

## 9<sup>th</sup> EULAR Course on Capillaroscopy in Rheumatic Diseases

**Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

**Thursday, 3 September – Saturday, 5 September 2020**



# ORGANISATION & COMMITTEE

## Scientific Organisers

### **Maurizio Cutolo, MD (Italy)**

Director Research Laboratory and Academic Division of Clinical Rheumatology  
Department of Internal Medicine University of Genova, IRCCS San Martino Polyclinic Italy

### **Vanessa Smith, MD, PhD (Belgium)**

Department of Rheumatology, Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium; Department of Internal Medicine, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium; Unit for Molecular Immunology and Inflammation, VIB Inflammation Research Center (IRC), Ghent, Belgium.

## Faculty Members

*Will be announced closer to the course days. Possible variations until September 2020.*

## Organising secretariat

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Course venue & hotel

NH Amsterdam Schiphol Airport  
Kruisweg 495. Hoofddorp, 2132 NA Amsterdam - The Netherlands  
<https://www.nh-hotels.com/hotel/nh-amsterdam-schiphol-airport>

## Course dates

Thursday, 3 September 2020 (Start at 12:50) – Saturday, 5 September 2020 (End at 13:00)

## Official language

English

## Participants

- 130 participants maximum
- Application requirements: No prerequisites.
- Target audience: Medical professions: MD - Rheumatology, Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Dermatology and Venereology, Cardiology and Angiology, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, Pediatrics

## Registration

**Course registration page:** <https://esor.eular.org/course/view.php?id=14>

Please login to your EULAR School of Rheumatology account to register. If you do not have a School account, you will need to create one before you register.

Registration deadline: 31 July 2020

Early registration is advisable. Number of participants is limited.

## Bursary

EULAR grants 15 - 20 bursaries in the amount of EUR 500 each, please apply within the registration system with your motivation letter, your CV and (if any) publication list.

Application deadline for bursary: 5 July 2020

Notification: end of July 2020

## Course fee

**1300 €** (VAT included), package includes:

### Thursday, 03 September 2020

- Full access to the 9<sup>th</sup> EULAR Course on Capillaroscopy and Rheumatic Diseases activities
- Accommodation in a single room at the designated hotel
- Afternoon coffee break
- Lunch and Dinner

### Friday, 04 September 2020

- Full access to the 9<sup>th</sup> EULAR Course on Capillaroscopy and Rheumatic Diseases activities
- Accommodation in a single room at the designated hotel, breakfast included
- Morning and afternoon coffee breaks
- Lunch and dinner

### Saturday, 05 September 2020

- Full access to the 9<sup>th</sup> EULAR Course on Capillaroscopy and Rheumatic Diseases activities  
Breakfast included
- Morning coffee break

**The course fee quoted is a package price; therefore, the usage of the accommodation is highly recommended. For participants who would prefer not to utilise the accommodation, a discount of 100 € will be given.**

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The early diagnosis of Connective Tissue Diseases has been one of the most important achievements in Rheumatology and imaging advanced technology has helped to reach this result.

The aim of the 9<sup>th</sup> intensive and interactive EULAR Course on Capillaroscopy (CAP) is to provide all participants with an update on the power of the safe and non-invasive nailfold videocapillaroscopy (NVC) technique in the field of rheumatic diseases, in particular for the early diagnosis of the scleroderma spectrum disorders, its predictability and prognostic value, as well as its role as a tool for the therapeutic follow up.

ACR/EULAR stated in the 2013 guidelines for classification criteria of systemic sclerosis (SSc): "Capillaroscopy is now widely used, and considering the value of magnified nailfold visualization in the diagnosis and management of SSc, these new criteria may encourage acquisition of this skill by physicians caring for SSc patients". However, microvascular emerging NVC patterns observed in other connective tissue diseases will be described and discussed, such as in psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, antiphospholipid syndrome, systemic lupus erythematosus and myositis.

Therefore, the course is structured for a progressive learning, training and testing the achievements by the participants. The EULAR course on NVC, with more than 15 years of experience (first on 2004), has been successfully tested for both beginners and already trained operators in microcirculation investigations, by over 1010 total participants from almost 64 different countries.

Interestingly, in the last 5 years, more than 425 publications on CAP have become available on PubMed where a total of 1450 papers are reported since 1947.

Participants to the EULAR CAP Course will be fully involved in interactive theoretical and practical sessions (Learning and Testing sessions, including televoting at the beginning and at the end), engaging a large number of rheumatic patients with different pathologies.

Updated clinical sessions concerning the diagnostic/prognostic value of NVC in diseases such as systemic sclerosis and the effects of targeted therapies on microcirculation and immune-inflammatory reaction will represent a stimulating gym based on large clinical cases discussion. Links between the CAP patterns and biomarkers such as autoantibodies (including functional) will also be updated.

In particular, reading and scoring (manual and the brand new automated systems) of the videocapillaroscopic images of living patients, will be discussed, including the predictive value to identify possible clinical complications (i.e. digital ulcers or pulmonary arterial hypertension, etc.).

The new guidelines and results regarding the aspects of CAP in pediatric population will be reported.

Further sessions will include recent international studies (CAP study) about new predictive models or index based on capillaroscopic analysis.

New sessions on practical evaluation of the peripheral blood flow by laser doppler and LASCA imaging have been introduced. In addition, practical sessions on skin ultrasound (US) evaluation in scleroderma will be also available and will be combined with the severity of the videocapillaroscopic images (patterns) in the same living patients.

Several monitors will show live on TV screens the practical sessions with patients. Interactive sessions with evaluation of the learning status will be organised at the end of each session. Important links between CAP, Laser blood flow analysis and clinical results of therapies, will be presented and discussed.

