

WFH 2018 WORLD CONGRESS

The World Federation of Hemophilia 2018 World Congress was held in Glasgow, Scotland from 20-24 May 2018.

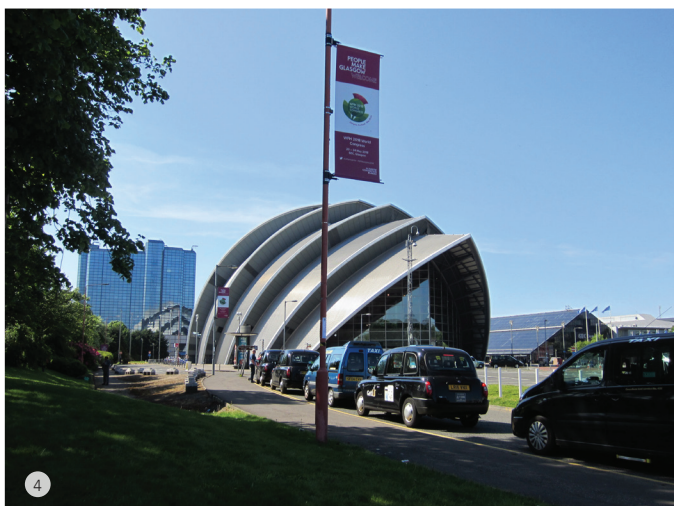
The WFH World Congress is the largest international meeting for the global bleeding disorders community, and in 2018 brought together approximately 5,000 delegates from around 130 countries. Health professionals, researchers, scientists, government and industry representatives, national haemophilia organisation leaders and members of the bleeding disorders community met to learn, share, and problem-solve.

The Congress program provided an innovative and comprehensive overview on the latest developments, current healthcare issues, and the challenges ahead in the management and treatment of people with haemophilia, von Willebrand disease, rare clotting factor deficiencies, and inherited platelet disorders worldwide.

In this special Congress feature, Gavin Finkelstein, HFA President and some of the HFA staff and haemophilia health professionals who attended give a snapshot of some key sessions in their interest areas.



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CONGRESS IMPRESSIONS

'Attending the WFH Congress in Glasgow was a really wonderful experience. It was a conference where I learnt so much and there were so many interesting sessions to attend. Five days of Congress passed in a flash. In some of the limited spare time it was wonderful to see the beautiful old city of Glasgow and the amazing architecture, and we spent a happy afternoon watching the royal wedding in a local hotel. Networking with other health professionals both local and international was also a highlight.'

'It is a very interesting time to be in haemophilia - there is so much research and many new treatment modalities emerging, some including treatment for those with inhibitors.'

Megan Walsh, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Ronald Sawers Haemophilia Centre, Melbourne

'The Congress flags outside the Scottish Event Centre had the message "People make Glasgow – Welcome" and I have to say, from the moment I arrived I was struck by the friendliness of the Glaswegians. Congress felt very relaxed and easygoing. There was a real

sense of optimism about the new treatments, but also about the progress in new approaches to women and bleeding disorders and VWD. It was also a great opportunity to catch up with my international colleagues: so many issues are common to us all, and I learned a lot from sharing strategies and seeing what has worked for others.'

'Glasgow is home to so much scientific and cultural innovation. I was so excited to see the science centres, BBC Scotland building and the lovely Victorian and Art Deco architecture I had read about. It was a terrific environment for a Congress that was all about huge steps forward.' ❧

Suzanne O'Callaghan, Policy Research and Education Manager, HFA

1. Entrance to the Congress trade exhibition
2. L-R: Sharon Caris, Gavin Finkelstein, Hayley Coulson, Andrew Selvaggi, Megan Sarson (AHCDO) at the Congress dinner
3. A sea of delegates entering the Scottish Event Centre
4. The SEC Armadillo, venue for the plenaries