EpiCARE Newsletter

The European Reference Network for Rare and Complex Epilepsies

September 2026

Stay up to date on our upcoming events, educational and research activities, calls, and news from the coordination team, clinicians, researchers, nurses and Patient Advocate community. Feel free to **forward** this newsletter, and sign up here to receive it regulary!

Next interactive webinar

"Patient Recruitment in Clinical Trials: Challenges and Practical Solutions"

29 October 2026
17pm - 18:30pm
Speaker: Rima Nabbout, Vicente Villanueva and Sandra Silva

Register here



Latest news

EpiCARE at the European Epilepsy Congress 2026 in Athens. A Great Success!

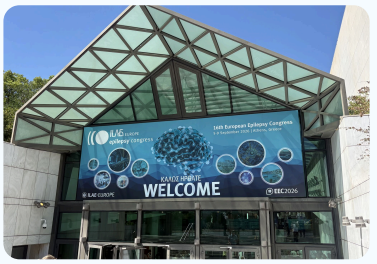
The 16th European Epilepsy Congress in Athens, Greece, exceeded all expectations, bringing together more than 4,000 participants from around the world. Learn more about the 47 chapters of ILAE-EUROPE and its 2025-2029 action plan.

A very special moment was the Welcome Ceremony, where EpiCARE received the European Epilepsy Team Excellence Award, a wonderful recognition of the commitment and collaboration of our entire community.
Congratulations also to Mrs. Isabella BRAMBILLA, patient advocate, President of Epilepsy+ for rare and complex epilepsies and member of the ERN EpiCARE Executive Committee, who received the European Epilepsy Service Award, in recognition of her outstanding servies to the patient's community.

Our EpiCARE team had an active presence at Booth 49, where we shared information about our activities, welcomed many visitors, and hosted face-to-face meetings of our Working Groups.
Special thanks to all our EpiCARE members and colleagues for their outstanding talks, contributions, and insights.











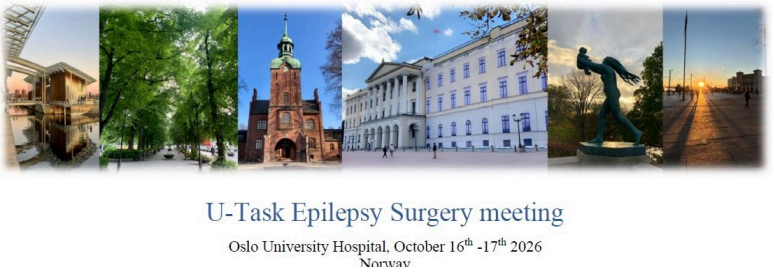


Upcoming events 2026 endorsed by ERN EpiCARE

U-Task Epilepsy Surgery meeting

16 – 17 October / Oslo (Norway)

The U-Task Epilepsy Surgery Meeting will take place at Oslo University Hospital, Norway, on 16–17 October 2026. It will bring together multidisciplinary teams from across Europe within the ERN EpiCARE network to discuss complex paediatric epilepsy surgery cases and exchange clinical expertise. The programme will also address ongoing European multicentre research projects, observational studies and issues related to the ERN EpiCARE Registry. The meeting aims to strengthen international collaboration, knowledge sharing and multidisciplinary decision-making in paediatric epilepsy surgery.
To register for the meeting, please use the following link.



The 5th Video-EEG in Paediatric Epilepsies

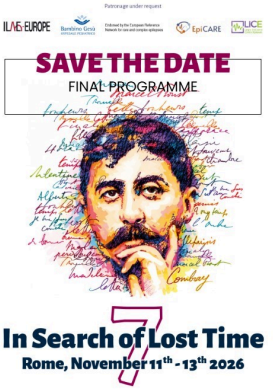
29 – 31 October / Madrid (Spain)

Organised by the Spanish Epilepsy Society (SEEP) and endorsed by ERN EpiCARE and ILAE-Europe, this clinically oriented course provides comprehensive training in paediatric epileptology, covering the diagnosis and management of epilepsy across childhood. Emphasising electroclinical integration and the latest ILAE diagnostic criteria, it offers early-career specialists the opportunity to learn from leading European experts.
Register now!

The 7th edition of the ERN EpiCARE scientific workshop

11 – 13 November / Rome (Italy)

The seventh edition of the “In Search of Lost Time 7” workshop will take place in Rome from 11 to 13 November 2026, at the Istituto Patristico Augustinianum. The event is organized by Italian epilepsy centres and endorsed by the International League Against Epilepsy and ERN EpiCARE. The latest version of the program is now available!



