



DECISION

**DEcompensated CirrhoSis: identification of new cOmbiNatorial therapies
based on systems approaches**

H2020 – 847949

D7.4 First patient and layman event

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1 Executive Summary

'Therapies for acute decompensation of cirrhosis and ACLF, research needs and outlook.' Under this title, on June 9, 2021, an event was organized dedicated to patients focused on DECISION, MICROB-PREDICT, and A-TANGO, medical research project (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Screenshot of Announcement from ELPA's Twitter Account

Three EU-funded research projects, MICROB-PREDICT, DECISION, and A-TANGO, joined forces to improve the prevention and treatment of cirrhosis. All three consortia aim to understand the disease better, identify biomarkers and mechanisms that predict when the body can no longer compensate for the dysfunctional liver (decompensated

cirrhosis) when decompensated cirrhosis progresses to acute on chronic liver failure (ACLF), and patient's individual treatment response. They strive to develop novel diagnostic tools based on the newly identified biomarkers for earlier and better patient stratification and establish personalized and effective treatment strategies. In MICROB-PREDICT, the focus thereby lies on microbiome-based strategies. DECISION aims to identify new combinatorial therapies, and A-TANGO will investigate one specific, promising substance in a clinical trial.

During the meeting, the projects and their implications for the future management of patients with cirrhosis were discussed.

2 Deliverable report

DECISION, MICROB-PREDICT and A-TANGO online educational event for patients - 9th June 2021, 3.30 - 05.00 p.m. CEST

Organizing committee:

Marko Korenjak, ELPA President

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou, professor of Hepatology Hôpital Beaujon, Inserm UMR, France, principal investigator DECISION, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain

Prof. Dr. Jonel Trebicka, professor of Hepatology Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany, principal investigator MICROB-PREDICT, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain

Prof. Dr. Rajiv Jalan, professor of Hepatology University College London, UK, principal investigator A-TANGO, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain

Dr. Ameli Schwalber, concentris research management, Germany, project management office

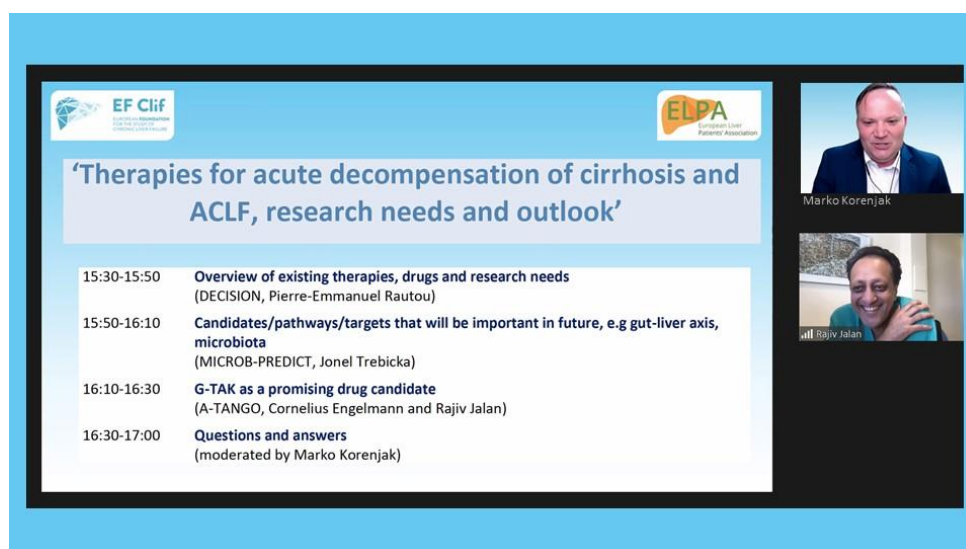
Participants:

22 participants incl. representatives of national patient organisations from 12 different countries (Fig. 2). The invitation is attached to this report.

