**Dr Katrina Pekarska - MetALD has a higher rate of extrahepatic cancer and cardiovascular events compared to other subtypes of steatotic liver disease.**

I am writing to thank the BSG for providing financial support for me to attend EASL Congress 2025 in Amsterdam. This opportunity provided me with not only educational but also networking opportunities.

It was an amazing and truly enriching experience both clinically and academically. What I enjoyed most was the opportunity to engage directly with leading global experts in hepatology and to witness the presentation of cutting-edge research in real time.

It was interesting to hear about the most recent updated EASL guidelines that I will implement into my practice. I have also had an opportunity to attend the YI workshop: How to prepare a Clinical Practice Guideline in Hepatology which provided a behind-the-scenes look at the rigorous process of developing guidelines—from formulating clinical questions using the PICO format to evaluating evidence using the GRADE system. What made it particularly impactful was the hands-on, collaborative approach, where we worked in small groups. Public Health talks broadened my perspective beyond the clinical setting. The panel discussions highlighted again the impact of Steatotic Liver Disease and how advocacy efforts are evolving to secure liver health a stronger presence at the World Health Assembly. The plenary session on emerging therapies in NASH and metabolic liver disease as well as talks on immune mediated liver disease management were particularly impactful.

Participating in abstract sessions and poster discussions allowed me to engage with fellow researchers, gain feedback and talk to like-minded researchers early in their career. I was selected to present my research on Steatotic Liver Disease at the Young Investigator poster tour. This opportunity allowed me to showcase my research to international audience of peers and leading experts in hepatology. It was a great networking opportunity, and I established new valuable connections with the colleagues working on similar topics from other countries.

