

General Information (in alphabetical order)

Abstracts

Deadline for the submission of abstracts is 26 May 2011 (online submission only). For detailed instructions please refer to pages 19 – 21.

Administrative Secretariat

ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011
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Amsterdam

Amsterdam is the capital and largest city of the Netherlands. The international airport Schiphol is situated only 15 km south-west of the city centre. It is one of the busiest airports in the world with daily connections worldwide.

Amsterdam is the cultural and creative centre of the Netherlands. It offers one of the largest historic city centres in Europe with about 7'000 registered historic buildings. As there was no major bombing during World War II the street pattern has been largely unchanged since the 19th century. Another attraction are the famous canals that criss-cross the city. Their origin dates back to the 17th century when they served the purposes of defence and water management. Nowadays the centre consist of 90 islands linked by 400 bridges, some of them beautifully lit at night.

Amsterdam is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Europe with more than 4.5 million international visitors annually and the number of visitors has been growing steadily over the past decade. There is something for every traveller's taste here, whether you prefer culture and history, shopping or just the relaxing charm of an old European city.

Amsterdam is also a city of tolerance and diversity. It has all the advantages of a big city: culture, nightlife, international restaurants, good transport – but is quiet, and largely thanks to its canals, has little road traffic. In Amsterdam your destination is never far away.

Cameras and Recordings

Cassette recorders, cameras and video cameras are not allowed in lecture halls during all sessions. No recordings are allowed at all.

Climate

Amsterdam has a moderate maritime climate, largely influenced by the nearby North Sea. From October and early November the real autumn weather with lower temperatures begins. And even though October is not the wettest month in Amsterdam, you should always carry an umbrella for inevitable showers. The average temperature in October is 7 – 14 °C. Warm clothes are necessary.

CME Credits

The 5th Joint Triennial Congress of the European and Americas Committees for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis is seeking accreditation by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) to provide CME credits for medical specialists. The EACCME is an institution of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS, www.uems.be). EACCME credits are recognised as Physician's Recognition Award by the American Medical Association.

Serono Symposia International Foundation has submitted, in compliance with the procedures indicated by the Italian Ministry of Health, the main Meeting programme of this event, entitled "5th Joint Triennial Congress of the European and Americas Committees for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis" for CME accreditation to the Italian National Commission for Continuing Medical Education. The accreditation is valid for the Teaching Courses and the main congress programme only and does not cover the company-sponsored symposia.

General Information (in alphabetical order)

Congress Venue

The ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011 meeting will take place at the Amsterdam RAI Congress and Conference Centre. The Amsterdam RAI is situated just about 20 – 25 minutes south of Amsterdam's city centre and less than 10 minutes from Schiphol airport.

The history of the Amsterdam RAI started with the Bicycle Industry (de Rijwiel-Industrie) association in 1893 and has grown in just over a century into one of the leading international convention and exhibition organisations. The RAI exhibition complex was opened in 1961 and has grown ever since. With 11 exhibition halls and 48 conference rooms it is now Europe's largest conference centre and therefore the perfect location to host the ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS meeting in 2011.

Amsterdam RAI
Congress and Conference Centre
Europaplein 22
1078 Amsterdam / The Netherlands
www.rai.nl

Currency

All official meeting prices are indicated in Euro (€). The official currency in The Netherlands is the Euro. All major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.

Exhibition

During the congress an industrial exhibition will be arranged. Companies from all over the world will be given ample opportunity to display their latest products, services and technical innovations. The exhibition will be located in Hall 1 in immediate vicinity to congress activities such as lecture halls and catering areas. The detailed Exhibit Prospectus can be obtained from:

ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011
c/o Congrex Switzerland Ltd.
Exhibition Department
Peter Merian-Strasse 80
P.O. Box
4002 Basel / Switzerland

Phone +41 61 686 77 11
Fax +41 61 686 77 88
E-mail exhibition.ch@congrex.com

Final Programme

The final programme will be distributed to all participants upon registration along with all other congress documentation. Please visit the ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011 website offering continuously updated information: www.ectrims.eu/2011

Invitation Letters

Individuals requiring an official letter of invitation in order to attend the meeting may write to the Administrative Secretariat. This procedure is designed to assist participants to obtain a visa or permission to attend the meeting and does not apply to registration fees or other expenses.

