



Year in Review

2024



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This icon represents hyperlinked text. Whenever you see this icon, the text can be clicked to take you to a new web page.

Dear colleagues and friends!

Another successful year for our United European Gastroenterology (UEG) has passed. In this Year in Review, you will find details on the work from our many activities. I want to highlight some of those while summarising others.

Our community thrives with more than 30,000 registered myUEG Associates joining us virtually. To make it even more appealing, we launched the My Connect app to have our offerings and messaging at your fingertips on your smartphone. This service is very popular and increasingly used by our associates.

As announced at the beginning of my presidency, I wanted to take advantage of UEG's huge communication and dissemination expertise. In so doing, UEG is now engaged in EU Horizon projects, and developing this branch of operations is one of our larger strategic goals.

Another issue I am looking at is the very organisation we are working with. On behalf of the UEG Council, approved during a meeting in my hometown of Stockholm, we started the process to review our governance and work processes critically and, by this, develop a structure fit for the future. The task was to retain

the general structure of a federation with Specialist and National Member Societies. Since the workload for us as volunteers increased, one requirement was to make the structure leaner and streamline our work and decision-making processes. Throughout this ongoing process, we also aim to enhance collaboration and strategic planning within UEG, as well as with our Member Societies and other stakeholders and will also place special emphasis on engaging with our young members who are willing to engage and bring with them novel ideas and a fresh view on UEG. While this process is far from being finished at the turn of the year, Council worked with a proposal brought forward by an ad-hoc task force right before Christmas, and we are finetuning more concrete proposals to these questions during the first months of 2025 and can hopefully present these by mid-2025. Through this process, we aim to ensure good governance for UEG, both now and in the future.

At the end of 2024, we launched Gutflix, our new online platform for educational content. For registered myUEG Associates, a universe of online educational material is available, from webinars and masterclasses to the lectures delivered during our annual meeting, UEG Week.





This year's 52nd UEG Week back in Vienna was a great success, with more than 11,000 on-site participants and some 1,300 online. Regarding participants, abstracts and sponsoring, we are returning to pre-pandemic times. Besides our European members, we could welcome hundreds from North America, South America, the Middle and the Far East, and Africa. During the Week, we could also welcome our 50th National Member Society from Malta! Another success for UEG! The UEG Lifetime Achievement award went to Paul Fockens, a truly deserving candidate for this honour, and the Research Prize to Enrique da Maderia for his Waterfall trial.

2024 also brought a change in the Editor-in-Chief position for our thriving UEG Journal that has secured us a solid position amongst the top GI journals globally. Effective January 2025, Albrecht Neesse, previously Associate Editor with UEG Journal, is succeeding Joost Drenth at the helm.

On a personal note, moving from Vice-President to President made room for a new Vice-President, Joost Drenth. With General Secretary Jeanin van Hooft and the new Treasurer Jonas Rosendahl, I am working with a highly motivated and capable team, making the meetings not only productive but enjoyable. I also want to express my deepest gratitude to the UEG Council for their exceptional commitment, leadership, and trust. As we

navigate a challenging landscape, their dedication ensures that UEG remains future-proof, resilient, and sustainable.

Our office, under the leadership of Doris Möstl and Wilma Hofer, is a never-ending resource of professional support. The most important message here is that UEG is financially stable and sustainable. The coming year will present us with the changes we are proposing for the structure of UEG, offering a plethora of opportunities for a prosperous future by making the organisation fit for the times ahead of us. While this may be considered a threat by some, as change is sometimes received, Changes are sometimes met with skepticism, but I want you to see the necessity for this development and the tremendous chances it offers for our UEG and the GI community at large.

I am looking forward to welcoming you this year for UEG Week in Berlin!

Sincerely,
Matthias Löhr

1 Council- and "Meet with Presidents" Meeting in Stockholm

2 Council at "Meet with Presidents" Meeting in Stockholm

Introduction

About UEG

myUEG Community

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About UEG



“The UEG was for me a gateway to some very important career steps. I participated in the UEG clinical visiting fellowship and because of this, I build some very crucial connections with world-class leaders in hepatology.”

MyUEG Community survey respondent

myUEG Community

Our myUEG Community – where connections thrive



1

Growing Together for a Better Tomorrow

The strength of UEG lies in its people, and this year has underscored the power of community and collaboration in achieving our shared goals.

Our **myUEG Community!** has reached a significant milestone, now connecting over 30,000 myUEG Associates from around the globe. This growth reflects our commitment to advancing digestive health, fostering innovation, and supporting professional excellence.

Joint endeavours with our thriving worldwide community

To foster a broader digestive health community, we actively engage with 50 National Societies and 17 Specialist Societies, alongside numerous international organisations in the digestive health field. Our partnerships involve UEG's active participation in live events, support for collaborative initiatives, joint advocacy efforts, and educational programs. We also reach out to national societies and visit them at their annual meetings.



2

1 UEG Week delegates

2 UEG Week delegates



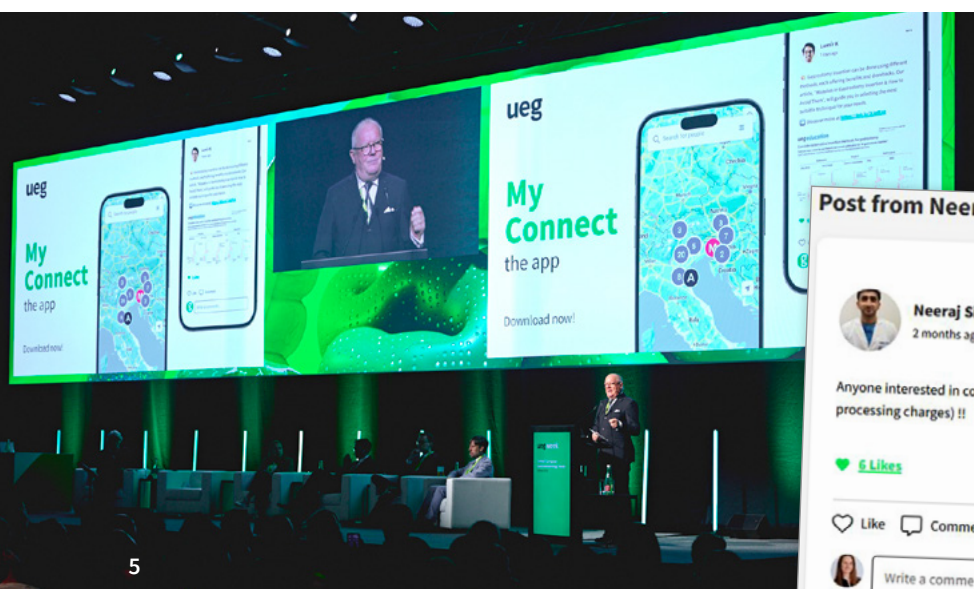
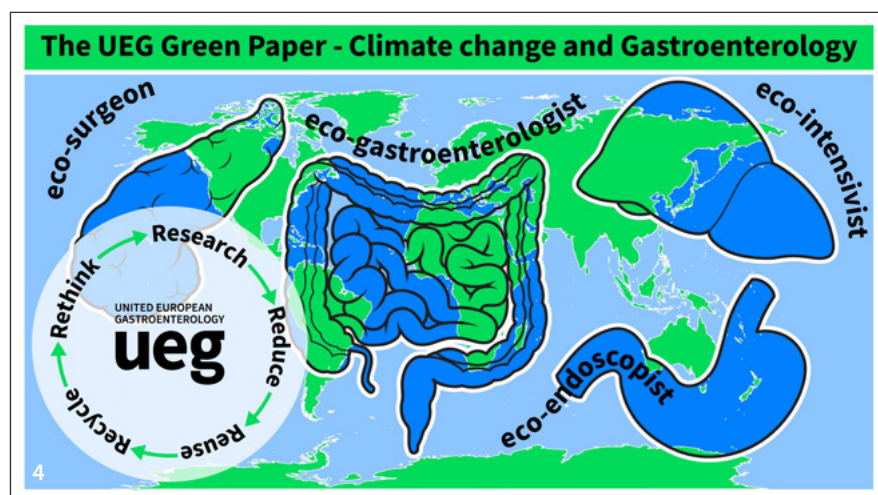
- 1 Members Lounge in the myUEG Community Area, UEG Week 2024
- 2 Newly elected Scientific Committee Chair Elect Jörn Schattenberg, Secretary General Elect Roos E. Pouw
- 3 Meet & Greet National Societies Committee Chair Martina Müller-Schilling with leadership of the British Society of Gastroenterology

By sharing their specific national insights and networks, UEG national member societies are advancing strategic collaboration to benefit our shared mission. Beyond Europe, we deepened relationships through fruitful exchanges and visits with key partners such as the Korean, Japanese, Latin American, and American Gastroenterology Associations. Through all these collaborations, we aim to expand our global reach and establish a unified voice for European Gastroenterology that is recognised and respected worldwide.

Connection throughout the year with My Connect – the App

With over 7,000 users from the digestive health community, My Connect has become the essential platform for researchers, clinicians, and allied health professionals to stay updated, network, and access the latest news in digestive health. With the app version available, engaging with the community has never been easier.

The app features collaborative forums to start discussions, ask questions, and share insights, ensuring individuals remain engaged and informed on the go. Even better, My Connect offers exclusive groups on various topics, allowing healthcare professionals to connect with peers, find research collaborators, and prepare for exams together.



Post from Neeraj Singla



Neeraj Singla
2 months ago

Anyone interested in collaborating for an invited review article in World Journal of Hepatology (No article processing charges) !!

6 Likes

11 comments

Like Comment



Write a comment...



Gonçalo Alexandrino · 2 months ago

I am.

goncaloalexandrino@gmail.com

Like Reply



Rohit Mathur · 2 months ago

Yes Rohit Mathur

Like Reply



Pedro Narra Figueiredo · 2 months ago

What is the topic?

Like Reply



Zongting Gu · 2 months ago

Dear Neeraj Singla, I might be interested. What is the topic? Looking forward to hearing from you.

4 UEG Green Paper – Climate Change and Gastroenterology, developed by the National Societies Committee and calling on the GI workforce to address the impact of climate change on health and healthcare practices.

