



The International Student Congress of  
Clinical Innovation and Medical Sciences

**Project Proposal**



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# introduction

The International student Congress of Clinical Innovation and Medical Sciences (ICOCIMS) was born in November 2022 under the name Convegno In Medicina di Emergenza-Urgenza (CIMEU), and aims to represent a dynamic opportunity for medical and bio-medical sciences' students and young researchers to challenge themselves at a higher, international, level. Since the first, original, edition, the underlying purpose has always been to widen future scientists' perspectives and promote an international sharing of knowledges and competences, pointing to a common development which may lead to a brighter future.

Thus, each edition is going to refresh this underlying motif with new and cutting-edge topics, which will be chosen with a globally updated perspective.

With this optic, the 2023 edition (and first one under the brand-new name "ICOCIMS") focuses on *Personalized Medicine and New Frontiers of Care and Therapy*. Personalized Medicine is a new and constantly growing approach to people's care which aims to treat several and heterogeneous conditions through each patients' own genetic profile: the genome may a guide for prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases (NHGRI, NIH).



Personalized Medicine focuses on individual uniqueness, prioritizing individual patients and their personal peculiarities over their diseases. This approach provides for tailored interventions and predictions, to obtain better outcomes for several diseases. In latest years personalized medicine became an international priority as well, as shown by the nomination of an European Group called International Consortium for Personalized Medicine (ICPerMed) in November 2016, rather than the foundation of dedicated scientific journals, or the prominent interest shown by the U.S. NIH through uncountable research projects.

This approach develops in contrast of the older "one-size-fits-all" approach and it is the pure example of innovation the ICOCIMS wants to promote, but alongside this philosophy we are aware there are several new groundbreaking (or potentially so) discoveries and ideas which may improve patient care and people's lives: artificial intelligence, organoids, or nanoparticle-based vectors represent some examples of how inter-field collaboration may lead to life-changing discoveries, despite, sometimes, also older technologies, when readapted or observed under another perspective, may reveal a renewed usefulness in patient care.

Thus, our focus in 2023 won't be only on Personalized Medicine but is going to consider all the new - or renewed - approaches that may play a drastically positive role in people's lives.

## **The Founders**

Dario Bottignole, M.D., Francesco Casadei-Baroni,  
Giacomo Maria Cerreto, Emilio Maddalena,  
Riccardo Mazzoli, M.D.



organization

The ICOCIMS Student Congress staff consists of a small and dynamic organization, emphasizing efficient teamwork. Each committee, including Organizing, Scientific, Legal, Digital and Media, External Relations, Sponsorships and Funding, Social Programme, and Logistics, will be composed of dedicated and experienced individuals. Their effort and collaboration ensures the making of a successful and memorable event.

A Chief Sustainability Officer will also be nominated in order to prioritize and drive sustainable practices and initiatives across all operations and decision-making processes.



## **Dario Bottignole, M.D.**

Former student of the University of Parma and student representative for six years, now I work as physician and explore my interests in Neurosciences after four years of internship under the guide of Prof. Giovanni Pavesi and Prof. Liborio Parrino. I'm currently also involved as researcher in several projects about Medical Education with the SIMED group, and I'm a member of the University of Parma Alumni and Friends Association which widely promotes the University.



## **Francesco Casadei-Baroni**

From a young age, I have been captivated by the wonders of the human body and the intricate workings that allow it to function, thus I decided on enrolling in the University of Parma Medical School. In addition to my studies, I am actively engaged in student representation, currently serving as Member of the Student Council and Head of Delegation. In this role I am able to bring the voice of other students up to the highest levels of the University governance.



## **Giacomo Maria Cerreto**

I am a medical student at the University of Parma, actively involved in student government, representing the interests of over 30,000 students. In addition to my involvement in University governance, I am building up valuable experience through research work in the laboratory of Prof. Marco Vitale and in the MPN outpatient center, led by Prof. Elena Masselli, where I am also expanding my understanding of hematological disorders and patient care.





