

Minutes of the Meeting of the ESH Scientific Council

ESH Council Zoom cloud Meeting

November 7th, 2020

09:00 am – 13:25 pm

PRESENT

ESH-Council members and officers

R. Kreutz, President
E. Lurbe, Vice President
A. Januszewicz, Secretary
K. Tsioufis – Immediate Past President

M. Azizi	D. Lovic
G. Grassi	G. Parati
T. Kahan	A. Persu
T. Weber	P. Van de Borne
B. Williams	E. Agabiti Rosei
C. Borghi	A. Coca
M. Dorobantu	A. Manolis
G. Mancia	M. Burnier
J. Brguljan	

Other participants

M. Calderai (AIM)
M. Massaro (AIM)
R. Lynch

Absent

B. Jelakovic

1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The ESH President R. Kreutz welcomed all members to the third ESH virtual Council meeting. There are no apologies, some members will join later due to hospital duties. He thanked M. Calderai and M. Massaro for the technical support. He spoke in memory of Peter Sleight who recently passed away. A Memoriam written by S. Kjeldsen, G. Mancia, R. Kreutz has been published in both the Journal of Hypertension and Blood Pressure. A minute of silence was observed in his memory.

2. MINUTES OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL MEETING, BELGRADE, MARCH 7TH, 2020

The minutes of the Zoom Cloud Council Meeting held May 29th, 2020 were unanimously accepted by the Council and are available on the ESH website in the Council Area and can be consulted by the Council members.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

J. Polonia presented the ESH financial data at 30.09.2020 (not audited). All figures are shown in Swiss Francs (1E = 1.07 SF; 1 SF = 0.94 E). He presented the data provided by R. Schildknecht at 30.09.2020. There are no big expenses and no big increases in income. There is a small profit compared to the previous report.

European Society of Hypertension, 6300 Zug

Income and Expenditures as per 30.09.2020 (provisional, not audited)

	30.09.2020 (CHF)	31.12.2019 (CHF)
Net assets at beginning of period	1'813'266	1'798'344
Net assets at end of period	1'881'352	1'813'266
Profit / Loss	68'086 27.1%	14'923 1.1%

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Profit / Loss	68'086 27.1%	14'923 1.1%
<hr/>		
Total Income	251'228 100.0%	1'386'355 100.0%
Total Expenses	-183'142 -72.9%	-1'142'213 -82.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-183'142 -72.9%	-1'371'433 -98.9%

Income

Meeting incomes

Subscriptions

Other income:

- Royalties
- Donations (Merck Serono webinar)

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Net assets at beginning of period	1'813'266	1'798'344
Net assets at end of period	1'881'352	1'813'266
Income		
Meeting income		
Meeting Glasgow	27'655 11.0%	0 0.0%
Meeting Milan	0 0.0%	997'629 72.0%
Meeting Athens	128'122 51.0%	102'483 7.4%
General Meeting income	55'397 22.1%	50'002 3.6%
Total Meeting income	211'174 84.1%	1'150'114.20 0.0%
Total Income		
	251'228 100.0%	1'386'355 100.0%

Expenditures

Meeting expenses – the figures do not differ much from previous years.

Expenses for other society activities:

- Subscriptions for Journal of Hypertension
- ECDA membership fees 2020

Other Expenses:

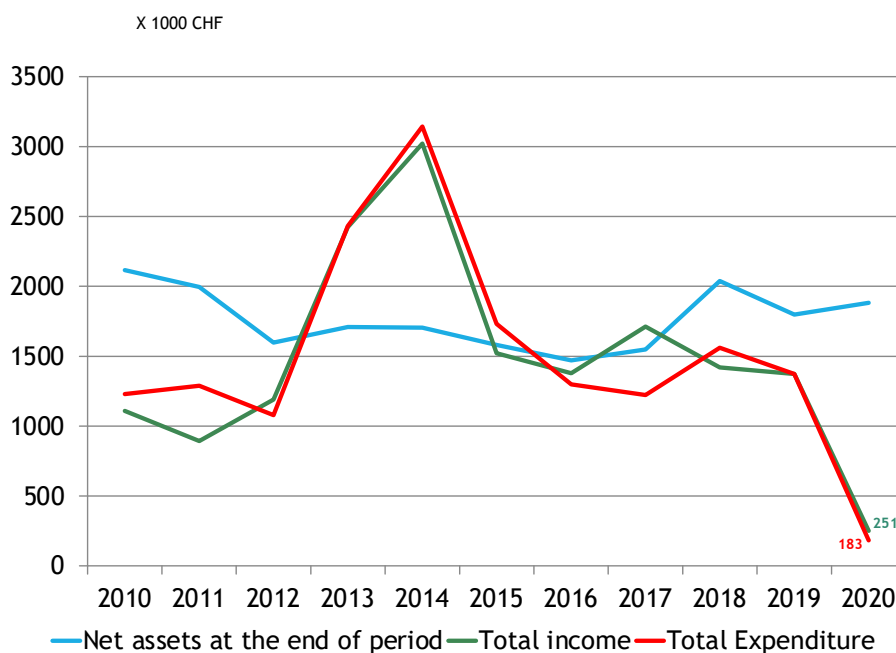
- Administration costs

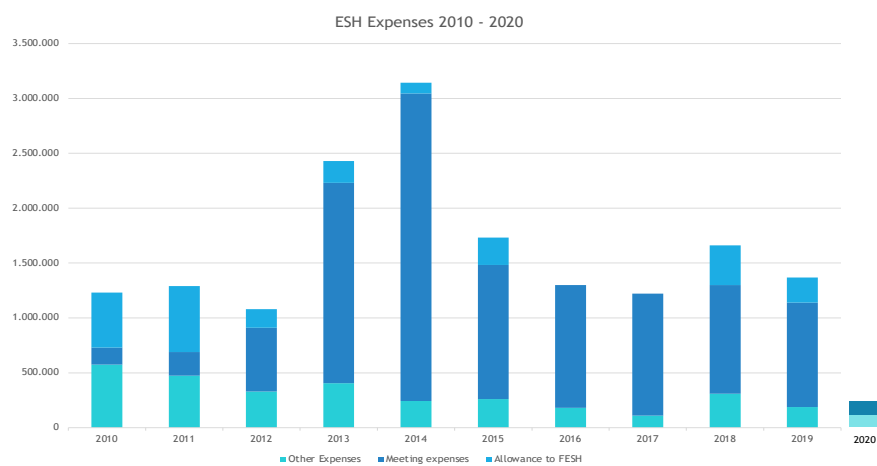
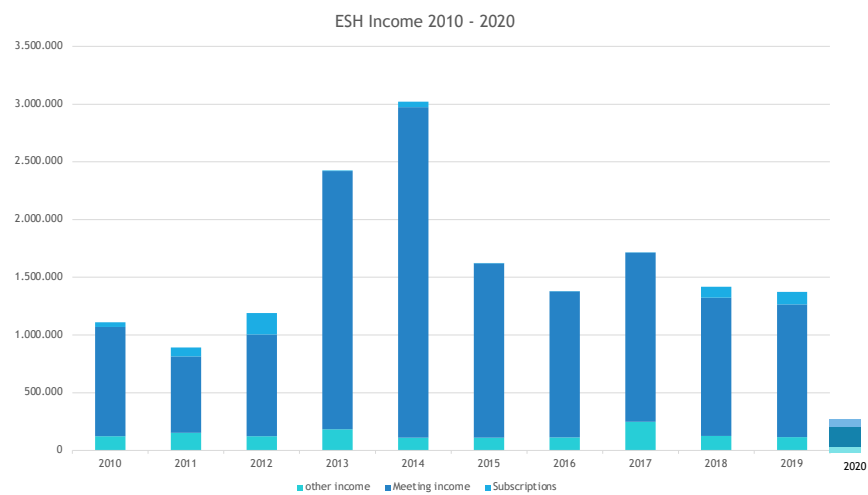
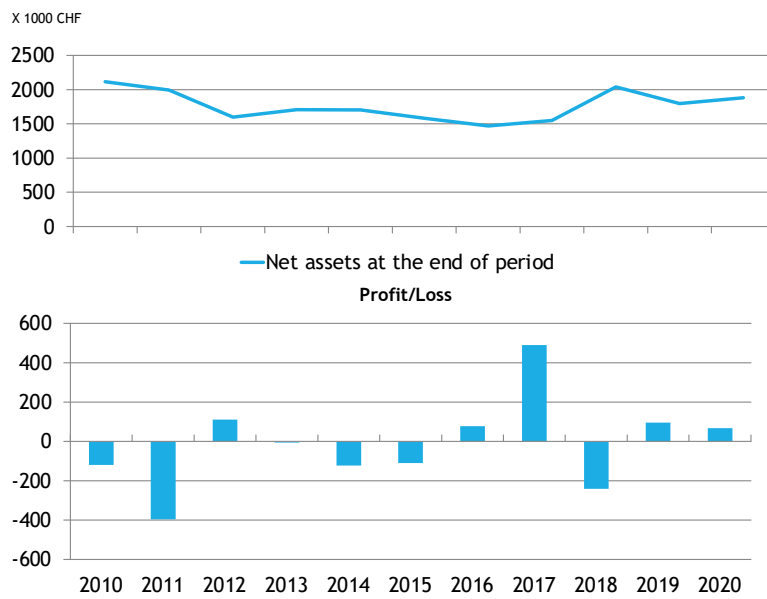
European Society of Hypertension, 6300 Zug

