

7th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON BIOHYDROGELS

Biohydrogels 2026

*Unlocking Innovations in Hydrogels
and Emerging Applications*

PROGRAM



October 29–31, 2026



ICEC Casablanca - International
Corporate Events Center Casablanca



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Program - Biohydrogels 2026



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Prof. Houssine AZEDDOUG: President of Hassan II University of Casablanca, Casablanca
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Prof. Rachid SAILE: Director, LBS Laboratory, (UH2C), Casablanca. Former Vice-President, Hassan II University of Casablanca.
Dr. Zahra MAAFIRI: President of MOWAIB, Casablanca
Prof. Badr Eddine KARTAH: President of the Averroes Foundation, Mohammed V University, Rabat
Prof. Khalid BERRADA: Former Director of Higher Education at the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation, University Professor and ICESCO Chair Director

Day 1: October 29, 2026

08:00–09:30 Participant arrival and registration

10:00–10:30 Opening Ceremony and Welcome Addresses

Master of Ceremonies

Prof. Houssine AZEDDOUG (President of UH2C)

Prof. Abdeslam EL BOUARI (Dean of the Faculty of Sciences Ben M'Sick)

Prof. Pierre WEISS (Chair of the 6th Edition)

Dr. Zahra MAAFIRI (Congress Partnerships and Sponsorship Coordinator)

Prof. Mohammed BERRADA (Congress Chair)

Master of Ceremonies and Session Chairs

Morning Keynote Lectures: Hydrogel Design, Chemistry, Crosslinking & Advanced Biopolymeric Materials

Chairs: Prof. Adil EDDIAI, Prof. Mohammed EZZINE

10:30–11:00

Keynote Lecture 1 — Chitosan Hydrogels: From Molecular Design and Textural Engineering to Environmental and Biomedical Applications

Prof. Abdelkrim El Kadib (Euromed University of Fez, Morocco)

11:00–11:30

Keynote Lecture 2 — Thermally Induced Cross-linking of Water-Soluble Polymers for Biomedical Hydrogel Development

Prof. Vitaliy Khutoryanskiy (Reading School of Pharmacy, University of Reading, UK)

11:30–11:45 • Coffee Break

Chairs: Prof. Adil AKKOUCH, Dr. Soukaina LAMNINI, Prof. Jihad SEBHAOUI

11:45–12:15

Keynote Lecture 3 — Bioadaptable Hydrogels for Tissue Engineering

Prof. Alireza Dolatshahi-Pirouz (Technical University of Denmark)

12:15–12:45

Keynote Lecture 4 — Biopolymer-based materials enriched with selected phenolic acids

Prof. Beata Kaczmarek-Szczepańska (Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń, Poland)

13:00–13:30

Keynote Lecture 5 — Catalyzing Healthcare Innovation in Singapore

Prof. Ali Asgar Bhagat (National University of Singapore - NUS)

13:30–15:00 • Lunch Break

Afternoon Keynote Lectures: Hydrogels for Tissue Engineering, Regenerative Medicine & Wound Healing

Chairs: Prof. Vitaliy KHUTORYANSKIY, Prof. Beata KACZMAREK-SZCZEPANSKA, Dr. Marya RAJI

15:00–15:30

Keynote Lecture 6 — Injectable Cryogels for Biomedical Applications: from Tissue Engineering to Immunotherapy

Prof. Sidi A. Bencherif (French National Center for Scientific Research, CNRS, France)

15:45–16:15

Keynote Lecture 7 — Multifunctional Hydrogels for Antibacterial Activity, microRNA Delivery, and Electrical Stimulation

Prof. Adil Akkouch (Western Michigan University Kalamazoo (MI), USA)

16:30–17:00

Keynote Lecture 8 — Beyond Brittle: Hydrogels as the Next Revolution in Cements for Bone Regeneration

Dr. Baptiste Charbonnier (Nantes Université, Inserm U1229, RMeS)

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17:00–17:30 • Coffee Break

17:30–19:00

Session 1 and 2 – Posters & Oral Presentations

- Presentation of prototypes, doctoral researches, and industrial innovations
- Poster pitches (3 minutes each) + open discussion

Room 1: CO01 to CO08

Chairs: Prof. Mouna Latifa BOUAMRANI, Prof. Ali Asgar Bhagat, Prof. Bahija MOUNIR, Prof. Fathallaah BAZI, Prof. Alireza Dolatshahi-Pirouz

