



The 20th European Congress of Internal Medicine (ECIM) took place from 9-12 June 2022 in the beautiful city of Malaga. The successful 2021 Virtual Congress demonstrated that we needed a place to connect and share our experiences now more than ever. Hence it was EFIM's priority to facilitate acquiring expert knowledge, learning, and sharing experiences, and discussing the latest breakthrough in the clinical areas related to internal medicine while meeting face to face. For close to 1500 specialists from around the globe, who had submitted 1868 abstracts, the congress provided this opportunity.

This year's theme "Internal Medicine in the Front Line of Health Care", highlighted the leading role that internal medicine plays in providing health care to communities, particularly in the current environment. The COVID-19 pandemic confirmed that Internal Medicine must be one of the cornerstones of the European health care systems. Our holistic person-centered approach has been crucial to understand this new complex and multisystemic disease, to provide a comprehensive care to patients and to assure an efficient use of the resources.

The 20th anniversary edition saw a couple of new additions to the programme: the ECIM Honorary Lifetime Achievement Award given to Prof. Jaime Merino Sánchez in appreciation of his outstanding contributions to EFIM and Internal Medicine and the Early Career – "Joy in Internal Medicine Award". Added to that six pre-congress workshops, five plenary sessions, fourteen parallel sessions, six oral presentation sessions, one poster discussion sessions and ten rapid-fire sessions were showcased. The successful formats of joint sessions with several international associations were repeated this year as well. The scientific programme was awarded 17 European CME credits by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

It proved to be a truly international event with participants from 71 countries around the world, 1868 abstracts were submitted and the quality of the scientific programme was judged to be very high.