

Meet the PhD Jury

Prof. dr. Daniela Quaglino

University of Modena and Reggio Emilia Modena, Italy

'MORE THAN ONE PERSPECTIVE IN THE BIOLOGY OF ECTOPIC CALCIFICATION'

Ectopic calcification (EC) is a pathologic process affecting soft connective tissue in genetic and acquired conditions, such as diabetes or kidney disease. Through extensive investigations *in vitro*, in animal models and in patients, knowledge on the underlying mechanisms, though incomplete, has increased significantly and paves the way for therapeutic interventions to mitigate EC. In this context, pseudoxanthoma elasticum (PXE) is considered a paradigm model of EC allowing to investigate the complexity of the involved pathways. Prof. Quaglino is a world-expert in the EC pathophysiology with particular interest and expertise in the extracellular matrix. During this event, she will discuss the contribution of matrix molecules, cell-matrix interactions and matrix degradation, how the mineralised environment interacts with cellular metabolic changes - altered balance between pro and anti-calcifying factors, oxidative stress, mitochondrial structure and bioenergetics and cell death - and how influencing these processes can halt the occurrence of EC.



January 21ST, 2025
13:30-15:00 CET



The Core, I20.011,
Campus UZ Gent



Follow online
(link after registration)



Register at:

[https://event.ugent.be/registration/
MeetThePhDJuryShanaVerschuere](https://event.ugent.be/registration/MeetThePhDJuryShanaVerschuere)

Hosted by:

**Prof. dr. Olivier Vanakker
& Prof. dr. ir. Paul Coucke**

on the occasion of the PhD public defense of Shana Verschuere



UNIMORE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI
MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA



CENTRUM MEDISCHE
GENETICA GENT



ECTOPIC MINERALIZATION RESEARCH



International Network on Ectopic Calcification