8th European GRI Conference

5 - 7 March 2027 (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Join GRIN Europe for three days of scientific exchange, collaboration and shared experience focused on GRI-related disorders. Families, clinicians, researchers and industry partners from around the world are warmly invited.
Programme, registration and accommodation details will be announced soon.
Researchers and clinicians wishing to present their work, including research on NMDA receptor function, related pathways and emerging treatments, are encouraged to submit a preliminary title and short abstract **conference@grineurope.org**.

Know EpiCARE Working groups!

Working Group 11: **Clinical Patient Management System**

Case discussions are an integral part of all ERNs and are in line with the European Commission's Directive. EpiCARE undertakes regular case discussions in specialised areas of the rare and complex epilepsy field, including surgical and non-surgical cases, neuropsychology and neuropathology.

WG 11 webpage

Working Group 12**: Registry**

Developing a Registry for rare and complex epilepsies is a very dynamic process, with continuous challenges and needs to update and refine the content. We are confident that its creation will offer the EU epilepsy community a unique tool to support both clinical practice and research.



WG 12 webpage

ERN EpiCARE Supporting Next Generation Epilepsy Experts

At the EEC 2026 in Athens we had the pleasure of welcoming the early-experts supported by EpiCARE to present their work. For this congress, the experts selected by EpiCARE were:

1. Giulia Bruschi (Bologna, Italy)
2. Veronica Viola (Bologna, Italy)
3. Anna Martens (Leuven, Belgium)
4. Lucrezia Piccicacchi (Filadelfia, Denmark)
5. Francesca Ferraro (Pavia, Italy)
6. Isabella Orlando (Pavia, Italy)
7. Pietro Cappelletto (Florence, Italy)
8. Gianluca D'Onofrio (Paris, France)
9. Alberto Cossu (Verona, Italy)
10. Marta Pucciarelli (Verona, Italy)
11. Ann Militovska (Kyiv, Ukraine)
12. Tetyana Litovchenko (Kharkiv, Ukraine)
13. Veronika Letychevska (Kyiv, Ukraine)
14. Daria Yehorova (Kyiv, Ukraine)

Do not miss the 2027 deadlines if you wish to apply for an EpiCARE financial support. For instructions.

Supporting early-career Epilepsy Experts

Participation at epilepsy scientific congresses and workshops 2027

CONGRESS	DATE	PLACE	PARTICIPANTS	DEADLINE
17th EPNS (European Paediatric Neurology Society) 	6 - 10 April 2027	Barcelona (Spain)	5	10 February 2027
EPIPED Course 	5 - 8 May 2027	Girona (Spain)	5	8 March 2027
International Course on Drug Resistant Epilepsies 	9 - 16 May 2027	Tagliacozzo (Italy)	5	16 March 2027
37th IEC (International Epilepsy Congress) 	28 August - 1 September 2027	Amsterdam (The Netherlands)	15	1 July 2027

All the requirements on the EpiCARE website

EpiCARE

EpiCARE Scientific Publications

Genetic testing is increasingly integrated in the diagnostic pathway for rare and complex epilepsies and treatment decisions. An ERN EpiCARE survey assessed how genetic testing is implemented across specialist epilepsy centers in Europe and identified persistent organizational, financial, and clinical barriers. European collaboration and harmonized practices are needed to support equitable access to high-quality genetic care for people living with epilepsy.

Genetic testing practices across European epilepsy centers: An ERN EpiCARE survey

Tchaicha S, Van Hulle J, Brilstra E, Brunklaus A, Cantalupo G, Geroldinger M, McTague A, Kälviäinen R, Turón-Viñas E, Arzimanoglou A, Møller RS, Nabbout R
June 2026, Epilepsia Open, DOI: 10.1002/epi4.70304

You can consult recent publications related to the diagnosis and treatment of rare and complex epilepsies on our scientific publications webpage.

ANYTHING TO SHARE?
Any news you would like to share, events planned, publications in the works? Share with us any information you would like us to include in the next newsletter at l.roig@epi-care.eu

Follow us on social media!

EpiCARE | European Reference Network for rare or low prevalence complex diseases | Funded by the European Union

Unsubscribe

You are receiving this email as you may work at one of the EpiCARE centres or you are taking part in one or more of EpiCARE expert groups or you may have attended one of our webinars.

© 2026 Hospital Sant Joan de Déu (ERN EpiCARE)