ERS | handbook

Respiratory Medicine

2nd Edition

Editors

Paolo Palange

Anita K. Simonds

Harmonised Education in
Respiratory Medicine for
European Specialists

ERS | handbook

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2nd Edition

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Paolo Palange
and Anita K. Simonds

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CHIEF EDITORS

Paolo Palange (Rome, Italy)

Anita K. Simonds (London, UK)

ERS STAFF

Alice Bartlett, Matt Broadhead, Neil Bullen, Alyson Cann, Jonathan Hansen,
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CONTACT, PERMISSIONS AND SALES REQUESTS:

European Respiratory Society, 442 Glossop Road, Sheffield, S10 2PX, UK

Tel: +44 114 2672860 Fax: +44 114 2665064 e-mail: info@ersj.org.uk

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Contributors

Chief Editors

Paolo Palange
Department of Public Health and
Infectious Diseases
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
paolo.palange@uniroma1.it

Anita K. Simonds
NIHR Respiratory Disease Biomedical
Research Unit
Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS
Foundation Trust
London, UK
a.simonds@rbht.nhs.uk

Authors

Nicolino Ambrosino
Cardio-Thoracic Dept
University Hospital
Pisa, Italy
n.ambrosino@ao-pisa.toscana.it

Peter J. Barnes
National Heart and Lung Institute
Imperial College
London, UK
p.j.barnes@imperial.ac.uk

Isabella Annesi-Maesano
Université Pierre et Marie Curie –
Paris 6
Medical School Saint-Antoine
UMR S 707: EPAR
Paris, France
isabella.annesi-maesano@inserm.fr

Bianca Beghé
Section of Respiratory Diseases
Department of Oncology
Haematology and Respiratory
Diseases
University Policlinic of Modena
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
bianca.beghe@unimore.it

Andrea Antonelli
Allergologia e Fisiopatologia
Respiratoria, ASO S. Croce e Carle
Cuneo, Italy
andrea-antonelli@tiscali.it

Francesco Blasi
Respiratory Medicine Section
Dipartimento Toraco-Polmonare e
Cardiocircolatorio
Università degli Studi di Milano and
IRCCS Fondazione Cà Granda
Milan, Italy
francesco.blasi@unimi.it

Bruno Balbi
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Veruno, Italy
bruno.balbi@fsm.it

Sandra Baldacci
Pulmonary Environmental
Epidemiology Unit, Institute of
Clinical Physiology National Research
Council

Konrad E. Bloch
Pulmonary Division
University Hospital of Zurich
Zurich, Switzerland
konrad.bloch@usz.ch

Pisa, Italy
baldas@ifc.cnr.it
Purchased by
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Annette Boehler
University Hospital of Zurich
Zurich, Switzerland
capybara@compuserve.com

Chris T. Bolliger†

Philippe Bonniaud
Department of Pulmonary Medicine
and Intensive Care
CHU Dijon
Dijon, France
philippe.bonniaud@chu-dijon.fr

Aik Bossink
Diaconessenhuis
Utrecht, the Netherlands
aikbossink@mac.com

Julia Bott
Virgin Care
Chertsey, UK
Julia.Bott@virgincare.co.uk

Arnaud Bourdin
Department of Respiratory Disease
CHU Arnaud de Villeneuve
Montpellier, France
a-bourdin@chu-montpellier.fr

Thomas Brack
Cantonal Hospital Glarus
Glarus, Switzerland
thomas.brack@ksgl.ch

Barbara Burroni
Département de Pathologie
Pôle de Biologie et de Pathologie
Centre Hospitalier Universitaire A.
Michallon
INSERM U 823 – Institut A. Bonniot
Université J. Fourier
Grenoble, France
BBurroni@chu-grenble.fr

Andrew Bush
Imperial College and Royal Brompton
Hospital
London, UK
a.bush@rbht.nhs.uk

Philippe Camus
Department of Pulmonary Medicine
and Intensive Care
CHU Dijon
Dijon, France
ph.camus@chu-dijon.fr

