



European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

Association sans but lucratif (ASBL)

www.estesonline.org

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Message from the Secretary General

Dear Members,

I hope you all enjoyed the holidays with family and friends. We have another very active ESTES year planned. Our next ECTES event is approaching quickly. Hundreds of abstracts have been reviewed; the best presentations were selected to be included in the definitive program. You will be able to see the details of our congress soon; further valuable information is provided in a separate message from the Congress Presidents Dr. Dominik Heim and Dr. Reto Babst in this issue.

On 2 December 2011, the ESTES executive board and large board meetings took place in the Mövenpick Hotel in the city of Frankfurt, Germany. The board members were provided information on the current status of many projects that were started in the past year and are still ongoing: ESTES fellowships, the European Trauma Registry, and the Emergency Surgery Course. An application to secure the Emergency Surgery Course (ESC) together with its logo as a trademark of ESTES has been forwarded to the responsible authorities of the European Union. An answer is expected in April or May, just before ECTES 2012.

The European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, the official publication of our Society, enjoys growing popularity in readership and submission of articles for publication. In 2011, more than 200 articles were submitted; time from submission to first comments of the reviewers has been reduced to one month. The impact factor, which was 0.207 in 2010 rose to 0.257 in 2011. We can all continue to boost the impact factor of our Journal by the submission of high quality papers and by referring to original articles that have already been published in our Journal.

Thanks to strict budget control, strong acquisition of sponsoring money, and high attendance of ECTES Milan, the organizers were able to close the Milan budget with a large profit. We again thank the congress organizers Dr. Mauro Zago and Dr. Kurihara Hayato for their outstanding organization! This money will help us to further support various Society activities in the upcoming years.

In preparation for ECTES 2015, site visits were organized to Madrid and Amsterdam on November 3rd and 4th by the secretary general together with Ms. Claudia Kamerad and Mr. Stefan Walter from our Professional Congress Organizer Mondial. Based on the information gathered during these visits, the executive board designated Amsterdam as the city, where the Dutch Trauma Society and its President Prof. Dr. Roelf Breederveld will organize ECTES 2015.

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Dear members, an exciting Society year is just beginning. We will start with our fellowship program, we expect a reply on our application for a European Trauma Registry in the coming months, and above all we are looking forward to an excellent event in Basel. I hope to see you all there – keep an eye on deadlines for cheaper congress registration.

With best regards,

Prof. Dr. Dr.h.c. Pol M. Rommens

ESTES Secretary General

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Report on the Global Risk Forum

Workshop on emergency surgery in austere environments

Saturday, 10 December 2011

<http://www.grforum.org/>

At times, the international response to disasters has revealed highly questionable practices in the delivery of emergency medical assistance. This contrasts with a broader tendency in recent years to improve humanitarian intervention standards. In collaboration with the AO Foundation, the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES), and the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI), GRF Davos addressed this issue in a workshop with over 50 experts from 20 countries. Emergency surgeons reported their experiences and have helped to improve guidelines with their profound knowledge in dealing with such medical emergencies throughout and in the immediate aftermath of large catastrophic events. They have demonstrated efficient treatment methods and how to make the right decisions under extreme conditions and great pressure.

All presentations are also available as video stream:

http://riskacademy.grforum.org/pages_new.php/Videos-and-Presentations/733/1/635/713/

ESTES plays an important role in this development and will further contribute by supporting the Section Disaster and Military Surgery

Prof. Dr. Ingo Marzi

President of ESTES

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Basel 2012: curtain up on traumatology and emergency surgery and – the spirit of Basel/Switzerland

Grüezi, bonjour, buon giorno, bun di – these are the four Swiss languages that can be used to say welcome to Basel, the city of the ECTES Congress 2012.

The program is taking definite shape. With just another three months to go, the scientific content and program are finished, the social and cultural programs are set. Many of the scientific and cultural events can already be visited on the ESTES website.

