



# SCIENTIFIC REPORT



# 2025



Fondazione  
Epatocentro Ticino





# 2025: figures and facts at a glance

**16** DOCTORS ACTIVE  
in research and training

**56** COLLABORATIONS  
in research and training

**465** CONTRIBUTIONS  
received for research (CHF)  
**thousand**

**18** SPONSORS  
for training activities

**29** PUBLICATIONS  
Abstracts, textbooks, guidelines

**16** FINANCIAL  
SUPPORT  
of research projects

**83** TRAINING EVENTS  
completed

**2** PRIVATE  
sponsors

- ▶ The cohort study on fatty liver disease (NAFLD cohort), launched by the Fondazione Epatocentro in 2023 and supported by SASL, the Swiss Association for the Study of the Liver, currently includes around 180 patients enrolled in Ticino and will soon become a multicentre study.
- ▶ The “Annual Platform for Discussion on Excellence and Sustainability in the Healthcare System”, promoted by the Epatocentro Foundation and focused this year on the topic of addictions - an area in which Epatocentro Ticino is active together with Ingrado - achieved great success and received significant attention.
- ▶ The operational phase of the study on methylene blue in hepatitis B has begun, aimed at verifying the definitive elimination of the virus in humans.
- ▶ In the liver autoimmune diseases cohort, which is part of rare diseases, established in 2017 by the Foundation and involving 23 centers across Switzerland, more than 800 patients have been enrolled.
- ▶ Founded in 2017 by the Foundation, the Autoimmune Liver Disease Cohort, dedicated to rare diseases, now involves 23 centers across Switzerland and includes more than 800 patients.
- ▶ By participating in the clinical study on fatty liver disease, the Foundation contributed to the registration of the first medication for the treatment of metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH).

# Foundation milestones

## 2014 – 2016

### RAPID TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS C

Thanks to the Epatocentro, Ticino was declared the number one canton in Switzerland for the speed with which patients with chronic hepatitis C received the new Sovaldi treatment (ref. Helsana Report 2016). In addition, the Fondazione Epatocentro collected and analysed clinical data and biological samples as part of the Swiss Hepatitis C Cohort Study.



## 2014

### TICINO HEPATOLOGY SYMPOSIUM ESTABLISHED

On the initiative of Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino, the Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale (EOC) hospital network, and Swiss Experts in Viral Hepatitis (SEVHep), the first Ticino Hepatology Symposium was launched, an annual event intended to update specialists and general practitioners on the latest developments in liver disease.



## 2014 – 2017

### INVOLVEMENT OF THE FOUNDATION IN A HEPATITIS E EPIDEMIC IN TICINO

An increase in cases of hepatitis E, attributable to the consumption of raw pork liver and wild boar liver, kicked off a joint research project between the Institute of Clinical Neuroscience of Italian Switzerland and the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino, with the aim of characterising the spectrum of this complication. The active collaboration with the Cantonal authorities led to an effective intervention by these authorities that helped to stem the problem. The foundation is conducting a research project to verify whether the disease was the cause of autoimmune phenomena.



## 2015

### ANNUAL DISCUSSION PLATFORM LAUNCHED

Every year, the Platform for discussing excellence and sustainability in the health system – which was launched on the initiative of the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino and involves the Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale (EOC) hospital network and the University of Lugano (USI) – compares the various players in the local and national health systems on key issues for the development of the sector.



## 2015

### LAUNCH OF THE BLUE BOOK

Due to its belief in the importance of developing a series of guidelines based on scientific evidence, the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino launched a project aimed at drawing up the main recommendations for managing patients suffering from specific liver diseases.



## 2016

### THE THURSDAY LECTURES

The Fondazione Epatocentro, which has always been dedicated to research and training, firmly believes in the importance of disseminating new developments in the scientific knowledge and treatment of liver diseases (viral hepatitis, autoimmune hepatitis, fatty liver disease, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), and alcoholic liver disease). To this end, it organises numerous training courses, symposia, seminars, and conferences for doctors working in Ticino.



## 2016

### THE FIRST CONFERENCE ON AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES OF THE LIVER

This conference was established as a result of the collaboration between the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino, the Swiss Society of Allergology and Immunology (SSAI), and the Swiss Association for the Study of the Liver (SASL). It was the first such national congress and continues to attract specialist doctors from Switzerland and abroad to Lugano every two years to discover the latest developments in basic research and clinical strategies to combat autoimmune diseases of the liver.



## 2017

### FATTY LIVER BECAME THE NUMBER ONE LIVER DISEASE

Aware that 30% of the population is affected by fatty liver disease (NAFLD/NASH), the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino is increasingly involved in the search for new treatments. After the first phase III studies yielded disappointing results, new types of drugs are producing promising results, which were reported in scientific articles co-authored by the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino and published in prestigious medical journals such as the New England Journal.



# Foundation milestones

**2017**

## THE SWISS BIOBANK FOR AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES OF THE LIVER

Created for future research, the biobank is a facility for the systematic collection, storage, and management of biological samples from patients suffering from autoimmune diseases of the liver. The biobank for autoimmune diseases of the liver was the first Swiss biobank in the field of hepatology to have obtained the NORMA quality certification from the Swiss Biobanking Platform.

**2018**

## "IAN MACKAY" CONFERENCE

Leading experts in the field of primary biliary cholangitis gathered in Lugano for a three-day conference dedicated to the Australian doctor Ian Mackay, the father of autoimmune diseases of the liver. The published conclusions mapped out the path for research in the field for years to come.

**2018**

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

The first international collaborations were launched in the field of autoimmune diseases: the Fondazione Epatocentro is collaborating on projects with the European Reference Network (ERN RARE-LIVER) and the International Autoimmune Hepatitis Group (IAIHG).

**2019**

## CREATION OF THE ULTRASOUND ACADEMY

An ultrasound course was created to offer the various modules required for the training pathway defined by the Swiss Society of Sonography in Medicine (SGUM); doctors from all over Switzerland were thus be able to access a wide range of case studies and cutting-edge ultrasound technology.

**2020**

## LAUNCH OF COLLABORATION WITH THE BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE (IRB)

The support of a private Foundation enabled PD Dr. Benedetta Terziroli Beretta-Piccoli MD, Primary Investigator at the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino, to undertake a period of basic research in the laboratory of Prof. Federica Sallusto at the IRB; the purpose of the project was to characterise the molecular target of the immune response in patients with autoimmune hepatitis.

**2020**

## THE COVID-19 BIOBANK

In Switzerland, the first COVID-19 biobank was created in Lugano thanks to the will of the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino, in collaboration with the Clinica Luganese Moncucco. Systematically collecting biological samples and data from patients hospitalised due to COVID-19 made it possible to establish a platform that can be used for joint research, aimed at better understanding the nature and mechanisms of the disease and finding appropriate drugs and treatments.

**2021**

## THE CLINICAL TRIAL WITH METHYLENE BLUE

In collaboration with Synlab Ticino and the Medical Association of the Canton of Ticino and assisted by the medical and nursing team at Epatocentro Ticino SA, the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino team sponsored a clinical trial in Ticino to test the efficacy and safety of methylene blue, a drug that has shown good efficacy against SARS-CoV-2 for the treatment of COVID-19 in in vitro tests.

**2023**

## FONDAZIONE EPATOCENTRO OBTAINED THE QUALITY CERTIFICATION AS A FACILITY FOR THE CREATION AND MANAGEMENT OF BIOBANKS

The Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino is now a facility certified by the Swiss Biobanking Platform: obtaining the NORMA quality certification represents recognition and attests to the high-quality work carried out by the Fondazione Epatocentro in the field of biobanks, for which it is now setting standards at the Swiss level.

# Foundation milestones

## 2023

### FATTY LIVER DISEASE AND THE NAFLD BIOBANK

Fatty liver disease, which often has silent progression, is very common in Switzerland; if it is not diagnosed and stopped in time, it can develop into inflammation of the liver, cirrhosis, or even liver cancer. To date, there are no drugs to treat it. The scientific community is heavily interested in studying and finding treatments for this disease. Biological samples and clinical data are needed to carry out research projects: to this end, the Foundation has created the NAFLD Biobank, a platform for future research.

## 2023

### METHYLENE BLUE FOR HEPATITIS B?

The collaboration between the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino, the Laboratory of Prof. Francesco Negro in Lausanne, and Prof. Caroline Tapparel at the University of Geneva showed that methylene blue has an antiviral effect against hepatitis B and delta viruses. The Foundation prepared a study to test the efficacy of methylene blue in people with chronic hepatitis B virus infections.

## 2024

### SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION OF EPATOCENTRO TICINO / FONDAZIONE EPATOCENTRO TO THE NATIONAL COORDINATION FOR RARE DISEASES (KOSEK)

KOSEK's aim is to create a network of centres for the treatment of patients with rare diseases, interconnected with one another. In April 2024, Epatocentro – supported by the Fondazione Epatocentro in the areas of research, biobanking, and training – submitted its application to be recognised as a centre for the treatment of rare liver diseases in Ticino. Epatocentro is recognised as an associated center.

