**Subject:** ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS AND REGISTRATIONS Open for the International Scientific Symposium on EDS & HSD 2022

**Text:**

Dear Colleagues,

The Ehlers-Danlos Society will be hosting the [**International Scientific Symposium on the Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders**](https://www.ehlers-danlos.com/2022-international-symposium/)on September 14-18, 2022 in Rome, Italy. This will be a hybrid event with the option to attend both virtually and in-person.

We strongly encourage clinicians and researchers with an interest in the Ehlers-Danlos syndromes to attend this meeting – the multidisciplinary nature of the conference provides an opportunity to talk to specialists from many different fields including basic scientists, geneticists, internists, orthopedic and vascular surgeons, dentists, pediatricians, physiotherapists, genetic counselors, nurses, and others working with the Ehlers-Danlos syndromes and hypermobility spectrum disorders.

[**Follow this link**](https://www.ehlers-danlos.com/2022-international-symposium/) **for more information and registration options.**

The submitted abstracts will be peer-reviewed and evaluated based on:

* Novelty and scientific quality
* Clarity of the aim and experimental design
* Relevance of the topic and the results.

Abstracts on all aspects of basic, clinical, surveillance, and management research in EDS and HSD are welcomed. A substantial number of submitted abstracts will be selected for platform presentation, the remainder of selected abstracts will be presented during an interactive poster session.

Suggested topics:

1. **Molecular pathogenesis of EDS and related disorders**

*What is the spectrum of genetic defects underlying the different forms of EDS? Have novel genes been identified since the 2018 Scientific EDS Meeting in Ghent, Belgium? What cellular events and signaling pathways drive the different manifestations of EDS, e.g. wound healing, chronic pain, joint hypermobility, arterial fragility, ocular manifestations? How do they cross-talk with each other? Can we identify attractive treatment targets? Is there any advance in gene therapy for EDS? What have we learned from molecular studies in individuals presenting hypermobile EDS (including HEDGE study)?*

1. **Genotype/phenotype correlations in EDS**

*What new insights regarding phenotype-genotype correlations have emerged? Are they useful*  *to guide prognostication, surveillance, preventive or treatment strategies? What are the clinical*  *and genetic database/registry needs of the global community?*

1. **Lessons learned from EDS animal models**

*What have we learned from existing animal models for EDS? What are the strengths and*  *weaknesses of these models? Which animal models are needed to advance research in different*  *types of EDS? How can zebrafish and other non-murine animal models advance research in EDS?*

1. **Natural history and disease manifestations of EDS and HSD**

*What have we learned from natural history studies in the different forms of EDS and*  *hypermobility syndromes? What are the risks associated with pregnancy and delivery for the*  *different EDS subtypes? What have we learned from clinical practice on long-term outcomes in*  *the different types of EDS?*

1. **Genetic and environmental modifiers of EDS — phenotypic variability**

*What is the nature of genetic modifiers that influence phenotypic outcome in EDS? What is the*  *influence of gender, pregnancy, and lactation on disease severity in EDS and HSD? Which*  *environmental factors (e.g. exercise, circadian rhythm, exposures…) determine outcome?*

1. **Insights regarding vascular manifestations in the different types of EDS and in HSD**

*What is the risk for life-threatening vascular manifestations in the different types of EDS? What*  *are recommendations for surveillance and (surgical) treatment of these vascular complications?*  *What have we learned from clinical practice? Have there been advances in identifying*  *biomarkers that can predict arterial rupture in EDS patients?*

1. **Insights regarding co-morbidities in the different types of EDS and HSD**

*What is the prevalence of the different comorbidities in the different types of EDS and in HSD*  *(dysautonomia, mast cell activation syndrome, chronic fatigue, POTS, gastro-intestinal*  *comorbidities, anxiety, depression, etc.)? What is the evidence for a causal relation between the*  *different comorbidities and the underlying genetic defects? What are management strategies*  *for these co-morbidities?*

1. **Insights regarding pain in EDS and HSD**

*What do we know about the nature and the pathogenesis of pain in EDS and HSD? How can*  *animal models advance pain research in EDS and HSD? What is the role of small fiber*  *neuropathy? What is the role of medical and physical therapy in pain management and quality*  *of life? What is the role of holistic treatment modalities in pain management? What are the*  *current approaches to treatment of headache and migraine in EDS and HSD?*

1. **Psycho-social aspects of EDS and HSD**

*Are there barriers to care for people with EDS? How can the (para-)medical community help to*  *improve quality-of-life of individuals and families living with EDS or HSD? How can the scientific*  *community help to reduce inequity and under representation of the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous,*  *and People of Color) communities in research?*

**Abstract deadlines**

Monday, December 6, 2021 – Abstract submissions will open

Saturday, March 5, 2022 – Abstract submissions will close

The week of Monday, May 2, 2022 – Successful submissions will be notified.

Please [follow this link to the Abstracts Submission Form.](https://www.ehlers-danlos.com/2022-international-symposium/abstract-submission/)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact [events@ehlers-danlos.com](mailto:events@ehlers-danlos.com)