

## Minutes of the virtual Meeting of the ESH Scientific Council

June 19, 2021  
09:00 am – 13:20 pm

### PRESENT

#### ESH-Council members and officers

R. Kreutz, President  
A. Januszewicz, Secretary  
K. Tsioufis, Immediate Past President  
B. Jelakovic, Officer at Large

E. Agabiti Rosei	T. Kahan
C. Borghi	G. Mancia
J. Brguljan	A. Manolis
M. Burnier	G. Parati
A. Coca	A. Persu
M. Dorobantu	T. Weber
G. Grassi	B. Williams

#### Other participants

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

#### Apologies

E. Lurbe, Vice President  
M. Azizi  
D. Lovic  
J. Polonia  
P. Van de Borne

### 1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

The ESH President, R. Kreutz welcomed all members to the ESH Virtual Council Meeting. He conveyed the apologies of the Council members who were unable to attend due to other important commitments.

A screenshot of all Council meeting participants was taken to create a twitter post after the meeting.

## **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – ESH SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ZOOM MEETING ON NOVEMBER 7, 2020**

(A. Januszewicz)

The minutes of the Zoom Council Meeting held on February 6, 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** (prepared by J. Polonia, presented by A. Januszewicz)

A. Januszewicz presented a summary of the ESH financial situation at 31.12.2020 on behalf of J. Polonia. The data has recently been audited and all figures shown were in Swiss Francs (1 EUR = 1.08 CHF; 1 CHF = 0.93 EUR).

- Net assets at 31.12.20: 1'853'869 CHF (31.12.19: 1'813'266 CHF) → profit of 40'603 CHF in 2020
- Total income at 31.12.20: 350'715 CHF (31.12.19: 1'386'102 CHF)
- Total expenses/expenditures 31.12.20: 310'112 CHF (31.12.19: 1'371'179 CHF)
- The marked difference in the 2020 total income compared to 2019 is due to the lower number of meetings held in 2020.
- Expenses and expenditures in 2020 are much lower compared to 2019 for the same reason.
- Overall, the financial situation is stable.

### **3.b FESH Financial Report** (M. Burnier)

M. Burnier reported on the ESH Foundation financial situation at 31.12.20. This data has also been audited recently and all figures were shown in Swiss Francs (CHF).

- There was practically no activity in 2020.
- The total income is lower due to the postponement of the Summer School and the expenditures which are mainly administrative costs, are much lower.
- Current assets are relatively stable (2020: 567'876 CHF vs. 2019: 577'994 CHF) while short-term liabilities are reduced by half (2020: 13'601 CHF vs. 27'254 CHF)
- Net assets at 31.12.20: 554'275 CHF (31.12.19: 550'741 CHF) → profit of 3'535 CHF in 2020

#### 4. ESH BUSINESS MATTERS

##### 4. a. Membership (R. Kreutz)

R. Kreutz gave an overview of the current ESH membership status:

- 27,455 registered users on ESH website
- 2,434 registered members at 15.06.21
- 393 new members (01.02.21 – 15.06.21)
- So far, 297 members paid their dues for 2021 (66%)
- Only 280 registered members (14% of registered members) paid their dues in 2020.
- A substantial number of new members are from India/Asia → this might be the result of the virtual Annual Meeting and other efforts we are making to strengthen this relationship
- We will work on the matter of membership until the end of 2021. Action needs to be taken but it is all connected to the renewal of the contract with the publisher of the Journal of Hypertension.
- R. Kreutz reminded the Council Members, that he had based on the decision of the Council made in 2020, written to the publisher the contract with the publisher of the J. Hypertension, Wolters Kluwer Health was not renewed according to the dead line and to avoid the default renewal of the contract.
- The contract will be renewed this year and a decision must be made whether membership will be linked to the Journal subscription or whether only a low membership fee will be charged.

##### Action points

- Send out reminder to all members to pay the 2021 membership dues
- Renewal of contract with publisher Wolters and Kluwer of the Journal of Hypertension

##### 4.b Renewal of Infomedica Contract (R. Kreutz)

R. Kreutz gave an overview of the amount ESH has paid to Infomedica over the years. There is a reduction in costs from 2019 with 37,500 EUR to the current contract 2021 with an amount of 14,000 EUR to be paid. This is mainly due to the establishment of the new payment platform to collect the membership fees directly.