5 UEG President Matthias Löhr presenting My Connect during Presidential Address

6 Best of UEG Week session at the Viszeralmedizin congress 2024

7 My Connect post

8 Social Media Ambassador Keith Siau & UEG Week delegates

Ingest the best.

ueg.eu
@my_ueg



Alejandro
Piscuoya
Peru

Alejandro
López
Sweden

ueg Community Statistics

31,326

myUEG Associates

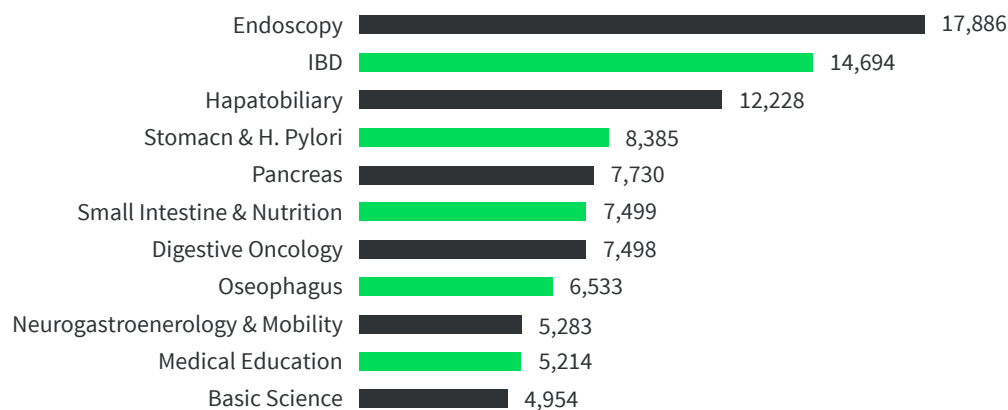
7,012

My Connect users

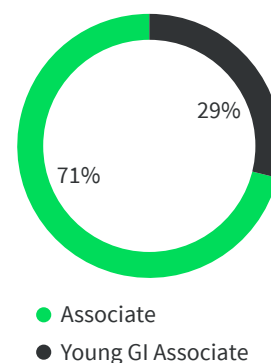
3,846

App downloads

Field of interest of myUEG Associates



User groups



myUEG Community survey insights: A Testament to Excellence in Medical Education and Collaboration!

We're proud to share the results of our market research survey, reflecting the trust and value our community places in UEG. With insights from almost 2,000 participants, the results highlight UEG's vital contributions to education, scientific exchange, and clinical standards.

- **Participation:** The respondents included 67% medical doctors, 29% researchers, 3% other healthcare professionals, and 1% graduate students.
- **Perception of UEG's Role:** Respondents identified the primary roles of UEG as:
 - A provider of postgraduate education and training (58%)
 - A platform for scientific exchange (55%)
 - A promoter and disseminator of clinical standards and guidelines (52%)
 - These roles were highlighted as key areas for UEG to continue prioritising in the future.
- **Recommendation:** Most respondents (65%) would definitely recommend UEG as a medical organisation to their colleagues

which underpins an endorsement of our commitment to excellence.

- **Motivations for becoming a myUEG Associate:** The main reasons for joining include:
 - Attendance at the annual congress (UEG Week) (70%)
 - Access to online resources (64%)
 - Participation in online education and training opportunities (60%)
- **Community Value:** The most commonly cited benefits of being part of the myUEG Community were social connections with other professionals (48%) and opportunities for networking and referrals (46%).

These results reaffirm that UEG is on the right path, and we remain dedicated to empowering healthcare professionals with world-class education and resources. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to this survey – your insights are the cornerstone of our continuous growth!

¹ Matthias Löhr with Alejandro Piscocya, OPGC President

² UEG Roadshow at the Annual Congress of the Hellenic Society of Gastroenterology

Governance

Success achieved through teamwork between volunteers and staff

Council

Our **Strategic Plan** provides a strong framework to maintain UEG's inclusive and democratic ethos while fostering innovation and robust governance. Navigating a challenging landscape, UEG Council is dedicated to ensuring that UEG remains future-proof, resilient, and sustainable.

UEG committees and groups serve as the organisation's operational backbone. They provide opportunities for passionate volunteers to actively influence current and future UEG initiatives. Notably, all UEG officers, regardless of their roles, contribute their time and efforts voluntarily. This dedication reinforces UEG's identity as a non-profit organisation committed to prioritising patient well-being.



President
Matthias Löhr (Sweden)



Vice President
Joost PH Drenth (The Netherlands)



Secretary General
Jeanin van Hooft (The Netherlands)



Treasurer
Jonas Rosendahl (Germany)



Scientific Committee Chair
Julia Mayerle (Germany)



Education Committee Chair
Henriette Heinrich (Switzerland)



Research Committee Chair
Silvio Danese (Italy)



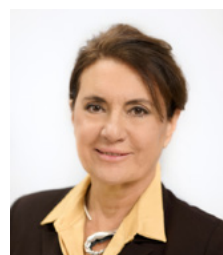
Quality of Care Committee Chair
Giovanni Marchegiani (Italy)



National Societies Committee Chair
Martina Müller-Schilling (Germany)



Public Affairs Group Chair
Patrizia Burra (Italy)



Equality & Diversity Group Chair
Carolina Ciacci (Italy)



Young Talent Group Chair
Paula Sousa (Portugal)



Endoscopy Representative
Helmut Messmann (Germany)



Liver Representative
Annalisa Berzigotti (Switzerland)



General Gastroenterology Representative
Hana Algül (Germany)



General Gastroenterology Representative
Jan Bornschein (UK)



Surgery Representative
Dieter Hahnloser (Switzerland)



Independent Councillor
Philippe van Hootegem (Belgium)

Headquarters Management

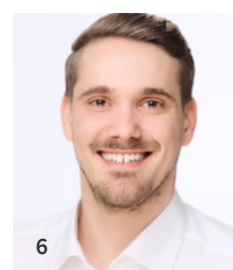
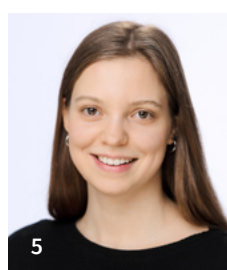
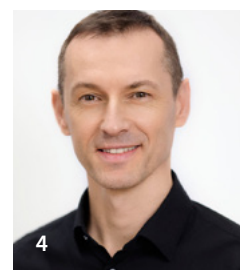
Building a stronger community through meaningful connections



Committed team members from around the globe are integral to UEG's thriving success.

UEG's headquarters, fittingly called the House of European Gastroenterology, is based in Vienna, Austria. It serves as the heart of our operations, managing key aspects of the association, educational initiatives, and international congress activities. The Headquarters Management Team's steadfast dedication and strategic expertise have been instrumental in delivering a wide range of impactful projects. Their work includes developing innovative educational offerings and meticulously organising our renowned global congress. We look ahead with excitement to the opportunities of the coming year, particularly as we welcome six new members to our dynamic team.

Kelly Brazdzionis joined our Governance & Community Management team, Livia Alimena and Henrich Hipca joined our Research & Advocacy team, Arina Grosul joined our Marketing & Communication team, Peter Tschemer joined our Congress & Events team, and Jenna Langthaler joined our Programme & Education Management team.



1 Group picture at UEG Christmas Party

2 Kelly Brazdzionis

3 Livia Alimena

4 Henrich Hipca

5 Arina Grosul

6 Peter Tschemer

7 Jenna Langthaler

8 Elisabeth Pfeiffer and Toni Kozul

“I love how much opportunity there is for Young GIs to get involved as volunteers with the organisation of UEG, its Journal and the myriad of opportunities for recognition of our work!”

Ahsen Ustaoglu, Trainee Editor UEG Journal

Our Members

Achieving ambitious goals through synergies and cooperation



Our organisation thrives on the collective expertise of its **17 Specialist Member Societies** and **50 National Societies**, empowering us to respond effectively to the evolving needs of scientific research and healthcare. The **17 Specialist Member Societies** represent a diverse range of gastroenterology and related disciplines at the pan-European level. These include general gastroenterology and surgery and specialised associations focused on specific diseases or organs. This diversity ensures a comprehensive representation of the field across Europe.

National Society Membership in UEG is open to gastroenterology societies from countries in Europe and the Mediterranean region recognised by the United Nations. During the annual Meeting of Members in 2024, the Malta Association of Gastroenterology was accepted as UEG's 50th National Society Member, a moment that brought us great joy. We warmly welcomed Pierre Ellul, International Relations officer, as the official representative to the National Societies Forum, and we eagerly anticipate the participation of digestive health professionals from Malta within the myUEG Community.

To ensure balanced representation, we emphasise the active participation of all UEG Specialist and National Member Societies. Each Member Society is encouraged to appoint representatives to the annual Meeting of Members, which takes place during UEG Week. This organ provides a vital platform for member societies to engage and have their voices heard.

Our Specialist Member Societies

EAES

European Association for Endoscopic Surgery and other interventional techniques

EAGEN

European Association for Gastroenterology, Endoscopy and Nutrition

EASL

European Association for the Study of the Liver

ECCO

European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation

EDS

European Digestive Surgery

EFISDS

International Society of Digestive Surgery (European Federation)

EHMSG

European Helicobacter and Microbiota Study Group

EPC

European Pancreatic Club

ESCP

European Society of Coloproctology

ESDO

European Society of Digestive Oncology

ESGAR

European Society of Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Radiology

ESGE

European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

ESNM

European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility

ESP

European Society of Pathology

ESPCG

European Society for Primary Care Gastroenterology

ESPEN

The European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism

ESPGHAN

European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition



1 National Societies Committee Chair Martina Müller-Schilling and representative of the Malta Association of Gastroenterology Pierre Ellul

2 National Societies Forum in Vienna

Together we are a community

Specialist Members and National Member Societies

Albania

Shoqata Shqiptare Gastro-Entero-Hepatologjisë

Algeria

Société algérienne d'hépatogastro-entérologie et d'endoscopie digestive

Armenia

Armenian Gastroenterology Association

Austria

Österreichische Gesellschaft für Gastroenterologie und Hepatologie

Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan Gastroenterologists and Hepatologists Society

Belgium

Société Royale Belge de Gastro-Entérologie
Vlaamse Vereniging voor Gastroenterologie

Bosnia & Herzegovina

Association of Gastroenterohepatologists in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology

Croatia

Hrvatsko gastroenterološko društvo

Czech Republic

Czech Society of Gastroenterology

Denmark

Dansk Selskab for Gastroenterologi og Hepatologi

Egypt

Egyptian Association for Research and Training in Hepatogastroenterology

Estonia

Eesti Gastroenteroloogide Selts, Estonian Society of Gastroenterology

Finland

Suomen Gastroenterologiyhdistys ry

France

Société Nationale Française de Gastro-Entérologie

Georgia

Georgian National Gastroenterology And Hepatology Society

Germany

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Gastroenterologie, Verdauungs- und Stoffwechselkrankheiten

Greece

Hellenic Society of Gastroenterology

Hungary

Magyar Gasztroenterológiai Társaság

Ireland

Irish Society of Gastroenterology

Israel

Israel Gastroenterological Association

Italy

Associazione Italiana Gastroenterologi ed Endoscopisti Digestivi Ospedalieri

Italy

Società Italiana di Gastroenterologia ed Endoscopia Digestiva

Latvia

Latvian Gastroenterologists Association

Lithuania

Lietuvos Gastroenterology Draugija

Luxembourg

Société Luxembourgeoise de Gastro-Entérologie

Malta

Malta Association of Gastroenterology



National Societies Forum in Vienna

Moldova

Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology of the Republic of Moldova

Montenegro

Gastroenterohepatology Association of Montenegro

Morocco

Société Marocaine des Maladies de l'Appareil Digestif

North Macedonia

North Macedonian Society of Gastroenterohepatology

Norway

Norsk Gastroenterologisk Forening

Poland

Polskie Towarzystwo Gastroenterologii

Portugal

Sociedade Portuguesa de Gastrenterologia

Romania

Societatea Română de Gastroenterologie și Hepatologie

Serbia

Serbian Gastroenterology Association

Slovakia

Slovenská Gastroenterologická Spoločnosť

Slovenia

Slovenian Society of Gastroenterology

Spain

Asociación Española de Gastroenterología
Sociedad Española de Patología Digestiva

Sweden

Svensk Gastroenterologisk Förening

Switzerland

Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Gastroenterologie

The Netherlands

Nederlandse Vereniging voor Gastro-Enterologie
Nederlandse Vereniging van Maag-Darm-Leverartsen

Tunisia

Société Tunisienne de Gastro-Entérologie

Turkey

Türk Gastroenteroloji Derneği

United Kingdom

British Society of Gastroenterology

Ukraine

Ukrainian Gastroenterological Association

“With the Young Talent Group, I feel like I'm part of a global family that works to ensure that all aspiring GIs have equal access to high-quality educational, training, and working opportunities.”