Institution	Country
Catalan Association of Liver Patients – ASSCAT	Spain
Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin	Germany
concentris research management GmbH	Germany
European Foundation for the study of Chronic Liver Failure (EF-CLIF)	Spain
ELPA Office	Belgium
Fédération SOS hépatites France	France
Goethe University Frankfurt	Germany
HEP HELP KLUB	Slovakia
Hepar Centar – Bitola	North Macedonia
Institut National de la Sante et de la Recherche Medicale, INSERM	France
HEPYAŞAM – Living with Hepatitis Association	Turkey
Hetz – Israeli Association For The Health Of the Liver	Israel
Leverforeningen	Denmark
Riksföreningen Hepatit C – RHC	Sweden
Slovenian Association for patients with viral hepatitis SLOVENIA HEP	Slovenia
University College London	United Kingdom



Fig. 2: Overview of the different countries that participated in the patient event



The screenshot shows a video conference interface. On the left, a presentation slide titled 'Therapies for acute decompensation of cirrhosis and ACLF, research needs and outlook' is displayed. The slide includes logos for EF Clif and ELPA. The main content of the slide is a table with the following information:

Time	Topic	Speaker(s)
15:30-15:50	Overview of existing therapies, drugs and research needs	(DECISION, Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou)
15:50-16:10	Candidates/pathways/targets that will be important in future, e.g gut-liver axis, microbiota	(MICROB-PREDICT, Jonel Trebicka)
16:10-16:30	G-TAK as a promising drug candidate	(A-TANGO, Cornelius Engelmann and Rajiv Jalan)
16:30-17:00	Questions and answers	(moderated by Marko Korenjak)

On the right side of the interface, there are two video feeds. The top one shows Marko Korenjak, and the bottom one shows Rajiv Jalan, who is the speaker for the current slide.

Fig. 3: Screenshot of the introductory talk by Prof. Dr Rajiv Jalan

An introduction by **Prof Dr Rajiv Jalan** (Fig. 3 and 4), professor of Hepatology University College London, UK, principal investigator A-TANGO, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain, gave the participants a short but exhaustive explanation of why treating cirrhosis is an unmet need. He presented some data, the state of the art of research around this topic, and stressed that few treatment options are currently available. Then, he briefly described his colleagues, underlining how the three projects represent three different approaches that want to solve the same underestimated problem.

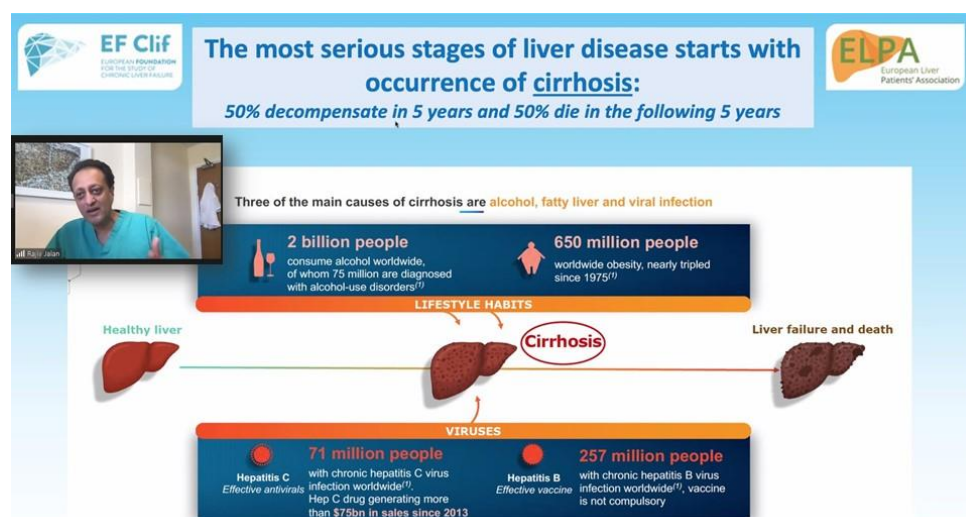


Fig. 4: Screenshot of the introductory talk by Prof. Dr Rajiv Jalan

The first presentation was made by **Prof Dr Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou** (Fig. 5), professor of Hepatology Hôpital Beaujon, Inserm UMR, France, principal investigator DECISION, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain. He gave an overview of existing therapies, drugs, and research needs. He also focused on the DECISION Project and its goal. It aims to identify a specific group of

patients with cirrhosis, providing them with personalized management. Also, DECISION builds its investigation on a better understanding of the pathophysiology of acute decompensated cirrhosis. To do that, the project is analyzing a lot of data and samples. With this newly created knowledge, the project aims to change how these patients are managed.



