



ERS CONGRESS | 2026

5-9 September | Barcelona, Spain

ERS GUIDELINES FOR F2F INDUSTRY SESSIONS

ROOM ALLOCATION FOR INDUSTRY SESSIONS

Deadline: please submit your 3 preferred choices by 29 December 2025 by completing the related order form. If none of the preferred choices can be allocated, companies will be contacted and offered alternatives. Before confirming any allocations, ERS will wait until all order forms have been received on 29 December 2025. The ERS will do its best to accommodate organisers with their preferential choices according to the following criteria:

- Number of seats in the Industry session room.
- Programme contents (to avoid topic clashes).
- Date of confirmation (if preferential choice was received after the deadline).
- Confirmation of allocation will be sent to all organisers simultaneously by the end of January 2026.
- Lunchtime symposia: only available to companies having at least an evening symposium (number of lunchtime symposia to be determined according to number of evening symposia).

Acceptance of an allocation will constitute entering a binding agreement with ERS and cancellation fees will apply. For organisers who are unable to commit to this agreement, the offered options cannot be secured and may be offered to other interested parties.

APPLICATIONS AND APPOINTED AGENCY

Applications for an industry session must be submitted by either pharmaceutical or device companies. No other entities can apply for an industry session. The invoice must be paid by the signing company (pharmaceutical or device).

Correspondence should be made exclusively between this company and ERS. Companies should inform ERS, in writing, of which agencies have been appointed for their Industry Sessions.

The ERS offers options for Industry partners to host their own Symposia with the ERS Congress programme, listed as Industry Symposia. We do not offer such an option for independent suppliers to hold sessions within our Congress programme on behalf of our industry partners. For this reason, all contracts and the invoicing process must be between the ERS and Industry partners directly. Promotion, programme listing and branding of the industry partner is permitted within the session room where the Industry symposium will take place, on the stage and outside the session room (limited to the entrance to the session room). The promotion, branding or inclusion within the Congress programme of any of the suppliers to the industry partner is strictly prohibited. The relationship with any education provider, event organiser, AV provider etc is between the Industry Partner and the supplier only.

It is not the role of an agency to make initial enquiries or reservations with ERS independently of the pharmaceutical company. The agency cannot fully act as if it was the pharmaceutical company itself, and the pharmaceutical company will continue to be held entirely responsible and accountable for activities organised in its name. For this reason, agencies are not permitted to sign contracts on behalf of the pharmaceutical company. Companies are responsible for communicating these guidelines to their staff and to their appointed agencies.

PAYMENT/CANCELLATION

A contract will be sent to companies as of March 2026, together with an invoice for 100% of the amount payable. Full payment must be processed within the contracted payment conditions and before the Congress takes place. All companies that have not complied will not be given access to their session room.



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CANCELLATION OF CONTRACT BY ORGANISER

In the event that the ERS is forced to cancel the physical aspect of ERS Congress at any point all contractual obligations supporting the physical aspects of the event will be cancelled without cancellations fees and all funds invested will be reimbursed.

CME credits

ERS will not allow companies to provide CME credits for the industry sessions.

SYMPOSIUM ROOM

Set-up: Depending on the session type, session rooms will be made available for one hour or 1h30 (no coffee break) on the day of the Industry Session. Rooms will be accessible 30 minutes before the session starts.

Dismantling: any set-up, dismantling and removal operation shall be carried out by the organiser or its appointed agency within 15 minutes after the session has ended.

TECHNICAL REHEARSAL

When booking an Industry Session, you will be given one-hour technical rehearsal. No additional cost will be charged for this service unless the organising company has specific requests or needs additional time.

PROGRAMME AND DRUG NAME

Please note that it is forbidden to add a drug name in the main and presentation titles. You can however add the molecule name instead.

RECORDING SERVICE

The ERS offers a recording service for the non-live streaming rooms as an extra. This service allows the company to have the on-demand videos (webcasts) available on the ERS virtual platform until the end of the year. It is strictly forbidden to bypass this service and upload your own on-demand videos. Only the official ERS recording service will allow to have the on-demand videos on the ERS virtual platform.

CATERING

Around May 2026, the ERS will share the contact details so the company can order catering for their sessions (if applicable). Please note that it is strictly forbidden for the company to bring their own catering service. It is the responsibility of the company to handle the catering, from reception to distribution. All catering orders need to be approved by the ERS.

CONTROL OF DELEGATE FLOW AND ATTENDANCE

It is the organising company's responsibility to select a room large enough to accommodate the number of delegates likely to attend its Industry Session. It is the organising company's responsibility to control entrances with trained staff and monitor the number of participants entering the room. All doors must be covered by the company's staff to prevent overcrowding and infringement of health and safety regulations. Organising companies must plan appropriate staffing and/or security ahead of time to avoid any problems. In cases in which this is not respected and for obvious security reasons, the venue has complete authority to block entrance into the rooms. Organising companies will be charged for any extra security required.

For safety reasons, ERS will not allow delegates to stand in the back of the room, in the aisles or lean against the walls. People standing will be asked to find a seat in the room and other delegates will be stopped from entering the session during this time. Hostesses should be briefed to kindly but firmly ask delegates to find a seat.



