



EMBARC Newsletter

2025: a year to be remembered for the bronchiectasis community

As 2025 draws to a close, we look back and reflect on what we consider to be one of the most important, inspiring and successful years that our bronchiectasis community has ever experienced. From scientific breakthroughs to patient empowerment. Cutting-edge research to global celebrations of bronchiectasis awareness. This has truly been a standout year for bronchiectasis, with EMBARC at the heart of it all.



First and foremost, this year has brought breakthroughs for clinical research. We saw positive results from global clinical trials. The results from the [Phase III ASPEN trial](#) showing a significant reduction in exacerbations and lung function decline with the Dipeptidyl peptidase-1 (DPP-1) inhibitor, brensocatib, have paved the way for one of the most remarkable milestones of the year - the first ever licensed therapy for bronchiectasis. The licensing of [BRINSUPRI](#) (brensocatib) marks a new beginning for those living with bronchiectasis and reflects a community effort spanning more than a decade.

Alongside this, the EMBARC-led [GREAT-2 trial](#), investigating the bispecific anti-pseudomonas antibody, Gremubamab, in those with chronic *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection, produced exciting findings of its own. The results showing a reduction in bacterial load alongside clinically meaningful improvements in quality of life offer promise of another targeted therapy for bronchiectasis. Together, these positive trials signal a new era of hope for patients and a new standard for bronchiectasis research.



Another major milestone was the publication of the new [European Respiratory Society \(ERS\) Clinical Practice Guidelines for Adults with Bronchiectasis](#), reflecting how much the evidence base has grown since the previous edition in 2017. Putting the guidelines together was a huge collaborative effort and we celebrated their release together at the ERS Congress in Amsterdam, which was a particularly special event as we also celebrated the [10-year anniversary of the EMBARC registry](#) and kicked off EMBARC4, our largest and most ambitious project yet.

In 2025, our scientific output continued to grow. We published [12 peer-reviewed papers](#), further contributing to our understanding of bronchiectasis and strengthening the global evidence base for bronchiectasis care. We also launched a series of [downloadable slide decks summarising key EMBARC research papers](#) with the aim of making our research easier to share. We're proud to see the growing reach of our research, and hope this new resource will continue to support anyone wishing to share high-quality bronchiectasis research.





This year has also brought another year of collaboration with our long-standing partner, The European Lung Foundation (ELF) and their Bronchiectasis Patient Advisory Group (PAG). In March, we hosted our [Annual Bronchiectasis Patient Conference](#), where the energy set the tone for the year ahead. Over 500 people from 63 countries attended the event, and the enthusiasm of both the audience and our speakers to share experiences and learn from each other was truly inspiring.

Then in July, we celebrated World Bronchiectasis Day in style with a special [Bronchiectasis Question Time webinar](#), a dynamic and interactive session that answered more than 80 patient questions on how patients can better take control of their bronchiectasis.

Finally, in November, we celebrated the release of the ERS Bronchiectasis Treatment guidelines with our patient community through our '[Understanding the new European Bronchiectasis Guidelines' webinar](#) which was packed with patient-friendly summaries and practical advice on recognising good quality bronchiectasis care and how patients can better communicate with their healthcare teams about their care.

We were also delighted to release an array of patient resources throughout the year, including a [lay summary of the bronchiectasis guidelines for patients](#) and an updated [bronchiectasis patient care checklist](#), as well as a [nebuliser and inhaler guide](#) and a [Bronchiectasis Empowerment Pack](#) - a practical, easy-to-use resource designed for both patients and clinicians to support open communication, shared decision making, and ensure that everyone managing bronchiectasis has access to trusted, practical information.

We are incredibly grateful to the ELF and Bronchiectasis PAG for all their hard work and collaboration on these events, resources and initiatives. We are immensely proud of the work we do together and the positive impact that our collaboration is having on the lives of patients across Europe and beyond.



Recruitment to our [EMBARC-BRIDGE](#) study also gained momentum in 2025, with 32 sites now contributing data to the largest bronchiectasis biobank in the world.

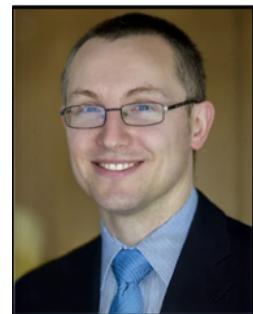
This year also saw the BRIDGE project expand to Asia where we now have 3 centres in South Korea collecting data and contributing samples. We are also in the process of expanding BRIDGE further, with sites across Africa, South America, North America and Australia all eager to join us. What began as a European initiative is now becoming a truly worldwide effort. The desire to collaborate across continents is incredibly inspiring and will surely drive more scientific breakthroughs and progress.

For those contributing to BRIDGE, please be aware we will **close for the festive period on Friday 19th December and return on Monday 5th January** fully recharged and excited to see what 2026 brings...

This year we also aimed to grow our LinkedIn community, with our [EMBARC LinkedIn page](#) now having reached >1,400 followers! This reflects a growing community interested in improving the lives of those living with bronchiectasis and we couldn't be more thrilled. Thank you to our followers for being a part of our journey. It has been wonderful to connect with so many of you this year.



Finally, 2025 also marked an exciting personal milestone for our very own EMBARC co-chair Professor James Chalmers, who has accepted the [Rhodes Professorship of Experimental Therapeutics and Clinical Pharmacology at the University of Oxford](#). This move opens new and exciting opportunities for EMBARC to deepen its links to world-leading translational science and clinical excellence. The transition from Dundee to Oxford is expected to take place throughout 2026, and we look forward to the exciting future ahead.



In every sense, 2025 has been a year of progress, innovation and hope. Thank you to all our respiratory professionals, scientists, patients and partners for your continued support, commitment and collaboration throughout 2025. You make these achievements possible.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with optimism. With our community stronger and more impactful than ever, we look forward to building on this year's achievements and continuing to advance bronchiectasis research in the year ahead. With new therapies emerging and new collaborations forming, the future of bronchiectasis research and care has never looked brighter.

However you choose to celebrate this time of year, we wish you all a very happy festive period and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

With best wishes,



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