Fig. 5: Screenshot of Prof Dr Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou's talk

Then, **Prof Dr Jonel Trebicka** (Fig. 6), professor of Hepatology Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany, principal investigator MICROB-PREDICT, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain, started his presentation sharing the vision of the project also in the context of the other two projects. He focused on the complications of cirrhosis that, in the end, lead to systemic inflammation, the key to acute decompensation, and also organs failure (ACLF). He explained the hypothesis that the microbiome in the gut is connected to acute decompensation in patients with cirrhosis. This is the reason why the project wants to investigate the human microbiome. Studying it would mean identifying predictors and mechanisms associated with the development of decompensation and progression to ACLF and death. Also, this will result in better stratification of cirrhotic patients allowing personalized treatments.

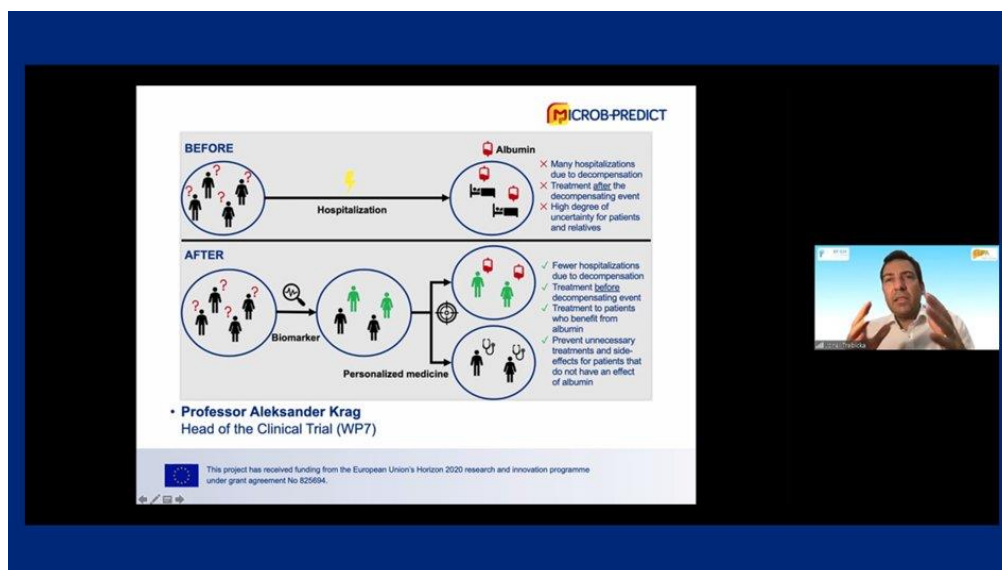


Fig. 6: Screenshot of Prof Dr Jonel Trebicka's talk

Dr Cornelius Engelmann (Fig. 7) followed Prof Dr Trebicka. He gave information to the attendees regarding G-TAK as a promising drug candidate in the framework of the A-TANGO project. He started his talk underlining that the three projects have all the same goal: improving liver patients' lives. Then, after an overview on ACLF, its complexity, diagnostic criteria, grades, and mortality, he entered into the details of the project, presenting the substance that is at the basis of the new treatment and the clinical trial. In conclusion, he made clear that not only is it essential to identify who has to be treated but also with what they should be treated.

