

Minutes of the Meeting of the ESH Scientific Council

September 24, 2021
Grand Hotel Dino, Baveno, Italy
2:30 pm – 7:15 pm

PRESENT

ESH-Council members and officers

R. Kreutz, President
A. Januszewicz, Secretary
E. Lurbe, Vice President
J. Polonia, Treasurer (virtual attendance)
K. Tsioufis, Immediate Past President

E. Agabiti Rosei	T. Kahan
M. Azizi	D. Lovic (virtual attendance)
C. Borghi	G. Mancia
J. Brguljan	A. Manolis
M. Burnier	G. Parati
A. Coca	A. Persu
M. Dorobantu	T. Weber
G. Grassi	

Other participants

M. Massaro (AIM)
M. Elgner – ESH Coordinator
R. Lynch – ESH Secretariat

Apologies

B. Williams

Not attended

B. Jelakovic

1. PRESIDENT’S WELCOME

ESH President, R. Kreutz, welcomed all members to the ESH Council meeting. It was the first time since November 2019 that the meeting was held in presence with almost full attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – ESH SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING ON JUNE 19, 2021

(A. Januszewicz)

The minutes of the Zoom Council Meeting held on June 19, 2021, were unanimously accepted by the Council and are available on the ESH website in the Council Area where they can be consulted by the Council members.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

3.a ESH Financial Report (J. Polonia)

As there were no changes to the audited figures (in Swiss francs) presented at the June Council meeting, the report was relatively short and summarized the most important figures. J. Polonia also gave an outlook on the non-audited figures until the end of June 2021. The total revenues are low, and the expenses are not excessive. So, the result is still positive.

3.b FESH Financial Report (M. Burnier)

M. Burnier also gave a brief summary of the figures presented in June 2021, no changes since then. The financial situation of FESH is stable. There will be some revenue from the 2021 Joint Meeting. He also reported an educational grant to FESH from Servier of €150,000 to support the activities of the ESH Working Group on Lifestyle, Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy and Adherence. R. Kreutz congratulated and thanked M. Burnier for this great achievement.

4. ESH BUSINESS MATTERS

4.a Renewal of Infomedica Contract (R. Kreutz)

As discussed at the last Council meeting, the draft contract was sent to all Council members with a request for feedback and approval. Since there were no objections, the contract for 2021 was signed.

4.b Update of ESH By-Laws (R. Kreutz)

R. Kreutz reported an amendment to the ESH By-Laws regarding membership must be made. This is directly connected with the negotiations for a new contract with the publisher (Wolters Kluwer) of the Journal of Hypertension. Currently, he, the ESH Secretary and Immediate Past President are working on a proposal to be presented at the next Council meeting in January 2022. The final voting will be done at the General Assembly in Athens in June 2022.

4.c Change in Ornitag Office, Switzerland (R. Kreutz)

The previous ESH contact Roland Schildknecht is leaving the Ornitag office in Switzerland at the end of September. A new contact person has already been appointed: Franco Riesch, Account Manager and Vice Director (franco.riesch@ornitag.com, Tel. +41 44 9142475) will take over. He was R. Schildknecht's vacation replacement and is therefore already familiar with ESH/FESH matters.

5. JOURNAL OF HYPERTENSION, CONTRACT WITH WOLTERS KLUWER & ESH MEMBERSHIP

5.a Journal of Hypertension (R. Kreutz, J. Brguljan)

R. Kreutz again reported that Anthony Heagerty is the new Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Hypertension. The ESH congratulated A. Heagerty officially and thanked the Milan team under the leadership of G. Mancina for their outstanding contribution to the success of the Journal.

He also reported that J. Brguljan is now one of the Executive Editors of the journal and asked her to share some inside information and experiences with the new team. J. Brguljan told the audience that they have never met in person but meet virtually monthly to discuss what is best for the journal. The team is very hard working and open to all suggestions. The task is to move the journal forward as the previous team did under the leadership of G. Mancina.