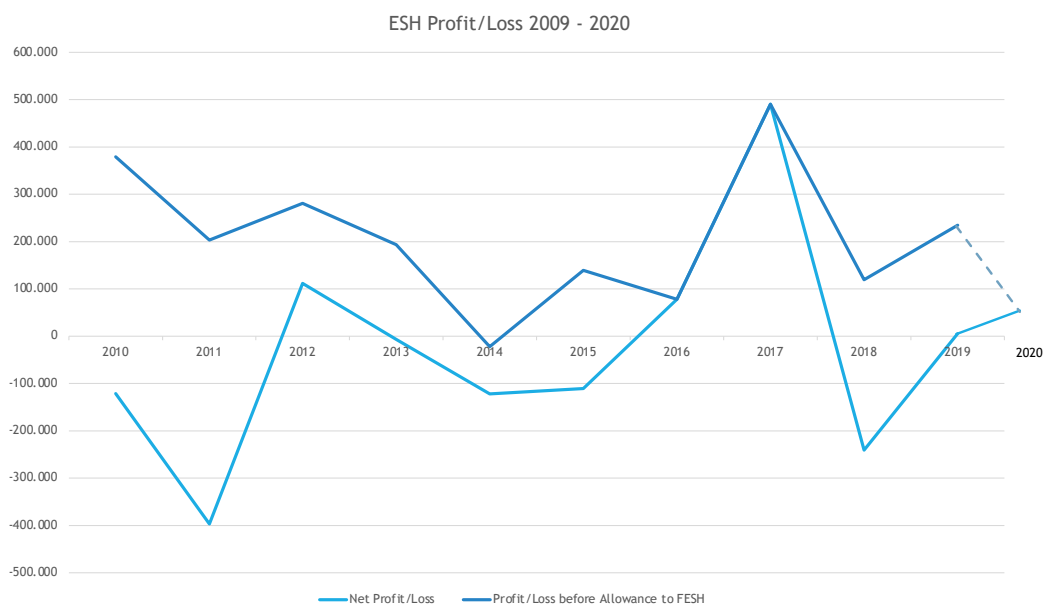
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	30.09.2020 (CHF)	31.12.2019 (CHF)
Net assets at beginning of period	1'813'266	1'798'344
Net assets at end of period	1'881'352	1'813'266
EXPENDITURES		
Allowances to the Foundation of the ESH	0 0.0%	-229'220 -16.5%
Meeting expenses		
Meeting Milan	0 0.0%	-792'211 -57.1%
Meeting Athens	-102'850 -40.9%	-103'257 -7.4%
General Meeting costs	-961 -0.4%	-60'785 -4.4%
Total Meeting expenses	-103'811 -41.3%	-956'253 -69.0%
Expenses for other society activities		
Subscriptions for Journal of Hypertension	-18'258 -7.3%	0 0.0%
Awards granted	0 0.0%	-5'526 -0.4%
Website expenses	0 0.0%	-40'763 -2.9%
Donations	0 0.0%	-4'359 -0.3%
other expenses	-1'089 -0.4%	-30'416 -2.2%
Total expenses for other society activities	-19'347 -7.7%	-81'063 -5.8%
Other expenses		
Administration costs	-3'214 -1.3%	-22'550 -1.6%
Legal- and professional fees	-36'301 -14.4%	-22'838 -1.6%
Bank charges	-5'817 -2.3%	-6'846 -0.5%
Gain/Loss on securities	-5'129 -2.0%	-16'386 -1.2%
Gain/Loss on Forex	0 0.0%	-28'677 -2.1%
Tax payments	-9'523 -3.8%	-7'600 -0.5%
Total other expenses	-59'984 -23.9%	-104'897 -7.6%
Total Expenses	-183'142 -72.9%	-1'142'213 -82.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-183'142 -72.9%	-1'371'433 -98.9%

J. Polonia presented a graphical outline of the ESH financial situation covering the period from 2010 to 2020.







R. Kreutz informed the Council ESH will receive additional income from AIM. M. Massaro confirmed the last payment to ESH would be made the following week by AIM.

J. Polonia said no invoice has been received from Infomedica. R. Lynch will follow up.

M. Burnier asked if funds should be transferred to the FESH. Both R. Kreutz and K. Tsioufis agreed the transfer of funds to FESH be continued and carried out as in the past.

M. Burnier provided a summary of the FESH finances. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the postponement of the Summer School, there have been less expenses and less income. The webinars are the only current income. The meeting in Athens has not been included. He confirmed the FESH financial situation stable at around 580'000 SF.

He also mentioned the new strict sponsorship regulations. Sponsorship/grant funds must be accompanied by a budget and a detailed description, after the event, of how the funds were spent must be provided.

K. Tsoufis confirmed Servier supported their participation in the Athens meeting with a sponsorship of €10,000. After the meeting Servier requested a detailed report of how the funds were used. He also reminded the Council Medtronic provided an educational grant for the Athens meeting, which was postponed at the last minute, and some logistical expenses had already been paid. The meeting was held virtually with minimum physical presence in Athens in September. Approx. €45,000 from the initial funds advanced and will be used for the next meeting.

R. Kreutz suggested that for the future, ESH should have a simple, transparent financial plan and detailed documentation in place to send to sponsors. He also invited M. Burnier to continue to take care of the FESH finances and to provide slides for the Council meetings. M. Burnier will send some slides of the FESH account for the meeting minutes.

M. Burnier asked that it be reported in the meeting minutes that €200,000 will be transferred to the FESH account.

T. Kahan commented ESH should have a projection of the budget at the end of the year, and based on that, the amount of money to be transferred from ESH to FESH. He asked the Treasurer what the financial predictions for the end of the year were. J. Polonia pointed out that the figures presented are at 30.09.2020.

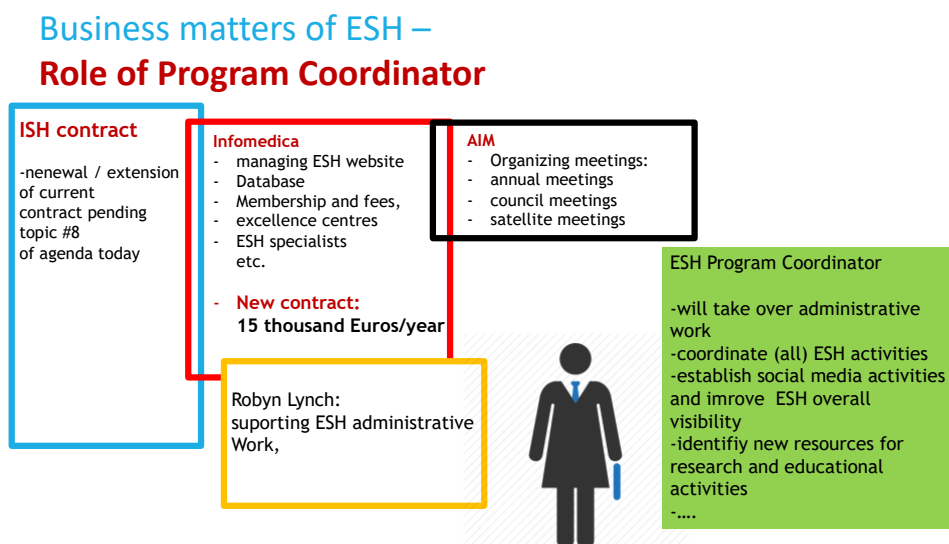
R. Kreutz said there should be no significant changes, there will be expenses for Infomedica and income from AIM. The balance will tend towards income. He suggested that it be reported in the minutes that at the end of 2020, after further talks and agreement between M. Burnier, J. Polonia and R. Schildknecht, ESH will transfer €200,000 to the FESH.

M. Burnier said the main reason to re-enforce the transfer of funds to FESH is that the Foundation is not taxed. He also confirmed there are sufficient funds for next year. He pointed out that the income from the Journal had not been mentioned and that it can be included in the budget. He also said it's difficult to calculate expenses, as the Treasurers (ESH & FESH), do not always know what educational events are being organized by the Council members.

R. Kreutz reiterated that the FESH funds can only be spent on research and educational activities.

4. ESH BUSINESS MATTERS

a. ESH Program Coordinator



R. Kreutz gave a brief outline of the ESH/ISH issues. He mentioned that the contract with the publisher Wolters Kluwer needs to be renewed or renegotiated. Some issues with ISH have already been tidied up, for example, ESH is now independent from ISH with regards to the collection of membership fees which are collected directly by ESH through the website. He confirmed the good ongoing relationship with Infomedica which will continue. The collaboration with AIM is very important and their support is fundamental.

As discussed in the past, he confirmed the need for a Program Coordinator to take over the administrative work and coordinate all ESH activities, help improve ESH visibility and social media activities and identify new financial resources for research and educational activities.

After searching for an appropriate candidate, R. Kreutz said he was very happy to introduce the new Program Coordinator, Mandy Elgner. M. Elgner joined the Council meeting. R. Kreutz introduced M. Elgner and informed the Council that a contract has been drawn up, confirmed and negotiated with the following ESH office bearers: President, Immediate-Past President, Secretary, Treasurer and approved by the ESH law firm Ornitag representatives: B. Steimen, R. Schildknecht.

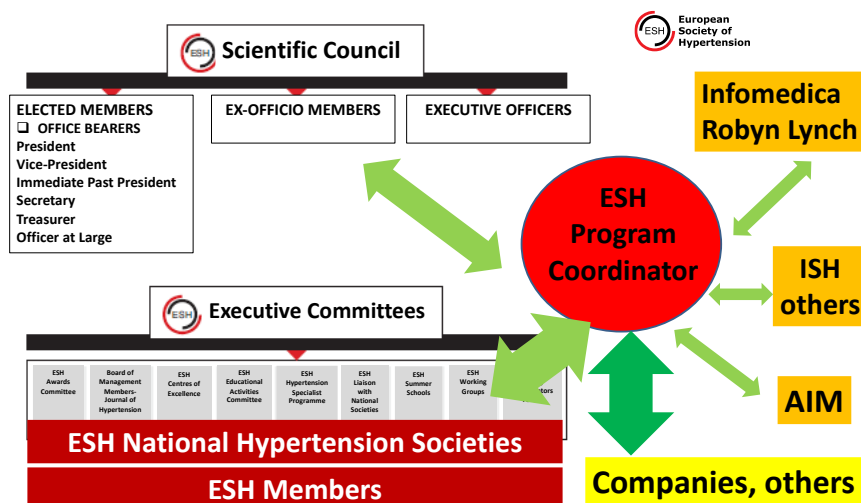
R. Kreutz said he was very pleased with the new position; the final paperwork is being finalized and the contract will be signed in the next few weeks.

M. Elgner introduced herself and gave a summary of her curriculum.

R. Kreutz thanked M. Elgner and welcomed her on behalf of the Council to ESH.

R. Kreutz reiterated how important the new position is, not only for communication between the Coordinator and the Council but also between the supporting companies, Infomedica, AIM, ISH and other societies, and this can be done on a daily/weekly basis by the Coordinator. He thanked A. Persu for having taken on the communications with the Working Groups.

R. Kreutz invited the Council members to start working with M. Elgner. He and A. Januszewicz will start some training sessions to give her some background on the ESH, some medical issues, a new email address will be set up for her.



