EUCANSCREEN COURSE ON UPPER GI ENDOSCOPY: HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR CANCER DETECTION RATE (2nd edition)

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

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;
- Recognize 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;
- 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;
- Analyze 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.

Course Structure

The course includes **asynchronous webinars**, **peer assessment** of endoscopy cases, an **interactive (synchronous) webinar**, and a two-day **face-to-face module** with lectures and workshops. The face-to-face sessions will be held in **Kaunas**.

Syllabus

Asynchronous Webinars (AW)

AW1. Endoscopic Current Systems and Technologies, Raf Bisschops, University Hospitals Leuven Dept. of Gastroenterology

AW2. Current Endoscopic Scores for Precancerous Conditions and Early Cancer Lesions, Hugo Uchima, Hospital Universitari Germans Trias | Pujol

AW3. Biopsy Procedures and Protocols, Manon Spaander, Erasmus MC University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

AW4. Histology and Reporting, Fátima Carneiro, Faculty of Medicine of the University of Porto, Portugal

AW5. Post-Upper Endoscopy Gastric Cancer, Judith Honing, Erasmus MC University Medical Center, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

AW6. Quality Parameters and Reporting of Upper GI Endoscopy, Miguel Areia, Portuguese Institute of Oncology of Coimbra Francisco Gentil, Portugal

Synchronous Webinars (SW) (2nd edition)

SW1. Open Discussion of Asynchronous Webinars and Results of Pre-Course Assessment and Quizzes, Romanas Zykus and Dalius Petrauskas

Face-to-face (FF) (2nd edition)

FF1. Challenges in Upper GI Endoscopy Quality in 2026, Dalius Petrauskas

FF2. Results of Pre-Course Assessment, Synchronous Webinars and Quizzes, Dalius Petrauskas and Romanas Zykus

FF3. Workshop: Tips and Tricks for Upper GI Endoscopy, Dalius Petrauskas, Romanas Zykus, Tadas Urbonas, Vytenis Petkevičius, Rolandas Gedgaudas

FF4. Current Guidelines: MAPS III Guidelines, Romanas Zykus

FF5. Workshop: Endo/Histology Correlation, Dalius Petrauskas, Romanas Zykus, Tadas Urbonas, Vytenis Petkevičius, Rolandas Gedgaudas

FF6. Artificial Intelligence in Endoscopy, Rolandas Gedgaudas

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 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

Second Edition

- Asynchronous webinars: 2 February – 31 March 2026
- Peer assessment: April 2026
- Interactive webinar: 7/8 May 2026
- Face-to-face course (2 days): 5-6 June 2026, Kaunas, Lithuania

APPLICATIONS (2nd edition, 2nd phase)

Admission criteria

- Medical doctors specialized in gastroenterology working in European countries belonging to the EUCanScreen consortium or other countries from the European Union[1];
- Playing an active role in the clinical training of physicians in upper GI endoscopy and/or holding leadership roles in the field of gastric cancer screening/early diagnosis;
- At least one or two participants from each of the aforementioned countries are expected to take part.

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[1] Austria; Belgium; Cyprus; Croatia; Czech; 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

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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 home 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. Candidates from countries which are not yet represented in the course will be given priority: Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Sweden and Slovenia.
- 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

- 2nd edition - 9 places

Application process

Applications may be submitted **19 January to 31 January 2026**
Applications may be submitted online here

MORE INFORMATION

For more information, please contact us via e-mail: romanas.zykus@kaunoklinikos.lt .

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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