G. Mancia remains on the editorial board as a Consulting editor to review new manuscripts.

5.b Contract with Wolters Kluwer (R. Kreutz)

R. Kreutz provided an update on the ESH/Wolters Kluwer contract negotiations. As the contract expires at the end of this year, ESH has formed a task force to discuss the necessary changes to the contract (e.g., online subscription, cost of publications, number of board members) and to put together a proposal. The task force members are G. Mancia, J. Redon, K. Tsioufis, A. Januszewicz and R. Kreutz. The proposal was first sent to the president of ISH. ISH, however, was not supporting significant changes in the current contract. Accordingly, and as suggested by Phil Daly, ESH sent its proposal to Wolters Kluwer (Phil Daly) on July 20, 2021 and resubmitted the proposal on August 25, 2021. The response was slightly delayed and ESH finally received feedback on September 24, 2021. Overall, the feedback from Phil Daly was positive. Thus, a separate contract/agreement with Wolters Kluwer was encouraged. Moreover, Wolters Kluwer has invited ESH for further discussions and clarification of certain aspects, e.g., costs for freely available ESH position papers or abstracts from the annual meetings.

The goal is to sign the contract in December 2021, but no later than March 31, 2022.

5.c ESH Membership (R. Kreutz)

Directly related to the topic of the new contract with WK and the change of the ESH By-Laws is a possible change in membership categories. R. Kreutz presented a proposal for new membership categories:

- (1) Membership includes free subscription to the Journal of Hypertension either in print and online 185.00 € (currently) or online only at a fee to be discussed

Benefits tbd but could be: full online access to the ESH educational material, 50.00 € discount for annual meeting fee

- (2) Membership with reduced fee (without subscription) for 99.00 € per year (amount tbd)

Benefits tbd but could be: full online access to the ESH educational material, 50.00 € discount for annual meeting fee

For:

- students (incl. ESH Summer School participants, fee waived for 2 years)
- other healthcare professionals (nurses)
- professionals from low-income countries (as defined by the WHO)
- emeritus status

- (3) Honorary Membership for no fee

R. Kreutz invited the Council to discuss his proposal. The conclusion of the discussion was:

- Overall agreement on the categories
- We need as many members as possible
- Online subscription for low-income countries
- Some aspects need to be clarified: definition of student (age), free access vs. open access
- Online Journal vs. printed publication

All comments will be taken into consideration for the change of ESH By-Laws and the contract negotiations with Wolters Kluwer.

At this point, the agenda was changed and the topics 9 and 10 were presented.

9. ESH ANNUAL MEETINGS

9.a 2021 Joint ESH-ISH Meeting, April 11-14, 2021 – Final Report (M. Massaro)

M. Massaro reiterated some final numbers for the 2021 joint ESH-ISH meeting, which took place virtually from April 11-14, 2021. The numbers have not changed since they were presented at the last Council meeting in June. The general conclusion was that the Congress was a great success.

R. Kreutz noted that he had not expected the large profit, which was €172,348.44 for all parties (ESH, ISH, BIHS). He once again thanked M. Maddalena and her team for the fantastic organization and the great success. There are also many lessons learned from this virtual meeting that can be used for the organization of the Annual Meeting in Athens (e.g., digital sponsorship packages, schedule with longer breaks between sessions).

9.b 2022 ESH Annual Meeting, June 17-20, 2022, Athens (K. Tsioufis, M. Massaro)

The Annual Meeting in Athens (31st European Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Protection) will take place in a hybrid format from June 17 to 20, 2022. The venue will be the Megaron Athens International Conference Center. The faculty will be hosted at the Crowne Plaza Athens Hotel.

The target is to have around 1,500 attendees participating in presence, or at least as many as are possible under current Covid 19 regulations, adhered to at all times.

K. Tsioufis pointed out they have already started to draft the program and invited all Council members to send further scientific proposals. A list of people who have already sent their proposal was shown. M. Massaro reported on some key dates for the meeting:

- Abstract submission will open at October 5, 2021
- Deadline for abstract submission = December 22, 2021
- Program committee meeting = end of January 2022

The list of referees 2022 also needs to be finalized within the next months.

AIM has already started the fundraising activities for the meeting. So far, the confirmed sponsors are Servier, Sanofi, Spacelabs and Omron. M. Massaro will circulate a list of possible sponsors among the Council members to help her approach the companies.