Since the collaboration with Infomedica still works very well, R. Kreutz asked for the consent of the Council members to sign the contract for 2021. Some members raised interest in the contract details. The contract will be sent to all Council members to gather their feedback. If there are no dissenting votes, the present contract will be signed.

##### Action points

- ESH Coordinator to send out Infomedica contract to all council members

- President to sign Infomedica contract 2021

#### **4.c Others**

No discussion points were raised.

#### **5. ESH AND JOURNAL OF HYPERTENSION (R. Kreutz, G. Mancia)**

R. Kreutz provided an update on the ESH/Wolters Kluwer status. From July 1, 2021, the Journal of Hypertension has a new editor in chief - Prof. Anthony Heagerty from Manchester, UK. He took over this position from Prof. Mancia. R. Kreutz thanked G. Mancia for the excellent job he has done for many years. We very much hope to continue the collaboration with the Journal in the same way.

The contract with the publisher expires 31/12/2021. R. Kreutz recently wrote the ISH President that we want to renew the contract, but the terms need to be renegotiated as pointed out above. We received a positive feedback from ISH which is a good basis to start the negotiations. A small task force (J. Redón, K. Tsioufis, R. Kreutz, G. Mancia, A. Januszewicz), already formed at the beginning of 2021, will work on a proposal on how to proceed with the contract. The proposal will be discussed at the upcoming council meeting in September.

Key points might be:

- What will be the future of the Journal when the Editorial office moves to Manchester?
- Should the subscription to the Journal be mandatory?
- Journal content, ESH publication in the Journal, technical issues, Abstract book
- At least 3 members on the Journal BOM should be current Council members

#### **Action points**

- Discuss and draw up new contract between ESH, ISH and Wolters Kluwer
- Decide on subscription to Journal and membership fees

#### **6. ESH RESEARCH PROJECTS**

##### **6.a ESH Blood Pressure Control Study | Update (B. Jelakovic)**

R. Kreutz thanked B. Jelakovic in advance for presenting an update of the ESH Blood Pressure Control Study.

B. Jelakovic briefly mentioned that all Council members should be familiar with the study which started some years ago and was dedicated to Prof. Zanchetti. There were some difficulties at the beginning with the registration of the study which was in the end registered under the account of B. Jelakovic's hospital in Zagreb.

The aim was to gather the data of 3,000 patients up until March 1, 2021. In the end, 34 Excellence Centers (out of 167) actively took part in the study and submitted reasonable data of 2,402 patients.

Some of the main problems in the cooperation with the ECs were:

- Some ECs didn't receive the ethical approval for the study
- Some centers never received the devices
- Some centres committed to take part but never submitted data
- Some declared not to be interested in the study
- Some colleagues didn't follow the rules of submitting the data
- Some ECs might have had problems to raise the funds for the study

Overall, participation was very disappointing, especially from the northern European countries. In the end, most data submissions came from the Mediterranean and Balkan countries. The most positive example are the Greek colleagues because all 17 ECs actively took part in the study due to their good local coordination, great interest and above all their devotion to ESH.

A discussion followed on the results of the study and how to proceed with it. The overall feedback of the council was that it was a useful pilot study. The existing data should be analyzed. The first draft of the analysis should be discussed at the September Council meeting, while the final study should be presented at the 2022 Annual Meeting in Athens.

#### Action points

- B. Jelakovic takes the lead to prepare a draft manuscript / abstract in the fall of 2021 on the BP control study

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

T. Weber and A. Januszewicz presented an update on the ESH ABPM Covid-19 Study. The main goal of the study is to compare BP values and profiles before and during Covid-19 to investigate the potential effect of the pandemic on BP in already treated hypertensive patients being followed in outpatient units of participating centers.

The following clinical information will be collected (if available): sex, age, education level, antihypertensive medication (on both occasions), body height and weight, comorbidities and some basic laboratory data. The interest among ECs to participate in the study is quite huge. So far, 50 ECs in 23 countries committed themselves to be part of the study.

For most ECs this study is easy to participate in because most of the data is already existing and simply needs to be picked up. Of course, there are also ECs that have stopped or reduced doing ABPM during the pandemic and are not likely to participate.

In order to successfully conduct the study, various committees were appointed:

- Scientific Steering Committee
- Executive Committee
- Coordinating Center

The day-to-day work will be done by the lead of the coordinating center - Wiktoria Wojciechowska from Poland. She and the other center members will collect the data and communicate with the ECs.