Room 2: CO09 to CO16

Chairs: Prof. Abdelkrim EL KADIB, Prof. Sidi A. Bencherif, Prof. Badr Eddine KARTAH, Prof. Hanae EL MONFALOUTI, Prof. Zineb KERRAMI

Room 3: CO17 to CO24

Chairs: Prof. Hamid EL AMRI, Prof. Mustapha RAIHANE, Prof. Rachid HSISSOU, Prof. Beata Kaczmarek-Szczepańska, Prof. Omar Ait Sidi Ahmed

19:00–19:30

ROUNDTABLE & 1st DAY CLOSING DISCUSSION

- From Hydrogel Design to Regenerative Medicine

Day 2: October 30, 2026

08:00–09:00 Participant reception and registration

Morning Keynote Lectures: Drug Delivery, Immunotherapy, Microneedles & Theranostics

Chairs: Prof. Zineb KERRAMI, Dr. Baptiste CHARBONNIER

09:00–09:30

Keynote Lecture 9 — Injectable Macroporous Hydrogels for Cell Delivery and Tissue Engineering

Prof. Sophie Lerouge (École de Technologie Supérieure - ÉTS, Canada)

09:45–10:15

Keynote Lecture 10 — Natural and Unnatural Biohydrogels in Molecular Imaging, Therapy and Theranostics Preclinical and Clinical Investigations

Prof. Kattesh V. Katti (University of Missouri, Columbia, USA)

10:15–11:00 • Coffee Break

Chairs: Prof. Sidi A. BENCHERIF, Prof. Taha EL ASSIMI

11:00–11:30

Keynote Lecture 11 — Modeling an injectable poly-γ-glutamic acid–chitosan–rGO hydrogel scaffold for spinal cord tissue regeneration using COMSOL Multiphysics

Prof. Ayat Bouzieh (Jordan University of Science and Technology - JUST, Jordan)

11:45–12:15

Keynote Lecture 12 — Recent Advances in Clay-Based Biohydrogels and Biohydrogel-Derived Porous Materials for Wastewater Treatment and Environmental Applications

Prof. Khalid Draoui (Université Abdelmalek Essaâdi, Morocco)

12:15–13:45 • Lunch Break

Afternoon Sessions & Workshops: Bioprinting, Biofabrication, Modeling & Advanced Biomaterials

13:45–15:15

Session 3 – Oral Presentations

- Presentation of doctoral research, and industrial innovations

Room 1: CO25 to CO32

Chairs: Dr. Baptiste CHARBONNIER, Prof. Vitaliy KHUTORYANSKIY, Prof. Alae EL ABED, Prof. Najim ITTOBANE, Prof. Youssef NAIMI

Room 2: CO33 to CO40

(Chairs: Prof. Soumya EL ABED, Prof. Sophie LEROUGE, Prof. Saad IBNSOUDA, Prof. Kattesh, V. KATTI, Prof. Ayat BOUZIEH)

Room 3: CO41 to CO48

(Chairs: Prof. Mina OUMAM, Prof. Mohamed IDIRI, Prof. Samir CHTITA, Prof. Mohamed MOUMOU, Prof. Soumia BELOUFAFA)

Room 4: CO49 to CO57

(Chairs: Prof. Taha EL ASSIMI, Prof. Lamia BOURJA, Prof. Adil AKKOUCH, Prof. Abdelkbir ERROUGUI)

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15:15–15:45 • Coffee Break

Chairs: Prof. Ahmed FATIMI, Prof. Achraf ABDOU, Prof. Fouad DAMIRI

15:45–17:00

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS :

- **WORKSHOP 1** — 3D Bioprinting and Biofabrication
Prof. Adil Akkouch — Western Michigan University, USA
- **WORKSHOP 2** — Scientific Publishing & Research Visibility : From DOI to Scientific Discovery
Prof. Nadia Boutaleb — Crossref Ambassador, Morocco & MENA

17:00–17:30

ROUNDTABLE & 2nd DAY CLOSING DISCUSSION

- Emerging applications of hydrogels: Agriculture, environment, and energy

17:30–18:00

AWARDS & OFFICIAL CLOSING CEREMONY

18:00–18:15

GROUP PHOTO

19:00–22:00 : SOCIAL EVENT & GALA DINNER

Day 3: October 31, 2026

09:00–13:00

Guided Tour — Rabat & Casablanca
Cultural and city discovery



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