M. Burnier suggested adding an Organizing Bureau to organization chart that will be comprised of M. Elgner and R. Lynch

5. ESH ANNUAL MEETINGS

a. 2021 ESH-ISH Joint Virtual Meeting, Glasgow

M. Massaro provided updated information regarding the meeting that was initially scheduled for May 29-June 1, 2020.



JOINT MEETING
ESH-ISH
2021 ON-AIR

WHERE WE SHOULD HAVE BEEN – MAY 2020

CONGRESS DATES

Friday, May 29 CONGRESS OPENING

May 30 – June 1 CONGRESS DAYS

Confirmed registrations: 1401 – includes all categories (delegates, speakers, press representatives).

First submission abstracts: 1607

Late-breakers: 210



FIGURES

REGISTRATIONS CONFIRMED: 1.401

ABSTRACTS RECEIVED

AT THE FIRST SUBMISSION: 1607

LATE-BREAKERS: 210

She provided the list of sponsors who confirmed their participation in March. The number of sponsored sessions has been increased. She ran briefly through the meeting programme.



SPONSORS

CONFIRMED:

- ✓ A&D
- ✓ Abbott
- ✓ AHA
- ✓ Alam Medical
- ✓ Astrazeneca
- ✓ Bayer
- ✓ Boryung
- ✓ BP Lab
- ✓ Egis
- ✓ IEM
- ✓ InBody
- ✓ Inferum Corporation

- ✓ Medtronic
- ✓ Menarini
- ✓ Merck KGaA
- ✓ Novacor
- ✓ Omron
- ✓ Oxford University Press
- ✓ Recor
- ✓ Servier
- ✓ SomnoMedics
- ✓ Spacelabs
- ✓ Vifor
- ✓ Wisepress

PENDING:

- ✓ Ferrer

NON SPONSORING:

- ✓ Atcor
- ✓ Novonordisk
- ✓ Recordati
- ✓ Takeda

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the meeting was postponed to 2021. The only availability the venue could offer was April 11-14.

In September the congress organizers were informed the venue had been converted into a COVID structure and would remain such until end January 2021. Thus, the venue would not be available in April. Following discussions with the ESH/ISH leadership, it was decided to keep the April dates and to go virtual. The virtual congress has been officially announced.

M. Massaro pointed out that some quick decisions need to be made such as revising the scientific programme and the evaluation process of the new abstracts that have been submitted and the late-breakers deadline.

A new virtual meeting programme committee was formed:



VIRTUAL MEETING PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

LOC:	Prof. Dominiczak (UK) Prof. Touyz (UK) Prof. Delles (UK)
ESH:	Prof. Kreutz (Germany) Prof. Tsioufis (Greece)
ISH:	Prof. Schutte (Australia) Prof. Unger (Netherlands)
BIHS:	Prof. Martin (UK) Prof. McCormak (UK)

The committee and M. Massaro will have weekly meetings throughout the month of November.

All participants have been asked to confirm or not their participation in the virtual meeting. Abstract authors have been asked to confirm or not their abstract for the virtual meeting.



FIGURES' UPDATE

REGISTRATIONS

CONFIRMATIONS: **1.109**

CANCELLATIONS: **292**

ABSTRACTS

COMMUNICATIONS SENT: **1781** (excluding rejected and withdrawn abstracts for ESH-ISH 2020)

CONFIRMED ABSTRACTS: **605**

WITHDRAWN ABSTRACTS: **91**

NEW LATE-BREAKERS SUBMISSION: November 30 – December 13

M. Massaro provided some updated figures. The total number of registrations includes paid registrations, speakers who have complimentary registration and accommodation grants that have been converted to free registration.

Over 1700 letters were sent out to abstract authors, 605 reconfirmed and 91 withdrew their abstracts, many still have to reply, and 216 new abstracts need to be added to the above number. New late-breakers submissions will be opened from November 30 thru to December 13.

M. Massaro informed the Council members that all the sponsors have been approached again. Servier and Omron have confirmed their intention to fund the same amount agreed for ESH-ISH 2020 and customized packages will be defined. Sponsorship amounts need to be defined for the other companies who have confirmed their participation.

SPONSORS' UPDATE

We are now developing the new Sponsorship Opportunities based on the virtual format of the event. Below the preliminary feedback received from the sponsoring companies after receiving information about the ON-AIR format.

COMPANIES who confirmed the intention to maintain the same amount agreed for ESH-ISH 2020:

Customized package to be defined:

- SERVIER
- OMRON

COMPANIES who confirmed the interest to support the congress, amount to be defined:

- ABBOTT
- MEDTRONIC
- MENARINI
- MERCK
- RECOR
- OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
- VIFOR

PENDING COMPANIES:

- A&D
- ALAM MEDICAL
- ASTRAZENCA
- BAYER
- BORYUNG
- BP LAB
- EGIS
- I.E.M.
- INFERUM
- FERRER
- MICROLIFE
- NOVACOR
- SANOFI
- SOMNOMEDICS
- SPACELABS

NOT SUPPORTING:

- INBODY
- TENSIO MED
- WISEPRESS

M. Massaro showed a draft of a revised scientific programme timetable. highly technological 3D platform has been selected.

The sessions may be pre-recorded or live, there will be more than 4 parallel rooms, the contents will be available 24hrs, live discussion and Q&A forums will be available, meetings with the companies can be organized, participants may visit the virtual exhibition, abstracts and posters will be available on-demand with the possibility to get reports and analytics from the meeting.

M. Calderai who is following the work on the platform confirmed the absolute necessity to provide the best customized platform. With the great number of offerings and choices of virtual events, sponsors are very critical, and it is important to offer a high-quality interactive platform to provide the same/similar experience as a face-to-face meeting. The platform is work-in-progress, a demo will be available as soon as possible. The meeting is being promoted on Twitter and has more than 900 followers and over 600 followers on Facebook. Massive promotion is being carried out in conjunction with the ISH and BHS through email blasts.

R. Kreutz thanked M. Massaro and her team for the enormous efforts being made to reinvent and promote the virtual meeting. He invited the Council members to comment on the virtual meeting.

C. Borghi, G. Grassi and E. Agabiti Rosei congratulated M. Massaro and team for the proposal for the new 3D formula.

E. Agabiti Rosei requested more information on the number of sessions and simultaneous sessions. M. Calderai said the idea is to maintain the same number of parallel sessions and to have more than 5 parallel rooms and to pre-record the sessions so that they are also available on-demand. The oral sessions and posters will be available on-demand, the institutional

sessions and sponsored sessions will be available live. It will not be possible to see more than one session at-a-time, sessions of interest can be viewed later on-demand.

J. Brguljan enquired about the virtual meeting registration fee. M. Massaro replied this will be discussed with the Programme Committee and a proposal with reduced registration fees will be submitted during the first Committee meeting. As soon as a decision has been made, the registration fees will be posted on the meeting website.

K. Tsioufis thanked and congratulated M. Massaro and M. Calderai on the excellent job they are doing. He commented on the successful Athens virtual experience which was a hybrid meeting of live and on-demand content. He highlighted the importance of good quality pre-recordings and respecting the meeting timetable. Differentiating the meeting from the others, and promotion of the meeting is also extremely important.

T. Weber commented that payment of a registration fee for a virtual meeting may not be well received by users. He assumed the sponsorship funding will probably be the deciding factor on how much the fee will be and asked if any projections had been made in that sense.

M. Massaro replied that discussions were underway, a first hypothesis is: €180,00 members; €220,00 non-member; Young participants free (age limit 35 years), plus a Daily registration fee.

ESH 2021 Awards

R. Kreutz reminded the Council that no awards were conferred in 2020.

After discussions with G. Mancina and the awards committee, a proposal to reinstate the awards in 2021 was made.

He informed the Council that Servier has confirmed their support for 2021 with the Servier Research Grant in Hypertension of €30,000.

R. Kreutz asked the Council if they agreed the awards should be confirmed for 2021. They should be announced immediately after the Council meeting. The awards would be given in a special ESH Awards session during the virtual meeting. He asked which awards should be confirmed and if any should be skipped in 2021. K. Tsioufis agreed it would be a good sign from the Society to continue with the awards ceremony.

A Manolis confirmed the Talal Zein award. He informed the Council that instead of giving the award to one person it will be divided and given to the best three abstracts (€1,000 each). He asked the Council if they agreed on the new format.

The Council agreed unanimously to continue to confer awards in 2021.

R. Kreutz proposed keeping the following awards:

- Björn Folkow Award
- Alberto Zanchetti Award
- ESH Honorary Membership
- Talal Zein Award to be given to 3 people €1,000 each. A. Manolis will send a brief text to be used for the announcement.

Plus:

- Peter A. van Zwieten – M. Burnier confirmed there is no reason why the award should not be given in 2021. He will follow up with the van Zwieten Foundation for confirmation.
- Paul Milliez Award – R. Kreutz asked M. Azizi for his support in contacting the French Society of Hypertension. He suggested R. Kreutz contact directly the French Hypertension Society president.

b. 2021 MILAN SATELLITE MEETING

G. Mancina informed the Council of the possibility of having a satellite meeting in Milan in October 2021 in order not to leave Milan too long without a meeting. The idea is to have a meeting centered on the future of the guidelines; on the various aspects of the guidelines based on recent evidence, what should or may be changed. The meeting would address a series of up to 25 topics in 45-minute sessions on each topic, 15 minutes for Position Paper and 10 minutes for discussions. It would be an on-site meeting with up to 50-80 people over 1.5 days. It is all still very preliminary and must be discussed and decided with the Council. No sponsors have been approached yet. The October date is a compromise, with the hope of being able to have a physical presence, and not being too close to the meeting in Athens in March 2022. It could be considered as a satellite to the Athens meeting.

R. Kreutz said a decision needs to be made. What kind of format, what are the issues in terms of sponsoring, virtual participation on the basis of what we anticipate with COVID next year? He invited the Council members to comment.

K. Tsioufis agreed that it is a good idea not to leave Milan too long without a meeting and fully supports G. Mancina's proposal to have the meeting. He also agreed on the proposed date for the meeting, distancing it equally between the Glasgow and Athens meetings. The structure of the meeting will of course depend on the pandemic situation which is impossible to foresee now.

