October 6th-8th 2011
Hotel Hilton Sorrento Palace
Sorrento (NA) - Italy

www.mediterraneancongressrheumatology.org
Scientific Committee

AKKOC N., Turkey
ALIGRUTIC S., Montenegro
ATAMAN S., Turkey
AWAD R., Egypt
BABIC-NAGLIC D., Croatia
BALBIR-GURMAN A., Israel
BASSIOUNI H., Egypt
BOLOSIU H., Romania
BOMBARDIERI S., Italy
BOUMPAS D., Greece
CHARALAMBOUS P., Cyprus
COLEIRO B., Malta
COMBE B., France
CUTOLO M., Italy
DA SILVA J.A., Portugal
DAMJANOV N., Serbia
DENISOV L., Russia
DILSEN N., Turkey
DINC A., Turkey
DIREKSENELI H., Turkey
DOUGADOS M., France
EL MUNTASER K., Libya
ELKAYAM O., Israel
HAJAJ-HASSOUNI N., Morocco
HAMMOUD H., Egypt
INANC M., Turkey
IONESCU R., Romania
KAZKAZ L., Syria
LADJOUZE A., Algeria
LESTAN B., Slovenia
MALLIA C., Malta
MARTIN MOLA E., Spain
MARTINOVIC D., Croatia
MONEIM H., Egypt
MONTECUCCO C., Italy
NAREDO E., Spain
NASSONOV E., Russia
OLIVIERI I., Italy
OTOM A., Jordan
PUCINO A., Italy
RASHKOV R., Bulgaria
RUI A., Portugal
SCARPA R., Italy
SFIKAKIS P., Greece
SHOENFELD Y., Israel
SOKOLOVIC S., Bosnia Herzegovina
STEFANELLI L., Republic of San Marino
TAFAJ A., Albania
TISHLER M., Israel
TZIOUFAS A., Greece
VALENTINI G., Italy
YAZICI H., Turkey
ZAKRAOUI L., Tunisia

Scientific Secretariat

SIR - Società Italiana di Reumatologia
President: Giovanni Minisola

Organizing Secretariat

Nadirex International Srl
Via Riviera 39 - 27100 Pavia
Tel: 0039 - 0382-525714
Fax: 0039 - 0382-525736
E-mail: info@nadirex.com
www.nadirex.com
It is for me a great pleasure to announce the next Mediterranean Congress of Rheumatology which will be held in Italy, in the stunning small town of Sorrento, from the 6th till the 8th of the upcoming October.

It is an event foreseeing the participation of renowned rheumatologists from Mediterranean countries and other countries which have strong cultural and profound tradition of privileged relationship with the region.

During recent years, in parallel with the increase in the demand of public wellbeing, the interest in rheumatic diseases has increased while innovative drugs with improved efficacy have been developed and made available. Such factors have favoured the prosperity of rheumatology which today is a forefront speciality with great scientific and social significance.

The action spectra of rheumatology have become progressively wider within the locomotor system and connective tissue diseases by including immune-inflammatory, degenerative, metabolic, pain and functional illnesses. The meeting in Sorrento aims not to solely be a favourable occasion of updating on the most recent scientific evidence pertaining to the rheumatic diseases, but also a time for constructive debating among fellow rheumatologists who, despite sharing common cultural customs, practice in different welfare models and are geographically distant.

Irrespective of the country of origin, all Congress participants share the need of having the patient at the centre of the decision-making process so as to improve the doctor-patient relationship. The Mediterranean community, with its characteristic sensibility and customary generosity, can determinedly contribute to the development of this aspect of the global care plan, which currently is of great interest for both rheumatology and rheumatologists.

The scientific programme consists of presentations and sessions covering the most recent pathophysiological, diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of rheumatic diseases and also conditions specifically relevant to the rheumatologists of Mediterranean countries. Meet-the-expert sessions, oral presentations and guided tours will also take place during the Congress.

The Congress has also been realized thanks to the proactive contribution of various pharmaceutical companies. These companies will support lectures and symposia on relevant and timely topics, which will further enrich the meeting in Sorrento.

On behalf of the Board of the Italian Society for Rheumatology I would like to thank you for your very qualified participation. I hope that the Congress will meet your expectations and that your stay in Sorrento, a pearl of the Mediterranean Sea, could be particularly pleasing and pleasantly remembered for long.

I promise a warm hospitality according to a Mediterranean hospitality tradition, rich in feelings of trusty and reciprocal friendship.

