

ExcellMater Conference 2024: Innovative biomaterials for novel medical devices

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The ExcellMater Conference 2024: Innovative Biomaterials for Novel Medical Devices is organized in **Belgrade, Serbia, on April 10-12, 2024** [1] as the final event within the Horizon 2020 project: *Twinning to excel materials engineering for medical devices – ExcellMater* (GA 952033) [2]. The conference gathered 77 abstracts from 14 countries aiming to cover breakthroughs in biomaterials science, translation of basic research to potential clinical applications, new medical devices, and commercial possibilities for utilization of novel biomaterials. In specific, several broad topics were addressed: Tissue engineering and *in vitro* tissue and organ culture models, Cancer research, Polymer gels and composites for biomedical applications, Biomaterials for orthopedic and dental applications, Antimicrobial biomaterials and strategies as well as Various applications of novel materials. Each of the topics is introduced by a keynote lecture providing an overview of recent achievements in the field and future trends, given by internationally renowned scientists: Gordana Vunjak-Novakovic (Columbia University, US), Ivan Martin (University of Basel, Switzerland), Tiziano Serra (AO Research Institute Davos, Switzerland), Meriem Lamghari (University of Porto, Portugal), Artemis Stamboulis (University of Birmingham, UK) and Alben Daskalova (Bulgarian Academy of Science, Bulgaria). Then, a variety of oral and poster presentations described particular research studies focusing on specific problems or gave a perspective on a particular topic such as bioreactors for cartilage tissue engineering addressed by Mauro Alini and current regulations for biomaterials aimed for medical devices presented by Michael Gasik. Part of the conference was devoted to presentations of the results obtained in the ExcellMater project as well as in two other Horizon 2020 projects that is Premurosa (GA 860462) and AIMed (GA 861138). In addition, a Twinning session was organized as an occasion to showcase several Twinning projects and exchange experiences and practices in management of such projects. A significant number of conference participants were early-stage researchers who had the opportunity to present their research results, connect with fellow researchers as well as to meet senior scientists and discuss their scientific ideas and career potentials.

This supplementary issue of the journal *Hemijaska industrija* presents the ExcellMater Conference 2024 Abstracts aiming to bring at least a touch of the event atmosphere to the readers.

REFERENCES

- [1] <https://www.excellmater2024.tmf.bg.ac.rs> Accessed March 28, 2024
- [2] <https://excellmater.tmf.bg.ac.rs> Accessed March 28, 2024

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