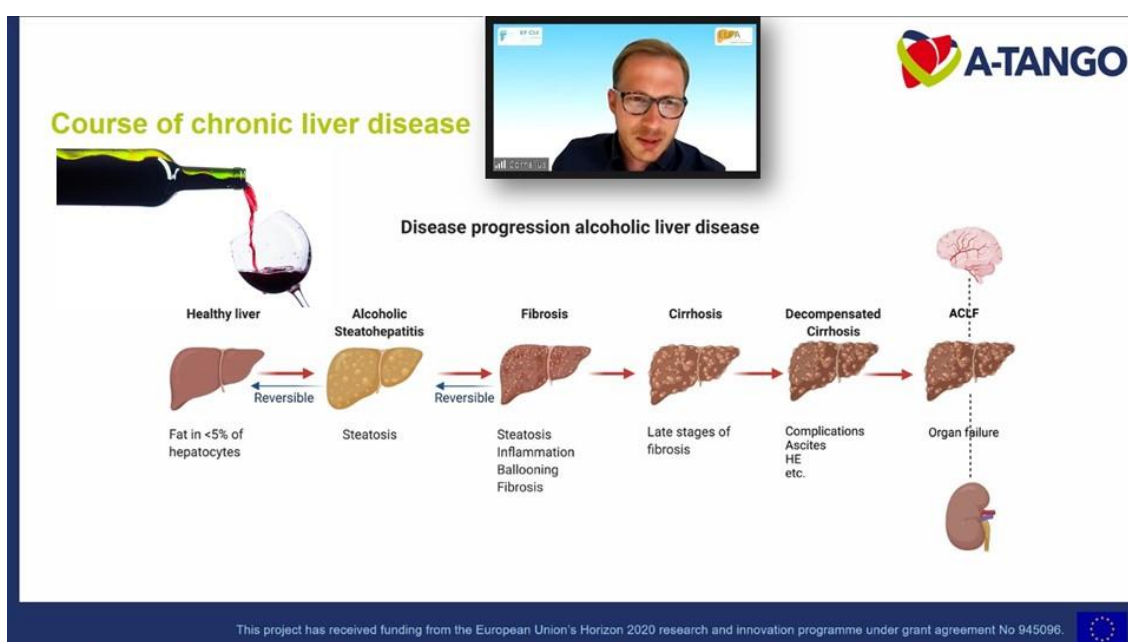


Fig. 7: Screenshot of Dr Cornelius Engelmann's talk

A questions and answers session, moderated by **Mr Marko Korenjak**, ELPA President, allowed the participants to go deeper into projects' details. A central topic of this part was in regards to how patients' associations can work on cirrhosis, especially to changing the perception of this disease because it is still carrying stigma and misconceptions.

A short Twitter overview:

Before, during and after the event, contents were shared on Twitter. Here a short summary of the results of the DECISION Twitter account (more tweets were shared with A-TANGO, MICROB-PREDICT and ELPA accounts):

	
8 Tweets 10.449 Tweet impressions 60 re-tweets 83 likes	3 Tweets 15.422 Tweet impressions 32 re-tweets 43 likes

Screenshots of Twitter posts (DECISION account):

Decision4Liver @Decision4Liver · Jun 14

DECISION aims to identify patients who will benefit from a personalized management of #cirrhosis. To achieve this, a better understanding of the disease is needed, and new tests will be developed. Learn more on [decision-for-liver.eu](#). @EuropeLiver @APHP @EASLnews @ef_clif




Rautou Pierre-Emmanuel

9 11

Decision4Liver @Decision4Liver · Jun 14


"Bacterial infection can be treated with antibiotics and/or Albumin, but not everybody benefits. We need tests to know who will respond and who won't." explains Prof. Rautou, coordinator of the DECISION @EU_H2020 project. @EuropeLiver @APHP @EASLnews @ef_clif @RautouE



6 11

Decision4Liver @Decision4Liver · Jun 14

"Cirrhosis has many complications such as variceal bleeding. Endoscopic band ligation and betablockers are currently available therapy options. Ascites is another complication. Diuretics and TIPS are established therapies, but we need new combinations for more precision medicine."




