



Symposium 2025:

## **“EQA for the end-user”**



15-17 October 2025

Leiden, The Netherlands

## General information

In 2025, the annual EQALM Symposium and General Assembly will be held in Leiden, The Netherlands, on 15 – 17 October.

At [www.eqalm.org](http://www.eqalm.org) you will find:

1. **Scientific program.** The program will include presentations on the clinical impact of EQA, news from the EQALM Working Groups, the Adam Uldall Lecture, and a poster session.
2. **Registration form**, including registration of which working group meetings you will attend Wednesday, October 16. Information about the working groups can be found on [www.eqalm.org](http://www.eqalm.org).

Deadline for early bird registration is **July 15**.

3. **Poster abstract form** is available online. As every year, some abstracts will be selected for oral presentation. Abstracts will be selected for poster or oral presentation on the basis of their scientific content, originality and relevance to the field of external quality assessment.

Deadline for online abstract registration is **July 15**.

## Conference venue

### **Fletcher Wellness-Hotel Leiden**

Bargelaan 180  
2333 CW Leiden, The Netherlands

<https://www.wellnesshotelleiden.nl/en/>

The hotel is located next to Leiden Central Railway Station.



A contingent of comfort rooms is reserved for participants till 1 September 2025.

Room rate: € 133,00 (incl. tax and breakfast) for one person. Room rate for occupation with two persons: € 155,00 (incl. tax and breakfast).

For room reservation send an e-mail to:

[banquetsales@wellnesshotelleiden.nl](mailto:banquetsales@wellnesshotelleiden.nl) using the reservation code  
OVER131025-FH113.

Please mention in the e-mail name(s) of the person(s) and the arrival and departure date.

The room rate should be paid on forehand. Details for payment will be provided with the reservation confirmation.

### **Alternative hotels:**

The following hotels are within walking distance (5-10 min) from the conference venue:

- Golden Tulip & Tulip Inn Leiden Centre (<https://goldengreenhotels.nl/en/>)
- ibis Leiden Centre (<https://all.accor.com/booking/en/ibis/hotels/leiden-netherlands>)

For other hotels see: <https://www.visitleiden.nl/en/plan-your-visit/overnight-stay/hotels> (a button to change language is at the top of the webpage on the right hand side). There you will find a list of hotels in different price categories.

## Transportation to Leiden Central Railway Station

### Arrival at Schiphol Airport Amsterdam

From Schiphol Airport Leiden can be easily accessed public transport. There is a good train connection between Schiphol Airport and Leiden Central Station. Every 15 minutes an intercity service leave from Schiphol Airport to Leiden Central Station (next call) [Direction Den Haag Centraal Station or Dordrecht]. It takes you in 15 minutes to Leiden Central Station.

Alternatively you can take a local train (Sprinter) to Den Haag Centraal Station. The fourth call after Schiphol Airport in Leiden Central Station. This train runs 2 times per hour and takes in 25 minutes to Leiden Central Station.

### Travel by international trains

From Germany, Belgium, France and United Kingdom there are highspeed train (Eurostar / Deutsche Bahn) connections to The Netherlands.

From Germany change train in Utrecht Central Station for a connecting train to Leiden. From Belgium, France and United Kingdom change train in Rotterdam Central Station for a connecting train to Leiden.

For details about international train connection to The Netherlands visit <https://www.nsinternational.com/> or the website of your national railway company.



## Leiden “the key city”

Leiden has a long history of culture and learning. It has been home to the famous painter Rembrandt, Dutch royalty and many great scientists (including 16 Nobel prize winners). That is why it's known as the "City of Science".

Leiden served as a several-year stop-off between England and the New World for America's Pilgrim fathers in the early 17th century.

It offers many pretty courtyard gardens, hundreds of monuments, the oldest university in the Netherlands, 13 museums, a bustling city centre and more than 28 kilometres worth of canals and waterways in the city's historic centre.

The coat of arms of Leiden is two red keys, crossed in an X-shape on a white background. These keys are the Keys of Heaven held by St. Peter, for whom a large church in the city centre is named. Because of this coat of arms, Leiden is referred to as the "Sleutelstad" ("the key city").



## Social event

On the evening of Thursday, October 16th the Congress Dinner will be held in the museumcafé of the historic Museum Boerhaave in the centre of Leiden.

(<https://www.rijksmuseumboerhaave.nl/en>)

Rijksmuseum Boerhaave is a Dutch museum dedicated to the history of science and medicine. Located in Leiden, it showcases a vast collection of scientific instruments, medical artifacts, and historic objects. The museum emphasizes the role of science in shaping modern society and highlights key figures and discoveries in fields like medicine, physics, and chemistry. Through exhibitions and interactive displays, it aims to engage visitors with the rich history of scientific progress and its impact on everyday life.

You will have the opportunity to visit the museum before dinner and during dinner the Anatomical Theatre will be open.

Each participant will receive a free entrance ticket to be used within 2 days after the congress dinner.

The museum is a 15 minutes' walk from the venue.

Address; Lange Sint Agnietenstraat 10, 2312 WC Leiden



## Weather in Leiden in October

The temperatures in Leiden in October are usually low and can range between 10°C and 15°C.

You can expect about 3 to 8 days of rain in Leiden during the month of October. It's a good idea to bring along your umbrella so that you don't get caught in poor weather.

Scientific Committee:

Gitte Henriksen (Chair Scientific Committee)  
Wim Coucke (Chair WG Frequency)  
Dalius Vitkus (Former Chair Performance Specifications)  
Rachel Marrington (Secretary, EQALM Board)  
Istvan Juhos (Chair WG Virtual Microscopy)  
Tony Badrick (Chair WG EQA for POCT)  
Piet Meijer (local organizer ECAT Foundation)

Executive Board:

Chair: Gro Gidske (NO)  
Secretary: Rachel Marrington (UK)  
Treasurer: Pierre-Alain Morandi (CH)  
Chair Scientific Committee: Gitte Marie Henriksen (DK)  
Member of the board: Barbara De la Salle (UK)  
Member of the board: Wim Coucke (B)

Local organizer:

ECAT Foundation, External quality Control for Assays and Tests *with a focus on Thrombosis and Haemostasis*, The Netherlands

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