

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM 2026-2027

Objectives

European Cholangiocarcinoma Network (ENS-CCA) – under the Precision-BTC-Network COST Action CA22125 – and the International Cholangiocarcinoma Research Network (ICRN) are pleased to launch the third edition of this collaborative mentorship initiative.

The program aims to support and guide junior researchers, clinicians and nurses in their career paths and scientific development by pairing them with experienced mentors from the ICRN and Precision-BTC networks.

While many institutions already have established mentorship practices, this joint program offers a unique opportunity for junior researchers to receive guidance from international, independent, and highly experienced physicians and scientists; mentors who share a passion for biliary cancer research and care.

Program Characteristics:

- Duration: 6-month virtual mentoring activity
- Focus: Career development and professional choices; biliary tract cancer research
- Commitment: Mentors and mentees are expected to participate in a 1-hour virtual meeting every 30-45 days
- Opportunities: Mentees may apply for the [COST Short-Term Scientific Mission](#) to visit their mentor's institution, provided they meet the eligibility criteria
- Conference Participation: Mentees can submit an abstract to present their scientific work, if applicable, at the [Precision-BTC Network Annual Conference](#) and the Cholangiocarcinoma Foundation Annual Conference poster session.

Eligibility Criteria for Mentees

- PhD/Doctoral candidates or early-career researcher, clinicians and nurses. For those with an MD or PhD, this should be obtained within the last 10 years.
- Language: Fluent in written and spoken English.
- Research Focus: Candidates should have demonstrated strong interest in biliary cancers, having *at least one published paper or abstract published on the topic*.

Application Process

Those interested in participating in the Mentorship Programs as a Mentee are invited to apply via the following Google Forms applications:

- > [Mentee Application](#)
- > [Mentor Application](#)

Required Documents:

1. Curriculum Vitae
2. Motivation Letter: Clearly specify why you are interested in applying, objectives, and anticipated outcomes by the conclusion of the program.*
3. Letter of Recommendation: A letter from institute/head of department endorsing the application.*
4. Published Work: A paper or abstract published on cholangiocarcinoma*

**Required for Mentees only*

Selection Process and Matching

- > Application submissions open: October 1, 2026
- > Applications deadline: October 31, 2026
- > Selection and matching: Program Directors and the Board of Mentors will select Mentees and match them with Mentors by November 30, 2026.
- > Notification of matches: By December 1, 2026

Start of the program and Follow-up

- > Matched Mentors and Mentees must arrange the first call by December 30, 2026.
- > By the end of the program, a final program evaluation form will be sent to Mentees and Mentors to evaluate the program's effectiveness and keep it up-to-date and useful.
- > Mentees and their Mentors should submit their evaluation within a maximum of 30-days from the end of the program.

Previous Mentors and Mentees

Click [here](#) to visit the Mentorship Program page of the Precision-BTC-Network website to find out more about the program and about previous Mentors & Mentees' experiences!