## 2024

### THE FATTY LIVER DISEASE COHORT STUDY (NAFLD COHORT) BECOMES A SASL STUDY

The fatty liver disease cohort (NAFLD cohort), established in 2023 by the Fondazione Epatocentro, has received recognition and support from the Swiss Association for the Study of the Liver (SASL). The cohort will therefore move from being a single-centre study to one involving multiple university centres in Switzerland.

## 2024

### GROWING INTEREST IN THE FONDAZIONE EPATOCENTRO'S BIOBANKS: ORAL PRESENTATION OF THE FOUNDATION'S AILD BIOBANK AT THE EUROPEAN BIOBANKING CONGRESS

The Fondazione Epatocentro was invited to give an oral presentation on the autoimmune liver disease biobank (AILD Biobank) at the European Biobanking Congress, held in Vienna from 14 to 17 May 2024. Established in 2017 and involving 21 centres across Switzerland, the AILD Biobank holds more than 10,000 biological samples accompanied by clinical data. Clinical research based on the samples collected to date has resulted in over 50 scientific publications.

## 2025

### METHYLENE BLUE STUDY IN HEPATITIS B BEGINS

The exploratory clinical study on methylene blue in hepatitis B has begun, aiming to test the effectiveness of methylene blue in people with chronic hepatitis B virus infection.

## 2025

### OVER 800 PATIENTS ENROLLED IN THE AILD COHORT FOR AUTOIMMUNE LIVER DISEASES

Established by the Epatocentro Foundation in 2017, the cohort with biobank is a structure for the systematic collection, storage, and management of data and biological samples from patients affected by autoimmune liver diseases (rare diseases), with the aim of creating a platform for future scientific research and collaborations at both national and international levels. A total of 23 centres in Switzerland – including both adult and paediatric centres – are participating, with more than 800 patients enrolled.

# A word from the Board Chairman

## Epatocentro Ticino Foundation 2025: A Success Story

I am extremely pleased to present the achievements of the Epatocentro Foundation, an organisation that continues to stand out for its commitment to combining scientific research and clinical practice, with the goal of continuously improving the care of patients affected by liver diseases.

From a strategic perspective, the promotion of and participation in multicentre studies, together with a strong commitment to the development and continuous expansion of biobanks of high scientific value, have once again proven to be successful. These research activities generate highly relevant data that are rapidly translated into clinical practice for the benefit of patients not only in Ticino, but also nationally and internationally. This brings significant advantages both for patients, who can gain earlier access to innovative and promising therapies, and for physicians in their clinical practice. For example, we would like to mention the study showing that recurrence of autoimmune liver diseases after liver transplantation that worsens the survival of both the patient and the transplanted organ. This finding indicates that early monitoring and personalised immunosuppressive therapy can improve clinical outcomes and long-term prognosis. The scientific collaboration network, extending throughout Switzerland and also beyond national borders, reflects the leading role of the Epatocentro Foundation in research and biobank development.

The growing visibility of hepatology research in Ticino, as well as its concrete translation into publications and educational activities such as the Ticino Hepatology Symposium and the Thursday Lectures — aimed at general practitioners, internists, specialists, and also through articles directed to patients — is clearly reflected in this annual report.

On behalf of the Foundation Board, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the Director, Professor Andreas Cerny, and to his entire team for their commitment, dedication, and the important results achieved. Thanks to the support of our sponsors, we are able to continue our activities as a non-profit organisation while preserving both continuity and independence – to them goes our sincerest gratitude. Of particular importance is the entry into the Foundation of a new generation of highly qualified young professionals, who represent the future of Epatocentro and the Epatocentro Foundation, ensuring its continuity, innovation, and visibility at both national and international levels. With this spirit, I would finally like to thank all collaborators and staff members for the excellent work they have done over the past year.



**Prof. Jürg Hans Beer, MD**  
*Chairman of the Foundation Board*

# A word from the Director

## Towards Precision Hepatology: Expansion of the NAFLD Cohort and Development of Clinical Activity

The past year represented a further phase of consolidation for the Epatocentro Ticino Foundation, which strengthened its role both in clinical research and in collaboration with national scientific networks.

This progress builds on an already well-established history of developing clinical cohorts and biobanks dedicated to autoimmune liver diseases (AILD), an area in which the Foundation has gained solid expertise and stable scientific recognition over the years. Systematic work on autoimmune hepatitis, primary biliary cholangitis, and primary sclerosing cholangitis has enabled the establishment of an integrated model for the prospective collection of clinical data and biological samples. This system is now fully operational and shared with several centres, providing a foundation and platform for the development of scientific research projects at both national and international levels.

Building on this methodological and organisational foundation, the NAFLD/MASLD Cohort and Biobank project was developed. The project has progressively established itself as a reference infrastructure and contributes to the development of a Swiss multicentre platform supported by the Swiss Association for the Study of the Liver (SASL), promoting greater integration among centres. The complexity of metabolic liver diseases requires shared approaches based on comparable data. The systematic collection of clinical information and high-quality biological samples makes it possible to study the natural history of the disease and to support the development and validation of new biomarkers. In this context, the biobank represents a fundamental tool for enabling structured collaboration among different Swiss centres. Furthermore, the genetic, cultural, and environmental diversity present in Switzerland constitutes an added value for the study of diseases strongly influenced by lifestyle and environmental factors.

At the same time, clinical research activity has expanded, with an increase in phase 2 and phase 3 studies, particularly in metabolic and autoimmune liver diseases, where unmet medical needs remain high.

Participation in international clinical trials reflect the consolidation of the Foundation's methodological expertise and its ability to provide patients with access to innovative therapies in advanced stages of development. The integration of clinical activity, prospective data collection, and biobanks (AILD and NAFLD/MASLD) increasingly defines the Foundation's profile as an integrated clinical-scientific platform.

This report presents the main progress and achievements obtained, together with the challenges that still remain, confirming the commitment of the Epatocentro Ticino Foundation to the development of a hepatology increasingly based on data, collaboration, and personalised approaches to care.



**Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD**  
*Director, Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino*

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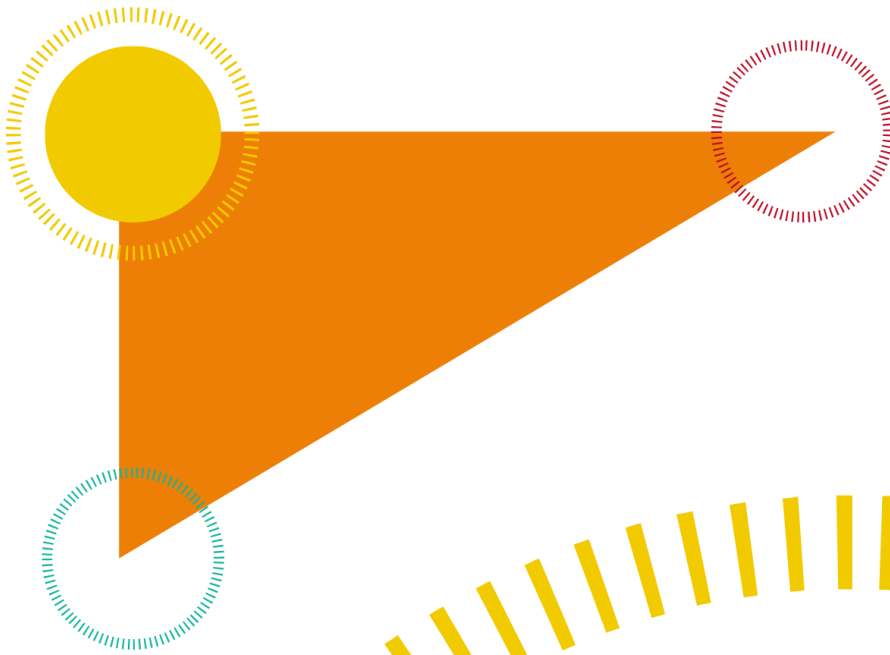
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# 01

# RESEARCH

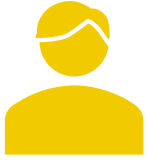


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# The story of one of our patients



*Mario\*, 47, works and leads a normal life. As a child, he had Wilson's disease, a rare genetic disorder that prevents copper elimination, causing it to accumulate in the liver and brain and leading to severe liver, neurological, and psychiatric damage. When diagnosed early, it can be controlled with medication and diet, allowing patients to live normally.*

*\* not his real name*

## Who is Mario and what illness is he suffering from?

Mario was only 9 years old when an unusual fatigue appeared, prompting his parents to consult a doctor. Blood tests revealed transaminase levels 200 times higher than normal, a sign of a severe liver problem.

Over the following months, his condition worsened: jaundice, dark urine, pale stools, and general malaise developed. The child was hospitalized in Ticino and later at the Inselspital in Bern, where specialist investigations led to the diagnosis of Wilson's disease.

During the examinations, doctors observed the Kayser-Fleischer ring, a yellowish-brown copper deposit at the junction between the sclera and the cornea of the eye, a characteristic sign of the disease. In Mario's case, despite his young age, the disease had already caused liver cirrhosis.

## How did he tackle the illness?

Once the diagnosis was established, drug therapy was started along with a specific dietary regimen to limit the intake of copper-rich foods. At first, a liver transplant was considered, but the response to treatment was positive, and the disease stabilised.

