



VITAL 7TH LAUNCH MONITORING & ULTRASOUND

Congress President: Prof. Daniele De Luca



22 - 24 January 2026

ROMA

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7TH LAUNCH VITAL MONITORING & ULTRASOUND

22 - 24 January 2026 - Rome, Italy

Congress President



Prof. Daniele De Luca

Full Professor of Pediatrics (Neonatology)
Division Chief, Pediatrics, Transportation and Neonatal Critical Care
"A. Béclère" Medical Center, AP-HP Université Paris Saclay
Immediate Past President, European Society for Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care (ESPNIC)
Editor, European Journal of Pediatrics

Scientific Committee

Almudena Alonso-Ojembarrena, Cadiz, Spain
Shazia Bhombal, Atlanta, USA
Luca Bonadies, Padova, Italy
Giovanna Chidini, Milan, Italy
Thomas Conlon, Philadelphia, USA
Valerie Chock, Stanford, USA
Alexis Davis, Stanford, USA
Maria Fraga, Philadelphia, USA
Rebeca Gregorio-Hernandez, Madrid, Spain
Barbara Loi, Paris, France
Silvia Mongodi, Pavia, Italy
Francesco Raimondi, Naples, Italy



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME



Thursday ▶ 22 January 2026

8:30

GREETINGS *Daniele De Luca*

NEW TECHNIQUES IN LUNG ULTRASOUND

Chairs: Daniele De Luca – Thomas Conlon

8:30 – 8:50

Speckle tracking

Daniele Biasucci, Rome, Italy

8:50 – 9:10

Ultrasound evaluation of pleural and diaphragmatic strain in children

Christie Glau, Philadelphia, USA

Q&A 10 min

NEWS ON LUNG ULTRASOUND TRAINING

Chairs: Rebeca Gregorio-Hernandez – Luca Bonadies

9:20 – 9:40

Impact of a diagnostic POCUS program in a PICU

Thomas Conlon, Philadelphia, USA

9:40 – 10:00

International consensus on lung POCUS training

Yogen Singh, Davis, USA

Q&A 10 min

EIT: THE COMPETITOR OF LUNG ULTRASOUND!

Chairs: Domenico Grieco – Francesco Raimondi

10:10 – 10:30

EIT in neonates: the update

Anton van Kaam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

10:30 – 10:50

EIT in children: the update

Giovanna Chidini, Milan, Italy

10:50 – 11:10

EIT in children: the update

Jan-Christoph Clausen, Berlin, Germany

Q&A 10 min



Coffee break 15 min



AI AND LUNG ULTRASOUND: NEW FRIENDS?

Chairs: Francesco Raimondi – Luna Gargani

11:35 – 11:55

AI-guided lung ultrasound: the adult experience

Cristiana Baloesu, New Haven, USA

11:55 – 12:15

AI diagnosis of neonatal pneumothorax

Fiorella Migliaro, Naples, Italy

12:15 – 12:35

Human to AI agreement in the interpretation of lung ultrasound

TBA

Q&A 10 min

FREE COMMUNICATION SESSION

Chair: Barbara Loi

12:45 – 12:55

Effects of postural change on lung aeration in chronic respiratory disease of premature infants monitored by lung ultrasound and electrical impedance tomography

Letizia Capasso, Italy

12:55 – 13:05

Gastric point of care ultrasound challenges pre-extubation fasting practices in critically ill children: the GastrExtub observational study.

Eloise Cercueli, France

13:05 – 13:15

Advanced Physiological Monitoring of Respiratory Effort and Patient–Ventilator Asynchronies in Infant NIV: Impact of Circuit Configuration

Giovanna Chidini, Italy

13:15 – 13:25

Use of Lung Ultrasound in Australasian NICUs – a Binational Survey

Viktoria Gruber, Austria

13:25 – 13:35

Evolution of diaphragmatic thickness in preterm infants on non-invasive neurally adjusted ventilatory assist.

Julie Lefevere, Belgium

13:35 – 13:45

Effect of changing NAVA levels on tidal ventilation in extremely preterm infants supported with NIV-NAVA

Julie Lefevere, Belgium



Lunch break 1 hour



ROUND TABLE – UPDATE ON VASCULAR ACCESSES

Chairs: Matteo Di Nardo – Mauro Pittiruti

14:45–15:00

Ultrasound differentiation between thrombosis and fibrin sheath

Mauro Pittiruti, Rome, Italy

15:00–15:15

Ethanol lock: is it an option?

