Saris (US)
- What Can we Learn from Biotribology for Cartilage Research | Rosa Maria Nothnagel (AT)

1.2 Special Session

- Orthobiologics – Regulatory Updates | Scott Bruder (US)

1.3 Meniscus Preservation Strategies: The Translational Frontier

- Meniscus Engineering: The Future
- The Degenerative Meniscus: A Challenging Environment | Christopher Nagelli (US)
- Meniscectomy: Morphological Profiling and Predictive Modeling
- Discussion

1.4 From Bench to Business: Startup Spotlight

- BiomimX
- CoreBone | Ohad Schwartz
- Hy2Care | Leo Smit
- Terra Quantum
- Vanarix | Vannary Tieng

1.5 Meniscus Preservation Strategies: The Clinical Challenge

- The Delphi Consensus | Aaron Krych (US)
- Medial and Lateral Meniscus Root Repair – When? | Emmanuel Papacostas (QA)
- Orthobiologic Injectables and Meniscus | Kristof Sas (BE)
- Meniscus: The Challenging Management in Athletes | Francesco della Villa (IT)
- Meniscus Discovery Channel | Giuseppe Anzillotti (IT)
- Discussion

1.6 Next Gen Session – Career Mentoring

Moderator: Francesca de Caro (IT)

Panel discussion: Daniel Grande (US), Christian Lattermann (US), Tom Minas (US), Susan Chubinskaya (US), Luis Tirico (BR), Keng Lin Francis Wong (SG)

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 | J. Miguel Oliveira (PT)
- Mosaicplasty. Is This Still an Option in 2026? | João Espregueira-Mendes (PT)
- Biomaterials / Tissue Engineering | Rui Reis (PT)
- Experimental Background on Minced Cartilage | Stefan Nehrer (AT)
- Steering of the Collagen Network | Jos Malda (NL)

2.2 Novel therapeutics for joint regeneration

- Biomaterial Cell Therapeutics | Marcel Karperien (NL)
- Allogenic Therapy | Dennis Evseenko (US)
- Skeletal Stem Cells | Ting Cong (US)
- iPSC Cells | Ingrid Meulenbelt (NL)
- Matching Technology to Patient in the 2026 Cartilage Landscape | David Shepard (US)

2.3 Poster Session with Coffee

2.4 Orthobiologics – The Best Injectable

- HA – Eurovisco | Yves Henrotin (BE)
- Polynucleotides | Kristof Sas (BE)
- PRP | Giuseppe Filardo (CH)
- Point of Care: Bone Marrow vs Adipose Tissue | Elizaveta Kon (IT)
- Relevance of EVs in OA | Andrea De Luna (AT)
- What is the Consensus? The ESSKA-ICRS Consensus Results | Giuseppe Filardo (CH)

2.5 Orthotinder: Osteochondral Lesions

- Osteochondral Scaffolds: Aragonite-based | Kenneth Zaslav (US)
- Osteochondral Scaffolds: Collagen-based | Luca Andriolo (IT)
- Allografts | William Bugbee (US)
- Personalized Metal Implants | Francesca de Caro (IT)
- Paste Grafting Update | Kevin Stone (US)

Industry Lunch Symposia

2.6 Orthotinder: Cartilage Regeneration

- MACT | Mats Brittberg
- Umbilical Cord Stem Cells | Wayne McIlwraith (US)
- Minced Cartilage | Leela Biant (UK)
- Harnessing Bone Marrow Stem Cell to Augment Articular Cartilage Regeneration – Preclinical & In Vivo Assessment | Mani Vessal (US)
- Discussion

2.7 NextGen Injectables: Should We Abandon Cells and Go with Vesicles or Mitochondria?

- Rationale for Mitochondrial TTX | Daniel Grande (US)
- Mitochondria TTX for OA | Ambika Bajpayee (US)
- Mitochondria for Cartilage Repair | Michelle Delco (US)
- EV's for Joint Homeostasis | Lucienne Vonk (US)
- The Era of Exosomes | Lisa Fortier (US)

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM (preliminary)