Over time, Mario resumed a normal life: he grew up, studied, and is now steadily employed. He continues to be followed by hepatology specialists, with semi-annual check-ups (ultrasounds, blood tests, and other examinations) to monitor the cirrhosis and prevent possible complications.

He remains on lifelong therapy, which is essential to keep the disease under control.

## What made the difference in patient care?

Timely diagnosis was crucial. Collaboration with major centres such as Inselspital in Bern and the interdisciplinary network was essential in ensuring a comprehensive approach. Mario was followed from all clinical perspectives — hepatological, ophthalmological, neurological, dietary, and, if necessary, for liver transplantation — with coordination among specialists in rare diseases: all of this was decisive in his treatment journey.



**Dr. Antonella Robatto, MD**  
General Practitioner, FMH  
Epatocentro Ticino accredited physician

# Research activities

## ► Cohort studies

### SWISS HEPATITIS C COHORT STUDY – SCCS

The Swiss Hepatitis C Cohort Study, initiated in 2000, is a systematic and longitudinal study which registers persons resident in Switzerland testing seropositive for HCV (Hepatitis C Virus). This involves collaboration between university hospital outpatient clinics, two large cantonal hospitals, affiliated laboratories, minor hospitals, and private medical practices. The principal goal consists in providing a data platform for aiding the processes of projects in the sphere of Hepatitis C.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### SWISS TRANSPLANT COHORT STUDY – STCS

This prospective and multi-centered cohort study, initiated in 2006 by several researchers, aims at gathering overall data at a national level of all patients who have undergone Solid Organ Transplant (SOT) therapy. After a set-up period of two years, the STCS cohort began enrolling patients in May 2008. At the same time, the new law on transplants, enacted in 2007, required lifelong monitoring for all transplant patients in Switzerland. As a collaborative effort with the Federal Office of Public Health, the cohort ensures compliance with legal requirements.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### SWISS HIV COHORT STUDY – SHCS

Set up in 1988, the SHCS is a systematic and longitudinal study in which a major proportion of individuals affected by HIV in Switzerland participate. It involves a collaborative network consisting of university hospital outpatient clinics for infectious diseases, two large cantonal hospitals, associated laboratories, minor hospitals, and private medical practices. The goal consists in providing a data platform useful for supporting numerous significant projects and research in the sphere of HIV infection.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### SWISS ASSOCIATION FOR THE MEDICAL MANAGEMENT IN SUBSTANCE USERS (SAMMSU) COHORT

Starting in 2013, this study involves gathering and analysis of anonymous data of patients treated in a program of substitution for opiates. The goal of the study is to follow the course and the transmission of diseases in substance abuse patients or patients that formerly used them. The characteristics and collateral effects of various types of treatment were recorded, and the correlation between the personal, behavioural, and onset or prognoses of these diseases' clinical characteristics were studied. It is possible that hereditary factors of the participants may be identified and documented, in case this may have therapeutic significance.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

### SASL 35: SWISS LIVER VENOUS THROMBOSIS STUDY (SLVTS)

This is a prospective and observational cohort study of patients affected with venous thrombosis of the liver (either a first diagnosis or already diagnosed). The long-term effects of treatments are studied while registering occurrences, risk factors, and results of treatment. Previous diagnoses, serious comorbidities, base parameters, imaging results, pathological results, characteristics of tumours, treatments and their results, hospital admissions, interventions and complications are recorded. Blood and other samples obtained during routine examinations are recorded.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

### SASL 37: SWISS HEPATITIS B COHORT STUDY

This involves a multicentric cohort study which registers and longitudinally observes patients with chronic hepatitis B infections. The seroprevalence of the HBs-Antigen is estimated to be 0.3% of the Swiss population, with higher rates among groups at risk (immigrants, intravenous drug users IVDU). The rationale for a multicentric cohort is to carefully register patients with chronic hepatitis B using standardized methods, making it possible to carry out scientific projects in the field of hepatitis B.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION

### SASL 38: SWISS AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS COHORT STUDY

The purpose of data and biological sample gathering is to obtain high quality prospective data geared towards developing epidemiological and natural history clarity, reactions to treatment and the effects of this rare pathology. The Biobank will enable the analysis of specific scientific phenomena and respond to a number of open questions. From 2018 the cohort has been collaborating in research projects with the International Group for Autoimmune Hepatitis and with the European Reference Network (ERN RARE-LIVER).

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
**CONSULT THE STUDY >>**

### SASL 39: SWISS PRIMARY BILIARY CHOLANGITIS COHORT STUDY

The primary purpose of this study is to regularly follow up, using standardized methods on the greatest possible number of patients in Switzerland suffering from primary biliary cholangitis to better understand and treat the disease. In addition, blood samples are frozen for future further potential research in this field. From 2018 the cohort has been working together with the European Reference Network (ERN RARE-LIVER).

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
**CONSULT THE STUDY >>**

### SASL 40: SWISS PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS COHORT STUDY

The primary purpose of this study is to regularly follow up, using standardized methods, the greatest possible number of patients in Switzerland suffering from primary sclerosing cholangitis to better understand and treat the disease. Likewise, blood samples are frozen for future further potential research in this field. From 2018 the cohort has been collaborating in research projects with the European Reference Network (ERN RARE-LIVER).

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
**CONSULT THE STUDY >>**

### SASL 45: SWISS HEPATOCELLULAR ADENOMA REGISTRY

The Swiss Hepatocellular Adenoma (HCA) Registry, a national multicentre project involving the seven national tertiary hepatology centres, aims to collect retrospective and prospective epidemiological and clinical data to improve understanding of this rare and complex pathology. The registry will also provide prognostic data on the disease's progression and complications through prospective patient follow-up, with the aim of delivering standardised, multidisciplinary care throughout the country.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
**CONSULT THE STUDY >>**

### SASL 46: SWISS CIRRHOSIS COHORT STUDY (SSCiCoS)

SSCiCoS is a long-term, prospective, national observational cohort study that systematically monitors patients with cirrhosis in Switzerland. Its aim is to collect and record epidemiological, clinical, histological, and psychosocial data, as well as patient-reported information via questionnaires, together with biobank biological material from patients with cirrhosis, with the intention of initiating nested projects.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### SASL 48: PROSPECTIVE COHORT AND BIOBANK OF PATIENTS WITH NONALCOHOLIC FATTY LIVER DISEASE (NAFLD COHORT STUDY)

The primary objective of this study promoted by the Fondazione Epatocentro is to create a unified cohort for the retrospective and prospective recording of high-quality baseline and follow-up data from patients diagnosed with NAFLD / NASH / MAFLD, according to standardised criteria. The clinical data gathered and the biological samples stored in the biobank will enable researchers to conduct future research aimed at shedding light on the clinical presentation, natural history, treatment response, genetic and metabolic risk factors, therapeutic options, and disease outcomes.

COHORT STUDY: ONGOING FOR AN UNLIMITED DURATION  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

## ► Clinical studies

### A PHASE 2b RANDOMIZED, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED, MULTICENTER STUDY TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF EFINOPEGDUTIDE (MK-6024) IN ADULTS WITH PRECIRRHOTIC NONALCOHOLIC STEATOHEPATITIS

The purpose of this phase 2 study is to verify the efficacy of Efinopegdutide compared to placebo in people with non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) and to evaluate the safety and tolerability of the drug.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### DOUBLE-BLIND, RANDOMISED, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED, PHASE II DOSE-FINDING STUDY COMPARING DIFFERENT DOSES OF NORUCHOLIC ACID TABLETS WITH PLACEBO IN THE TREATMENT OF PRIMARY BILIARY CHOLANGITIS IN PATIENTS WITH AN INADEQUATE RESPONSE TO URSODEOXYCHOLIC ACID: NUT-2/PBC

The aim of the phase 2 NUT-2 study is to assess the efficacy of two doses of nurucolic acid versus placebo for the treatment of primary biliary cholangitis in patients with an inadequate response to ursodeoxycholic acid.

CLINICAL TRIAL: CONCLUDED  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### A TWO-PART, RANDOMIZED, PLACEBO CONTROLLED, DOUBLE BLIND, MULTICENTER, PHASE 3 STUDY TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF LINERIXIBAT FOR THE TREATMENT OF CHOLESTATIC PRURITUS IN PARTICIPANTS WITH PRIMARY BILIARY CHOLANGITIS (PBC): GLISTEN STUDY.

