



4th General Meeting & Conference

TENET - TEndon Regeneration NETwork (CA22170)

18-19th June, 2026

Hybrid Meeting
Onsite meeting venue: Stayokay Hostel Maastricht
Maasboulevard 101
6211 JW Maastricht, The Netherlands

Management Committee Meeting Agenda

Day 1 | 18th June 2026 (restricted to Core Group Members)

Management Committee (MC) Meeting

9:00 – Welcome to participants, verification of the quorum and adoption of agenda

9:10 – Information to the MC:

a) Recap of the minutes of the last meeting, e-votes and matters arising since the last meeting

b) Core Group: report from the Core Group, including delegated decisions

c) Action Membership: New Specific Organisations and COST Members represented in the MC

d) Action Participation: WG membership and applications, New MC Members/Observers and provisional substitution

e) Budget status: summary from the Grant Holder

f) Update from the COST Association

This article/publication is based upon work from COST Action TENET, CA22170, supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology). COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.

9:40 – Follow up and discussion on the:

- a) Action management: structure, leadership positions and other supporting roles. Mandates to the Core Group (if applicable)
- b) Implementation of the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy
- c) Grant Awarding by the Action
- d) Progress of each working group
- e) Science Communication Plan
- f) Progress on MoU Objectives, WG tasks, deliverables, and Goals for the current GP

10:00 – Coffee Break

10:30 – Planning

- a) Revision of Work and Budget Plan of the current GP
- b) Draft plans for the following GP(s)
- c) Upcoming activities

11:00 – Monitoring and Reporting to the COST Association

11:15 – AOB

11:20 – Summary of MC decisions

11:30 – WG Meetings (breakouts)

13:00 – Lunch Break

4th TENET Conference Program

Day 1 | 18th June 2026

13:00 – Lunch

14:00 - Opening Session – Action Chair (Manuela Gomes) **and Co-Chair** (Manuel Gomez-Florit) & **Meeting Host** (Martijn van Griensven) and **Co-Host** (Martyna Nikody)

14:30 – Plenary talk I
45'

Regenerating the Enthesis with Multi-Material Hierarchical Nanofibrous Metamaterials

Alberto Sensini, Artificial Intelligence — Bernoulli Institute, University of Groningen, the Netherlands

15:15 – 15:30 – Q&A discussion

15:30 – 16:30 Coffee Break & Poster Session

16:30 - WG1 - Cellular and molecular biology of tendon development, disease and regeneration mechanisms (chaired by **Rui Domingues & Martyna Nikody**)

15' (12' presentation+3' Q&A)

1. Magnetically Responsive Exosome-Based Nano-Tenosomes Targeting NFκB in Tendon Inflammation

Adriana Vinhas, University of Porto, Portugal

2. Syndecan-4 localize the lysyl oxidase activation complex in tendon cells

Daniel Kronenberg, Department of Regenerative Musculoskeletal Medicine, Institute of Musculoskeletal Medicine, University Hospital Münster, Germany

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17:00 - WG2 - Mechanosignaling and biophysical characteristics of tendon tissues (chaired by **Francesca Romano & Martijn van Griensven**)

15' (12' presentation+3' Q&A)

1. Collagen mechanics at the micro- and nanoscale

Philipp Thurner, TU Wien, Austria

2. Microfluidic Fabrication of Nanostructured Hydrogel Microfibers Recreating Tendon Anisotropic Architecture and Cellular Patterns

Daniel Garcia-Lojo, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL), Portugal

17:30 – Borrel

StayOK

9:00 Plenary talk II
45'

Engineering Tendon Niches: Bridging Mechanobiology, Disease Modeling, and Regeneration

Rui Domingues, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL), Portugal

9:45 – 10:00 – Q&A discussion

10:00 – Coffee Break & Poster Session

11:00 - WG3 - Biomaterials, cells and molecular therapeutics for advanced tendon therapies (chaired by **Gabi Rios & Elizabeth Balmayor**)

15' (12' presentation+3' Q&A)

1. MicroRNA modulation differentially regulates extracellular matrix remodeling in engineered human tendon microtissues

Carlos J. Peniche Silva, MERLN Institute for Technology-Inspired Regenerative Medicine, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands

2. Engineered collagen-coated scaffolds for tendon repair: a novel drug delivery system

Francesca Romano, Università degli Studi di Palermo, Italy. MERLN Institute for Technology-Inspired Regenerative Medicine, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands

3. Development of an injectable hydrogel for tendon regeneration from dECM obtained in vitro under magnetic stimulation

Gonçalo Lascasas dos Santos, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal. ITR - Laboratory for Integrative and Translational Research in Population Health, Porto, Portugal

4. Impact of ageing on equine PRP composition

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Zacharoula Rafaella Toutoudaki, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece

12:00 – Lunch Break

13:00 - WG4 - Models of tendon health and disease (chaired by **Carlos J. Peniche Silva & Denitsa Docheva**)

15' (12' presentation+3' Q&A)

1. **TenoFlex: a 3D human tendon microtissue platform for studying tendon repair**

Francesca Giacomini, MERLN Institute for Technology-Inspired Regenerative Medicine, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands

2. **Proteomic and Lipidomic Characterization of IL-1 β -Induced Dysregulation in Tenocyte Homeostasis**

