



# ESMINT

European Society of  
Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy

## Minutes of the ESMINT General Assembly 2021:

Place / Date	13 <sup>th</sup> ESMINT Congress 2021, via Zoom / 8 September 2021, 19.00 (CEST)
Participants	Members
Excused	
Minutes	Liz Derow (LD)
Next GA	During the 14 <sup>th</sup> ESMINT Congress 2022

Topic	Action
<b>1 Apologies for absence</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>None.</li></ul>	
<b>2 2020 General Assembly Minutes</b>	JF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jens Fiehler (JF) indicates that the 2020 GA Minutes are available to all members on the ESMINT website.</li><li>The minutes are accepted by the GA unanimously.</li></ul>	
<b>3 Treasurer's Report</b>	ACJ
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Anne Christine Januel (ACJ) thanked all the companies supporting ESMINT's educational activities.</li><li>ACJ then presented the financial closing of the fiscal year 2020/21 (01.07.20 – 30.06.21).</li><li>The GA approves the Financial Statement for 07/2020 – 06/2021 by a majority with one rejection and one abstention.</li></ul>	
<b>4 General Secretary's Report</b>	ZK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Zsolt Kulcsár (ZK) updates the members about the activities of the Executive Committees of the past year:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rules Committee (Jan Gralla) has no major activities to report.</li><li>Education Committee (Phil White): reported that the transition from Shelley Renowden to Phil White had been smooth.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>ECMINT 3.4 and 4.1 were delivered virtually, and 4.2 will also be run virtually.</p> <p>As well as problems, the pandemic has also presented positive opportunities for delegates from outside of Europe being able to participate without long</p>	



# ESMINT

European Society of  
Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy

and expensive travel, nor the need for visas.

The Education Committee will continue to avail the support of other committees such as EBNI and the Examination Committee.

- Examination Committee (Matthias Gawlitza) reported on a very successful offering of the ESMINT Diploma examination (for those who have completed the full ECMINT cycle.)

Since there had been no offering of the Examination in 2020, there were many applications this year, followed by a large number of late cancellations.

There were 24 candidates in total, 23 for the written + oral, one who had already passed the written for the oral only.

The written examination was offered through Orzone, using their own cutting-edge software, and invigilated using AI.

The oral parts were also facilitated by Orzone and were conducted via Zoom.

The written had a 52.2% pass rate, and the orals a 95.7% pass rate. The Committee are currently investigating possible reasons for the low pass rate of the written.

A feedback survey among the candidates reported almost exclusively positive experiences, and a preference for a hybrid offering of the exam in the future.

Next steps are an online only EXMINT Diploma examination in November and the production of an Examination Regulations document in order to apply for UEMS CESMA approval of the exam.

- Guidelines Committee (Wim van Zwam) reported the FlowDiverter guideline project, initiated by Phil White has been delegated to Jeroen Boogaarts (Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands) and the ESO / ESMINT expedited recommendation on IVT before mechanical thrombectomy in patients with acute ischaemic stroke.
- Research Committee (Aymeric Rouchaud) reported that they had collaborated closely with EYMINT, and were proposing to a course on research for ECMINT.

They had run two surveys, individual responses about (i) patient selection and endovascular procedures, and (ii) general center-based information regarding mechanical thrombectomy, with the latter still collecting responses.

They had also published two articles.

Current projects:

- ESMINT research grants and awards
- Publication support
- Platform with list of statisticians, illustrators...
- Institutional review board (IRB) for ethics consideration



# ESMINT

European Society of  
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- Forum to guide ESMINT members for their research

- Membership Committee (Elisa Cicceri) reported that membership rates remain steady.

The Committee are investigating the process of the becoming a member – some applicants face difficulties in finding a 'supporter' / the responsiveness of their 'supporter'.

They propose:

- Country representatives
- Applicants submitting a CV with their application
- Adding a 'type of institution' field in the application form
- A 50% reduced membership rate for juniors
- Further, the proposal for a 'floating' membership year is to be voted on by the GA shortly.
- Multidisciplinary Committee (Laurent Spelle) did not submit a report.
- Professional Liaison Committee (Paolo Machi) are working on four fronts:
  - Inventory of ESMINT's active industry partners with initiatives supported and related amounts before 2020
  - Implementation of a new strategy to approach industries for sponsorship for 2021
  - Continuous interaction with partners to discuss content of sponsor packages and encourage new sponsorships
  - Creation of the Health Economics Ad hoc Committee
- Publication Committee (Mohamed Aggour) reported that ESMINT's Award for the Best European Publication in SNIS would be announced tomorrow, this is the third edition of the award.