M. Mancina commented that a meeting organized by the Society and centered on the guidelines gives ESH an advantage for future guidelines, reminding the Council that the fatherhood of the Guidelines on Hypertension is 100% ESH.

R. Kreutz agreed with G. Mancina, and notwithstanding the format and the timing of the meeting, ESH should go ahead and start working on the programme.

T. Weber suggested that the programming meeting for the Milan satellite meeting could be combined with the Council meeting.

A. Coca supports the idea of the satellite meeting and said ESH must reinforce their position on future guidelines.

A. Manolis fully supports the satellite meeting. There are too many other BP related events being organized and it's important that, in this virtual era, ESH makes its presence felt.

T. Kahan confirmed the satellite meeting is an excellent idea. He suggested checking the dates don't coincide with other meetings. Combining the meeting with the Council meeting would be economically advantageous.

E. Agabiti-Rosei is in favor of the satellite meeting.

R. Kreutz noted the favorable comments from the Council members. G. Mancia said the next step will be to discuss with M. Massaro industry support. R. Kreutz suggested in parallel to set up a team and start working on the programme outline.

c. 2022 ESH MEETING ATHENS

K. Tsioufis reported there are no updates, work was stopped due to the COVID pandemic. On the basis of the situation at the time, work will start again immediately after the Glasgow meeting.

5c.



d. 2023 ESH MEETING MILAN

M. Massaro informed the Council that the dates for the 2023 meeting have been blocked and the meeting will be held June 23-26, 2023.

e. 2024 BID STATUS

K. Tsioufis listed the Bid Committee members and the 3 candidate cities: Berlin, Gdansk and Seville. In September the candidates were invited to give a virtual presentation of their

cities. After careful evaluation of the proposals and virtual presentations, he officially announced the Bid Committee has selected Berlin as the host city for 2024 and congratulated the Berlin organizing committee.

He also mentioned that all the Bid Committee members were impressed by the Polish presentation and said Poland should be held in consideration as a future host country.

An announcement will be sent to all the candidates informing them of the decision.

6. WORLD HYPERTENSION DAY



The WHD activities are supported by the ESH and the information is available on the ESH website.

7. ESH ACTIVITIES ON COVID-19

a. Surveys in ESH Excellence Centres

T. Weber summarized the survey sent out in June to the Excellence Centres on the compromised routine care for hypertension during the pandemic. 52 Excellence Centres responded and the results will be published in the Journal of Hypertension as ESH news. The survey showed the number of patients treated by the Excellence Centres during the lockdown was reduced by approx. 90% and this will have an impact in the long term.

The corona-virus disease 2019 pandemic compromised routine care for hypertension: a survey conducted among excellence centers of the European Society of Hypertension: European Society of Hypertension Corona-virus Disease 2019 Task Force

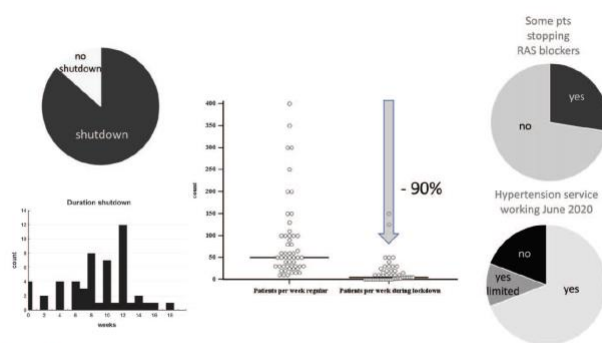
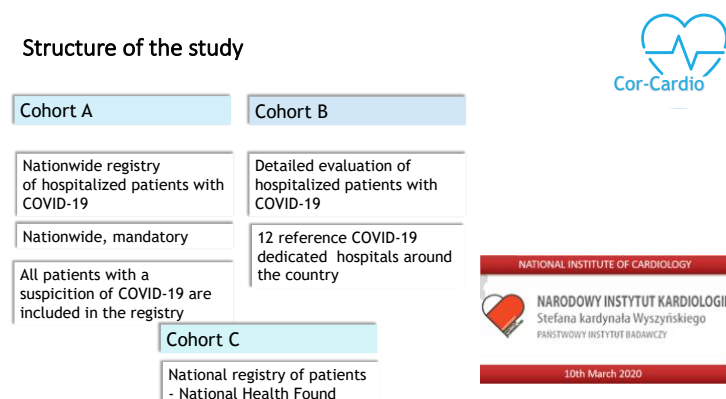


FIGURE 1 Summary of the effects of corona-virus disease 2019 and the associated shutdown of routine healthcare services for hypertensive patients.

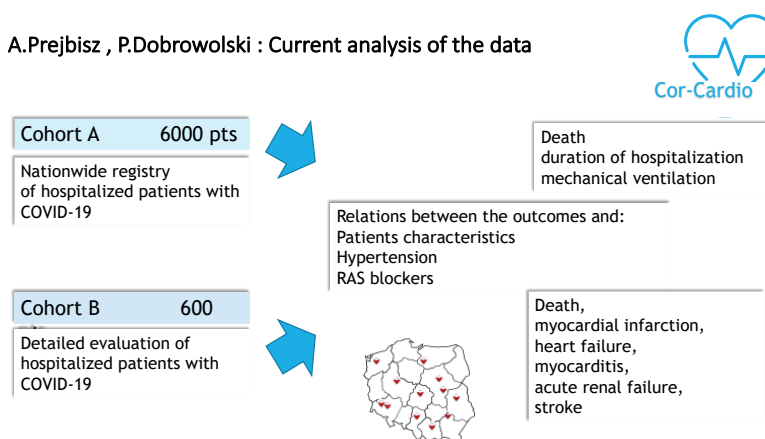
R. Kreutz thanked T. Weber for the work done and thanked G. Mancina and the Journal of Hypertension team for their help, the survey will be available in PubMed and the Journal of Hypertension under ESH news.

b. COVID-19 Registry in Poland updated



A. Januszewicz summarized the structure of the study which was initiated at the beginning of March.

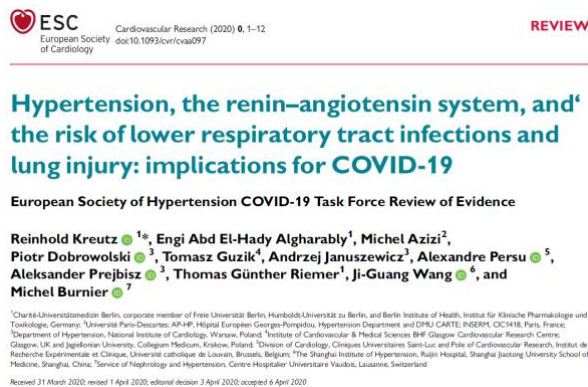
A.Prejbisz , P.Dobrowolski : Current analysis of the data



The current data analysis is at an advanced stage with 6000 patients in Cohort A and 600 patients in Cohort B. The final results will be presented during the next Council meeting. He thanked R. Kreutz for his support and precious advice.

c. Other topics

A. Januszewicz reported on two initiatives by ESH during the pandemic. The first is the article published by R. Kreutz in April in Cardiovascular Research. The article currently has more than 100 citations. He thanked all the Council members who contributed to this article.



end of October 2020 - more than 100 citations

The second activity is related to the review article “Life-style and environmental factors and their impact on hypertension during the Covid-19 pandemic” submitted in October to the Journal of Hypertension. This is a comprehensive review of the potential factors including environmental changes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The article was prepared by numerous Council members and other non-council members invited to contribute to the paper, such as Prof. Felix Creutzig, an expert in environmental research.

Life-style and environmental factors and their impact on hypertension during the COVID-19 pandemic

Short title: Risk factors, hypertension and COVID-19

Reinhold KREUTZ^{1*}, Piotr DOBROWOLSKI^{2*}, Aleksander PREJBISZ³, Engi Abd El-Hady ALGHARABLY⁴, Grzegorz BIŁO⁵, Felix CREUTZIG⁶, Guido GRASSI⁷, Vasilios KOTSIS⁸, Dragan LOVIC⁹, Empar LURBE¹⁰, Pietro Amadeo MODESTI¹¹, Marco PAPPACOGGI¹², Gianfranco PARATI¹³, Alexandre PERSU¹⁴, Jorge POLONIA¹⁵, Marek RAJZER¹⁶, Philippe de TIMARY¹⁷, Thomas WEBER¹⁸, Burkhard WEISSER¹⁹, Konstantinos TSIOFIS²⁰, Giuseppe MANCIA²¹, Andrzej JANUSZEWICZ²²

October 2020 - submitted to the Journal of Hypertension, under review



8. ESH AND JOURNAL OF HYPERTENSION

Journal of Hypertension: New Editor in Chief

- Applications: dead line 1st December 2019
- Michel Burnier, Lausanne, CH, proposed
- Peter de Leeuw, Maastricht, NL independent application

Wolters Kluwer | European Society of Hypertension | International Society of Hypertension

Call for Applications

Editor-in-Chief Position: Journal of Hypertension

The Publisher is currently inviting nominations and applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Hypertension.

The Journal is a peer-reviewed journal publishing papers of a high standard reporting original clinical and experimental research which contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the field of hypertension.

The Journal is published monthly, and is widely accessible worldwide via institutional subscriptions, plus other direct subscriptions, including members of the European Society of Hypertension and International Society of Hypertension.

Candidates must hold an MD degree or equivalent and should have an academic position. Candidates must be an acknowledged expert in hypertension management, a member of leading professional societies in this subspecialty (European Society of Hypertension or International Society of Hypertension preferred), and have considerable authoring and editing experience in peer-reviewed journals. Candidates should have experience as an active member and peer reviewer on Editorial Boards of journals in the field, with a proven track record for excellence and timeliness. Candidates must possess excellent communication, organizational and interpersonal skills, as well as a wide network of professional contacts.

Job Description

- Provide a strong editorial vision representative of the goals of the journal.
- Together with the Publisher, develop strategies to obtain high-quality content in both print and online formats, as evidenced by metrics such as increased citations, web traffic and membership scores.
- Champion the Journal at professional meetings, workshops and other appropriate forums.
- Select and lead an esteemed international Editorial Board whose knowledge base represents the topics covered in the editorial mission of the Journal.
- Ensure proper and expeditious manuscript flow to guarantee on-time publication, soliciting content and/or editorial as appropriate.
- Select and manage high-performing peer reviewers and Editorial Board members as needed.
- Make final editorial decisions on submitted manuscripts.