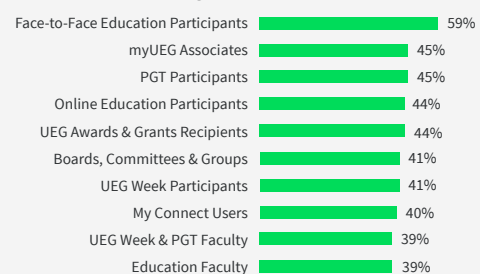
Elena Manthopoulou, Young Talent Group member

Equality & Diversity



ueg Women in UEG 2024

At one glance



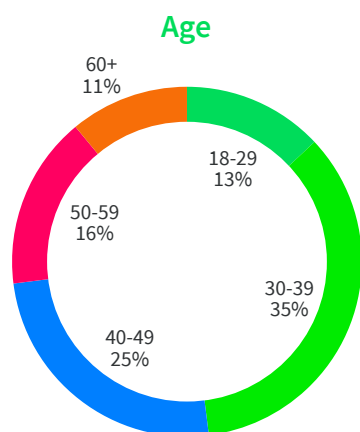
ueg.eu/women-in-gi

Equality & Diversity Plan

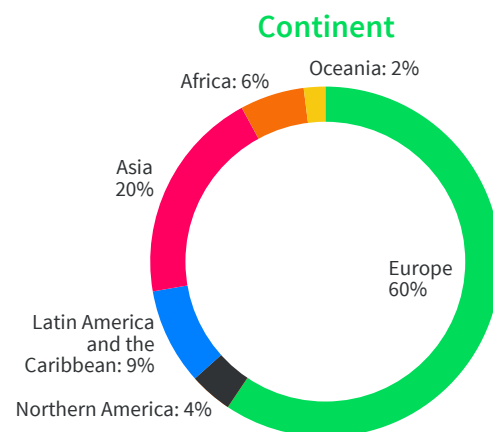
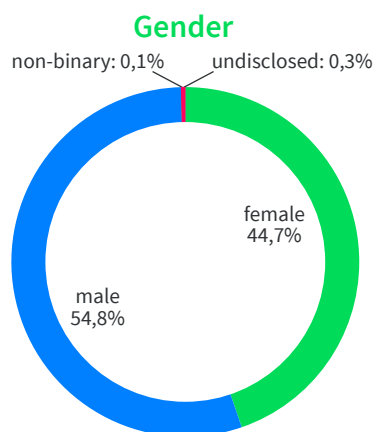
At UEG, we continuously work to implement our Equality & Diversity Plan to ensure inclusivity and equality of opportunities for all engaged digestive health professionals and staff, independent of age, gender identity, ethnicity, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, and ability. We deeply acknowledge and celebrate that diversity is not just a part, but the very essence of our professional community. We appreciate the unique perspectives and experiences that each individual brings and recognise the immense value this diversity brings to our work and mission.

Women in GI

Female GI professionals play a vital role in the myUEG Community, forming a network that fosters peer-to-peer mentoring and role modelling. At UEG Week, we extended a special invitation to all female delegates to join our annual Women in GI Networking event. We were thrilled to see many women take advantage of this inclusive and supportive event to forge crucial connections among Women in GI.



Population: 31,326 myUEG Associates



Young GI



Young GI Activities

Supporting the new generation of digestive healthcare specialists worldwide



UEG provides young digestive healthcare specialists with various opportunities to connect with their peers, participate in educational and training programmes, and get involved in UEG's and other societies' activities.

Our **Young Talent Group (YTG)** is dedicated to empowering the next generation of digestive health professionals by providing resources, training, and opportunities for success. In collaboration with senior UEG volunteers, the YTG represents the over 9,000 myUEG Young GI Associates in other UEG committees and groups. They support various UEG activities and facilitate connections among young digestive healthcare specialists across Europe.

The **Friends of YTG**, comprised of young representatives from UEG member societies, held their annual in-person meeting in Vienna in May 2024. During the meeting, they exchanged ideas on issues pertinent to trainees and young researchers in digestive health across Europe and the Mediterranean region. The YTG collected the Friends' feedback to inform decisions about UEG's Young GI activities, in order to best represent the needs of young digestive health professionals in UEG's projects and programmes.



- 1 The UEG Young Talent Group
- 2 The Friends of YTG meeting in Vienna

The Friends of YTG also worked in close collaboration with UEG's **Education Committee** to source training curricula across Europe and the Mediterranean region for a **pan-European study on ERCP training conditions**.



1-5 Impressions from UEG Week



UEG facilitated 30 [Clinical Visiting Fellowship](#) awardees to visit European centres throughout 2024, enabling them to study new procedures, acquire additional skills, and broaden their professional network. UEG connected these fellows with prestigious European host centers and provided financial support of € 1,250 each. For the list of awardees, refer to page 57.

UEG Week 2024 also held many opportunities and events for young GIs: UEG Week kicked off with another edition of "Let's meet," the popular social event tailored for young congress delegates to engage in casual conversations and networking. Furthermore, the Young GI Mentoring programme had another successful year, as experts convened with small groups of young delegates to offer guidance on navigating the congress programme, understanding session formats, and addressing general career-development questions. Lastly, the "Learn from Leaders" sessions once again proved popular among young delegates, providing an enjoyable avenue to glean insights on various topics such as how to review a scientific manuscript, leading a global network of researchers, effective use of social media, and more.



Beyond UEG Week, young GIs continue to have the opportunity to meet and network online through the [Young GI group](#) in UEG's online community My Connect. The group has proved a fruitful environment for Young GIs to find opportunities, call for survey responses, ask advice, and share useful resources. In the broader [My Connect](#) community, young GIs have the chance to find and network with experts.

Join the My Connect community [here](#), and meet fellow young GIs in the dedicated group [here](#)!

UEG has also maintained its Talent Pool. This platform continues to offer emerging talents the opportunity to apply for participation in ongoing activities. Over the past several years, this initiative has enabled talented specialists to ascend to prominent positions in various capacities within UEG, notably including the chance to act as a co-chair at UEG Week sessions.

Finally, the Young Talent Group remained active in disseminating articles tailored for young digestive health specialists in the Young GI Blog and in UEG Journal through the "Young GI Angle" series.

6 Let's Meet at UEG Week

7 Learn from Leaders session at UEG Week

Introduction

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UNITED EUROPEAN
GASTROENTEROLOGY**ueg**week

The best gastroenterology congress in the world



In Vienna and online
October 12 – 15, 2024

- Europe's premier event for digestive health
- Gateway to cutting-edge research, groundbreaking discoveries, and top-tier multidisciplinary science
- Besides state-of-the-art medical education: in-depth scientific discussions, top leaders in the field and controversial debates.

The Postgraduate Teaching Programme (PGT) experienced a record-breaking year, with over 4,750 participants actively engaging in this enriching two-day educational experience.

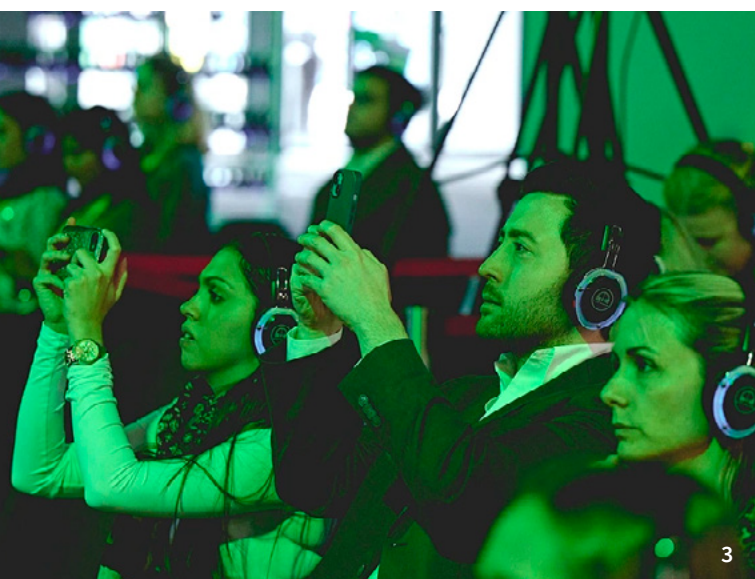
[Watch the "Welcome to UEG Week 2024" highlight video](#)

[Watch the Opening Plenary Session & Words of Welcome](#)

[Watch the "This was UEG Week" highlight video](#)



- 1 Opening Plenary Session
- 2 Delegates attending the PGT of UEG Week
- 3 UEG Week opening its doors at Messe Wien in Vienna



- 1 PGT session at UEG Week
 2 Chairing a session in the 'silent lecture room'
 3 Listening to a session in the 'silent lecture room'

Innovations and new features in the scientific programme of the UEG Week 2024

Postgraduate Teaching Programme 2024

- Revised 3-year curriculum: Updated to reflect the latest evidence in gastroenterology and to meet the evolving challenges and opportunities within the discipline.
- Session Translation: Participants benefited for the 1st time from AI-powered live translation services in more than 60 languages

Upgraded Nurse Programme: In collaboration with ESGENA

- Expanded offering: More sessions incl. IBD & Liver nurse sessions in cooperation with N-ECCO and EASL nurses

Silent Concept: Offered a new way of learning with headphones in an open theatre lecture room

- Listen to presentations with minimal disturbance from outside.

New and improved Hands-on Programme

- New workshop: Emergency Training in Endoscopy: Endoscopists and endoscopy nurses learnt in pairs how to provide life support in the endoscopy unit in small groups
- Returning favourites with more hands-on stations in all areas in collaboration with ESGE, ESGENA, ESSAT and EFSUMB:
 1. Endoscopy
 2. Ultrasound
 3. Gastroenterologist-Surgeon Collaboration
 4. Endoanal Ultrasound



4



5

Science Lounge

Again the place to be for in-depth scientific exchange in a relaxed on-site atmosphere

Moderated Poster Sessions have been extended to 6 sessions in parallel and continued to be held in a 'silent' way, with chairs, speakers and participants wearing headphones, allowing them to hear the presentations and raise questions with minimal disturbance from the bustling congress around them.

You can access all abstracts presented at UEG Week in the [Abstract Digi-Book of UEG Week 2024](#)

A huge thank you to the Scientific Committee, all speakers and chairs for their commitment and contribution! We would like to express our immense gratitude to the Scientific Committee, led by Julia Mayerle, as well as all the speakers and chairs, for their dedication and valuable contributions.

Successful Debut of the Innovation Hub at UEG Week 2024

UEG Week 2024 marked the successful introduction of the newly conceived Innovation Hub as part of the highly attended industry exhibition with over 100 supporters in total. The Hub provided a dedicated space for showcasing cutting-edge advancements and tools in AI to improve patient outcomes.