Rautou Pierre-Emmanuel and 3 others

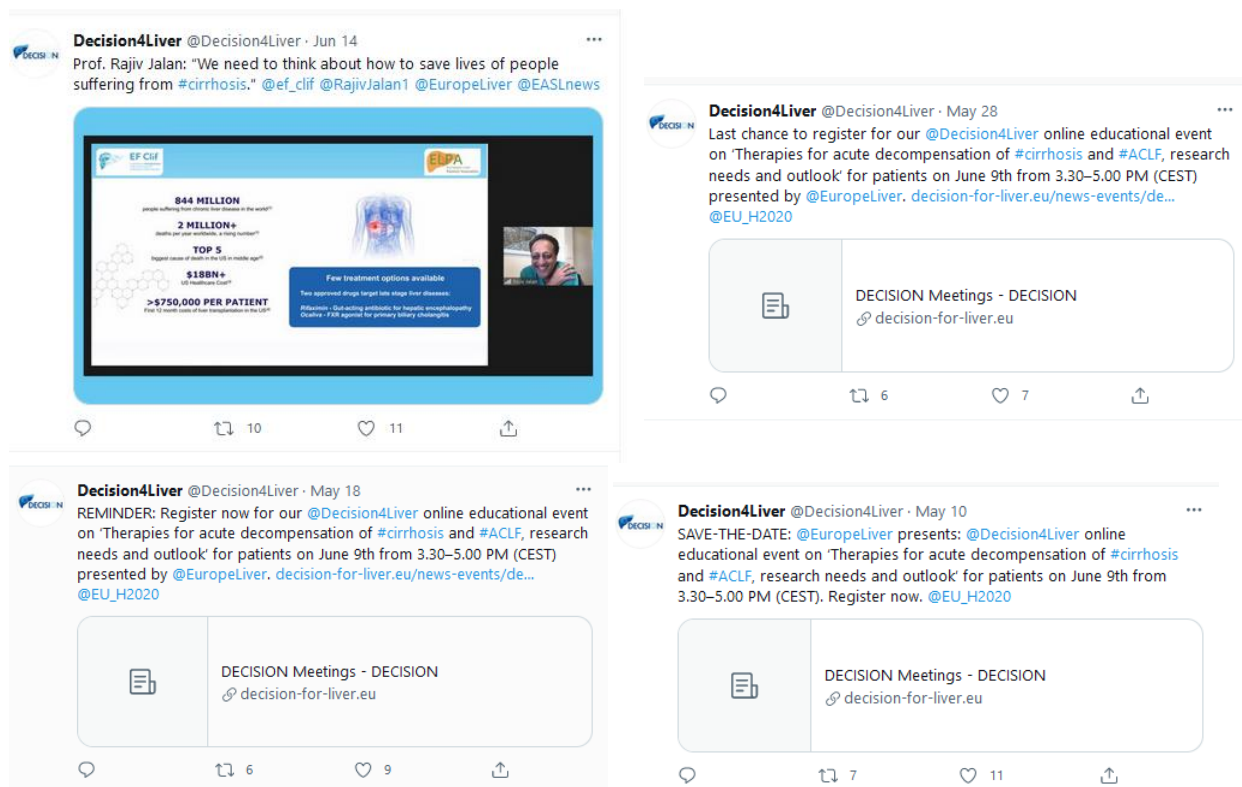
10 17

Decision4Liver @Decision4Liver · Jun 14

"Three of the main causes of cirrhosis are alcohol, fatty liver and viral infection. We have no treatments for patients suffering from #cirrhosis." explains Prof. Rajiv Jalan @RajivJalan1, scientific director of @ef_clif at the occasion of the ELPA patient event. @EuropeLiver @ucl



6 6



A short LinkedIn overview:

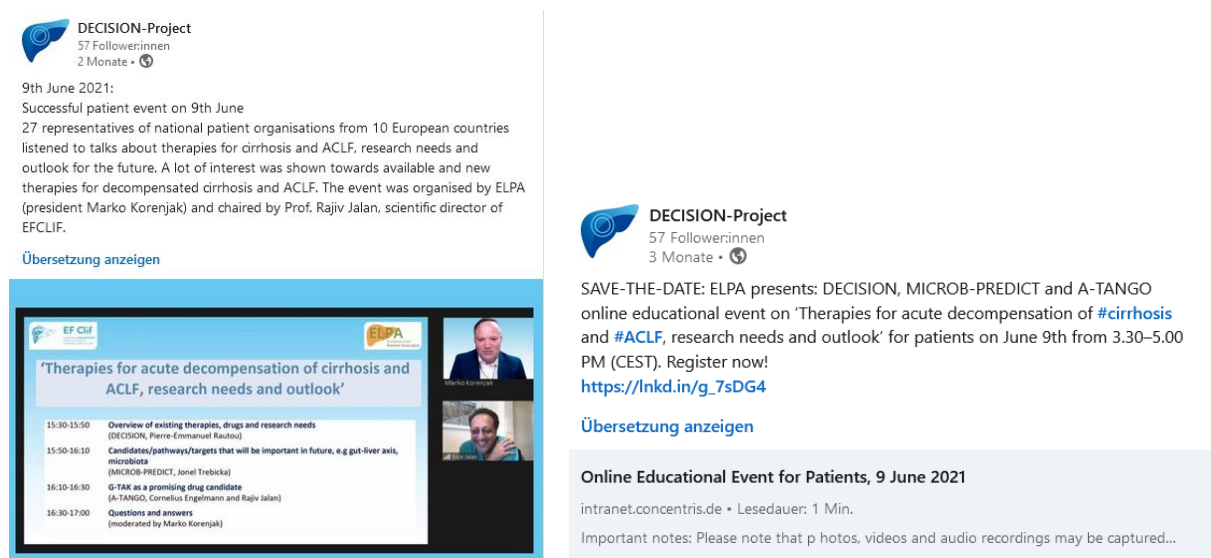
Before and after the event, contents had been sharing on LinkedIn. Here a short summary of the results.

