VAC2027 International Conference on Vascular Anomalies:

From Mechanisms to Medicines

Barcelona | 9–12 March 2027
Venue: CosmoCaixa Barcelona (https://cosmocaixa.org/es/)

The VAC International Conference on Vascular Anomalies: From Mechanisms to Medicines builds on a well-established European scientific trajectory promoting excellence, multidisciplinary collaboration, inclusivity, patient-centered research, and responsible dissemination. The success of previous editions (Barcelona 2021, Brussels 2023, Berlin 2025) demonstrates the growing relevance of this forum and the need for continuity in a rapidly evolving field. Vascular anomalies comprise a heterogeneous group of rare, predominantly congenital disorders, including vascular malformations, vascular tumours, and complex genetic syndromes. Although individually rare, collectively they impose significant lifelong morbidity and require highly specialized, coordinated care. Advancing this field demands close interaction between basic science, translational research, and clinical expertise. VAC2027 (Barcelona, 9-12 March 2027) will convene 180-200 international participants at CosmoCaixa Barcelona, including basic researchers, clinicians from multiple specialties, industry representatives, and Patient Advocacy Organisations (PAOs). The programme integrates keynote lectures, thematic sessions, discussion panels, oral and poster presentations, and networking activities. A defining feature is the high and active participation of PAOs and the integration of patient testimonies, ensuring that scientific priorities remain aligned with unmet clinical needs. By bringing together the entire community across all aspects of these rare diseases, from molecular mechanisms to patient management and therapeutic development, VAC2027 aims to accelerate the development of innovative, effective treatments and improve outcomes for patients affected by vascular anomalies.

DAY 1 – TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2027

12:00-13:00 **Registration**

Opening

13:00-13:10 Welcome. Mariona Graupera, Chair of the Scientific Committee

13:10-13:20 Patient representatives' message

13:20-13:30 **Patient testimonies**

Keynote Lecture I

13:30-14:15 Beth Drolet (Dept of Dermatology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA)

Session 1 - Venous Malformations

14:15-14:40 **TALK**: Elisa Boscolo (College of Medicine, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, USA)

14:40-14:55 SHORT TALK 1

14:55-15:10 SHORT TALK 2

15:10- 15:40 **Coffee break**

15:40-16:05 **TALK**: Ana Angulo-Urarte (Josep Carreras Research Institute (IJC), Spain)

16:05-16:20 SHORT TALK 3

16:20-16:35 SHORT TALK 4

16:35-17:00 **TALK**: Sarah Elizabeth Sheppard (Unit on Vascular Malformations, NIH, USA)

17:00-17:15 SHORT TALK 5

17:15-17:30 SHORT TALK 6

17:30-18:10 **Flash Talks 1**: 6 short talks, 5 min each + 10min discussion

Welcome Drink

18:10-19:30 Networking drink

DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY 10 MARCH 2027

Keynote Lecture II

13:30-14:15 Claire Shovlin (National Heart & Lung Institute, Imperial College, UK)

Session 2 – Lymphatic Malformations & Lymphedema

09:30-09:40 **Patient Testimonies**

09:40-10:05 **TALK**: Taija Makinen (Department of Immunolgy, Uppsala Universitet, Finland)

10:05-10:20 SHORT TALK 7

10:20-10:35 SHORT TALK 8

10:35-11:00 **TALK:** Michael Dellinger (Departments of Surgery and Molecular Biology, UT Southwestern Medical Center, USA)

11:00-11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30-11:55 **TALK**: Shoshana Greenberger (Department of Clinical Microbiology and Immunology, Tel Aviv University, Israel)

11:55-12:10 SHORT TALK 9

12:10-12:25 SHORT TALK 10

12:25-13:25 **Lunch**

13:15-14:45 **POSTER SESSION I**

14:45-15:00 **Patient Testimonies**

15:00-15:25 **TALK**: Isabelle Quere (Service Médecine Vasculaire, CHU de Montpellier, France)

15:25-15:40 SHORT TALK 11

15:40-15:55 SHORT TALK 12

15:55-16:35 **Flash Talks 2:** 6 short talks, 5 min each + 10min discussion

16:35-17:05 **Coffee break**

17:05-17:30 **TALK**: Pia Ostergaard (Cardiovascular & Genomics Research Institute, University of London, UK)

17:30-17:45 SHORT TALK 13

17:45-18:00 SHORT TALK 14

18:00-18:30 **ROUND TABLE:** Round table with patients, clinician and researcher

Cultural activity

18:30-20:30 Guided Walking Tour: Gothic Quarter and Born

DAY 3 – THURSDAY 11 MARCH 2027

08:00-08:45 **MEET SPEAKERS:** Breakfast with the speakers

Keynote Lecture III

08:45-09:30 TBC

Session 3 – Arteriovenous Malformations & HHT

09:30-09:55 **TALK**: Claudio Franco (Vascular Morphogenesis Lab, Católica Biomedical Research Center, Portugal)

09:55-10:10 SHORT TALK 15

10:10-10:35 **TALK**: Sabine Bailly (University Grenoble Alpes, INSERM, France)

10:35-11:05 **Coffee break**

11:05-11:30 **TALK**: TBC

11:30-11:45 SHORT TALK 16

11:45-12:00 SHORT TALK 17

12:00-12:15 **Patient Testimonies**

12:15-13:15 **Lunch**

13:15-14:45 **POSTER SESSION II**

Session 4 – Clinical Trials

14:45-15:10 **TALK**: Paloma Triana (Hospital Infantil de la Paz, Spain)

15:10-15:25 SHORT TALK 18

15:25-15:40 SHORT TALK 19

15:40-16:10 **Coffee break**

16:10-16:35 **TALK**: Antoni Riera-Mestre (Hospital Universitari de Bellvitge, Spain)

16:35-17:00 **TALK**: Laurence Boon (Center for Vascular Anomalies, Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc (UCLouvain), Belgium)

17:00-17:15 SHORT TALK 20

VAC Dinner

20:00 Dinner & Networking

DAY 4 – FRIDAY 12 MARCH 2027

Session 5 - Capillary malformations

09:00-9:25 TALK: Eulalia Baselga (Hospital Sant Joan de Déu, Spain)

09:25-09:40 SHORT TALK 21

09:40-09:55 SHORT TALK 22

09:55-10:10 SHORT TALK 23

10:10-10:35 TALK: Ayal Ben-Zvi (Faculty of Medicine, The Hebreu University of Jerusalem, Israel)

10:35-10:50 Patient Testimonies

10:50-11:20 Coffee break

Session 6 - Cerebral Cavernous Malformations (CCM) & Brain Lesions

11:20-11:45 TALK: Michael Potente (Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine, Germany)

11:45-12:10 TALK: Mark Khan (Department of Medicine and Cardiovascular Institute, University of Pensylvania, USA)

12:10-12:25 SHORT TALK 24 Selected from Abstracts

12:25-12:40 SHORT TALK 25 Selected from Abstracts

12:40-13:05 TALK: Anne Joutel (Institute of Psychiatry and Neuroscience of Paris, INSERM, France)

Awards & Closing

13:05-13:15 Awards & Closing