The industry exhibition was further enriched by 21 symposia organised over four days, along with numerous Meet the Expert sessions at individual industry booths.



6

- 4 Scientific Committee Chair Julia Mayerle and President Matthias Lohr
- 5 High attendance of the 'silent' moderated poster sessions
- 6 Emergency Training in Endoscopy

“UEG is one of the best Gastroenterology congresses. I love to attend it every year because it always offers a very interesting and detailed program, I enjoy every minute of it! I also love it is virtual, as for people like me who can't attend in person at the moment, it gives us the opportunity of being up-to-date.”

UEG Week Delegate

UEG Week and PGT Facts & Figures

UEG Week Participation

11,577 Total Registrants
11% Virtual

PGT Registrants

4,755 Registrants
19% Virtual

Industry

Supporters, Exhibitors	121
Premier Supporters	6
Main Supporters	6
Industry Symposia	21
Exhibition Space	4,073 m ²

Abstracts

3,730 Submitted abstracts

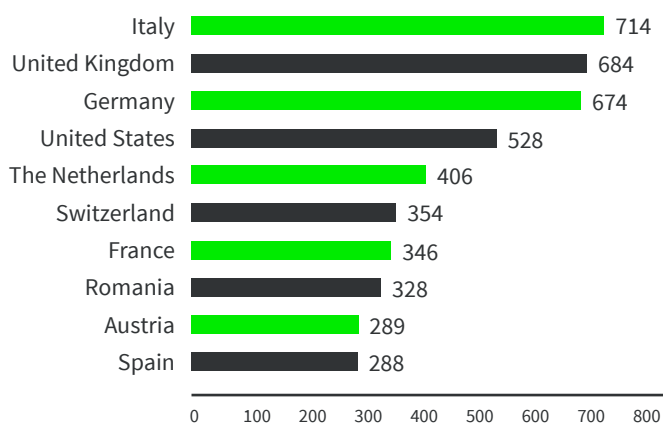


2,477 Presented abstracts



>2,200 Posters

Top 10 attending countries



Communication

102
press registrations

61 countries
reached with media coverage

1,742
media editorials relating to
UEG press releases

6,688,850,948
opportunities to see UEG through
media coverage

Scientific Programme



178 Live streamed sessions



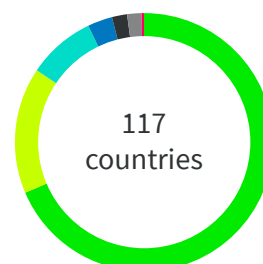
498 Faculty involved



>730 Recordings 24/7

Countries and continents

- 68.6% Europe
- 15.8% Asia
- 8.5% North America
- 3.1% Africa
- 1.9% Latin America & the Caribbean
- 1.8% Australia
- 0.3% n/a





A huge thank you to the Scientific Committee, all speakers and chairs for their commitment and contribution!

We would like to express our immense gratitude to the Scientific Committee, led by Julia Mayerle, as well as all the speakers and chairs, for their dedication and valuable contributions.



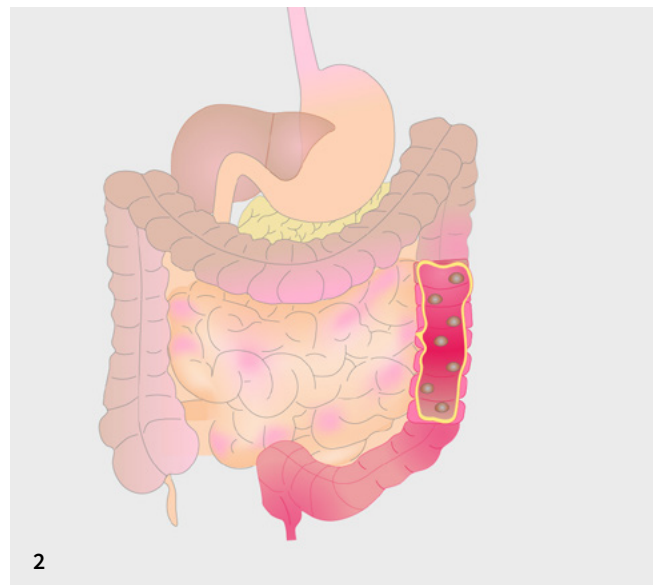
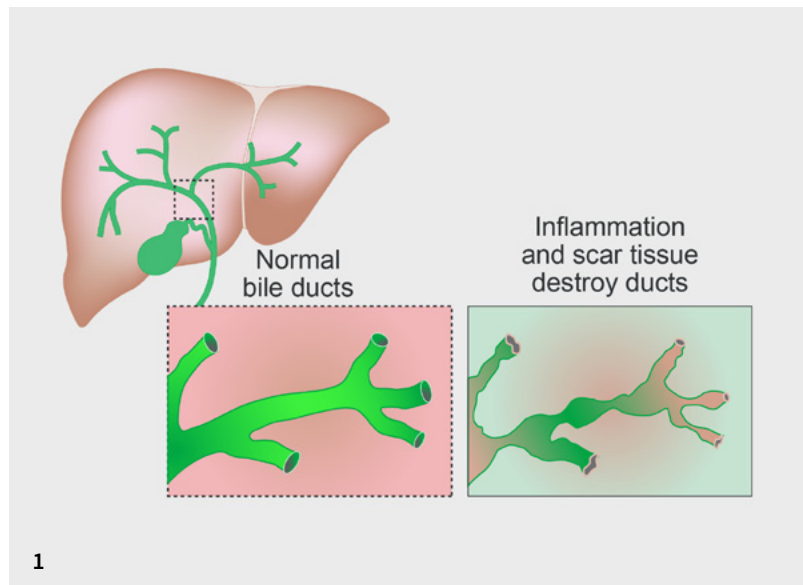


Industry at UEG Week 2024

Thank you to our Industry:
We would like to thank all industry partners of UEG Week 2024 for their support.
[View a list of our valued partners!](#)



Delivering cutting-edge medical education



Online Courses

In 2024, UEG offered 50 interactive, multidisciplinary online courses covering diverse topics within our interdisciplinary field. Of these, 29 courses are CME accredited, featuring a highly interactive format, each lasting up to 60 minutes and focusing on a single key topic.

Seven new online courses were published in 2024:

- How to develop Guidelines
- Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis
- Liver Biopsy
- Ulcerative Colitis
- Subepithelial Lesions in the Upper Gastrointestinal Tract
- Diverticular Disease
- Pancreatic Cancer Part II

1 Online Course on Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis

2 Online Course on Ulcerative Colitis

(Kindly supported by Pfizer via an unrestricted educational grant)

50 Online Courses

29 CME accredited

15,000 Online Course users

"Mistakes in ..." articles

In 2024, 6 new "Mistakes in..." articles were published, providing the myUEG Community with valuable insights from experts on avoiding common pitfalls in research, diagnosis, and treatment of digestive diseases.



Access the seven most recent articles in our digibook!



your Gastroenterology Podcast to go



Hosted by Egle Dieninyte & Pradeep Mundre

UEG Talks Podcast

In 2024, the UEG Talks Podcast hosted by the international experts Egle Dieninyte and Pradeep Mundre finally reached a critical audience:

The podcast features a diverse range of timely and engaging topics, with contributions from renowned digestive health professionals across various fields and career stages.

40 episodes were published on a bi-weekly basis, including "The Best of UEG Talks" series from UEG Week. This series highlighted the six most significant topics from UEG Week: Endoscopy, IBD, HPB, Oncology for Gastroenterologists, Nursing, and Bench to Bedside.

UEG Talks Podcast Statistics

18,000
total streams

1,000
subscribers from
131 different countries

Webinars

Learn online & discuss live with experts in real time

2 successful collaborative webinars held in 2024:

1. UEG en Español | Consejos y trucos prácticos para hacer una endoscopia de calidad para el Gastroenterólogo general Gastric pre-malignant lesions and early gastric cancer: from detection to treatment

1,822
registrants

749
participants

2. UEG in collaboration with ESPEN: Nutrition in Digestive Diseases: From Biology to Treatment/Malnutrition Awareness week

327
registrants

175
participants

Summer School

Practical training, expert insights,
and meaningful connections



“These words are coming directly from my heart, thank you thank you thank you for the amazing work you have done, we felt it, everyone was saying it, you made us better doctors in only a few days, i am really proud to belong to this community, and I will make sure to represent it well and keep spreading what i have learned with you.”

Summer School participant

“Very unique experience that every young gastroenterologist should take part of at least once”.

Summer School participant

Event Highlights

International Reach:

Nearly **180** participants from **36** countries

Expert Guidance: **44** tutors from **16** countries

Exceptional Feedback:

Overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants, faculty, and industry partners.

12 Hands-on training sessions: Upper and lower GI endoscopy, ERCP, liver biopsy and elastography, general and abdominal ultrasound, reflux and motility, PEG placement, portal hypertension, IBD, and more.

Why it matters:

A platform for skill-building, international networking, and knowledge-sharing in gastroenterology.

Acknowledgements:

We sincerely thank our main supporter, Olympus, and the 13 industry partners for their invaluable contribution.

1, 2 Summer School participants in hands-on training
3 Group picture Summer School participants 2024

UEG Masterclass on Oesophagogastric Motility and Function

A multidisciplinary online and face-to-face learning experience



“Thank you very much. It has been a great experience. Top speakers, all of them are a reference in their field and it impressed me how humble and great teachers they are... it was really easy to ask questions! And great job with organisation... you made the experience super easy! Thank you!”

Masterclass 2024 participant

“This was definitely one of the best courses I’ve ever attended!!!”

Masterclass 2024 participant



- 1 Course director Jutta Keller presenting at the Masterclass 2024
- 2 Group picture of the Masterclass 2024 in Vienna

The 2024 Masterclass aimed to impart profound knowledge on diagnostic and therapeutic management of patients with disorders of oesophagogastric motility and function, according to up-to-date, multidisciplinary standards. With a perfect blend of online and in-person education, clinicians specialising in the field were given an ultra-modern learning, hands-on training, networking and developing experience featuring top faculty in the field of Oesophagogastric Motility and Function.

