

“30 years of Paediatric Rheumatology International Trials Organisation (PRINTO)”

Past, Present and Future of Treatment Paradigms in Adult and Paediatric Rheumatology

Milano, Saturday, October 3rd, 2026

Centro Congressi Fondazione CARIPLO – Via G. Romagnosi 8, Milano, Italy

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Rationale

Thirty years after its establishment in Pavia, Italy, the Paediatric Rheumatology International Trials Organisation (PRINTO), which in 2020 became a Third Sector not-for-profit Foundation named Fondazione PRINTO ETS, stands today as a leading international reference for clinical research in paediatric rheumatology, coordinating a global network of more than 700 centres in over 90 countries with 2000 physicians, and 50,000 children enrolled in collaborative research projects.

This congress has a dual purpose: to celebrate the history and scientific impact of Fondazione PRINTO ETS in defining therapeutic standards for paediatric rheumatic diseases, and to highlight the current and future challenges of the field. Over the past two decades, the therapeutic and regulatory landscape of adult and paediatric arthritides, systemic lupus erythematosus, idiopathic inflammatory myopathies, and autoinflammatory diseases has undergone a profound transformation, particularly thanks to the development of biological agents, targeted and CAR-T cell therapies, which are now available also to children through international regulatory programmes and coordinated multicentre studies. In active collaboration with the Pediatric Rheumatology Collaborative Study Group (PRCSG), Fondazione PRINTO ETS has played a pivotal role in this process, contributing to the development of clinical protocols, disease activity measures, response and classification criteria and methodological standards that are currently adopted worldwide.

Fondazione PRINTO ETS also aims to promote regular updates on therapeutic innovations in paediatric rheumatology, integrating the experience gained in childhood-onset diseases with the evidence and approaches consolidated in adult rheumatology. This international meeting is conceived in this perspective: to strengthen the dialogue between paediatric and adult care, ensuring continuity and coherence of therapeutic choices throughout the patient's clinical journey.

The scientific programme will include sessions dedicated to the most recent therapeutic advances in major paediatric and adult rheumatic diseases, with specific attention to the assessment of efficacy and safety, long-term management, and present and future therapeutic challenges. The conference will feature leading paediatric and adult rheumatology speakers, representatives from the pharmaceutical industry, family associations, and presentations highlighting the ongoing and upcoming key therapeutic interventions in paediatric and adult rheumatology.

Finally, the congress represents an opportunity to reflect on the path taken so far, to consolidate existing collaborations, establish new ones, and define priorities for future research and clinical practice, in continuity with the mission of Fondazione PRINTO ETS: to improve the quality of life of children and adolescents with rheumatic diseases through rigorous research and a strong, integrated international network. Available in a hybrid format, with options for both in-person and remote attendance, the event is aimed at paediatric rheumatologists, paediatricians, rheumatologists, internists, trainees and other healthcare professionals involved in the care of patients with rheumatic diseases, providing concrete tools for an updated clinical practice consistent with current evidence and future perspectives.

Furthermore, recognizing the vital role of young investigators within our community, Fondazione PRINTO ETS is pleased to offer dedicated grants for the JIA Consensus Conference (Milano, September 30-October 2, 2026) and PRINTO Congress. These grants will support selected early-career researchers from Europe and other regions of the world, enabling them to attend the JIA Consensus Conference as observers and actively participate in the main congress.

Scientific Programme

Saturday, October 3rd, 2026

07.30 – 08.30 Participant Registration

Inaugural Session – Fondazione PRINTO ETS: Past, Present and Future

Moderators: Hermine Brunner, Dan Lovell, Nicolino Ruperto

08.30 – 08.35 Welcome and Introduction

Nicolino Ruperto (Milano, Italy)

08.35 – 09.00 *Lectio magistralis: 30 years of PRINTO*

Alberto Martini (Professor Emeritus)

09.00 – 09.20 Representatives from Family Associations

Gabriele Bona (A.M.R.I. – Associazione per le Malattie Reumatiche Infantili, Italy)

