# XLII. TURKISH MICROBIOLOGY CONGRESS
## 25–29 November 2026 / Rixos Sungate, Antalya

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

## NOVEMBER 25, 2026, WEDNESDAY

### COURSE PROGRAMS

| Time | Room 1 | Room 2 | Room 3 | Room 4 | Room 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13:00-17:00 | **TMC Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Standardization Working Group**<br>**Gray Zone in Antibiotic Sensitivity Testing** | **TMC Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Diagnostic Course**<br>**Molecular Diagnosis of Tuberculosis Infection** | **TMC Mycology Working Group**<br>**Mycology Course**<br>**Contemporary in Common Yeast and Mold Infections with Case Studies** | **TMC Molecular Epidemiology Working Group**<br>**Molecular Epidemiology Course** | **Kyphut Course**<br>**Fast MALDI-TOF (Bruker Maldi Fast Path from Data Entry to Reporting Findings** |
| 17:00-19:00 | Hall A<br>**Opening Ceremony of the XLII Turkish Microbiology Congress**<br>**Welcome Addresses**<br>Candan Çiçek<br>President, Turkish Society of Microbiology<br>Nuran Eser<br>President, Clinical Microbiology Specialists Association | | | | |

## NOVEMBER 26, 2026, THURSDAY

| Hour | Hall A | Hall B | Hall C | Hall D - E |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08:00-09:00 | **Meet the Expert** | **Meet the Expert**<br>**TMC Molecular Epidemiology Working Group**<br>**Past, Present, and Future of Molecular Epidemiology**<br>Speaker: Ruxi Gurmuz | **Interactive Session**<br>**TMC Disaster and Epidemics Working Group**<br>**A Life Often You on Everyone**<br>Moderators: Banu Sancak, Ayşegül Yaylan Ozkan | **Oral Presentation Session 1 - 3** |
| 09:00-09:30 | **Oral Presentation Session 1 - 3** | **TMC Anaerobe Working Group**<br>**Silent Anaerobic Actors in Gynecological and Tissue Clinical Complications**<br>Chairs: Ana Ilic, Mustafa Ozyurt<br>**The Role of Anaerobes in the Microbiome**<br>Speaker: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Gynecological Anaerobes**<br>Speaker: Ona Bogdan<br>**Clinical Implications: Case Presentations**<br>Speaker: Ana Ilic | **Panel**<br>**TMC Disaster and Epidemics Working Group**<br>**A Tale of Two Cities, A Tale of Two Laboratories: A Crisis Demo**<br>Speakers: Hatice Nevgün Özen, Emrah Ruh, Ayşegül Tuğba Ozkan, Ayana Koçaklıyan, Ergül Ozer, Tayfun Bozan | **Oral Presentation Session 3 - 4** |
| 10:00-11:00 | Coffee Break, Industry & Poster Visits | | | |
| 11:00-12:00 | Hall A<br>**Satellite Symposium**<br>**Innovative Solutions in Molecular Diagnostics**<br>**Smart Laboratories and Full Automation**<br>Speaker: Mustafa Kulaksız (Chairman of the Bioeksen Scientific Board)<br>**Next-Generation Tuberculosis Diagnostics**<br>Speaker: Harald Hoffmann (Director of the WHO Supranational Tuberculosis Reference Lab) | | | |
