THE 2014 OBESITY SUMMIT

AGENDA

1ST - 3RD APRIL 2014
LONDON, UK

EuroSciCon
Obesity, is widely recognized as the largest and fastest growing public health problem in the developed and developing world.

This three day event will discuss aspects of obesity development and treatment in an informal academic setting.

With plenty of opportunity for networking and debate, this informal international meeting will bring you up to date with current research and thinking regarding obesity.

This event has CPD accreditation.

www.obesitysummit2014.com

Meeting reports from this event will be published by 
*PER Pediatric Endocrinology Reviews* and by *HONNAO publishing*. 
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Program Outline

Day 1:

Morning Session - Predicting obesity for the development of diagnosis and management

Discovery of predictive markers to assess individual risk of developing obesity is an essential strategy in countering obesity related pathologies in an obesogenic environment. This has implications for the metabolic health of both obese and non-obese individuals. This session will inform on Those interested in identifying and managing obesity related pathologies and seeking innovative strategies to maintain metabolic health in our obesogenic environment. This session will discuss identification of early markers predicting development of obesity and related pathologies and their potential for developing innovative approaches to maintaining metabolic health in our obesogenic environment.

Session Chair: Dr Janice E. Drew, Senior Research Fellow, University of Aberdeen, UK

Janice Drew is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Aberdeen. She received her molecular biology Ph.D. in 1994 (University of Durham, UK). Following postdoctoral training in molecular neuroendocrinology at the Rowett Research Institute (Aberdeen, UK), she led a Scottish Government programme, diet, obesity and cancer. Since merger with University of Aberdeen (2008) she has focused on molecular and cellular effects of obesity, its impact on cell defence systems, impaired metabolic health and cancer risk. She has developed a new MSc Molecular Nutrition programme and guest edited special issue Obesity Cancer Links (The Open Obesity Journal, 2:10-94, 2010).

Afternoon session - Fetal reprogramming of body composition, obesity, and metabolic function

The importance of the in utero environment on the health and wellbeing of the offspring is well established. Both under and over nutrition can have a substantial metabolic effect, however what is mediating these effects is still poorly understood.

Session Chair: Dr Sarah Carr, University of Cambridge, UK

Sarah Carr graduated in Physiology from the University of Cardiff in 2007 and was awarded a PhD from the Institute of Metabolic Science, University of Cambridge in 2012. During this time she developed an interest in the importance of diet during pregnancy, with specific focus on the liver. She now looks at interventions during pregnancy to prevent the detrimental effects observed in the offspring of obese mothers.

Day 2: Gene-environment interactions in obesity

It has become clear that there are large individual differences in the responsiveness to well-defined energy balance manipulations to control obesity. Overfeeding as well as negative energy balance protocols indicate that the response to standardized experimental treatments is strongly influenced by genetic background. However, testing gene-environment interaction is a relatively new field. This session will discuss identifying the genetic and environmental risk factors (lifestyle and diet) for obesity and the evidence for gene-environment interaction will be examined.
Clare Llewellyn had an initial career working on the commercial side of the pharmaceutical industry, before she retrained as a psychologist, completing an MSc in Health Psychology, then a PhD focusing on genetic influences on appetite and growth, both at University College London (UCL). She is currently a Lecturer in Behavioural Obesity Research at the Health Behavioural Research Centre, UCL. The main focus of her work is to understand why some individuals gain weight, but others remain effortlessly lean, in response to the current ‘obesogenic’ environment. Given that body weight is highly heritable, researchers have been tasked with marrying up the seemingly paradox of both genetic and environmental determination of weight. The hypothesis that Clare has been developing is that ‘obesity genes’ influence weight through their effects on appetite, thereby providing a platform for gene-environment interaction – individuals who inherit a more avid appetite are susceptible to overeating in an environment with an abundant food supply, and at risk of excessive weight gain.

**Day 3: Anti-Obesity Drug Discovery and Development**

Obesity, is widely recognised as the largest and fastest growing public health problem in the developed and developing world. Although prevention through education and changes to the obesogenic environment are long-term goals, treatment is required for those who are already obese. Surprisingly, however, treatment options remain quite limited. The main treatment modalities for overweight and obese individuals remain dieting and physical exercise. However some patients find that diet and exercise is not a viable option; for these patients, anti-obesity drugs can be a better alternative than surgery. The pharmacological management of obesity is therefore an exciting option. New treatments are essentially on the horizon, and novel research strategies have very recently come to the fore. This session will discuss the development of therapeutic agents that may reduce body weight by decreasing the consumption or absorption of food, and/or by increasing energy expenditure.