Thomas Conlon, Philadelphia, USA

15:15–15:30

GAVEPED Consensus for children

Daniele Biasucci, Rome, Italy

15:30–15:45

GAVEPED Consensus for neonates

Giovanni Barone, Rimini, Italy

15:45–16:05

NEVAT experience on vascular access training

Fiammetta Piersigilli, Bruxelles, Belgium

Q&A 15 min

LUNG ULTRASOUND: IS IT REALLY OPERATOR DEPENDENT?

Chairs: Daniele De Luca, Silvia Mongodi

16:20 – 16:40

Lesson from the LESSON study

Luna Gargani, Pisa, Italy

16:40 – 17:00

Meta-analytical comparison of newborn data

Francesco Raimondi, Naples, Italy

Q&A 10 min



Coffee break 15 min

ESICM–ESPNIC GUIDELINES ON QUANTITATIVE LUNG ULTRASOUND

Chairs: Thomas Conlon – Francesco Raimondi

17:25 –17:45

Background and adult part

Silvia Mongodi, Pavia, Italy

17:45–18:05

Pediatric and neonatal part

Daniele De Luca, Paris, France

Q&A 10 min



Friday ▶ 23 January 2026

	JOINT FORCES – COMBINED MONITORAGES <i>Chairs: Jay Banerjee – Alexis Davis</i>
8:30 – 8:50	Joining forces: quantitative LUS and EIT? <i>Letizia Capasso, Naples, Italy</i>
8:50 – 9:10	Integrated Vexus for neonates and children <i>Almudena Alonso-Ojembarrena, Cadiz, Spain</i>
	Q&A 10 min
	THE PLEURA <i>Chairs: Maria Fraga – Almudena Alonso-Ojembarrena</i>
9:20 – 9:40	How to measure the pleura and its irregularities? Expert advices <i>Almudena Alonso-Ojembarrena, Cadiz, Spain</i>
9:40 – 10:00	What information do we have from the pleural ultrasound <i>Ioana Mihaela Ciuca, Timisoara, Romania</i>
	Q&A 10 min
	LUNG ELASTOGRAPHY: THE LAST NOVELTY <i>Chairs: Giovanna Chidini – Luca Bonadies</i>
10:10 – 10:30	Lung elastography: what for? Pro and con? <i>Cristina Ramos Hernandez, Vigo, Spain</i>
10:30 – 10:50	Lung elastography to diagnose pneumonia in children <i>Sergi Huerta-Carpe, Barcelona, Spain</i>
10:50 – 11:10	Lung elastography for the diagnosis of pneumothorax <i>Guido Levi, Brescia, Italy</i>
	Q&A 10 min
	 Coffe break 15 min
	LUNG MECHANICAL MONITORAGE <i>Chairs: Giovanna Chidini – Manuel Sanchez-Luna</i>
11:35 – 11:55	The importance of transpulmonary pressure monitoring in ARDS <i>Domenico Luca Grieco, Rome, Italy</i>



11:55 – 12:15	Pleural and transpulmonary pressure for protective ventilation in children <i>Meryl Vedrenne-Cloquet, Paris, France</i>
12:15 – 12:35	EADi-based estimation of pleural pressure in preterm neonates: a new monitoring tool <i>Daniele De Luca, Paris, France</i> Q&A 10 min
	FREE COMMUNICATION SESSION <i>Chair: Rebeca Gregorio-Hernandez</i>
12:45 – 12:55	Early LUS score as a predictor of primary NIV-NAVA failure in preterm infants with RDS: a pilot study <i>Gertjan Marissens, Belgium</i>
12:55 – 13:05	Lung Point-of-Care Ultrasound as a Predictor of Respiratory Support Duration in Neonates with Respiratory Distress: A Pilot Study <i>Juhi Motiani, United States</i>
13:05 – 13:15	Development and Validation of an Ultrasound-Based Severity Score for the Identification and Stratification of Necrotizing Enterocolitis <i>Fiammetta Peirsigilli, Belgium</i>
13:15 – 13:25	Pleura-ABCDE – A structured expert-based protocol for neonatal lung ultrasound documentation and interpretation <i>Jan Sandig, Germany</i>
13:25 – 13:35	Postnatal cerebral hypoxia and perinatal factors associated with adverse outcomes in premature neonates born at less than 32 weeks' gestation: a secondary analysis of the COSGOD III trial <i>Bernhard Schwabegger, Austria</i>
13:35 – 13:45	Introduction of a Heterogeneity Index for Quantitative Lung Ultrasound Assessment in Neonates with Respiratory Distress <i>Melina Winkler, Austria</i>
13:45 – 13:55	Lung Ultrasound at 15 Minutes Can Predict NICU Admission in Neonates ≥ 34 Weeks' Gestation <i>Melina Winkler, Austria</i>



