



Five Weeks to Lyon – SESAM 2026 is taking shape

Dear simulation colleagues

In just over five weeks, the global healthcare simulation community will gather in Lyon for the 31st Annual Meeting of SESAM, and we are delighted to share how the programme is coming together. Whether you are a long-standing member of the SESAM community or joining us for the first time, this letter is your invitation to see what awaits and to secure your place before time runs out.

The Scientific Programme

Celebrating the Diverse Community of Healthcare Simulation

The scientific programme is now published, featuring oral presentations, short communications, ePosters, and workshops presented in English, French, and Spanish. Topics span the full breadth of our field, from AI and extended reality to debriefing, patient safety, curriculum development, and emerging global healthcare challenges.

Congratulations to all accepted presenters. We very much look forward to hearing your work.

The programme is available to download at <https://sesamsociety.org/programme/>

An online programme including full session details will be available in the next few days.



Opening Keynote

We are honoured that **Dr Sylvie Briand**, Chief Scientist in the Science Division of the World Health Organization, will deliver the opening keynote: "*Identifying Global, Emerging Healthcare Priorities.*"

Drawing on decades of leadership in epidemic preparedness, health emergencies, and scientific policy, Dr Briand will explore how health systems must learn, adapt, and rehearse for uncertainty, and why healthcare simulation plays a central role in building resilience. Her perspective promises to challenge and inspire, setting the tone for three exceptional days of science and connection.

Pre-Congress: Offsite Visits and Workshops

Monday 15 June | Offsite Visits (14:00-16:00) Arrive early and explore three of Lyon's outstanding simulation and clinical training facilities, including SimLabSanté, the CLESS high-fidelity simulation platform, and the Trauma Centre and robotics laboratory at Hôpital Édouard Herriot. Places are limited. Find out more at: <https://sesamsociety.org/programme/>

Tuesday 16 June | Pre-Congress Workshops A rich programme of pre-congress workshops is on offer. Places are limited and workshops require separate registration, so we encourage you to book early.

The SESAM Party @ Le Grand Réfectoire, Grand Hôtel-Dieu

No SESAM Annual Meeting would be complete without our most anticipated social event. This year, we are celebrating in one of Lyon's most iconic spaces - Le Grand Réfectoire, a stunning 250-year-old venue with vaulted ceilings and an impressive stained-glass window, situated in the heart of the historic Grand Hôtel-Dieu.



The evening begins at 19:00 with a cocktail reception, followed by a DJ set and cash bar from 21:00 onwards. Great food, a magnificent setting, and a wonderful evening with colleagues and friends. This is one you will not want to miss! Book your tickets through the registration portal.



SESAM INN – Call for Submissions now open

Do you have an innovative idea that could shape the future of healthcare simulation?

Submissions are now open for SESAM INN (Innovation Nest). This is your opportunity to present groundbreaking innovations in healthcare simulation – whether an early-stage concept, a working prototype, or a mature solution ready for wider adoption.

Finalists will be selected to pitch live at the SESAM INN Showcase during the pre-congress programme on Tuesday 16 June, with three outstanding projects each receiving the **Lou Oberndorf Innovation Nest Award** and a grant of **€2,800** to support further development.

What you need to apply:

- A completed application form with a project summary (250-500 words)
- A five-minute elevator pitch video

Deadline: 22 May 2026, 23:59 CET

Full details and terms at: <https://sesamsociety.org/sesam-inn/>

Accommodation and Registration

Special preferential rates are available for SESAM 2026 delegates at hotels near the Lyon Convention Centre, with limited availability. We strongly recommend booking early: <http://platform.revolugo.com/hotels?wid=sesam-2026>

If you have not yet registered, now is the time: SESAM 2026 is shaping up to be our most vibrant meeting yet.

[Register here for SESAM 2026](#)

We very much look forward to welcoming you to Lyon.

With warmest regards

The SESAM Executive Board