A slide with possible registration fees was shown. There will be different fees depending on residential or online participation. There will also be a reduced fee for younger people under 35, low- and middle-income countries and for general practitioners and nurses. Concerns were raised on the latter category. It needs to be discussed again.

The website for the congress is already online. The promotion will again focus on social media and on email blasts.

9.c 2023 ESH Annual Meeting, June 23-26, 2023, Milan (G. Mancia, M. Massaro)

The date of the 2023 meeting has been confirmed - June 23-26, 2023. The venue will be the MiCo, the Milan Congress Center.

9.d 2024 ESH Annual Meeting, May 30 – June 3, 2024, Berlin (R. Kreutz)

The date for the 2024 ESH Annual Meeting will be May 30 to June 3, 2024. The congress will take place at Estrel Congress Center in Berlin. AIM is already in contact with the local agency Diaplan. R. Kreutz and R. Schmieder are the presidents of this meeting.

10. ESH SATELLITE MEETINGS & ENDORSED MEETINGS

10.a Satellite Meetings in 2021 (A. Januszewicz)

M. Massaro presented a summary of what Council members, faculty, and other participants will experience over the next two days (Sept 25 and 26) at the "Pre-ESH Athens 2022 Satellite Symposium: A Roadmap for Future European Hypertension Guidelines".

The registration for the meeting was free due to the generous support of 5 sponsors: Servier and Merck (major), Medtronic and Omron (sponsors), ReCor Medical (supporter). The number of participants (residential and virtual) is 1,650.

G. Mancia reported on how the idea for the meeting was developed over time and on the difficulties in planning. The meeting should be a place for open discussion on the topic of future guidelines.

10.b Satellite Meetings in 2022 (A. Januszewicz, R. Kreutz)

The following satellite meetings are planned for the next year (so far):

- Educational Meeting of WG on Diabetes and Metabolic Risk Factors, June 2-5, 2022 in Greece, venue to be defined (V. Kotsis)
- ESH Satellite Meeting on "Hypertension & Renovascular Disease: Beyond Renal Artery Stenosis", fall 2022, maybe in Berlin (A. Januszewicz, R. Kreutz, A. Persu, P. Sarafidis, B. Spronck)

R. Kreutz brought up a discussion about the timing of the Diabetes and Metabolic Risk Factors WG satellite meeting being too close to the Athens Annual Meeting, which will be held June 17-12, 2022. Many Council members agreed, and the conclusion is to approach V. Kotsis and ask him to move the meeting to the fall of 2022 as a post-satellite meeting for Athens.

Action point:

- R. Kreutz will contact V. Kotsis and ask him to postpone the WG meeting

10.c ESH Endorsed Meetings in 2022

A. Coca reported on the Argentina Society of Hypertension Satellite Symposium in 2022:

- Argentina Society of Hypertension Satellite Symposium, April 28, 2022, Rosario, Argentina (A. Coca)

The question was discussed on whether this meeting is an official ESH Satellite Meeting or an ESH Endorsed Meeting. The terminus needs to be clarified.

Action point:

- Clarify if the Argentina Society of Hypertension Meeting is an official ESH Satellite meeting or an Endorsed Meeting

After this excursion, we returned to topic 6.

6. ESH RESEARCH PROJECTS

6.a ESH Blood Pressure Control Study | Update (E. Agabiti-Rosei)

R. Kreutz thanked E. Agabiti-Rosei for taking over the topic at the last minute.

E. Agabiti-Rosei briefly mentioned that all Council members should be familiar with the study which started some years ago and was dedicated to Prof. Zanchetti.

The data of the study will probably result in the publishing of 3 papers:

- (1) BP CON ESH in Mediterranean Excellence Centres
- (2) Resistant hypertension in ESH Excellence Centres – Characteristics and determinants
- (3) Differences among the Mediterranean, North-East Europe, and West Europe

He went into details on the Blood Pressure Control Study in ESH Excellence Centres (BP CON ESH), a pilot study in Mediterranean countries. Authors and participating Excellence Centres were shown.

