



1<sup>ST</sup> IFCC ROME FORUM  
*Jointly organised by ETD and EMD*

# PAVING THE ROAD FOR AI IN LABORATORY MEDICINE

APPLICATIONS, CHALLENGES  
AND IMPLEMENTATIONS

11-12 MAY 2026

**ROME, VILLA MONDRAGONE**  
UNIVERSITY OF TOR VERGATA

*Under the Auspices of*

**SIBioC**  
Medicina di Laboratorio ETS

In the past several years, artificial intelligence (AI) has penetrated and influenced our lives in more ways than we can imagine. AI tools are routinely used for example to create or translate a text, plan an experiment, and analyze data. In medicine, in general, and laboratory medicine, in particular, AI utility has been explored and successfully implemented in numerous applications and scenarios.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Rome Forum will deeply dive into current AI applications in laboratory medicine and critically evaluate them. But most importantly, it will provide a glimpse into the future to see what is on the horizon. The AI applications which will be explored include:

- Pre-, post-, and analytical tools
- Routine administrative clinical lab functions and AI implementation challenges
- Content creation for medical education and research tools
- Algorithm development and validation in various clinical scenarios
- Omics integration

In addition to providing a provocative program, The Rome Forum offers several unique features:

- Fully interactive and untraditional means of delivering information
- Includes all stakeholders such as clinicians, laboratorians, IT and IVD scientists and regulators
- Limited number of attendees of 150 to provide the perfect environment for discussion and exchange of ideas in an idyllic setting, a hill-top 14th century papal villa

## Scientific committee

Damien Gruson, *Co-chair*  
Nader Rifai, *Co-chair*

Sergio Bernardini  
Andreas Bietenbeck  
Yan Liu  
Stephen Master  
Michael King  
Sarina Yang

11 MAY 2026

Program

8:30-8:45	<b>Welcome &amp; Introduction</b> Nader Rifai
8:45-10:15	<b>AI Applications in the preanalytical phase</b> Moderator: <a href="#">Sarina Yang</a> Speakers: <a href="#">Christopher-John Farrell</a> . Machine learning for detecting wrong blood in tube errors <a href="#">Brendan Graham</a> . Operationalizing ML for Pre-Analytical Error Detection in a Pediatric Setting: Considerations and Lessons Learned <a href="#">Christopher Garcia</a> . Reducing pre-analytical errors through automated visual inspection: adapting industrial computer vision for clinical laboratory implementation
10:15-11:00	Coffee Break, exhibit & AI demos
11:00-12:30	<b>AI Role in the analytical and post-analytical processes</b> Moderators: <a href="#">Yan Liu &amp; Michael King</a> Speakers: <a href="#">Stephen Master</a> . AI in Laboratory Medicine: Five Opportunities and Five Challenges <a href="#">Michael King</a> . Reimagine the lab with AI: Empowering clinicians and patients with insights <a href="#">Yan Liu</a> . LLM Hallucinations, Real Patients: Building Safe Post-Analytical Decision-Support Tools for Real-World Deployment
12:30-1:30pm	Lunch, exhibit & AI demos
1:30-3:00pm	<b>What's Holding Back the Broad Adoption of AI Models Built on Laboratory Data?</b> Moderator: <a href="#">Andreas Bietenbeck</a> Speakers: <a href="#">Jacqueline Lammert</a> . From Code to Clinic: Bridging the Gap Between AI Potential and Clinical Reality <a href="#">Umar Ansari</a> . Challenges with adoption of AI <a href="#">Sarina Yang</a> . Ask, verify, monitor. A practical framework for AI implementation in the clinical laboratory
3:00-3:45pm	Coffee break, exhibit & AI demos
3:45-5:15pm	<b>Utility of AI tools in medical education and research</b> Moderator: <a href="#">Nader Rifai</a> Speakers: <a href="#">Nader Rifai</a> . AI applications in medical education: personalized learning and content translation and creation <a href="#">Ian Young</a> . AI for editors and publishers: challenges and opportunities <a href="#">Fei Wang</a> . Valuable role of AI in medical research
5:15-5:30pm	<b>Wrap up</b> <a href="#">Stephen Master</a>