A discussion followed on the preparation of the protocol of the study, funding of the project, obtaining consents from the local Ethic Committees and involvement of experts in the Scientific Steering Committee.

**Since council member A. Coca had to leave earlier due to other commitments, we moved up his agenda items (9.d and 12.b).**

## **9. ESH ANNUAL MEETINGS | SATELLITE MEETINGS**

### **9.d Satellite Meetings in 2022 (A. Coca)**

A. Coca reported that the Argentina Society of Hypertension is planning an official Satellite Symposium to the 2022 Annual Meeting in Athens. It shall take place on April 28, 2022 in Rosario, Argentina. The program will be entirely in Spanish as the target group for this symposium will be general practitioners. J. Redon and A. Coca will represent the ESH at this event. A. Coca asked the Council members for official endorsement. No concerns were raised.

## **12. INTERACTION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES**

### **12.b Connection with Latin-America (A. Coca)**

A. Coca introduced an upcoming event to the Council members which will take place virtually on July 30-31 - 1<sup>st</sup> Curso Internacional de Formación en Hipertensión. It's a cooperation between the ESH and the Sociedad Centroamericana y del Caribe de Hipertensión Arterial y Prevención Cardiovascular (SCCH). He briefly reported on the first draft of the program.

**After this excursion, we returned to topic 6.c**

## 6. ESH RESEARCH PROJECTS

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

While the first survey was based on estimated numbers, the continuation of this current study among the ESH ECs is based on real numbers, extracted from departmental and hospital databases. These numbers should be easily accessible to most ECs.

The data is stratified per time interval (sum of 3 months periods from 2019 and 2020) and includes the following:

- 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

48 ECs out of 19 countries already took part in the survey. The first results will be shown at the upcoming Council meeting in September.

### 6.d Others

No discussion points were raised.

## 7. ESH EXCELLENCE CENTRES (T. Weber)

T. Weber reported on 3 newly approved ECs:

- EOC Hypertension Center, Locarno, Switzerland – lead by Valentina Forni
- Universitätsklinikum für Nephrologie und Hypertonie, Bern, Switzerland – lead by Bruno Vogt
- Nice Hypertension Clinic, Nice, France – lead by Vincent Esnault

## 8. ESH PUBLICATIONS

### 8.a 2021 Consensus Document on Office and Out-of-Office Blood Pressure Measurement

(R. Kreutz)

The 2021 Consensus Document on Office and Out-of-Office Blood Pressure Measurement was published online on March 11, 2021 and is available as free download. The final print version will be published in the Journal of Hypertension on the July issue.

Several National Societies have committed themselves to translate the guidelines into their native languages to spread the word. ESH has already received translations in Hungarian, Kazakh, Romanian and Russian. All translations will be uploaded on the ESH website.

### **8.b 2021 Position Paper on Hypertension and HFpEF (E. Agabiti Rosei)**

This Position Paper was jointly produced by the WG on Hypertension and the Heart and the WG on Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy Adherence. There are several ongoing clinical trials, and an addendum may be needed when the results are available.

R. Kreutz complimented both WGs on spotlighting young fellows such as A. Kasiakogias who is the first author of the Position Paper. It's an important incentive to promote young fellows which ESH should continue to follow.

### **8.c ESH Newsletters (G. Grassi)**

G. Grassi gave an overview of the ESH Newsletters published in 2020 and 2021.

Newsletters in 2020:

- **COVID-19 and RAS Blockers: A Pharmacology Perspective**  
Author: A.H. Jan Danser
- **Attended vs. Unattended Blood Pressure – Learning Beyond Sprint**  
Authors: Sverre E. Kjeldsen, Guido Grassi, Reinhold Kreutz, Giuseppe Mancia

Newsletters already published in 2021:

- **Nutraceuticals and Blood Pressure (BP)**  
Authors: Claudio Borghi, Arrigo F. G. Cicero
- **Nocturnal Hypertension: The Other Side of the Coin**  
Authors: Marijana Tadic, Cesare Cuspidi

There are currently some other newsletters in planning that will be published very soon:

- **An update of the guidelines for diagnosis and management of primary aldosteronism**  
Author: Gian Paolo Rossi
- **Atrial Fibrillation, Anticoagulation, and Hypertension: the need for blood pressure control**  
Authors: Athanasios Manolis, Manolis Kallistratos, Leonidas Poulimenos

To ensure that no newsletter proposal is lost, meticulous lists will be made in the future and both R. Lynch and M. Elgner will be involved in the process.

