

The 11th McMaster International Review Conference of Internal Medicine (MIRCIM 2026)

May 6-9, 2026

Kraków, Poland

ACP Global Ambassador reflections by: Christine Laine, MD, MPH, FACP

The 11th McMaster International Review Conference of Internal Medicine (MIRCIM 2026) took place over 3 days in Kraków, Poland. Co-organized by the McMaster International Review Conference of Internal Medicine and the Polish Institute for Evidence Based Medicine, the event gathered global experts to discuss current clinical issues in internal medicine. The conference also featured a special track on artificial intelligence in medicine and the Young Talents in Internal Medicine World Contest. The conference was well organized, extremely interesting, and inspiring.

The Young Talents in Internal Medicine World Contest was a major highlight of the conference. The contest showcased scholarly case reports from medical students, trainees, and early career physicians worldwide. There were 147 accepted submissions overall for the Young Talents in Internal Medicine World Contest 2026. These accepted submissions were presented in 107 in-person and 40 virtual poster presentations. The participants represented 32 different countries globally. From these, the reviewers selected the top 30 case reports to advance to the live grand final. I had ample opportunity to interact with the contest participants, including one who represented ACP. They were uniformly smart, ambitious, and committed to careers in internal medicine.

The contest winners were:

- **1st Place:**
"Fulminant liver failure following marathon run" (Dr. Maja Nowicka)
- **2nd Place & Audience Choice:**
"The gut feeling: A rare cause for postprandial abdominal pain" (Dr. Ruth Airiel Ho)
- **3rd Place (Tie):**
"Hypokalaemic rhabdomyolysis due to clay geophagia during pregnancy" (Dr. Piero Saieva)
"Extreme hyperinsulinemia: Not always an insulinoma" (Dr. Gabriela Mejia)

In addition to serving as a reviewer for the Young Talents Contest, I gave the keynote presentation at the start of the grand final. My presentation was on navigating the peer review process. In addition, I co-chaired a very lively session on artificial intelligence in medical publishing. The full program details are available at [MIRCIM 2026 Program](#).

This three-part meeting was well organized, the speakers were engaging, and the sessions were very timely and topical. The hosts were wonderful and very interested in continuing interaction with ACP. Dr. Virginia Hood, President, International Society of Internal Medicine and ACP President Emerita, was also a meeting participant and maintains very strong connections with the global internal medicine community. Cultural events organized by the hosts included a lovely concert and a fascinating tour of the salt mine. City and Auschwitz tours were also organized by the meeting hosts but conflicted with the timing of my conference responsibilities. I toured Auschwitz independently. I highly recommend this Global Ambassador experience to a colleague and would happily consider doing it again. Kraków is a lovely, easy to navigate city, and the people I met were wonderful.







AI is impacting every aspect of medical publishing

16:30



- writing protocols, assembling/creating/analyzing data
- making it easier to create studies, case reports, commentaries, review articles
- identifying (and sometimes hallucinating) citations
- editing or drafting the text, creating tables and figures
- reviewers using AI to prepare their reviews
- journals' editors are using AI for their assessment of submissions
- creating videos, podcasts, press releases, etc...
- reaching audiences
- generating narrative responses to info searches that bypass source articles

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