Jon Arch worked in drug discovery in the pharmaceutical industry for 27 years, primarily in the field of obesity and type 2 diabetes. He moved to the Clore Laboratory (now the Buckingham Institute for Translational Research) in 2001, where he remains involved in target validation and candidate drug evaluation. He is best known for beta3-adrenoceptor agonists and his primary expertise is in the regulation of energy expenditure, but he was also involved in the discovery of orexins. Though trained as a biochemist, he is deeply interested in pharmacology, including the phenomenon of biased, or ligand-directed signalling.
## Agenda (Talk times include 5 – 10 minutes for questions)

### Day 1: Morning Session: Predicting obesity for the development of diagnosis and management

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<td>Introduction by the Chair</td>
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<td>How much do we eat: From Diet Surveys to Biomarkers of Intake</td>
<td>Professor Jack Winkler, London Metropolitan University, UK</td>
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<td>11:15 – 11:40</td>
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<td>11:40 – 12:05</td>
<td>The association of abdominal obesity with cardiometabolic risk biomarkers in men and women of two urban groups of African origin: Cotonou (Benin) and Port-au-prince (Haiti)</td>
<td>Asma El Mabchour, TRANSNUT, Department of Nutrition, University of Montreal, Montreal (Québec), Canada</td>
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<td>The Effect of Exercise On the Problem Of Obesity</td>
<td>Dr Edward R. Laskowski, Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Mayo Clinic Co-Director, Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine Center, USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:45 – 14:15</td>
<td>Breaking the intergenerational cycle of obesity through nutritional interventions in pregnancy and infancy</td>
<td>Dr Bev Muhlhauser, Head Obesity and Metabolic Health Division, FOODplus Research Centre, University of Adelaide, Australia</td>
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<td>14:15 – 14:45</td>
<td>Study of maternal dietary fatty acids quality in pregnancy for the modulation of adiposity in the offspring</td>
<td>Dr Alicia Leikin-Frenkel, Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University and The Bert W. Strassburger Lipid Center, Israel</td>
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<td>14:45 – 15:15</td>
<td>Perinatal programming of obesity and epigenetic outcomes</td>
<td>Dr Paul Cordero, Department of Nutrition, Food Science and Physiology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Navarra, Spain</td>
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<td>15:15 – 15:45</td>
<td>Session Break</td>
<td>Refreshments, Last poster viewing, Last Sponsors exhibition</td>
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<td>15:45 – 16:15</td>
<td>Adipose tissue development and fetal programming of later obesity</td>
<td>Professor Michael E Symonds, The University of Nottingham, UK</td>
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<td>Gene-environment interactions in the triangular relationship between obesity, depression and cardiovascular disease</td>
<td><strong>Dr Lucy F. Faulconbridge</strong>, Assistant Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry, University of Pennsylvania, USA</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:30</td>
<td>Obesity resistance in selectively bred mice for high-running wheel behavior is reversed by perinatal cafeteria diet</td>
<td><strong>Professor Gertjan van Dijk</strong>, Professor of Integrative Neurobiology, University of Groningen, The Netherlands</td>
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<td>Different expression of certain adipokines in subcutaneous and visceral tissues between obese and non-obese subjects and their correlations with clinical parameters and periphera metabolic factors.</td>
<td><strong>Dr Chantacha Sitticharoon</strong>, Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand</td>
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<td>Prospective examination of DNA methylation and Obesity</td>
<td><strong>Dr L. Joseph Su</strong>, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, USA</td>
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<td>Eating, Epigenetics and Ageing Well: Nature or Nurture: Findings from the Belfast Elderly Longitudinal Free Living Ageing STudy (BELFAST).</td>
<td><strong>Dr Irene Maeve Rea</strong>, Senior Lecturer and Consultant Physician Geriatric Medicine, Queens University Belfast and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Northern Ireland</td>
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<td>16:00 – 16:30</td>
<td>Genetic and Environmental Determinants of Comorbid Obesity in Major Psychiatric Disorders</td>
<td><strong>Dr Margarita Rivera</strong>, Lecturer in Psychiatric Genetics, Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London, UK</td>
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<td>16:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Obesity, leptin and respiratory control</td>
<td><strong>Dr Mirian Bassi</strong>, Post-Doctoral, School of Dentistry, São Paulo State University (UNESP), Araraquara, Sao Paulo-Brazil</td>
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<td>17:00</td>
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| 10:15 – 11:05 | Introduction by the Chair                                                                           | **Professor Jon Arch**, Dean of Science, Medicine & Dentistry, University of Buckingham  
                   | Pharmacotherapy for obesity: limited options but plenty of ideas                           | Professorial Research Fellow and Deputy Director of Metabolic Research, Clore Laboratory, Buckingham Institute of Translational Medicine, University of Buckingham, UK |
| 11:05 – 11:40 | Thiol redox state as a novel pharmacologic target for obesity                                         | **Dr Amany Elshorbagy**, Visting Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Lecturer in Medical Physiology, University of Oxford, UK University of Alexandria, Egypt |
| 11:40 – 12:00 | Session Break                                                                                        | Speakers’ photo, Refreshments, Poster viewing, Sponsors exhibition                  |
| 12:00 – 12:35 | Molecular Characterization of White and Brown Adipocytes Reveals Complex Phenotypes                   | **Dr Lotfi Chouchane**, Laboratory of Genetic Medicine & Immunology, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Doha, Qatar |
| 12:35- 13:10  | Galanin-like peptide (GALP) have anti-obesity effect via the activation of hepatic lipid metabolism   | **Dr Satoshi Hirako**, Post-doctoral fellow, Dept of Anatomy, Showa University School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan |
| 13:10 – 14:10 | Session Break                                                                                        | Lunch, Poster viewing, Sponsors exhibition                                           |
| 14:10 – 15:10 | Discussion Session                                                                                  | Refreshments, Last poster viewing, Last Sponsors exhibition                          |
| 15:10 – 15:40 | Session Break                                                                                        | Refreshments, Last poster viewing, Last Sponsors exhibition                          |
| 15:40 – 16:15 | Antipsychotics induced obesity: Direct actions on the adipocytes                                     | **Professor Nira Ben-Jonathan**, Professor of Cancer and Cell Biology, University of Cincinnati, United States |
| 16:15 – 16:50 | **Hypothalamic proopiomelanocortin (POMC) down regulation after weaning is associated with hyperphagia-induced obesity in JCR rats over-expressing neuropeptide Y** | **Dr Abdoulaye Diané**, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada               |
| 16:50 - 17:00 | **Chairman’s Summing Up**                                                                           | Close of Meeting                                                                    |
About the Speakers

