



THE SIXTH ESWI
INFLUENZA
CONFERENCE
10-13 SEPTEMBER 2017

RIGA | LATVIA

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Organized by
European
Scientific
Working group on
Influenza



Invitation from the Sixth ESWI Influenza Conference Chair



The European Scientific Working group on Influenza (ESWI) is looking forward to returning to Riga, Latvia, on 10 – 13 September 2017 for the sixth edition of its ESWI Influenza Conferences. Building on its excellent scientific reputation, the 2017 edition will give the floor to the most renowned influenza scientists in order to showcase recent advances in basic science and the control and prevention of influenza, to stimulate the scientific debate on novel, unpublished research data and to advance our understanding of influenza by identifying new research routes.

In keeping with ESWI's aims to bridge the gap between science and health policy, the Sixth ESWI Influenza Conference will see a new edition of the 'Science Policy Interface' (SPI), the separate programme track specifically dedicated to public health officials, which 'translates' the newest scientific data into daily policy practice.

The influenza field is a rapidly evolving research area and ESWI is looking forward to developing a state-of-art scientific programme that will appeal to all influenza-related disciplines. You are therefore warmly invited to participate in this rich, global forum for learning, networking and collaboration.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, I look forward to welcoming you to Riga in September 2017.

Prof. Ab Osterhaus

ESWI PRESIDENT
SIXTH ESWI INFLUENZA CONFERENCE CHAIR



Preliminary Programme Topics

Information in this section is subject to change. Dates and names of chairpersons and keynoters will be added to the programme as soon as they become available.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

- Viral factors in pathogenesis
- Epidemics and pandemic threats
- Virus structure and replication
- Immunology
- Mathematical modeling
- Vaccines: current and novel approaches
- Clinical impact and diagnostic approaches
- Antivirals and resistance
- Animal flu-ecology and epidemiology of animal influenza
- Genetics and evolution of virus and host
- Evaluation of vaccine safety and effectiveness
- Risk management and mitigation
- Maternal immunization
- Host factors in pathogenesis

SCIENCE POLICY INTERFACE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS

- Influenza as a moving target: general introduction to the disease
- Prevention and treatment of influenza
- The role of scientists in public health policy
- Lessons learned from the outbreaks of SARS, Ebola, MERS and Zika
- Disease prevention at the source: a One Health approach to combating influenza
- The European influenza coalition: new public health insights
- Epidemic and pandemic preparedness: good practices

Organizing Committee

- **Albert Osterhaus**, The Netherlands (conference chair)
- **Gülsah Gabriel**, Germany (conference vice-chair)
- **Claude Hannoun**, France
- **Ted van Essen**, The Netherlands
- **Chris Vanlangendonck**, Belgium

Conference Programme Committee

- **Albert Osterhaus**, The Netherlands
- **Gülsah Gabriel**, Germany
- **Ted van Essen**, The Netherlands
- **Chris Vanlangendonck**, Belgium
- **Terho Heikkinen**, Finland
- **David Heymann**, UK
- **Florian Kramer**, USA

Important Dates

- ↘ Online registration via **www.eswiconference.org** as of **01 September 2016**
- ↘ Online abstract submission as of **01 February 2017**



Young Scientist Fund

Since some of the best and most innovative ideas come from young scientists, ESWI actively encourages the careers of young researchers, contributing to Europe's continued leading scientific base in influenza research. Through the Young Scientist Fund, ESWI provides some 50 grants to young scientists. In addition, young scientists will act as co-chairs during the conference sessions and Wednesday 13 September 2017 will open with a plenary session entirely devoted to the work of young promising scientists. In past editions, these plenaries were highly appreciated in the influenza community, mainly as a result of their innovative and refreshing nature.

About Riga

THE CITY

The Sixth ESWI Influenza Conference will take you to Riga, capital of Latvia. Riga is home to around 700,000 inhabitants, making it an ideally sized city for a successful and attractive conference. The most ancient part of the town is a unique cultural treasure now recognised by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site. Building a bridge between the Eastern and the Western parts of Europe, Riga is attracting a growing number of business visitors and it is hence the perfect venue for the 2017 ESWI Influenza Conference.

THE VENUE

The Sixth ESWI Conference will again take place at the Radisson Blu Hotel Latvija. This venue is a defining landmark on Riga's skyline and the largest business and conference hotel in the Baltics. In addition to spacious, modern rooms and suites, attendees in this hotel in Old Town Riga will enjoy full conference facilities, located on a single floor.



Conference Language

The official language of the Sixth ESWI Influenza Conference will be English.



If you have any questions about the Sixth ESWI Influenza Conference, please contact:

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ESWI management
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ABOUT ESWI

The European Scientific Working group on Influenza (ESWI) is a network of independent influenza experts and organizations of public health officials, healthcare professionals, at-risk patients and the elderly. Together, we aim to reduce the burden of influenza in Europe.

More info about ESWI is to be found on www.eswi.org

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