



Resuscitation 2026

Resuscitation 2026, the European Resuscitation Council Congress, held in Milan from 17–19 September 2026, was a highly successful international event, bringing together 1,362 participants from 75 countries and confirming the Congress as one of the leading global meetings in resuscitation science. The scientific programme was of exceptionally high quality, with internationally recognised experts addressing the most relevant and evolving areas of resuscitation and a particular focus on the implementation and impact of the latest 2025 ERC Guidelines on clinical practice, education and research.

The main scientific sessions covered the entire resuscitation pathway, from prevention and early recognition of cardiac arrest to bystander response, AED use, advanced life support and post-resuscitation care. Major topics included systems saving lives, access and equity in defibrillation, new approaches to advanced resuscitation and ECPR, post-cardiac arrest haemodynamic and ventilatory management, neuroprognostication and recovery, as well as paediatric and neonatal resuscitation. The programme also addressed broader challenges such as education and implementation, equity in access to high-quality resuscitation and the translation of scientific evidence into everyday clinical practice. Particular highlights were the Late-Breaking Clinical Trial sessions, which provided a dedicated platform for presenting and critically discussing important new evidence, including studies on community first responders, prehospital ECPR and early coronary angiography. A strong feature of Resuscitation 2026 was the diversity of formats used to promote interaction between faculty and participants. Workshops, debates, roundtables, case-based discussions, Meet the Expert sessions, Rapid Fire sessions, the Resuscitation Games and the Resuscitation Competition complemented the traditional scientific sessions and created opportunities for active discussion and exchange. Young investigators were given substantial visibility through oral and poster presentations, the Young Investigator Award and Best of the Best sessions. Overall, 526 abstracts were presented during the event, ensuring that original research and emerging investigators were strongly represented throughout the Congress.



The Congress also demonstrated a strong commitment to international participation and inclusion, with delegates from low-resource settings across 20 countries, and with teams from Europe, Africa and Asia participating in the Resuscitation Competition. Networking was a central component of the meeting, both within the scientific programme and during the social event, which attracted 546 participants. An important additional dimension was the strong presence of business partners, sponsors and exhibitors. The exhibition area and innovation showcase allowed participants to interact directly with industry, explore new technologies and solutions in resuscitation and emergency care, and discuss opportunities for collaboration between clinicians, researchers and companies. This created an additional networking environment connecting scientific developments with technological innovation and implementation.

Overall, Resuscitation 2026 successfully combined scientific excellence, presentation of emerging evidence, education, innovation, international collaboration and networking, further strengthening the ERC Congress as a key global forum for advancing resuscitation science and improving outcomes from cardiac arrest.

Giuseppe Ristagno,
Director Congresses, European Resuscitation Council.