| 12:00-13:00 | **Mini Conference**<br>**Mission in Space Microgravity, Biofilms, and the Frontier of Antimicrobial Resistance**<br>Chair: Tarıd Kocaoğlu<br>Speaker: Can Ozan | **KLIMUD Mini Panel**<br>**Sterilization Disinfection Antisepsis Working Group**<br>**Sustainability and Green Transition in Sterilization, Disinfection, and Antisepsis Practices**<br>Chair: Gülek Yeşim Mehmet<br>**Material Selection and Resource Savings in Sterilization: Environmental and Economic Impact Analysis**<br>Speaker: Sinayo Ozil<br>**Green Disinfectants: Is It Possible to Disinfect Surfaces Without Compromising Efficacy?**<br>Speaker: Dolunay Gülmez | **Young Scientists Session**<br>**The Future of Microbiology: New Horizons in Diagnosis, Epidemiology, and Research**<br>Chairs: Nurver Ozgur, Nuri Dalyalık<br>**CRISPR Technology: From Diagnosis to Therapeutics**<br>Speaker: Ayşegül Aksoy<br>**From Culture to Metagenomics: Next-Generation Sequencing in Gi Diagnostics**<br>Speaker: Elif Seren Tanrıverdi<br>**Artificial Intelligence and Bioinformatics for the Clinical Microbiologist**<br>Speaker: Hacer Aydıkin Biru | **Oral Presentation Session 5 - 6** |
| 13:00-14:00 | Lunch, Industry & Poster Visits | | | |
| 14:00-15:00 | Hall A<br>**Satellite Symposium** | | | |
| 15:00-16:00 | **Panel**<br>**Innovations in Tuberculosis Diagnostics**<br>Chair: Nuri Dalyalık<br>**New Horizons in Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Zeynep Cesur<br>**Molecular Diagnostical Benefits of Automated Systems in Tuberculosis Diagnosis**<br>Speaker: Zeynep Ceren Karahan | **Mini Panel**<br>**TMC Sepsis Working Group**<br>**Sepsis Diagnostics and Decision Management in Sepsis**<br>Chair: Özgen Eser<br>**From Brain Dialing to Next-Generation Molecular Diagnostics in Sepsis**<br>Speaker: Ayşegül Ozkan<br>**Novel Molecular Diagnostics in Sepsis Diagnosis**<br>Speaker: Nesrin Yurttutan Uysal | **Interactive Case Session**<br>Facilitators: Onur Karabıçak, Hüsnü Pullukçu, Gökçe Bayramoğlu, Mettem Tağdıçken, Kadriye Kılıç | **Oral Presentation Session 7- 8** |
| 16:00-17:00 | Coffee Break, Industry & Poster Visits | | | |
| 17:00-18:00 | **Panel**<br>**TMC Viology Working Group**<br>**Recent Trends in Hepatitis Viruses and HIV**<br>Chair: Sinem Akçalı<br>**Hepatitis A vs E**<br>Speaker: Sinem Akçalı<br>**Hepatitis B vs C**<br>Speaker: Bedia Dinç<br>**HIV**<br>Speaker: Emrah Sağlık | **TMC One Health Working Group**<br>**Wastewater Based Pathogen Monitoring in Practice**<br>Chair: Ahmet Anıtlıoğlu<br>**Cities Are Talking: Outbreak Tracking from Wastewater**<br>Speaker: Ayşe Kalkan<br>**What Does Medical Wastewater Tell Us?**<br>Speaker: Semiyo Sözlü | **Silent Invaders in the Lung: Atypical Pneumonia Agents**<br>Chair: Ahmet Cetin<br>**Atypical Agents**<br>Speakers: Tuğba Bozok, Şinasi Kanar | **Oral Presentation Session 9 - 10** |
| 18:00-19:00 | **Panel**<br>**TMC Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Non-Pathogen Balance: The Two Faces of Immune Response in Tuberculosis**<br>Chair: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Mycobacteria: The Silent War of Macrophages and M. tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Leyla Kaya<br>**Immune Response or Sanctuary?**<br>Speaker: Nedim Tuğrul Durmaz<br>**If the Balance Breaks: From Immune Response to Pathogenesis**<br>Speaker: Deniz Sezer | **Detection of Antimicrobials via Automated Computer Aided Microscopy Systems: Pros and Cons**<br>Chair: Burçin Şener<br>Speakerlar: Nilgün Kapılıoğlu, Turkay Tağtıoğlu<br>**Artificial Intelligence and its Use in Microbiology**<br>Chair: Gülek Menemmetoğlu, Onur Gürpınar<br>Speaker: Furkca Dağdın | **Mini Conference**<br>**Elsmeriers**<br>Chair: Ayşe Kalkanoğlu<br>Speakers: Yaşim Bozok, Yeliz Tanrıverdi Çayan | **Oral Presentation Session 11 - 12** |