Emilio Canalis
Thoracic Surgery Service
Hospital Universitari Joan XXIII
IISPV
URV
Tarragona, Spain
emilio.canalis@urv.cat

Kai-Håkon Carlsen
Institute of Clinical Medicine,
University of Oslo
Dept of Paediatrics, Oslo University
Hospital
Norwegian School of Sport Science
Oslo, Norway
k.h.carlsen@medisin.uio.no

Sonia Cerrai
Pulmonary Environmental
Epidemiology Unit
Institute of Clinical Physiology
National Research Council
Pisa, Italy
sonia.cerrai@ifc.cnr.it

Stefania Cerri
Centre for Rare Lung Disease
Dept of Medical and Surgical
Sciences
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
stefania.cerri@unimore.it

Pascal Chanez
Service de Pneumo-Allergologie et
Laboratoire d'Immunologie INSERM
U600
Université de la Méditerranée
AP-HM
Marseille, France
pascal.chanez@univmed.fr

Francesca Cherubino
Pneumology Unit, Fondazione
Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Tradate, Italy
francesca.cherubino@fsm.it

Sara Chiesa
Department of Clinical and
Experimental Medicine
University of Parma
Parma, Italy
sara.chiesa@hotmail.it

Marco Chilosi
Department of Pathology
Università di Verona
Veronica, Italy
marco.chilosi@univr.it

Luke Clancy
TobaccoFree Research Institute
Ireland
Dublin, Ireland
lclancy@tri.ie

Amelia Clive
North Bristol Lung Centre
University of Bristol
Bristol, UK
Amelia.Clive@nbt.nhs.uk

Robert P. Coppes
Depts of Cell Biology and Radiation
Oncology
University Medical Center Groningen
University of Groningen
Groningen, the Netherlands
r.p.coppes@umcg.nl

Jean-François Cordier
Department of Respiratory Diseases
CHU de Lyon
Lyon, France
jean-francois.cordier@chu-lyon.fr

Ulrich Costabel
Dept of Pneumology and Allergy
Ruhrlandklinik
Essen
Germany
ulrich.costabel@ruhrlandklinik.uk-
essen.de

Vincent Cottin
Department of Respiratory Diseases
CHU de Lyon
Lyon, France
vincent.cottin@chu-lyon.fr

Jane C. Davies
Imperial College and Royal Brompton
Hospital
London, UK
j.c.davies@imperial.ac.uk

Wilfried De Backer
Dept of Pulmonary Medicine
University of Antwerp
Antwerp, Belgium
wilfried.debacker@ua.ac.be

Marc Decramer
Respiratory Rehabilitation and
Respiratory Division
University Hospital Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
marc.decramer@uzleuven.be

Giovanni Della Casa
Division of Radiology
Dept of Diagnostic and Imaging
Services
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
giodc@libero.it

Sabrina Della Patrona
Pneumology Unit
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Tradate, Italy
sabrina.dellapatrona@fsm.it

Sofie Derijcke
Respiratory Oncology Unit
Dept of Pulmonology
University Hospital Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
sofie.derijcke@azgroeninge.be

Walter De Wever
University Hospitals Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
walter.deweever@uz.kuleuven.be

Maria Anna Digiulio
Dept of Clinical Medicine
Reference Centre for Primary
Immunodeficiencies
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
mariaanna.digiulio@gmail.com

Antonino Di Stefano
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Veruno, Italy
antonino.distefano@fsm.it

Lieven Dupont
Department of Respiratory Medicine
University Hospital Gasthuisberg
KU Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
lieven.dupont@uzleuven.be

Oliver Eickelberg
Comprehensive Pneumology Center,
Ludwig-Maximilians-University and
Helmholtz Zentrum München
Munich, Germany
oliver.eickelberg@helmholtz-
muenchen.de

Santiago Ewig
Thoraxzentrum Ruhrgebiet
Kliniken für Pneumologie und
Infektiologie
Evangelisches Krankenhaus Herne
und Augusta-Kranken-Anstalt
Bochum
Bochum, Germany
ewig@augusta-bochum.de

Leonardo M. Fabbri
Section of Respiratory Diseases
Department of Oncology
Haematology and Respiratory
Diseases
University Policlinic of Modena
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
fabbri.leonardo@unimo.it

