

EASL School - Clinical research study design

12-13 June, 2026

Stockholm, Sweden

Pre-assessment tasks

One month prior to the school an icebreaker online seminar will be held. Students will then be assigned to different groups, including:

- Incidence and prevalence studies in liver disease
- Case-control studies
- Cohort studies of long-term risk and disease-associated outcomes
- Cross-sectional studies
- Randomized controlled trials

Day 1

8.30: Registration and coffee

9.00: Welcome, introduction and aims of the school

9.10: Why is knowledge of clinical epidemiological methods needed? Good and less good examples (Hannes Hagström)

9.30: Incidence and prevalence (Anders Forss)

9.50: Coffee break

10.20: Randomized controlled trials (Axel Wester)

10.40: Cohort studies (Axel Wester)

11.00: Case-control studies (Nils Hentati Isacson)

11.20: Cross-sectional studies (Ying Shang)

11.40: Bias in study designs – what to think about before you start your study (Hannes Hagström)

12.00: Lunch

13.00: Introduction to group work (Hannes Hagström)

13.15: Group work: Design a study using a specific research question. This exercise will break down participants into five groups of up to five students and one mentor. Each group will be given a specific research question and can choose which study design they want to use to best answer this question.

15.00: Coffee break

15.20: Group work, continued

16.30: State of the art lecture: Specific things to consider within hepatology when designing your study (Peter Jepsen, Denmark)

17.00: End of day one.

18.30: Dinner.

Day 2

8.30: Summary of day one (Hannes Hagström)

8.45: Presentation from student groups (students + mentor), ~15 minutes each (2-3 minutes per person to present), followed by opposition / comments from other students.

10.30: Coffee break

10.45: State of the art lecture: Confounding, mediation or collision? What are these things and how do I consider them in my study? (Ian A Rowe, UK)

11.15 Designing a clinical trial – my experience from TREND (Magnus Holmer)

11.45: Selection of winning proposal (Faculty)

12:00: Lunch

12.45: Breakout session. This will give the students the chance to interact with an expert in the field on selected topics relevant to study design:

- Reading a scientific paper: What to look out for and why (Anders Forss)
- The art of pharmacoepidemiology (Axel Wester)
- Working together with a biostatistician – how to not be lost in translation (Nils Hentati Isacsson)
- Using registers for your research – a quick and easy solution or the devil is in the details? (Hannes Hagström)
- What can you gain from repeated measurements? (Ying Shang)

13.30: Course wrap-up, evaluation and networking (Faculty)

After the school

Post-school assessment (online)

CME accreditation