ECCO CONFER Cases

COllaborative **N**etwork **F**or **E**xceptionally **R**are case reports

ECCO CONFER Cases Round 12 - Call for similar cases:

CONFER Case 2:
Dupilumab Monotherapy and in Combination with Other Biologic/Small-Molecule Therapy in Patients with Coexisting IBD and EoE: A Multicentre Case Series

New deadline for reporting similar cases: **October 31, 2026**

Please report your cases by sending an **email to the ECCO Office (ecco@ecco-ibd.eu)**.

If the call proves the projects feasible by minimal number of similar cases available, transformation of the cases by the Principal Investigator and the CONFER Case Manager into standardised data-entry format (CRF) will next be performed. The CRFs will then be shared with the potential contributors who reported a similar case.

About

Unique and extraordinary clinical cases are generally reported in the form of a single case report or a small series, making it hard to derive clinical conclusions on modes of presentation, diagnosis, and treatment.

What is ECCO CONFER Cases?

ECCO CONFER Cases is an initiative to continuously identify, assemble, and report rare IBD cases of clinical relevance. By joining forces of the many members and supporters of ECCO, a joint report of all similar such cases can result in a large case series that will advance our knowledge on these uncommon patients.

How it operates

A call will be made once a year to all ECCO Members to propose CONFER case projects. Cases should correspond to 5 main themes of interest:

- Unusual clinical situations facing diagnostic or therapeutic gaps of knowledge
- Rare infections
- Uncommon drug beneficial effects or side-effects
- Rare IBD manifestations
- Infrequent disease associations (neoplastic, infectious etc.)

Two to four cases will be selected by the CONFER steering committee.

The proposing investigator will act as PI and develop his/her case into a CONFER case project with the steering committee.

A call will then be made to all ECCO Members and affiliates who have encountered a similar case to contribute their case to the CONFER case series.

All received cases will be joined into a case series by a PI and prepared for publication.

Steering Committee

ECCO CONFER is managed by a four-member steering committee. The current steering committee is composed of:

Julien Kirchgesner (France)
Mette Julsgaard (Denmark)
Marie Truyens (Belgium)
Thomas Greuter (Switzerland)
Maria José Casanova (Spain)

Publication and authorship

All contributing investigators will be acknowledged as co-authors. The PI and the CONFER Steering Committee member who developed each case project and its publication will be the first and last author, respectively. As per an ECCO Governing Board decision, submission to JCC would take precedence, unless a very high impact journal is deemed appropriate for publication.

In particular, please see the six authorship rules below.

Rule 1

First author: the principal investigator is granted the authorship if they provide a case.

Rule 2

The last author should be the Case Manager of CONFER Taskforce.

Rule 3

For every 10+ cases you include from the same centre, one additional author is included.
From 10 to 19 provided cases, one additional author is included.
From 20 to 29 provided cases, one additional author is included.

If submitting to another journal with a different authorship policy, the authorship will be given according to:
a) the rules of the journal regarding the maximum number of co-authors;
b) number of cases provided.

Those investigators who provided the cases, but are not listed among the authors of the manuscript (due to the Journal's regulations), will be listed in a study group and hence affiliated with the manuscript on PubMed.

Rule 4

When a P.I. of a Study is a CONFER task member and the Case Manager, then an additional co-author from the P.I.'s centre is granted, since the P.I. must fulfil two tasks at the same time.

Rule 5

If the PI collaborates with other societies, the second last authorship can be given to a representative of the other society. The last authorship can potentially be shared.

Rule 6

The maximum number of authors from one centre is 3.