



CALL for participation in the ECCO Consensus: Inflammatory bowel disease in Low and Lower-Middle Income Countries: challenges in diagnosis, management and gaps in knowledge

Application deadline: May 18, 2023

ECCO in its outlook as an organisation dedicated to global IBD care is planning a consensus on IBD in Low and Lower-Middle Income Countries (LLMIC). The aim of the consensus is exploring and understanding the epidemiology and challenges in diagnosis, management as well as highlighting the gaps in knowledge and it has the potential to guide development of the blueprints of management of IBD in the setting of LLMIC. It is anticipated that this will build new global partnerships and stimulate research in order to generate evidence and guide the practice. Furthermore, it aims to encourage the development of new tools for research and education and to inspire educational workshops dedicated to tackling the highlighted challenges. This consensus will benefit the gastroenterologists, surgeons, nurses and other members of IBD management team as well as IBD patients and their families.

Workgroups prepare core messages as "Current Practice Positions" which will be discussed and voted on in a plenary meeting to achieve consensus. After the final vote, the manuscript is finalised and published in the *Journal of Crohn's and Colitis* (JCC).

To be selected for the **Working Groups** of this Consensus Paper ECCO members should apply via the link provided below.

Y-ECCO Members are encouraged to apply with an opportunity to oversee the systematic bibliographic review and further development of e-Learning material.

Working Groups (WGs):

WG 1 Epidemiology

- a. Update on IBD incidence and prevalence in LLMICs
- b. Update on patients and disease characteristics in LLMICs
- c. Challenges linked to accessing information on IBD (incl. fieldwork, cultural and community aspects)
- d. IBD as a future global health challenge in LLMICs?

WG 2 diagnosis

- a. Unique differential diagnosis considerations for IBD in LLMIC
- b. Overview of diagnostic tools for the diagnosis IBD in LLMIC
- c. Application of diagnostic criteria to risk strategy patient and formulate treatment plans
- d. Transforming barriers into opportunities for the diagnosis of IBD in LLMIC

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WG3 Medical treatment

- a. Unique considerations into IBD medical treatments in LLMICs
 - Phenotypic differences
 - Genotypic considerations
 - Response rates
 - Cultural factors, social stigma etc
 - Use of CAM
- b. Barriers to medical treatments in LLMICs
 - Health care system challenges
 - Financial challenges
 - Social challenges
 - Belief systems
 - Accessibility of therapies
 - Facilities
 - Training of HCPs
 - Patient awareness
 - Multidisciplinary teams
- c. Opportunities of IBD research in LLMICs
 - Aetiopathogenesis
 - Drug response
 - Pharmacovigilance
- c. Incorporation of culturally competent care in LLMICS
 - Providing a roadmap

WG 4 Surgical treatment

- a. Access to IBD surgery, cost and selected procedures
- b. The rate of surgical intervention
- c. The availability of IBD centre, IBD surgeon and IBD multidisciplinary team
- d. Adherence to guidelines
- e. Gaps in knowledge

If you are:

- a Global Friend of ECCO or an individual ECCO Member from a **Low or Lower-Middle Income Country** (please see the list of countries as defined by the World Bank here: [World Bank Country and Lending Groups – World Bank Data Help Desk](#))
- interested in joining one of the Working Groups for this project
- willing to commit fully to the enhanced process including participation in meetings

Then please apply online* under the following link if you are an ECCO Member. Please use your **ECCO Portal Credentials**: [Proposal \(ecco-ibd.eu\)](#)



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Dear **Global Friends of ECCO**, in case you are not an individual ECCO Member, please apply by sending us your CV, affiliation, contact details and two preferred Working Groups to ecco@ecco-ibd.eu. *

Please note that industry representatives are not eligible.

Deadline for submission is May 18, 2023

**Data processing consent and retention: By sending an application, you agree to the data processing for the above described project: ECCO Office stores applicants' personal data of this application for the project timeframe. You have the right to object at any time at ecco@ecco-ibd.eu. ECCO Office will delete data securely after the end of this project*

If you have trouble logging in, please contact ecco@ecco-ibd.eu

ECCO is looking forward to your application

Best regards from the Project Coordinators,

Alaa El-Hussuna (S-ECCO) and Shaji Sebastian (ClinCom)

The ECCO Office

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Note: ECCO'24 Stockholm Congress, February 21-24, 2024