### **8.d Working Group related publications (A. Persu)**

A. Persu reported on some important publications initiated by the ESH Working Groups:

- **Hypertension in kidney transplantation: a consensus statement of the “hypertension and the kidney” working group of the European Society of Hypertension** (published May 28, 2021 in J. Hypertens)



- **Hypertension healthcare professional beliefs and behavior regarding patient medication adherence: a survey conducted among European Society of Hypertension Centres of Excellence** (on behalf of the WG on Cardiovascular Therapy and Adherence; submission to Blood Pressure)
- **Non-Adherence in Hypertension: How to Develop and Implement Chemical Adherence Testing** (endorsed by WG on Cardiovascular Therapy and Adherence; submitted to Hypertension end April 2021; accepted pending minor changes on May 17, 2021)
- **European Society of Hypertension Position Paper on Renal Denervation 2021** (on behalf of the WG on Device-based Treatment of Hypertension; submitted to J. Hypertens on June 6, 2021)
- **Home Blood Pressure Monitoring: Methodology, Clinical Relevance, and Practical Application** (a 2021 Position Paper by the WG on Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cardiovascular Variability; J. Hypertens June 20, 2021)

#### **8.e Updates in Hypertension and Cardiovascular Protection** (E. Agabiti Rosei, G. Mancia)

E. Agabiti Rosei gave an overview of a book series he and G. Mancia launched in 2015 with the first book on “Assessment of Preclinical Organ Damage in Hypertension”. The series is published in cooperation with Springer. The aim of the series is to provide informative updates on both the knowledge and clinical management of hypertension. Since 2015 the following books have been published:

- Coca (Ed), Hypertension and Brain Damage (2016)
- Tsioufis, C., Schmieder, R., Mancia, G. (Eds), Interventional Therapies for Secondary and Essential Hypertension (2016)
- Berbari, A., Mancia, G. (Eds), Disorders of Blood Pressure Regulation (2018)
- Burnier M. (Ed), Drug Adherence in Hypertension and Cardiovascular Protection (2018)
- Modesti, P.A., Cappuccio, F.P., Parati, G. (Eds), Ethnic Diversities, Hypertension and Global Cardiovascular Risk (2018)
- Zimlichman, R., Julius, S., Mancia, G. (Eds), Prehypertension and Cardiometabolic Syndrome (2018)
- Dorobantu, M., Mancia, G., Grassi, G., Voicu, V. (Eds), Hypertension and Heart Failure (2019)
- Lurbe, E., Wühl, E. (Eds), Hypertension in Children and Adolescents (2019)
- Stergiou, G., Parati, G., Mancia, G. (Eds), Home Blood Pressure Monitoring (2019)
- Morganti, A., Agabiti Rosei, E. Mantero, F. (Eds), Secondary Hypertension (2020)
- Agabiti-Rosei, E., Heagerty, A. M., Rizzoni, D. (Eds), Microcirculation in Cardiovascular Diseases (2020)

The following issues are in planning:

- Berbari A., Mancia G. (Eds), Blood Pressure Disorders in Diabetes Mellitus  
Palatini P., Agabiti-Rosei E., Mancia G. (Eds), Exercise, Sports and Hypertension

- C. Venkata S. Ram, Boon Wee Jimmy TEO, Gurpreet S. Wander (Eds) Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease in Asia

Since many colleagues are unaware of the opportunity to publish in this series, he asked the Council members to spread the word.

## **9. ESH ANNUAL MEETINGS & SATELLITE MEETINGS**

### **9.a Debrief – 2021 Joint ESH-ISH Meeting (M. Massaro)**

M. Massaro presented some final figures of the 2021 Joint ESH-ISH Meeting which took place from April 11-14, 2021 for the first time in virtually.

- 127 hours of live transmission with 784 live speeches and 338 presentations
- 238 oral presentations and 1150 posters
- 5,380 registrations to the congress and 3,934 connections to the platform
- Registrations - Top 10 countries → India is number 1 with 467 delegates
- Registrations by continents: Europe is still number one but followed by Asia/Far East
- As most of the sponsors were already committed for 2020, and due to the pandemic, the decision was made to go virtual, AIM had to change the sponsoring packages and define new ways of visibility.
  - 4 Satellite Symposia were offered and handled
  - 16 Mini-Symposia were offered and handled
  - E-booths
  - Promotional activities such as digital packages and email blasts
  - Interviews
  - Surveys
  - Advertising videos
- 11 Joint Session took place
- 300 faculty members from 57 countries attended
- Abstract no show rate decreased due to the virtual mode
- Massive daily promotion of the event on social media (Twitter, Facebook)

R. Kreuzt thanked the entire AIM team, represented by M. Massaro and M. Calderai, for their outstanding job to realize this congress so successfully.

