



# The 3<sup>rd</sup> National Biomedical Conference 2026

Quality & Research: The Present and Future Prospects of Biomedical Science

**Dates:** 9th & 10th April

**Venue:** The Notch, Urban Valley

**Time:** 09:00 – 17:00

*This conference is proudly held under the patronage of the European Association for Professions in Biomedical Science, supporting excellence and collaboration in biomedical science across Europe*



## Day 1 – Quality & Risk Workshop, 9<sup>th</sup> April

*This workshop, led by Mr. Stephen Macdonald, covers key quality and risk topics and features interactive hands-on exercises, worked examples, and a structured final activity where participants build something tangible from the concepts covered.*

Time	Session
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:20	Welcome & Setup
09:20 – 10:05	Clinical Risk Fundamentals
10:05 – 10:45	Total Testing Process Mapping
10:45 – 11:00	☕ Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:50	Failure Mode & Effects Analysis (FMEA) + Fault Tree Analysis (FTA)
11:50 – 12:30	Measurement of Uncertainty + Risk-based Internal QC
12:30 – 13:15	🍽️ Lunch
13:15 – 13:30	Risk-based TAT
13:30 – 14:45	Holistic Quality Canvas
14:45 – 15:00	☕ Coffee Break
15:00 – 15:50	Discussion
15:50 – 16:00	Closing Remarks
16:00 – 17:30	Networking Drinks 🍷





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## Day 2 - Scientific Conference, 10th April

Time	Session
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome & Opening Remarks
09:30 – 10:20	<b>Scientific Session 1: Human Genetics &amp; Disease Mechanisms</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Genomics of Idiopathic Hypogonadotropic Hypogonadism in the Maltese population: a high-throughput DNA sequencing and bioinformatic study (Dr. Clayton John Axiak)</i></li><li>▪ <i>Functional consequences of knocking down gle1b isoform in zebrafish to model the pathogenic GLE1 p.S693F variant (Ms. Amy Vella)</i></li><li>▪ <i>Identification of Pleiotropic IGF1R Variants Linking Type 2 Diabetes and Bone Phenotypes in Malta (Ms. Marichela Schembri)</i></li></ul>
10:20 – 10:45	☕ Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:30	<b>Keynote:</b> European Commission Initiatives on Cancer Screening & Care (Dr. Shawn Baldacchino)
11:30 – 12:05	<b>Scientific Session 2: Cancer &amp; Precision Medicine</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Joint Action on Personalised Cancer Medicine: Equitable Care Through Innovation (Dr. Jeanesse Scerri)</i></li><li>▪ <i>Differential Expression of ECM-associated Genes ACTA2 and COL1A1 Indicates a TGF-<math>\beta</math> Response Secondary to EMT Induction (Mr. Andre Sladden)</i></li></ul>
12:05 – 13:05	🍽️ Lunch
13:05 – 13:45	<b>Industry Sponsor Presentation – Vivian Corporation</b>
13:45 – 14:20	<b>Scientific Session 3: Innovations in Clinical Diagnostics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Validation and Correlation of Flow Cytometric Analysis of Human Leucocyte Antigen-B27 in Spondyloarthritis (Ms. Chiara Sultana)</i></li><li>▪ <i>Utilising Whole Genome Sequencing to Characterise Transmission Pathways of Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales in a Haematology Ward (Ms. Sarah Pace)</i></li></ul>
14:20 – 14:35	<b>EPBS:</b> Address by Ms Stephanie Meli, Vice President EPBS
14:35 – 15:00	☕ Coffee Break
15:00 – 16:15	Panel Discussion
16:15 – 16:30	<b>Research Funding Opportunities – Xjenza Malta</b>
16:30 – 16:35	Closing Remarks

