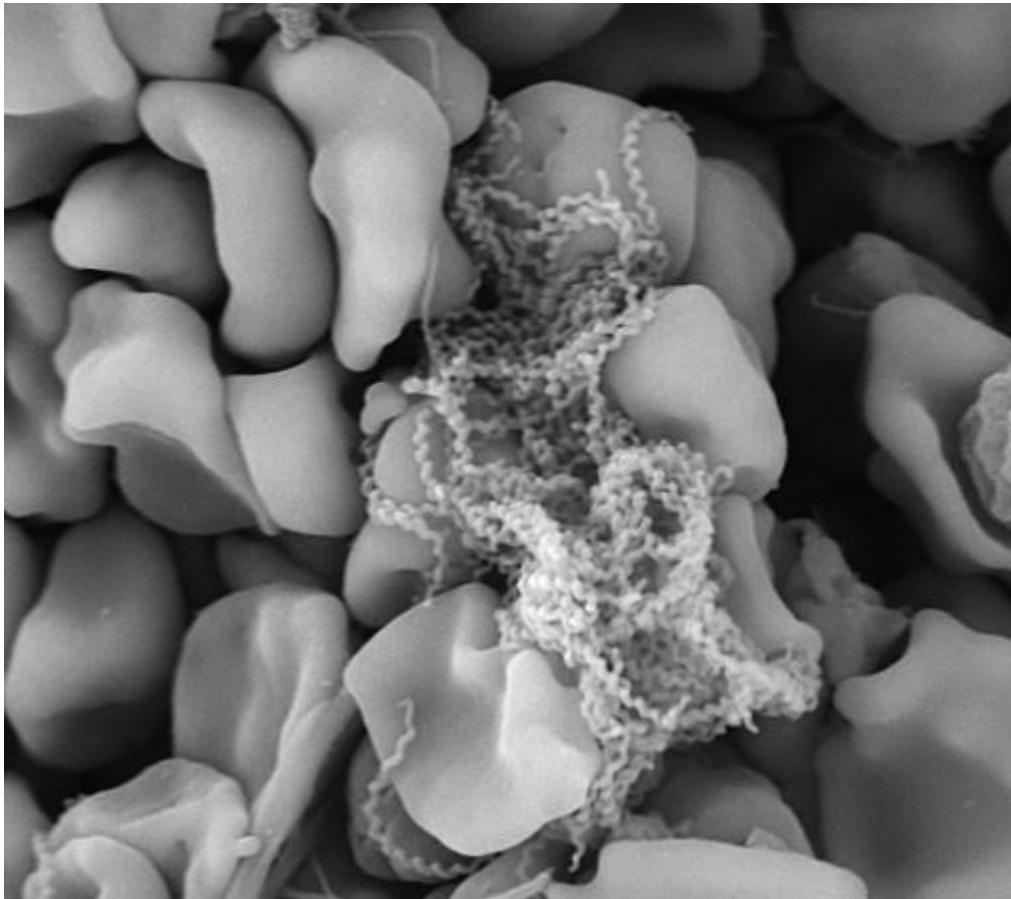


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*Scientific meeting announcement of the  
European Leptospirosis Society  
May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

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*Scanning Electron Microscope image of leptospires in blood from experimentally infected hamsters (courtesy of Dr. Jarlath Nally and Dr. Ellie Putz)*

We are happy to announce the online meeting of the European Leptospirosis Society (ELS), May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Unfortunately, due to developments regarding COVID-19 pandemic, ELS board has decided to postpone the scheduled 4th ELS meeting to 2022. However, in order to keep the network going, we prepared a half-day online meeting that will take place on **May 6th, 2021**.

We hope that the choice of topics and the active participation of eminent international experts will raise the interest of all ELS members, other research scientists, pharma industries and leptospirosis and rodent borne hemorrhagic fevers enthusiasts.

Besides key-speakers, scientific contributions towards this online meeting are welcome from highly motivated students and/or scientists in the form of poster (video) presentations.

We truly believe this ELS online meeting to be a great opportunity to keep the network going and we wish for your enthusiastic participation and contribution.