Giovanni Minisola
Speakers and Chairmen

SILVANO ADAMI (Italy)
NURULLAH AKKOC (Turkey)
YANNICK ALIANORE (France)
SEBNEM ATAMAN (Turkey)
REDA AWAD (Egypt)
DURDA BABIC-NAGLIC (Croatia)
ALEXANDRA BALBIR-GURMAN (Israel)
THOMAS BARDIN (France)
HASAN BASSIOUNI (Egypt)
HORATIU BOLOSIU (Romania)
STEFANO BOMBARDIERI (Italy)
DIMITRIS BOUMPAS (Greece)
ROBERTO CAPORALI (Italy)
PATRICIA CARREIRA (Spain)
ALESSANDRO CASINI (Italy)
PARASKEVI CHARALAMBOUS (Cyprus)
MARCO CIMMINO (Italy)
STEFANO COACCIO (Italy)
BERNARDO COLEIRO (Malta)
BERNARD COMBE (France)
MAURIZIO CUTULIO (Italy)
MICHELE D’ALTO (Italy)
JOSE ANTONIO DA SILVA (Portugal)
NEMANJA DAMJANOVIĆ (Serbia)
SALVATORE DE VITA (Italy)
FRANCESCO DEL GALDO (Greece)
LEV DENISOV (Russia)
AYHAN DINC (Turkey)
HANER DIRESKENEL (Turkey)
MAURO GALEAZZI (Italy)
PALOMA GARCIA DE LA PEÑA (Spain)
SIEMEON GRAZIO (Croatia)
HESHAM HAMMOUD (Egypt)
GABRIEL HERRERO-BEAUMONT (Spain)
MURAT INANC (Turkey)
RUXANDRA IONESCU (Romania)
LAYLA KAZKAZ (Syria)
CARMEL MALLIA (Malta)
DUSKA MARTINOVIĆ (Croatia)
MARCO MATUCCI CERINIC (Italy)
GERALDINE McCARTHY (Ireland)
PIERLUIGI MERONI (Italy)
GIOVANNI MINISOLA (Italy)
CARLOMAURIZIO MONTECUCCO (Italy)
MARTA MOSCA (Italy)
LAURA MUNTEAN (Romania)
EVGENY NASSONOV (Russia)
IGNAZIO OLIVIERI (Italy)
MONICA OSTENSEN (Norway)
ALI OTOM (Jordan)
CHRISTIAN PAGNOUX (France)
FERNANDO PEREZ RUIZ (Spain)
ELON PRAS (Israel)
ANEO PUCINO (Italy)
FRANCOIS RANNOU (France)
CARLO SALVARANI (Italy)
PIERCARLO SARZI PUTTINI (Italy)
RAFFAELE SCARPA (Italy)
CARMELO SCARPIGNATO (Italy)
YEHUDA SHOENFELD (Israel)
SEKIB SOKOLOVIĆ (Bosnia Herzegovina)
ANGELA TINCANI (Italy)
MOSHE TISHLER (Israel)
ATHANASIOS TZIOUFAS (Greece)
GABRIELE VALENTINI (Italy)
GUIDO VALESINI (Italy)
DIMITRIOS VASSIOPOULOS (Greece)
JELENA VOJINOVIC (Serbia)
HASAN YAZICI (Turkey)
LEITH ZAKRAOU (Tunisia)
11.30-13.00  Registration of participants

**SIRENE MEETING ROOM**

**Opening Ceremony**

Prof. Giovanni Minisola (Italy) & Prof. Marco Matucci Cerinic (Italy)

Prof. PierLuigi Meroni (Italy) & Prof. Angela Tincani (Italy)

Prof. Maurizio Cutolo (Italy), EULAR - President Elect

13.00-13.15  Opening Lectures

*Moderators: G. Minisola (Italy), D. Babic-Naglic (Croatia)*

- Familial Mediterranean fever: new clinical, therapeutic and genetic insights • E. Pras (Israel)
- The Mediterranean diet - A comparison between different styles of diet • A. Casini (Italy)

13.15-14.00  Opening Lectures

*Moderators: G. Minisola (Italy), D. Babic-Naglic (Croatia)*

14.00-14.30  1st SESSION - Sjogren’s Syndrome

*Moderators: S. Bombardieri (Italy), R. Ionescu (Romania)*

- B-cell clonality in Sjogren’s Syndrome. Pathogenesis and Predictive factors • S. De Vita (Italy)
- Current Therapeutic modalities in primary Sjogren’s Syndrome • A.G. Tzioufas (Greece)

