

11th ESMRMB-GREC meeting

8-9 October 2026

Girona, Spain

ESMRMB-GREC Meeting: Scientific Program

Meeting venue: to be announced

ESMRMB office: office@esmrmmb.org

Certification: Participants will receive a certificate of attendance

Enrolment: The meeting in presence is designed for scientists and consultants.

Scientific Program Chair: Ramon Barquet, Girona

After an extraordinary year of achievements, it is our pleasure to invite you to the 11th ESMRMB-GREC meeting, to be held in Girona, Spain, on 8-9 October 2026 (separate from the ESMRMB-meeting).

Introduction:

This meeting is designed as a unique context aimed at sharing ideas and data on MRI contrast agents research and possible gadolinium toxicity after the administration of gadolinium-based contrast agents (GBCA). Joint international efforts will remain essential to optimize diagnostic efficacy and improve patient safety in MR imaging. Since 2016, the ESMRMB-GREC has adapted the contents of the discussion to current hot topics and has continuously improved its influence on the clinical and pre-clinical role of gadolinium-based contrast agents.

This 11th GREC meeting will cover topics related to the four missions of the group: 1. Clinical indications and optimal use of GBCA-enhanced MRI; 2. The chemistry of improved MRI contrast agents; 3. Optimizing contrast-enhanced MRI, including Artificial Intelligence; 4. Emissions and ecotoxicological effects of GBCA in the marine environment.

As a working group of experts with multidisciplinary background, we support the MR community with continuous education, information and scientific updates on the use and clinical applications of GBCA.

Objectives:

- To share evidence-based state-of-the-art information on specific hot and emerging topics in GBCA-enhanced MR imaging
- To promote the dissemination of knowledge by means of papers to be published on behalf of the ESMRMB-GREC working group
- To discuss on research activities and research funding opportunities

Date: Thursday 8. October 2026

09:00-09:05 Welcome and practical meeting issues

Carlo C. Quattrocchi, Ramon Barquet

Session 1 GREC Business Meeting 2026

Moderator: Carlo C. Quattrocchi (Trento, IT)

09:05-09:15 What is new for GREC in 2026 – Carlo Quattrocchi (Trento, IT)

09:15-09:25 Mission Group 1-3: Achievements 2025-2026 and new ideas

09:25-09:35 Mission Group 2-4: Achievements 2025-2026 and new ideas

09:35-09:45 Discussion

Mission 1 Optimized Indications and Use of GBCA-enhanced MRI

Session 2 *Moderator: Ramon Barquet (Girona, ES)*

09:45-10:00 Optimized use of GBCA in Rheumatology (ESSR-GREC project) - Chiara Giraudo (Padua, IT)

10:00-10:15 Sinonasal imaging: When do we really need contrast? – Aïna Venkatasamy (Paris, FR)

10:15-10:30 Overview of future clinical MR contrast agents – Lorenzo Palagi (Turin, IT)

10:30-10:45 Discussion

10:45- 11:15 Coffee break

Mission 2 New MRI Contrast Agents in 2026

Session 3 *Moderator: Alex Rovira (Barcelona, ES)*

11:15-11:30 High-Relaxivity, Low-Dose MRI: Advancing patient safety and efficacy while reducing the global gadolinium burden - Imran Shahid (Guerbet)

11:30-11:45 Next-generation GBCA gadoquatane: Tetrameric structure and the balance between relaxivity and stability - Hubertus Pietsch (Bayer)

11:45-12:00 Beyond gadolinium: A cleaner future for contrast imaging with manganese – Sigrid Fossheim (GE Healthcare CM)

12:00-12:15 Twice as much - Digadoglucitol: A new dimeric high relaxivity MRI contrast agent - Luisa Poggi (Bracco Imaging)

12:15-12:30 Discussion

Mission 2 MRI Contrast Agents of the Future

Session 4 *Moderator: Eliana Gianolio, (Turin, IT)*

12:30-12:45 New GBCA to quantify extracellular glutamate in CNS – Pablo Hervella (Santiago, ES)

12:45-13:00 New GBCA to quantify lactate in tumour microenvironments – Eliana Gianolio (Turin, IT)

13:00-13:15 Shining a new light: novel polymer structure enables background-free and quantitative MRI - Olga Koshkina (Enschede, NL)

13:15-13:30 Discussion

13:30-14:15 Lunch time to rejuvenate the brain

14:30-18:30 Walking tour of Girona (including Game of Thrones) with drinks and open discussion