Please note that invitation letters can only be sent if the registration and payment has been received by the Administrative Secretariat.

Insurance

The congress organisers cannot accept liability for personal injuries sustained, or for loss or damage of property belonging to meeting participants or their accompanying persons, either during, or as a result of the meeting. Please check the validity of your own insurance.

Language

The congress language is English. Simultaneous translation will not be provided.

Lunches

On Wednesday-Saturday, lunch bags will be served in the exhibition area of the congress venue.

Official Italian Agency

Italian participants requiring specific authorisation from the Italian Health Ministry are advised to contact:

TWT
Ms Romina Baldolini
Via Cagliari 13
00198 Rome / Italy

Phone +39 06 442 493 21
Fax +39 06 442 493 27
E-mail rbaldolini@tw-team.it

General Information (in alphabetical order)

Poster Exhibition

The poster exhibition will be situated in Hall 1 of Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Conference Centre. Information regarding poster format, set-up and dismantling times will be sent to the authors along with their notification of acceptance by mid July 2011.

Press

Accredited journalists are welcome to cover the ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011. Please use the enclosed Registration Form and clearly mark "Press", together with a letter asking for accreditation. You will also be requested to show your press identification upon registration. A fully equipped press centre will be at your disposal during the ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011.

Registration

For detailed information please refer to pages 27 – 28.

Restaurants

When it comes to taste, Amsterdam is home to many cultures and flavours – a culinary melting pot. There are hundreds of restaurants and cafés to experience and lots of exotic foods to try. Which restaurants you prefer is not only decided by your taste buds but also the level of quality, budget, location and atmosphere. Furthermore Amsterdam has five restaurants with Michelin stars.

A popular spot for locals and home to a wide variety of cuisines is the area surrounding the Albert Cuyp market. Another great place to enjoy a meal is in the gardens of restaurants located along the Regulierdwarsstraat and Herengracht.

For more information on restaurants please visit www.iamsterdam.com

Shopping in Amsterdam

Amsterdam is undeniably the shopping capital of the Netherlands. You will find a diverse mix of modern, luxury, trendy, cheap, antique, second-hand and everything in between. The city has several different quarters and each has its own charm and specialties. With everything from multi-level department stores to one-of-a-kind boutiques Amsterdam inspires even the most cultivated shopper.

Amsterdam has great department stores and shopping malls. Except for one, all department stores and shopping malls in Amsterdam are located within a short walking distance from the Dam square. You may also find lively and different markets, some of them have food and general goods, and some are specialized in all kind of things you might be interested in.

Speakers' Service Centre (SSC)

There will be a centrally located Speakers' Service Centre connected to all lecture halls. All speakers will be asked to hand in their PowerPoint presentations at the SSC at least 1 hour before their lecture.

Tipping

Tipping is generally not required in the Netherlands, since service charges are included in the taxi, hotel and restaurant rates. At restaurant tipping however is appreciated at around 10% if the guest is satisfied with the service and/or the food.

Transportation in Amsterdam

Please refer to "Travelling to the Amsterdam RAI" (page 31) for more details.

Visa Requirements

In order to visit the Netherlands you may need to apply for an entry visa. Please check the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (www.minbuza.nl/en). The section "Services" will provide you with more information concerning a visa. Please be well aware of the time for processing the applications to ensure you apply in time for your visit!

World Wide Web

Please visit the ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011 website www.ectrims.eu/2011 for regularly updated news and information. Abstract submission, registration, compilation of your personal congress programme as well as reservation of accommodation and tours can be made via this link.

Travelling to the Amsterdam RAI

ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS delegates will be able to use the public transport system free of charge.

Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Conference Center is located 10 minutes south of the city centre. For tourist information, please look at the official visiting guide:

www.iamsterdam.com

Free airport shuttle bus

On Tuesday, 18 October a free shuttle service will be in operation between the airport and the city centre (shuttle bus every 30 minutes).

On Wednesday, 19 October as well as on Saturday, 22 October a free shuttle service will be in operation between the airport and the Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Conference Centre (shuttle bus every 30 minutes).

How to reach the Amsterdam RAI?