14.00-15.00  2nd SESSION - Systemic Sclerosis

*Chairmen: M. Inanc (Turkey), G. Valentini (Italy)*

- The disease pathogenesis revisited, a jump in the future • F. Del Galdo (Great Britain)
- The treatment of Systemic Sclerosis, on the cutting edge • Y. Allanore (France)
Thursday October 6th • Scientific Programme

16.00-17.00 **I° ABSTRACT SESSION**  
**Moderators:** R. Awad (Egypt), G. Valesini (Italy)

16.00-16.10 High rates of undiagnosed connective tissue diseases among patients previously classified as idiopathic pulmonary arterial hypertension • R. Caporali et al. (Italy)

16.10-16.20 Anti La antibodies positivity associated with high oxidative stress markers in a cohort of Sjogren's Syndrome patients • D. Opris et al. (Romania)

16.20-16.30 Tendon Involvement in Patients with systemic Sclerosis: an Ultrasonographic Study • G. Cuomo et al. (Italy)

16.30-16.40 Serum Cytokine profiles in Systemic Sclerosis: Associations with clinical substes • N. Damjanov et al. (Serbia)

16.40-16.50 Interrelation of level pro-hepcidin with development of an anemia in patients with RA • D. Belenkiy et al. (Russia)

16.50-17.00 The differences in the presentation of interstitial lung disease between patients with limited, diffuse and overlap subsets of systemic sclerosis • L. Ananyeva et al. (Russia)

17.00-17.45 **East meets the West: The Mediterraneum and the Black sea**  
**Moderators:** M. Matucci Cerinic (Italy), L. Denisov (Russia)

  • Rheumatoid Arthritis in Russia • E. Nassonov (Russia)

  • Autoimmunity Immune Syndrome induced by Adjuvants (ASIA syndrome) • Y. Shoenfeld (Israel)

17.45-18.15 **ACTELION LECTURE**  
*Early treatment of Systemic Sclerosis and its Complication*

R. Caporali (Italy)

18.15 **Meeting of the Board of the Mediterranean Congress**

19.30 **Welcome Cocktail**  
**AGRUMETO GARDEN**  
(In case of bad weather, lunch will be indoors)

**Coffee Station available during the whole day**
08.30-09.30  
**3rd SESSION - Osteoarthritis**  
*Moderators: J.A. Da Silva (Portugal), S. Ataman (Turkey)*  
- Osteoporosis and osteoarthritis: positive or negative links?  
  *G. Herrero-Beaumont (Spain)*  
- Management of osteoarthritis: From bench to bedside  
  *F. Rannou (France)*

09.30-10.30  
**4th SESSION - Infections in the Mediterranean**  
*Moderators: H. Bassiouni (Egypt), S. Sokolovic (Bosnia Herzegovina)*  
- Leprotic arthritis  
  *H. Hammoud (Egypt)*  
- HCV infection: rheumatic manifestation and therapy  
  *D. Vassilopoulos (Greece)*

10.30-11.30  
**II° ABSTRACT SESSION**  
*Moderators: M. Tishler (Israel), J. Vojinovic (Serbia)*  
- HLA-B*52 is associated with early-onset and more extensive vascular involvement in Takayasu's Arthritis  
  *H. Direskeneli et al. (Turkey)*  
- Distinguishing features of our sets of diagnostic criteria for familial mediterranean fever and Behcet's disease  
  *N. Dilsen et al. (Turkey)*  
- Knee involvement in children affected by celiac disease: an ultrasonographic study  
  *F. Ceccarelli et al. (Italy)*  
- Ro52 autoantibody-positive women's experience of being pregnant and giving birth to a child with congenital heart block  
  *J. Tingstrom et al. (Sweden)*  
- The carpal tunnel syndrome - the importance of etiology and early diagnosis - role of musculoskeletal ultrasound and EMG in choosing the treatment option  
  *V. Bojinca et al. (Romania)*  
- Haemophilic arthropathy: from sonographic scoring to histopathological modifications  
  *D. Melchiorre et al. (Italy)*