Masterclass Statistics

50

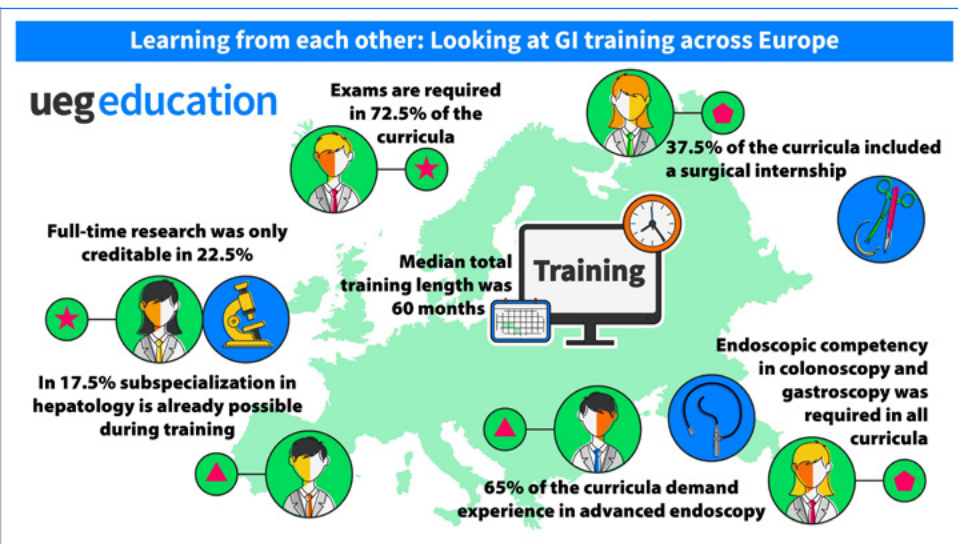
participants

25

countries

Supporters: Medtronic, Jinshan

New Projects in 2024



UEG Analysis of GI training curricula across Europe - What we can learn from each other

In 2024, together with the UEG National Societies Committee, the Young Talent Group and the National Societies Forum, the Education Committee collected and translated 42 GI training programmes of UEG National Societies Members to analyse the different curricula and to identify their respective structure and differences.

At UEG Week, the first analysis was presented with the aim

- to compare and build on the unique strengths of each curriculum.
- to reach a European consensus on training standards in the long run that could establish recommendations for minimum requirements for training durations, clinical experiences and subspeciality opportunities.

¹ Sophie Schlosser and Henriette Heinrich at the presentation of Analysis of GI training curricula across Europe.

Gutflix – GI learning, personalised

At the end of 2024, Gutflix was launched, UEG's exclusive and single access point for all UEG digital educational content at gutflix.eu

2,133 UEG Week Recordings

5,731 UEG Week Posters

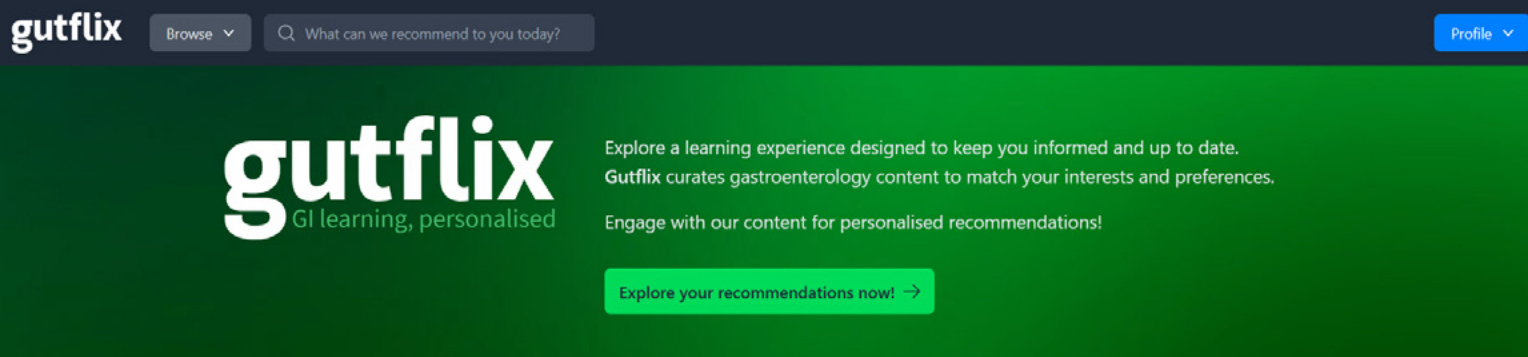
50 Online Courses

172 Guidelines

79 "Mistakes in..." Articles

38 UEG Talks and 28 UEG Journal Podcast Episodes

20 Webinar Recordings



The header features the 'gutflix' logo on the left, a 'Browse' dropdown menu, a search bar with the placeholder text 'What can we recommend to you today?', and a 'Profile' dropdown menu on the right. The hero section has a dark green background with the 'gutflix' logo and the tagline 'GI learning, personalised'. Below the logo, there is a brief description of the platform's purpose and a green button labeled 'Explore your recommendations now! →'.

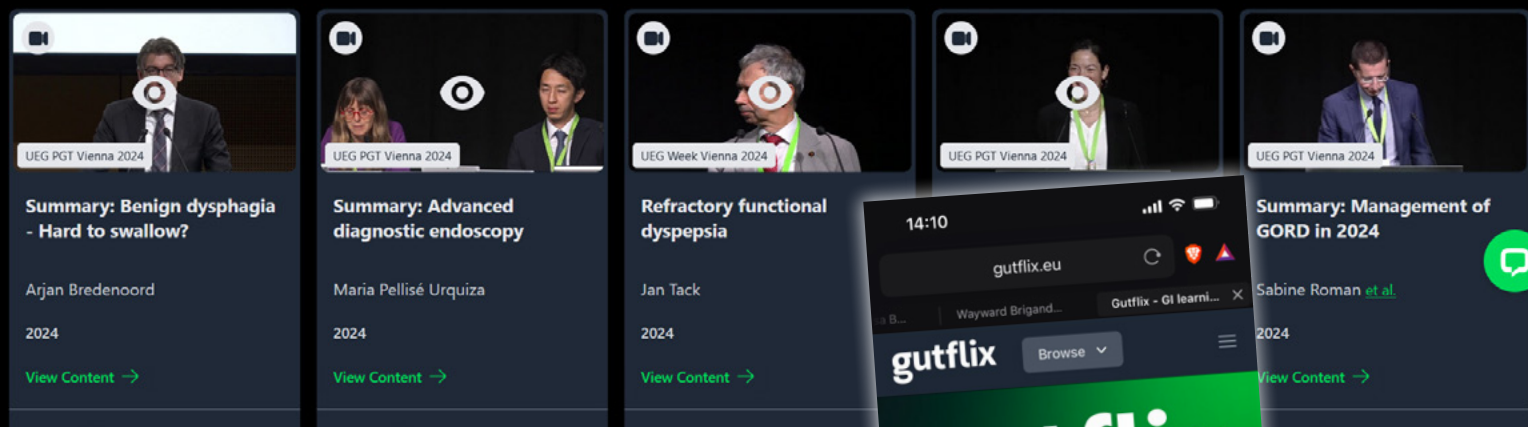
gutflix
GI learning, personalised

Explore a learning experience designed to keep you informed and up to date.
Gutflix curates gastroenterology content to match your interests and preferences.
Engage with our content for personalised recommendations!

Explore your recommendations now! →

Most popular content

Popular UEG Week Recordings



A grid of five video thumbnails for UEG Week recordings. Each thumbnail includes a video player, a title, a speaker's name, and the year '2024'. A 'View Content →' link is at the bottom of each card. A smartphone is overlaid on the right side of the grid, displaying the Gutflix app interface.

Thumbnail 1	Thumbnail 2	Thumbnail 3	Thumbnail 4	Thumbnail 5
UEG PGT Vienna 2024	UEG PGT Vienna 2024	UEG Week Vienna 2024	UEG PGT Vienna 2024	UEG PGT Vienna 2024
Summary: Benign dysphagia - Hard to swallow?	Summary: Advanced diagnostic endoscopy	Refractory functional dyspepsia		Summary: Management of GORD in 2024
Arjan Bredenoord	Maria Pellisé Urquiza	Jan Tack		Sabine Roman et al.
2024	2024	2024		2024
View Content →	View Content →	View Content →		View Content →

Powered by intelligent recommendations, Gutflix curates content to match personal interests and preferences, delivering the most relevant courses, webinars, and articles out of:

With Gutflix, UEG explores and allows a tailored and personalised online learning experience at the next level to keep the myUEG community updated.

Fostering discoveries in digestive health research



In 2024, UEG enhanced digestive health research and collaboration by increasing the number of EU Horizon Europe co-funded projects. We supported the formation of new consortia with UEG start-up grants and facilitated expert assistance in drafting successful project proposals for EU calls. Continuing our commitment to excellence, we awarded young researchers the 2024 Research Prize and fellowship grants.

Active Participation of UEG in Horizon Europe Projects

This year marked the start of UEG's active participation in Horizon Europe co-funded projects with the launch of the HoloSurge project (2024–2027), where we contribute as a dissemination partner. Its mission is to introduce real-time holographic navigation in the operating room.

As part of our commitment to empowering digestive health research, we provided start-up grants of up to € 10,000 to support

the formation of pan-European consortia. These grants helped draft three projects focused on validating biomarkers for Crohn's disease, training clinician-scientists in neurogastroenterology, and advancing early cancer detection for Lynch Syndrome. Once approved for funding through various Horizon Europe calls, including the Innovative Health Initiative, MSCA Doctoral Networks, and the Mission on Cancer, we will continue to support these initiatives by sharing their outcomes through communication and dissemination.

WATERLAND study – Enrique de-Madaria wins UEG Research Prize 2024

In 2024, the Research Prize was awarded to Enrique de-Madaria, a gastroenterologist and coordinator of the Biliary-Pancreatic Unit at Dr. Balmis Hospital in Alicante, Spain. He is an established senior researcher whose work has a significant impact on digestive health. For over ten years, he has focused on studying fluid



resuscitation in acute pancreatitis, and his research has transformed clinical practice. The UEG awarded him € 50,000 to support The WATERLAND study from

its early stages to its successful conclusion. His research group promotes multicenter collaborative studies both nationally and internationally, with a primary focus on acute and chronic pancreatitis. This study is the largest randomized clinical trial in acute pancreatitis ever conducted, involving participants from 13 countries across 4 continents.

Supporting young researchers working with renowned European principal investigators

André Simão was awarded the UEG Research Fellowship 2024 to develop a research project entitled “Serum microRNAs as biomarkers of metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease and progression towards cholangiocarcinoma” with Prof. Jesús Bañales at the Biogipuzkoa Health Research Institute – Donostia Univ. Hospital, San Sebastian, Spain.

He earned his PhD in Pharmacy from the Research Institute for Medicines at the University of Lisbon, Portugal. More recently, in 2023, he began a MSc in Computational Biology and Bioinformatics with a specialization in multi-omics.

Katarzyna Radke was awarded the UEG Research Fellowship 2024 to develop a research project entitled “Precision therapy in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma: integrating strategies to combat resistance” with Prof. Luis Arnes Perez at the Biotech Research and Innovation Center (BRIC) of the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.



Key Milestones 2024

€ 60,000

allocated for Horizon Europe support

30+

calls for proposals promoted on UEG webpage

3

pan-European consortia supported by UEG start-up grant

€ 100,000

Paid to research fellowships
Horizon Europe proposals

1

new EU Grant Agreement for a 5-year project

€ 50,000

Research Prize awarded

100

new followers in My Connect Researchers Group

Katarzyna is an Associate Researcher in the Division of Translational Cancer Research at Lund University, Sweden.

My Connect Researchers

Our diverse digestive health network welcomed over 100 new members to the Researchers group on our exclusive, safe, and secure My Connect platform. Researchers increasingly used My Connect to showcase their interests in research topics, seek partnerships within the Horizon Europe programme, and outline their expertise and collaboration needs.

