

Rheumatology & ILD Summit

27 February - 01 March 2026
Porto, Portugal

rheumatology-ildsummit.org

Scientific Program: Autoimmune Diseases and Pulmonary Fibrosis: Recent Advances

This program is designed for a multi-day symposium, bringing together rheumatologists, pulmonologists, and translational researchers to explore the intersection of systemic autoimmunity and interstitial lung disease (ILD).

27 February 2026, Friday

10:00-12:00 Pathophysiology and the Shared Genetic Landscape

Focus: Understanding why the immune system targets the lung parenchyma.

Chair: ANTONIO MARINHO, NEVSUN INANC

10:00-10:30 **The "Two-Hit" Hypothesis:** How environmental triggers and genetic susceptibility lead to Autoimmune ILD- **GÖKÇE KENAR ARTIM**

10:30-11:00 **Beyond the Joint:** New insights into the lung as the primary site of autoimmune initiation in Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA)- **MEHMET ENGİN TEZCAN**

11:00-11:30 **Genetic Mapping:** Common variants in *MUC5B* and *TOLLIP*: Bridging the gap between Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) and Connective Tissue Disease-associated ILD (CTD-ILD)- **CARLOS VASCONCELOS**

11:30-12:00 **Cellular Drivers:** The role of Profibrotic Macrophages and Th17 cells in driving alveolar remodeling- **MURAT INANC**

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

13:30-14:30 **The Microbiome Link:** How the lung-gut axis influences systemic immune activation and pulmonary scarring

Chair: SEDAT KIRAZ

- **Lung axis-** **CARLOS CARNEIRO**
- **Gut axis-** **ANTONIO MARINHO**

Rheumatology & ILD Summit

27 February - 01 March 2026
Porto, Portugal

rheumatology-ildsummit.org

14:30-15:00 Coffee Break

15:00-16:30 Panel Discussion: Redefining "IPAF" (Interstitial Pneumonia with Autoimmune Features) – Are we closer to a formal diagnosis?

Chair: *SULEYMAN SERDAR KOCA*

Speakers: *EDIZ DALKILIC, ALI AKDOGAN, OZLEM KUMBASAR*

28 February 2026, Saturday

Emerging Biomarkers and Diagnostic Precision

Focus: Improving early detection and predicting disease progression.

Serological Breakthroughs

Chair: *SERDAL UGURLU*

09:00-09:30 Utilizing novel myositis-specific antibodies (MSAs) to predict rapidly progressive ILD- *ALPER SARI*

09:30-10:00 MCTD & Anti-U1RNP: Why 40% of U1RNP-positive patients develop ILD and the significance of the NSIP (Non-Specific Interstitial Pneumonia) pattern- *ELIF YELDA NIKSARLIOGLU*

10:00-10:30 The Sjögren's-ILD Phenotype: Beyond "Sicca"—Identifying Anti-Ro52 as a high-risk marker for progressive fibrosis- *INES FURTADO*

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

Rheumatology & ILD Summit

27 February - 01 March 2026
Porto, Portugal

rheumatology-ildsummit.org

Chair: *CARLOS CARNEIRO*

11:00-11:30 **Liquid Biopsies:** Can circulating microRNAs or epithelial cell markers predict a "progressive fibrosing" phenotype?- *ANTONIO MARINHO*

11:30-12:00 Using the lung Ultrasound to quantify pulmonary severity- *GOKHAN SARGIN*

12:00-13:30 Lunch Break

Chair: *CARLOS VASCONCELOS*

13:30-14:00 Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension (PAH):

13:30-13:45 Beyond parenchymal disease—Managing the lethal combination of ILD and vascular remodeling in Systemic Sclerosis- *ALI AKDOGAN*

13:45-14:00 Can we differentiate PAH from PH related with ILD- *NESRIN MOGOLKOC*

14:00-14:30 Coffee Break

Chair: *YAVUZ PEHLIVAN*

14:30-16:00 **Workshop:** Interpreting HRCT Patterns: Identifying UIP vs. NSIP in the autoimmune patient- *DERYA KOCAKAYA, ILKNUR BASYIGIT*

16:30-17:00 **AI in Radiology:** Leveraging machine learning for the early quantification of subclinical fibrosis- *MUSTAFA ERDOGAN*

Rheumatology & ILD Summit

27 February - 01 March 2026
Porto, Portugal

rheumatology-ildsummit.org

01 March 2026, Sunday

The New Therapeutic Era

Focus: Moving from traditional immunosuppression to "Niche" and "Combination" therapies.

Chair: *GULEN HATEMI*

09:00-09:30 Anti-Fibrotics in CTD-ILD: Analyzing long-term data from the INBUILD and SENSICIS trials (Nintedanib and Pirfenidone)- *ISMAIL HANTA*

09:30-10:30 Targeted Biologics

Chair: *CEMAL BES*

09:30-10:00 Treatment strategies for RA-related interstitial lung disease - *ENDER TERZIOGLU*

10:00-10:30 The emergence of JAK inhibitors for refractory Dermatomyositis-ILD- *CARLOS CARNEIRO*

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-11:30 **Is there room for MTX in ILD treatment:** Recent data (including the *PULMORA* trial)- *CARLOS VASCONCELOS*

11:30-12:30 Future Frontiers:

11:30-12:00 Antifibrotic Strategies in ILD: Current Evidence and Future Perspectives- *SEHNAZ YILDIZELI*

12:00-12:30 Precision Medicine—Tailoring therapy based on molecular endotypes rather than clinical labels- *CARLOS CARNEIRO*