The aim was to determine the following:

- the overall rate of BP control by treatment based on participating centres from the Mediterranean region
- the factors associated with BP control/lack of control based on demographic geographical, socio-economic, clinical, and other factors
- the absolute BP values of controlled and uncontrolled patients
- differences between BP values and rate of BP control obtained with the classic office BP measurements and the unattended BP measurements
- the prevalence of resistant hypertension

The study population was:

- In total 1904 patients enrolled in 24 ESH Excellence centers from Croatia, Greece, Italy, Portugal, and Spain (men 52.5%, average age 63 ± 13.2 years. 75.9% urban)
- Only subjects with 3 office BP measurement, data on antihypertensive drug therapy and other relevant data (age, gender etc.) were enrolled
- In 740 subjects BP was measured with both measurement techniques

He presented some of the most interesting/important results and observations*.

*All slides can be reviewed in the Council members section on the ESH website.

6.b ESH ABPM Covid-19 Study | Update (A. Januszewicz, T. Weber)

A. Januszewicz, also on behalf of T. Weber, presented an update on the ESH ABPM Covid-19 Study.

The protocol of the study is ready awaiting the final comments of the Scientific Steering Committee. Furthermore, it has been approved by the Ethics Committee and the final consent will be confirmed by the National Institute of Cardiology within the end of September. The study will be registered internationally on clinicaltrials.gov. Discussions with possible sponsors are ongoing.

A slide containing the organizational structure for the study was shown again.

A letter is currently being sent to all centers that have agreed to participate announcing the next steps in the study.

6.c Excellence Centres Covid-19 Survey, Part II (T. Weber)

T. Weber very shortly summarized the content of the second part of the Covid-19 Survey among the Excellence Centres. The following data per time interval (sum of 3 months periods from 2019 and 2020) had to be submitted:

- Number of ABPM performed
- Number of renal artery duplex ultrasound
- Number of renal artery CT-angio, MR-angio
- Number of renal artery angioplasties
- Number of laboratory tests for plasma / urinary catecholamines
- Number of laboratory tests for plasma renin and aldosterone

Responses were received from 54 ECs out of 18 European and 3 non-European countries. T. Weber showed an example of the so far collected figures (No. of ABPM performed).

He will report more in detail during the upcoming Council meeting in January 2022.

7. ESH EXCELLENCE CENTRES (T. Weber)

T. Weber only received several incomplete applications which he contacted for further details.

8. ESH NEWSLETTERS

8.a Newsletters 2021

G. Grassi gave an overview of the ESH Newsletters published in 2021:

- **Nocturnal Hypertension: The Other Side of the Coin**
Authors: Marijana Tadic, Cesare Cuspidi
- **Nutraceuticals and Blood Pressure (BP)**
Authors: Claudio Borghi, Arrigo F. G. Cicero
- **Atrial Fibrillation, Anticoagulation Treatment and Hypertension**
Authors: Manolis Kallistratos, Leonidas Poulimenos, Athanasios Manolis
- **An Update of the Guidelines for Diagnosis and Management of Primary Aldosteronism**
Author: Gian Paolo Rossi

He asked the Council members to submit possible topics for 2022 since his goal is to have 4-6 NL published per year. A discussion came up with different topics:

- A general template should be implemented to secure uniformity
- Instead of having new ideas for NLs, the previous topics should be updated
- NLs should be sorted alphabetically on the website to have a better overview on the lack of certain topics
- NLs should also be published in the Journal of Hypertension or other journals and have a doi No. (M. Burnier to check possibilities for publishing in Blood Pressure; J. Brguljan to discuss within Editorial Board of JHTN)

8.b General procedure & future perspective (G. Grassi)

G. Grassi showed an organizational chart for the NL procedure. The key point is and will always be the proofreading of the NL content which can't be done by the ESH Secretariat or the ESH Coordinator. When the NL leaves the Council to be published externally or on the ESH website it needs to be perfect. G. Grassi needs to team up with someone to do this.

Action points:

- G. Grassi to develop a template for the NLs
- G. Grassi to present a NL concept at the next Council Meeting in January 2022
- M. Burnier to check possibilities for publishing NLs in Blood Pressure
- J. Brguljan to discuss NL publications within Editorial Board of HJH

Topics 9 and 10 were presented earlier in the meeting.