1 Research Prize winner Enrique de-Madaria with Research Committee Chair Silvio Danese

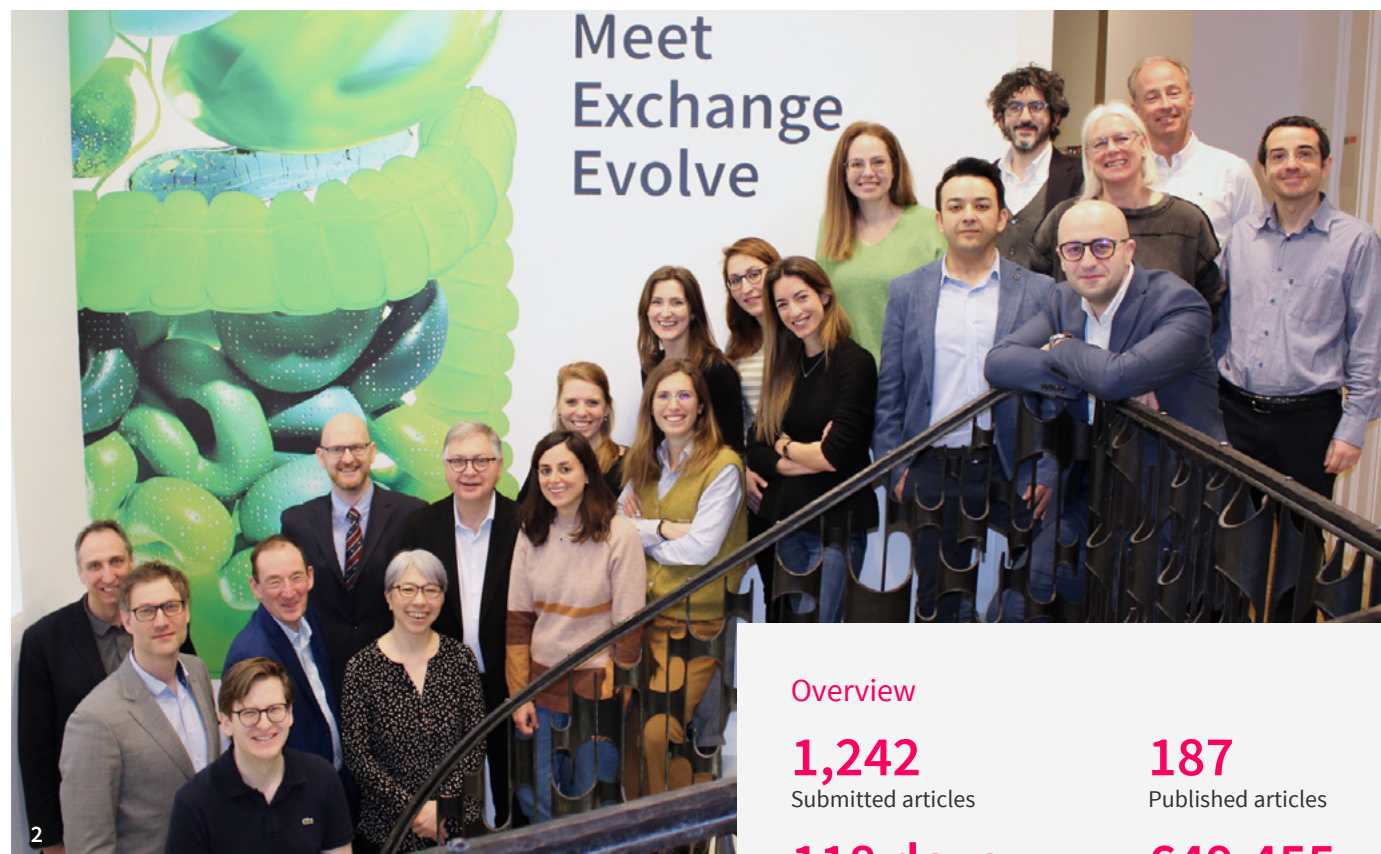
2 Research Fellowship 2024 Awardee André Simão

3 Research Fellowship 2024 Awardee Katarzyna Radke



UNITED EUROPEAN
GASTROENTEROLOGY**ueg journal**

Together, we ensure scientific excellence is accessible to everyone

**Overview****1,242**

Submitted articles

187

Published articles

118 days

Submission to first online date

649,455

Full text views

950

2-year citations trend

20%

Acceptance rate

In 2024, UEG Journal maintained its commitment to publishing a diverse collection of articles, ranging from basic science studies to clinical trials and meta-analyses. By implementing a meticulous review process, the journal ensures that only the highest-quality research is featured, fostering credibility and trust. Supported by a dedicated editorial team—consisting of the Editor-in-Chief, seven Associate Editors, and 15 Trainee Editors with expertise across digestive health—the journal delivers comprehensive coverage of key research areas. All articles are freely available under open-access policies, enabling the broad dissemination of essential scientific knowledge.

In 2024, UEG Journal's Impact Factor very slightly decreased to 5.8 from 6.047. Meanwhile, the SCOPUS CiteScore for 2023 has increased from 9.7 to 10.5, positioning UEG Journal at 23rd place and quartile 1 among 148 peers in Gastroenterology. Both metrics gauge article citations and other key indicators. Additionally, our altmetrics (alternative metrics) underscore the widespread circulation of UEG Journal articles. Altmetrics reveal a robust presence on social media and a substantial impact extending beyond traditional academic citations.

1 UEG Week delegates 2024 reading a copy of UEG Journal

2 The UEG Journal Editors Team at a meeting in Vienna April 2024

- 1 The networking session @UEGjournal
- 2 The editorial team together with the incoming new trainee editors of 2025 and onwards at a meeting at UEG Week 2024
- 3 Random people at UEG Week



Our community's latest scientific findings, widely shared through various news outlets and our Twitter channel, have had a remarkable impact, exceeding that of other journals in the field.

Top 5 Altmetrics scores of 2024

1. [UEG Week 2022 Oral Presentations \(Score: 658\)](#)
2. [European Society for the Study of Coeliac Disease \(ESsCD\) guideline for coeliac disease and other gluten-related disorders \(Score: 439\)](#)
3. [International consensus on methodological issues in standardization of fecal calprotectin measurement in inflammatory bowel diseases \(Score: 283\)](#)
4. [European guidelines on microscopic colitis: United European Gastroenterology and European Microscopic Colitis Group statements and recommendations \(Score: 277\)](#)
5. [Clinical management of the most common extra-intestinal manifestations in patients with inflammatory bowel disease focused on the joints, skin and eyes \(Score: 238\)](#)

Most viewed articles on Wiley Online Library

1. [European Society for the Study of Coeliac Disease \(ESsCD\) guideline for coeliac disease and other gluten-related disorders](#)
2. [European guidelines on microscopic colitis: United European Gastroenterology and European Microscopic Colitis Group statements and recommendations](#)

3. [Functional bowel disorders with diarrhoea: Clinical guidelines of the United European Gastroenterology and European Society for Neurogastroenterology and Motility](#)
4. [Environmental risk factors for inflammatory bowel disease](#)
5. [Analysis of tofacitinib safety in ulcerative colitis from the completed global clinical developmental program up to 9.2 years of drug exposure](#)

The creative and motivated editorial team plays a vital role in the success of the journal and the impact it makes on the field. Beyond reviewing, selecting, and editing manuscripts that influence clinical practice, their activities extend to:

- Creating brand-specific visual abstracts for the majority of published articles.
- Maintaining an active [X channel](#) with over 10,000 followers, featuring visual abstracts, summaries, discussions, quizzes and videos.
- Implementing search engine optimisation to enhance the visibility of articles by adapting titles and abstracts for easy discovery among competitors.
- Conducting interviews with authors of UEG Journal articles for the [UEG Journal Podcast](#)



- 4 Outgoing Editor-in-Chief being presented with a present and welcoming his successor Albrecht Neesse
- 5 UEG Journal Best Paper Awardee Åsa Frändemark receives the UEG Journal Best Paper Award 2024

- Publishing clinical images, presenting readers with exceptional visuals capturing gastrointestinal diseases or clinical manifestations
- Hosting the "**Best of UEG Journal**" session at UEG Week 2024

At UEG Week Vienna 2024, we were delighted to present the **Journal Best Paper Award** to Åsa Frändemark, the first author of the winning article **Work productivity and activity impairment in disorders of gut-brain interaction: Data from the Rome Foundation Global Epidemiology Study**. Congratulations!

Catch the in-depth discussion with the Journal Best Paper Awardee on Gutflix!

At the editorial meeting during UEG Week, we officially bid farewell to Editor-in-Chief Joost PH Drent, whose successful five-year term has come to an end. He has passed the leadership to his successor,

Top submitting countries 2024

Country	Articles
China – mainland	507
Germany	78
Italy	72
The Netherlands	43
France	35

Top accepted countries 2024

Country	Articles
The Netherlands	25
Italy	23
Germany	23
China – mainland	16
France	15

Top downloading countries 2024 (full text download)

Country	Downloads
United States	108,303
China	104,098
United Kingdom	33,461
India	28,543
Spain	27,411

Albrecht Neesse, who will begin his editorship in January 2025. UEG is deeply grateful for Joost's extraordinary dedication, which has elevated the UEG Journal to new heights in quality and outreach. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Joost and wish Albrecht the very best in his new role!

ueg quality of care

Guidelines, standards and quality improvement initiatives



Development of Quality Indicators in Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (QI PDAC)

A joint project of UEG and EPC

Led by Livia Archibugi (EPC) and Giovanni Marchegiani (UEG)

Objectives

- Identification of valid and useful quality indicators (QI) for PDAC
- Harmonization of these QIs
- Recommendations for inclusion in patient health care in Europe

Expected publication of results: 2026/2027

Achieved milestones in 2024

- Assembling of working group: 30 working group members representing UEG, EPC, ESDO, ESGAR, ESGE, ESPCG, and ESPEN, nurses, methodologist and additional experts
- Kick-off meeting at UEG Week Vienna

1 QI PDAC kick-off meeting at UEG Week Vienna 2024

Guidelines endorsed by UEG

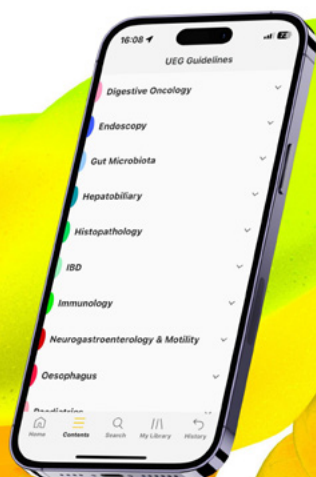
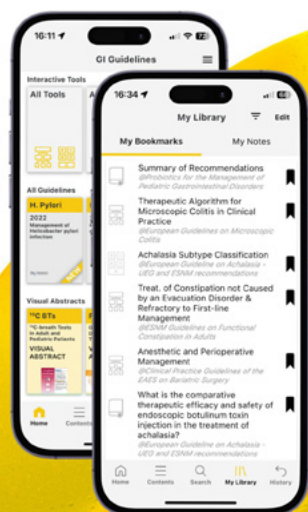
UEG supports the development of high-quality clinical guidelines and provided endorsement to the following initiatives in 2024:

- The First Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) Guidelines for Distal Pancreatectomy (developed by EFISDS; estimated finalisation 2025)
- 2025 Multi-Societal European Evidence-Based Guideline on Pancreatic Cancer (developed by E-AHPBA/ESSO; estimated finalisation 2025)