Pierre-Emmanuel Falcoz
Université Louis Pasteur and
Hôpitaux Universitaires de
Strasbourg
Strasbourg, France
pierre-emmanuel.falcoz@wanadoo.fr

Ramon Farré
Unitat de Biofísica i Bioenginyeria,
Facultat de Medicina, Universitat de
Barcelona
CIBER Enfermedades Respiratorias
Institut de Investigacions
Biomèdiques August Pi Sunyer
Barcelona, Spain
rfarre@ub.edu

Alessandro Maria Ferrazza
Dept of Public Health and Infectious
Diseases
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
ale.ferrazza@libero.it

Thomas Fuehner
Dept of Respiratory Medicine
Hanover Medical School
Hanover, Germany
fuehner.thomas@mh-hannover.de

Mina Gaga
Asthma Centre and 7th Respiratory
Medicine Dept
Athens Chest Hospital
Athens, Greece
minagaga@yahoo.com

Stefano Gasparini
Pulmonary Diseases Unit
Dept of Immunoallergic and
Respiratory Diseases
Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria
"Ospedali Riuniti"
Ancona, Italy
s.gasparini@fastnet.it

Mari Carmen Gilavert
Intensive Care Unit
Hospital Universitari Joan XXIII
IISPV
URV
Tarragona, Spain
mcgilavert.hj23.ics@gencat.cat

Rik Gosselink
Faculty of Kinesiology and
Rehabilitation Sciences
Dept of Rehabilitation Sciences
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

Rik.Gosselink@faber.kuleuven.be
Jens Gottlieb
Dept of Respiratory Medicine
Hanover Medical School
Hanover, Germany
gottlieb.jens@mh-hannover.de

Mark Greer
Dept of Respiratory Medicine
Hanover Medical School
Hanover, Germany
greer.mark@mh-hannover.de

Fabio Guarracino
Cardio-Thoracic Dept
University Hospital
Pisa, Italy
f.guarracino@ao-pisa.toscana.it

Federico Gumiero
Department of Clinical and
Experimental Medicine
University of Insubria
Varese, Italy
federico.gumiero@fsm.it

Inge Hantson
Respiratory Oncology Unit
Dept of Pulmonology
University Hospital Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
inge.hantson@uzleuven.be

Sylvia Hartl
Dept of Respiratory and Critical Care
Otto Wagner Hospital
Vienna, Austria
sylvia.hartl@wienkav.at

Patricia L. Haslam
National Heart and Lung Institute
and Royal Brompton Hospital
Imperial College
London, UK
p.haslam@imperial.ac.uk

Allan F. Henderson
Norfolk and Norwich University
Hospital
Norwich, UK
afhenderson@live.com

Jeroen M. Hendriks
Department of Thoracic and Vascular
Surgery
Antwerp University Hospital
Antwerp, Belgium
jeroen.hendriks@uza.be

Matthew Hind
Royal Brompton Hospital
London, UK
M.Hind@rbht.nhs.uk

Clare Hooper
Worcestershire Royal Hospital
Worcester, UK
clarehooper@doctors.org.uk

Rudolf M. Huber
Division of Respiratory Medicine
and Thoracic Oncology, Hospitals
of Ludwig-Maximilians-University –
Campus Innenstadt, and Thoracic
Oncology Centre of Munich
Munich, Germany
huber@med.uni-muenchen.de

J. Mike Hughes
National Heart and Lung Institute
Imperial College
London, UK
j.m.hughes@imperial.ac.uk

Marc Humbert
Université Paris-Sud
INSERM U999
Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de
Paris
Service de Pneumologie
Hôpital Bicêtre
Paris, France
marc.humbert@bct.aphp.fr

Magareta Ieven
Laboratory of Medical Microbiology,
University Hospital Antwerp, and
Dept of Medical Microbiology,
Vaccine and Infectious Disease
Institute, Faculty of Medicine,
University of Antwerp
Antwerp, Belgium
Greet.ieven@uza.be