| 19:00-20:00 | **Mini Conference**<br>**Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Mini-Pathogen Balance: The Two Faces of Immune Response in Tuberculosis**<br>Chair: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Mycobacteria: The Silent War of Macrophages and M. tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Leyla Kaya<br>**Immune Response or Sanctuary?**<br>Speaker: Nedim Tuğrul Durmaz<br>**If the Balance Breaks: From Immune Response to Pathogenesis**<br>Speaker: Deniz Sezer | **Evolutionary Connection from CRISPR-Cas9 to the Human Immune System**<br>Chair: Yakup Akyılın Yılmaz<br>Speaker: Tarıd Kocaoğlu<br>**Detection of Antimicrobials via Automated Computer Aided Microscopy Systems: Pros and Cons**<br>Chair: Burçin Şener<br>Speakerlar: Nilgün Kapılıoğlu, Turkay Tağtıoğlu<br>**Artificial Intelligence and its Use in Microbiology**<br>Chair: Gülek Menemmetoğlu, Onur Gürpınar<br>Speaker: Furkca Dağdın | **Interactive Panel**<br>**Mirror and Shield**<br>**Immune Escape Behind the Hepatitis Viruses — Where Are They Now?**<br>Speakers: Selma Gökahmetoğlu, Selda Demiray, Mehmet Soylu | **Oral Presentation Session 13 - 14** |
| 20:00-21:00 | **Panel**<br>**TMC Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Non-Pathogen Balance: The Two Faces of Immune Response in Tuberculosis**<br>Chair: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Mycobacteria: The Silent War of Macrophages and M. tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Leyla Kaya<br>**Immune Response or Sanctuary?**<br>Speaker: Nedim Tuğrul Durmaz<br>**If the Balance Breaks: From Immune Response to Pathogenesis**<br>Speaker: Deniz Sezer | **Detection of Antimicrobials via Automated Computer Aided Microscopy Systems: Pros and Cons**<br>Chair: Burçin Şener<br>Speakerlar: Nilgün Kapılıoğlu, Turkay Tağtıoğlu<br>**Artificial Intelligence and its Use in Microbiology**<br>Chair: Gülek Menemmetoğlu, Onur Gürpınar<br>Speaker: Furkca Dağdın | **Mini Conference**<br>**Elsmeriers**<br>Chair: Ayşe Kalkanoğlu<br>Speakers: Yaşim Bozok, Yeliz Tanrıverdi Çayan | **Oral Presentation Session 15 - 16** |
| 21:00-22:00 | **Mini Conference**<br>**Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Mini-Pathogen Balance: The Two Faces of Immune Response in Tuberculosis**<br>Chair: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Mycobacteria: The Silent War of Macrophages and M. tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Leyla Kaya<br>**Immune Response or Sanctuary?