11. WORKING GROUPS (A. Persu)

11.a Reorganization of WGs

A. Persu presented a slide showing all WGs in a new order. This order will also be transferred to the ESH website.

Subsequently, the appointment of the Chairman position of two sections of the WG on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease in Special Populations was discussed. Costas Thomopoulos was proposed for the section on Hypertension in Women. This was unanimously accepted by the Council members. The candidate will be approached shortly.

The discussion for the chairmanship of the Hypertension in Older Adults section took a bit longer. In the end, Athanasios Benetos was proposed as Chairman. Since he would also be present in Baveno as a speaker of the Satellite Symposium on September 26, the first discussions with him should take place instantly.

Action points:

- A. Manolis and R. Kreutz to approach A. Benetos
- A. Persu/R. Kreutz to approach C. Thomopoulos

11.b Recent WG Publications

A. Persu presented a recap of the recently published WG-related papers:

- **2021 European Society of Hypertension practice guidelines for office and out-of-office blood pressure measurement** (ESH Council & WG on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability) – J Hypertens, 2021 Jul 1
- **Home blood pressure monitoring: methodology, clinical relevance and practical application** (WG on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability) – J Hypertens, 2021 Sep 1
- **Hypertension healthcare professional beliefs and behavior regarding patient medication adherence: a survey conducted among European Society of Hypertension Centres of Excellence** (WG on Lifestyle, Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy and Adherence) – Blood Press, 2021 Aug 14
- **European Society of Hypertension Position Paper on Renal Denervation 2021** (WG on Device-based Treatment of Hypertension) – J Hypertens, 2021 Sept 1

- **Non-Adherence in Hypertension: How to Develop and Implement Chemical Adherence Testing** (WG on Lifestyle, Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy and Adherence) – J Hypertens, in minor revision
- **Hypertension and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: position paper by the European Society of Hypertension** (WG on Hypertension and the Heart)

Some WG publication projects were presented:

- **Diagnosis and management of hypertension in patients with Cushing's syndrome: a position statement and consensus** (WG on Endocrine Hypertension) – suggested target journal = J Hypertens
- **Blood pressure variability: methodology, clinical relevance and practical application** (WG on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability) – suggested target journal = J Hypertens
- **2022 Guidelines for Validation of Non-invasive Arterial Pulse Wave Velocity Measurement Devices** (update of Wilkinson et al., Artery Research submitted by WG on Large Arteries) – suggested target journals = J Hypertens, Artery Research

A. Persu asked the Council members if they endorse the publication projects presented. They were unanimously confirmed.

11.c ESH annual Working Group report form

All WGs should deliver a yearly report. The report should be short but standardized. A slide with the new report form was presented to the audience. There were no objections.

Action point:

- A. Persu to send Annual Report Form to Chairmen of WGs

11.d Contribution of WGs to ESH 2022 Annual Meeting

A. Persu presented a list of all WGs that have already submitted a proposal for the main program. A few others are still pending. He pointed out that it will be difficult to accommodate 12 scientific sessions and a plenary WG session. R. Kreutz stated that all WG suggestions need to be at least considered. He thanked A. Persu for driving this topic forward.

12. ESH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

12.a 2nd webinar in cooperation with Siemens Healthcare Poland - "Educational Imaging Program in Hypertension – focus on MRI" (A. Januszewicz)

A. Januszewicz gave an update on the schedule of the 2nd part of the webinar series focused on MRI. The webinar will be divided and will be released in 4 separate parts:

- (1) MRI of the heart (release: Oct 2021)
- (2) MRI of the brain (release: Dec 2021)
- (3) MRI of the kidneys (release: Feb 2022)
- (4) MRI of the vessels (release: Mar 2022)

The following faculty members will be moderating and co-chairing: A. Persu, M. Pruijm, A. Kasiakogias, M. Januszewicz, T. Kusnetsova, A. Januszewicz, A. Prejbisz, P. Dobrowolski.

12.b ESH webinar series in cooperation with Gedeon Richter (A. Januszewicz)

Gedeon Richter of Poland and Hungary will provide an educational grant that enables ESH to organize three webinars on the overall topic “Update on resistant hypertension: from pathophysiology to clinical management”. The format of each webinar will be an introduction (5min) and 45-min lecture presentations followed by 10 min of discussion. Distribution and broadcast are planned for late October 2021 (1st webinar) and November 2021 (2nd and 3rd webinar). Termedia of Poland will again handle the broadcast.

