IPPC POST-EVENT REPORT

28-29 April 2026 • Milan, Italy

IPPC 2026:
A Record-Setting Success

Dear Reader,

The 2026 International Plasma Protein Congress (IPPC), held on 28–29 April in Milan, convened the global plasma community at a defining moment for the future of plasma-derived medicinal products (PDMPs). Bringing together policymakers, regulators, patient advocates, healthcare leaders, industry executives, donor health experts, and innovators, this year's Congress provided a dynamic forum to address the complex challenges and transformative opportunities shaping the plasma sector worldwide.

Across two days of in-depth programming, IPPC 2026 explored critical themes central to the resilience and advancement of the plasma ecosystem. Discussions examined the realities of securing critical medicines supply chains in Europe, the future of anti-D immunoglobulin access, evolving EU pharmaceutical legislation, and the regulatory reforms needed to strengthen industry competitiveness. Sessions also focused on patient access to PDMPs, next-generation plasma leadership, innovation from plasma collection to therapeutic development, donor health and safety, and Europe's long-term plasma collection strategy.

The Congress's keynote sessions further reinforced the broader significance of the plasma sector, highlighting both the substantial economic and societal contribution of plasma-derived therapies in Europe and the leadership, resilience, and performance mindset necessary to navigate an increasingly complex global environment.

Together, these conversations underscored a clear message: safeguarding the future of plasma-derived therapies requires coordinated policy, scientific innovation, sustainable donor engagement, and unwavering collaboration across the full value chain—from donor to patient.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all speakers, delegates, sponsors, and supporters whose expertise and engagement made IPPC 2026 a success. Your contributions continue to shape the future of plasma-derived medicines and the millions of patients who rely on them. We look forward to continuing this important momentum at IPPC 2027 in Barcelona, Spain.

Marilena Vrana
Vice President, Public Affairs & EU Operations

IPPC 2026 By The Numbers

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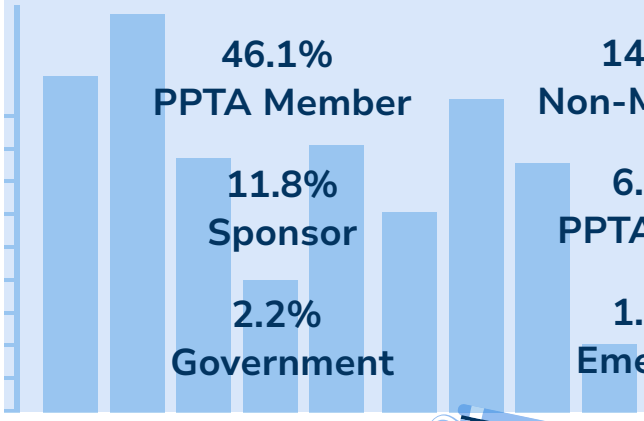
ATTENDEE BREAKDOWN



46.1% PPTA Member	14.4% Non-Member	10.7% Speaker
11.8% Sponsor	6.5% PPTA Staff	6.7% Patient Community
2.2% Government	1.1% Emeritus	0.3% Press

TOTAL ATTENDEES:

353

GAME TIME!

100+ Games of Wordler Played

15 Challenges	117 Challenges Completed	4850 Points Collected

PPTA SOCIAL

193 Posts	37,546+ Impressions During IPPC	1,415 Link Clicks	8.4% Engagement Rate

IPPC 2026 By The Numbers

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COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED **25**

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Microsessions: A New Way to Learn at IPPC

These new, abbreviated sessions had the IPPC audience engaged with jam-packed information and actionable takeaways.

DAY 1: SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Previpharma's session highlighted the critical importance of resilience, reach, and responsibility in advancing lifesaving plasma-derived therapies. The presentation underscored plasma's vast untapped medical potential, positioning Previpharma as a catalyst and systems integrator committed to unlocking future breakthroughs for patients with severe diseases and unmet medical needs.