The aim of the study is to evaluate the effect of oral treatment with Linerixibat, compared with placebo, on itching in PBC patients with cholestatic pruritus.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS  
CONSULT THE STUDY >>

DOUBLE-BLIND, RANDOMIZED, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED, PHASE III STUDY  
COMPARING NORURSODEOXYCHOLIC ACID CAPSULES WITH PLACEBO IN THE  
TREATMENT OF PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS: NUC-5/PSC

The purpose of the study is to demonstrate the superiority of norursodeoxycholic capsules (norUDCA) as compared with a placebo in treating primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) in preventing progression of the disease, ascertained through liver histology and partial normalization of serum levels of alkaline phosphatase in patients affected by PSC.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS

CONSULT THE STUDY >>

A PHASE 3, RANDOMIZED, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED STUDY  
EVALUATING THE SAFETY AND EFFICACY OF EFRUXIFERMIN IN SUBJECTS WITH  
COMPENSATED CIRRHOSIS DUE TO NONALCOHOLIC STEATOHEPATITIS (NASH) /  
METABOLIC DYSFUNCTION-ASSOCIATED STEATOHEPATITIS (MASH), (SYNCHRONY)

The aim of the study is to assess the effect of Efruxifermin versus placebo on all-cause mortality and liver-related clinical outcomes in subjects with compensated cirrhosis due to NASH/MASH, and to assess the effect of Efruxifermin compared with placebo on fibrosis regression.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS

CONSULT THE STUDY >>

A RANDOMISED, DOUBLE-BLIND, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED, MULTICENTRE, PHASE III  
TRIAL EVALUATING LONG-TERM EFFICACY AND SAFETY OF SURVODUTIDE WEEKLY  
INJECTIONS IN ADULT PARTICIPANTS WITH NONCIRRHOTIC NON-ALCOHOLIC  
STEATOHEPATITIS/METABOLIC ASSOCIATED STEATOHEPATITIS (NASH/MASH) AND  
(F2) - (F3) STAGE OF LIVER FIBROSIS (LIVERAGE)

This study aims to determine whether Survodutide improves the clinical status of people with the liver disease known as NASH/MASH and moderate or advanced liver fibrosis, compared with placebo.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS

CONSULT THE STUDY >>

### A PHASE III DOUBLE-BLIND, RANDOMISED, PLACEBO-CONTROLLED TRIAL TO EVALUATE LIVER-RELATED CLINICAL OUTCOMES AND SAFETY OF ONCE WEEKLY INJECTED SURVODUTIDE IN PARTICIPANTS WITH COMPENSATED NONALCOHOLIC STEATOHEPATITIS/METABOLIC DYSFUNCTION ASSOCIATED STEATOHEPATITIS (NASH/MASH) CIRRHOSIS (LIVERAGE – Cirrhosis)

The primary goal of this study is to determine whether Survodutide, compared with placebo, improves the condition of people with NASH/MASH associated with cirrhosis.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

### METHYLENE BLUE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC HEPATITIS B VIRUS INFECTION: A PILOT STUDY

This is an exploratory, open-label, single-centre pilot study aimed at demonstrating the efficacy of incremental doses of methylene blue against the hepatitis B virus in patients with chronic hepatitis B virus infection.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

### NON-INVASIVE ASSESSMENT OF LIVER STIFFNESS AND STEATOSIS IN PATIENTS WITH FATTY LIVER DISEASE

This is a prospective study with the aim of determining which of the non-invasive methods, Fibroscan/CAP or ultrasound/ARFI (Acoustic Radiation Force Impulse Imaging), would be more efficacious in determining the hardness and steatohepatitis in patients suffering from fatty liver disease.

CLINICAL TRIAL: IN PROGRESS

## ► **Epidemiological studies**

### THE CHANGING EPIDEMIOLOGY AND CLINICAL PRESENTATION OF NAFLD AND OTHER LIVER DISEASES IN SOUTHERN SWITZERLAND

This retrospective analysis with the purpose of providing a preliminary global view of the effect of fatty liver disease in the Italian region of Switzerland endeavours to determine factors that could show an increasing spread of the disease.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS: IN PROGRESS

## ► Retrospective studies

### PNPLA3 AND TM6SF2 GENETIC VARIANTS IN MASLD: EXPERIENCE FROM A HUB-AND-SPOKE OUTPATIENT HEPATOLOGY CLINIC IN TICINO

The aim of the study is to evaluate the correlation between different genetic backgrounds, directly associated with hepatic steatosis and an increased risk of developing metabolic diseases, and liver involvement in patients with metabolic dysfunction (MASLD)

This study analyses and describes outcomes of transplants for autoimmune hepatitis (AIH) of transplanted patients in the transplant cohort.

RETROSPECTIVE: IN PROGRESS

### TRANSARTERIAL CHEMOEMBOLIZATION (TACE) IN HEPATOCELLULAR CARCINOMA: A RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

A retrospective observational study on patients with a diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) having undergone transarterial chemoembolisation (TACE), with the primary objective of assessing overall survival and progression-free survival in patients at different stages of HCC treated with TACE. Secondary objectives include characterising recurrences and identifying predictors of survival.

RETROSPECTIVE: CONCLUDED

## ► Prospective studies

### EFFECT OF ANTI COVID-19 mRNA VACCINES ON DEVELOPMENT OR WORSENING OF AUTOIMMUNE REACTIVITY IN PATIENTS WITH AUTOIMMUNE LIVER DISEASE

The purpose of the study is to investigate the rise in the development or worsening of an existing autoimmune reactivity in patients with autoimmune liver disease and in health management after vaccination with mRNA COVID-19 vaccinations.

PROSPECTIVE: IN PROGRESS

## ► “Nested” cohort studies for autoimmune diseases of liver

### ANTI-NUCLEAR ANTIBODY ANTIGENETIC TARGETS IN TYPE 1 AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS

The purpose of the present project is to identify, via immunoprecipitation, the molecular targets of ANA in a cohort of untreated Type 1 ANA-positive patients affected by AIH and to investigate the clinical characteristics associated with the specific ANA and AIH antigens.

NESTED: IN PROGRESS

### QUANTIFICATION OF POLYREACTIVE IMMUNOGLOBULIN G TO AID IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF AIH VS DILI

The aim of this project is to demonstrate that plgG have diagnostic value in populations with different ethnicities and geographical backgrounds to discriminate AIH from non-AIH liver disease, that they can help distinguish AIH from AIH-like DILI and from classical DILI, and finally to predict steroid dependence in acute liver disease at 3 – 6 months after occurrence.

NESTED: CONCLUDED

### ACUTE LIVER INJURY WITH AUTOIMMUNE FEATURES FOLLOWING SARS-COV-2 VACCINATION IN AN ERN/IAIHG COHORT: AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS VERSUS DRUG-INDUCED AUTOIMMUNE-LIKE HEPATITIS

It is unclear whether rare cases of acute liver injury with autoimmune features reported after COVID-19 vaccination represent vaccine-triggered autoimmune hepatitis (AIH), requiring long-term immunosuppression, or whether the liver injury is self-limiting, as seen in drug-induced autoimmune-like hepatitis (DI-AIH). We report follow-up data from our well-characterised international patient cohort to determine whether the disease's course is self-limiting or dependent on immunosuppression.

NESTED: IN PROGRESS

### SECOND-LINE TREATMENT AND CORRELATION BETWEEN PROFILE OF PBC-RELATED AUTONITIBODIES AND DISEASE PROGRESSION IN PBC IN SWITZERLAND

Primary biliary cholangitis (PBC) is a chronic liver disease initially treated with ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA), although 30–40% of patients respond poorly. This study aims to examine the use of second- and third-line treatments, such as obeticholic acid (OCA) and fibrates, at Swiss hepatology centres, in order to understand their real-world effectiveness and guide future treatment strategies. The study also seeks to investigate the correlation between the profile of PBC-related autoantibodies and disease progression in patients with PBC. In addition, it aims to shed some light on how specific autoantibodies influence disease severity and outcomes in PBC.

NESTED: IN PROGRESS

### PHENOTYPING ANTIGENS OF ANTINUCLEAR ANTIBODIES IN AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS (ANA Juvenile AIH)

Knowledge of ANA autoantigens associated with AIH may help improve diagnostic accuracy. Paediatric data on this topic are scarce. The aim of this study is to compare the ANA autoantigens found in adult AIH patients with those identified in younger AIH patients (children, adolescents, and young adults who are ANA-positive).

NESTED: IN PROGRESS

### PNPLA3 AND TM6SF2 GENETIC VARIANTS IN MASLD: EXPERIENCE FROM A HUB-AND-SPOKE OUTPATIENT HEPATOLOGY CLINIC IN TICINO (NAFLD Genetics)

The aim of the study is to evaluate the correlation between different genetic backgrounds, directly associated with hepatic steatosis and an increased risk of developing metabolic diseases, and liver involvement in patients with metabolic dysfunction (MASLD)

NESTED: IN PROGRESS

### COMPUTATIONAL PATHOLOGY IN AUTOIMMUNE LIVER DISEASE

The overall objective of this project is to determine whether a validated algorithm for extracting features from digital scans is accurate and can contribute to disease classification and risk stratification in AIH, PBC and PSC.

NESTED: ONGOING

### UNDERSTANDING DISEASE CONTROL IN AIH: ANALYSIS ON HOW DEEP REMISSION IMPACTS CLINICAL OUTCOME AS WELL AS RISK OF A FLARE

This study analyses how a high level of disease control, known as “deep remission” affects the health of patient with autoimmune hepatitis. It also aims to clarify why some patients experience disease flares and disease progression, including decompensated cirrhosis and liver-related death or transplantation, thereby helping to identify individuals at higher risk of poor disease control and to improve their long-term care.

NESTED: ONGOING

### MACHINE LEARNING FOR PREDICTION OF THERAPY RESPONSE IN AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS

Our project aims to develop and validate machine learning (ML) models using data from the R-Liver registry and other international cohorts in order to identify and characterise factors influencing treatment response. This project aims to promote personalised therapeutic strategies in AIH, facilitating timely treatment adjustments and improving patient progress through AI-based decision support.