**<br>Speaker: Nedim Tuğrul Durmaz<br>**If the Balance Breaks: From Immune Response to Pathogenesis**<br>Speaker: Deniz Sezer | **Evolutionary Connection from CRISPR-Cas9 to the Human Immune System**<br>Chair: Yakup Akyılın Yılmaz<br>Speaker: Tarıd Kocaoğlu<br>**Detection of Antimicrobials via Automated Computer Aided Microscopy Systems: Pros and Cons**<br>Chair: Burçin Şener<br>Speakerlar: Nilgün Kapılıoğlu, Turkay Tağtıoğlu<br>**Artificial Intelligence and its Use in Microbiology**<br>Chair: Gülek Menemmetoğlu, Onur Gürpınar<br>Speaker: Furkca Dağdın | **Interactive Panel**<br>**Mirror and Shield**<br>**Immune Escape Behind the Hepatitis Viruses — Where Are They Now?**<br>Speakers: Selma Gökahmetoğlu, Selda Demiray, Mehmet Soylu<br>**Mini Panel**<br>**Vitamin FAQ**<br>Moderators: Hüsnü Pullukçu, Mettem Tağdıçken | **Oral Presentation Session 17 - 18** |
| 22:00-23:00 | **Mini Conference**<br>**Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Mini-Pathogen Balance: The Two Faces of Immune Response in Tuberculosis**<br>Chair: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Mycobacteria: The Silent War of Macrophages and M. tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Leyla Kaya<br>**Immune Response or Sanctuary?**<br>Speaker: Nedim Tuğrul Durmaz<br>**If the Balance Breaks: From Immune Response to Pathogenesis**<br>Speaker: Deniz Sezer | **Evolutionary Connection from CRISPR-Cas9 to the Human Immune System**<br>Chair: Yakup Akyılın Yılmaz<br>Speaker: Tarıd Kocaoğlu<br>**Detection of Antimicrobials via Automated Computer Aided Microscopy Systems: Pros and Cons**<br>Chair: Burçin Şener<br>Speakerlar: Nilgün Kapılıoğlu, Turkay Tağtıoğlu<br>**Artificial Intelligence and its Use in Microbiology**<br>Chair: Gülek Menemmetoğlu, Onur Gürpınar<br>Speaker: Furkca Dağdın | **Interactive Panel**<br>**Mirror and Shield**<br>**Immune Escape Behind the Hepatitis Viruses — Where Are They Now?**<br>Speakers: Selma Gökahmetoğlu, Selda Demiray, Mehmet Soylu<br>**Mini Panel**<br>**Vitamin FAQ**<br>Moderators: Hüsnü Pullukçu, Mettem Tağdıçken | **Oral Presentation Session 19 - 20** |

## NOVEMBER 27, 2026, FRIDAY

| Hour | Hall A | Hall B | Hall C | Hall D - E |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 08:00-09:00 | **Uzmanyla Tartışalım**<br>**Artificial Intelligence Integration into Hospital Information Systems and Smart Molecular Diagnostics**<br>Speaker: Meral Yılmaz | **13th National Molecular and Diagnostic Microbiology Congress**<br>**Opening Session** | **Mini Conference**<br>**Antimicrobial Incorporation of Teaching-Research Nexus into Medical Learning for Sustainable Futures**<br>Chair: Ahmet Celal Bayustaoğlu<br>Speaker: Şeyk Kurtböke | **Oral Presentation Session 11 - 12** |
| 09:00-10:00 | **Panel**<br>**TMC Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Host-Pathogen Balance: The Two Faces of Immune Response in Tuberculosis**<br>Chair: Nurten Tağapoğlu<br>**Mycobacteria: The Silent War of Macrophages and M. tuberculosis**<br>Speaker: Leyla Kaya<br>**Immune Response or Sanctuary?