Zubair Kabir
TobaccoFree Research Institute
Ireland
Dublin, Ireland
zkabir@tri.ie

Christian Karagiannidis
Abteilung für Pneumologie und
Internistische Intensivmedizin
Krankenhaus Oststadt-Heidehaus
Klinikum Region Hannover
Hanover, Germany
KaragiannidisC@kliniken-koeln.de

Coenraad F.N. Koegelenberg
Division of Pulmonology
Dept of Medicine
University of Stellenbosch and
Tygerberg Academic Hospital
Cape Town, South Africa
coeniefn@sun.ac.za

Melanie Königshoff
Comprehensive Pneumology Center
Ludwig-Maximilians-University and
Helmholtz Zentrum München
Munich, Germany
melanie.koenigshoff@helmholtz-
muenchen.de

Helen J. Lachmann
UK National Amyloidosis Centre
Division of Medicine
University College London Medical
School
London, UK
h.lachmann@ucl.ac.uk

Daniel Langer
Faculty of Kinesiology and
Rehabilitation Sciences
Dept of Rehabilitation Sciences
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
Daniel.Langer@faber.kuleuven.be

Sylvie Lantuéjoul
Département de Pathologie
Pôle de Biologie et de Pathologie
Centre Hospitalier Universitaire A.
Michallon
INSERM U 823-Institut A.
Bonniot-Université J. Fourier
Grenoble, France
SLantuejoul@chu-grenoble.fr

Patrick Lauwers
Dept of Thoracic and Vascular
Surgery
Antwerp University Hospital
Antwerp, Belgium
patrick.lauwers@uza.be

Pierantonio Laveneziana
Equipe de Recherche ER 10 UPMC
Laboratoire de Physio-Pathologie
Respiratoire
Faculté de Médecine Pierre et Marie
Curie
Université Pierre et Marie Curie
(Paris VI)
Paris, France
pier_lav@yahoo.it

Romain Lazor
Interstitial and Rare Lung Disease
Unit
Lausanne University Hospital
Lausanne, Switzerland
romain.lazor@huv.ch

Wei Shen Lim
Respiratory Medicine
Nottingham University Hospitals
NHS Trust
Nottingham, UK
WeiShen.Lim@nuh.nhs.uk

Marc C.I. Lipman
University College London Medical
School and Royal Free London NHS
Foundation Trust
London, UK
marclipman@nhs.net

Robert Loddenkemper
Dept of Pneumology II
Lungenklinik Heckeshorn
HELIOS Klinikum Emil von Behring
Berlin, Germany
rloddenkemper@dzk-tuberkulose.de

Maurizio Luisetti
University of Pavia
SC Pneumologia
Dip. di Medicina Molecolare
IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo
Pavia, Italy
m.luisetti@smatteo.pv.it

Alexander J. Mackay
Academic Unit of Respiratory
Medicine
UCL Medical School
London, UK
alexander.mackay@ucl.ac.uk

Sara Maio
Pulmonary Environmental
Epidemiology Unit
Institute of Clinical Physiology
National Research Council
Pisa, Italy
saramaio@ifc.cnr.it

Adel H. Mansur
Birmingham Heartlands Hospital
Birmingham, UK
adel.mansur@heartofengland.nhs.uk

Georgios Margaritopoulos
Interstitial Lung Disease Unit
Royal Brompton Hospital
London, UK
gmargaritop@yahoo.gr

Yves Martinet
University of Nancy Henri Poincaré
Nancy, France
y.martinet@chu-nancy.fr

Nick Maskell
North Bristol Lung Centre
University of Bristol
Bristol, UK
nick.maskell@bristol.ac.uk

Gilbert Massard
Dept of Thoracic Surgery
Hôpitaux Universitaires de
Strasbourg
Strasbourg, France
Gilbert.Massard@chru-strasbourg.fr

Anne McLeer-Florin
Plateforme de Génétique Moléculaire
des Cancers
Pôle de Biologie et de Pathologie
Centre Hospitalier Universitaire A.
Michallon
INSERM U 823-Institut A.
Bonniot-Université J. Fourier
Grenoble, France
AFlorin@chu-grenoble.fr

