



Frontiers in Cardiovascular Biology (FCVB) 2026

23–25 April 2026, Leuven, Belgium

Attending the Frontiers in Cardiovascular Biology 2026 in Leuven was an outstanding and highly rewarding experience, made possible through the BioMed Travel Grant. The congress brought together leading researchers in cardiovascular science and provided an inspiring environment to exchange ideas, discuss emerging concepts, and explore innovative approaches in translational cardiology.

During the meeting, I had the opportunity to present my research both as an oral presentation and in a moderated poster session. My work focuses on the cardiorenal axis in heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF), with particular emphasis on epigenetic and metabolic mechanisms driving renal dysfunction. The oral presentation allowed me to share key findings with a broad audience and receive insightful feedback from experts in the field. In addition, presenting during the moderated poster session enabled in-depth scientific discussions and direct engagement with fellow researchers.

A particularly meaningful highlight of the congress that I was awarded the Best Moderated Poster Prize in the session “Heart Failure Models and Mechanisms.” This recognition reflects the relevance and impact of my work and represents an important milestone in my PhD journey.

Scientifically, the congress offered valuable insights into multiple aspects of cardiovascular biology, including inflammation, metabolism, and organ crosstalk. Sessions on heart failure mechanisms, mitochondrial dysfunction, and multi-omics approaches were especially relevant to my research. These discussions reinforced the importance of integrating epigenetic regulation with metabolic and inflammatory pathways to better understand complex diseases such as HFpEF.

Beyond my specific research area, FCVB emphasized the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and technological innovation. The exposure to diverse methodologies, including single-cell approaches, spatial transcriptomics, and advanced imaging, provided new ideas that I can incorporate into my ongoing and future projects.

Equally important were the networking opportunities offered by the congress. Interacting with researchers from different institutions fostered meaningful connections and opened

potential avenues for collaboration. These exchanges are essential for broadening scientific perspectives and advancing research in a collaborative manner.

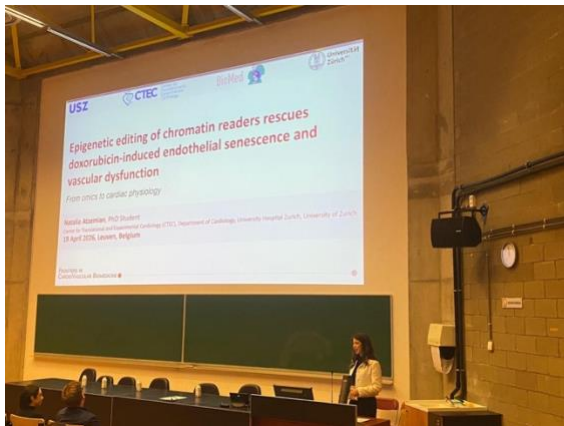
I am sincerely grateful to the **BioMed LSGSZ for supporting my participation in FCVB 2026**. This experience significantly contributed to my scientific development, strengthened my presentation skills, and further motivated me to pursue high-impact research in the field of cardiovascular and renal disease.

Natalia Atzemian, MSc

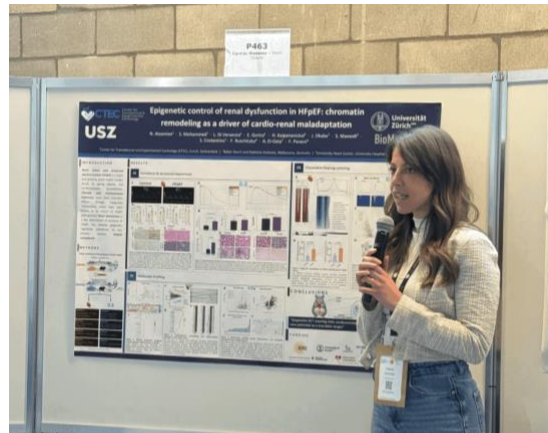
PhD Candidate

University of Zurich

Center for Translational and Cardiology (CTEC)



Oral presentation during FCVB in Leuven



Moderated Poster Presentation in FCVB



Awards session for the Best Moderated Poster Prizes