11.30-12.30  
**POSTER TOUR**

12.30-13.30  
**PFIZER SYMPOSIUM**  
**NSAIDs: Matching The Right Drug To The Right Patient**  
*Chairperson: P. Sarzi Puttini (Italy)*  
- The Appropriate Use on NSAIDs: Opinion of A Multi-Disciplinary European Expert Panel  
  *I. Olivieri (Italy)*  
- Managing the Upper Gastro-Intestinal Risk of NSAIDs: Is That Enough?  
  *C. Scarpignato (Italy)*
13.30-14.00  MSD LECTURE
ANTI-TNF alpha biologic therapy: still the first option for rheumatoid arthritis?
R. Caporali (Italy)

12.30-14.30  Buffet Lunch
AGRUMETO GARDEN
(In case of bad weather, lunch will be indoors)

SIRENE MEETING ROOM

14.30-15.30  5th SESSION - Autoinflammatory diseases in the Mediterraneum
Moderators: A. Dinc (Turkey), S. Grazio (Croatia)
• Recurrent pericarditis and traps syndrome mutations • M. Galeazzi (Italy)
• Behçet’s syndrome: an autoinflammatory condition? • H. Yazici (Turkey)

15.30-16.30  6th SESSION - Spondyloarthritis and Psoriatic arthritis
Moderators: A. Balbir-Gurman (Israel), R. Scarpa (Italy)
• ASAS criteria for axial and peripheral spondyloarthritis • I. Olivieri (Italy)
• Conventional vs biological treatment in spondyloarthritis • N. Akkoc (Turkey)

16.30-18.00  MENARINI SYMPOSIUM
Gout: Novel approaches for an ancient disease
Chairperson: T. Bardin (France), M. Cutolo (Italy)
16.30-16.50  Gout: a multiorgan burden pile up • M.A. Cimmino (Italy)
16.50-17.10  Broadening our sight in diagnosis and follow up of gout with a novel tool: Sonography • F. Perez-Ruiz (Spain)
17.10-17.30  Boosted accuracy to hit the target, sUA ≤ 6 mg/dl, with novel urate lowering therapy • G. McCarthy (Ireland)
17.30-17.50  Tailoring urate lowering therapy in gouty patients with renal impairment • T. Bardin (France)
17.50-18.00  Discussion

18.00-18.30  MUNDIPHARMA LECTURE
Night-release prednisone: efficacy and safety
M. Cutolo (Italy)
08.30-09.30 7th SESSION - The use of glucocorticoids in the Mediterraneum
Moderators: C. Montecucco (Italy), N. Damjanov (Serbia)

- Back to the future: glucocorticoids in early rheumatoid arthritis • R. Caporali (Italy)
- Safety of glucocorticoids • P. Charalambous (Cyprus)

09.30-10.30 8th SESSION - Osteoporosis
Moderators: L. Zakraoui (Tunisia), H. Bolosi (Romania)

- Oral Health and osteoporosis • L. Muntean (Romania)
- Bone health and rheumatic diseases • S. Adami (Italy)

10.30-11.30 III° ABSTRACT SESSION
Moderator: B. Coleiro (Malta), A. Pucino (Italy)

10.30-10.40 Epigenetic Modulation as a new treatment option in Sjia • J. Vojinovic et al. (Serbia)

10.40-10.50 Comparison of QuantiFERON-TB gold (QFT-GIT) and tuberculin skin test (TST) for diagnosis of latent TB, in a inflammatory rheumatic disease • F. Peruzzi et al. (Italy)

10.50-11.00 Impact of the immune status on the response to rituximab in rheumatoid arthritis • L. Souabni et al. (Tunisie)

11.00-11.10 Clinical Features and complications after joint surgery in patients with rheumatic diseases treated with biological agents • E. Pogozheva et al. (Russia)

11.10-11.20 Diastolic dysfunction in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: relation with disease activity, anti-cyclic citrullinated peptide antibodies and central obesity • D. Martinovic Kaliterna et al. (Croatia)

11.20-11.40 Symptoms of depression and anxiety in patients with rheumatoid arthritis: impact of disease activity, pain, joint damage and functional ability • P. Ostojic et al. (Serbia)
### Saturday October 8th • Scientific Programme

#### GSK SYMPOSIUM

**“The PAH-CTD Disease Management in 2011: Issues and Opportunities”**

**Chairmen: M. Matucci-Cerinic (Italy), G. Valentini (Italy)**

- **11.30-11.45** Missed Opportunities and Hope for the Future • *M. Matucci-Cerinic (Italy)*
- **11.45-12.00** Early Diagnosis and Early Treatment in PAH-CTD • *P. Carreira (Spain)*
- **12.00-12.15** Clinical Importance of the Drug Drug Interaction • *G. Valentini (Italy)*
- **12.15-12.30** PAH-CTD Patient Management: the Real Life Problems • *P. García de la Peña (Spain)*
- **12.30-12.45** Long Term Outcomes of PAH-CTD: do Therapies work? • *M. D’Alto (Italy)*
- **12.45-13.00** Discussion (All)