Day 1

Professor Jack Winkler is professor of Nutrition Policy at London Metropolitan University, until 2010. Regular visiting lecturer at University College, London and MRC Human Nutrition Research, Cambridge.

Specialist researcher, policy analyst, writer, lecturer and consumer advocate on food, nutrition, and health. Director of Nutrition Policy Unit, an independent consultancy to improve public health through dietary change, working primarily with public interest organisations.

Founder, officer and/or member of most UK food advocacy groups, including Action on Sugars, Sustain, Consensus Action on Salt and Health, London Food Commission, National Food Alliance, Coronary Prevention Group, Joint Health Claims Initiative, Action and Information on Sugars.

Trained as sociologist at the London School of Economics and Stanford University. Academic posts at the University of Kent, Imperial College London, Cranfield University, and King’s Fund Institute, working on a wide variety of economic and social policy issues.

Author of numerous articles, research reports, consultation documents, and briefing papers, on nutrition policy. Selected recent publications, relevant to obesity:

- “Nutritional Reformulation: The Unobtrusive Strategy”, Food Science & Technology, March 2014
- “Making the Healthy Choice the Cheaper Choice”, The Grocer, 20 December 2013
- “Brutal Pragmatism on Food”, British Medical Journal, 29 June 2013
- The School Fringe: what secondary school pupils buy from the shops around their schools, LMU Research Reports, 2008.
- “The Fundamental Flaw in Obesity Research” Obesity Reviews, 2005

Asma EL Mabchour has a Bachelor's degree in biology from the Faculty of Casablanca, Morocco, three master’s degrees: in Biochemistry (Faculty of Medicine of Casablanca), in chemical processes (Graduate School of technologies) and in Nutrition (University of Montreal). She was a laboratory technician in research and development at the Chemical Processes Studies Center of Quebec. She is a teaching assistant in the Department of Nutrition. Confident in his abilities, the future Doctor aspires to work in organizations developing strategies to prevent cardiometabolic diseases. She’s a mother of three young children, aged between 23 months and eight years old.

Edward R. Laskowski is Co-Director of the Mayo Clinic Sports Medicine Center and a Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. He has contributed hundreds of articles to various publications, scientific journals, and media on rehabilitation, sports and fitness topics. Dr. Laskowski was appointed to the President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports by President George W. Bush, and he served the Council under both President Bush and President Obama. At the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, he served on the medical staff at the Olympic Polyclinic. He is the editor of the Fitness Healthy Lifestyle Center on mayoclinic.org. He also has been chosen by fellow physicians in the United States as one of the "Best Doctors in America" for the last twelve years.