By plane: Amsterdam RAI is only a 20 – 25 minute journey away from Amsterdam Schiphol Airport by car, taxi and public transport. Visit www.schiphol.nl for up-to-date flight information, airport services, connecting forms of transport to the RAI and travel tips.

By train: The Amsterdam RAI railway station is 300 meters from the RAI and has direct connection with Duivendrecht, Amsterdam Amstel, Amsterdam Zuid and Schiphol railway stations, which are linked to the international InterCity network. Follow the signs Amsterdam RAI when you leave the station.

By tram, metro and bus: Tram route 4 between the centre of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Central and the RAI (stop at Europaplein). From the Amstel railway station you can reach the RAI via metro 51 or bus route 15. Metro 51 also runs to Amsterdam Central Station.

Ticket for public transportation

Starting June 2010, paper tickets are no longer sold or valid on trams, buses and metro. The OV-chipcard that must be used is an electronic card with a built-in chip for use on all public transport in Amsterdam including buses, trams and metros. The OV-chipcard can be topped up with credit in Euros, or with a single or season ticket. You can buy disposable OV-chipcards on trams. The public transport company (GVB) offers also 24-168 hours tickets that entitle you to unlimited travel through Amsterdam – day and night – by tram, bus and metro, for the number of hours that best suit your plans.

Most importantly: check in and check out.

When you start your journey, hold your card up to the reader until a green light appears. A bleep sound will indicate that your card has been read. If you change to another bus/tram/metro, you have to check out (by scanning your card at the machine), and check in again at your next stop. If you forget to check out, the card will no longer be valid and you may risk a fine.

How to reach the city centre from Schiphol Airport?

By train: Schiphol station is situated directly below the airport. You can pick up a free baggage trolley from the platform. Via Schiphol Plaza, you can walk straight to the departure or arrival hall.

Train tickets: Train tickets for domestic travel are available from the yellow ticket machines near the platforms at Schiphol Plaza. Tickets (for domestic and international travel) are also available from the ticket offices, which are situated close to the red/white-checked cube at Schiphol Plaza. Staff at the ticket offices will also be able to provide you with train departure information.

Information about your train journey: The journey planner on www.ns.nl will provide you with information on the fastest and shortest route between your hotel address and Schiphol. It also contains the latest travel information, including details of temporary timetable changes.

Direct or change: From a great many stations, you can travel to the very heart of Schiphol either directly or with one change. Important railway hubs include Amsterdam Sloterdijk and Duivendrecht. The trains come into these stations at two levels. If you have to change at one of these stations, your connecting train will depart from another level to the one on which you arrived. The timetables make allowance for this.

By bus

The Connexxion Schiphol Hotel Shuttle: the easiest way to get to your hotel. The frequent shuttle service takes you from Schiphol to more than 100 hotels in the city of Amsterdam between 06.00 a.m. and 21.00 p.m. Tickets are available at the Connection desk on Schiphol Plaza near the Arrival hall. Busses leave every ten minutes from platform A7, situated immediately outside the Arrivals hall. You will not have to wait longer than 30 minutes. Please visit the www.schipholhotelshuttle.nl for more detailed information about the hotels and time schedules.