Andrew Menzies-Gow
Royal Brompton and Harefield NHS
Foundation Trust
London, UK
a.menzies-gow@rbht.nhs.uk

Lénaïg Mescam-Mancini
Département de Pathologie et
Plateforme de Génétique Moléculaire
des Cancers
Pôle de Biologie et de Pathologie
Centre Hospitalier Universitaire A.
Michallon
INSERM U 823-Institut A.
Bonniot-Université J. Fourier
Grenoble, France
LMescam@chu-grenoble.fr

Giovanni Battista Migliori
WHO Collaborating Centre for TB
and Lung Diseases
Fondazione S. Maugeri
Care and Research Institute
Tradate, Italy
giovannibattista.migliori@fsm.it

Cinzia Milito
Dept of Molecular Medicine
Reference Centre for Primary
Immunodeficiencies
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
cinzia.milito@uniroma1.it

Rob F. Miller
University College London Medical
School, and London School of
Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
London, UK
robert.miller@ucl.ac.uk

Marc Miravittles
Pneumology Dept
Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron
Barcelona, Spain
marcm@separ.es

Luigi Moretti
Dept of Radiation Oncology
Institut Jules Bordet
Université Libre de Bruxelles
Brussels, Belgium
luigi.moretti@bordet.be

Alyn H. Morice
Hull York Medical School
University of Hull
Hull, UK
a.h.morice@hull.ac.uk

Jean-François Muir
Respiratory Dept and Respiratory
Intensive Care Unit
Rouen University Hospital
Rouen, France
Jean-Francois.Muir@chu-rouen.fr

Bruno Murer
Surgical Pathology Unit
Department of Clinical Pathology
Ospedale dell'Angelo
Venice, Italy
bruno.murer@ulss12.ve.it

Daniel Navajas
Unitat de Biofísica i Bioenginyeria,
Facultat de Medicina, Universitat
de Barcelona, CIBER Enfermedades
Respiratorias, and Institut de
Bioenginyeria de Catalunya
Barcelona, Spain
dnavajas@ub.edu

Benoit Nemery
Research Unit of Lung Toxicology,
Occupational, Environmental and
Insurance Medicine
KU Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
Ben.Nemery@med.kuleuven.be

Marc Noppen
University Hospital Brussels
Brussels, Belgium
Marc.Noppen@uzbrussel.be

Yvonne Nussbaumer-Ochsner
University Hospital Zurich
Zurich, Switzerland
yvonne.nussbaumer@swissonline.ch

Dario Olivieri
Department of Clinical and
Experimental Medicine
University of Parma
Parma, Italy
dario.olivieri@unipr.it

Paolo Onorati
Department of Public Health and
Infectious Diseases
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
paolo.onorati@fastwebnet.it

Antonio Palla
Cardiothoracic and Vascular Dept
University of Pisa
Pisa, Italy
a.palla@med.unipi.it

Martyn R. Partridge
Imperial College, London, UK and
Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine,
Singapore
m.partridge@imperial.ac.uk

Riccardo Pellegrino
Allergologia e Fisiopatologia
Respiratoria
ASO S. Croce e Carle
Cuneo, Italy
pellegrino.r@ospedale.cuneo.it

Claudio Piersimoni
Regional Reference Mycobacteriology
Unit
Clinical Pathology Laboratory
Azienda Ospedaliera-Universitaria
Ospedali Riuniti
Ancona, Italy
c.piersimoni@ospedaleirriuniti.
marche.it

Patrizia Pignatti
Allergy and Immunology Unit
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Pavia, Italy
patrizia.pignatti@fsm.it

Massimo Pistolesi
Section of Respiratory Medicine
Dept of Experimental and Clinical
Medicine
University of Florence
Florence, Italy
massimo.pistolesi@unifi.it

Riccardo Pistelli
Catholic University
Columbus Hospital
Rome, Italy
riccardopistelli@h-columbus.it

Alessandro Pitruzzella
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Veruno, Italy
alexpitruzzella@libero.it

Giovanni Poletti
Hematology Laboratory Area Vasta
Romagna
Pievesestina, Italy
gpoletti1958@gmail.com