Marc Mazur, CEO and Owner,
PreviPharma GmbH

Ahmed Serag, Chief Strategy & Operations Officer - Grifols Egypt for Plasma Derivatives

SPECIAL SEGMENT: FROM ACCESS GAPS TO SYSTEMS BUILDING: A REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

This session explored Egypt's globally recognized public-private partnership as the first fully integrated plasma platform in the Middle East and Africa, showcasing how bold national ambition can transform access gaps into sustainable healthcare systems. Ahmed Serag emphasized that strong regulatory frameworks, operational excellence, stakeholder awareness, and national commitment are essential to building trusted, ethical, and scalable plasma infrastructure for long-term regional growth.

Day 1: Session Summaries

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DAY 1 KEYNOTE: NIKOLAJ SIERSBÆK, PHD

Day one of IPPC opened with a keynote from economist Nikolaj Siersbæk, who presented new research on the economic value of plasma-derived therapies across Europe. The session highlighted how these therapies not only deliver lifesaving benefits for patients, but also create significant value for healthcare systems and broader economies through strong cross-industry collaboration. A key takeaway was the need for data-driven policymaking and smarter procurement strategies to help ensure long-term supply sustainability and continued patient access.

Speaker: *Nikolaj Siersbaek, Ph.D., Managing Economist, Copenhagen Economics*

SESSION 1: RESILIENT AND SECURE CRITICAL MEDICINES SUPPLY CHAINS IN THE EU – ASPIRATIONS AND THE REALITY

Session 1 explored the resilience of Europe's critical medicine supply chains in the wake of the pandemic and ongoing geopolitical challenges, with a focus on access to plasma-derived therapies. Speakers discussed the gap between policy ambition and operational reality, emphasizing the unique complexity of plasma supply chains and the importance of strengthening plasma donation systems across the EU. The session highlighted ongoing efforts to improve supply security through coordinated regulation, international collaboration, data-driven forecasting, and crisis preparedness initiatives. Panelists also stressed the need for more equitable patient access, standardized approaches across Member States, and a shift from reactive crisis management toward proactive, patient-centered resilience strategies.

Moderator: *Sarah-Taïssir Bencharif, M.D., Journalist*
Speakers: *Ilaria del Seppia, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG HERA; Luana Banu, Head Global Public Affairs and Patient Advocacy, PDT, Takeda; Jean-Philippe Plançon, President, EPODIN; Aris Angelis, Secretary General for Strategic Planning, Ministry of Health Greece; Leonie Braun, Trade Policy Analyst, OECD*

Day 1: Session Summaries

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SESSION 2: CHALLENGES AND FUTURE SOLUTIONS FOR ANTI-D IMMUNOGLOBULINS IN EUROPE

Session 2 focused on the global challenges and opportunities surrounding access to Anti-D immunoglobulin therapies. Experts examined the complex manufacturing, donor, regulatory, and clinical factors that influence supply and patient access, while emphasizing the need for sustainable, coordinated international solutions. Discussions highlighted the limited availability of high-titer donors, disparities in access to Rh disease prevention across regions, and the importance of continued clinical research and funding.

Moderator: *James Knowles, Ph.D., Vice President, Global Regulatory Policy & Scientific Affairs, PPTA*
Speakers: *Steven L. Spitalnik, M.D., Professor Emeritus, Columbia University; Ellen van der Schoot, M.D., Ph.D., Head, Department of Experimental Immunohematology, Sanquin Research; Professor of Experimental Immunohematology, University of Amsterdam; Donato De Mattia, Global Investigations and Data, Digital, & Technology Manager, Kedrion; Sandra Dang, Medicines and Medical Devices Shortages Officer, European Medicines Agency; Nelli Cherny, Director of Regulatory Affairs, KEDPLASMA*

SESSION 3: FROM LEGISLATION TO PRACTICE: EU REGULATORY REFORMS AND INDUSTRY COMPETITIVENESS

Session 3 examined how EU regulatory reforms and the proposed EU Biotech Act can better support patient access, innovation, and long-term competitiveness across the biotechnology sector. Speakers discussed the importance of creating more efficient regulatory and decision-making processes while ensuring reforms translate into meaningful real-world impact for patients and healthcare systems. The conversation emphasized the need for patient-centric policy design, stronger stakeholder collaboration, and inclusion of the full biotech ecosystem—including plasma-derived medicines—in shaping future legislation. A central theme throughout the session was balancing innovation and competitiveness with equitable patient access across Europe.