NESTED: ONGOING

## ► Translational studies in collaboration with IRB

### AUTOREACTIVE T, B AND REGULATORY T CELLS TARGETING SEPSECS IN TYPE 1 AND TYPE 2 AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS AND AUTOIMMUNE SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS

The scope of this study is to identify and characterize T cells which recognize SEPSECS in AIH and ASC.

STATUS: CONCLUDED

## ► Biobanks

### AILD BIOBANK – AUTOIMMUNE LIVER DISEASES

Certified entity established to collect, conserve, and manage samples of biological material and patient clinical data to make them available for clinical research. The AILD Biobank is therefore a systematic collection, not only of biological samples, but also of clinical data on patients with autoimmune diseases of the liver and represents a platform for future research. The AILD biobank includes three biobanks: the autoimmune hepatitis (AIH) biobank, the primary biliary cholangitis (PBC) biobank, and finally, the primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC) biobank.

BIOBANK: IN PROGRESS

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

### BIOBANK COVID-19 TICINO: COLLECTION OF DATA AND SAMPLES OF COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENTS

Certified facility created to collect, store and manage samples of biological material and clinical data from COVID-19 patients admitted to the Clinica Luganese Moncucco in order to then make them available for clinical research. The COVID-19 Biobank is thus a systematic collection, not only of biological samples, but also of clinical data of COVID-19 patients and serves as a platform for future research in order to study the effects of this dreaded virus and to find possible remedies to it.

BIOBANK: IN PROGRESS

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

### FONDAZIONE EPATOCENTRO TICINO (FEPT) BIOBANK INFRASTRUCTURE

The Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino is a facility certified by the Swiss Biobanking Platform: obtaining the NORMA quality certification represents recognition and attests to the high-quality work carried out by the Fondazione Epatocentro in the field of biobanks, for which it is now setting standards at the Swiss level.

BIOBANK: IN PROGRESS

## BIOBANCA NAFLD – NON-ALCOHOLIC FATTY LIVER DISEASE BIOBANK

Certified facility established to gather, store, and manage biological material and clinical data from patients with NAFLD/NASH/MAFLD. The primary objective of this project is to establish a unified cohort for the retrospective and prospective recording of high-quality baseline and follow-up data from patients diagnosed with NAFLD/NASH/MAFLD, according to standardised criteria. Biological samples from all patients diagnosed with NAFLD/NASH/MAFLD and monitored at Epatocentro Ticino are collected and stored. This will enable future studies aimed at clarifying the clinical presentation, natural history, treatment response, genetic and metabolic risk factors, therapeutic options, and disease outcomes. The cohort will also allow investigators to conduct genetic, serological, microbiological, and immunological studies.

BIOBANK: IN PROGRESS

[CONSULT THE STUDY >>](#)

## ► Publications

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## GUIDELINES 2024

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## ABSTRACT/POSTER 2025

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# 02

# TRAINING



## **1. The insight**

## **2. Training activities**

- ▶ Training events
- ▶ Ticino Symposium on Hepatology
- ▶ Swiss Autoimmune Liver Disease Meeting
- ▶ Annual discussion platform
- ▶ Newsletter
- ▶ Ultrasound academy
- ▶ Participation of speakers at symposia and training session

# The insight



## The rare diseases

*In the collective imagination, the term “rare disease” often evokes an exceptional or almost invisible clinical reality. In reality, rare diseases represent a concrete and widespread healthcare challenge. In rare liver diseases, sharing knowledge and working in networks are essential to turn research into better treatments.*

## What is a rare disease, and what forms of it affect the liver?

In Europe, a disease is considered rare when it affects fewer than 5 people per 10,000. Individually, such diseases are uncommon, but collectively they affect millions of people. Among the main rare liver diseases are autoimmune hepatitis, primary biliary cholangitis, and primary sclerosing cholangitis. These are chronic conditions and are often difficult to identify because the initial symptoms can be nonspecific: persistent fatigue, itching, or abnormal liver test results. This can lead to delays in diagnosis and in patient management.

## What makes a difference in the treatment of these conditions?

Early diagnosis and access to centres with specific expertise are essential. Patients suffering from rare liver diseases often require multidisciplinary care and long-term support. For years, the Epatocentro Ticino Foundation has been promoting training, education, and scientific updates for doctors and the community, with the goal of facilitating early recognition of these conditions and improving the care pathway. Reducing the time between the first symptoms and diagnosis increases the chances of intervening before the disease progresses to advanced complications.

## What role does research play in the treatment of these conditions?

Research is essential because no single centre has a sufficient number of patients to study these diseases in depth. For this reason, national and international cohorts are a crucial tool. To meet this need, since 2017 the Epatocentro Ticino Foundation has promoted and coordinated the Swiss Cohort for Autoimmune Liver Diseases, which includes a biobank certified by the Swiss Biobanking Platform – a national network involving 23 Swiss centres and both adult and paediatric patients. Through the standardised collection of clinical data and biological samples, the cohort allows a better understanding of disease progression, the identification of biomarkers, and the development of new therapies. Collaboration with European research networks also makes it possible to turn isolated clinical experiences into shared knowledge, creating new therapeutic opportunities for patients.



**Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD**

Director of the Epatocentro Ticino Foundation

# Training activities

## ► Training events

### Refresher courses and discussion events

The Foundation organized a series of refresher courses and discussion events. Some training activities of a specialized nature are designed for specialists in the sector and consultants to the Epatocentro; other training activities are specifically intended for family doctors and specialists involved in the treatment of patients with hepatic problems which will require the intervention of external specialists.

### Thursday lectures

Meetings covering highly specialised topics and taking an approach that promotes debate between the doctors involved and discussion of clinical cases.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
23.01.2025	Pharmacological treatment of alcohol use disorder	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
13.02.2025	Porto–sinusoidal vascular liver disease (PSVD): what it is and how to recognize it	Prof. Andrea De Gottardi, MD
20.03.2025	Genetics of cholestatic genetic diseases	Prof. Antonio Galante, MD
10.04.2025	Abnormal liver tests: how to proceed in daily clinical practice	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
05.06.2025	MASLD Update 2024	Dr. Nicolas Goossens, MD
18.09.2025	Updates on hepatitis D	Prof. Francesco Negro, MD

## Addiction medicine

Meetings focusing on the problems of dependence, addiction, and risky consumption of alcohol, substances, and medicines, and on behavioural addictions. The training is organised by the Ingrado Centre – Services for addiction and the Epatocentro Ticino.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>
04.02.2025	Opioid agonist treatment – Heroin-assisted treatment
18.02.2025	Alcohol Use Disorder – Treatment (Part 2)
18.03.2025	Stimulant treatment for cocaine addiction
15.04.2025	Safer supply – Concept and experiences
13.05.2025	Women's health – The theme of women's health in addiction
17.06.2025	Addiction research – Pharmacological therapy, harm reduction and social innovation
08.07.2025	Clinical case discussion – Addiction medicine
07.10.2025	Benzodiazepine dependence
04.11.2025	Forensic psychiatry – Topics of interest in addictions
02.12.2025	Adolescence and addiction

## School of Hepatology

Online training enables us to learn from leading Swiss experts in the sector. Training sessions are organized by the Swiss Association for Study of the Liver (SASL) with which the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino enjoys a long tradition of direct links.

<i>When</i>	<i>Topic</i>
17.03.2025	SASL School of Hepatology, Number 47
16.06.2025	SASL School of Hepatology, Number 48
15.09.2025	SASL School of Hepatology, Number 49
15.12.2025	SASL School of Hepatology, Number 50

## Meeting of expert

Online meetings between Swiss experts in the field of autoimmune liver diseases to discuss clinical cases and exchange opinions.

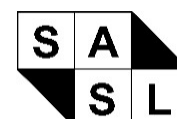
When	Topic
12.03.2025	Presentation and discussion of two projects on autoimmune hepatitis within the Swiss Autoimmune Liver Disease Cohort Studies
14.05.2025	Swiss Autoimmune Liver Disease Cohort Studies Center Meeting
03.10.2025	Swiss Autoimmune Liver Disease Cohort, Principal Investigators Meeting on new nested projects
26.11.2025	Positioning of Swiss AILD within the ERN R-Liver, Swiss Autoimmune Liver Disease Cohort Studies Center Meeting

## ► Ticino Symposium on Hepatology

From 2013 the Ticino Symposium on Hepatology has offered medical specialists and family doctors a unique window onto the latest innovations concerning diseases affecting the liver. The challenges presented by this pathology are addressed by persons who are outstanding in the field, both nationally and internationally, and who, on this occasion, share their research and the results of their findings.