By taxi

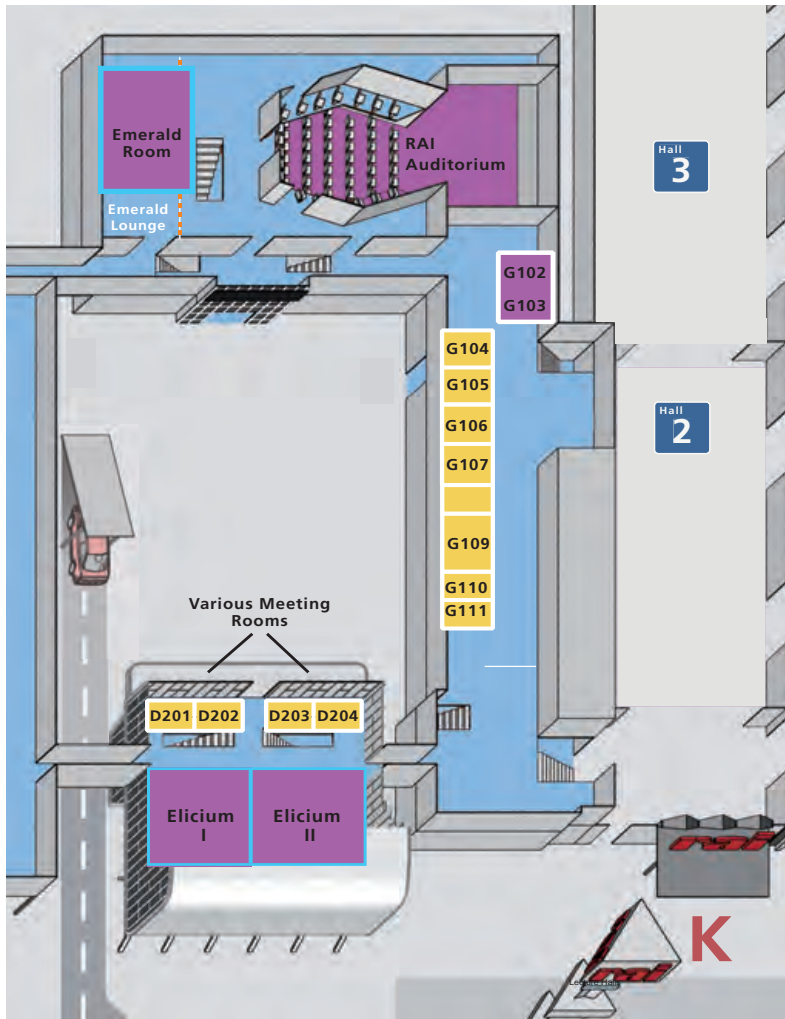
Schiphol offers a combined and private taxi service to and from the airport: Schiphol Travel Taxi service. More details to make a reservation can be found on www.schiphol.nl/Travellers/ToFromSchiphol.htm. For normal transfers by taxi from the airport to Amsterdam city centre, taxis can be booked from the cap-stand at the main entrance of Schiphol Airport. It will take around 30 – 45 minutes to Amsterdam City Centre (ca € 40 – € 50).

Plan and Location Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Conference Centre



Legend		
K	Entrance / Entree	Shuttle bus stop
1	Hall	Toilets
P1	Parking garage	Disabled toilets
P4	Parking	Tram
P1	Pedestrian parking entrance	

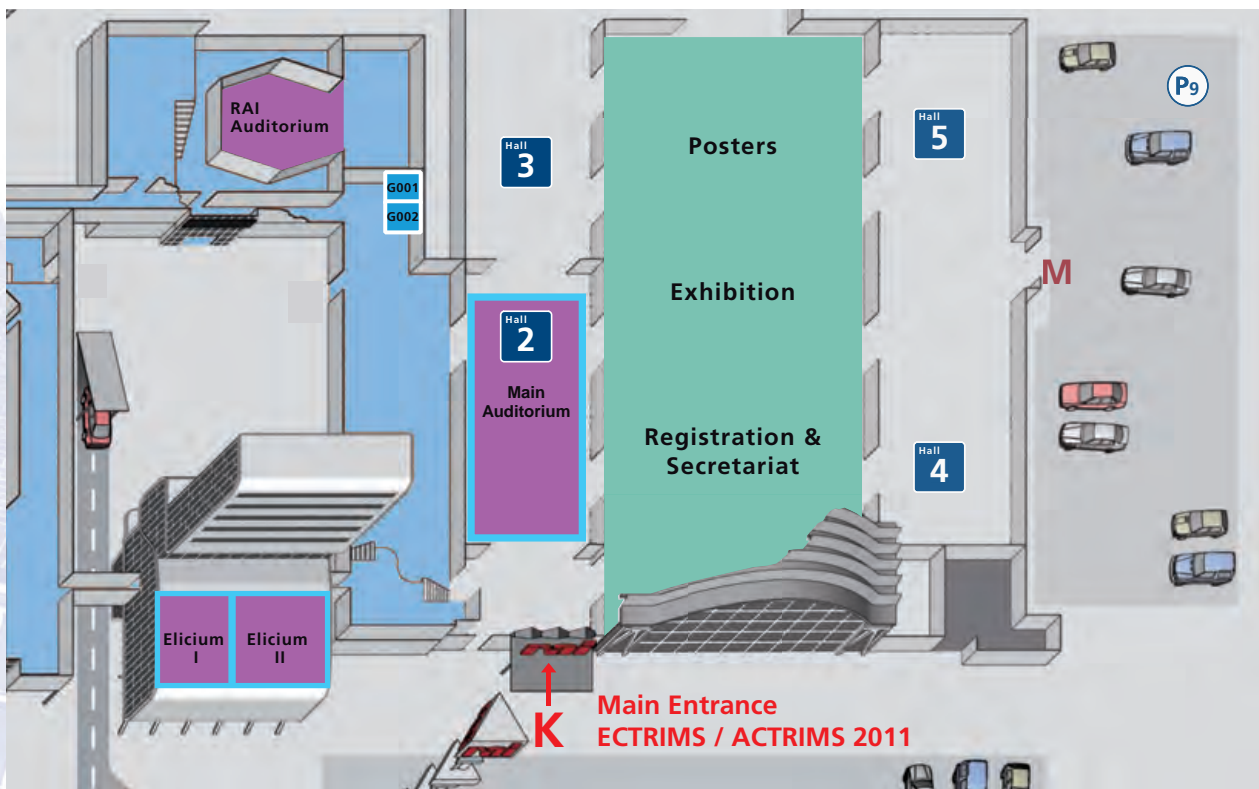
The Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Conference Centre