The chairs for the three webinars are: C. Farsang (Hungary), R. Kreutz (Germany), K. Tsioufis (Greece).

Topics for the webinar lectures are:

First webinar

Pharmacology of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system | Jan Danser (Netherlands)

Epidemiology of resistant hypertension | Krzysztof Narkiewicz (Poland)

Second webinar

Clinical relevance of resistant hypertension | Andrzej Januszewicz (Poland)

Drug treatment approach in resistant hypertension | Reinhold Kreutz (Germany)

Third webinar

Potential role of device-based therapy in resistant hypertension | Roland Schmieder (Germany)

Overhaul on future perspective of aldosterone receptor antagonist | Philippe van den Borne (Belgium)

13. INTERACTION WITH OTHER SOCIETIES AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES

13.a Interaction with ERA – European Renal Association (R. Kreutz)

From September 15, 2021 the ERA-EADT changes its name to ERA – European Renal Association.

R. Kreutz reported on the good relations and successful cooperation with the new ERA President, Prof. Christoph Wanner (Germany). In order to share responsibilities, he will put the coordination of all ESH-ERA matters in the hands of the Chair of the WG on Hypertension and the Kidneys, P. Sarafidis.

For the upcoming 59th ERA Congress Paris & Virtual on May 19-22, 2022 two official ESH Ambassadors have been nominated: A. Persu and R. Schmieder.

Furthermore, an ESH-ERA joint session will be integrated into the 2022 Annual Meeting in Athens, coordinated by P. Sarafidis and A. Persu.

13.b Interaction with ESC (T. Kahan, E. Agabiti-Rosei)

T. Kahan pointed out that ESH, ESC, ISH, AHA, and WHL have very similar interests although they are dealing with different topics. The aim should be to collaborate in the fields that all societies have in common: Joint Sessions, Webinars, Workshops/Courses and Scientific Documents.

He reported on the process of planning a joint session at the ESC Congress 2022. The focus of the congress will be Cardiac Imaging. Since the internal structure of ESC is different from other societies, it is sometimes easier to submit a proposal via a body of ESC, such as the Council on Hypertension of

which T. Kahan is chair. A joint session can be submitted via Intra Scope. This needs to be done as soon as possible.

Furthermore, there are lots of possibilities for a cooperation. One example are the ESC webinars. They are well organized and attended by 500-1,000 people. All sponsoring is organized by ESC.

The creation of the position of ESH liaison officer to handle all ESC matters and set up a strategic plan for future cooperation should be taken into consideration.

The latter was agreed by all Council members. The Chairman of the WG on Hypertension and the Heart, E. Agabiti-Rosei, will take over this position. He can appoint a fellow to support him.

Action point:

- Prepare letter of appointment of ESC Liaison Officer

13.c Interaction with ACC (R. Kreutz)

R. Kreutz reported on a new contact person at the ACC, Eugene Yang, Chair, Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease Section. E. Yang is very open for a good relationship and cooperation.

Possible fields of cooperation are:

- (1) Joint Session at the 2022 ESH Athens Meeting:
 - a. Bilateral ESH + ACC stand-alone joint session and/or
 - b. Participation of ACC at a session with other societies, e.g., Asia Pacific
Topic might be: Implementation of Office and Out-of-Office Blood Pressure Measurement guidelines – a global perspective
- (2) Project cooperation with the WG on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability
- (3) Young Fellow interaction on social media and virtual events starting at Athens Meeting 2022

13.d Relations with Latin-America (A. Coca)

A. Coca gave an overview of the current associated societies based in Latin-America:

- (1) Latin American Society of Hypertension (LASH)
- (2) Capítulo Mexicano de LASH
- (3) Hypertension Division of the Brazilian Society of Cardiology (DHA-BSC)
- (4) Sociedad Argentina de Hipertensión (SAHA)
- (5) Sociedad Venezolana de Hipertensión (SVHTA)
- (6) Sociedad Centroamericana y del Caribe de Hipertensión y Prevención Cardiovascular (SCCH)
- (7) Sociedad Dominicana de Hipertensión y Arteriosclerosis (SODOHAS)
- (8) Inter American Society of Hypertension (IASH)