Bev Muhlhausler is a NHMRC Career Development Award Fellow and leads the Obesity and Metabolic Health Division of the FOODplus Research Centre at the University of Adelaide. Her basic research focuses on the biological and molecular mechanisms that underlie the early life origins of obesity, with a particular focus on the effects of altered maternal nutrition. A key focus of Dr Muhlhausler’s current research is identifying and testing potential nutritional interventions which can be applied in early life to improve metabolic health through the life-course, and she is currently leading 3 basic science projects and 1 clinical trial in this area.
Alicia Leikin Frenkel received his PhD in Biochemistry from the University of La Plata, Argentina and specialized in lipid biochemistry. After post doctoral research at the University of Chicago she joined the Biochemistry Department at the Faculty of Medicine, University of La Plata as Assistant Professor. She moved to Israel as an invited scientist at the Weizmann Institute of Science in 1992. Today she is a researcher and Associate Professor (CAMEA) at the Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University. Her research interest is the role of maternal dietary fatty acids in the programming of health/disease in the offspring.

Paul Cordero carried out his Pharmacy degree and the European Master of Metabolism and Nutrition at University of Navarra, Spain. There, he obtained his PhD in Pharmacy, October 2012, at the Department of Nutrition, Food Science and Physiology. His research has been focused in the epigenetic regulation of transcriptomic profile in animal models of obesity and its comorbidities, as well as in the search of epigenetics biomarkers of diet response in human beings. During his career he has carried out different stays at Santo Antonio Hospital (Porto, Portugal), Catalan Institute of Oncology (Barcelona, Spain) and University of Cambridge (Cambridge, UK).

Michael E Symonds, Deputy Head of The School of Medicine, Director of Infrastructure and Personnel Director of the Early Life Research Unit, Academic Division of Child Health, Obstetrics & Gynaecology School of Medicine Queen's Medical Centre University Hospital The University of Nottingham, UK

Sanjay Kinra, is paediatrician and epidemiologist, based at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and University College London Hospital. Trust His main research interests are in a) the epidemiology and control of non-communicable disease epidemic in India; b) prevention and treatment of childhood obesity; c) integration of traditional and western systems of medicine; and building capacity for public health research in India. He divides his time between India and the UK.

Day 2

Gertjan van Dijk is groupleader of the Dept of Neuroendocrinology at the Center for Behavior and Neuroscience and co-manager of the Doubly labeled Water facility at the University of Groningen. His group focuses on the CNS control of energy balance and derangements here in, and how the environment (i.e., stress, palatability, life history) can impact on the control.

Chantacha Sitticharoon graduated from Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand in 2001 with honours. She completed her PhD degree in Physiology from Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, Monash University Australia in 2009. Her PhD thesis was about expressions of appetite regulating peptides in sheep hypothalamus in various conditions. Now, She has been working as an instructor at Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Thailand since 2001. Her reseach interests include obesity, appetite regulation, and regulation of reproduction, especially factors involved in early onset of puberty.

Irene Maeve Rea, Senior Lecturer/Consultant Physician in Geriatric Medicine at Queens University Belfast, was educated at Queens University and did postgraduate research in immune-genetics at Stanford University with Prof Rose Payne. She teaches widely in the Undergraduate Medical curriculum and within her Health Service remit, she provides a clinical service to Elderly people, with a special interest in patients over 90 years of age. Dr I Maeve Rea has a long-time research interest is in healthy ageing and set up and co-ordinates a longitudinal study of octo/nonagenarians, Belfast Elderly Longitudinal Free-living Ageing STudy (BELFAST) and is a Prinicpal Investigator in the Genetics of Healthy Ageing Study (GeHA), which is contributing to understanding the genetic, immunological, cardiovascular and nutritional factors contributing to good quality ageing.
Joseph Su, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, USA is a Program Director at National Cancer Institute where he manages a diverse grant portfolio on cancer epidemiologic studies that involves in nutrition, environmental exposure, genetics/epigenetics, application of -omics in population-based studies. The areas of his professional interest in nutritional epidemiology include methodological issues related to exposure measurement, dietary assessment, dietary and behavioral modification of carcinogenesis, genetic/molecular epidemiology relating to gene-nutrient/environment interaction and statistical modeling. Prior to joining NCI in 2009, Su was an associate professor in Epidemiology and Pathology at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, where he directed research, curriculum development, and advising.