Venerino Poletti
Department of Diseases of the
Thorax
Ospedale GB Morgagni
Forlì, Italy
venerino.poletti@gmail.com

Federica Pulvirenti
Dept of Clinical Medicine
Reference Centre for Primary
Immunodeficiencies
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
federica.pulvirenti@hotmail.it

Isabella Quinti
Dept of Molecular Medicine
Reference Centre for Primary
Immunodeficiencies
Sapienza University of Rome
Rome, Italy
isabella.quinti@uniroma1.it

Elisabeth Quoix
University of Strasbourg
University Hospital
Strasbourg, France
equoix@gmail.com

Klaus F. Rabe
Centre for Pneumology and Thoracic
Surgery
Grosshansdorf Hospital
Grosshansdorf, Germany
k.f.rabe@kh-grosshansdorf.de

Anna Rask-Anderson
Uppsala University
Uppsala, Sweden
anna.rask-andersen@medsci.uu.se

Luca Richeldi
Centre for Rare Lung Disease
Dept of Medical and Surgical
Sciences
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
luca.richeldi@unimore.it

Josep Roca
Hospital Clinic
IDIBAPS
CIBERES
University of Barcelona
Barcelona, Spain
jroca@clinic.ub.es

Gernot Rohde
Dept of Respiratory Medicine
Maastricht University Medical Centre
Maastricht, the Netherlands
g.rohde@mumc.nl

Nicola Santelmo
Université de Strasbourg and
Hôpitaux Universitaires de
Strasbourg
Strasbourg, France
Nicola.Santelmo@chru-strasbourg.fr

Giuseppe Sarno
Pulmonary Environmental
Epidemiology Unit
Institute of Clinical Physiology
National Research Council
Pisa, Italy
sarnogiu@ifc.cnr.it

Giorgio Scano
Dept of Internal Medicine
Section of Immunology and
Respiratory Medicine
University of Florence
Florence, Italy
gscano@unifi.it

Arnaud Scherpereel
Faculté de Médecine, Université de
Lille Nord de France, CHRU de Lille,
and INSERM unit 1019, CIIL, Institut
Pasteur de Lille

Edited by

European Respiratory Society

Paul Schneider
DRK Kliniken Berlin
Thoracic Surgery
Berlin, Germany
p.schneider@drk-kliniken-berlin.de

Bernd Schönhofer
Abteilung für Pneumologie und
Internistische Intensivmedizin
Krankenhaus Oststadt-Heidehaus
Klinikum Region Hannover
Hanover, Germany
Bernd.Schoenhofer@t-online.de

Macé M. Schuurmans
University Hospital
Zurich, Switzerland
mschuurmans@me.com

Martina Sester
Dept of Transplant and Infection
Immunology
Institute of Virology
University of the Saarland
Homburg, Germany
Martina.Sester@uniklinikum-saarland.de

Pallav L. Shah
Royal Brompton Hospital
London, UK
pallav.shah@ic.ac.uk

Nikolaos M. Siafakas
Dept of Thoracic Medicine
Medical School
University of Crete
Heraklion, Greece
siafak@med.uoc.gr

Torben Sigsgaard
Aarhus University
Aarhus, Denmark
Sigsgaard@rda-journals.com

European Respiratory Society Publications Office (europeanrespiratoryjournal.com)

Marzia Simoni
Pulmonary Environmental
Epidemiology Unit
Institute of Clinical Physiology
National Research Council
Pisa, Italy
marzia_simoni@libero.it

Gérald Simonneau
National Reference Center for
Pulmonary Hypertension Hôpital
Antoine Bécère
Paris, France
France
gerald.simonneau@abc.aphp.fr

Giovanni Sotgiu
Epidemiology and Medical Statistics
Unit
Department of Biomedical Sciences,
University of Sassari
Sassari, Italy
gsotgiu@uniss.it

Paolo Spagnolo
Centre for Rare Lung Disease
Dept of Medical and Surgical
Sciences
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
paolo.spagnolo@unimore.it