Moderator: *Charles Bry Patterson, Account Director, Grayling*
Speakers: *Joeri Boterman, Policy Officer, DG SANTE Policy Strategy Unit, European Commission; Boris Ajeganoff-Nielsen, Senior Policy Advisor to MEP Stine Bosse, European Parliament; Martine Pergent, President, IPOPI; Evelina Kozubovska, Senior Manager, EU Regulatory Policy, PPTA; Dmitry Simkhovich, Global Head of Business Intelligence, Kedrion Biopharma*

Day 1: Session Summaries

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SESSION 4: STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO PDMPS ACROSS EUROPE - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Session 4 explored how evolving policy and regulatory frameworks shape the availability, accessibility, and long-term sustainability of plasma-derived medicinal products (PDMPs). Speakers emphasized the importance of recognizing the unique plasma value chain, strengthening collaboration across healthcare systems, and applying lessons learned from past supply challenges and regulatory crises. The discussion also highlighted the economic and quality-of-life benefits these therapies provide for patients, reinforcing the need for continued data collection, patient-centered policymaking, and resilient global supply strategies.

Moderator: *Tomasz Kluszczynski, Founder, ACESO Healthcare Counseling*
Speakers: *Julia Wahl, Partner Healthcare & Life Sciences, Copenhagen Economics; Sophie Guerinet, Director, Intercontinental Market Access Lead, Kedrion Biopharma; Johan Prevot, Executive Director, IPOPI; Dr. Domenico Di Giorgio, Head of Pharmaceutical Medicine Shortages, Product Quality and Pharmaceutical Crime Counteracting Office at the Italian Medicines Agency (AIFA); Sharon Pearce, Vice President, Government Affairs, PPTA*

Day 2: Off to a Fast Start

DAY 2 KEYNOTE: DAVID OSGATHORP

The day two focused on the mindset and systems behind sustained high performance, drawing lessons from Formula 1 and Red Bull Racing. David Osgathorp emphasized that peak performance is not just about constant output, but about balancing pressure with recovery, learning, and resilience. The session reinforced the importance of teamwork, continuous improvement, and creating space to recharge, highlighting that while drivers may win races, teams win championships.

Speaker: *David Osgathorp, Performance Consultant, Oracle Red Bull Racing*

Day 2: Session Summaries

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SESSION 5: THE NEXT GENERATION OF PLASMA LEADERSHIP

Session 5 focused on the future of plasma leadership and the importance of turning ambition into meaningful action through collaboration, trust, and innovation. Panelists discussed the need to strengthen awareness and education around plasma-derived therapies, elevate authentic patient stories, and equip decision makers with informed perspectives through stakeholder engagement. Speakers also emphasized adapting to an evolving healthcare landscape by leveraging data, AI, and cross-sector partnerships while ensuring patients, donors, physicians, and industry leaders remain central to the conversation. A key theme throughout the session was that lasting progress will depend on moving beyond discussion toward true co-creation across the plasma community.

Moderator: *Marilena Vrana, Vice President, Public Affairs & EU Operations, PPTA*
Speakers: *Duccio Manetti, Group Chief Communication & Government Affairs Officers, Kedrion Biopharma; Claudia Garcia Novellon, International Patient Affairs Director, Grifols; Jennifer Duven, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, Join Parachute; Nancy Di Salvo, International Affairs Director, GBS/CIDP Foundational International; Atakan Yesil, Senior Public Affairs Lead, Takeda*

SESSION 6: INNOVATION: FROM PLASMA TO PDMPS

Session 6 explored how emerging technologies and collaborative innovation are shaping the next generation of plasma-derived medicines. Speakers discussed the limitations of current viral surveillance methods, the importance of partnerships and real-world evidence in developing treatments for ultra-rare diseases, and the growing impact of AI in accelerating plasma protein discovery, repurposing, and development. The conversation also highlighted new approaches to identifying plasma proteins with novel mechanisms of action that could complement existing standards of care.

