



10th Northern European Conference on
Travel Medicine
3–5 June 2026 | Belfast, Northern Ireland



Beyond Borders: Addressing Rabies Risk in Travellers and the Re-Emerging European Threat

Join us at the Sanofi-Sponsored Lunch Symposium



Thursday
4 June 2026



12:30–13:15



Hall 1A

Symposium overview

This lunch symposium delivers evidence-based insights and practical guidance on rabies management in modern travel. As global mobility increases and geopolitical shifts reshape disease transmission patterns, rabies remains a critical yet underestimated threat for Europeans travelling to endemic regions or living in areas experiencing re-emergence

Agenda

Dr. George Kassianos (Moderator) – Opening remarks

Prof. Patrick Soentjens – Global rabies risk landscape: analysis of recent cases in European travellers after exposure in endemic countries in Southeast Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and North Africa, with practical pre-travel advice considerations

Prof. Ernest Kuchar – Rabies in Europe: focus on Eastern Europe, where geopolitical instability and shifting wildlife dynamics have created renewed transmission risks. Will address public health implications, surveillance challenges in conflict-affected areas, and pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis considerations

Interactive Q&A – Moderated discussion enabling audience engagement on practical applications and challenges in rabies prevention

Dr. George Kassianos – Closing remarks: the crucial role of healthcare professionals in prevention through education and prophylaxis

Faculties



Dr. George Kassianos

President & Fellow, British Global & Travel Health Association,
National Immunisation Lead,
Royal College of General Practitioners, London, UK



Prof. Patrick Soentjens

Medical Director,
Polyclinic,
Institute of Tropical
Medicine, Antwerp,
Belgium



Prof. Ernest Kuchar

Head of the Department of
Paediatrics with Clinical
Assessment Unit,
Medical University of Warsaw,
Warsaw, Poland

