



## Short Clinical Exchange Programme List of CRECs

### Italy

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#### San Raffaele Hospital

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City: Milan

Description:

More than 5000 people living with HIV are followed at San Raffaele Hospital. Areas of interest are management of HIV infection in people with multi-drug resistance strains, long-acting drugs, HIV prevention.

Fields of expertise:

- Management of HIV
- Antiretroviral drugs
- HIV prevention
- Co-morbidities
- Co-infections, including viral hepatitis and STI

Language requirement: English

Contact person: Prof. Antonella Castagna

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#### University of Modena and Reggio Emilia

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City: Modena

Description:

- 1900 patients with HIV, metabolic clinic, immunology laboratory

Fields of expertise:

- Co-morbidities
- Antiretroviral treatment
- Immunological changes in different populations including transplant patients with HIV
- Antimicrobial stewardship
- Infection control

Language requirement: English

Contact person: Prof. Cristina Mussini



## Spain

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### Bellvitge University Hospital

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City: L'Hospitalet de Llobregat (Barcelona)

#### Description:

The Bellvitge University Hospital is a teaching and tertiary public hospital located in the south of the metropolitan area of Barcelona. The hospital is associated with the University of Barcelona and the Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute.

In the HIV and STI Unit we have currently 1900 HIV patients in care who are attended in the outpatient clinic 5 days/week (from Monday to Friday). In addition, about 500 individuals are included in a PrEP programme. We also offer medical care to people with STI.

All the members of our team are involved in clinical research. We are currently participating in more than 20 clinical trials and research projects focused on:

- Antiretroviral therapy: phase 2 and phase 3 clinical trials with new ARV
- PK of ARV drugs in CSF, genital tract and rectum
- HIV-related complications
- STIs (including specific studies on HPV).

We also collaborate in multi-centric cohort studies (PISCIS cohort; CoRIS cohort)

#### Fields of expertise:

- Antiretroviral therapy:
  - Pharmacology including drug-drug interactions and PK in anatomic sanctuaries (CNS, genital tract)
  - Multi-drug resistance
- Opportunistic diseases
- Metabolic disorders and cardiovascular risk
- Neurocognitive impairment
- Sexually transmitted infections
- HPV and HPV-related anal cancer
- HCV co-infection

Language requirement: The working language in our Unit is Spanish (and Catalan) but all the team members can speak English.

Contact person: Dr Arkaitz Imaz



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## Hospital Clínic of Barcelona

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City: Barcelona

Description:

6000 persons with HIV  
2000 persons without HIV in PrEP  
1 laboratory of HIV (director: Dr Jose Alcamí)

Fields of expertise:

- PrEP
- STIs
- Prevention of anal cancer
- ART clinical trials

Language requirement: Spanish, English

Contact person: Dr Esteban Martinez

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## Hospital General Universitario de Elche

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City: Elche, Alicante

Description:

1097 patients on follow-up in our HIV cohort.

Clinical research has focused on long-term complications of HIV infection and antiretroviral treatment in virologically suppressed patients, with particular interest in the characterisation of non-AIDS events, the key factors involved in their pathogenesis and interventions to prevent non-AIDS events. The Unit includes a Vascular Laboratory for the study of subclinical atherosclerosis with ultrasonography; a Sexual Health Center for the prevention and treatment of sexual transmitted diseases, PreP dispensing and performance of high-resolution anoscopy for the diagnosis and treatment of anal HSIL; and an autonomous Investigation Laboratory for lab determinations and microbiological studies; and an International Vaccination Center.

Fields of expertise:

- Prevention and factors involved in the complications associated with human papillomavirus infection in people living with HIV
- Cardiovascular disease and HIV
- Non-AIDS-defining cancer
- Residual risk of HIV transmission in compartments with different antiretroviral regimens

Language requirement: English

Contact person: Dr Mar Masiá



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## Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón

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City: Madrid

Description:

Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón (HGUGM) is a 1,200-bed teaching hospital in Madrid. HGUGM is recognised as one of the top five hospitals in Spain and listed among the top 100 global hospitals by Newsweek and Statista in 2023 (Newsweek & Statista, 2023).

