

# SCH pre-congress day – ECVIM-CA 2026

## Let's save Live(r)s!

Liver disease in dogs and cats: how much do we really know and how can we get more evidence by uniting clinical practice and research?

Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2026

Generously supported by Hill's and Antech Diagnostics

### Why

Canine and feline hepatobiliary diseases continue to be affected by knowledge gaps and there is a lack of prospective follow up of cases

### How

The Society of Comparative Hepatology can provide a platform for initiation and promotion of collaborative clinical research with the long-term goal of filling these gaps

*This pre congress will be of interest to both specialists and first opinion practitioners with an interest in liver disease as we try to work together to understand more about the causes and treatment of liver diseases in small animals*

### Programme

- **8.00-8.30** – Arrival with coffee and tea
- **8.30-8.40** – Welcome by organizers
- **8.40-9.50** – Unanswered questions in veterinary hepatology (*title to be confirmed*)
  - o **Dr Andrea Johnston** (Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Pathobiology, Michigan State University, USA)
- **9.50-10.30** – Coffee and tea break
- **10.30-10.50** – The Hill's Biobank and University partnership (*title to be confirmed*)
  - o **Dr Laura Motsinger** (Senior Scientist – Global Clinical Nutrition and Claims, Hill's Pet Nutrition)
- **10.50-12.00** – What we don't know about primary veterinary care of liver disease and why not – the VetCompass story
  - o **Dr Dan O'Neill** (Professor of Veterinary Immunology and Senior Lead for VetCompass, Royal Veterinary College, UK)
- **12.00-13.00** – Lunch
- **13.00-14.10** – The human medicine perspective – multi-centre studies involving industry, charities and the public to bridge the gap between medical research and patient care
  - o **Professor Jonathan Fallowfield** (Chair of Translational Liver Research and Principal Investigator, Institute for Regeneration and Repair, University of Edinburgh, UK)
- **14.10-15.20** – The oral-gut-liver axis in chronic liver disease and its implications in portal hypertension
  - o **Dr Vishal Patel** (Adjunct Reader in Hepatology, Consultant Hepatologist and Principal Investigator, The Roger Williams Institute of Liver Studies and King's College London, UK)
- **15.20-16.00** – Coffee and tea break
- **16.00-17.30** – Panel discussion and closing remarks
  - o **Dr Johnston, Dr O'Neill, Dr Fallowfield, Dr Patel, Dr Julia Beatty** (*Chair Professor of Veterinary Medicine and Infectious Diseases, City University of Hong Kong*)



## Registrations

- *In-person early (before 22<sup>nd</sup> May)*  
SCH members: **€125**; Non-members: **€185**
- *In-person late (after 22<sup>nd</sup> May)*  
SCH members: **€140**; Non-members: **€200**  
Prices include VAT

Click [here](#) if also registering for the main ECVIM-CA Congress in person

Click [here](#) if only attending the pre-congress in person

- *Online live / on demand*  
SCH members: **€50**; Non-members: **€110**  
Prices exclude VAT

Click [here](#) if also registering for the main ECVIM-CA Congress on demand

Click [here](#) if only attending the pre-congress on demand

*If you already registered for the main congress and want to add the pre-congress, email [info@ecvimcongress.org](mailto:info@ecvimcongress.org)*

*Difference between member and non-member fees is the cost of a 3-year membership*

In-person venue in Estrel Berlin (details [here](#))

SCH membership is available [here](#) for anyone interested. We can be reached [here](#) for any queries.



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