



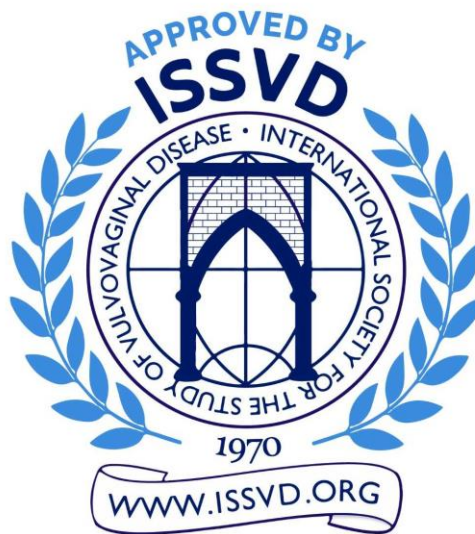
# Symposium

**22-25 May 2025 Berlin/Gahro**

Initiated by ISSVD ISPIN initiative group and Molecular Genetics Laboratory for Polymicrobial Infections and Biofilms, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin

**Symposium on Polymicrobial Infections &  
Novel Diagnostics**

**(SPIN)**



### Preliminary program

#### 22.05.2025

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 12 00 – 24 00 | Arrival in Berlin with transfer to Gahro Symposium venue  |
| 18 00 – 19 00 | Dinner  |
| 19 00 – 21 00 | <b>Round table.</b> Setting of the schedule for FISH testing of samples provided by participants. Discussion of outstanding meeting organization and program issues |

#### 23.05.2025

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|---------------|--|
| 07 30 – 08 00 | <b>Breakfast and discussion</b>  |
| 08 00 – 09 00 | Explanation and demonstration of laboratory fixation of vaginal swab specimens with alcohol/acetic acid/chloroform (6/3/1 vol) mixture.  |
| 09 00 – 10 00 | <b>Werner Mendling</b><br><br>Introduction of the atlas for phase-contrast microscopy of cervicovaginal smears as a basis for comparative studies of diseases associated with vaginal discharge. |
| 10 00 – 11 00 | <b>Alexander Swidsinski</b><br><br>Polymicrobial infections in Medicine and FISH   |
| 11 00 – 11 30 | <b>Ekkehard Schleußner</b><br><br>Clinical issues related to the perinatal microbiome  |
| 11 30 – 12 00 | <b>Janine Zoellkau, Jana Pastuschek</b><br>Vaginal and neonatal microbiota in pregnant women   |
| 12 00 – 12 30 | <b>Lisa Himschoot</b><br><br>Vaginal microbiota and preterm birth  |

12 30 – 13 20	<b>Gary Gelbfish</b>  Exploring trace metals in the vaginal environment as an etiological mechanism in BV: Methodology and implications for the treatment of vaginal dysbiosis.
13 20 – 14 00	<b>Lunch Discussion</b>
14 00 – 15 30	<b>Piet Cools</b>  Detection, characterization prevalence and clinical correlates of <i>Gardnerella</i> spp., <i>Fannyhessea vaginae</i> , <i>Lactobacillus crispatus</i> and <i>L. iners</i> in different populations.
15 30 – 16 30	<b>Aliona Rosca</b>  Polymicrobial interactions within biofilms leading to higher antimicrobial tolerance. New drugs based on essential oil substances.
16 30 – 17 00	Coffee Break and Discussion
17 00 – 18 00	<b>Nuno Cerca</b>  <i>In vitro</i> interactions within a polymicrobial biofilms in bacterial vaginosis.
18 00 – 19 00	<b>Kevin R. Theis</b>  The epistemology of bacterial virulence factor characterization
19 00 – 20 00	Dinner
20 00 – 21 30	<b>Round table.</b> Searching the pathways to combat vaginal polymicrobial infections

## 24.05.2025

07 30 – 09 00	Breakfast, discussion, program adjustment
09 00 – 10 00	<b>Jacques Ravel</b>  Understanding the vaginal microbiota through the prism of detection methods
10 00 – 11 30	Coffee Break and Discussion
11 30 – 12 30	<b>Lorenzo Corsini</b>  Developments in phage therapy in humans and tools for monitoring of effects
12 30 – 14 00 –	<b>Lunch, discussion</b>
14 00 – 15 00	<b>Hans Verstraelen</b>  Polymicrobial infections and cancer
15 00 – 16 00	<b>Jack Sobel</b>  Bringing what we know together
17 00 – 18 00	<b>Pedro Vieira Baptista</b>

	ISSVD research tasks and perspectives
18 00 – 18 30	Coffee Break and Discussion
18 30 – 20 00	<b>Roundtable discussion</b> Direct comparison of methods based on microscopy, multiplex PCR, sequencing and FISH to deepen and standardize polymicrobial conditions' diagnostics.
20 00 – 21 00	<b>Lunch</b> and continuation of the previous discussion

## 25.05.2025

07 30 – 08 00	Breakfast
08 00 – 10 00	Outline and foundation of iSPIN - International Society for Polymicrobial Infections & Novel Diagnostic as a separate unit within the ISSVD.
10 00 – 12 00	<b>Changing location to the Charite Hospital Laboratory for practical polymicrobial infections and biofilms diagnosis, in Berlin</b>
12 00-16 00(18 00)	<b>Performing hybridizations on vaginal smears and microscopy</b>

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