Christophe Normand (ENCA – European Network for Children with Arthritis, France)

Antonella Celano (APMARR – Associazione Nazionale Persone con Malattie Reumatologiche e Rare, Italy)

I Session – Therapeutic Advances in Adult and Paediatric Arthritides

Moderators: Lorenzo Dagna, Marco Cattalini, Achille Marino

- 09.20 – 09.45 Current paradigm in adult arthritides treatment
Roberto Caporali (Milano, Italy)
- 09.45 – 10.10 What is new in adult arthritides treatment
Daniel Aletaha (Vienna, Austria)
- 10.10 – 10.35 Current paradigm in juvenile idiopathic arthritis treatment
Dan Lovell (Cincinnati, OH, USA)
- 10.35 – 11.00 What is new in juvenile idiopathic arthritis treatment
Nicolino Ruperto (Milano, Italy)
- 11.00 – 11.20 *Coffee break*

II Session – Therapeutic Advances in Adult and Childhood-onset Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)

Moderators: Andrea Biondi, Angela Mauro, Stefano Lanni

- 11.20 – 11.45 Current paradigm and what is new in adult systemic lupus erythematosus treatment
Georg Schett (Erlangen, Germany)
- 11.45 – 12.10 Current and future paradigm in childhood-onset systemic lupus erythematosus treatment
Hermine Brunner (Cincinnati, OH, USA)

III Session – Therapeutic Advances in Adult and Paediatric Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies

Moderators: Marco Matucci-Cerinic, Giovanni Filocamo, Alessandra Alongi

- 12.10 – 12.35 Current paradigm and what is new in adult idiopathic inflammatory myopathies treatment
Ingrid Lundberg (Stockholm, Sweden)
- 12.35 – 13.00 Current paradigm in paediatric idiopathic inflammatory myopathies treatment
Brian M. Feldman (Toronto, ON, Canada)
- 13.00 – 14.00 *Lunch*

III Session (continued) Therapeutic Advances in Adult and Paediatric Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies

Moderators: Marco Matucci-Cerinic, Giovanni Filocamo, Alessandra Alongi

- 14.00 – 14.25 What is new in paediatric idiopathic inflammatory myopathies treatment
Lisa Rider (NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA)

IV Session – Therapeutic Advances in Adult and Paediatric Autoinflammatory Diseases

Moderators: Francesca Minoia, Paolo Delvino, Saverio La Bella

- 14.25 – 14.50 Current paradigm and what is new in adult autoinflammatory diseases treatment
Eldad Ben-Chetrit (Jerusalem, Israel)
- 14.50 – 15.15 Current paradigm in paediatric autoinflammatory diseases treatment
Erkan Demirkaya (London, ON, Canada)
- 15.15 – 15.40 What is new in paediatric autoinflammatory diseases treatment
Dirk Foell (Muenster, Germany)

**V Session – Clinical Trials in Paediatric Rheumatology:
Regulatory Perspectives**

Moderators: Hermine Brunner, Nicolino Ruperto

- 15.40 – 16.05 Paediatric Rheumatology trials from the European Medicines Agency perspective
Roberto De Lisa (European Medicines Agency-EMA, Amsterdam, Netherlands)
- 16.05 – 16.30 Paediatric Rheumatology trials from the Food & Drug Administration perspective
Emily Gotschlich (Food and Drug Administration-FDA, Silver Spring, MD, USA)
- 16.30 – 17.00 *Coffee break*

VI Session – The Present and the Future of the Fondazione PRINTO ETS

(attendance by invitation only)

Ongoing and future projects of the Fondazione PRINTO ETS

- 16.30 – 17.00 Session limited to pharma companies
- 17.00 – 18.00 Session limited to Fondazione PRINTO ETS members
Nicolino Ruperto (Milano, Italy)
- 19.30 – 23.00 *Social dinner to celebrate PRINTO 30th anniversary at the “Centro Congressi Fondazione CARIPLO” – Via G. Romagnosi 8, Milano*