Matteo Seccaroni, University of Perugia, Italy

3. **3D in vitro tendinopathy model driven by mechanical overuse and macrophage-mediated inflammation**

Ekaterina Oleinik, TU Wien, University of Applied Sciences Technikum Wien, Austria

4. **Biomanufactured Human Tendon Fascicles in Suspension: microphysiological systems to study the mechanisms of vascular - tendon core communication**

Rosa Monteiro, INL – International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, Portugal

14:00 – Coffee Break & Poster Session

15:00 - WG5 - Clinical translation of advanced therapies for tendon diseases
(chaired by **Francesca Giacomini & Luminita Labusca**)

15' (12' presentation+3' Q&A)

1. Decoding and Engineering the Tendon Niche

Dan Michelle Wang, Chinese University of Hong Kong, China

2. The Role of Nursing in the Clinical Management and Rehabilitation of Tendon Injuries: A Narrative Review

Elona Hasalla, University of Elbasan, Albania

3. Decoding tendon-infrapatellar fat pad (IPFP)crosstalk: proteomic analysis of human tenocytes responses to osteoarthritic and cartilage defect IPFP secretomes.

Betzabeth Pereira Herrera, MERLN Institute for Technology-Inspired Regenerative Medicine, Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands

4. Clinical and Diagnostic Relevance of ER Stress-Related XBP1 in Knee Osteoarthritis: Evidence from Serum and Synovial Fluid Analyses

Hamza Malik Okuyan, Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Turkey

5. A Conceptual Analysis for Nursing Practices on Policy-Based Innovative Care in the Clinical Translation of Advanced Treatments in Tendon Diseases

Aysegul Ilgaz, Akdeniz University, Turkey

16:15 - General Discussion of WG Activities and Plans

16:45 - Closing Session

Poster presentations:

WG1 - Cellular and molecular biology of tendon development, disease and regeneration mechanisms

1. **Biotechnological Strategies for Tendon Regeneration: Advances in Cellular, Molecular, and Scaffold-Based Approaches**

Deniz Ekinçi, Ondokuz Mayıs University, Turkey

2. **PIEZO1-based polarization alters stem cell phenotype following self-assembly**

Brent M. Bijonowski, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, Portugal

3. **Lactylation in Degenerative Matrix Remodeling in Tendon: Linking altered energy metabolism to chronic tendon pathology**

Teresa Debatin, University Hospital Basel, University of Basel, Switzerland

WG3 - Biomaterials, cells and molecular therapeutics for advanced tendon therapies

1. **Bio-Based Photocrosslinkable Hydrogels with Tunable Properties for Tendon Regeneration**

Mustafa Ciftci, Bursa Technical University, Turkey

2. **Extracellular vesicles mediate the crosstalk between macrophages and tendon cells during inflammation**

Lucía Carmona-García, Health Research Institute of the Balearic Islands (IdISBa), Spain

3. **Polarization-dependent extracellular vesicle programs in primary and THP-1-derived macrophages reveal distinct inflammatory and tissue-remodeling signatures relevant to tendinopathy**

Andrea Gómez Llonín, Health Research Institute of the Balearic Islands (IdISBa), Spain

- 4. Electrospun PCL/zein fibers scaffolds as carriers for naringin and naringenin: a comparative physicochemical and release study for tissue engineering applications**

Cinthya Fiorella Enriquez Lara, Health Research Institute of the Balearic Islands (IdISBa), Spain

- 5. Multi-modal hyaluronic acid-derived hydrogels for therapeutic EVs delivery in tendinopathy**

Kristiyan Stiliyanov Atanasov, Health Research Institute of the Balearic Islands (IdISBa), Spain

- 6. From novel tough double network hydrogels based on poly(2-oxazoline)s and thiol-ene chemistry to a new generalized concept**

Tomáš Sedláčik, University of Chemistry and Technology Prague, Czech Republic

- 7. Impact of charge density on the mechanical properties of acrylic double network hydrogels**

Daniel Honetschläger, University of Chemistry and Technology Prague, Czech Republic

- 8. Hippo ON-state pathway activation and decreased proliferation in Tenosynovial giant cell tumor**

Bárbara Adão, Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas Abel Salazar - U.Porto, Portugal

WG4 - Models of tendon health and disease

- 1. Neurotendinous microphysiological system to study Golgi tendon organ communication in health and disease**

Riccardo Piantoni, International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, Portugal

- 2. Development of a 3D Tissue-Engineered Human Tendon Model for High-Throughput Drug Screening in Tendinopathy**

Beth Swallow, University of Leicester, United Kingdom

- 3. Proinflammatory stimuli blunt tenogenic differentiation in mechanocultured ASCs**

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Esther Yülin Ortiz Guerrero, University of the Balearic Islands (UIB), Spain

4. Modulation of JNK Signaling Pathway by Pulsed Electromagnetic Fields in 3D Magnetic Multicellular Chondrosarcoma Spheroids

Érica Pereira, University of Porto, Portugal

WG5 - Clinical translation of advanced therapies for tendon diseases

1. The role of ultrasound-guided therapy in the management of tendon pathology

Luminita Labusca, National Institute of Research and Development for Technical Physics, Romania