2 Posts

97 Post impressions

3 likes

Screenshots of LinkedIn posts (DECISION account):



Website posts:

In the following we present some statistics on our promotional activities on our website during the period of 10.05.2021 – 15.06.2021.

Screenshots of website posts (<https://decision-for-liver.eu/>):



There were several updates and news posts on the DECISION website during the period analysed. The numbers presented here can therefore not be related exclusively to the promotional activities of the patient event on June 9th (Fig. 8).

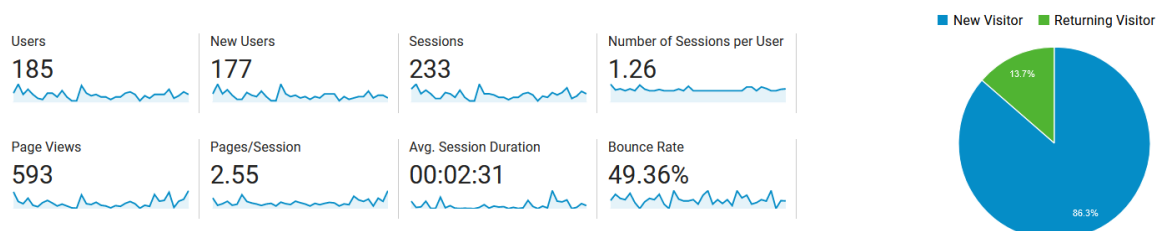


Fig. 8: Screenshot of website activities (<https://decision-for-liver.eu/>)

YouTube:

The talks have also been recorded and published on our YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCOqphu9k>

3 Acknowledgement and Disclaimer

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 847949.

This report reflects only the author's view and the Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

4 Attachment



'Therapies for acute decompensation of cirrhosis and ACLF, research needs and outlook'

**ELPA presents:
DECISION, MICROB-PREDICT and A-TANGO
online educational event for patients
on 9th June 2021, 3.30 - 5.00 p.m. CEST**

Organizing committee:

Marko Korenjak, ELPA President

Prof. Dr. Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou, professor of Hepatology Hôpital Beaujon, Inserm UMR, France, principal investigator DECISION, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain

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Prof. Dr. Rajiv Jalan, professor of Hepatology University College London, UK, principal investigator A-TANGO, EF Clif, Barcelona, Spain

Dr. Ameli Schwalber, concentris research management, Germany, project management office

Dear representatives of the national patients' associations,

We kindly invite you to the online educational event for patients of the DECISION, MICROB-PREDICT and A-TANGO project, on Wednesday June 9th, 03:30-05:00 PM, available via [Zoom](#). Please register [here](#).

Three EU-funded research projects, MICROB-PREDICT, DECISION and A-TANGO, join forces to improve the prevention and treatment of cirrhosis. All three consortia aim to better understand the disease, identify biomarkers and mechanisms that predict when the body can no longer compensate for the dysfunctional liver (decompensated cirrhosis), when decompensated cirrhosis will progress to acute-on-chronic liver failure (ACLF), and patient's individual treatment response. They strive to develop novel diagnostic tools, based on the newly identified biomarkers, for earlier and better patient stratification and to establish personalized and effective treatment strategies. In MICROB-PREDICT, the focus thereby lies on microbiome-based strategies. DECISION aims to identify new combinatorial therapies and A-TANGO will investigate one specific, promising substance in a clinical trial. We would like to inform you on the projects and their implications for the future management of patients with cirrhosis. We would like to discuss with you how to best disseminate this information in the national patient associations. We look forward to meeting you virtually at June 9th!

On behalf of the organizing committee,

Marko Korenjak, ELPA President



DECISION



A-TANGO



MICROB-PREDICT

Programme:

Chairs: M. Korenjak, R. Jalan

15:30-15:35	Welcome and Introduction (Rajiv Jalan & Marko Korenjak)
15:35-15:55	Overview of existing therapies, drugs and research needs (DECISION, Pierre-Emmanuel Rautou)
15:55-16:15	Candidates/pathways/targets that will be important in future, e.g gut-liver axis, microbiota (MICROB-PREDICT, Jonel Trebicka)
16:15-16:35	G-TAK as a promising drug candidate (A-TANGO, Cornelius Engelmann)
16:35-17:00	Questions and answers (moderated by Marko Korenjak)

www.decision-for-liver.eu

www.microb-predict.eu

www.a-tango.eu

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