Ongoing and future projects:

- Social media campaign to highlight the JNIS qualities (impact factor, time to decision, ...etc) to encourage more European submissions.
- Email blast to call for European reviewers for JNIS.
- Series of Webinars about publication with JHB (first one next October with FCA)
- EPMINT (P= Portal) for collecting and sharing publication & research ideas. Research committee is participating.
- UEMS Committee (Alessandra Biondi) reported that the same frustrations as previously experienced were still present. However, ZK interjected that this situation may be favourably updated soon.



# ESMINT

European Society of  
Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy

- Eastern European Committee (Vladimir Kalousek) reported:
  - From Fall 2020 to Spring 2021 three webinars had been organised, which were very well received.
  - Possibility in future to use platforms for live streaming, to show interesting cases and to incorporate more discussion & interactions.
  - When travel restrictions are lifted. Interactions will be able to widen.

- New Product Evaluation (Christian Taschner) have reviewed various study protocols for ESMINT trial endorsement: an ESMINT quality label for clinical trials according to the predefined process.

CT has been elected vice-chair of the European Commission expert panel “vascular disease” for the CE mark certification process for medical devices, chairing the subcommittee “vascular implants” and attended multiple preparatory meetings for the new task.

- Ethics Committee (Kamil Zeleňák) had chosen a novel route to recruit members by sending out a call to all who were interested, which was much appreciated by all.

KZ announced the committee members and outlined that the next steps would be (i) cooperation, (ii) devices, (iii) research / studies (iv) AI.

- Electronic Media Committee (Jan-Hendrik Buhk) outlined their primary areas of operation: (i) social media, (ii) webinars (iii) the Siilo app and (iv) the website.

- ESMINT Congress 2021 (Christian Taschner) is ongoing.

- EXMINT (Antonin Krajina) reported that EXMINT 3.1 had had 64 participants and 3.2 57 participants, with a distribution through the specialties and many countries represented.

- Fellowship Programme (Luca Valvassori) reported that for this third edition of the Fellowship 2021 there had been 34 applicants for 6 positions (3 full fellowships and 3 observerships).

Final selection finished in August, and candidates and centers were notified. Direct contacts between the fellows/observers and centers are currently ongoing.

- EYMINT (Uta Hanning) reported on a busy and successful year, with a full schedule of well received webinars and two surveys (one with the Research Committee and the other planned for September/October on Education ((training guidelines, candidate selection, case load requirements, speciality background across Europe).

Secondly, after a very successful 1<sup>st</sup> edition, the 2nd edition of the e-



# ESMINT

European Society of  
Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy

	<p>fellowships recently closed for applications and the submissions are now being evaluated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AI &amp; Robotics Committee (Kamil Zeleňák) announced their committee members, again the committee members were volunteers who answered the call for members.</li> <li>Congress Relations Committee (Wim van Zwam) Activities should be '<b>non-profit</b>', sponsored by public / social organizations, or by (multiple) independent commercial parties, or by participants.</li> </ul> <p>The Society should be able to <b>assess the activity</b> by visiting or participating or by interviewing participants, if deemed necessary.</p> <p>A brief <b>summary or evaluation</b> of the activity should be made available to the Society within six months after the activity.</p> <p>Issues are reported with written evaluations not being submitted. Also, a statement from the Ethics Committee is requested regarding Live Courses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Neurology Committee (Marc Ribo) did not submit a report.</li> <li>Neurosurgery Committee (Andreas Gruber) reported that the fruitful collaboration continued with the EANS CV Section.</li> </ul> <p>Next year, it is hoped to repeat the successful joint sessions and reciprocal abstract arrangements, and reciprocal meeting registration arrangements.</p> <p>Further, AG also acts as an EBNI Board member.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ETMINT announced their committee members and reported on having organized a very successful joint session with ESMINT today.</li> <li>Skills Training (Mario Martínez-Galdamez) did not submit a report.</li> <li>Health Economics (Paolo Machi) did not submit a report.</li> <li>New: Women in Neurointerventions (Anne Christine Januel): those wishing to join should contact <a href="mailto:januel.ac@chu-toulouse.fr">januel.ac@chu-toulouse.fr</a>.</li> <li>ZK thanked all the Committee chairs and members for all their hard work.</li> </ul>	
5	<b>President's Report</b>	JF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jens Fiehler (JF) thanked all for their hard work and took time to reiterate ESMINT's four-pillared strategy:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patients: Work towards optimal neurointerventional care for our patients in Europe (ECMINT, EXMINT, Skills trainings, Webinars, EastMINT, guidelines, surveys, political work, ethics)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



