50th Anniversary

01 June, 2021

Dear ECRO members,

We are excited to announce that ECRO 2021 will be in person, and that registration is <u>open!</u> This year is extra special as we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of ECRO, the 30th anniversary of the discovery of olfactory receptors, and the 20th anniversary of the discovery of TAS1Rs.

After this long pandemic, our meeting will be one of the first - if not the first - in-person meeting. We did not come to this decision lightly. As scientists, we looked at the data, listened to the experts, and are following the governmental guidelines. Here are the salient points:

- As of May 22 of 2021, the Portuguese government administered ~5.5 million doses (36% 1st dose; 20% 2nd dose), and is continuing to vaccinate 10% of the population per month.
 This means that by September, at least 65% of the Portuguese people will be vaccinated this is great news!
- Restaurants, cafés, bakeries, etc. allow 6 people maximum per table indoors, or 10 people on a terrace outdoors without time restrictions. Major outdoor events have restarted, and indoor events are only limited by number of attendees.
- At present, all travelers are required to present a negative RT-PCR test at arrival or receive a test for Covid-19 (RT-PCR or rapid test) shortly after arrival in a Portuguese airport. Please check your local airport for any additional requirements. Testing services are available at any hospital/clinic included in the <u>Portugal Health Passport</u>, at laboratories listed by the <u>National Health Service</u>, or at the airport.
- The Conference venue Cidadela Cascais is fully equipped and operationally adjusted to the Health and Government Authorities' recommendations. They have also introduced additional, and innovative, procedures to keep improving their clients' experience.

We are excited to hear that some ECRO members have already booked their tickets to attend in person in Cascais. And because "seeing is believing," two of our ECRO Organizing Committee members recently flew to Portugal to ensure that everything ran smoothly, and safely. We hope that you will make plans to join us soon. If you have any specific questions, please do not he sitate to reach out to us.

We look forward to welcoming you to Cascais, sharing great chemosensory science, and connecting with you — in-person!

On behalf of the ECRO Organizing Committee,

Luis R. Saraiva, PhD

Chair of the ECRO2021 Organizing Committee

13-16 Sept Portugal