## PROGRAMME OF THE WEBINAR ON LEPTOSPIROSIS AND OTHER RODENT BORNE HAEMORRHAGIC FEVERS

**DATE :** 06 May 2021, Central European Time

Time	Topic
	<b>Moderator: Marcella Mori</b> , Sciensano, Brussels, BELGIUM
13:00-13:10	Welcome note and symposium introduction <b>Christian Leonard</b> , General Manager, Sciensano, Brussels, BELGIUM
	<b>Session Chair: Josipa Habus</b> , University of Zagreb, Croatia
13:10-13:30	<b>Keynote – Mathieu Picardeau</b> , Unit Biology of Spirochetes, Institut Pasteur, Paris, FRANCE Taxonomy, ecology and pathogenesis of the genus <i>Leptospira</i> revisited by genomics.
13:30-13:50	<b>Keynote – Marga Goris</b> , Department of Medical Microbiology, OIE and National Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Leptospirosis, Amsterdam University Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS Leptospirosis in humans: diagnosis of acute febrile illnesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.
13:50-14:00	<b>Erjona Abazaj</b> , Laboratory of Parasitology, Department of Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases Control, Institute of Public Health, Tirana, ALBANIA Leptospirosis in Albania.
14:00-14:15	Questions/Discussion and practical info about posters running
<b>15 min Pause (6 * 1 min running on of poster presentations from students)</b>	
	<b>Session Chair: Marcella Mori</b> , Sciensano, Belgium
14:30-14:50	<b>Keynote – Walter Lilenbaum</b> , Veterinary Bacteriology Lab, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Genital bovine leptospirosis: A new look for an old disease.
14:50-15:00	<b>Giovanni Cilia</b> , Department of Veterinary Science, University of Pisa, Pisa, ITALY Insight into <i>Leptospira</i> infection in wild boar ( <i>Sus scrofa</i> ).
15:00-15:10	<b>Jiri Pikula</b> , Department of Ecology and Diseases of Zoo Animals, Game, Fish and Bees, University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, Brno, CZECH Republic Urinary shedding of leptospires in Palearctic bats.
15:10-15:20	<b>Lara Urban</b> , Department of Anatomy, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand Freshwater monitoring by nanopore sequencing.
15:20-15:35	Questions/Discussion and practical info about posters running
<b>15 min Pause (6 * 1 min running on of poster presentations from students)</b>	

	<b>Session Chair: Jarlath Nally</b> , National Animal Disease Center, USA
15:50-16:10	<b>Keynote - Barry Rockx</b> , Dept. of Viroscience, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, THE NETHERLANDS Models for studying rodent borne orthohantaviruses.
16:10-16:20	<b>Luis Fernandes</b> , Infectious Bacterial Diseases Research Unit, National Animal Disease Center, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Ames, IA, USA <i>Laboratório de Desenvolvimento de Vacinas, Instituto Butantan, Sao Paulo, SP, BRAZIL</i> Gene silencing in pathogenic <i>Leptospira</i> by CRISPR-interference.
16:20-16:30	<b>Elsio Wunder</b> , Department of Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases, Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, USA A live attenuated-vaccine model confers cross-protective immunity against different species of the <i>Leptospira</i> genus.
16:30-16:45	Questions/Discussion and final word

Depending the possibilities from speakers, the presentations will be available as pdf file after the meeting on the website of the European Leptospirosis Society [www.euroleptosociety.org](http://www.euroleptosociety.org).

**OFFICIAL LANGUAGE** : The official language will be English.

**REGISTRATION (mandatory to receive the link to access the meeting)** : please complete the survey : <https://surveys.sciensano.be/index.php/586232?lang=en>

- **Before April 16<sup>th</sup> 2021, 12.00 h AM** : if you want to submit an abstract and to participate to the meeting;
- **Before May 1<sup>st</sup> 2021** if you want to participate to the meeting.

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER):**

**GORIS Marga**, Department of Medical Microbiology, OIE and National Collaborating Centre for Reference and Research on Leptospirosis, Amsterdam University Medical Center, University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, THE NETHERLANDS

**HABUS Josipa**, Department of Microbiology and Infectious diseases with Clinic, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb, CROATIA

**KLEIN Frédéric**, Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products, BELGIUM

**LERNOUT Tinne**, Epidemiology and public Health, Sciensano, BELGIUM

**MORI Marcella**, Bacterial zoonoses of animals, Veterinary bacteriology, Sciensano, BELGIUM

**NALLY Jarlath**, Infectious Bacterial Diseases Research Unit, National Animal Disease Center, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Ames, IA, USA

**PICARDEAU Mathieu**, Unit Biology of Spirochetes, Institut Pasteur, Paris, FRANCE

**SAEGERMAN Claude**, Research Unit in Epidemiology and Risk Analysis applied to veterinary sciences (UREAR-ULg), Fundamental and Applied Research for Animal and Health (FARAH) Center, Department of Infectious and Parasite Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Liège, BELGIUM

**VAN ESBROECK Marjan**, Department of Clinical Sciences, Institute of Tropical medicine, Antwerpen, BELGIUM

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT :

Catherine Vandenberghe  
Executive assistant

Scientific Direction 'Infectious diseases in animals'  
T + 32 2 379 06 03 - M +32 471 53 33 73  
[catherine.vandenberghe@sciensano.be](mailto:catherine.vandenberghe@sciensano.be)

Dr. Marcella Mori, Ph.D., DTM&H  
Head of unit Bacterial zoonoses of animals,  
Veterinary Bacteriology –  
Scientific Direction 'Infectious diseases in animals'  
T + 32 2 379 04 43  
[Marcella.mori@sciensano.be](mailto:Marcella.mori@sciensano.be)



HQ: Rue Juliette Wytsmanstraat 14 • 1050 Brussels  
Office: Groeselenberg 99 • 1180 Brussels

[www.sciensano.be](http://www.sciensano.be)