

International Federation for the Surgery of Obesity and metabolic disorders
European Chapter

IFSO-EC General Council meeting
Prague, Friday November 5th, 16.30-18.00
Room: PRAGUE – Hotel Vienna Diplomat

AGENDA

Invited members

Voting: Executive Council members (G. Prager, M. Suter, J.M. Chevallier, M. De Luca, M. Fried, N. Di Lorenzo), one delegate from each Society

Non-voting: A. Fiennes, R. Batterham, R. Peterli, M. Felsenreich, J. Pujol, T. Mala, T. Pintar, one delegate from each Society

In attendance: M. Mazzarella (IFSO), Ronald Liem (#5)

1. Apologies & proxies (quorum)

Noted - No apologies and proxies

2. Minutes from last GC meeting in Lyon (annex 1)

Noted - The minutes are approved as they are

3. Report from EAC-BS

Reported- G.Prager: the net dividend from EAC-BS for 2019 is 5,922 euros; transferred to IFSO EC bank account on September 28th, 2021.

The contract with EAC-BS will expire in 2025. In 2023 we'll start the negotiations with Professor J. Melissas to take over the management of EAC-BS.

4. Financial report

Reported – M. De Luca: In April 2017 the funds (56.000 euros) were transferred from Austria to Prague at the CSOB Bank. On November 3rd 2021 the balance is 159.000 euros.

Noted: M.Fried acknowledged Alberic Fiennes's essential and significant contribution to salvage IFSO-EC economy. Especially during AF IFSO-EC Presidency, rescue budget and monetary plan was created and implemented. The plan successfully launched economic recovery of IFSO-EC.

5. IFSO-EC Meeting 2022 Maastricht

Reported – R. Liem: the congress will take place from May 4th to 7th 2022 jointly with EASO at the MECC. Fully-fledged joint conference with an integrated program.

Not focus so much on obesity, but on future research and care.

ZOOM FORWARD is also available for subsequent editions in other cities to use and build a joint brand

The scientific program will be made of:

Track 1: Basic Science

Track 2: Behavioural and Public Health

Track 3: Childhood and Adolescent Obesity

Track 4: Management and Intervention

Track 5: Metabolic Surgery

Integrated program, (teaching) workshops, masterclasses, symposia, abstracts, posters.

The early bird fee will be 525 euros for IFSO and EASO members, while the online fee will be 300 euros.

The abstracts submission will close on January 14th 2022. Abstracts reviewers should be invited from both sides not only local members, all members of the IFSO EC Executive Council.

6. **Future collaboration with EASO after 2022**

Noted – G. Prager: the next joint meeting could be in 2026. In the meantime, we will exchange sessions reciprocally at our future meetings: i.e. EASO sessions at IFSO EC Meetings and IFSO EC sessions at EASO meetings.

We plan to set up a joint committee to produce recommendations for physicians on BMS.

7. **IFSO-EC Symposium 2023, Zurich**

Noted – G. Prager: the IFSO EC Symposium is confirmed to be held in Zurich on May 4-6, 2023 under the Presidency of Ralph Peterli.

8. **IFSO-EC Meeting 2024 – received bids: Vienna, Reykjavik**

Noted – G. Prager: The two bids have been examined carefully by the PCO and by the Executive Council. All in favor of Vienna as location of the next IFSO EC Meeting in 2024.

9. **Committees' reports**

Scientific Committee

Reported- G. Prager: R. Batterham is leaving the role of Co-Chair of the Scientific Committee, and will be replaced by M. De Luca. R. Peterli will stay as Chair. Prof. Batterham will be invited to stay on the committee as member. New members will be included in the near future.

C&D Committee

Reported – J. Pujol: During these hard months of the pandemic, with the impossibility of organizing face-to-face events, IFSO-EC focused its activity through digital events and its E-learning platform by: Virtual IFSO-EC Congress (Dec. 2020), Enriching the video-share platform, Organizing live-streamed webinars.