**<br>Speaker: Nedim Tuğrul Durmaz<br>**If the Balance Breaks: From Immune Response to Pathogenesis**<br>Speaker: Deniz Sezer | **Evolutionary Connection from CRISPR-Cas9 to the Human Immune System**<br>Chair: Yakup Akyılın Yılmaz<br>Speaker: Tarıd Kocaoğlu<br>**Detection of Antimicrobials via Automated Computer Aided Microscopy Systems: Pros and Cons**<br>Chair: Burçin Şener<br>Speakerlar: Nilgün Kapılıoğlu, Turkay Tağtıoğlu<br>**Artificial Intelligence and its Use in Microbiology**<br>Chair: Gülek Menemmetoğlu, Onur Gürpınar<br>Speaker: Furkca Dağdın | **Interactive Panel**<br>**Mirror and Shield**<br>**Immune Escape Behind the Hepatitis Viruses — Where Are They Now?**<br>Speakers: Selma Gökahmetoğlu, Selda Demiray, Mehmet Soylu<br>**Mini Panel**<br>**Vitamin FAQ**<br>Moderators: Hüsnü Pullukçu, Mettem Tağdıçken | **Oral Presentation Session 13 - 14** |
| 10:00-11:00 | **Panel**<br>**Understanding Syndromic Testing: Where is the Real Difference?**<br>Moderator: Candan Çiçek<br>Speakers: Ozkan Bozkan, Aynur Karayel Akın, Yusuf Yalçınoğulları | **Mini Panel**<br>**Threatening Mycobacterial Agents**<br>Chair: Gülce Aslıhan Ulu<br>**Mycobacterium abscessus Infections**<br>Speaker: Derya Tarkıncı<br>**Mycobacterium tuberculosis Complex Infections**<br>Speaker: Ana Ilic<br>**Mycobacterium-abscessus Infections**<br>Speaker: Derya Tarkıncı | **Mini Conference**<br>**Fecal Solely and Bacteriophages**<br>Chair: Banu Kahraman<br>Speaker: Yeşim Soyer | **Oral Presentation Session 15 - 16** |
| 11:00-12:00 | **Innovations in Immunological and Molecular Approaches in Fungal Infections**<br>Chair: Esra Ulu Gürkan Kavun<br>**A Sugar Code used by the Immune System to Recognize the Cell Wall Fungal Pathogens**<br>Speaker: Gordon Brown<br>**Translational Approach in Fungus-Host Interaction**<br>Speaker: Özlem Özgün | **Molecular Approach to Current Threats in One Health**<br>Chair: Sami Gökçe<br>**Molecular Surveillance in a One-Health Context: Global Challenges and Opportunities**<br>Speaker: Ana Ilic (Online)<br>**Zoonotic Hepatitis E**<br>Speaker: Özgün Özkaya Şahin (Online) | **Interactive Session**<br>**Adaptation of Rapidly Changing AI Tools in Academia**<br>Moderators: Seyfi Durmaz, Gözde Akkuş Kayış, Ayşe Olcaman<br>**Exam 1: Turkish Crisis**<br>**Exam 2: The Clinician is Calling You**<br>**Escape Rooms in Education**<br>Speaker: Hatice Şahin | **Oral Presentation Session 17 - 18** |
| 12:00-13:00 | Coffee Break, Industry & Poster Visits | | | |
| 13:00-14:00 | **TMC Mycology Working Group**<br>**Fungal Threat from Everywhere: Immunity: One Health, Clinical Evolution, and What Lies Ahead?**<br>Chair: Asuman Birkay<br>**Fungal Threat: Critical Crisis from Nature to Clinic Under the Grip of Climate Change: Changing Epidemiology and Clinical Risk**<br>**Has Mycological Diagnosis Evolved?**<br>Speaker: Binay Ener<br>**Fungal Threat Within: Fungus Battle: How Do Fungal Manipulate Immune Cells?**<br>Speaker: Kemal Bilgin | **Mini Panel**<br>**Threatening Mycobacterial Agents**<br>Chair: Gülce Aslıhan Ulu<br>**Mycobacterium tuberculosis Complex Infections**<br>Speaker: Esra Ulu<br>**Mycobacterium-abscessus Infections**<br>Speaker: Derya Tarkıncı | **Escape Rooms:**<br>**Escape Competing**<br>Contestants: Can Berk Kurt, Merve Kanat, Ayşe Nur Kaplan, Ms Ozgur Aktaş, Derle Şah, Tuğba Erzep Şah<br>**Exam 1: Turkish Crisis**<br>**Exam 2: The Clinician is Calling You**<br>**Escape Rooms in Education**<br>Speaker: Hatice Şahin | **Oral Presentation Session 19 - 20** |