<https://www.newsweek.com/rankings/worlds-best-hospitals-2023>

The Department of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases of HGUM has been actively engaged in HIV assistance and research since 1984. In 1990, the HGUGM-HIV Unit was established, presently overseeing the comprehensive care of over 3,000 persons with HIV (PWH). The HGUGM-HIV Unit encompasses various facilities, including a hospital ward for inpatients, a hospital day care centre, an ambulatory clinic, domiciliary assistance, PrEP and STI clinic, and a Clinical Trials Unit, reflecting its multifaceted approach to HIV care.

Fields of expertise:

- Antiretroviral therapy
- HIV-associated conditions including opportunistic infections and AIDS-related cancer
- Aging and age-related comorbidities
- Viral hepatitis and liver complications
- Prevention of HIV

Language requirement: English

Contact person: Dr Juan C. López

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## University Hospital Vall d'Hebron

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City: Barcelona

Description:

The Vall d'Hebron Hospital HIV / STI Unit develops its activity in 4 areas of care:

- 1) Outpatient Consultations and Day Hospital. In this Unit, we control about 2300 patients with HIV infection.
- 2) Unit of sexually Transmitted Diseases Vall d'Hebron-Drassanes. In this Unit in 2023, we attended nearly 5000 visits for sexually transmitted diseases. We also have a PrEP Unit which actually controls 1600 persons on PrEP.
- 3) Anal dysplasia screening unit (UCDA). In this Unit, we perform high resolution anoscopy and treatment of high-grade dysplasia lesions. We visit about 800 patients annually with about 80-100 new patients yearly.
- 4) Hospitalisation of patients with opportunistic infections.



From the point of view of research, we have a Basic Research Laboratory focused on reservoir research and functional HIV care.

We have a Clinical Research Unit for conducting clinical trials in phases I, II and III.

From a teaching point of view, the Unit organises an annual update course on HIV infection and another on STIs.

Fields of expertise:

- Acute HIV infection
- Research on the viral reservoirs of HIV and new strategies aimed at its functional cure
- Clinical trials regarding antiretroviral therapy
- PrEP
- Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)
- Screening and treatment unit for anal dysplasia caused by the human papilloma virus

Language requirement: English is sufficient to interact with the members of the group but to understand the patients it is necessary to know a little Spanish.

Contact person: Dr Vicenç Falcó

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### Hospital Universitario La Paz-Carlos III

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City: Madrid

Description:

The Hospital La Paz-Carlos III is a university community hospital with almost 4000 PWH under routine clinical care in the HIV outpatient clinic. We have also an inpatient ward for acute HIV-related complications, and an outpatient clinic dedicated to STI and PrEP users. We are participating in more than 20 clinical trials with novel and marketed drugs and have our own academic research proposals in the following areas: ART simplification strategies, comorbidities in PWH (metabolic and cardiac complications, NAFLD/NASH, aging, and novel biomarkers of aging). We are also involved in translational research in partnership with the AIDS and Infectious disease research group in IdiPAZ led by Professor Jose R Arribas. We also have close collaboration with the non-HIV infectious diseases section, tropical medicine and travel health and dermatology department (HPV and anal cancer screening programme).

Fields of expertise:

- Antiretroviral treatment. Simplification strategies in ART. Clinical trials of new HIV drugs
- Viral hepatitis
- Co-morbidities in PWH (cardiovascular, metabolic clinic, viral hepatitis, NAFLD/NASH)
- Novel biomarkers of aging in PWH (Telomere length, Epigenetic clocks, DNA methylation)
- Neurocognitive impairment and mental health in PWH

Language requirement: English will be sufficient although an intermediate level of Spanish would be recommended to get a full experience in the clinic.

Contact person: Dr José Bernardino