



Conference Program

54th Annual Conference of the European Teratology Society

20-23 September 2026, Basel, Switzerland

Sunday 20 September 2026

Continuous education course: Data Interpretation Principles and Changes Across Time (Alan Hoberman)

- 14:00-14:10 Welcome and Introduction (Alan Hoberman)
- 14:10-14:40 The basic principles of DART study designs and data interpretation – focus on small molecules (John Tesh)
- 14:40-15:10 Developmental & reproductive toxicology of human therapeutics beyond small molecules (Chris Bowman)
- 15:10-15:45 OECD DART study designs and data interpretation – focus on chemicals including endocrine modulation, NAMS for chemicals and Adverse Outcome Pathways (Steffen Schneider)

15:45-16:15 Afternoon Coffee Break

- 16:15-17:00 How a reviewer is taught to evaluate DART studies – focus on pharmaceuticals and incorporation of information from general toxicity studies, mechanistic studies and exposure data into the evaluation of DART studies (Puck Roos)

18:30 Welcome reception at Bar Rouge

Sponsored by:





Monday 21 September 2026

08:10

Presidents Welcome

Student awards Sponsored by:



Symposium 1 Effects of Bodyweight on Fertility and Reproduction (Elise Lewis)

08:20-08:30 Welcome and Introduction (Elise Lewis)

Clinical aspects

08:30-09:10 The growing problem of obesity (Aileen Keating)

09:10-09:50 Weight loss drugs and their effects – a clinical study (Ursula Winterfeld)

09:50-10:20 Morning Coffee Break

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Practical aspects

10:20-10:50 CRO data mining exercise (Ayla Hoogendoorn)

10:50-11:20 The Weight of the Evidence: Reproductive Toxicology in the Era of Obesity Therapies (Karen Thacker)

11:20-12:00 Challenges when conducting non-clinical reproductive and developmental toxicity studies with weight-lowering compounds (Thomas Andreassen)

12:00-13:00 Lunch

Pathological interpretation (Elise Lewis/Geertje Lewin)

13:00-13:40 Effects of weight changes noted in pathology and pathological outcomes/interpretations (Beth Dray)

13:40-14:20 From clear-cut findings to painstaking detective work, sleepless night, and nightmares (Klaus Weber)

Symposium 2 Male Mediated Toxicity (Jane Stewart)

14:20-14:30 Overview (Jane Stewart)

14:30-15:10 Male mediated Developmental Toxicity: past, present and future (Martin Brinkworth)

15:10 -15:40 Afternoon Coffee Break

15:40-16:20 Dad Matters: Redox Stress, Mitochondrial Dysfunction, and the Hidden Legacy of Paternal Alcohol Use (Michael Golding - *online*)

16:20-17:00 Sperm selection for good pregnancy outcomes – current practices and future opportunities (Jackson Kirkman-Brown - *online*)

17:00-17:40 Update on paternal use of valproate and offspring outcome (Jakob Christensen)

17:40-17:50 Closing remarks

17:50-18:00 Address on behalf of City of Basel

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18:00

ETS Poster session/ drinks reception

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Tuesday 22 September 2026

Symposium 3 Microplastics (John Ball)

- 08:30-09:10 The impact of environmental toxicants on the global fertility decline (Lydia Wehrli)
09:10-09:50 Potential developmental and reproductive toxicity of microplastics (Erik Rushton)

Symposium 4 Developmental Neurotoxicity (Jason Manton)

- 09:50-10:30 Validation of Automated Open Field Assessment for Detecting Anxiolytic and Anxiogenic Responses in Developmental Neurotoxicity Studies (Sarah Beck)

10:30-11:00 Morning Coffee Break

- 11:00-11:40 Beyond the Morris: Positive Control Validation of the Cincinnati Water Maze for Learning and Memory (Dilshan Harischandra)
11:40-12:20 Introduction to the Modified (Reverse) Biel Maze (Don Stump)

12:20-13:20 Lunch

- 13:20-14:00 **ETS/BDRP exchange lecture:** Value of NHPs for DART Risk Assessment (Natasha Catlin and Marc Leutjens: Chairs – Stephanie Clubb and Chris Bowman)
14:00-15:30 **Free communications Part 1** (Nicola Powles-Glover)
14:30-14:45 A Full-NAMs Strategy for DART Risk Assessment of Cosmetic Ingredients Matthew Burbank
14:45-15:00 The Cross-DART CRACK IT challenge: tackling a cross-pharma need with an innovative NAMs approach José Manuel Horcas Nieto
15:00-15:15 Irisin-Mediated Microbiota Modulation Ameliorates Chronic Stress-Induced Blood-Testis Barrier Disruption and Impaired Spermatogenesis Itishree Dubey
15:15-15:30 Novel Zebrafish-to-Human Translational Platform Predicts Safe Use of Antimalarial Combination in Pregnancy Claudia Demarta-Gatsi

15:30-15:50 Afternoon Coffee Break

- 15:50-16:40 **Free communications Part 2** (Nicola Powles-Glover)
15:50-16:05 Placental Transfer and Developmental Toxicity Assessment of lunsekimig, a half-life extended Nanobody® Compound Caroline Bouchez
16:05-16:20 First-Month Follow-Up Outcomes of Pregnant Women With Exposure of Hormonal Contraceptives: A Single-Center Case Series Berna Özen
16:20-16:35 Comparing animal developmental toxicity to human pregnancy outcomes for fifty pharmaceuticals: is the rat a better predictor than the rabbit? Puck Roos
16:35-16:40 Sex dimorphism and gene expression changes associated with valproic acid-induced discordant exencephaly in ICR mice Boniface Echefu

16:40-17:20 **HESI update:** Quantifying the DARTable Genome: A case study on retinoids bridging data Gaps using PBPK-Driven NAMs (Matthew Burbank/ Richard Currie)
17:20-18:30 **AGM** (ETS members-only)

19:45 **Conference Dinner**
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Wednesday 23 September 2026

08:50-09:00 **Conference Awards**

09:00-09:50 President's Award Lecture: The Goldilocks Principle - Its relevance for Reproductive Toxicity (Sheila Tesh)

Symposium 5 New Approach Methods for Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology, Different Stakeholder Perspectives (Christopher Bowman, Julia Boos)

09:50-10:00 Current Challenges in DART Testing and the Promise of New Approach Methodologies (Julia Boos)

10:00-10:20 Stem cell-based embryo models: Promise, limitations and the path to toxicological applications (Alok Javali)

10:20-10:40 Translating NAMS into clinical impact: Relevance and Challenges in developmental pediatric surgical research (Stephani Gros)

10:40-11:05 Morning Coffee Break
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11:05-11:25 The application of NAMs to prevent DART during new chemical invention - Industry perspective (Richard Currie)

11:25-11:45 Opportunities and Challenges of New Approach Methods in Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology: A Drug Regulator's Perspective (Elisabeth Klenke)

11:45-12:15 Panel discussion (Co-chairs, speakers, Ellen Fritsche)

12:15-12:20 Wrap-up session (Julia Boos, Chris Bowman, Ellen Fritsche)

12:20 **Close**