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SPEAKERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

ERS assumes that the speakers and chairpersons at the Industry Sessions will be contacted by the organising companies directly to arrange registration, travel and accommodation. It is the responsibility of the organising company to:

- **Ensure a gender balance in the faculty list as to include male and female speakers/chair.**
- Ensure there is no timing clash (with parallel satellite symposia) for the speakers they choose. A minimum of 15 minutes' gap is requested between 2 different presentations made by the same speaker in 2 different symposia on the same evening.
- Ensure that their chosen Chair has not made any commitment to act as a chair or as a speaker in a different symposium on the same evening.
- Ensure that the faculty for the symposium is adequate – minimum of one chair and two speakers (not including the Chair)

ERS cannot be held responsible for any schedule clashes involving speakers or chairs. The ERS does not accept faculty who have links with the tobacco industry and reserves the right to take appropriate measures to preserve its interests.

NB: in accordance with ERS paper reduction measures, kindly note that ERS will no longer provide tent cards with chairs and speakers names.

ERS BYLAWS, ARTICLE IX. 9 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

“Steering Committee members, Congress Chair and Co-Chair, the Guidelines Director and the Editor in Chief of the ERJ may not be involved as speaker or chair in an industry session at the ERS Congress.”

ABSTRACTS

ERS does not require speakers to submit abstracts of their lectures. Organising companies can, however, publish their abstracts/papers for distribution among the attendees of their symposium, or in the form of an advertisement in ERS publications.

Copyright of the collection of abstracts submitted to the ERS Congress 2026 belongs to the ERS. While individual authors are permitted to print, and distribute their own abstract, companies wishing to reproduce a collection of abstracts for distribution should contact the ERS Marketing & Corporate Relations Office for information on permission.

FILMING

ERS may allow the filming of Industry Sessions, pending feasibility. This should be organised by the organising company itself as ERS does not offer a videoing service. The footage should not be made available and/or released on any websites or meetings or be broadcasted before the end of the Congress. Prior approval from ERS is requested.

NOISE

A sound engineer will offer support during the symposium. A noise limit will be imposed by the sound engineer and organisers must not alter settings to exceed this level. Any organisers found adjusting settings will be forced to correct the noise levels. If the noise from neighbouring symposia or from other sources seriously affects a symposium, please contact a technician who will arrange for the problem to be assessed immediately. ERS does not offer completely soundproofed rooms for Industry Sessions. Organisers should be aware that some low-level background noise is inevitable.



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REGISTRATION

All speakers, as well as all participants and invited guests who wish to attend sessions, must register as active participants. More information on <https://www.ersnet.org/congress-and-events/congress/>.

COMPLIMENTARY REGISTRATIONS

Organising companies are entitled to 10 free active participant registrations, for their Industry Lunchtime Symposium and Evening Symposium. They are entitled to 3 free active participant registrations for their Evening Mini-Symposium, and Skills Lab. Access to Skills Workshops, Postgraduate Courses, Meet the Experts, Professional Development Workshops and social events, except the ERS Congress Opening Session is not included. These complimentary registrations may be used for company staff or invited speakers.

PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY SESSIONS

IN THE ERS CONGRESS PROGRAMME ONLINE

The time, date and title of the Industry Sessions will be published in the official online ERS Programme (<https://www.ersnet.org/congress-and-events/congress/>).

E-POSTERS ANNOUNCING THE INDUSTRY SESSIONS OF THE DAY

As part of the Industry Session package, companies are offered to display an e-poster to promote their Industry Session on the day it takes place. To be displayed as such, the artwork must be sent to ERS within the mentioned deadline. The e-poster will be displayed in 2 locations of the venue, like the registration area & another strategic location (defined at a later stage). These posters are subject to ERS approval.

Companies will also have the opportunity to display a roll-up/poster in front of their session room door, 30 min before the session starts. A skirted table outside the session room will be at the disposal of the companies to display promotional flyers or documents also 30 min before the session starts.

GENERAL PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY SESSIONS

Organisers are encouraged to advertise their Industry Session from their exhibition stand and to take advantage of the advertising opportunities offered by ERS, including e-inserts in ERS Congress App (if applicable), external posters, thumbnails in pre-Congress e-mailing, web banners, push notifications and more.

The distribution of flyers, abstracts or posters in other areas of the Congress centre or in hotels is strictly forbidden.

BRANDING IN THE INDUSTRY SESSION'S ROOM

Branding is allowed in the Industry Session's room on items such as the lectern and the head table (if applicable). Exact dimensions for the lectern and head table will be provided by ERS in due time. Production of these materials and displays are the responsibility of the company organising the Industry Session.

Under no circumstances will ERS store internally, allow materials to be setup in the rooms and covered prior to the Session or permit any activities or setup that hinders the organisation of the ERS scientific programme or represent a risk to its delegates.

BRANDING GUIDELINES FOR PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

ERS CONGRESS LOGO USE

Companies organising an Industry Session can use the ERS Congress logo free of charge on the following marketing items: e-mail signature or pre-congress promotion.

When using the ERS Congress logo, the following disclaimer must also be printed: ***"ERS declines all responsibility with respect to the information published in this document"***.



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Organisers should avoid any suggestion that products or content are endorsed by ERS and should refrain from using the Congress branding in any way. **Please do not use any wording related to a sponsorship as ERS does not consider a symposium as a sponsorship (such as “sponsored by” for example).**

WORDING

The exact name of the event must be used and the correct session types must be mentioned on all promotional items.

See below:

- ERS Congress 2026
- Industry Lunchtime Symposium
- Industry Evening Symposium
- Industry Evening Mini-Symposium
- Industry Skills Lab