12 MAY 2026

## Program

- 8:30-9:30 Keynote address  
[Fei Wang](#). The oracle of Delphi is back: how good are her prophecies for medicine?
- 9:30-11:00 **Clinical AI Validation Pathways in Cardiovascular Medicine**  
Moderator: [Damien Gruson](#)  
Speakers:  
[Dimitrios Doudesis](#). CoDE-HF: a clinical decision-support tool for the diagnosis of acute heart failure in the Emergency Department  
[Cedric Hermans](#). How artificial intelligence will shape the future of care in hemophilia and inherited bleeding disorders  
[Benoît Macq](#). Digital twins – technical & ethical validation challenges
- 11:00-11:30pm Coffee break, exhibit and AI demos
- 11:30-1:00pm **Sepsis Models: Past failure, future success?**  
Moderator: [Stephen Master](#)  
Speakers:  
[Thorsten Kaiser](#). AI in diagnostics: The idea, modeling, and challenges in clinical implementation  
[Bobby Reddy Jr.](#) Regulatory Approval for an AI Tool for Sepsis  
[Andrew Wong](#). AI Governance for Sepsis Prediction Models: The Importance of Real-World Clinical Validation
- 1:00-2:30pm Lunch, exhibit & AI demos
- 2:30-4:00pm **AI role in the building of a cross-disciplinary governance for multi-omic integration**  
Moderator: [Sergio Bernardini](#)  
Speaker:  
[XU Bo](#). Decoding Intelligent Oncology: From Foundational Logic to Clinical Prospects  
[Andrew South](#). Increasing RNA resolution for cancer diagnostics: the success of single cell and spatial transcriptomics  
Discussants: [Christa Cobbaert & Elie Fux](#)
- 4:00-4:30pm Coffee break, exhibit and AI demos
- 4:30-5:00pm **Wrap-up**  
[Damien Gruson](#)
- 5:00-5:05pm Closing  
[Nader Rifai](#)

## Registration

REGISTRATION FEES	until March 15, 2026	after March 15, 2026
Full Registration	EUR 300,00 + 22% vat	EUR 400,00 + 22% vat
Reduced registration fee for student/Young Scientists*	EUR 100,00 + 22% vat	EUR 150,00 + 22% vat

### On-line registration

<https://ems.mzevents.it/start/2541/eng>

\*Please note that we identify Students and Young Scientists as participant less than 40 years of age as of 1st January 2026.

THE REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:

- F&B services as indicated in the program
- Certificate of Attendance

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE.  
EARLY REGISTRATION IS RECOMMENDED.

### Secretariat Desk Onsite

The Secretariat Desk will be open on May 11 and 12 from 08.00 till the end of the conference. You could collect your congress bag and your badge.

### Certificate of Attendance

All registered attendees will receive the Attendance Certificate by email after the conference.

### Cancellations

- Registrations cancelled within April 15, 2026 will result in a 20% penalty
- afterwards, registrations will result in a 100% penalty

### Language

The official language will be English. No simultaneous translation will be provided.

### Liability and insurance

Registration fees do not include the insurance of participants against personal accidents, sickness and cancellations by any party, theft, loss or damage to personal possessions. Participants are advised to take out adequate personal insurance to cover travel, accommodation, cancellation and personal effects.

### Remittance

Registration fees shall be paid by credit card or bank transfer through the online system.

When paying by bank transfer, a copy of the transfer receipt must be sent to [federica.sossella@mzevents.it](mailto:federica.sossella@mzevents.it). Registrations without proof of payment will not be accepted.

The registration secretariat will send the registration invoice upon receipt of payment, via e-mail. Be sure your e-mail address is filled in correctly.

## Conference Venue

**ROME, VILLA MONDRAGONE  
UNIVERSITY OF TOR VERGATA**

Via Frascati 51  
00140 – Monte Porzio Catone  
Roma

Villa Mondragone has a large car park.

### HOW TO GET TO THE VENUE

#### **By bus from Roma Termini**

- At Roma Termini station, take the FL4 regional train towards Frascati (trains to Frascati depart every hour, and the journey takes about 30 min).
- From Frascati station, take the Cotral bus to Monte Porzio Catone.
- Get off at the stop closest to Villa Mondragone and continue on foot, following the signs.

#### **By bus from Rome Anagnina**

- Go to Anagnina underground station (line A of the Rome underground).
- From Anagnina station, take a Cotral bus bound for Monte Porzio Catone.
- Get off at the stop closest to Villa Mondragone and continue on foot, following the signs.

### RECOMMENDED HOTELS NEAR THE VENUE

HOTEL CACCIANI

PARK HOTEL VILLA GRAZIOLI

HOTEL VILLA FLORA

HOTEL VILLA TUSCOLANA

GREEN HOTEL POGGIO REGILLO

HOTEL BELLAVISTA

VILLA ABBAMER



Organising secretariat

MZ Events

[patrizia.sirtori@MZevents.it](mailto:patrizia.sirtori@MZevents.it)

Registration:

[federica.sossella@MZevents.it](mailto:federica.sossella@MZevents.it)