#### MENARINI LECTURE

**Chairman: M. Matucci-Cerinic (Italy)**

**Dexketoprofen in pain management of rheumatology patients**

*S. Coaccioli (Italy)*

#### Buffet Lunch

**AGRUMETO GARDEN**

*(In case of bad weather, lunch will be indoors)*

#### SIRENE MEETING ROOM

**9th SESSION - Vasculitides in the Mediterranean**

**Moderators: H. Direskeneli (Turkey), A. Otom (Jordan)**

- Giant Cell arteritis - Clinics and Therapy • *C. Salvarani (Italy)*
- Recent developments in the management of ANCA-associated vasculitis • *C. Pagnoux (France)*

**10th SESSION - Update on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: What is new, what is important?**

**Moderators: D. Martinovic (Croatia), P.L. Meroni (Italy)**

- Pathogenesis of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus • *D. Boumpas (Greece)*
- Management of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus • *M. Mosca (Italy)*
11th SESSION - Rheumatoid Arthritis
Moderators: P. Sarzi Puttini (Italy), S. Sokolovic (Bosnia Herzegovina)

- Clinical implication and pitfalls of new RA criteria for classification and remission • B. Combe (France)
- Guidelines for DMARDs Therapy: Review • L. Kazkaz (Syria)

17.00-18.00 Closing lecture
Moderators: C. Mallia (Malta), G. Valesini (Italy)

- Vitamin D, a multipotent “hormone” for rheumatic diseases • M. Cutolo (Italy)

CME Questionnaire compilation

End of the Congress
ORAL COMMUNICATIONS AND POSTERS
The scientific programme of the conference will include Sessions of Oral Communications and Discussions of Posters.
The abstracts will be selected by a large number of referees, chosen on the basis of their scientific expertise in the given field. The referees will decide the type of presentation.
Abstracts must contain original data, not already presented on other occasions.
Abstracts must be in English and must concern exclusively the following topics:
- Autoinflammatory Diseases
- Glucocorticoids
- Gout and Crystal Diseases
- Infections
- Osteoarthritis
- Osteoporosis
- Psoriatic Arthritis
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Sjogren S
- Spondyloarthopathies
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
- Systemic Sclerosis
- Vasculitides

Oral Communications or Posters must be submitted exclusively using the on-line form, following the instructions available at www.mediterraneancongressrheumatology.org
Anybody not able to send abstracts via internet should contact the Organizational Secretariat to arrange an e-mail transmission.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
The Organizing Secretariat will inform directly the first author on the abstract form, by e-mail, about the acceptance of the work and the date and time of its presentation.
Seven minutes will be allocated for the presentation of each communication, after that there will be a 3-minute discussion.

POSTERS
The template is at your expenses, measures 70cm x 100cm, posting material will be provided on site. Posting time is on Oct. 6th from 11.30 to 13.00 (during registration). A Nadirex Hostess will assist you for that.
During the poster viewing, the presence of one of the authors is required in order to give any explanation/information to the viewers.
Poster viewing: Foyer of Sirene Meeting Room on October 7th from 11.30 to 12.30

REGISTRATION OF AUTHORS
Payment of the registration fee is a mandatory condition for the presentation of oral communications or posters.
The person who presents the abstract must be indicated as the first author.

DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
10 September, 2011 - On-line submission.
20 September, 2011 - Notification of modality of presentation.

AWARDS
The Scientific Committee will choose the best abstracts.
Five prizes will be awarded for best posters and five awards for best oral communication.
The prizes will consist of a sum of € 1.000 each.

CONGRESS WORK
All speakers must comply scrupulously with the times allocated to ensure the good outcome of the various sessions. The duration of each presentation will be communicated directly to the authors.