### **9.b Satellite Meetings 2021 (A. Januszewicz, K. Tsioufis, M. Massaro)**

A. Januszewicz took over the topic of Satellite Meetings to ESH Annual Meetings. He pointed out that in general all Council Members and others, e.g., Working Group Members, can organize these meetings. But it is of utmost importance to inform the ESH Council and also the President of the

corresponding Annual Meeting in advance. An early announcement of the Satellite Meetings creates planning security and avoids cannibalism with other meetings.

The following Satellite Meetings are planned for 2021:

- Difficult to treat hypertension (K. Tsioufis), September 10-11, 2021 in Athens → 8<sup>th</sup> edition of this meeting dedicated to the WG activities; invite will be sent out to Council Members shortly
- Educational Meeting of WG on Diabetes and Metabolic Risk Factors, September 16-19, 2021 in Lefkada, Greece (V. Kotsis) → this meeting will be postponed
- Pre-ESH Athens 2022 Satellite Symposium: A roadmap to future European Hypertension Guidelines (G. Mancia, R. Kreutz, K. Tsioufis), September 25-26, 2021, Lago Maggiore

G. Mancia gave an update on the planning of the pre-ESH Athens 2022 Satellite Symposium which will take place on September 25-26, 2021, in Baveno, Lago Maggiore:

- Venue: Grand Hotel Dino at Lago Maggiore
- Confirmed sponsors are Servier, Merck and Omron; pending are Medtronic and Menarini
- Faculty will be invited to attend in presence (list is shown), other participants from outer Europe might attend virtual
- A preliminary program is already available

Invitations for the meeting will be sent out in due time.

### **9.c 2022 ESH Annual Meeting, Athens** (K. Tsioufis, M. Massaro)

The next Annual Meeting (31<sup>st</sup> European Meeting on Hypertension and Cardiovascular Protection) will take place from June 17 to 20, 2022 in Athens. The venue will be the Megaron Athens International Conference Center.

K. Tsioufis pointed out that they plan to hold the meeting mainly in attendance, but also plan virtual aspects. At the moment, however, capacity planning is not easy as the venue does not have regulations on participation numbers and the Covid-19 situation for 2022 is yet to be assessed.

Within the next days the local organizing committees are formed and the website for the congress will be created. They also start the promotion.

On January 29, 2022 the program committee meeting will take place in conjunction with the Council Meeting. R. Kreutz declared that it would be better to have a clear proposal of how to reorganize some sessions and create a draft program in July to already have a list of speakers.

M. Massaro presented some results of a survey among important industry sponsors on their perception of the congress. The industry clearly prefers a hybrid congress and would like to have a virtual platform with live streaming of the sessions, Q&A, instant polling, sponsor pages etc.

### **9.d Satellite Meetings in 2022** (A. Januszewicz)

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

- Argentina Society of Hypertension Satellite Symposium, April 28, 2022, Rosario, Argentina (A. Coca) → topic already been discussed earlier
- Educational Meeting of WG on Diabetes and Metabolic Risk Factors, June 23-26, 2022 in Rhodes or Kos, Greece (V. Kotsis)
- ESH Satellite Meeting on “Hypertension & Renovascular Disease” (A. Januszewicz, A. Persu, R. Kreutz, P. Sarafidis), maybe Berlin, date tbc

R. Kreutz invited the Council members and WG chairs to also plan satellite meetings.

#### **9.e 2023 ESH Annual Meeting, 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.f 2024 ESH Annual Meeting, 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 will work with the local agency Diaplan. The first meetings between them have already taken place.

R. Kreutz and R. Schmieder are responsible for the program.

### **10. WORKING GROUPS** (A. Persu)

#### **10.a Relations with ERA-EDTA and other Nephrology Societies**

A. Persu reported that P. Sarafidis, Chair of the WG on the Kidney, became a member of the ERA-EDTA Council. ESH should use this to strengthen the relationship with ERA-EDTA. R. Kreutz shall send a letter to ERA-EDTA President Christoph Wanner to propose a joint session at the Annual Meeting in Athens next year. The letter must be sent out quickly as the ERA-EDTA is holding their Council Meeting very soon.