In the video gallery there are currently 27 educational videos of surgical techniques classified according to their subject matter.

The platform will soon be enriched by adding new videos from the past virtual IFSO-EC congress in December 2020 and the current congress 2021.

Nine webinars have been done so far and 3 more are planned for 2022: The role of malabsorption, SADI-S vs BPDDS, How sensors and wearables can facilitate the follow-up, Assessing the value of E-Health.

Efforts have been made to involve as many European countries as possible.

Speakers from 16 different countries participated.

A mean of 368 registrations/webinar and a mean of 171 attendees/webinar.

Next steps: Review and update the web content - Platform design and innovation - Web positioning and promotion.

Training programs: Seek partnerships between IFSO-EC and companies that are running scientific training programs in order to achieve scholarships for our members and at the same time economic benefits for the society.

MNAG report

Reported – T.Pintar:

1) A poster dedicated to bariatric surgery emergencies was produced and presented by R. Liem at IFSO EC in Maastricht. The poster was sponsored by a grant of J&J.

The group supported the poster preparation. The poster will be translated and with minor corrections will be discussed in the MNAG group before final approval. Also, the poster will be released in Obesity Facts, presented to World Society of Emergency Surgery (WSES) and included in IFSO-EC website.

The poster is divided into current states in the early and late postoperative period. A point-to-point discussion in the proposed poster, taking into account the proposed choice of diagnostic tests and clinical signs.

The poster will be translated in other languages and distributed in operating theatres.

2) The use of new emerging surgical and endoscopic procedures needs to be regulated. Until now we do not have a pathway how to deal with new procedures (i.e. Need for Ethic Committee approval, putting the results in a registry, monitoring etc.).

IFSO-EC will prepare guidelines for new procedures and the minimal requirements for new surgical and combined nonsurgical techniques.

MNAG members strongly support the preparation of these guidelines and will be asked to participate and delegate

dedicated persons for guideline preparation. After the finalization guideline will be realized in Obesity Facts. Mixed surgical – endoscopic committees are mandatory in single endoscopic and combined endoscopic and surgical techniques implemented in bariatric patient care. Strong cooperation with the opinion leaders in gastroenterology should be introduced to bariatric teams in the IFSO-EC region.

3) Aiming to uniform criteria for weight regain strategies, both surgical and non-surgical in IFSO-EC region is mandatory.

Weight regain after Bariatric/Metabolic surgery (Sleeve and By-pass) should be addressed to guidelines and uniformed criteria.

IFSO-EC scientific committee and presidency will encourage single person and authorities in the field to participate in guidelines preparation.

MNAG members are invited and encouraged to participate.

4) The problem of working inability of the obese population is still underestimated.

Single interested person might find the data in the region.

Data might be presented in the future conferences and used as preliminary for future projects and work. Due to complicated data search this topic was left in stand-by for the future.

5) An initiative to create official virtual content for patients who are preparing for bariatric surgery and have already had an examination with a selected surgeon and started preparing for the surgery. Similar written contents already exist in individual institutions.

No consensus has been reached at the moment for the implementation of the described project / activity.

Young IFSO

Reported – M. Felsenreich: Our mission is

- Connecting young bariatric surgeons all over Europe
- Transferring knowledge, experiences and presentations skills in a save space (Journal Club, Congress Sessions, etc.)
- Supporting new members with raising of scholarships, grants, fellowships, etc.
- Organizing of interdisciplinary and multicentered research projects
- Connecting to young divisions of associated societies (Young investigators of EASO, UEMS of EAES, etc.)

We have been doing monthly journal clubs since January 2021.

We have 1067 members in the Facebook group.

Young IFSO session in Prague sponsored by GORE.

The next session will be in Frankfurt on November 11th.

10. AOB

No other business

11. Date and time of the next Ge Co. meeting in Maastricht

Date and time to be announced in due course