

Dear participants of CERME

Since our message last week about the necessity to turn CERME12 into a virtual conference, both LOC and IPC have worked intensively to adapt to the new situation. Many details remain to be settled but the following information can now be shared.

1. **Updated scientific programme:** the main scientific activities (TWG sessions, plenaries, panel, poster session) will be held with the same contents as usual, while other elements will be shortened (eg opening and closing, social events). The online conference will take place over four days (February 2 to February 5, both included) – each day from 13.00 to 19.00 (Central European Time, CET). The detailed programme will soon be published at the CERME12 website.
2. **YERME day:** For the young researchers who have registered for CERME12 and have been accepted for this special event, the YERME day will be held on February 1<sup>st</sup> (13.00-19.00 CET) and February 2<sup>nd</sup> (9.00-11.45 CET). The programme will soon be published at the CERME12 website.
3. **New registration deadlines:**  
**December 15<sup>th</sup>:** final deadline for pre-registered participants to complete and pay their registration. After this date they lose their preregistration priority, but may still register if place is available.  
**December 15<sup>th</sup>:** final deadline for signing up for **the waiting list** (through the CERME 12 website).  
**December 17-December 31<sup>st</sup>:** Invitations for registration sent to people on the waiting list (prioritizing co-authors of accepted contributions), with one week window to register. Preregistered participants may also complete their registration in this period, as long as space remains.
4. **Cancellation of presentation in case of failure to register:** accepted contributions (paper or poster) for which the submitting author has not registered by **December 31<sup>st</sup>**, will be withdrawn from the conference programme. (Exceptions may be applied for, to [cerme12@unibz.it](mailto:cerme12@unibz.it), by December 17<sup>th</sup> in cases where the submitting author is unable to attend. In such cases, one co-author *will be permitted to register and attend the relevant TWG in place of the original author.*)
5. **Registration fees.** The fees to pay in order to register remain unchanged. However, it is clear that an online congress is somewhat cheaper to organize than the normal format, and because we changed the format more than two months ahead of time, considerable costs for the normal conference could be avoided. It is therefore likely that all who paid the conference fee will receive a partial refund after the conference. But we can only know the exact amount once the conference is over (it depends, among other things, on the final number of participants). And it is very costly to do refunds so we will only do it once – *after the conference*. Excursion fees, and accompanying person fees, will be refunded at the same time. Notice: proposing changed fee schemes now would create unfortunate differences among participants and further complicate the situation at the time of refunds.
6. **Financial transparency.** As for all other ERME activities, CERME12 cannot generate any surplus, once all expenses (including all conference costs, production of proceedings, ERME memberships, Graham Littler fund contribution, and possible partial refunds) are paid. The financial report from CERME12 will, as usual, be presented for the ERME board with this as a condition for approval.

Best regards

Giorgio Bolondi, Chair of LOC of CERME12

Jeremy Hodgen, Chair of IPC of CERME12

Carl Winsløw, President of ERME