KDIGO recently published their “2021 Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Blood Pressure in Chronic Kidney Disease”. A. Persu was associated to a discussion on the implementation of these guidelines. They are Target SPRINT-based but BP measurement is very similar to our recent consensus document. It would therefore be a good idea to create a common document on that topic. KDIGO is very willing to cooperate with ESH and other societies worldwide to increase the outreach.

R. Kreutz and other Council members support this idea.

#### Action points

- Send a letter to ERA-EDTA President C. Wanner to propose joint session at the ESH Annual Meeting in Athens
- Work together with KDIGO on common paper

## 10.b New WGs

A. Persu showed a list of the current ESH Working Groups. Afterwards he led a lively discussion on the terminologies and contents of WG 3 (WG on cardiovascular pharmacotherapy and adherence) and WG 7 (Hypertension and cardiovascular risk assessment in subjects living in or emigrating from low resource settings).

Finally, the Council members agreed on the following:

- WG 1 = Hypertension in children and adolescents → will remain as stand-alone WG since it is very successful
- WG 3 will be renamed: WG on “Lifestyle, pharmacotherapy and adherence” (proposal by M. Burnier)
- WG 7 will be re-grouped. The proposed title might be WG on hypertension and cardiovascular disease in special populations. As for the WG on small vessels there will be WG Sections on:
  - Hypertension in women
  - Hypertension in older adults
  - Hypertension in subjects living in or emigrating from low resource settings
- ➔ A. Persu to clarify terminology before next Council meeting
- The recently re-named WG 11 (Device-based treatment of hypertension) and WG 12 (Diabetes and metabolic risk factors) will be kept as stated

A. Persu also reported on his recent discussions with the Presidents of the Israeli Society of Hypertension, Adi Leiba, and the President of the Dutch Society of Hypertension, Bert-Jan van den Borne. They are very interested in the ESH WGs and have already sent proposals of some eligible young candidates to join the WGs. Both presidents shall be invited to the Pre-ESH Athens Satellite Symposium.

K. Tsioufis proposed that Costas Thomopoulos is interested to take the lead for the topic on hypertension in women. This was very much welcomed by the Council and supported.

### Action points

- A. Persu to reach out to heads of concerned WG and initiatives after approval of the minutes to inform them about the changes.
- Invite presidents of Israeli and Dutch Society of Hypertension to Pre-ESH Athens Satellite Symposium
- A. Persu together with other council members identify new members who would support the new WGs or sections. Will write to C. Thomopoulos to confirm his interest in taking a lead in the section on Hypertension in Women.

## 10.c Contribution of WGs to ESH 2022 Annual Meeting / Call for proposals

In order to involve the ESH WGs timely into the program of the upcoming Annual Meeting in Athens next year, they would need to have a draft program. K. Tsioufis pointed out that by the end of July they will have the general structure of the program.

## **10.d Renewal of WGs: Organization of voting**

A. Persu reported the need of elections of new office bearers within the WGs. After 2 years, the Vice-Chairman becomes Chairman and a new Vice-Chairman should be elected.

The Council encourages the election of the Vice-Chairman by online anonymous voting that will be organized by the ESH Office via the SoGo platform. The names of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman will then be indicated on the website with their year of appointment.

The WG on hypertension and the heart already went through this process and elected their new board members.

### Action points

- A. Persu and ESH Coordinator to clarify/handle election process

## **11. ESH EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **11.a Webinars “Controversial and missing issues of recent hypertension guidelines”**

M. Massaro reported on the 2 webinars on “Controversial and missing issues of recent hypertension guidelines” supported by an educational grant by Menarini. The events took place on April 28 and May 26. They were both very successful with a total number of 1,409 attendees. The webinars are available on-demand for one year.

### **11.b Webinar - “Educational Imaging Program in Hypertension – focus on MRI” (A. Januszewicz)**

A. Persu and A. Januszewicz summarized the current preparation of the next webinars within ESH Siemens Educational Imaging Program. The first live webinar of this series supported by Siemens Healthineers Poland took place on February 11, 2021. The combination of lectures (45min) and a live part (90min) was quite successful.