Antonio Spanevello
Pneumology Unit, Fondazione Sal-
vatore Maugeri, IRCCS Trarate, and
Dept of Clinical and
Experimental Medicine, University of
Insubria, Varese, Italy
antonio.spanevello@fsm.it

Nick ten Hacken
University Medical Center Groningen
Groningen, the Netherlands
n.h.t.ten.hacken@umcg.nl

Einar Thorsen
University of Bergen
Bergen, Norway
einar.thorsen@helse-bergen.no

Pietro Torricelli
Division of Radiology
Dept of Diagnostic and Imaging
Services
University of Modena and Reggio
Emilia
Modena, Italy
pietro.torricelli@unimore.it

Thierry Troosters
Respiratory Rehabilitation and
Respiratory division, University
Hospital Leuven, and Faculty of
Kinesiology and Rehabilitation
Sciences, Dept of Rehabilitation
Sciences, KU Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
Thierry.Troosters@med.kuleuven.be

Amanda Tufman
Division of Respiratory Medicine
and Thoracic Oncology, Hospitals of
Ludwig-Maximilians-University, and
Thoracic Oncology Centre of Munich
Munich, Germany
Amanda.Tufman@med.uni-
muenchen.de

Panagiota Tzani
Department of Experimental and
Clinical Medicine
University of Parma
Parma, Italy
panagiota.tzani@unipr.it

Eleni G. Tzortzaki
Dept of Thoracic Medicine
Medical School
University of Crete
Heraklion, Greece
tzortzaki@med.uoc.gr

Davide Vallese
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Veruno, Italy
vallese.dav@gmail.com

Paul Van Houtte
Dept of Radiation Oncology
Institut Jules Bordet
Université Libre de Bruxelles
Brussels, Belgium
paul.vanhoutte@bordet.be

Peter van Luijk
University Medical Center Groningen
University of Groningen
Groningen, the Netherlands
p.van.luijk@umcg.nl

Hans Van Remoortel
Faculty of Kinesiology and
Rehabilitation Sciences
Dept of Rehabilitation Sciences
KU Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
hans.vanremoortel@faber.kuleuven.
be

Paul E. Van Schil
Dept of Thoracic and Vascular
Surgery
Antwerp University Hospital
Antwerp, Belgium
Paul.VanSchil@uza.be

Johan Vansteenkiste
Respiratory Oncology Unit
Dept of Pulmonology
University Hospital Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
johan.vansteenkiste@uzleuven.be

Johnny A. Verschakelen
University Hospitals Leuven
Leuven, Belgium
Johnny.Verschakelen@uzleuven.be

Andrea Vianello
Respiratory Pathophysiology and
Intensive Care Division
University City Hospital of Padua
Padua, Italy
avianello@qubisoft.it

Chiara Vicari
Fondazione Salvatore Maugeri
IRCCS
Veruno, Italy
chiaravicari@libero.it

Giovanni Viegi
Pulmonary Environmental
Epidemiology Unit, Institute of
Clinical Physiology, National
Research Council, Pisa and
A. Monroy Institute of Biomedicine
and Molecular Immunology, National
Research Council, Palermo, Italy
viegi@ifc.cnr.it

Duccio Volterrani
Nuclear Medicine
University of Pisa
Pisa, Italy
duccio.volterrani@med.unipi.it

Florian von Groote-Bidlingmaier
Division of Pulmonology
Dept of Medicine
University of Stellenbosch and
Tygerberg Academic Hospital
Cape Town, South Africa
florianv@sun.ac.za

Susan A. Ward
Human Bio-Energetics Research
Centre
Crickhowell, UK
saward@dsl.pipex.com

Jadwiga A. Wedzicha
Academic Unit of Respiratory
Medicine
University College London
London, UK
w.wedzicha@ucl.ac.uk

Athol U. Wells
Interstitial Lung Disease Unit
Royal Brompton Hospital
London, UK
Athol.Wells@rbht.nhs.uk

Tobias Welte
Dept of Respiratory Medicine
Hannover Medical School
Hanover, Germany
Welte.Tobias@mh-hannover.de

Brian J. Whipp[†]