Lunch break 50 min



NEONATAL INNOVATION AWARD 2025 LECTURE

Chair: Daniele De Luca

14:45 – 15:05

The “discovery” of HFOV alveolar recruitment

Anton van Kaam, Amsterdam, Netherlands

ECMO ROUND TABLE

Chairs: Daniele De Luca – Manuel Sanchez-Luna

15:05 – 15:20

Ultrasound for cannulation in the PICU

Matteo Di Nardo, Rome, Italy

15:20 – 15:35

Ultrasound for cannulation in the NICU

Shazia Bhombal, Atlanta, USA

15:35 – 15:50

Ultrasound for diagnosing adverse events in the PICU

Aljassim Nada, Riad, Saudi Arabia

15:50 – 16:05

Ultrasound for diagnosing adverse events in the NICU

Maria V. Fraga, Philadelphia, USA

Q&A 15 min



Coffee break 15 min

ADVANCED MONITORING IN THE DELIVERY ROOM

Chairs: Yogen Singh – Jayanta Banerjee

16:35 – 16:55

NIRS in the delivery room: what for?

Valerie Chock, Stanford, USA

16:55 – 17:15

POCUS in the delivery room

Alexis Davis, Stanford, USA

17:15 – 17:35

End-tidal CO₂ monitoring in the delivery room: now unavoidable

Daniele De Luca

Q&A 15 min



Saturday ▶ 24 January 2026

	ADVANCED NEUROLOGICAL MONITORING <i>Chairs: Karl Schettler – Valerie Chock</i>
8:30 – 8:50	Super resolution ultrasound of newborn brain: a new frontier <i>Jayanta Banerjee, London, UK</i>
8:50 – 9:10	Transcranial doppler monitoring: an update <i>Daniele Biasucci, Rome, Italy</i>
9:10 – 9:30	Nociception monitoring in neonates <i>Karl Schettler, Munich, Germany</i>
9:30 – 9:50	Brain elastography in neonates: is it already a reality? <i>Fiammetta Piersigilli, Bruxelles, Belgium</i>
	Q&A 10 min
	HEART FAILURE <i>Chairs: Maria Fraga – Yogen Singh</i>
10:00 – 10:20	The value of lung ultrasound in monitoring of heart failure <i>Shazia Bhombal, Atlanta, USA</i>
10:20 – 10:40	Lung ultrasound monitoring in babies with congenital heart defects <i>Rebeca Gregorio-Hernandez, Madrid, Spain</i>
10:40 – 11:00	Lung ultrasound and heart failure the experience of adults <i>Luna Gargani, Pisa, Italy</i>
	Q&A 10 min
	ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL ISSUES OF POCUS <i>Chairs: Daniele Biasucci – Yogen Singh</i>
11:10 – 11:30	Billing and legal framework of point-of-care ultrasound in the USA <i>Thomas Conlon, Philadelphia, USA</i>
11:30 – 11:50	How to describe a point-of-care ultrasound exam and legal aspects in EU <i>Francesco Raimondi, Naples, Italy</i>
	Q&A 10 min
12:00	WRAP UP <i>ESPNIC President Karl Schettler</i>
12:10	CLOSURE <i>Daniele De Luca</i>



13:30 – 17:30

Ultrasound-guided vascular access in neonates workshop
Come learning from the masters: a theoretical-practical workshop to be introduced to the world of advanced vascular accesses.

After the first edition at the last VOLT that was very successful, the workshop on ultrasound-guided vascular access is back! Prof. Pittiruti and collaborators will bring you in this world and explain everything about the basics safety and usefulness of ultrasound-guided vascular access in the smallest and most critically ill neonates.

A field that cannot be overlooked in 2025 particularly in the NICU and for those who already use point-of-care ultrasound for other indications.