Moderator: *John Curling, Consultant, JCC AB*
Speakers: *Thomas R. Kreil, Vice President, Global Pathogen Safety, Takeda; Montserrat Costa Rierola, Senior Director Protein Discovery, Grifols; Andrea Caricasole, Chief Research and Innovation Officer, Kedrion Biopharma; Satish Kumar Devarapu, Chief Scientific Officer, PreviPharma*

Day 2: Closing Sessions

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SESSION 7: PLASMA DONOR HEALTH AND SAFETY - A LOOK AHEAD

Session 7 highlighted emerging research and global collaboration focused on advancing donor safety and well-being. Speakers emphasized the importance of evidence-based practices, ongoing scientific study, and donor protection to support a sustainable global plasma supply. The discussion also explored how plasma and blood collection systems can work together collaboratively while strengthening donor care and long-term donation practices.

Moderator: *Walter Kelley, DO, FCAP, Head of Biolife Medical Affairs, Takeda/BioLife*
Speakers: *Charlotte Washington, MBChB, Donor Medicine Consultant, NHS Blood and Transplant ; Milos Bohonek, M.D., Ph.D., Head of Institute, Military University Hospital Prague; Michelle Fransen, MPH, MPS, Director Study Manangement, PPTA*

SESSION 8: PLASMA COLLECTION IN EUROPE: HOW TO SECURE EUROPE'S FUTURE

Session 8 examined how Europe can strengthen its plasma collection systems by leveraging both public and private sector models to improve resilience, patient access, and long-term strategic autonomy. Speakers emphasized that Europe's continued reliance on U.S. plasma imports, combined with geopolitical instability, creates significant vulnerabilities that must be addressed before shortages become crises. Discussions highlighted broad agreement that patient needs, donor safety, ethical oversight, and national responsibility must all be balanced through a "dual ethics" approach that protects both donors and treatment availability. While the Substances of Human Origin (SoHO) Regulation was recognized as an important framework, participants stressed that meaningful progress will depend on effective national implementation, increased public awareness, and expanded collection capacity. Across perspectives, the session underscored that collaboration rather than competition between sectors will be essential to closing Europe's plasma gap and securing a sustainable future.

Moderator: *Vasiliki Angouridi, Journalist*
Speakers: *Pierre Tiberghien, President - European Blood Alliance; Christian Scherr, Head of BioLife EU; Chair - European Plasma Alliance (EPA); Flaminia Macchia - Alpha1 Europe Alliance*

Attendee Testimonials

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“I would definitely recommend it to the peers and colleagues in this industry, pharma and the healthcare space. It is a unique event because it is international. It brings together the people who work in the trade association, but who normally work in their silo and working groups, to have an opportunity at least once a year to meet and discuss the hottest industry topics, and what are really the opportunities and challenges for us, and that’s so valuable.”

Duccio Manneti
Group Chief Communication & Government Affairs Officers,
Kedrion Biopharma

“To me it’s fascinating, because I am fascinated by how these products are made, how people have to work together in different countries. It’s just fascinating.”

Patrice F. Spitalnik
Professor Emeritus of Pathology & Cell Biology,
Columbia University

“It’s very important to get to know what is new in the research and the togetherness between industry and patient advocacy and pharma, it’s so important. The networking is incredibly valuable, we are so happy to be here, show up, and be present.”

Karin Schmid
President
Alpha-1 Switzerland

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INTERNATIONAL PLASMA PROTEIN CONGRESS

#IPPC2027

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SAVE THE DATE

20 – 21 April • Barcelona, Spain

Email events@pptaglobal.org for more information