Nathalie Wirth
University of Nancy Henri Poincaré
Nancy, France
n.wirth@chu-nancy.fr

Mark Woodhead
Dept of Respiratory Medicine
Manchester Royal Infirmary
Manchester, UK
mark.woodhead@cmft.nhs.uk

Andrea Zanini
Pneumology Unit, Fondazione
Salvatore Maugeri, IRCCS, Tradate,
Italy and Dept of Clinical and
Experimental Medicine, University of
Insubria, Varese, Italy
andrea.zanini@fsm.it

Jean-Pierre Zellweger
Swiss Lung Association
Berne, Switzerland
zellwegerjp@swissonline.ch

Eleftherios Zervas
7th Pulmonary Dept
Athens Chest Hospital
Athens, Greece
lefzervas@yahoo.gr

Gernot Zissel
Dept of Pneumology
University Medical Centre Freiburg
Freiburg, Germany
gernot.zissel@uniklinik-freiburg.de

Preface

'To study the phenomenon of disease without books is to sail an uncharted sea, while to study books without patients is not to go to sea at all.' 'Too many men slip early out of the habit of studious reading, and yet that is essential.'

William Osler

Eight years ago, the ERS School started a very ambitious project to harmonise education in respiratory medicine for European specialists (HERMES). A preliminary survey among 29 European countries showed considerable variation in postgraduate training. Based on these findings, the ERS School developed a range of consensus documents: a core syllabus describing the competencies required, a curriculum of recommendations indicating how competencies should be taught and learned, an accreditation methodology for training centres, and a voluntary European examination to assess whether specialists have acquired the knowledge-based component of competence. The *Handbook*, together with a vast array of educational material, such as lectures, articles published in *Breathe* and the *European Respiratory Monograph*, and other lectures and courses, all available on the ERS School website, together comprise an unrivalled educational resource for anyone preparing for the European Examination in Adult Respiratory Medicine.

The first edition of the *ERS Handbook of Respiratory Medicine* was published in 2010 with the aim of providing state-of-the-art summaries in all areas of respiratory medicine. This second edition of the *Handbook* has been extensively peer review and revisited, and includes new sections on

- cytology of the lung
- HRCT of the chest
- long-term ventilation
- opportunistic infections in the immunocompromised host
- the pharmacology of asthma and COPD
- HRCT in the diagnosis of interstitial lung disease
- pathology and molecular biology of lung cancer
- palliative care

The *Handbook* is a comprehensive, easily accessible source of the essentials of respiratory medicine for senior medical staff requiring revalidation, and nursing and allied healthcare professionals at all levels who wish to keep their knowledge up to date. All readers can be assured that as they set sail to manage patients across the spectrum of respiratory disorders, they are armed with the best information, access to multiple-choice questions to check their knowledge, and a source guide for more in-depth study.

We are particularly indebted to the ERS School Committee, the ERS Publications Office who curated the entire contents of the *Handbook*, and all the contributors.

Paolo Palange, Anita K. Simonds

Chief Editors

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List of abbreviations

(C)HF	(Congestive) heart failure
AHI	Apnoea–hypopnoea index
AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
BMI	Body mass index
CF	Cystic fibrosis
COPD	Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPAP	Continuous positive airway pressure
CT	Computed tomography
ECG	Electrocardiogram
ENT	Ear, nose and throat
FEV₁	Forced expiratory volume in 1 s
FVC	Forced vital capacity
Hb	Haemoglobin
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HRCT	High-resolution computed tomography
KCO	Transfer coefficient of the lung for carbon monoxide
MRI	Magnetic resonance imaging
NIV	Noninvasive ventilation
OSA(S)	Obstructive sleep apnoea (syndrome)
PaCO₂	Arterial carbon dioxide tension
PaO₂	Arterial oxygen tension
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PtCO₂	Transcutaneous carbon dioxide tension
SaO₂	Arterial oxygen saturation
SpO₂	Arterial oxygen saturation measured by pulse oximetry
TB	Tuberculosis
TLC	Total lung capacity
TlCO	Transfer factor for the lung for carbon monoxide
V'E	Minute ventilation