

6th EULAR Course on Synovial Biopsy

Clinical innovation for daily rheumatology: Organising synovial biopsy

Barcelona, Spain

Friday, 26 September 2025 – Saturday, 27 September 2025



ORGANISATION & COMMITTEE

Scientific Organisers

- Andrew Filer (United Kingdom)
- Aurélie Najm (United Kingdom)

Faculty Members

- Antonio Manzo (Italy)
- Benoit Le Goff (France)
- Esperanza Naredo (Spain)
- Ingrid Möller (Spain)
- Joaquim Polido Pereira (Portugal)
- Luis Coronel (Spain)
- Mark Maybury (United Kingdom)
- Stefano Alivernini (Italy)

Organising Secretariat

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EULAR Committee

EULAR Education Committee, Live Courses & Meetings Sub-Committee

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an integrated, one-and-a-half-day course focused on synovium biopsy. The course will be based on the format of a half day interactive lectures and a full day practical biopsy session on cadavers.

This course consists of complementary teaching units, aiming at engaging different specialists such as sonographers, clinical rheumatologists, pathologists, and translational scientists. Lectures will include a summary of recent advances in the field of synovial tissue research and detailed description with videos and teaching material of the biopsy techniques not only of large joints but also of the wrist, MCPs and MTPs. The most adequate procedures to prepare synovial samples for several types of analysis, including single cell studies, will be addressed. A practical hands-on module will then take place in the superb anatomy facility of Barcelona, where participants will have the opportunity to practice US-guided synovial needle and forceps biopsy under guidance of world recognised faculty.

Learning objectives

- Different procedures for synovial biopsy.
- Value of synovial tissue in translational research and clinical practice.
- Utility and interpretation of the information provided by synovial tissue.
- Synovial biopsy practice in small and large joints (wrist and knee).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Venue

Day 1: Hyatt Regency Barcelona Tower
Avinguda de la Granvia de l'Hospitalet, 144
08907 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat
Barcelona, Spain

Day 2: Universitat de Barcelone – Campus Bellvitge
Av. Mare de Déu de Bellvitge, 3
08907 L'Hospitalet de Llobregat
Barcelona, Spain

Course dates

Friday, 26 September 2025 – Saturday, 27 September 2025

Official language

English

Maximum participants

30

Certification

Upon successful completion of the course, all participants will receive a certificate of attendance via their EULAR School user account.

Please note that full attendance (100%) is required to receive the certificate.

COURSE PACKAGE

500 € (VAT included), package includes:

Friday, 26 September 2025

- Full access to the course.
- Coffee break.
- Engagement dinner.

Saturday, 27 September 2025

- Full access to the course.
- Coffee break.
- Lunch.

***Accommodation is not included in the course fee.**

REGISTRATION

Target Audience

This is an educational activity targeting clinicians and scientists working in the field of rheumatology or musculoskeletal diseases.

For this course to be the most beneficial to participants, a minimum experience in musculoskeletal ultrasound (MSUS), defined as regularly performing MSUS in current practice, as well as in US guided procedures, is mandatory. As part of the application process, you will be asked to detail your experience in both MSUS and US guided MS procedures.

Registration

Online: <https://esor.eular.org/course/view.php?id=516>

Please log in to your EULAR School of Rheumatology account to complete your registration.

We kindly ask that you submit all requested documents in PDF format.

Registration deadline: Sunday, 10 August 2025.

* Early registration is advisable. The number of participants is limited.

Notification: 2 – 3 weeks after the receipt of your application.

* Your application will be reviewed by EULAR.

BURSARY

EULAR grants **10 bursaries** in the amount of **EUR 500 each**. The amount of the bursary will be deducted from the course fee.

Additionally, bursary recipients are eligible for reimbursement of up to EUR 120 per night for accommodation.

The following terms apply:

- Reimbursement is provided solely for nights that are directly associated with the course: Friday, 26 September 2025 – Saturday, 27 September 2025 (1-night).
- Reimbursement is not available for shoulder nights.
- Upon completion of the course, bursary recipients must submit the finalised reimbursement form, and accommodation receipts, and the EULAR Certificate of Attendance to education@eular.org

Application process

Please apply with your application form, motivation letter, CV and publication list (if any) within the registration system. Applications submitted via email will not be processed.

We kindly ask that you submit all requested documents in PDF format.

Bursary application deadline: Sunday, 18 May 2025.

Notification: end-May 2025.

Detailed Programme

Day 1 – Friday, 26 September 2025

Time	Type of session & Title	Speakers
13:00 – 14:00	REGISTRATION	
14:00 – 14:15	Welcome and Introduction (Description of the learning objectives)	A. Filer A. Najm I. Möller
14:15 – 14:45	What is new in synovial tissue research? (Molecular analysis - Stratified therapy – New technologies)	A. Filer
14:45 – 15:15	Value of synovial biopsy in clinical practice (Clinical indications– Which analysis and when? - When is it useful? – Differential diagnosis)	B. Le Goff
15:15 – 15:45	Management and analysis of synovial biopsies (Quality criteria - Recommendations on handling, staining, and analysis)	A. Manzo
15:45 – 16:15	COFFEE BREAK	
16:15 – 16:45	Different biopsy techniques and outcomes (Description of the different techniques – required instruments – Comparative quality of the biopsied material)	A. Najm
16:45 – 17:15	US guided biopsies: wrists, MCPs and MTPs (US anatomy of the joints – entry site – biopsy procedure with extensive video material)	S. Alivernini
17:15 – 17:45	US guided biopsies: large joints (US anatomy of the joints – entry site – biopsy procedure with extensive video material, concerns about patients on anticoagulation)	J. Pereira
17:45 – 18:15	Meet-the-expert – networking aspects & GROUP PHOTO	All faculty
18:30	DINNER	

Day 2 – Saturday, 27 September 2025

Time	Type of session & Title	Speakers
08:30 – 08:45	Practical demonstration of US guided forceps biopsy	A. Filer
08:45 – 09:00	Practical demonstration of US guided needle biopsy	E. Naredo
09:00 – 11:00	Practice on cadavers	A. Filer A. Najm B. Le Goff E. Naredo I. Möller J. Pereira L. Coronel M. Maybury S. Alivernini
11:00 – 11:15	COFFEE BREAK	
11:15 – 13:00	Practice on cadavers	A. Filer A. Najm B. Le Goff E. Naredo I. Möller J. Pereira L. Coronel M. Maybury S. Alivernini
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH & DEPARTURE	

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.