We request the Editor-in-Chief to commit to a renewable 5-year term, commencing July 1, 2021. An honorarium will be provided as compensation for the Editor's work on the journal.

Full-time Senior Publisher | **Chair, Board of Management** | **Deputy Chair, Board of Management**

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest, their curriculum vitae along with a 500-word vision statement for the journal by 1st December 2019 to:

ESH OWL
Senior Publisher, Wolters Kluwer
esh.owl@wolterskluwer.com
Tel +44 (0)203 197 6676

ESH | European Society of Hypertension

R. Kreutz reported on the current situation with the Journal of Hypertension. The Call for Application for a new Editor-in Chief which was issued by the Board of Management (BoM) of the Journal HTN representing the publisher Phil Daly, Wolters Kluwer; the Chair of the BoM, ISH representative - Macjei Tomaszewski; the deputy Chair of the BoM, ESH representative - Josep Redon. The deadline for the Call was the 1st of December 2019.

Of the few applications received, two were considered by the BoM as high-quality and competitive. The candidates were Michel Burnier, endorsed by ESH as the Society candidate and Peter de Leeuw, an independent applicant.

Journal of Hypertension: New Editor in Chief

- **Applications: dead line extended 19th January 2020**
- Michel Burnier, Lausanne, CH, proposed by ESH
- Peter de Leeuw, Maastricht, NL independent application

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- Make final editorial decisions on submitted manuscripts.

We request the Editor-in-Chief to commit to a renewable 3-year term, commencing July 1, 2021. An honorarium will be provided as compensation for the Editor's work on the journal.

Phil Daly
Senior Publisher
Chair, Board of Management
Deputy Chair, Board of Management

Interested individuals should send a letter of interest, their curriculum vitae along with a 500-word vision statement for the journal by 19th January 2020 to:

Phil Daly
Senior Publisher, Wolters Kluwer
Phil.Daly@wolterskluwer.com
Tel: +44 (0)202 337 6676

After evaluating the applications, the BoM extended the deadline from December 1st, 2019 to January 19th, 2020.

Journal of Hypertension: New Editor in Chief

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New additional candidate:

- Anthony Heagerty, Manchester, UK

Virtual Meeting with BoM of JH and candidates on October 2, 2020:
Prof. Heagerty selected as new Editor in Chief; term will start in June 2021

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After the second Call a new application by Anthony Heagerty was added to the list of candidates. The three candidates were invited to present their applications during a virtual meeting on October 2nd. Prof. Anthony Heagerty was appointed as the new Editor in Chief.

The new Editor's term will begin in July 2021, the transition period for the passing over of duties to the new Editor is not yet clear and it seems the journal will move from Milan, Italy to Manchester, UK.

R. Kreutz invited Council members to an open discussion:

T. Kahan asked who the voting members were.

ESH members: R. Cifkova, J. Redon, M. Burnier, K. Tsioufis. M. Burnier stepped down from the BoM to avoid conflict of interest and R. Kreutz replaced him temporarily.

ISH members: M. Tomaszewski, L. Lindholm, B. Williams and F. Charchar (Australia), A. Schutte and a member from Japan. M. Tomaszewski also stepped down to avoid conflict of interest.

K. Tsioufis noted that all ESH members on the BoM voted for M. Burnier.

Among the voting members of the ISH were B. Williams and a Japanese member.

For ESH: R. Cifkova, J. Redon, K. Tsioufis; R. Kreutz added that ISH has the majority of members in the BoM.

G. Mancia informed the Council he was invited by M. Tomaszewski to take part in the candidate presentations (no voting rights) and was informed that L. Lindholm had also stepped down due to conflict of interest.

R. Kreutz also pointed out the difficulty to find a day/time that suited everyone and that a time slot was chosen, at which he could not attend for personal reasons. A. Schutte representing ISH was also unable to participate keeping thus keeping the balance of members of ISH and ESH.

R. Kreutz reminded the Council that the Journal of Hypertension/Wolters Kluwer contract has always been renewed at the same conditions. The last renewal was signed in 2014 by the then ESH president A. Dominiczak.

Journal of Hypertension and Wolters Kluwer:
contract from 2014
signed by ESH President AF Dominiczak

THIS AFFILIATION AGREEMENT is made on 21/8/14, 2014 [the 'Execution Date']

AMONG:

[1] Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc., on behalf of its Medical Research/Lippincott Williams & Wilkins business [hereinafter called 'the Publisher'], and

[2] the International Society of Hypertension [hereinafter called 'the ISH' or a 'Society'], and

[3] the European Society of Hypertension [hereinafter called 'the ESH' or a 'Society' and, together with the ISH, the 'Societies']



There are several issues to be addressed, one is in relation to the number of ESH-ISH members on the BoM and another are the royalties ESH receives from the Journal. ESH receives 7.25% of the income, this should be increased.

Important content of the contract

According to paragraph 2.2. and based on the fact there was no termination, the current contract is in effect until December 2021, if ESH wants to terminate this contract this should be done before December 2020

2.2. This agreement [the 'Agreement'] shall be retroactively effective as of 1 January 2013 [the 'Effective Date'], with the first issue published hereunder being the February 2013 issue (Volume 31, Number 2), shall remain in effect until 31 December 2018 [the 'Initial Term'], and shall be considered renewed automatically for successive periods of three (3) years [each, a 'Renewal Term'], unless written notice of termination is served on the Publisher or the Societies at least one (1) year before the expiration of the Initial Term or any such Renewal Terms, as the case may be. The Initial Term and any such Renewal Terms are referred to herein as the 'Term.'

The most important issue is the renewal of the contract. The paragraph in the contract relative to the termination of the contract states the current contract is in effect until December 2021. Unless terminated, the contract will automatically be renewed for a further 3 years.

Write a letter to Wolters & Kluwer and ISH



- We do not wish to continue this contract
- We are looking forward to discussing and developing a new contract

A new contract should be negotiated with the publisher.

R. Kreutz proposed to write immediately to the publisher advising on behalf of ESH Council that ESH does not wish to continue the current contract and wishes to discuss and draw up a new contract with the publisher and ISH. He invited the Council members to comment:

T. Kahan commented it's good the Journal remains in Europe. He agreed a new contract should be drawn up and the revenue renegotiated.

J. Brguljan suggested having a lawyer present during the renegotiation of the contract.

R. Kreutz agreed and said ESH will get legal advice from their lawyers in Switzerland

J. Polonia, A. Manolis, E. Lurbe all support the proposal to renegotiate the contract.

K. Tsioufis it is important for ESH to continue close relationships with the Journal. The major number of contributors are from ESH.

G. Parati confirmed he fully agrees with the renegotiation of the contract. He said many journals are moving towards an open access policy. ESH should propose better conditions for Society members.

M. Burnier commented that the 3 main hypertension journals are all in the U.K.

R. Kreutz confirmed a letter will be sent to the publisher and to ISH informing them ESH does not wish to renew the contract.

9. WORKING GROUPS


a. Website updates (status, position papers, Chairs/Vice-Chairs)

A Persu informed the Council that the WG Aims and General Rules are available on the ESH website and all WG heads have been informed.


WGs: WEBSITE UPDATES: AIMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Communities

- Hypertension Specialist
- Excellence Centres
- Working Groups
- Directory of Working Groups
- Diagnostic Challenges in Primary
- Aldosteronism
- STRIDE BP – Accurate BP Monitors
- ESH WG Journal Club
- National Societies







STRIDE BP
Accurate BP Monitors



WORLD HYPERTENSION DAY

Working Groups

Working groups are represented on the ESH Council by Prof. Alexandre Persu (alexandre.persu@ucdouvain.be)

AIMS AND GENERAL RULES

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- New Working Groups (WGs) can be proposed to the ESH Council by experts on the basis of a clear scientific background.
- New WGs should have at least 10 founding members, from different countries.
- WGs are not permanent, they may be discontinued or merged with other WGs based on recommendations by the ESH Council.
- The WGs are represented in the ESH Council by a Coordinator in quality of Executive Officer of the ESH Council.

AIMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE WORKING GROUPS

- Contribution and active participation to Annual ESH Meetings (see below)
- Initiation and execution of research projects
- Publication of scientific articles, reviews and position papers/ consensus documents (see website: Publications> Guidelines for ESH Position Papers)
- Identification, recruitment and support for young investigators (including Alumni from ESH Summer Schools)
- Availability to advise the ESH Council

General Principles and Aims and Responsibilities of the WGs.

WGs: WEBSITE UPDATES: STATUTES

RULES APPLYING TO ALL WORKING GROUPS

Membership

- All members of a WG have to be ESH members.
- Request for membership in the WG should be sent to the Chairman of the WG.

Yearly report

- The WGs should provide a short written yearly report to the WG Coordinator, giving information on their activities, filled in the available template.
- This report is sent to the WG members and uploaded on the ESH website

Chairman and Vice-Chairman

- Each WG has a Chairman and Vice-Chairman.
- After 2 years, the Vice-Chairman becomes Chairman and a new Vice-Chairman is elected.
- Therefore, after 4 years the team Chairman-Vice Chairman will be changed.
- To be eligible, candidates to the position of Vice-Chairman need to be members of the WG since at least one year (with the exception of newly founded WGs).
- The Council encourages election of the Vice-chairman by online anonymous voting that will be organized by the ESH Office.
- Alternatively, the election may take place during the annual ESH meeting, provided that a majority of WG members are present.
- The names of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman are indicated on the website with their year of appointment

Statutes: Membership, Yearly Report, Chairman & Vice-Chairman – after 2 years the Vice-Chairman becomes the Chairman, a new Vice-Chairman is elected. Every 4 years there is a new Board.

WGs: WEBSITE UPDATES: **STATUTES**

Contribution to the annual ESH meetings

- WGs are encouraged to contribute to the organisation of the annual ESH Meetings.
- Each WG organizes a scientific session or practical/hands-on workshop for the Annual ESH Meeting, either alone or in collaboration with other WGs, which is encouraged
- According to topics, expected attendance and available slots, 2 or more WGs may interact to organize this scientific session/workshop
- Also during the Annual ESH Meeting, each WG organises a meeting to discuss the current and future activities of the group ("business meeting").

Statutes

- The WGs are allowed to develop more detailed statutes (e.g. electing a Secretary) and to make them available on the website, provided they are in line with the rules mentioned above.