19.00-22:30 Dinner in Girona

Date: Friday 9. October 2026

09:00-09:05 **Good morning and practical meeting issues**
Carlo C. Quattrocchi, Ramon Barquet

Mission 3 **Technical Advances in Contrast-Enhanced MR Imaging**
Session 5 *Moderator: Juan Hernandez Tamames, NL*

09:05-09:20 What is the current role of synthetic contrast-enhanced MRI – Johannes Haubold (Essen, DE)
09:20-09:35 Mastering lesion conspicuity: Practical tips, tricks and innovations – Cristiana Araujo (Siemens Healthineers MRI)
09:35-09:50 Optimizing contrast-enhanced MRI with AIR Recon DL and macrocyclic GBCA – Dimosthenis Gkotsis (GE Healthcare MRI)

09.50-10:00 **Discussion**

Mission 4 **Emissions and Ecotoxicological Effects of GBCA in the Aqueous Environment**
Session 6 *Moderator: Gerard Stroomberg (Nieuwegein, NL)*

10:00-10:15 Gadolinium contamination in tap water worldwide - Douraied Ben Salem (Brest, F)
10:15-10:30 Simulated GI digestion of GBCA from drinking water - Mathis Athmer (Münster, D)

10.30-10.40 Discussion

10:40- 11:15 Coffee break

Mission 1 **Miscellaneous topics**
Session 7 *Moderator: Ramon Barquet (Girona, ES)*

11:15-11:30 NSF: does it still exist? Overview of recent literature – Alexander Radbruch (Bonn, D)
11:30-11:45 Gadolinium retention/deposition: what is new in the last years? Carlo Quattrocchi (Trento, IT)
11:45-12:00 Progress in MRI with iron oxide contrast agents (ferumoxytol, ferumoxtran, ferucarbotran) - Jelle Barentsz (Nijmegen, NL)
12:00-12:15 Uptake of GBCA in brain cell cultures - Victoria Kazimierczyk (Münster, D)

12.15-12.30 Discussion

Dessert **ESMRMB-GREC meets**
Session 8 *Moderator: Ramon Barquet*

12:30-12:45 **ESMRMB-GREC meets ISMRM:** The ISMRM Study Group on MR contrast agents – Giles Roditi (Glasgow, UK)

12:45-13:00 **ESMRMB-GREC meets ESSR:** How to optimize the use of GBCA in MRI of the joints? - Stefano Lusi (Paris, F)

13.00-13.30 **Final Discussion & Adjourn**

13.30-14.30 Farewell Lunch

See you next year at the 12th ESMRMB-GREC in **June 2027** in Riva del Garda, IT

ESMRMB-GREC Faculty

Carlo Quattrocchi, IT (GREC co-chair)
Aart van der Molen, NL (GREC co-chair)

Gerard Stroomberg, NL
Aïna Venkatasamy, F

Mathis Athmer, DE
Jelle Barentsz, NL
Ramon Barquet, ES
Douraid Ben Salem, F
Torkel Brismar, SWE
Olivier Clement, FR
Fabio Doniselli, IT
Eliana Gianolio, IT
Chiara Giraudo (Padua, IT)
Johannes Haubold, DE
Pablo Hervella (Santiago, ES)
Juan Hernandez Tamames, NL
Victoria Kazimierczyk (Münster, D)
Olga Koshkina (Enschede, NL)
Stefano Lusi (Paris, F)
Carlo A. Mallio, IT
Lorenzo Palagi, IT
Alexander Radbruch (Bonn, D)
Geir Ringstad, NO
Giles Roditi, UK
Alex Rovira, ES

ESMRMB-GREC Industry Delegates

Laura Schoeckel – Bayer
Hubertus Pietsch – Bayer
Hassan Khater – Bayer
Petra Palkowitsch - Bayer
Alberto Spinazzi – Bracco
Antonella Filippone – Bracco
Simona Bussi - Bracco
Luisa Poggi - Bracco
Novena Rangwala – GE HealthCare
Sigrid Fossheim – GE HealthCare
Dimosthenes Gkotsis – GE Healthcare
Jean-Sebastien Raynaud – Guerbet
Sarah Catoen – Guerbet
Imran Shahid - Guerbet
Eric Lancelot – Guerbet
Maarten Versluis – Philips
Cristiana Araujo – Siemens

Institutional Scientific Patronage from ESMRMB

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GE HealthCare