He then presented a summary of all 2020 and 2021 virtual meetings:

- ESH - LASH X Master Course "Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk" (August 10-12, 2020)
- ESH - ISH - LASH Joint Session in the ESH-ISH OnAir Meeting (April 13, 2021)
- ESH - LASH XI Master Course "Hypertension and Cardiovascular Risk" (May 17-19, 2021)
- ESH - SIAC Joint Session in the SIAC Virtual Meeting (June 12, 2021)
- SCCH - ESH 1st International Training Course in Hypertension (July 30-31, 2021)

R. Kreutz thanked A. Coca for his efforts to maintain the good relationship with Latin-America, which should definitely continue in the same way.

13.e Interaction with National Societies (M. Dorobantu)

M. Dorobantu gave a quick summary of the Commitments/Proposals of the National Societies which were discussed during the virtual meetings with the representatives of the NS in conjunction with the Joint ESH-ISH Conference in April:

- “ESH Excellence Center Scholarship” – offered by 20 or 30 ECs in Europe to train young physicians for 2 or 3 months (proposal by Hellenic Society)
- Advertisements to join ESH in National Hypertension Journals (proposal by Hellenic Society)
- Some societies have already translated the BPM Guidelines into their native languages and spread the word on their websites and National Hypertension Journals as well as during their Annual Meetings
- Search for eligible ESH Working Group participants, especially young physicians
- Involvement of ESH representatives in the Annual Meetings of the National Societies
- Involvement of NS in research projects

A letter will be sent to the Presidents of all societies to inform them about new ESH research projects and to gather data from them, such as an update of the society’s activities, elections etc.

R. Kreutz pointed out that the ESH website section on the National Societies/Associations/Affiliations needs to be cleaned up and updated. Furthermore, the regulations for application might also be reviewed again. This should be done before the next Council Meeting in January 2022.

There should also be meeting with the current NS Presidents during the 2022 Annual Meeting in Athens.

Action points:

- M. Dorobantu to prepare a letter to National Society Presidents
- Review of application regulations
- Update of National Societies/Associations/Affiliations list until next Council meeting

14. ESH SUMMER SCHOOL (J. Brguljan, D. Lovic)

J. Brguljan confirmed that the ESH Summer School is postponed to September 17-22, 2022. The location of Sremski Karlovci in Serbia will be retained. Some pictures of the city and hotel were shown.

A call for nominations and program input will be sent out shortly. It is important to have all applications by the end of March to prepare the students for the meeting and organize groups.

The goal is to create a more interactive program than in previous years. Students and lecturers should be connected before the event (e.g., via Facebook or else) and should have enough time for interaction onsite.

D. Lovic brought up the topic of financials/funding for the Summer School. He pointed out that logistic costs will increase over the next year. At present he can’t estimate the overall costs. M. Burnier objected that the budget of the FESH for the Summer School of 100,000 € should not be exceeded, otherwise the higher costs must be covered by sponsors.

A discussion on the topic of financials was raised. The summary was the following:

- Max. number of applicants = 60
- We stick to the regulations of previous SS to only accept 2 applications per country
- Faculty members should stay onsite as long as possible to interact as much as possible

15. ANY OTHER ISSUES (P. van de Borne)

P. van de Borne shortly reported on the global week for action on NCDs and on other activities of the ECDA.

16. DATES FOR FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS

A. Januszewicz asked everyone to save the dates for the upcoming Council meetings in 2022:

- (1) January 29, 2022, Athens – in conjunction with the program committee meeting for the Annual Meeting in Athens
- (2) June 17, 2022, Athens – in conjunction with the 2022 Annual Meeting in Athens

17. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The President thanked all Council members attending in presence and virtually for this successful meeting and the fruitful discussions. He pointed out that there is a lot to do before the next Council meeting in January 2022.

He closed the meeting and wished all Council members a good time at the Pre-ESH Athens 2022 Satellite Symposium during the coming days in Baveno.



Reinhold Kreutz
ESH President



Andrzej Januszewicz
ESH Secretary