

EUCANSCREEN COURSE ON UPPER GI ENDOSCOPY: HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR CANCER DETECTION RATE (3rd edition)

Objective

This course aims to strengthen the **knowledge, attitudes, and practices of endoscopists in upper gastrointestinal endoscopy**, to improve the overall **quality and reporting** of procedures and to increase the **detection rate of gastric cancer** across clinical settings.

Specific Aims

By the end of the course, participants should be able to:

- Identify and describe **current technologies** used in upper GI endoscopy, with emphasis on high-resolution imaging and virtual chromoendoscopy;
- Recognise key **anatomical landmarks** and correlate them with **expected findings**; apply relevant **endoscopic classifications**, including the Paris classification, to support early detection and guide **clinical decision-making** in gastric lesions;
- Describe the **indications, principles and key steps** of **Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD)** for the management of superficial gastric neoplastic lesions;
- Explain appropriate **biopsy techniques** and the process of **histological analysis**; interpret **pathology reports** accurately and correlate findings with **clinical presentations**;
- Identify **endoscopic scores** and **superficial lesions** using **image and video interpretation**, and integrate endoscopic and histological findings to inform clinical decision-making;
- Analyse the **epidemiology** of **post-upper endoscopy gastric cancer** and the **expected detection rates across different clinical settings**;
- Apply **MAPS** and other **current guidelines** for the management of **premalignant** and **early malignant** gastric conditions;
- Enhance the **quality of endoscopy reporting** by understanding required **components**, identifying common **procedural mistakes**, and proposing **strategies for improvement**;
- Explain the role of **artificial intelligence** in upper GI endoscopy, pathology, and training; critically appraise its performance and adhere to ethical and regulatory standards.
- Discuss strategies to strengthen **training and continuous professional development** in upper GI endoscopy to support high-quality clinical practice.
- **Apply** the basic principles and technical steps of **ESD** in a **simulated environment**, demonstrating safe scope handling and appropriate use of ESD devices.

Course Structure

The course includes **asynchronous webinars**, **peer assessment** of endoscopy cases, an **interactive (synchronous) webinar**, and a two-day **face-to-face module** featuring lectures, workshops, and **hands-on ESD training** sessions using a dedicated **simulator**. The face-to-face sessions will be held in **Porto, Portugal**.

Syllabus

Asynchronous Webinars (AW)

AW1. Endoscopic Current Systems and Technologies, Raf Bisschops

AW2. Current Endoscopic Scores for Precancerous Conditions and Early Cancer Lesions, Hugo Uchima

AW3. Biopsy Procedures and Protocols, Manon Spaander

AW4. Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection, Hugo Uchima

AW5. Histology and Reporting, Fátima Carneiro

AW6. Post-Upper Endoscopy Gastric Cancer, Judith Honing

AW7. Quality Parameters and Reporting of Upper GI Endoscopy, Miguel Areia

Synchronous Webinars (SW)

SW1. Open Discussion of Asynchronous Webinars and Results of Pre-Test and Peer Assessment, Mario Dinis-Ribeiro; Manon Spaander; Miguel Areia

Face-to-face (FF)

FF1. Workshop: Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD) Training with simulator, Hugo Uchima; Henriette Heinrich

FF2. Challenges in Upper GI Endoscopy Quality in 2026, Miguel Areia

FF3. Workshop: Tips and Tricks for Upper GI Endoscopy, Nuno Gonçalves, Mário Dinis Ribeiro and Miguel Areia, Álvaro Terán, Miguel Fraile López

FF4. Current Guidelines: MAPS III Guidelines, Mário Dinis Ribeiro

FF5. Artificial Intelligence in Endoscopy, Raf Bisschops

FF6. Workshop: Endo/Histology Correlation, Nuno Gonçalves, Fátima Carneiro and Hugo Uchima, Álvaro Terán, Miguel Fraile López

FF7. Teaching Upper GI Endoscopy, Miguel Areia

FF8. Workshop: Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD) Training with Simulator, Hugo Uchima; Henriette Heinrich

Faculty

Álvaro Terán, Universitario Marqués de Valdecilla, Santander, Spain

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Raf Bisschops, University Hospitals Leuven Dept. of Gastroenterology, Leuven, Belgium

Teaching and Learning Methods

A blended-learning flipped classroom methodology will be adopted, combining expository methods with discussion-based and case-based approaches.

Assessment methods will include peer assessment and two quizzes. To complete the course, participants must attend the webinars and the face-to-face component and achieve a score of at least 80% in each quiz.

Participants will be invited to submit videos and reports from their clinical practice, which will be used for the peer-assessment assignment and/or during case-based workshops.

Participants will also be asked to complete a needs and resources assessment questionnaire, a pre- and post-test (addressing self-reported data on detection rate, quality, and reporting of upper GI endoscopy), and a training assessment questionnaire.

The course will be supported by the WHO Academy e-learning platform.

Callendar

- Asynchronous webinars: 15 September – 30 October 2026
- Peer assessment: 15 October – 15 November 2026
- Interactive webinar: February 2027
- Face-to-face course: 24 to 26 February 2027, Porto, Portugal

Applications (3rd edition, 2nd phase)

Admission criteria

- Medical doctors specialised in gastroenterology or other relevant medical specialties, with experience in upper GI endoscopy;
- Playing an active role in the clinical training of other medical doctors in upper GI endoscopy (preferred);

- And/or holding leadership roles in the field of gastric cancer screening/ early diagnosis (preferred);
- Working in European countries belonging to the EUCanScreen consortium or other countries from the European Union 1.

Selection criteria

Candidates who meet the admission criteria will be ranked by country and based on application order:

- a) Applicants will be grouped by country (considering the sending institution);
- b) Applicants will be ranked in rounds based on the application order:
 - In the first round, the first applicants from each country will be ranked in the order of their applications.
 - In the second round, the second applicants from each country will be ranked in the order of their applications.
 - After the second round, this process will continue, considering only the application order until all the available vacancies are filled.
 - Candidates not selected will be placed on a waiting list and may be admitted to the course if there are any withdrawals.

Vacancies

- 3rd edition, 2nd phase - 9 places

Application process

Applications may be submitted from 21 July to 15 August 2026

Applications may be submitted online: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/yqQ9mTZLyh>

More Information

For more information, please contact us via e-mail: eucanscreen@ipoporto.min-saude.pt.

To learn more about the EUCanScreen project, visit our [website](#)

Sponsor

EUCanScreen- Joint Action on Implementation of Cancer Screening Programmes

EU4H-PJG (EU4H Project Grants)

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¹ Austria; Belgium; Cyprus; Croatia; Czechia; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Ireland; Iceland; Italy; Lithuania; Latvia; Moldova; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Sweden; Slovenia; Slovakia; Spain; Ukraine; Bulgaria; Luxembourg