

# Rheumatology & ILD Summit

**27 February - 01 March 2026**  
**Porto, Portugal**

[rheumatology-ildsummit.org](http://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 ENGIN 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](http://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](http://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- **NESRİN 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](http://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 SENSCIS 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**