## **Emilio Maddalena**

Medical student at the University of Parma and representative for the International Medicine & Surgery course. I developed a strong interest in the field of pain therapy following my volunteering experiences as an ambulance responder for the Italian Red Cross. I am currently involved in a Research Clerkship led by Prof. Marco Falasca, during which I will be focusing on the biochemistry of metabolic disorders.



**Riccardo Mazzoli, M.D.**

During my studies at the University of Parma, I held roles as a Student Representative, International Mobility Tutor, and IFMSA Local Exchange Officer. My main interests revolve around hospital management, healthcare policy, and global health. I firmly advocate for the promotion of practical experience, research opportunities, and fostering national and international cooperation as the pillars of a thriving Medical School.



mission

The mission of the International Student Congress of Clinical Innovation and Medical Sciences (ICOCIMS) aims to foster collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange among students and young professionals in the field of clinical medicine. By providing a platform for networking, education, and research dissemination, ICOCIMS aims to empower the next generation of healthcare leaders and promote advancements in medical sciences.

Our vision is to create a global community of students and young professionals passionate about clinical innovation and medical sciences.

Through ICOCIMS, we aspire to inspire and support emerging talents in their pursuit of excellence, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to the improvement of healthcare worldwide.

We envision ICOCIMS as a catalyst for transformative ideas, interdisciplinary collaborations, and evidence-based practice in clinical medicine.



target audience

The target is mainly represented by students and young researchers involved in the multiple fields of medical, biomedical, and natural sciences: the only essential feature required is the deep interest in human health and its development. Under this statement many kinds of students and researchers are included, such as whom from Medicine and Surgery, Biology, Biomedical Engineering, Neurobiology, Neurosciences, Dentistry, Osteopathic Medicine, Pharmacy, Veterinary, Nursing, Nutrition, Psychology, etc.

## who can present research at ICOCIMS?

Although everyone can attend, only under 30 years old individuals falling in any of these categories may apply to present during the academic programme times:

- Undergraduate students;
- Graduate students;
- Recently graduated scientists;
- PhD candidates;
- Interns and residents;
- Young pre- or post-doctoral researchers.



who can present  
research at ICOCIMS?

These criteria are due to the desire of making the ICOCIMS a performing stage for young scientists which would like to challenge themselves at a higher level, inside a dynamic and enthusiastic environment which may also help them growing under a scientific point of view.



for stakeholders

This section outlines the stakeholders involved in the proposed project, the strategy to seek sponsors, the estimated cost for the event, the expected contribution from the University of Parma, and a breakdown of how the funds will be utilized.

## potential stakeholders

The success of the conference relies on the active involvement and support of various stakeholders. The key stakeholders for this project are:

1. University of Parma: As our primary collaborator, the University of Parma plays a vital role in the success of the conference. Their resources and reputation in the field of experimental medicine make them a valuable partner in organizing and promoting the event.

## potential stakeholders

2. Academic Community: Researchers, professors, and students constitute an important stakeholder group for this conference. Their participation and engagement will contribute to the event's knowledge-sharing and networking opportunities.

3. Industry Professionals: Professionals from the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries are significant stakeholders for this conference. Their involvement will facilitate discussions on practical applications and advancements in experimental medicine, fostering potential collaborations between academia and industry.

## potential stakeholders

### 4. Governmental Organizations:

Government bodies, such as health departments and research agencies, have a vested interest in the progress of experimental medicine. Engaging with these stakeholders can provide opportunities for collaboration, funding, and policy development.

### 5. Medical Associations and Societies:

Collaborating with medical associations and societies will help us reach a broader audience of professionals and researchers interested in experimental medicine. Their endorsement and participation will enhance the credibility and impact of the conference.

## estimated event costs

Considering the participation of 250 among participants and presenters, and the organization of a gala dinner for 100 people, the approximate cost of the event is as follows:

1. **Venue and Facilities:** The cost of securing a suitable venue, including conference halls, meeting rooms, and exhibition spaces, is estimated to be null. We strongly rely on the contribution of University of Parma for the utilization of adequate facilities for the event.

