

# 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 Clinical Management of patients with vascular anomalies. Beth Drolet (USA)

## Session 1 - Venous Malformations

- 14:15-14:40 **TALK:** New models for the study of venous malformations. [Elisa Boscolo \(USA\)](#)
- 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:** Embryonic development errors driving venous malformations. [Ana Angulo-Urarte \(IJC, Spain\)](#)
- 16:05-16:20 SHORT TALK 3
- 16:20-16:35 SHORT TALK 4
- 16:35-17:00 **TALK:** New genetic insights on venous malformations. [Sarah Sheppard -](#)
- 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 – Genetic and environmental determinants on vascular anomalies [Claire Shovlin \(X\)](#)

## Session 2 – Lymphatic Malformations & Lymphedema

- 09:30-09:40 **Patient Testimonies**
- 09:40-10:05 **TALK:** Endothelial cell dynamics in lymphatic malformations. [Taija Mäkinen \(Finland\)](#)
- 10:05-10:20 SHORT TALK 7
- 10:20-10:35 SHORT TALK 8
- 10:35-11:00 **TALK:** Understanding complex lymphatic anomalies. [Michael Dellinger](#)
- 11:00-11:30 **Coffee break**
- 11:30-11:55 **TALK:** Treatments for kaposiform lymphangiomatosis. [Shoshana Greenberger \(Israel\)](#)
- 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:** Clinical management of patients with congenital lymphedema. [Isabelle Quere](#)

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:** Latest advances in lymphedema. [Pia Ostergaard](#)

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 Novel iPSC models for the study of vascular diseases. [Josef Penninger](#)

## Session 3 – Arteriovenous Malformations & HHT

09:30-09:55 **TALK:** Hemodynamic stress in arteriovenous malformations. [Claudio Franco \(Portugal\)](#)

09:55-10:10 SHORT TALK 15

10:10-10:35 **TALK:** The latest on BMP signalling in HHT. [Sabine Bailly](#)

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

11:05-11:30 **TALK:** How to approach therapeutic interventions in arteriovenous malformations. [Julien Coulie](#)

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: Clinical trials on PI3K-related syndromes [Paloma Triana \(Spain\)](#)

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 – AKT inhibitors for management of patients with HHT. [Antoni Riera-Mestre \(Spain\)](#)

16:35-17:00 TALK: Molecular therapies for arteriovenous malformations. [Laurence Boon \(Belgium\)](#)

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: Genotypes and phenotypes of capillary malformations. [Eulalia Baselga \(HSJD, Spain\)](#)

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: Cerebral capillary malformations caused by activating GNAQ signalling. [Ayal Ben-Zvi \(Israel\)](#)

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:** Novel therapeutic approaches for CCM. [Michael Potente \(Germany\)](#)

11:45-12:10 **TALK:** Genetic basis of sporadic CCMs. [Mark Khan \(USA\)](#)

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:** The latest on cerebral small vessel diseases (SVD). [Anne Joutel \(France\)](#)

## **Awards & Closing**

13:05-13:15 Awards & Closing