Guidelines developed with a UEG Activity Grant and published in UEG Journal

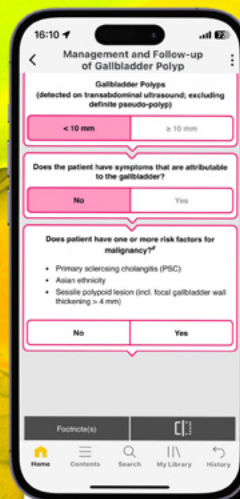
- Guideline for the assessment and management of gastrointestinal symptoms following colorectal surgery—A UEG/ESCP/EAES/ESPCG/ESPEN/ESNM/ESSO collaboration. Part I—Sequelae to oncological diseases
- Guideline for the assessment and management of gastrointestinal symptoms following colorectal surgery—A UEG/ESCP/EAES/ESPCG/ESPEN/ESNM/ESSO collaboration. Part II—Good practice guidance | sequelae to benign diseases
- European guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency: UEG, EPC, EDS, ESPEN, ESPGHAN, ESDO, and ESPCG evidence-based recommendations

All your favourite guidelines, right at your fingertips



Easy access to guidelines in all fields of gastroenterology

Explore interactive diagnosis and treatment algorithms



Utilise scores and calculators



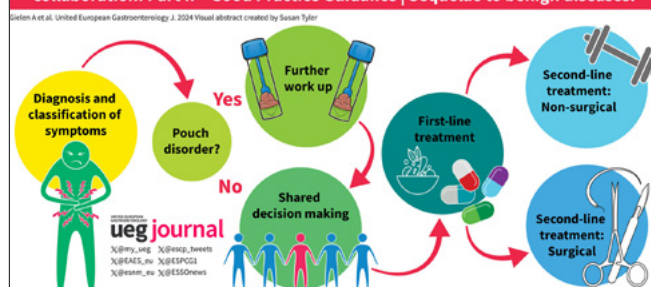
8 new guidelines in the GI Guidelines App

- Management of Helicobacter pylori infection: the Maastricht VI/Florence consensus report
- Endoscopic management of ampullary tumors: European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) Guideline
- Endoscopic diagnosis and management of esophagogastric variceal hemorrhage: European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) Guideline
- ESPEN practical guideline on clinical nutrition in acute and chronic pancreatitis
- International evidence-based Kyoto guidelines for the management of intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasm of the pancreas
- British Society of Gastroenterology guidelines for the management of iron deficiency anaemia in adults
- Colorectal polypectomy and endoscopic mucosal resection: European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (ESGE) Guideline – Update 2024
- Guideline for the assessment and management of gastrointestinal symptoms following colorectal surgery – A UEG/ESCP/EAES/ESPCG/ESPEN/ESNM/ESSO collaboration

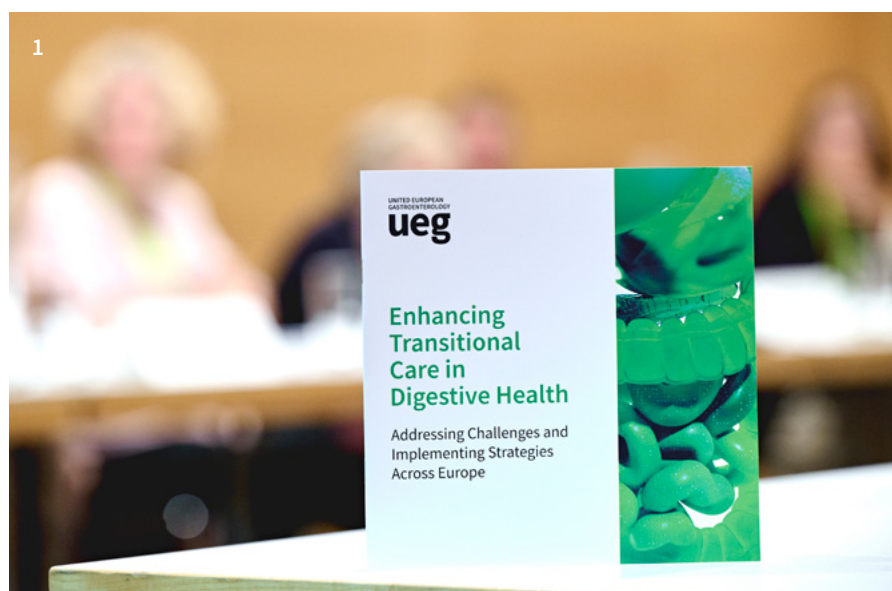
European Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency: UEG, EPC, EDS, ESPEN, ESPGHAN, ESDO, and ESPCG evidence-based recommendations



Guideline for the assessment and management of gastrointestinal symptoms following colorectal surgery – A UEG/ESCP/EAES/ESPCG/ESPEN/ESNM/ESSO collaboration. Part II – Good Practice Guidance | Sequelae to benign diseases.



Acting as the united voice of European Gastroenterology
towards European policymakers and the general public



2024 marked the European Parliament elections, a pivotal moment for our digestive health community. The Public Affairs Group (PAG) focused its advocacy on keeping digestive health high on the EU agenda, launching a new publication on Transitional Care, and strengthening collaborations with international stakeholders and patient organizations.

UEG Advocacy Toolbox for the EU Elections and beyond

In light of the European Elections, we introduced the **Advocacy Toolbox**, designed to empower our Member Societies with resources to advocate for better digestive health at local and national levels. These tools were widely embraced across our community, with National Member Societies playing a key role in raising awareness of digestive diseases and forging new connections with Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). The Toolbox features an Open Letter and **policy recommendations** addressing six key priority areas: children's health, primary prevention, health inequalities, cancer screening, research funding and data collection.

1 Report "Enhancing Transitional Care in Digestive Health: Addressing Challenges and Implementing Strategies Across Europe"

National Factsheets for the six largest EU countries

To reach as many European Parliament representatives as possible, we collaborated with our National Member Societies from Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Poland, and Romania to develop **country-specific reports**. These factsheets, available in two languages, highlight the social and economic burden of digestive diseases and cancers at national level. Following the EU elections, we shared these insights in six impactful meetings with MEPs and European Commission officials.

Digestive Health Roundtable & Transitional Care Report

At UEG Week 2024, members of the PAG, together with representatives from Patient Organizations and European Reference Networks (ERNs), gathered for the second Digestive Health Roundtable. On this occasion, we launched our latest publication, entitled **Enhancing Transitional Care in Digestive Health**.

This report, featuring a foreword by WHO Europe, outlines key challenges faced by adolescents with digestive diseases transitioning from pediatric to adult care and offers actionable solutions.



- 3 PAG members, patient and ERN representatives at the Digestive Health Roundtable in Vienna.
- 4 ÖGGH President Harald Hofer and Vice President Markus Peck-Radosavljevic, together with PAG members Thomas Seufferlein and Michael Bretthauer, hosted a policy discussion on CRC screening with Austrian healthcare experts and patient representatives.
- 5 MEP Andriuskaitis from Lithuania at the inauguration of the AWAARH 2024 exhibition in the European Parliament.



We were pleased to involve four European Patient Associations (**EFCCA**, **AOECS**, **ELPA**, **DiCE**) and three ERNs (**ERN RARE-LIVER**, **ERN – Transplant Child**, **ERN ERNICA**) in the discussion on addressing these challenges and raising awareness among healthcare professionals and policymakers.

The report was also featured in an **Opinion Editorial** in Hospital Healthcare Europe, reaching over 200,000 senior hospital stakeholders across Europe.

Policy Roundtable with Austrian National Society

With UEG Week taking place in Vienna, we partnered with our **Austrian National Member Society** (ÖGGH) to host a roundtable on colorectal cancer (CRC) prevention and screening. This fruitful discussion brought together medical experts from UEG and ÖGGH, alongside representatives from Austrian healthcare, health policy, and patient organizations, to explore scientific evidence and European best practices aimed at advancing the implementation of a nationwide CRC screening program in Austria.

Following the event, a **press release** was published on our website and in several local media outlets.

Alcohol Awareness Week

For this year's Awareness Week on Alcohol-Related Harm (AWARH), we joined forces with **Eurocare**, **EASL**, **WHO Europe** and other partners to advocate for mandatory alcohol

labeling in the EU, emphasizing citizens' right to make informed health choices. Our exhibition in the European Parliament, themed "Alcohol Labelling: The Right to Know," attracted over 100 visitors and raised awareness of the harmful effects of alcohol consumption including its impact on digestive health. Read our press release [here](#).

WHO Europe

In 2024, we strengthened our collaboration with WHO/Europe to ensure digestive diseases and cancers are recognized as key non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Highlights included contributing to WHO's NCD consultation to prioritize digestive diseases ahead of the 2025 UN General Assembly and participating in the European Alcohol Health Alliance Symposium in Copenhagen, hosted by WHO/Europe and EASL, to advance coordinated alcohol policy and prevention efforts across the European Region. Read press release [here](#).

UEG Opportunities

Providing assistance and recognition to individuals at every career stage



Each year, we provide a comprehensive selection of awards, fellowships, and prizes to contribute to the personal and professional development of trainees and established gastroenterologists and hepatologists.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Paul Fockens received UEG's Lifetime Achievement Award 2024. He is a Professor of Gastroenterology & Hepatology at the University of Amsterdam, and former Department Chair at Amsterdam UMC, and a consultant gastroenterologist at Waikato Hospital, New Zealand. A distinguished academic gastroenterologist, Paul has excelled in patient care, research, mentorship, and leadership. His research spans EUS, NOTES, pancreato-biliary diseases, GI motility, early colonic neoplasia, and CRC screening.

Internationally, Paul served as General Secretary and President of ESGE (2010-2014) and led the ESGE/UEG "Quality in Endoscopy" project. Within UEG, he was Vice-President and President (2016-2019) and developed UEG's 2019-2022 strategic plan, emphasising research, guidelines, multidisciplinary, and equality.

A strong advocate for Young GI initiatives, Paul mentored over 50 PhD trainees, chaired the European Postgraduate GastroSurgical

School and Dutch National Gastroenterology Training Committee, and organised events like EUS LIVE Amsterdam. His leadership and mentorship have left a lasting impact on the gastroenterology field globally.

[Watch the recording from UEG Week 2024 on Gutflix!](#)

Research Prize

UEG awards € 100,000 each year for excellence in basic science, translational or clinical research. With this prize, we support a future scientific research project from an early stage to a successful conclusion. The prize addresses well-established researchers at the height of their active careers whose science has had or will have a crucial impact on digestive health.

Enrique de-Madaria received the UEG Research Prize in 2024. He is a Gastroenterologist and Coordinator of the Biliary-Pancreatic Unit at Dr. Balmis Hospital in Alicante, Spain. He is also Scientific Deputy Director of ISABIAL in Alicante, Spain, and Associate Professor of Gastroenterology at the Miguel Hernandez University in Elche, Spain.