## estimated event costs

2. Conference Materials and Equipment: Expenses for conference materials such as name tags, programs and signage are estimated to be approximately €100, while necessary audio-visual equipment is estimated to be provided by University of Parma.

3. Marketing and Promotion: To effectively promote the conference and attract attendees, an estimated €100 will be allocated for advertising campaigns and print materials.



## estimated event costs

4. Gala Dinner: The cost of organizing a gala dinner for 100 participants, including venue, catering, decorations, and entertainment, is estimated to be around 25€-50€/participant. All people willing to participate in the gala will be asked to contribute to the expense by paying their own quota.

Total Estimated Cost: €200

## fundraising

To support the Conference, we will actively seek sponsorships from businesses, organizations, and individuals who share our commitment to advancing the field of medicine.

Sponsorship packages will be established and tailored, as part of a comprehensive sponsor-procurement approach, to provide prominent brand exposure during the conference, offering sponsors opportunities to engage with a diverse audience of medical professionals and researchers.

## sponsor-procurement

To secure sponsors for the conference, we will employ a multi-pronged approach, leveraging our extensive network and reputation in the medical and academic communities:

1. **Personalized Invitations:** We will personally invite potential sponsors, highlighting the benefits of sponsoring the conference, including increased brand visibility, access to a highly targeted audience, and opportunities for networking and collaboration.

## sponsor-procurement

2. Sponsorship Packages: We will develop comprehensive sponsorship packages that offer various levels of benefits and recognition. These packages may include options such as logo placement, exhibition booths, speaking opportunities, and inclusion in promotional materials.

3. Online Promotion: Utilizing social media platforms, we will actively promote sponsorship opportunities, reaching a broader audience of potential sponsors.

# University of Parma

We will request a contribution from University of Parma to support the realization of this project.

The contribution will mainly consist of goods, venues, and services.

We will emphasize the potential benefits for the University, such as increased visibility, enhanced reputation as a center for experimental medicine research, and the opportunity for researchers and students to network with respected personalities in the field.



		<b>Wed 8 Nov 2023</b>	<b>Thu 9 Nov 2023</b>	<b>Fri 10 Nov 2023</b>
09:00 – 09:30	Participant registration	Participant registration	Participant registration	Participant registration
09:30 – 10:30	Opening ceremony	Academic programme	Academic programme	Academic programme
10:00 – 13:00	Academic programme	Academic programme	Academic programme	Academic programme
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:00 – 17:00	Academic programme	Academic programme	Academic programme	Academic programme
17:00 – 18:00	Academic programme	Academic programme	Academic programme	Awards and closing ceremony
18:00 – 21:00	Free time	Free time	Free time	Free time
21:00 – 24:00	Free time	Free time	Free time	Gala night





# future developments

Every year a new version of the ICOCIMS is going to take place, with a partially renewed organizing committee to give new energies and enthusiasm. New themes will be discussed, always involving different disciplines to promote constant discussions and share of perspectives about common matters. Moreover, this project will always look for collaborations with the University of Parma, to highlight the creativity of its members and to find a “home”, where minds can join themselves to grow pointing to a better future.

As previously mentioned, the project itself aims to become a performing stage for young scientists, a valuable starting point for many future careers.

Parallely, we are going to widely promote the congress all around the Europe and the world, to constantly increase the number of participants and so building the above-mentioned collaborations and connections which are going to be fundamental for sharing knowledge and young, bright, minds.

This promotion is going to pass through several networks, involving the already well-known students' congresses which take place every year in several countries, and one of our perspectives embraces the possibility of building a common, comprehensive, network which may group all together these projects, to promote international collaborations and mutual development.

In a historical period marked by a deep uncertainty about future times and inability picturing a different reality for younger generations, we would like to be a light in the dark for whom believe efforts can pay more than just complaining, we would like to help people to change this world, through innovation and constant knowledges progression.

Only an international approach can satisfy this vision, only an international approach may help our country to grow a next generation of researchers and clinicians which is going to be able to build a better and brighter future.



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