| 14:00-15:00 | **Mini Conference**<br>**Innovative Approaches in Antifungal Drug Development: What Has Changed and What Lies Ahead?**<br>Chairs: Semra Kuştimur, Ayşe Kalkanoğlu<br>Speaker: Takashi Sugita<br>**Mini Conference**<br>**Non-Generation Approaches in Preclinical Sepsis: Experimental Modeling and the Rise of Cell-Based Therapies**<br>Chair: Aynur Karayel Akın<br>Speaker: Gökçen Dinç | **Molecular Approach to Current Threats in One Health**<br>Chair: Sami Gökçe<br>**Molecular Surveillance in a One-Health Context: Global Challenges and Opportunities**<br>Speaker: Ana Ilic (Online)<br>**Zoonotic Hepatitis E**<br>Speaker: Özgün Özkaya Şahin (Online) | **Interactive Session**<br>**Adaptation of Rapidly Changing AI Tools in Academia**<br>Moderators: Seyfi Durmaz, Gözde Akkuş Kayış, Ayşe Olcaman<br>**Exam 1: Turkish Crisis**<br>**Exam 2: The Clinician is Calling You**<br>**Escape Rooms in Education**<br>Speaker: Hatice Şahin | **Oral Presentation Session 17 - 18** |
| 15:00-16:00 | Coffee Break, Industry & Poster Visits | | | |
| 16:00-17:00 | **Mini Conference**<br>**Mycobacteria Working Group**<br>**Threatening Mycobacterial Agents**<br>Chair: Gülce Aslıhan Ulu<br>**Mycobacterium tuberculosis Complex Infections**<br>Speaker: Esra Ulu<br>**Mycobacterium-abscessus Infections**<br>Speaker: Derya Tarkıncı<br>**There Is One More Possibility: Could It Be the Syndromic Panel?**<br>Chair: Banu Sancak<br>Speakers: Cansel Nur Aydoğan, Tuğrul Hepbul | **Beyond Resistance Genes: Microbial Epigenetics and Antimicrobial Resistance**<br>Chair: Bang Olu<br>Speaker: Ewand Engin<br>**13th National Molecular and Diagnostic Microbiology Congress Closing Session** | **Mini Conference**<br>**Culture Collections and Gene Bank**<br>Chair: Gülce Kurtdede<br>Speaker: Demet Yumuşak | |
| 17:00-18:00 | **General Assembly** | | | |

## NOVEMBER 28, 2026, SATURDAY

| Hour | Hall A | Hall B | Hall C |
|---|---|---|---|
| 08:00-09:00 | **Meet the Expert** | **Meet the Expert**<br>**Mycology**<br>Moderators: Dilek Yeşim Metin, Nedret Koç | **Interactive Session**<br>**"Suspects at the Table: Tracing Foodborne Infections"**<br>Chair: Hatice Nevgün Özen<br>Panelists: Cordaret Çınar, Tağhur Mendan |
| 09:00-09:30 | **Panel**<br>**TMC Molecular Epidemiology Working Group**<br>**Reinterpreting Resistance, Outbreaks and Transmission from a Molecular Epidemiology Perspective**<br>Chair: Ruxi Gurmuz<br>**Genomic Analysis of Hospital-Acquired Outbreaks**<br>Speaker: Ruxi Gurmuz<br>**Molecular Epidemiology Reservoirs to Hospital Outbreaks**<br>Speaker: Özgün Eser<br>**Molecular Epidemiology of Community-Acquired and Healthcare-Associated Outbreaks**<br>Speaker: Nurten Karabulut | **KLIMUD Panel**<br>**Commission on Quality and Accreditation in Laboratory Practices**<br>**We Are Discussing Quality Requirements Under Our Laboratory Conditions!**<br>Chairs: Ali Ercan Ozkaya, Ş. Ş. Ş.