- 1 Research Prize awardee 2024 Enrique de-Madaria
- 2 Lifetime Achievement awardee 2024 Paul Fockens
- 3 Research Fellows 2024 André Simão and Katarzyna Radke



Enrique de-Madaria specialises in the clinical management of pancreatic and biliary diseases. His group promotes multicenter collaborative studies at the national and international levels, focusing mainly on acute and chronic pancreatitis. He has dedicated more than 10 years to studying fluid resuscitation in acute pancreatitis, with studies that have changed clinical practice. The WATERLAND study, which applied for the UEG Research Prize, is the randomised clinical trial in acute pancreatitis with the largest number of participating countries conducted to date (13 countries on 4 continents).

In 2017, Enrique de-Madaria won the UEG Rising Star Award. He is Co-director of the “Management of Pancreatic Disorders for the Practicing Clinician” Harvard Medical School course and founder of the Race of the Cities Against Pancreatic Cancer, an international sporting event that raises funds for research in pancreatic cancer (more than € 1 million raised for open grants).

Enrique de-Madaria received his award in the UEG Week Opening Plenary. [Watch the recording on Gutflix now!](#)



Research Fellowship

This year, UEG awarded two individuals the prestigious Research Fellowship: André Simão & Katarzyna Radke. Each awardee receives € 50,000 to spend 12 months with a renowned European principal investigator, supporting the development of basic or clinical research projects. These fellowships are ideal for young researchers seeking to advance their ideas and scientific skills beyond their current workplace.

André Simão was awarded the UEG Research Fellowship 2024 to develop the research project "Serum microRNAs as Biomarkers of Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease and Progression towards Cholangiocarcinoma" with Prof. Jesús Bañales at the Biogipuzkoa Health Research Institute, Donostia Univ. Hospital, San Sebastian, Spain.

He completed his PhD in Pharmacy at the University of Lisbon, where he studied mitochondria-targeting microRNAs in liver disease and skeletal muscle therapy. Currently, he is focusing on miRNA-containing extracellular vesicles from adipose tissue in disease pathogenesis. In 2023, he started an MSc in Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, specialising in multi-omics. This theoretical framework will now be applied to discover and



characterise novel serum EV-miRNAs with biomarker potential in the ongoing research under the fellowship.

Katarzyna Radke received the UEG Research Fellowship 2024 to pursue the project "Precision therapy in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma: integrating strategies to combat resistance" with Prof. Luis Arnes Perez at the University of Copenhagen's Biotech Research and Innovation Center (BRIC), Denmark.

Katarzyna is an Associate Researcher in the Division of Translational Cancer Research at Lund University, Sweden. She has recently defended her PhD thesis on "Therapeutic strategies for high-risk neuroblastoma" (PI Daniel Bexell). Her research interests include patient-derived models, tumour plasticity and combination drug testing at scale.

UEG Journal Best Paper Award

Åsa Frändemark is UEG's Journal Best Paper 2024 awardee. She is the first author of the winning article [Work productivity and activity impairment in disorders of gut-brain interaction: Data from the Rome Foundation Global Epidemiology Study](#) and a fellow at the Department of Internal Medicine and Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg, Sweden and has a PhD in Internal Medicine at the University of Gothenburg.

The awarded study analysed nearly 17,000 individuals worldwide and found that those with disorders of gut-brain interaction experience higher absenteeism and reduced work productivity. Factors such as multiple gut-brain disorders, psychological distress, fatigue, and somatic symptom severity contribute to this impairment. The jury recognised the study's importance due to its extensive scope and socioeconomic implications, highlighting the impact of gut-brain disorders on work productivity.

[Watch UEG Journal Best Paper Award on Gutflix here!](#)

Top Abstract Prize Awardees

With this award, we identified and nurtured promising science. The top five highest-scoring abstracts among those accepted for presentation at UEG Week 2024 were selected, and recognition was awarded to their respective authors. You can read all [the awardee abstracts in the abstract issue of our UEG Journal](#).

Awardees 2024

Anne M. van der Waaij: OPTICAL PD-L1 IMAGING USING ULTRASOUND-GUIDED QUANTITATIVE FLUORESCENCE MOLECULAR ENDOSCOPY COMBINED WITH DURVALUMAB-680LT IN LOCALLY ADVANCED ESOPHAGEAL CANCER PATIENTS

[Watch the recording on Gutflix](#)

Arno R. Bourgonje: CROHN'S DISEASE AND ULCERATIVE COLITIS EXHIBIT PRE-DIAGNOSTIC ANTIBODY SIGNATURES WITH SHARED AND DIVERGENT CHANGES TOWARDS DISEASE ONSET

[Watch the recording on Gutflix](#)

Elaine Kilgour: RXC008: FIRST-IN-CLASS GASTROINTESTINAL-TARGETED POTENT PAN-ROCK INHIBITOR FOR TREATMENT OF FIBROSTENOTIC CROHN'S DISEASE

[Watch the recording on Gutflix](#)

Pim Stougie: IDENTIFYING PUTATIVE GENOMIC BIOMARKERS FOR RISK STRATIFICATION IN BARRETT'S ESOPHAGUS PATIENTS WITH NORMAL HISTOLOGICAL FEATURES

[Watch the recording on Gutflix](#)

Wentao Shao: SIRNA/CS-PLGA NANOPARTICLE SYSTEM TARGETING KNOCKOUT OF INTESTINAL SOAT2 REDUCED INTESTINAL LIPID UPTAKE AND ALLEVIATE OBESITY

[Watch the recording on Gutflix](#)

1 Journal Best Paper awardee 2024 Åsa Frändemark



- 2 Top Abstract Prize awardees 2024 at UEG Week in Vienna
- 3 Session chair Darija Vranesic Bender, Rising Star João Sabino, and session chair Ailsa L. Hart in the silent theatre
- 4 Rising Star Zaeem Cader (middle) receiving his award from session chairs Channing Der and Severine Vermeire
- 5 Rising Star Mette Julsgaard receiving her award from session chair Iris Dotan



Rising Stars

By recognising the most promising emerging scientists with a Rising Star Award, we acknowledge their scientific independence and track record of publishing high-quality research internationally. Throughout the year, we showcase their research profiles and share their vision for the future of digestive health with our global, multi-disciplinary community. The Rising Star talks in the scientific programme of UEG Week offer a highlight of receiving this coveted award, but it's the robust platform for continued collaboration and career advancement that truly sets this initiative apart. We are committed to supporting the UEG Rising Stars 2024 on their journey of excellence, encouraging their future research and fostering collaboration in the field of digestive health.



Rising Stars 2024



Zaeem Cader

From the hot springs of Yellowstone to Crohn's disease👉

Lena-Christin Conradi

Molecular differences of angiogenic versus vessel co-opting colorectal cancer👉

Thomas Greuter

Eosinophilic oesophagitis from the microscope to dysfunction👉

Hannes Hagström

Using population-based data sources to improve knowledge on liver diseases👉

Mette Julsgaard

Fetal exposure to maternal medical treatment for IBD and its impact on pregnancy outcome and child development👉

Panu Luukkonen

Genetics and modifiable factors in the pathogenesis of fatty liver disease👉

Marcin Magierowski

Persulfation: A missing key in fundamental and clinical approach to oesophageal pathologies👉

Olga P. Nyssen

From the European to the world registry on Helicobacter pylori management and their contribution against gastric cancer👉

Francesca Romana Ponziani

Gut microbiota and hepatocellular carcinoma: From pathogenesis to modulation of treatment efficacy👉

João Sabino

The role of diet in the management of IBD👉

1 Francesca Romana Ponziani

2 Hannes Hagström

3 Panu Luukkonen

4 Marcin Magierowski

5 Zaeem Cader

6 Mette Julsgaard

7 Lena-Christin Conradi

8 Thomas Greuter

9 Olga P. Nyssen

10 João Sabino

Clinical Visiting Fellowships

UEG supports up to 30 trainees in gastroenterology with visiting fellowships to spend two weeks at a renowned European training centre each year. All trainees receive a stipend to contribute to travel and accommodation costs. Below are those who received Clinical Visiting Fellowships in 2024 and the location of their fellowships.

Adonis Protopapas (Greece) visited Gastroenterology/Multivisceral Transplant Unit in Padua, Italy

Ahmed Abdelaziz (Egypt) visited Medical University of Łódź in Lodz, Poland

Alba Kostandini (Italy) visited University of Nottingham in Nottingham, United Kingdom

Alberto Barchi (Italy) visited Amsterdam UMC in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Aleksandra Budnicka-Borkowicz (Poland) visited Hospital Vall d' Hebron in Barcelona, Spain

Ali Mahgoub (Egypt) visited Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust in Nottingham, United Kingdom

Ana Dugic (Germany) visited Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department, University Hospital of Santiago de Compostela in Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Anastasios Stefanopoulos (Greece) visited University Hospital LMU in München, Germany

Anna Bezpala (Ukraine) visited Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust in Nottingham, United Kingdom

Charlene Deane (Ireland) visited CHU de Nantes IMAD in Nantes, France

Christopher Black (United Kingdom) visited KU Leuven in Leuven, Belgium

Domenico Novielli (Italy) visited Georges-Pompidou European Hospital in Paris, France

Edmond Baghdasaryan (Armenia) visited Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department, University Hospital of Santiago de Compostela in Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Eduardo Valdivielso (Spain) visited Clinical Hospital Centre in Rijeka, Croatia

Eirini Bourmpouteli (Greece) visited Sahlgrenska University Hospital in Gothenburg, Sweden

Gasser Hassan (Egypt) visited Department of Gastroenterology, Marmara University, School Of Medicine in Istanbul, Turkey

Georgios Kalopitas (Greece) visited Clinical Emergency Hospital Bucharest in Bucharest, Romania

Iordanis Mylonas (Greece) visited University Hospital of Santiago de Compostela - Gastroenterology and Hepatology, University Hospital in Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Jasmin Perviz (Bosnia and Herzegovina) visited Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine Gastroenterology & Hepatology in Prague, Czech Republic

João António Cunha Neves (Portugal) visited Maastricht University Medical Center in Maastricht, The Netherlands

Johanna List (Germany) visited Bürgerspital Solothurn in Solothurn, Switzerland

Kymentie Ferdinande (Belgium) visited Gastroenterology/Multivisceral Transplant Unit in Padua, Italy

Liliia Nikulina (Ukraine) visited Gastroenterology and Hepatology Department, University Hospital of Santiago de Compostela in Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Lucy Hovakimyan (Armenia) visited Sahlgrenska University Hospital - Dept of Internal Medicine in Gothenburg, Sweden

Luis Miguel García (Spain) visited Amsterdam UMC in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Matea Majerović (Croatia) visited Amsterdam UMC in Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Muhammed Bahaddin Durak (Turkey) visited Hospital Clinic of Barcelona in Barcelona, Spain

Pawel Kuznicki (Poland) visited Centro Hospitalar Universitário Lisboa Norte, Medical School of Lisbon in Lisbon, Portugal

Pedro Cardoso (Portugal) visited Maastricht University Medical Center in Maastricht, The Netherlands

Roman Matorin (Armenia) visited Fondazione Policlinico Universitario "A. Gemelli" IRCCS, Catholic University of Rome in Rome, Italy

“If you are still unsure about participating in this program, I highly recommend it. It is an incomparable experience. You will gain new knowledge, make pleasant acquaintances, and most importantly, get inspired for further medical and scientific work.”

Roman Matorin, Clinical Visiting Fellowship Awardee

Imprint

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