Prof. Pittiruti is the world-known expert of neonatal and pediatric vascular access and we owe him many clinical innovations, including guidelines on the matter. With the support of practical tools he will share his knowledge to those participants to the VOLT congress who want to expand their knowledge in this field.

Only few places available to keep a good practical interaction on the afternoon of January 24.





E-POSTER

The posters will be available for viewing throughout the entire duration of the congress at the e-poster station located in the sponsor & catering area.

- ▶ **From image to impact: The clinical value of lung ultrasound standardization in the NICU.**
Svetlana Dauengauer Kirliene, Lithuania
- ▶ **Podcasting in POCUS: An innovative educational initiative**
Abbey Forster, United Kingdom
- ▶ **Effect of Caffeine on Diaphragmatic Excursion in Preterm Infants – preliminary results**
Ayala Gover, Israel
- ▶ **Advanced Respiratory Support Strategies: Use of Non-Invasive Ventilation and Lung Ultrasound in Neonates <32 weeks and/or <1500 grams**
Ana Ibiricu Lecumberri, Spain
- ▶ **A rare congenital vascular anomaly presenting as bronchiolitis: The value of clinical vigilance, ventilatory waveforms, and bedside ultrasound in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)**
Serafeia Kalamitsou, Greece
- ▶ **Ultrasound-guided placement of Peripherally and Centrally Inserted Central Catheters (PICC and CICC) in children: a one-year experience in a tertiary multidisciplinary Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) in Greece**
Serafeia Kalamitsou, Greece
- ▶ **Endotracheal tube placement using point of care ultrasound in the neonatal intensive care unit: A comparison of inter-scanner reliability**
Hope Packett, Canada
- ▶ **From Incubator to Artificial Womb: The Next Frontier of Family-Integrated Neonatal Care**
Josephine Powell, United Kingdom



- ▶ **Functional Echocardiography in Neonatal Hemodynamic Monitoring: A Multimodal Approach to Optimizing Inotropic Support and Timing-Based Shock Management in Preterm Infants**
Bibiana Riaño, Spain
- ▶ **Measurement of cerebral pulse frequency using pulsatile near-infrared spectroscopy during postnatal resuscitation – a case report**
Bernhard Schwabegger, Austria
- ▶ **Implementation of Neonatologist-Performed Ultrasound-Guided Brachiocephalic Vein Cannulation in a Tertiary Neonatal Centre**
Bernhard Schwabegger, Austria
- ▶ **Systematic Review and Development of an Educational Concept for Realistic Neonatal Vascular Access Training Using Biological Materials**
Bernhard Schwabegger, Austria
- ▶ **Additional Landmarks for Sonographic Endotracheal Tube Tip Evaluation (SETTE) to Improve Interdisciplinary Acceptance and Facilitate Learning and Teaching in NICU**
Gregor Sondergeld, Germany
- ▶ **NEONATAL LUNG ADAPTATION AFTER DINOPROSTONE-INDUCED LABOR ASSESSED BY SERIAL LUNG ULTRASOUND**
Oksana Zaikina, Slovakia
- ▶ **LUNG-ULTRASOUND-GUIDED CPAP TITRATION IN A TERM NEWBORN WITH RESPIRATORY DISTRESS SYNDROME: A CASE REPORT**
Oksana Zaikina, Slovakia

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GENERAL INFORMATION



VENUE

Best Western Plus Hotel Universo Roma – Congress Center

Via Principe Amedeo, 5/B,
00185 ROME – Italy

ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT



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REGISTRATION DESK OPENING HOURS

January 22nd – From 8:00 am to 18:30 pm

January 23rd – From 8:00 am to 18:00 pm

January 24th – From 8:00 am to 17:00 pm

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the Congress

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

At the end of the Congress will receive a survey via email. After completing the survey, you will automatically receive the Certificate of Attendance.

INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION (UEMS)

UEMS – European Union of Medical Specialists: 14.5 credits recognized.

The congress “7th International Congress on Vital Monitoring & Ultrasound” has been accredited by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Educational (EACCME) for the entire congress. EACCME credits are recognized Europe-wide and in North America they can be exchanged for their national equivalent by contacting your national CME authority.