When	Topic	Speaker
02.10.2025	Clinical case in addiction medicine	Dr. Ioannis Strigklogiannis, MD
	Addiction medicine: which strategies lead to results?	PD Dr. Beatrice Barda, MD
	Cystic liver lesions	Dr. Stefano Cappio, MD Dr. Francesco Meani, MD
	Clinical case: cystic liver lesions	Dr. Hans Rudolf Schwarzenbach, MD Dr. Stefano Cappio, MD
	A life as a liver surgeon	Prof. Pietro Majno-Hurst, MD
	Clinical case: non-viral infectious liver diseases	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD
	Non-viral infectious liver diseases: when to suspect them?	PD Dr. Beatrice Barda, MD
	“Clinical pearls”: educational cases in Hepatology	Prof. Antonio Galante, MD Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD PD Dr. Benedetta Terziroli Beretta-Piccoli, MD Prof. pharm. Stephan Krähenbühl, MD

In partnership with:



## ► Swiss Autoimmune Liver Disease meeting

The Swiss Conference on Autoimmune Diseases of the Liver, the fifth edition of which will be held in 2026, is unique in its class at national level, and specifically for hepatologists and immunologists from throughout the country and from abroad interested in updates on developments in basic research and clinical strategies aimed at treating autoimmune diseases of the liver.

When	Topic	Speaker
21.09.2023	Digital 4 <sup>th</sup> Swiss Autoimmune Liver	
22.09.2023	Disease Meeting	
	<b>Patients' session:</b>	
	Pregnancy	Prof. Michael Heneghan, MD
	Drug side effects	Prof. Maria Isabel Lucena, MD Prof. Raul Andrade, MD
	New Therapies	Prof. Michael Manns, MD
	<b>Basic science sessions:</b>	
	<b>Genetics:</b>	
	Genetics of PBC	Prof. Pietro Invernizzi, MD
	Genetics of PSC	Prof. Tom Karlsen, MD
	Genetics of AIH	Prof. Ynto de Boer, MD
	Inherited immune deficiencies and autoimmunity	Prof. Mike Recher, MD
	<b>Hot topics in autoimmune liver diseases:</b>	
	Cellular therapies	Prof. Maria Serena Longhi, MD
	SARS-CoV-2 and liver autoimmunity	Prof. Gideon Hirschfield, MD
	Drug-induced AIH-like DILI	Prof. Maria Isabel Lucena, MD
	<b>Mechanisms of autoimmunity:</b>	
	The Long and Latent Road to Autoimmunity	Prof. Eric Gershwin, MD
	T cells in autoimmunity	Prof. Federica Sallusto, MD

Viruses and autoimmunity Prof. Christian Münz, MD

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**Clinical sessions:**

**Diagnostic dilemmas:**

Radiological clinical case presentation: Dr. Stefano Cappio, MD and his fellow

the diagnosis of PSC  
Imaging in PSC and ASC Prof. Annamaria Deganello, MD

Serological case presentation: Dr. Eric Dayer, MD  
the diagnosis of AIH PD Dr. Benedetta Terziroli Beretta-Piccoli, MD

Are autoantibodies still useful in the AI era? Prof. Diego Vergani, MD

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**Treatment:**

Novel therapeutic targets for autoimmune cholestatic liver diseases Prof. Michael Trauner, MD

Treatment of cholestatic pruritus Prof. Andreas Kremer, MD

Difficult to treat AIH patients Prof. Ansgar Lohse, MD

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**Pediatrics:**

Case presentation PD Dr. Christiane Sokollik, MD

Sclerosing cholangitis in pediatric IBD patients Prof. Patrick Van Rheenens, MD

Growing up with autoimmune liver disease: longterm outcome of autoimmune liver disease Dr. Marianne Samyn, MD

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**Checkpoint-inhibitors and the liver**

Clinical case presentation Dr. Antonio Galante, MD

Checkpoint-inhibitors-induced liver injury Prof. Eleonora de Martin, MD

Liver histology of checkpoint-inhibitors-induced liver injury Prof. Yoh Zen, DM

Can checkpoint inhibitors be used in patients with autoimmune liver diseases? Prof. Michael Manns, MD

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**CHAIRS:**

*Prof. Andreas Cerny MD, PD Dr. Benedetta Terziroli Beretta–Piccoli MD, Prof. Giorgina Mieli–Vergani MD, Prof. Michael Manns MD, Prof. Andrea De Gottardi MD, Prof. Maria Isabel Lucena MD, Prof. Michael Trauner MD, Prof. Pietro Invernizzi MD, Prof. Michael Heneghan MD, Prof. Andreas Kremer MD, Prof. Raul Andrade MD, Prof. Gideon Hirschfield MD, Prof. Ansgar Lohse MD, Prof. Federica Sallusto MD, Prof. Diego Vergani MD.*

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## ► Annual discussion platform

The annual round table offers an occasion to discuss themes linked to the development of excellence and sustainability for the healthcare system in Ticino. The rendezvous is organized by the Italian University of Switzerland (USI), which, with its new biomedical faculty, plays an ever more important role in academic and training spheres. Stakeholders from local and national healthcare systems gathered around the same table for the occasion to share their own experiences and points of view on issues tabled.

When	Topic	Speaker
11.11.2025	<b>Between personal freedom and profit: the dilemma of today's addictions</b>	
	In Switzerland, the problem of addiction is growing steadily. Alongside alcohol abuse and the looming threat of synthetic opioids, crack consumption is increasing rapidly. At the same time, technology addiction is emerging as a growing challenge, with significant effects on mental well-being and social life. The alarm concerns society as a whole: on the one hand, the need to protect public health; on the other, the economic interests of the addiction industry. How has the landscape of addictions changed? Which social factors are driving their spread? How can conflicting social interests be reconciled when public health is at stake? How is Ticino responding?	<b>Giovanni Pedrazzini</b> , Dean, Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, USI; <b>Raffaele De Rosa</b> , Member of the Council of State and Director of the Department of Health and Social Affairs (DSS); <b>Giorgio Merlani</b> , Cantonal Physician; <b>Daniele Zullino</b> , Head of the Department of Addictology, Geneva University Hospitals (HUG); <b>Alain Kaelin</b> , Head of the Department of Addictology, Geneva University Hospitals (HUG); <b>Alberto Moriggia</b> , Medical Director of Ingrado and accredited physician at Epatocentro Ticino

In partnership with:



## ► Newsletter: The Liver Bulletin

“The Liver Bulletin” is the newsletter produced by the Foundation and addressed to all doctors in Ticino. It has been specifically conceived to keep doctors constantly updated on the latest information in the field of hepatology and of forthcoming events; in each edition a specialist doctor presents a topic in the field of hepatology which is discussed in detail.

To receive the newsletter simply sign-up online at [www.epatocentro.ch](http://www.epatocentro.ch)

When	Topic	Speaker
10.03.2015	Newsletter #1 – New drugs against hepatitis c	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
04.09.2015	Newsletter #2 – Primary biliary cholangitis	PD Dr. Benedetta Terzioli Beretta-Piccoli, MD
24.03.2016	Newsletter #3 – Innovative ascites treatment	Dr. Andrea De Gottardi, MD
19.10.2016	Newsletter #4 – Fatty liver	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD
20.07.2017	Newsletter #5 – Alcoholic liver disease	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
23.02.2018	Newsletter #6 – Hyperferremia in the study of medicine	Dr. Manuela Balmelli, MD
08.06.2018	Newsletter #7 – Hepatic Biopsies	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
04.12.2018	Newsletter #8 – Wilson’s Disease	Dr. Antonella Robatto, MD
28.03.2019	Newsletter #9 – Hepatitis E	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
27.01.2020	Newsletter #10 – Hepatic encephalopathy	Dr. Andrea Griffa, MD
15.07.2020	Newsletter #11 – CEUS (Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound)	Dr. Manuel Gobbom, MD
27.01.2021	Newsletter #12 – SARS-Cov2 the liver	Dr. Manuela Balmelli, MD
17.06.2021	Newsletter #13 – Autoimmune hepatitis	PD Dr. Benedetta Terzioli Beretta-Piccoli, MD
09.12.2021	Newsletter #14 – Hepatitis B	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
24.10.2022	Newsletter #15 – Liver disease and substance abuse	Dr. Alessandra Bruno, MD
30.03.2023	Newsletter #16 – Fatty liver: when to worry	Prof. Andreas Cerny MD
26.03.2024	Newsletter # 17 – Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
03.12.2024	Newsletter # 18 – Liver and pharmacology	Prof. pharm. Stephan Krähenbühl, MD
27.06.2025	Newsletter # 19 – Dosage of analgesics in patients with liver cirrhosis: NSAIDs may be particularly risky.	Prof. pharm. Stephan Krähenbühl, MD Dr. Antonella Robatto, MD
05.12.2025	Newsletter #20 – Non-viral liver diseases	PD Dr. Beatrice Barda, MD

## ► **Ultrasound academy**

The Foundation, which performs 2 500 ultrasound examinations annually since 2019, has been offering ultrasonography (SGUM) courses (abdominal module) and POCUS to an ever-growing number of interested doctors. The Foundation's Ultrasound Academy staff consists of 4 SGUM tutors and 8 SGUM doctors. They are exposed to well-documented cases showing clinical profiles, laboratory findings and often also NAFLD histopathology findings such as hepatic cirrhosis, hepatobiliary pathologies, focal lesions of the liver, kidneys, and pancreas. State of the art ultrasound equipment is be used for ultrasound examinations.