First Floor

- Lecture Halls
- Meeting Rooms

Ground Floor



Main Entrance
ECTRIMS / ACTRIMS 2011

Amsterdam City Map and Hotels

List of Hotels Category

1	Amsterdam Marriott	5
2	Bilderberg Garden	5
3	NH Barbizon Palace	5
4	Okura Amsterdam	5
5	Renaissance Amsterdam	5
6	Albus	4
7	Amsterdam	4
8	Arena	4
9	Bilderberg Jan Luyken	4
10	Citizen M	4
11	City Inn	4
12	Crowne Plaza Amsterdam City Centre	4
13	Crowne Plaza Amsterdam Schiphol (not shown on the map)	4
14	Die Port van Cleve	4
15	Dorint Airport (not shown on the map)	4
16	Dutch Design Artemis	4
17	Eden Parc	4
18	Eden Rembrandt Square	4
19	Holiday Inn Amsterdam	4
20	Inntel Amsterdam Centre	4
21	Lloyd	4/3/2
22	Memphis	4
23	Mercure Amsterdam aan de Amstel	4
24	Mercure Amsterdam Airport (not shown on the map)	4
25	Mercure Amsterdam Arthur Frommer	4
26	Mövenpick Amsterdam	4
27	NH Amsterdam Centre	4
28	NH Caransa	4

List of Hotels Category

29	NH Carlton Amsterdam	4
30	NH Doelen	4
31	NH Grand Hotel Krasnapolsky	4
32	NH Museum Quarter	4
33	NH Musica	4
34	NH Schiller	4
35	Novotel Amsterdam	4
36	Novotel Amsterdam Airport (not shown on the map)	4
37	Park Hotel	4
38	Park Plaza Victoria	4
39	The Convent Amsterdam	4+
40	WestCord Fashion Amsterdam	4
41	Wyndham Apollo Amsterdam	4
42	Avenue	3
43	Bellevue	3
44	Best Western Apollo Museumhotel	3
45	Casa 400	3
46	Eden Amsterdam	3
47	Eden Lancaster	3
48	Eden Leidse Square	3
49	Hampshire Beethoven Amsterdam	3
50	Ibis Amsterdam Airport (not shown on the map)	3
51	Ibis Amsterdam Centre	3
52	Ibis Amsterdam City West	3
53	Ibis Amsterdam Stopera	3
54	NH City Centre	3
55	NH Tropen	3
56	Park Plaza Vondelpark Amsterdam	3

Advance Notice ECTRIMS 2012

28th Congress of the European Committee for Treatment
and Research in Multiple Sclerosis

10–13 October 2012, Lyon, France

www.ectrims.eu



Advance Notice – Hold the Date

Fourth Cooperative Meeting of



THE CONSORTIUM OF
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CENTERS



30 May – 2 June, 2012, San Diego, California, United States

www.mscares.org

www.actrims.org