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European Society of  
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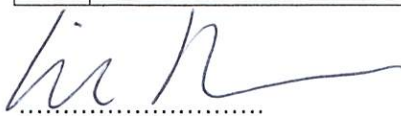
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Members: Improve value for members (Fellowship, eFellowship, M:M&amp;M, JNIS, SILO, publication support, health economy assessment)</li><li>○ Science: Fostering scientific progress (TENSION, JNIS, study evaluation, surveys, committee publications)</li><li>○ Machine: Develop further administrative and organizational capabilities, becoming a machine creating reproducible output efficiently.</li></ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● JF reported on the progress of the project of Country Representatives. A letter has been sent to more than 40 European countries inviting individual to become an 'ambassador' for ESMINT in their respective countries.</li></ul> <p>Their first task will be to complete a survey regarding the state of neurointervention in their country.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Vote on the change in the Constitution regarding the membership year</b>	<b>JF</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● JF introduced the vote of a change of constitution with regard to a floating membership year (Article 3, Membership.)</li></ul> <p>The proposal is as follows:</p> <p><b>ARTICLE 3 MEMBERSHIP</b></p> <p>All members shall receive a certificate appropriate to their membership category and may be asked to provide evidence of their professional interest in minimally invasive neurological therapy.</p> <p><b>New: The individual membership year starts with the payment of the annual dues by the member and ends one year later.</b></p> <p><del>The membership year starts at the July 1 and ends June 30 of the following year. The amount of the annual subscription shall be determined by the General Assembly and noted in the Appendix.</del></p>	

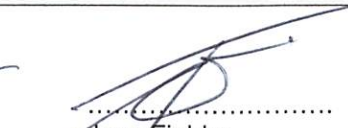


# ESMINT

European Society of  
Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy

	<p><b>ARTICLE 25</b> <b>MEMBERSHIP FEES</b></p> <p>The annual membership fees for the different categories of members shall be determined by the General Assembly. They shall not, for any category, exceed EUR 150 and shall become due <b>annually</b>, <del>and payable on the first day of the calendar year.</del></p> <p><b>Appendix 1</b> membership fees from September 2021</p> <p>Annual fee by category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Member: 120 Euro</li> <li>Industrial Associate Member: 150 Euro</li> <li>Medical Associate Member: 120 Euro</li> <li>Junior Member: 50 Euro</li> <li>Medical Support Member: 50 Euro</li> <li>Honorary Member: none</li> <li>Emeritus Member: none</li> </ul> <p>Membership fee reductions: <del>A member receives a 50 Euro discount for the congress if he/she is in good standing. If a member in Good Standing registers for the congress until June 30, he/she receives a 50 EUR discount for the congress, however, has to pay for his/her membership until the deadline (decided for end of September) to be member in Good Standing for the next membership year.</del></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• JF introduced the vote on the change in the Constitution: “Do you approve the change in the constitution?”</li> </ul> <p>The GA voted unanimously to accept the change.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Congress President 2022</b>	JF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The election by the ExCom Chairs of the Congress President 2022 were announced: Mo Aggour (London, UK.)</li> </ul>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Honorary Member 2022</b>	JF
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Istvan Szikora was proposed as an honorary member by the ExCom Chairs.</li> <li>• VOTE: Are you in favour of granting an honorary membership to Istvan Szikora?</li> <li>• The GA voted unanimously in favour.</li> </ul>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no other business. JF thanked everyone and ended the 2021 ESMINT General Assembly.</li> </ul>	
	The GA ended at 19:45.	

  
 .....  
 Liz Derow  
 Keeper, Minutes

  
 .....  
 Jens Fiehler  
 President