For more information consult the site [www.epatocentro.ch/la-fondazione](http://www.epatocentro.ch/la-fondazione)

## ► Participation of speakers at symposia and training session

When	Topic	Speaker
23.01.2025	Pharmacological treatment of alcohol use disorder	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD Dr. Valentina Moret, MD
30.01.2025	Lecture within the CAS Addiction SUPSI: Presentation of best practices in territorial and interprofessional teamwork	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD Dr. Alessandra Bruno, MD Marcello Cartolano
04.02.2025	Addiction medicine: Opioid agonist therapy – Heroin treatment	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
06.02.2025	Lecture within the CAS Addiction SUPSI: Conference: the medical perspective – Neurobiology of addictions	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD Prof. Daniele Zullino, MD
06.02.2025	Lecture within the CAS Addiction SUPSI: Addiction medicine. Clinical and therapeutic aspects: from psychiatry to somatic comorbidities	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD Dr. Lorenza Bolzani, MD Angelo Pignieri
13.02.2025	SGUMSI, EOFORM refresher course, Bellinzona	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
06.03.2025	Liver and alcohol – training for primary care physicians at Studio Fumagalli, Locarno	Dr. Antonella Robatto, MD
10.03.2025	POCUS course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
17.03.2025	POCUS course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
18.03.2025	Addiction medicine: Treatment with stimulants for cocaine dependence	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD Dr. Ioannis Strigklogiannis, MD
20.03.2025	2025 SUPSI lecture within the Bachelor in Nursing – addiction module. Liver and pancreatic diseases and collaboration with the nursing role	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
29–30.03.2025	SGUMSI Kombi I Course, USI	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD

03.04.2025	Training course of the Ticino Group for Continuing Education in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy: Opioid agonist therapy – somatic comorbidities in addiction	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
08.04.2025	Congress of the Cantonal Medical Office / Ticino Addiction: From substitution therapy to opioid agonist therapy	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
10.04.2025	Elevated liver tests: how to proceed in medical practice	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
15.04.2025	Addiction medicine: Safer supply – concepts and experiences	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
28.04.2025	Ticino Conference on Hepatocellular Carcinoma: speaker on the topic HCC Screening, Lugano	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD
29.04.2025	Training course for Epatocentro nurses on Hepatitis B	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
12.05.2025	POCUS course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
15.05.2025	SGUMSI refresher course, OMCT Mezzovico	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
19.05.2025	POCUS course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
23.05.2025	OMCT training: HCV screening project for general practitioners	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
04.06.2025	1st Swiss Rare Liver Disease Symposium: Current ongoing registries in Switzerland, Bern	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD
17–18.06.2025	Course for recruits, Moudon	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
21–22.06.2025	SGUMSI Course III, USI	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
08.07.2025	Addiction medicine: Discussion of clinical cases in addiction medicine	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
16.09.2025	Training course at Centro Medico Lugano: Elevated liver tests: how to proceed in medical practice	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
20.09.2025	Peer tutor course	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
02.10.2025	Clinical case in addiction medicine	Dr. Ioannis Strigklogiannis, MD
02.10.2025	Addiction medicine: which strategies achieve results	Dr. Alessandra Bruno, MD

02.10.2025	A life as a liver surgeon	Prof. Pietro Majno–Hurst, MD
02.10.2025	Clinical case: non–viral infectious liver diseases	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD
02.10.2025	Non–viral infectious liver diseases: when should they be considered?	Dr. Beatrice Barda, MD
02.10.2025	“Clinical pearls”: educational hepatology cases	Prof. Antonio Galante, MD Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD PD Dr. Benedetta Terziroli Beretta–Piccoli, MD Prof. pharm. Stephan Krähenbühl, MD
04.10.2025	Peer tutor course	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
11–12.10.2025	SGUMSI Course II, USI	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
14.10.2025	Training course for ACD – Home Care and Assistance Association of Mendrisiotto and Lower Ceresio. OAT – opioid agonist therapy	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
14–15.10.2025	Course for recruits, Chambolon	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
16.10.2025	SGUMSI refresher course, EOFORM Bellinzona	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
20.10.2025	SGUM abdominal ultrasound course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
27.10.2025	SGUM abdominal ultrasound course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
05.11.2025	Fatty liver disease: a frequent and not always harmless finding. Webinar organized by Medisyn/Sonic for general practitioners in German–speaking Switzerland	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD
11.11.2025	Between health, personal freedom and profit: the dilemma of today's addictions, 11th Health Platform, USI Lugano	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
17.11.2025	SGUM abdominal ultrasound course for USI medical students, Lugano	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
26.11.2025	Hepatic steatosis: a frequent diagnosis and not always harmless. Webinar organized by Medisyn/Sonic for general practitioners in French–speaking Switzerland	Prof. Andreas Cerny, MD

28.11.2025	Training morning for guardians collaborating with the Regional Protection Authority 3 (ARP): Dependence and addiction: clinical, psychological and social aspects (with Paola Blumer Fontana)	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
04.12.2025	SGUMSI refresher course, OMCT Mezzovico	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
06-07.12.2025	SGUMSI Kombi I Course, USI	Dr. Daniel Hagara, MD
08.12.2025	Lecture within the MAS in Family Medicine at USI: Ingrado: everything the family doctor needs to know	Dr. Alberto Moriggia, MD
01.01.2025- 31.12.2025	Lectures in pharmacology and clinical pharmacology at the University of Basel and the University of Bern. Topics: General Toxicology, Special Topics in Drug Discovery and Development	Prof. pharm. Stephan Krähenbühl, MD

## ► Training for healthcare professionals

When	Topic	Speaker
29.04.2025	Hepatitis B	Dr. Lorenzo Magenta, MD
17.10.2025	I train for the case: Management of vascular access	Roberta Ciavaroli - Eduard Stoia
21.10.2025	Research at Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino	Maurizia Bissig Fed. ETH Pharm. Dipl. Chiara De Luca Chem-Pharm. Dipl. Claudia Di Bartolomeo Biol. Dipl.

# 03 THE FOUNDATION



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- ▶ Means of implementation

## 3. Our partners

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- ▶ Financial support
- ▶ Collaborations

# About us

## ► People

### DOCTORS

- Dr. Balmelli Manuela, MD
- PD Dr. Barda Beatrice, MD
- PD. Dr. Bihl Florian, MD
- Dr. Bruno Alessandra, MD
- Prof. Cerny Andreas, MD
- Prof. De Gottardi Andrea, MD
- Prof. Garzoni Christian, MD
- Dr. Griffa Andrea, MD
- Dr. Hagara Daniel, MD
- Prof. pharm. Krähenbühl Stephan, MD
- Dr. Magenta Lorenzo, MD
- Dr. Malino Donald, MD
- Dr. Moriggia Alberto, MD
- Dr. Robatto Antonella, MD
- Dr. Schwarzenbach Hans-Rudolf, MD
- Dr. Strigklogiannis Ioannis, MD

### OPERATIONAL TEAM

- Prof. Cerny Andreas, MD, Director
- Fed. ETH Pharm. Dipl., Bissig Maurizia, Operational Head of Foundation and Pharmacist
- PhD Dr. Barda Beatrice, MD, Research Physician
- Chem.-Pharm. Dipl., De Luca Chiara, Clinical Trial Coordinator
- Biol. Dipl., Di Bartolomeo Claudia, Data Manager
- Biol. Dipl., Forlenza Rossella, Data Manager – Clinical Trial Coordinator
- Dr. Malino Donald MD, Research Physician
- Nicoletta Cossi, Secretary

### MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

- Prof. Beer Jürg-Hans, MD
- Prof. Bianchetti Mario, MD
- PD Dr. Bihl Florian, MD
- Prof. Gillessen-Sommer Silke, MD
- Avv. Pelli Fulvio

# About us

## ► Organization

### Foundation Board of Directors

Determines the strategic guidelines of the Foundation, provides inspiration and gives impetus to its activities.

### Clinical Trial Unit (CTU) Directorate

Consists of Directors and operational management of the Foundation, assesses the scientific relevance of each and every research project and examines feasibility from an executive point of view.

### Cantonal Ethics Committee, Swissmedic

Healthcare authority evaluating ethics, scientific relevance and formal aspects and authorising the implementation of a clinical trial.

### Oversight, RU management

Responsible for control of funds raised and their application in accordance with their objectives/defined purposes.

### Private and public sponsors

Donations contributed in support of specific research projects as well as in favour of projects/planned training activities.

### Epatocentro Ticino SA

Partner in medical and paramedical matters collaborating in the running of the Foundation's clinical trial studies.

### CTU Staff

Ensure the operational capacity of the Foundation, both the proper execution of research studies in compliance with GCP regulations.

### Patients

Focal point of the operations of the Foundation.

### Clinica Luganese Moncucco

Partner for research projects requiring hospital admission.

### National & International Partners

Collaboration in research projects.