Annual ESH meetings; further discussion is needed. WGs are encouraged to contribute to the organization of the annual meeting. Based on availability, WGs will be allotted slots for sessions/workshops.

WGs: WEBSITE UPDATES: **ESH POSITION PAPERS**

Publications

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News


Journals


Guidelines for ESH Position Papers

ESH Newsletters

Books & Endorsement

ESH and Health in Europe





Guidelines for ESH Position Papers

Guidelines and procedures related to European Society of Hypertension (ESH) Position Papers and Consensus Documents

The ESH welcomes proposals of endorsement related to *Position Papers and Consensus Documents* on controversial issues in the pathophysiology, diagnostic and therapeutic approach to primary and secondary hypertension, as well as cardiovascular and metabolic risk related to hypertension and associated comorbidities.

Proposals must originate from the Working Groups of the ESH and/or by internationally well recognized groups of ESH experts in specific areas related to hypertension. They may also originate from ESH in conjunction with other European or extra-European scientific societies. They must be relevant and appropriate to the mission and interests of the ESH and its membership. They should preferably have an international focus and not just be relevant to a specific country or regional area. The publication may also represent a consensus document on a specific topic, based on data presented during ESH Expert meetings, as it has been done in the past for example for the well quoted consensus document on heart rate in hypertension.

Typically, a Position Paper comes from a single Working Group, while a Consensus Document implies collaboration between 2 or more Working Groups or Societies.

The target journal for the submission of the final publication will be chosen by the Authors. Submission to the *Journal of Hypertension*, the Official Journal of the ESH or *Blood Pressure*, also endorsed by ESH is encouraged but not mandatory.

Authors are also encouraged to include in the paper some statements which may have particular scientific and/or clinical relevance. These may be defined as "consensus points" and may be labeled with one or two asterisks depending on their impact. Authors are also encouraged to include in the paper a "take-home-message" and/or a central figure which may increase the outreach of the document.

The Guidelines for ESH Position Papers are available on the website complete with instructions on how to submit the papers.

WGs: WEBSITE UPDATES: ESH POSITION PAPERS

Submission is a two-step procedure. Both steps are mandatory.

First step. The authors are requested to inform the Council (eshcouncilsecretariat@eshonline.org) of their intention to prepare a Consensus Document/Statement/Position Paper. To this end a [summary sheet of the proposal](#) should be sent to the Council. This summary sheet includes a short outline, tentative authors, estimated timeline, number of words and target journal. Please note that in case of publication in *Journal of Hypertension*, as per suggestion of the Editorial office, the maximum number of words of the submitted document is 6000 including references and the maximum total number of display items (Tables + Figures) is 4. Authors are encouraged to provide supplementary material (without space limitation) and prepare a graphical abstract. Council is aiming at providing feedback (i.e. endorsement or not /suggestions) as soon as possible, usually within 2-3 weeks.

Second step. When the manuscript is ready, it should be submitted to the Council (eshcouncilsecretariat@eshonline.org) prior to submission to the target Journal. Again, the Council will provide recommendations and suggestions within ~ 2-3 weeks. After these have been taken into account and, as appropriate, approved by the Council, the Authors may submit the manuscript to the target journal for full review and may include an endorsement letter by the ESH Council.

ESH Newsletters, information available on the ESH website.

WGs: WEBSITE UPDATES: ESH NEWSLETTERS

Publications

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Guidelines for ESH Position Papers

ESH Newsletters

Books & Endorsement

ESH and Health in Europe



ESH Newsletters

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ESH newsletters are aimed at providing updated views on novel or controversial issues and/or specific topics with major clinical and therapeutic relevance.

They may be commissioned by the ESH Council or proposed by tentative authors (eshcouncilsecretariat@eshonline.org). They are usually written by one to three contributors. The word count of these Newsletter articles should be below 2500 words, including a maximum of 10 references. ESH newsletters should not be summaries of already published or in press ESH position papers or statements.

They undergo a review process by the same Committee taking care of ESH position papers and statements. Particular attention should be paid at trying to include information which reflects the Society's position and not merely the Authors' opinion.

The main scope of ESH Newsletters is information for the readers rather than full-fledged practical recommendations, however some practical suggestions in the conclusions section of the Newsletter are certainly welcome.

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b. WG activities during the COVID-19 pandemic

A. Persu summarized the Position papers published during the pandemic. The WG on Endocrine Hypertension has published 3 position papers: 2 on primary aldosteronism and one on pheochromocytoma.

POSITION PAPERS PUBLISHED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC	
WG ON ENDOCRINE HYPERTENSION Chairman Prof. Paolo Mulatero Italy paolo.mulatero@unito.it	<p>Subtype diagnosis, treatment, complications and outcomes of primary aldosteronism and future direction of research: a position statement and consensus of the Working Group on Endocrine Hypertension of the European Society of Hypertension.</p> <p>Mulatero P, Sechi LA, Williams TA, Lenders JWM, Reincke M, Satoh F, Januszewicz A, Naruse M, Doumas M, Veglio F, Wu VC, Widimsky J. <i>J Hypertens.</i> 2020 Jun 25. doi: 10.1097/HJH.0000000000002520. Online ahead of print. PMID: 32618890</p>
	<p>Genetics, prevalence, screening and confirmation of primary aldosteronism: a position statement and consensus of the Working Group on Endocrine Hypertension of The European Society of Hypertension.</p> <p>Mulatero P, Monticone S, Deinum J, Amar L, Prejbisz A, Zennaro MC, Beuschlein F, Rossi GP, Nishikawa T, Morganti A, Seccia TM, Lin YH, Fallo F, Widimsky J. <i>J Hypertens.</i> 2020 Jun 25. doi: 10.1097/HJH.0000000000002510. Online ahead of print. PMID: 32618889</p>
	<p>Genetics, diagnosis, management and future directions of research of pheochromocytoma and paraganglioma: a position statement and consensus of the Working Group on Endocrine Hypertension of the European Society of Hypertension.</p> <p>Lenders JWM, Kerstens MN, Amar L, Prejbisz A, Robledo M, Taieb D, Pacak K, Crona J, Zelinka T, Mannelli M, Deutschbein T, Timmers HJLM, Castinetti F, Dralle H, Widimsky J, Gimenez-Roqueplo AP, Eisenhofer G. <i>J Hypertens.</i> 2020 Aug;38(8):1443-1456. doi: 10.1097/HJH.0000000000002438. PMID: 32412940 Free PMC article.</p>

POSITION PAPERS PUBLISHED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC	
WG ON BLOOD PRESSURE MONITORING AND CARDIOVASCULAR VARIABILITY Chairman Prof. George Stergiou Greece stergioug@gmail.com	<p>Recommendations for blood pressure measurement in large arms in research and clinical practice: position paper of the European society of hypertension working group on blood pressure monitoring and cardiovascular variability.</p> <p>Palatini P, Asmar R, O'Brien E, Padwal R, Parati G, Sarkis J, Stergiou G; European Society of Hypertension Working Group on Blood Pressure Monitoring, Cardiovascular Variability, the International Standardisation Organisation (ISO) Cuff Working Group. <i>J Hypertens.</i> 2020 Jul;38(7):1244-1250. doi: 10.1097/HJH.0000000000002399. PMID: 32141969</p>
	<p>Seasonal variation in blood pressure: Evidence, consensus and recommendations for clinical practice. Consensus statement by the European Society of Hypertension Working Group on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability.</p> <p>Stergiou GS, Palatini P, Modesti PA, Asayama K, Asmar R, Bilo G, de la Sierra A, Dolan E, Head G, Kario K, Kollias A, Manios E, Mihailidou AS, Myers M, Niiranen T, Ohkubo T, Protogerou A, Wang J, O'Brien E, Parati G. <i>J Hypertens.</i> 2020 Jul;38(7):1235-1243. doi: 10.1097/HJH.0000000000002341. PMID: 31990898</p>

Two positions papers have been published by the WG on Blood Pressure Monitoring: Blood Pressure measurement in large arms and the Seasonal variation in blood pressure.

POSITION PAPERS PUBLISHED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC	
WG ON HYPERTENSION AND CARDIOVASCULAR RISK ASSESSMENT IN SUBJECTS LIVING IN OR EMIGRATING FROM LOW RESOURCE SETTINGS Chairman Prof. Pietro Amedeo Modesti Italy pamodesti@unifi.it	
<p>Indirect implications of COVID-19 prevention strategies on non-communicable diseases : An Opinion Paper of the European Society of Hypertension Working Group on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk Assessment in Subjects Living in or Emigrating from Low Resource Settings.</p> <p>Modesti PA, Wang J, Damasceno A, Agyemang C, Van Bortel L, Persu A, Zhao D, Jarraya F, Marzotti I, Bamoshmoosh M, Parati G, Schutte AE. <i>BMC Med.</i> 2020 Aug 14;18(1):256. doi: 10.1186/s12916-020-01723-6.</p>	

An original paper by the WG for Subjects living in low resource settings on the indirect implications of COVID-19 prevention strategies on non-communicable disease.

POSITION PAPERS « IN THE PIPELINE »

WG BP Monitoring and CV variability

- G. Stergiou and R. Kreutz. Clinical Practice Recommendations for Office and Out of Office Blood Pressure Measurement

WG HTN and the KIDNEY

In collaboration with EURECA-m (ERA/EDTA)

- J.-M. Halimi et al. Consensus on blood pressure control in kidney transplantation
- C. Ferro et al. MRA for nephroprotection and cardioprotection in DM and CKD

WG CV Pharmacotherapy and Adherence (with US co-authors)

- P. Gupta et al. Non-Adherence Testing in Hypertension: How to Develop and Implement Biochemical Tests that Screen Medications



European
Society of
Hypertension

Three new position papers are in the pipeline. The paper by G. Stergiou and R. Kreutz is almost ready for submission. The paper has been distributed among young, experienced ESH members who have been asked to give their feedback.

Two papers by the WG on Hypertension and the Kidney in collaboration with the vascular WG of ERA/EDTA are underway.