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ECM

The congress has been accredited for Continuing Medical Education (ECM) by the Provider

SMM SRL no. 5129 Event number: 469144

Scientific Coordinator: Daniele De Luca

Professions and Disciplines

Medico Chirurgo: neonatologia, pediatria, pediatria (pediatri di libera scelta)

Infermiere pediatrico: infermiere pediatrico

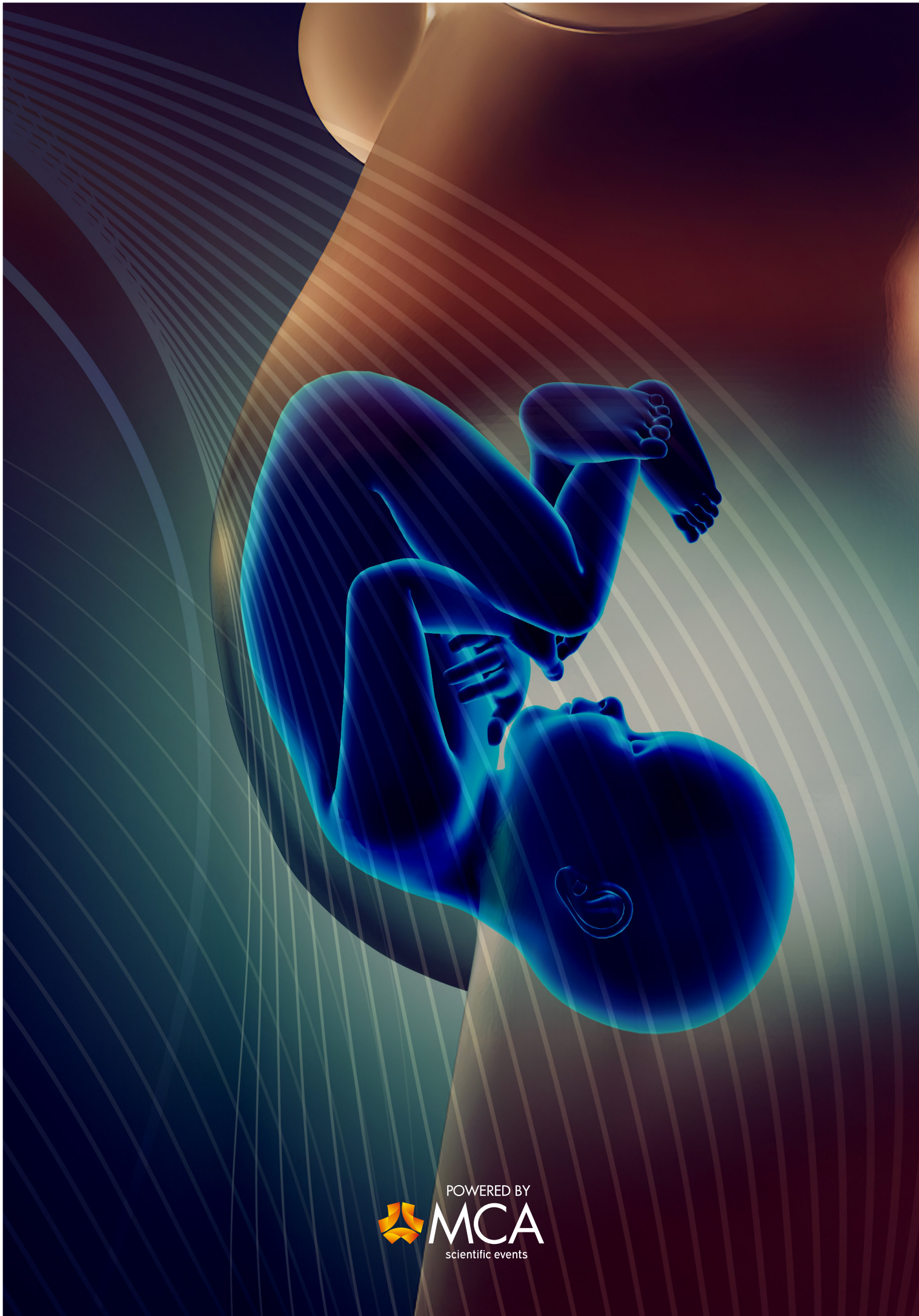
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In order to obtain credits, participants must:

- have their attendance recorded at the accredited sessions
- belong to one of the accredited professions
- have attended at least 90% of the educational activities of the event
- have completed the satisfaction and evaluation questionnaire available online

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