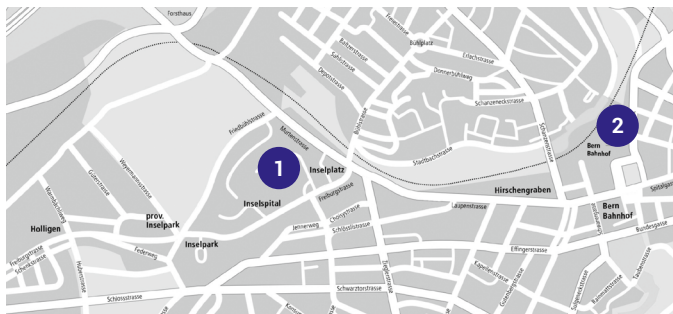




1 Felix Frey Auditorium, SITEM

2 Train Station Bern

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Inflammation & Fibrosis Across Organs

March 12th, 2026

Felix Frey Auditorium, SITEM, Freiburgstrasse 3, 3010 Bern

Bringing together leading experts from research, clinics, and diverse medical fields, this congress aims to foster collaboration and enhance our understanding of fibrosis across organs.

Scientific Committee:

Prof. Dr. Sabina Guler, Dr. Mirjam Kolev, PD Dr. Florian Kollert, Dr. Adela-Cristina Sarbu

Preliminary Program

8.00 – 8.15

Registration with coffee

8:15 – 8:30

Welcome, *Sabina Guler, Mirjam Kolev, Florian Kollert, Adela-Cristina Sarbu*

8.30 – 10.30

Session I: Molecular Mechanisms of Fibrosis: Shared and Distinct Pathways Across Organs

Chairs: Nasser Semmo, Bern; Diego Kyburz, Basel

08.30 – 09.00

Fibroblast: Masterminds of Tissue Response to Inflammation, *Muriel Elhai, Zürich*

09.00 – 09.30

Synovial Fibroblasts in Rheumatoid Arthritis, *Christopher Buckley, Oxford*

09.30 – 10.00

Entero-Nephro-Hepatic Circulation of Bile Acids in Health and Disease: Role of Bile Acids in Cholemic Nephropathy and Potential Therapies, *Ahmed Ghallab, Dortmund*

10.00 – 10.15

Discussion

10.15 – 10.45

Break

10.45 – 12.30

Session II: Challenges in Diagnosis and Management of Fibrotic Diseases

Chairs: Anna-Maria Hoffmann, Zurich; Annalisa Berzigotti, Bern

10.45 – 11.15

Classification of Fibrotic Interstitial Lung Diseases, *Christopher Ryerson, Vancouver*

11.15 – 11.45

Liver Fibrosis: Different Etiologies, Cellular Mechanisms and the Potential for Regression, *Sara Lemoine, Paris*

11.45 – 12.15

Understanding Chronic Periaortitis: Mechanisms and Management, *Augusto Vaglio, Parma*

12.15 – 12.30

Discussion

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch Break

13.30 – 15.00

Session III: Fibrosis Treatment Today: State of the Art and Emerging Strategies

Chairs: Uli Walker, Basel; Guido Stirnimann, Bern

13.30 – 14.00

Current Treatment Strategies for Pulmonary Fibrosis, *Michael Kreuter, Mainz*

14.00 – 14.30

Current and Future Treatment Options in Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis, *Trine Folseraas, Oslo*

14.30 – 15.00

Current and Emerging Therapies for Skin Manifestations in Systemic Sclerosis, *Oliver Distler, Zurich*

15.00 – 15.15

Discussion

15.15 – 15.45

Break

15.45 – 17.15

Session IV: The Future of Fibrosis Treatment: New Targets and Translational Advances

Chairs: Antje Prasse, Basel; Thomas Geiser, Bern

15.45 – 16.15

The Future of Pulmonary Fibrosis Treatment: New Strategies and Innovations, *Manuela Funke, Bern*

16.15 – 16.45

Bridging Pathophysiology and Therapy: The Future of Liver Fibrosis Treatment, *Jordi Gracia Sancho, Barcelona & Bern*

16.45 – 17.15

The Role of B-Cells in Fibrosis, *Britta Maurer, Bern*

17.15 – 17.30

Discussion

17.30 – 18.00

Wrap Up, *Annalisa Berzigotti, Bern; Thomas Geiser, Bern; Britta Maurer, Bern*

From 17.45

Apéro

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