A paper by the WG on CV Pharmacotherapy and Adherence with US co-authors is also being prepared.

c. Adjustment WG program for the virtual congress Glasgow ESH/ISH Meeting

Scientific Meetings and Hands-on Workshops

Glasgow 11-14 April 2021 Unchanged program? Sunday?							
TIME	CLYDE 1500 SEATS	LOMOND 500 SEATS	HALL 1 400 SEATS	FORTH 340 SEATS	ALSH 300 SEATS	BOISDALE 300 SEATS	DOCHART 1 100 SEATS
12.00 13.00			12.00-13.00 OBESITY	12.00-13.00 LOW RESOURCE	12.00-13.30 VASCULAR	12.00-13.30 ENDOCRINE	12.00-13.30 BRAIN
13.00 14.00				13.00-14.00 HEART			
14.00 15.00			12.00-15.30 Hands-on Course on renal ultrasound in HY (Prof Persu)	14.00-15.00 ENDOTHEL	13.30-15.00 INTERV	13.30-15.00 KIDNEY	13.30-14.30 Proposal by Jana Brgulan
15.00 16.00			13.00-16.00 ESH BPM Teaching Course (Prof Stergiou)	15.00-16.30 SHR Symposium	15.00-16.00 CHILDREN	15.00-16.00 SEX DYSP	14.30-15.00 Setup Room 15.00-16.00 Hands-On OMRON
16.00 17.00			15.30-16.00 Adh-Pharm	16.00-17.30 Joint Session ESH ISH-POA	16.15-17.00 Plenary WGs	Iberian Session	16.00-17.30 The Balkan Symposium
17.30 19.30	OPENING OF THE CONGRESS						

Separate business
meetings :
Monday or Tuesday
18-19.30 ?

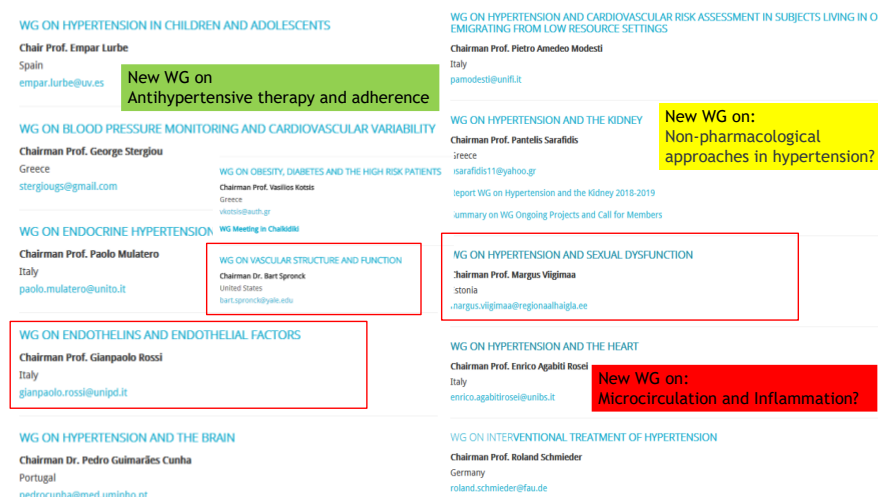


European
Society of
Hypertension

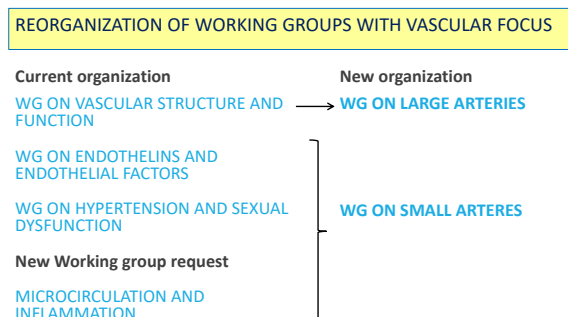
The WG meetings will be rescheduled for the virtual meeting. The Hands-on Course on renal ultrasound has been confirmed. A. Januszewicz has obtained the funds from Siemens to support this event.

R. Kreutz said the first thing to be done is to reframe the entire meeting format including the usual Friday for the WGs.

d. Reorganization of WGs with vascular focus: feedback from WG heads and decision



A. Persu presented a global view of the WGs organization chart. The new WG on Antihypertensive Therapy and Adherence is already active. There is a proposal for new WG on Non-pharmacological approaches in hypertension. A. Viridis proposed a new WG on microinflammation and circulation. The proposed WG on elderly and frail patients is missing in the above chart.



A Persu addressed the reorganization of WGs with vascular focus. Following the request by A. Viridis, a proposal to group the former WG on endothelins and endothelial factors, WG on hypertension and sexual dysfunction and the new WG request on microcirculation and inflammation in a WG on small arteries, and the very active WG on vascular structure and function was to be upgraded to a WG on large arteries.

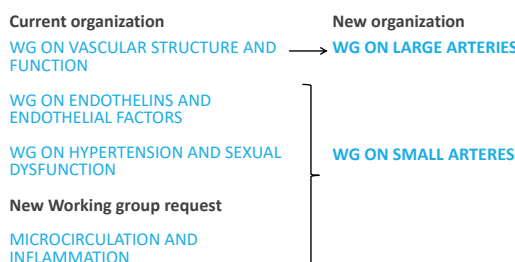
Agreement among the Chairs of the WGs was almost unanimous with the exception of M. Viigimaa. His arguments to support the autonomy of the WG on hypertension and sexual dysfunction are list in the below slide.

Arguments to support the autonomy of the WG on HTN and sexual dysfunction (M. Viigimaa)

- 96 members from different countries (...)
- The majority of the members are of young age (...). Many members, especially the young ones, will be disappointed and lose their interest, since they will be 'lost' in a large group, which will have a totally different focus.
- A large amount of data is currently being gathered from members of the WG from all over Europe to better clarify the association of sexual dysfunction with hypertension, other cardiovascular risk factors, and the prevention of cardiovascular disease. (...) The conduction of these protocols will be in doubt, since no one can guarantee either the approval of the studies by the new 'large' WG or the maintenance of the enthusiasm and the commitment of our WG members.
- There are vast differences between the proposed merged groups. The other groups are mainly 'vessel' groups and are mostly oriented in basic research. On the contrary, our WG deals with a more clinical entity encountered in daily practice, and thus our main focus is clinical research. The combination of such dissimilar topics in the annual business meeting during the ESH congress is difficult and very challenging.
- The WG recently updated a position statement regarding sexual dysfunction in patients with hypertension(...). This is a clinically important activity of the WG that might be lost in case of a merge.
- The WG has provided a significant number of sessions in the annual ESH conference, including clinical cases encountered in daily clinical practice by several specialties (...), and updates on the field of sexual dysfunction were presented. Conference participants consistently demonstrate significant interest in the session, filling up the conference rooms and actively participating in the discussion around the topics presented (...)
- A significant amount of abstracts and papers are originated from our working group and are being published in high impact journals in the field of hypertension and cardiovascular disease. An abstract by Prof Vlachopoulos about ED and cardiovascular risk was the most viewed abstract in the last ESC conference, supporting the profound interest of the participants in the field of sexual dysfunction and the related association with cardiovascular disease.



REORGANIZATION OF WORKING GROUPS WITH VASCULAR FOCUS



A. Persu said he is in favor of endorsing the proposed reorganized structure to make room for new WGs while keeping visibility of the current WGs.

R. Kreutz asked the Council if anyone is against the proposal. The proposal was accepted by the Council.

10. ESH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

a. eshonline platform (webinar 1 and 2)

Two webinars on the “Management of Hypertension During the Covid-19 Pandemic and Beyond” have been developed thanks to an educational grant from Servier. The webinars were produced on a low budget by a company in Poland. R. Kreutz thanked A. Januszewicz and A. Prejbisz for their help in organizing the webinars.



The first webinar, “Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on cardiovascular risk factors in hypertensive patients” was broadcast in September and is available on the ESH website.

Webinar 1

Title : Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on cardiovascular risk factors in hypertensive patient

Moderator : Reinhold Kreutz

Introduction: **Reinhold Kreutz**

- 1 Impact of Covid-19 on changes in lifestyle and traditional risk factors and on hypertension management : **Enrico Agabiti Rosei**
- 2 Impact of Covid-19 on changes in non-traditional and environmental factors: **Philippe Van de Borne**
- 3 Renin-angiotensin-system blockers and their use during the Covid-19 pandemic: **Giuseppe Mancini**

Summary : **Reinhold Kreutz**

The second webinar “Hot topics in hypertension management – autumn 2020” will be available in the next few weeks.

Webinar 2

Title: Hot topics in hypertension management - autumn 2020

Moderator : Andrzej Januszewicz

Introduction : **Andrzej Januszewicz**

1. Comparison between 2018 European and 2020 ISH global guidelines for the management of hypertension: **Reinhold Kreutz**
2. Management of drug treatment and adherence in clinical practice: **Michel Burnier**
3. Perspectives for interventional treatment in hypertension: **Konstantinos Tsioufis**

Summary : **Andrzej Januszewicz**

b. Webinar “Controversial issues of recent Guidelines”

An application for an educational Grant by Menarini has been submitted. The preliminary programme is ready and the first webinar is scheduled to be broadcast in January 2021 and the second in February 2021.



c. ESH participation in other Society meetings

1. ESC – T. Kahan, Chair of the ESC Council of Hypertension mentioned there is a very strict proposal procedure to follow before Joint Sessions are approved. The theme of the 2021 ESC congress is “Sudden Cardiac Death” and ESC would like proposals for joint sessions on this topic. Proposals can be made through the Intra ESC scope by representatives of ESC Associations/Councils and Working Groups.

Two proposals for joint sessions ESH/ESC Council on Hypertension have been submitted through intra scope for 2021. ESH may propose further sessions and joint sessions with the ESC Associations, Councils, and Working Groups. The ESH Council can submit up to 10 proposals and Working Groups can submit up to 5 proposals.