The second part of the series will be divided into 4 separate parts:

1. MRI of the heart (release: Sept/Oct 2021)
2. MRI of the brain (release: Nov/Dec 2021)
3. MRI of the kidneys (release: Jan/Feb 2022)
4. MRI of the vessels (release: Feb/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.

The 1<sup>st</sup> webinar on MRI of the heart will have 60 min of lectures followed by a 45 min part of live examinations from the Siemens studio in Warsaw, Poland. All senior participants of the last ultrasound/doppler webinar and also new ones representing MRI units from all over Europe will be invited.

A. Persu and A. Januszewicz would appreciate suggestions about future topics from the other council members.

### **11.c Others**

No other topics were raised.

## **12. INTERACTION WITH NATIONAL SOCIETIES**

### **12.a Debrief virtual National Societies Meetings (M. Dorobantu)**

19 virtual meetings took place from April 12-14, 2021 on the occasion of the Joint ESH-ISH Conference. The aim was to strengthen and re-establish the relationship between ESH and the National Societies. ESH was represented in these meetings by M. Dorobantu, R. Kreutz, E. Lurbe, A. Januszewicz, R. Lynch and M. Elgner.

General topics of the ESH were:

- Promoting NS portraits on the ESH website (e.g., name of current president, number of members, activities)
- Translation of 2021 Consensus Document on BPM
- Willingness of NS to attend the ESH ABPM Covid-19 Study
- ESH Working Groups and our search for eligible candidates esp. young physicians
- Participation of ESH representatives at Annual Meetings of NS
- COST Action HyperChildNET Initiative

Proposals/Commitments of National Societies:

- “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 Magazine (proposal by Hellenic Society)
- Majority of Societies committed to the translation of BPM Guidelines into their native language and to spread the word on their websites and National Hypertension Magazines as well as during their Annual Meetings
- Search for eligible ESH Working Groups participants, especially young physicians
- Involvement of ESH representatives in the Annual Meetings of the National Societies

In general, the feedback of the National Societies to have these meetings was very good. This procedure should be continued.

### **12.b Connection with Latin-America**

This topic was discussed after topic 6.b

### **12.c Others**

No other topics were raised.

### **13. ESH SUMMER SCHOOL (J. Brguljan)**

J. Brguljan repeated that the ESH Summer School is postponed to September 17-22, 2022. The location of Sremski Karlovci in Serbia will be retained.

A call for nominations and program input will be sent out by the end of this year.

- J. Brguljan would like to have more practical sessions next year. Maybe a collaboration with A. Januszewicz' MRI series could be possible.
- R. Kreutz suggested to get all participants connected before the SS. We should ask them about their expectations before and their opinion after the SS.
- M. Burnier reported briefly on a new interactive tool for communicating with each other which he uses within the WG of adherence.
- Participants should also have free access to some publications (ESH-Springer book series) to prepare themselves for the SS.
- The evaluation form for the SS should be changed when we decide to include more practical sessions.

\* Some Council members had already left the meeting due to other commitments

### **14. ANY OTHER ISSUES (R. Kreutz)**

G. Parati reported on an initiative raised by the WHL to try to control hypertension in Africa. R. Kreutz endorsed this important program. The entire appendix will be sent to all Council members with the Council meeting minutes.

### **15. DATES FOR FUTURE COUNCIL MEETINGS**

#### **15.a Council Meeting on Friday, September 24, 2021, Lago Maggiore**

The next Council meeting in presence will take place in conjunction with the Pre-ESH Athens Satellite Symposium on September 25-26, 2021. The entire event will take place at Grand Hotel Dino, Baveno, Lago Maggiore. All participants will arrive on Friday morning, September 24. The Council meeting will then take place at around 2 pm CEST on the same day. Invitations with all logistics will be sent out shortly by M. Massaro and team.



### **15.b Council Meeting on Saturday, January 29, 2022, Athens**

This council meeting will take place in conjunction with the Program Committee meeting for the Annual Meeting in Athens.

\* Some Council members had already left the meeting due to other commitments

### **16. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The President thanked all Council members for their support and trust over the last months. He thanked A. Januszewicz, R. Lynch and M. Elgner for their time and excellent preparation of the Council meeting. He also thanked again M. Massaro, M. Calderai and the AIM team for their outstanding work in organizing of the virtual Annual Meeting

He closed the meeting wishing everyone all the best.



Reinhold Kreuz  
ESH President



Andrzej Januszewicz  
ESH Secretary