# What we do

## ► Patient management and treatment strategies

### 7 objectives for better patient management

The complexity of the situation in Ticino has led the Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino to consider a strategy which will enable patients affected by hepatic pathologies to get treatment from the best specialists available in the Ticino region. The strategy which the Foundation intends to advance, with the daily collaboration and experience of the doctors at the Epatocentro Ticino, sets out 7 different objectives:

Objective	Description
1. Strengthening and extension of the “Hub and spoke” operational system	This organisational model presupposes that specialized and extensive skills are required for certain complex conditions and diseases and that it is not possible to ensure these are readily available and widespread throughout the entire region. For this reason, organisations provide for the concentration of complex cases at a limited number of hub sites (centres of excellence, in our case at our main centre at 9 via Soldino, Lugano) and at peripheral spoke centres (in our case, external sites at Locarno, Bellinzona, Biasca, Taverne, Chiasso) where patient management takes place for those patients who do not exceed a certain threshold of complexity. The term “Hub and Spoke” derives from the aviation industry.
2. Development of clear standardized programs	Develop a series of well-defined standard operating procedures based on national and international guidelines, and at the same time implement a program which can provide clear treatment protocols for chronic patients, in parallel with effective pharmaco-vigilance, to ensure monitoring and follow-up of all patients according to their specific requirements, applying the most up-to-date quality standards
3. Development and maintenance of a patient database	Support and coordinate the implementation of a database which will enable patients to be grouped according to their diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes and in addition to process the data in accordance with resources used. In so doing, it will be possible to analyse a cross section of the situation in Ticino with information that is always accurate and up-to-date, and which meet the specific needs of a specialist centre.

4. Measures to ensure the quality and safety of treatments	Regular, clinically oriented meetings; conferences dedicated to critical incidents; specialized training aimed at doctors and paramedic personnel. In collaboration with the Epatocentro Ticino, indicators for and monitoring of treatment care for different types of patients will be defined, following regular assessments of the degree of satisfaction of patients and doctors with respect to the services offered by a specialist centre.
5. Participation in existing epidemiological studies	Participation in existing epidemiological studies (Swiss Hepatitis B Cohort, Swiss Hepatitis C Cohort, Swiss Transplant Cohort, Swiss Adenoma Cohort, Swiss Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cohort, etc.) and the development of related projects, collaboration in the creation of international registries (International Autoimmune Hepatitis Group – IAIHG, European Reference Network for Rare Liver Diseases – ERN–Rare–Liver), as well as participation in the national strategy to combat hepatitis B and C ( <a href="http://www.hepatitis-schweiz.ch/en/why-a-hepatitis-strategy">http://www.hepatitis-schweiz.ch/en/why-a-hepatitis-strategy</a> ) through active involvement in the initiatives promoted.
6. Support the establishment of new cohort studies	Promotion and creation of cohorts for primary biliary cholangitis (PBC), primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC), autoimmune hepatitis (AIH), and fatty liver disease (NAFLD), involving other hepatology centres at the national level, as well as participation in studies such as the Swiss Hepatitis B Cohort Study, the Swiss Hepatitis C Cohort Study, and the SAMMSU cohort study on the management of the medical consequences of substance use.
7. Creation of certified biobanks and international collaborations	Biobanks — certified facilities created to collect, store, and manage biological material and clinical data from patients, making them available for clinical research in order to provide scientific explanations and identify possible treatments for specific diseases such as primary biliary cholangitis (PBC), primary sclerosing cholangitis (PSC), autoimmune hepatitis (AIH), fatty liver disease (NAFLD/MASLD), and COVID–19. The Fondazione’s AILD Biobank, NAFLD/MASLD Biobank, and COVID–19 Biobank — unique of their kind in Switzerland — are listed on both the Swiss SBP platform and the international BBMRI–ERIC platform and are accessible to researchers worldwide.

## ► Means of implementation

### Blue Book

The institute of Medicine (USA) sets out guidelines as recommendations for clinical practice, developed through a systematic process, with the objective of helping doctors and patients in deciding which healthcare measures are most appropriate in certain clinical situations. The Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino believes in the importance of a series of guidelines based on scientific evidence and, over the years, has advanced a project to compile the principal recommendations in the management of patients affected by specific pathologies.

In this way, the Blue Book sets out indications for the management of patients affected by the following pathologies:

HBV	Venous Thromboses	CEUS	Autoimmune Hepatitis
Hepatitis E	Hepatitis D	Focal liver lesions	Primary biliary cholangitis
Complications of cirrhosis	Hyperferritaemia (review)	Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis	Wilson's disease (review)
Hepatocarcinoma and new treatments	Liver transplants	HCV update	Updates on treatment for Hepatitis C
Increased liver tests	ASH Hepato-pathology Alcohol-related	NAFLD/NASH	Professional liver diseases
Pancreatic cysts	Hepatitis A	Drug-induced liver diseases	Liver diseases in pregnancy
Paracentesis portal hypertension – Baveno VII 2022	Liver biopsy	Genetic cholestatic liver diseases	Hepatorenal syndrome
Portal hypertension – Baveno VII	Evaluating the hepatopathic patient	Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency	
Dosage of analgesics in cirrhotic patients			

### Patient oriented guidelines and public conferences

The Fondazione Epatocentro Ticino has also produced a series of documents specifically for the public which sets out in clear language medical aspects and indications useful in daily life for anyone living with liver disease and organizes public conferences on specific topics.

# Our partners

## ▶ Sponsors

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THE MEDICAL MANAGEMENT IN SUBSTANCE USERS ▶  
BRISTOL MYERS SQUIBB SA ▶ DR. FALK PHARMA ▶  
THERMOFISHER ▶ PRIVATE CONTRIBUTORS ▶  
GENKYOTEX SA

## ► Collaborations

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 CENTRE HOSPITALIER UNIVERSITAIRE VAUDOIS,  
 DEPARTEMENT FEMME-MÈRE-ENFANT (CHUV) ► CENTRE  
 SUISSE DES MALADIES DU FOIE DE L'ENFANT, HÔPITAUX  
 UNIVERSITAIRES DE GENÈVE (HUG) ► HÔPITAUX  
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 KANTONSSPITAL GRAUBÜNDEN, DEPARTEMENT FÜR KINDER  
 UND JUGENDMEDIZIN ► KANTONSSPITAL ST. GALLEN  
 ► OSTSCHWEIZER KINDERSPITAL ST. GALLEN ► UNIVERSITY  
 OF MILAN-BICOCCA, OSPEDALE SAN GERARDO ► LUZERNER,  
 KANTONSSPITAL KINDERSPITAL ► LUZERNER,  
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 KINDERSPITAL BEIDER BASEL (UKBB) ► INGRADO ► ANTENNA  
 ICARO ► LABORATORIO UNICO METROPOLITANO (LUM)

## ▶ Additional collaborations

OSPEDALE MAGGIORE, BOLOGNA ▶ KANTONSSPITAL AARAU (KSA) ▶ KLINIK FÜR KINDER- UND JUGENDMEDIZIN – KANTONSSPITAL WINTERTHUR ▶ KANTONSSPITAL WINTERTHUR ▶ GASTROENTEROLOGIE UND HEPATOLOGIE, CLARUNIS – UNIVERSITÄRES BAUCHZENTRUM, BASEL ▶ SPITAL BÜLACH ▶ EUROPEAN REFERENCE NETWORK (ERN RARE-LIVER) ▶ EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE LIVER (EASL) ▶ AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE LIVER (AASLD) ▶ SWISS SOCIETY FOR ALLERGOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY (SSAI) ▶ INTERNATIONAL AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS GROUP (IAIHG) ▶ INTERNATIONAL AUTOIMMUNE HEPATITIS GROUP RETROSPECTIVE REGISTRY (IAIHG-RR) ▶▶ INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCLEROSING CHOLANGITIS STUDY GROUP (IP-SCSG) ▶ SWISSHEPA ▶ SWISS SOCIETY FOR ULTRASOUND IN MEDICINE (SGUM) ▶ SWISS TRANSPLANT COHORT (STCS) ▶ SAMMSU – SWISS ASSOCIATION FOR THE MEDICAL MANAGEMENT IN SUBSTANCE USERS ▶ SWISS HIV COHORT (SHCS) ▶ SWISS HEPATOCELLULAR ADENOMA REGISTRY ▶ SWISS CIRRHOSIS COHORT STUDY (SSCiCoS) ▶ SOCIETÀ SVIZZERA DI GASTROENTEROLOGIA (SGG) ▶ KOSEK ▶ VEREIN MORBUS WILSON SCHWEIZ ▶ ASSOCIAZIONE MALATTIE GENETICHE RARE (MGR)



To all those who have supported the activities of the Foundation we offer our heartfelt thanks!

**THANK YOU FROM  
OUR HEART!**

TO FIND OUT HOW TO SUPPORT THE FOUNDATION, WRITE TO [fondazione.epatocentro@hin.ch](mailto:fondazione.epatocentro@hin.ch) OR CALL +41 91 910 65 70

# Keeping updated

The Foundation is present on social networking channels which enables its own followers, currently more than 1 200, to remain updated on its notifications, activities, and research results as well as training events offered by the Foundation. At the same time, the site remains a point of reference for anyone interested in liver diseases for various reasons.



## Website

[www.epatocentro.ch/it/La-Fondazione](http://www.epatocentro.ch/it/La-Fondazione)



## Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/FondazioneEpatocentroTicino](http://www.facebook.com/FondazioneEpatocentroTicino)



## LinkedIn page

[www.linkedin.com/company/fondazione-epatocentro-ticino](http://www.linkedin.com/company/fondazione-epatocentro-ticino)



## Instagram page

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## Newsletter – The Liver Bulletin

[www.epatocentro.ch](http://www.epatocentro.ch)