ESH participation in meetings of other societies: ESC

- The 2021 Congress Spotlight is “Sudden Cardiac Death”
- Intra ESC scope: Represents an official contribution from ESC Associations/Councils and Working groups
- Two joint sessions ESH/ESC Council on Hypertension have been submitted through Intrascope 2021
- Proposed titles and participants are often revised by the CPC
- There are opportunities to propose further sessions; and joint sessions with several ESC Associations/Councils/ Working Groups may be relevant (Stroke Council, AHRA, EACVI, HFA, EACP and others)

The first joint session proposal is on “COVID, hypertension, and antihypertensive medication”

Submitted proposed sessions ESH/ESC Council HTN

Covid-19, hypertension, and antihypertensive medication

The role of the RAAS system in Covid-19

AH Jan Danser, the Netherlands

Acute clinical outcome of Covid-19 according to hypertension and medication

Isabella Sudano, Switzerland

Impact of Covid-19 lockdown on hypertension management

Philippe van de Borne, Belgium

The effect of Covid-19 pandemic on cardiovascular risk profiles in the population

Petter Ljungmann, Sweden / Rosa Maria Bruno, France

Remarks: Proposed joint session with the ESH. Chairs Thomas Kahan, Sweden (ESC), and Reinhold Kreutz, Germany (ESH)

Learning objectives: To understand the potential mechanisms for association between hypertension and the acute and long-term outcome in Covid-19. To learn optimal treatment of hypertension in patients with Covid-19. To give insights in the effects of this pandemic on public health and future cardiovascular risk.

And the second joint session proposal is on “Hypertension and sudden cardiac death”

Submitted proposed sessions ESH/ESC Council HTN

Hypertension and sudden cardiac death

Echocardiographic risk markers of sudden cardiac death

Eva Gerds, Norway (ESC) / Giovanni De Simone, Italy

Antihypertensive drug classes and risk of sudden cardiac death

Pantelis Sarifidis, Greece (ESH)

Uncontrolled hypertension and acute aortic diseases

Felix Mahfoud, Germany (ESC)

Uncontrolled hypertension in acute stroke

Petro Cunha, Portugal (ESH)

Remarks: Proposed joint session with the ESH. Session for the Congress "Spotlight Sudden Cardiac Death". Chairs Thomas Kahan, Sweden/Gianfranco Parati, Italy (ESC), and Reinhold Kreutz, Germany/Empar Lurbe, Spain (ESH)

Learning objectives: Suggest how hypertensive patients at risk for sudden cardiac death can be identified. Show how uncontrolled hypertension can be a deadly disease. Give an overview on the risk associated with different drug classes and fatal arrhythmias, e.g. diuretics and electrolyte disturbances, beta blockers and arrhythmias, and RAAS blockers and arrhythmia protection. Give an update on the treatment of common causes for hypertensive emergencies.

c. ESH participation in other Society meetings

2. ERA EDTA – A. Persu commented that ESH should continue to cultivate the good relations with ERA EDTA.

R. Kreutz intervened confirming the importance of relationships with other societies such as already mentioned ESC and also ERA EDTA through P. Sarafidis.

d. Other activities

3. OMRON R. Kreutz informed the Council OMRON has offered several educational activities. OMRON is committed to supporting ESH in following years. He will forward the slides from OMRON to the WG on BP Monitoring.

G. Parati commented that interaction with OMRON is already underway and a virtual Workshop is planned for 2021.

11. ESH EXCELLENC CENTRES

T. Weber said there have been only a few new applications for Excellence Centres since the last Council Meeting. Only one was complete and has been approved.

Excellence Centers

APPROVED

August 23, 2020 23:49:47

Georg Ehret

19104

georg@rhone.ch

Expand | Approve | Delete

Professor Georg B. Ehret, MD
Cardiology Department
Geneva University Hospitals
Switzerland

M. Burnier pointed out that there is already an Excellence Centre in Geneve. T. Weber added there was a similar question in Greece and maybe it would be a good idea in the future to contact the National Society presidents before approving.

T. Weber pointed out that there is a backlog on the requests to become Blood Pressure Centres which will be followed up over the next few weeks.

Blood Pressure Centers (Clinics)

APPROVED

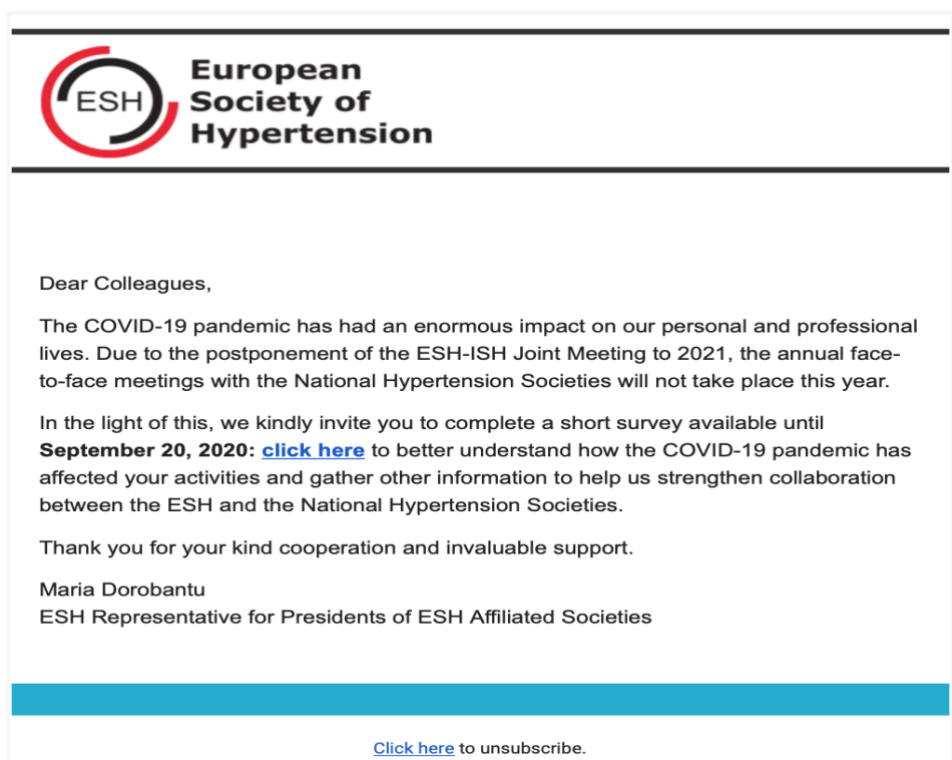


12. NEWSLETTERS

G. Grassi confirmed that new newsletters are in the pipeline. He said there is an overlapping between Position Papers and Newsletters. It's difficult to ask the author to write a newsletter if they have already done this, or something similar, for a position paper. He suggested that each time a Position Paper is written, to ask the author to write a Newsletter on the same subject, not a repeat but a more practical view.

13. NATIONAL SOCIETIES

M. Dorobantu informed the Council a survey was sent out in September, with a reminder in October, to the presidents of the 41 National Hypertension Societies. The questionnaire was comprised of 14 questions. The most important questions addressed educational activities, the organization of the annual meeting, and their thoughts on the WHD activities.



ONLINE SURVEY – SOME QUESTIONS (7/14)

Questions

- 1.. How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your usual activities
- 2.. How have you adapted your activities, and what are the most important changes you have made?
- 3.Would you like to organize an educational webinar in your country (for a national audience)?
4. Would you be interested in participating in educational webinars organized by ESH
5. Have you organized special events for the World Hypertension Day (October 17) this year?
6. What is your opinion on how the WHD should be organized during the pandemic?
7. Taking into account your national epidemiologic situation, do you think that the WHD celebration should be postponed until 2021?

The response to the survey was disappointing with replies from only 10 National Societies.

ONLINE SURVEY NATIONAL HYPERTENSION SOCIETIES

- a) SURVEY sent September & October 2020
- b) Sent to **41** National Society presidents
- c) Response from **10** National Societies

The results of the survey showed evidenced the postponement of national annual meetings to 2021 or the conversion to virtual meetings and the loss of sponsors. The National Societies that replied support the organization of national educational webinars and/or participation in webinars organized by ESH. The National Societies proposed to postpone the WHD to 2021 and to organize virtual activities around the event.

ONLINE SURVEY - SUMMARY RESPONSES

A. ALL OF THEM – HAD RESTRICTED ACTIVITIES

- Annual meeting was postponed/online meeting
- Loss of sponsors

B. ALL PRESIDENTS OF NS SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR AND/OR THE PARTICIPATION IN EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS OF ESH

C. CONCERNING WHD

- They proposed the postponement of the WHD in 2021
- They proposed a virtual /webinar activities

R. Kreutz pointed out that the meeting was running late, and after apologizing to the colleagues involved in Point 15 of the agenda “Research Projects,” and in particular to E. Lurbe, proposed skipping this point promising it would be one of the first items on the agenda to be discussed during the next Council Meeting.

E. Lurbe thanked G. Mancina for publishing the COST Action in the Journal of Hypertension as ESH news.

M. Burnier informed the Council that ESH has a one-year access to the SoGo Survey System. Any type of survey can be carried and has a very good data analysis system. He will provide more details on the use of the system over the next few weeks

14. ESH SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer school 2020????

Dragan Lovic, Jana Brguljan

Date: 12-18.September 2020

Venue: Sremski Karlovci, Serbia
Hotel Premier Aqua

J. Brguljan said the Summer School is purely a face-to-face meeting and cannot be substituted with a virtual meeting. She suggested waiting until March/April 2021, and depending on the

COVID situation, making a decision whether to postpone the Summer School for another year or whether to have the meeting.

Transforming in e-form, some ideas

- Contact with all candidates and organizing discussion online about important publications on the field of hypertension with some of our council members
- Discussion about important study recently published and establishing network of candidates



If the school cannot take place next year, J. Brguljan outlined some ideas to start virtual discussions with the candidates.

D. Lovic confirmed the venue and the dates for next year. He agrees with the proposal by J. Brguljan and asked the other Council members their opinion on sending out the invitation to the National Societies to start sending the applications for their candidates or if we should wait till March/April 2021.

K. Tsioufis suggested waiting until March when there should be a better vision of the situation.

R. Kreutz agreed to wait until next year to make a decision and to the proposal by D. Lovic to make a decision during the Council meeting in April 2021.

17. DATES FOR FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS

A. Januszewicz informed the members the next virtual Council meeting is planned for April 10, 2021. The Council meeting will be the day before the ESH/ISH Glasgow meeting.

K. Tsioufis suggested having the Council meeting separately from the annual meeting, maybe in February or March.

R. Kreutz agreed it was a good idea to anticipate the Council meeting. A new date will be proposed and sent to Council members.

18. CLOSURE

R. Kreutz expressed his thanks again, also on behalf of R. Schmieder and team, for Berlin being selected as the host city for the 2024 Annual Meeting. He thanked the Council for their support and for the very interesting and important topics discussed. He closed the meeting wishing everyone all the best.



Reinhold Kreutz
ESH President



Andrzej Januszewicz
ESH Secretary