Friday, October 9, 2026

2.8 Cartilage Repair in Other Parts of the World

- Asia | Keng Lin Francis Wong (SG)
- Europe | Philipp Niemeyer (DE)
- USA | Kenneth Zaslav (US)
- South America | Camila Cohen Kaleka (BR)
- India | Deepak Goyal (IN)

Updates from the ICRS Patient Registry | Theodorakis Marin Fermin (VZ)

2.9 ICRS and Friends

- AtiO Meets ICRS – Clinically Relevant Biomechanical Parameters for Cartilage Repair | Tobias Winkler (DE)
- BA Meets ICRS – BARB Updates | Bert Mandelbaum (US)
- ISAKOS Meets ICRS – Joint Consensus Projects | Norimasa Nakamura (JP)
- Discussion

Course & Faculty Dinner

Saturday, October 10, 2026

3.1 Beyond the Knee: Cartilage Preservation in Other Joints

- IVD | Nadeen Chahine (US)
- Ankle Joint | Jari Dahmen (NL)
- Shoulder | Nicholas Sgaglione (US)
- Hip | Srino Bharam (US)
- Discussion

3.2 Gene therapy: Bench to Bedside

- Phase 3 Clinical Trial of Kolon – TissueGene
- Gene Therapy for OA and Cartilage Repair | Henning Madry (DE)
- Gene Therapy Clinical Trial | Christopher Evans (US)
- Gene Therapy for OA: How the Horse Is Leading Us to Water... and Allowing Us to Drink | Laurie Goodrich (US)

3.3 Joint Preservation: beyond cartilage

- How Much Can We Push Surgical Indications? My Most Complex Cases | Tom Minas (US)
- Slow-release Pain Medicine
- Optimizing Outcomes: The Role of Concomitant Surgeries in Cartilage Repair | Philipp Niemeyer (DE)
- Personalizing Cartilage Repair: Factors Beyond Defect Dimensions | Martyn Snow (UK)
- COST NetwOArk | Sylvia Nürnberger (AT)
- Joint Unloading | John Lane (US)

3.4 Selected Podium Presentations Awards

13:00 Congress Closing Remarks | Daniel Grande (US)

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY (preliminary)

Luca Andriolo (IT)	Christian Lattermann (US)
Giuseppe Anzillotti (IT)	Hennig Madry (DE)
Ambika Bajpayee (US)	Jos Malda (NL)
Srino Bharam (US)	Bert Mandelbaum (US)
Leela Biant (UK)	Theodorakys Marin Fermin (VZ)
Mats Brittberg (SE)	Wayne McIlwraith (US)
Scott Bruder (US)	Ingrid Meulenbelt (NL)
William Bugbee (US)	Tom Minas (US)
Nadeen Chahine (US)	Christopher Nagelli (US)
Susan Chubinskaya (US)	Norimasa Nakamura (JP)
Camila Cohen Kaleka (BR)	Stefan Nehrer (AT)
Ting Cong (US)	Philipp Niemeyer (DE)
Jari Dahmen (NL)	Rosa Maria Nothnagel (AT)
Francesca de Caro (IT)	Sylvia Nürnberger (AT)
Andrea de Luna (AT)	J. Miguel Oliveira (PT)
Michelle Delco (US)	Emmanuel Papacostas (QA)
Francesco Della Villa (IT)	Rui Reis (PT)
Joao Espregueira-Mendes (PT)	Daniel Saris (US)
Christopher Evans (US)	Kristof Sas (BE)
Dennis Evseenko (US)	Nicholas Sgaglione (US)
Giuseppe Filardo (CH)	David Shepard (US)
Lisa Fortier (US)	Martyn Snow (UK)
Laurie Goodrich (US)	Kevin Stone (US)
Deepak Goyal (IN)	Luis Tirico (BR)
Daniel Grande (US)	Ross Uhrich (US)
Yves Henrotin (BE)	Mani Vessal (US)
Clark Hung (US)	Lucienne Vonk (SE)
Marcel Karperien (NL)	Tobias Winkler (DE)
Elizaveta Kon (IT)	Francis Wong (SG)
Aaron Krych (US)	Kenneth Zaslav (US)
John Lane (US)	