Margarita Rivera is a BRC Senior Postdoctoral Researcher at the MRC Social, Genetic and Developmental Psychiatry Centre, Institute of Psychiatry. Her work focuses on investigating the genetic relationship between major psychiatric disorders, mainly depression and bipolar disorder, and obesity-related diseases (i.e. type 2 diabetes, metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disorders, etc). The goal of her research is to get a better understanding of the molecular genetic basis of comorbidity between psychiatric disorders and obesity-related diseases, both of which have major public health, clinical, economic, personal and social implications worldwide.

Mirian Bassi: Physiotherapist, Specialist in Pulmonary Rehabilitation (2002); Master degree (2004) and Ph.D. (2008) in Physiological Sciences at Medical School of São Paulo University, Ribeirão Preto-Brazil; Post-doctoral training in cardiovascular physiology at Guyton Research Center, University of Mississippi Medical Center, USA (2009) in collaboration with Dr. John E. Hall; Visiting Research at Department of Physiology and Neurobiology, University of Connecticut, USA (2012) in collaboration with Dr. Daniel Mulkey, studying the central role of leptin on neuronal activity of respiratory neurons (electrophysiology). Currently is is post-doc fellow at the Department of Physiology and Pathology, School of Dentistry - São Paulo State University, Brazil studying participation of leptin on cardiorespiratory control mechanisms.

Day 3

Lotfi Chouchane, Laboratory of Genetic Medicine & Immunology, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Doha, Qatar

Satoshi Hirako is a Post-doctoral fellow, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan, Present-2012 and obtained a Ph.D. in Pharmacy, Josai University, Saitama Japan, March 2012. He also has a Master of Medical Nutritional Science in Pharmacy, Josai University, Saitama Japan, March 2009.

Amany Elshorbagy graduated from Alexandria Faculty of Medicine, Egypt, and received her PhD from the University of Oxford in 2010. During PhD work she combined medical background with epidemiologic tools to derive novel biological concepts from several large European and Hispanic datasets, supported by dietary and drug studies in rodents. The result of this work was to highlight the role of amino acids, in particular sulfur amino acids, in regulation of fat mass in humans, and their potential usefulness as an anti-obesity drug target.

Nira Ben-Jonathan, Ph.D, is Professor of Cancer and Cell Biology, University of Cincinnati, Ohio, USA. She published 160 manuscripts, edited one book, and contributed 12 chapters to textbooks and encyclopedias. The focus of her research is on the regulation of pituitary functions, breast cancer and human obesity. She mentored 65 students and scientists, served on journal editorial boards and scientific committees, and has been a member and chairman on NIH, DOD and Komen study sections. She was elected Fellow of the AAAS and Chairman of the Gordon Research Conference, and received the Rieveschl Award for Outstanding Research.

Abdoulaye Diané, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Discussion Sessions
The discussion sessions are an opportunity for informal questions and answers. This is an ideal opportunity to get advice and opinion from experts in this area. This session is not for questions about specific talks, which can be asked after the speakers session, but for discussing either general topics or specific issues.

There are three ways you can ask questions:

1. Before the session you can submit your question to Euroscicon staff at the registration desk,
2. Before and during the session you can submit a question or comments, by email, which will be provided on the day of the event
3. During the session you can put your hand up and join in

Session breaks
All breaks and registrations will take place in the exhibition area where there will be lunch and refreshments.
Please try to visit all the exhibition stands during this event. Not only do our sponsors enable Euroscicon to keep the registration fees competitive, but they are also here specifically to talk to you

Frequently asked questions about our events

Is the delegate list available?
Yes this is available to everyone who attends the event and our sponsors.
It is available in real time. To access the list please just log into your registration details or use the QR code on right of the agenda card which is provided on the day of the event.
You will not be included in this list if you have opted out and you can do this by logging into your registration details. This list will not be sold or ever give out to third parties.

Can I have the speakers slides?
We cannot give out the slides from our speaker’s presentations as they are deleted immediately after each event. If you require a particular set of slides please approach the speaker. We will however have a meeting report and you will be emailed when this report is published.

Can I have a notepad?
Notepads and pens are provided in the delegate bags and at the registration desk

How can I keep up to date with Euroscicon Events?
To keep updated on our events and other Life Science News, please sign up for our newsletter at www.eurosciconnews.com
I don’t want my photograph on any Euroscicon promotional material
Please let our tech person know

Is there WIFI?
Yes, please ask registration for log in details

Can I have a CPD certificate?
Please leave your name with registration before the end of lunch a certificate will be created for you and available in the afternoon

Please remember that EuroSciCon is a small independent company with no subsidies from society memberships or academic rates for venues. We try to be as reasonably priced as possible and our delegate rates are substantially lower than comparable commercial meeting organisations

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