At the end of this top Course, which is supported by a tutorial team formed by some of the best world experts on the matter, the participants will be able to use the capillaroscopy for

their day-to-day diagnosis, staging and follow-up, in particular of patients affected by scleroderma spectrum disorders.

A syllabus of the course with selected slides will be released to all participants after the course in the participants account of the [EULAR School of Rheumatology](#) website, after filling in the course overall evaluation form.

## Learning objectives

Updating on the power of the safe (the most safe) and non-invasive nailfold videocapillaroscopy (NVC) technique in the field of rheumatic diseases, in particular for the (early) diagnosis of the scleroderma spectrum disorders and several other connective tissue diseases, as well as its predictability and prognostic value and tool for the therapeutic follow up in systemic sclerosis.

## Certification

A certificate of attendance will be available after the course on your EULAR School user account. 100% course attendance is required.

## Detailed Programme

### Day 1 – Thursday, 3 September 2020

Time	Type of session & Title
12:00 – 13:00	PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION & LIGHT FOOD AVAILABLE
12:50 – 13:00	Introduction: EULAR CAP Course after 15 years
13:00 – 13:45	<b>LECTURE</b> Micro- and macrovascular modifications in lungs affected by connective tissue diseases
13:45 – 14:30	<b>LECTURE</b> Microvascular damage and progressive fibrosis: a matter for advanced targeted therapies in fibrotizing diseases
14:30 – 15:15	<b>LECTURE</b> Combination treatments for clinical complications comprising micro- and macrovascular involvement in connective tissue diseases
15:15 – 15:45	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> (Televoter before and after) Updating on the role of capillaroscopy in presence of the Raynaud's phenomenon
15:45 – 16:15	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> (Televoter before and after) How to choose the best device(s) when evaluating the microcirculation in connective tissue diseases
16:15 – 16:30	COFFEE BREAK
16:30 – 17:00	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> (Televoter before and after) Fast track algorithm: How to differentiate a "scleroderma pattern" from a "non-scleroderma pattern"
17:35 – 18:00	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> (Televoter before and after) (Semi)-quantitative manual and automated scoring systems in videocapillaroscopy
18:00 – 19:30	<b>PRACTICAL</b> Practical session analysing the microvasculature by videocapillaroscopy: TV-assisted presentation of clinical cases with living patients from the podium
20:00	DINNER

## Day 2 – Friday, 4 September 2020

Time	Type of session & Title
08:30 – 09:10	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> <i>(Televoter before and after)</i> Capillaroscopy advances in the scleroderma spectrum disorders, including overlap syndromes and myositis – Clinical cases
09:10 – 09:50	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> <i>(Televoter before and after)</i> Microvascular changes as observed by capillaroscopy in non-scleroderma spectrum disorders, including systemic lupus erythematosus and antiphospholipid syndrome - Clinical cases
09:50 – 10:30	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> <i>(Televoter before and after)</i> Microcirculatory change evaluation and its productivity for the skin ulcers and lung involvement detection in systemic sclerosis
10:30 – 11:00	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>LECTURE</b> The crucial role of the microvascular analysis and capillaroscopy in improving the new EULAR and ACR guidelines for the classification of systemic sclerosis
11:30 – 12:00	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> <i>(Televoter before and after)</i> Capillaroscopic advances in psoriasis versus psoriatic arthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – Clinical cases
12:00 – 12:40	<b>LECTURE</b> Functional analysis of the peripheral blood flow associated with the capillaroscopic evaluation
12:40 – 14:10	<b>LUNCH</b>
14:10 – 14:40	<b>PRACTICAL</b> “Ultrasound of the skin and other organs in systemic sclerosis with different NVC patterns” TV-assisted Clinical cases
14:40 – 15:20	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> <i>(Televoter before and after)</i> The emerging links between autoantibodies (including functional ones) and capillaroscopic analysis: their pathophysiological role and value for the diagnosis of the scleroderma spectrum diseases - Clinical cases
15:20 – 16:00	<b>PRACTICAL</b> Practical session combining laser doppler/imaging analysis (LASCA) versus capillaroscopy and skin US analysis in the same patients in TV-assisted living cases of systemic sclerosis
16:00 – 16:30	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>

## Day 2 – Friday, 4 September 2020 [continue]

Time	Type of session & Title
16:30 – 18:00	<b>PRACTICAL</b> The possible role of capillaroscopy in clinical case resolution and treatment follow-up
18:00 – 19:30	<b>PRACTICAL</b> Practical session with capillaroscopic analysis of clinical cases with living patients by participants (Tutor supported): Rotating small groups and Tutors meet the reality with patients
20:00	<b>DINNER</b>

## Day 3 – Saturday, 5 September 2020

Time	Type of session & Title
08:30 – 09:10	<b>LECTURE</b> All ins and outs of vasodilation in systemic sclerosis
09:10 – 09:50	<b>LECTURE</b> The practical role of capillaroscopy in evaluating the effects of therapies in systemic sclerosis
09:50 – 10:30	<b>LECTURE</b> Raynaud's in children: the size of the problem and new guidelines
10:30 – 11:00	<b>LEARNING AND TESTING</b> (Televoter before and after) Advances on capillaroscopy in pediatric patients
11:00 – 11:30	<b>PRACTICAL</b> The most common mistakes and pitfalls to be avoided in reading the capillaroscopic images
11:30 – 12:00	<b>LECTURE</b> The capillaroscopic report: data storing and data diffusion
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Conclusions</b> and the continuous update by the EULAR Study Group on Microcirculation in Rheumatic Diseases
13:00	<b>DEPARTURE</b>

Any changes to the scientific programme or to the list of speakers are possible until the date of course. Further updates will be published on the EULAR School of Rheumatology homepage <https://esor.eular.org/>.