

LIEGE EUMASS CONGRESS 2026

SOCIAL INSURANCE MEDICINE : CLIMBING THE STEPS TO TOMORROW

PALAIS DES CONGRÈS
FROM SEPTEMBER 17 TO 19, 2026

ASMA asbl
Association Scientifique de Médecine d'Assurance

EUMASS
European Union of Medicine
in Assurance and Social Security

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Wetenschappelijke Vereniging voor Verzekeringsgeneeskunde

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

Welcome!

The organising committee from ASMA asbl and WVV vzw, the French-speaking and Dutch-speaking Belgian members of EUMASS, has the immense pleasure to welcome you to **the 25th UEMASS Congress in Liège (Belgium), held from Thursday 17 September to Saturday 19 September 2026** under the theme:

“Social Insurance Medicine: climbing the steps toward tomorrow.”

This theme, inspired by the famous Bueren staircase, an iconic landmark in Liège, reflects the effort needed to rise to future challenges - an effort rewarded with new and promising perspectives.

For a few days, Liège becomes the European crossroads of expertise in social insurance medicine. This congress offers a unique opportunity to share experiences, foster reflections, and strengthen cooperations among professionals from across Europe.

The Scientific Committee has carefully selected high-level speakers to enrich both the plenary sessions and the parallel workshops.

But this congress would not be the same without your active participation. Every effort has been made to encourage networking, interdisciplinary exchange, and the building of lasting professional relationships, all within a friendly and stimulating environment.

Keynotes

The field of expertise for the Keynotes are spread on

- Digitalisation in Insurance medicine
- Health at work
- Sick-leave management
- Rehabilitation
- Public health, healthcare and economics

The following keynote speakers have already committed

- Ass. Prof. Kristin Farrants (Karolinska Institutet - SE)
- Dr. Klaus-Peter Thiele (Medizinischer Dienst Nordrhein - DE)
- Prof. Solveig Ose (Sintef - NO)
- Prof. Giovanni Briganti (University Mons – BE)
- Dr. Suzanne Weinbrenner (German Federal Pension Insurance – DE)
- Prof. Borut Jug (University Ljubljana – SL)
- Prof. Johan Albrecht (University Gent – BE)
- Prof. Paulus Torkki (University Helsinki – FI)
- Prof. Lode Godderis (University Leuven – BE)
- Prof. Ute Bultmann (University Groningen - president of Eupha social security work and health section – NL)
- Prof. Marianna Virtanen (University of Eastern Finland - FI)
- Prof. Olivier Sibony (HEC Paris – FR)

Topics for abstracts - Headlines

1. The Sick Leave Revolution: Smarter Solutions for Health and Productivity

- Rethinking certification, presenteeism, and European innovations in absence management
- Sick leave (certification, guidelines, sick Leave reduction, epidemiologic studies)
- Work capacity evaluation, ICF, Evidence based medicine, noise and bias in insurance judgment

2. From Rehab to Resilience: Empowering Return-to-Work Success

- Redefining the journey with patient-first approaches, employer roles, and prevention strategies
- Rehabilitation and return-to-work (methods, patient's perspective, employer's role, prevention)
- Claimants (bullying, harassment, health promotion)

3. Insurance medicine 2.0: Ethics, Technology, and Changing Roles

- Exploring person-centered care, data-driven tools, and the evolving role of technology
- Changing profile of the insurance medicine provider (task sharing, team roles)
- Multidisciplinary approach in work capacity evaluation (team dynamics in Europe)
- Ethics in insurance medicine (patient perspective, empowerment, right to be forgotten)
- Information technology and artificial intelligence in insurance medicine (e-health, big data, automation, data exchange)

4. Widening the scope: Insurance Medicine in Interaction

- Monitoring healthcare and healthcare providers (trends in healthcare and healthcare payment models, comparisons of healthcare providers, auditing of healthcare services billing, identifying waste in healthcare services) & sharing the knowledge (feedback to healthcare providers, workshops, guidelines)
- Strengthening teams, transforming education, and connecting insurance medicine with healthcare
- Training in insurance medicine (curricula, objectives, skills, evaluation)

5. Thriving in Transition: Tackling Demographics and Workplace Challenges

- Addressing aging populations, workplace dynamics, and the hidden costs of insurance practices
- Demographic and social changes (aging population, disability, migration, climate)
- Drawbacks in insurance medicine (for claimants, health funds, and medical advisors)
- Impact of changing legislation

Abstract submission

Participants will be encouraged to actively participate in the congress sessions, but it is important that especially by submitting abstracts these discussions can also take place in the parallel sessions.

It is therefore our pleasure to invite you to submit an abstract for oral or poster presentation, or for topical seminars. We strongly support the initiative for topical seminars and mini symposium

Abstracts can be submitted via our website from early September 2025 to mid-January 2026. The correct dates can be found on our website.

On our website you will find soon the ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION GUIDELINE.

Target groups

Insurance physicians, medical advisors and researchers are the main target group. Other professionals involved in the field of insurance medicine, social security issues and the return-to-work-process are also welcome, such as case-managers, ICT-experts, lawyers, ...

Registration

Registration will start in March 2026. Discounts will be available for early birds. Details will be communicated as soon as possible. Follow us on our website www.eumass2026.eu

Venue

Palais des Congrès, Liège (Belgium)

<https://www.palaisdescongresliege.be/>

Languages

Most sessions are held in English including plenary sessions some in French, but for the plenary sessions a translation into French is provided.

Contact and website

www.eumass2026.eu

eumass2023@eumass.eu or preferably via contact form on our website

We are looking forward to seeing you in Liège!

Chairs of the Organizing Committee

Docteur Jean-Pierre B^{on} SCHENKELAARS (ASMA asbl)
Docteur Philip BERKEIN (WVV vzw)

Chair of the EUMASS Scientific Committee

Docteur François LATIL (Assurance-Maladie - FR)