SLIDES AND COMPUTERISED AUDIOVISUAL CENTRE
Computerized presentation of slides is planned, with the assistance of specialist technicians. Power Point presentation will be available at the Congress.
In case that other technical material is necessary, please contact directly The Organizing Secretariat Nadirex International.
Please use only files in electronic format. Speakers who have their contribution on a portable computer or pen drive should go the Slide Centre well in advance, in order to give the technicians time to copy the presentation.
All speakers must give their presentation to the Slide Centre at least one hour before their talk in order to enable the good performance of the congress work.
CME CREDITS
The request for CME credits has been submitted to the Italian Ministry of Health:
ID 265-10248 – Nr. 100 doctors
CME credits: 21
Discipline:
• Allergology and clinical immunology
• General medicine
• Internal medicine
• Medicine and surgery of acceptance and urgency
• Physical medicine and rehabilitation
• Rheumatology
• Thermal medicine

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE
Attendance certificate will be given personally to all registered participants at the Organizational Secretariat’s Desk at the end of the Congress.

CME CERTIFICATE
In order to obtain CME credits, participants must:
- Attend 100% of the sessions indicated in the programme
- fill in the personal data form, the form evaluating the event, and the learning questionnaire and give them to the Organizational Secretariat at the end of the Congress.
The CME certificate will be sent by post after the Congress to the address given on the personal data form.

TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITION
An exhibition space will be available for pharmaceutical companies, electro-medical equipment and scientific publishing.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
Official language of the Congress: English.
Simultaneous translation will not be provided.

General Information

SECRETARIAT
The Organizing Secretariat will be available on site at the Congress to help participants during the following periods:
Thursday October 6th, 2011 08.00 – 19.00
Friday October 7th, 2011 07.00 – 20.00
Saturday October 8th, 2011 07.00 – 19.00

CLOAKROOM
Cloakroom facilities will be available throughout the Congress.

INTERNET POINT
An Internet Point will be available for all Congress participants. In accordance with paragraph 7, comma 4 of the legal Decree 144 of the 27/07/2005, concerning the identification of users of terminals for communication, including computers, persons wishing to use this service must provide a valid form of identification and fill the form that the will be given by a member of staff. Once the form has been filled in, the person will be assigned a username and password to access the network; these can be used for the whole duration of the Congress.
VENUE
HOTEL HILTON SORRENTO PALACE
Via S. Antonio, 13
80067 Sorrento (NA) Italy
Tel +39 081874141
Fax +39 0818783933
www.sorrentopalace.it

GETTING TO THE HOTEL
From Naples International Airport, take the A3 motorway to the Sorrento Peninsula and Salerno. Exit at Castellamare di Stabia for the SS145, following the signs to Sorrento. In Sorrento, turn left at the crossroads into Via degli Aranci. Follow the road for half a mile, then turn left into the Via S. Antonio for the Hilton Sorrento Palace hotel.
REGISTRATION FEES
- Physician: If registered by 31st May 2011: €600,00 (VAT 20% included)
- Physician: If registered after 31st May 2011: €720,00 (VAT 20% included)
- Undergraduate/Postgraduate Medical Students: €96,00 (VAT 20% included)
- Patients: €36,00 (VAT 20% included)

REGISTRATION FEES INCLUDE:
Admission to all conference sessions
Conference KIT
Conference session materials
Certificate of attendance and CME certificate
Refreshment breaks and lunches, as specified in the programme
Welcome cocktail

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS
To register for the Congress you must fill in the form and send it, together with the payment of the registration fee, to the Organizational Secretariat. No registrations will be made without payment of the registration fee. The Organizational Secretariat will inform the participant that he or she has been registered for the Congress.

REQUEST FOR EXEMPTIONS FROM VAT (Art. 10 par. 20 D.P.R. 637/72)
Public institutions requesting exemption from VAT on the payment of registration fees for their staff must tick the appropriate space on the registration form and stamp it with their official stamp mark. Requests without an institutional stamp mark cannot be accepted. It is not possible to ask for a reimbursement of VAT and relative accreditation notes once payment has been made.

METHODS OF PAYMENT
The registration fee may be paid by NOT NEGOTIABLE cheque or bank transfer.

Cheque: made payable to NADIREX INTERNATIONAL S.r.l.
Bank transfer: made payable to NADIREX INTERNATIONAL S.r.l. IBAN IT73B050481132300000030112

The cheque or copy of the bank transfer must be sent together with the registration form to the Organizational Secretariat. No registrations will be made without payment.

CANCELLATIONS
The Secretariat must be informed in writing of any cancellations. Eighty percent of the sum paid will be refunded for cancellations made before March 31, 2011. No money will be refunded for cancellations made after that date.

For more information
Please visit the web site: www.mediterraneancongressrheumatology.org

For administrative reasons, registration forms accompanied by errors in registration fees or without the required information will not be validated.