Apart from the quite well-known instructional lectures, courses, and the keynotes and free communications, the 12-to-12 lectures at noon, having been organized in the Milano Congress, promise very pragmatic, dogmatic short lectures from a very international faculty. Furthermore, “How I do it” sessions early in the morning will explain the very practical and personal attitude of well-known speakers on several topics of the five sections of ESTES. Guest symposia of AOTrauma, Efort, Efest, SGC, SGOT, SOFCOT, and EBJIS await you with topics and speakers that will enrich the scientific program. New this year are also special sessions for paramedics and operating room personal (ORP) on Monday and Tuesday. As the congress takes place in Switzerland, some so-called curtain-up sessions will shed light on the Red Cross, its headquarter residing in Geneva, on the University of Basel, the oldest university in Switzerland, and on the trauma scene in countries like China, Japan, Thailand, Taiwan, and India. ESTES 2012 will be an international meeting with faculty from throughout the world. “A congress is meant to be more than just a textbook, a congress is meant to be communication, a presentation of personal opinions and personal results and a start to animated discussions about new findings and new solutions to everyday’s and extraordinary problems.” That is what we promised in the 2nd announcement and the prospect of living up to these expectations indeed looks very promising.

In addition, we promised that a/this “congress is meant to be more than just a congress”! This congress will also live from the location, where it is taking place: Basel, the modern and old town, the town, where carnival is “the three most beautiful days of the year”, a town, where people live for their football team (the Swiss evening is going to take place in the football stadium of this very club), a town, where modern art, urban lifestyle, and commerce meet. We will meet not only the alphorn player Eliana Burki with her group, George Gruntz, the grand old man of jazz music, Max Lässer and his Ueberlandorchester with its traditional Swiss dance music in its modern version, the famous Carnival Clique “Bajass” from Basel, but further surprise acts.

Come to Basel, enjoy three days rich in medical and surgical science and art. Concerning art, a wise trauma surgeon said some time ago “nailing is a technique, plating is an art” – meet both, meet many other things and decide for yourself, what is best to you. Don’t miss it, be there – curtain up on the ECTES congress 2012 in Basel.

Dominik Heim and Reto Babst
Congress presidents 2012

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The history of the Swiss Society for Traumatology and Insurance Medicine (SGTV)

100 years in the service of education and professional development in traumatology in Switzerland

“The present is always dull” (Marion Cotillard in “Midnight in Paris” by Woody Allen) –
but the past is thrilling (by Dominik and Urs Heim)

Dominik und Urs Heim

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Abstract:

The Society for Traumatology and Insurance Medicine was founded in Berne on January 7, 1912 as a response to new legislation on health and accident insurance and because teaching of traumatology and trauma medicine at the universities in Switzerland was insufficient at that time. In the thirties it was one of the most important Swiss medical societies. Since then its influence has decreased on the national level due to the increasing importance of professional societies. On the European level it has consistently played an important role in the organization of trauma congresses over the last century. Today the SGTV is a member of ESTES and is organizing the ECTES Congress 2012. It has its own website, is co-editing the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency surgery and also participates in the editing of the Journal of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (OOT).

Increasing industrialization and urbanization in the nineteenth century led to a rise in the incidence of occupational accidents and diseases. As a consequence, it became apparent that workers needed to be legally protected against vocational accidents and diseases. Statutory liability came into force for certain companies (railways, post office ...) and in 1911 there was a parliamentary resolution to establish the Accident and Disease Insurance Law (KUVG). On February 4, 1912 the KUVG was accepted by public vote. In the same year the Swiss Accident Insurance Fund (SUVA) was founded in Lucerne as the central, self-funding, organizational authority, which is still financed today by the continuously adjusted contributions of employers and employees.

In 1909, Swiss doctors were asked to make suggestions for the revision of the Swiss Federal Medical Examinations. Since general practitioners felt that traumatology was inadequately covered during training, a desire was expressed to add traumatology to the curriculum and to be examined in it. The medical faculties in Zurich and Berne were sceptical. In contrast, some general surgeons were particularly active, e.g. Dr. Constantin Kaufmann in Zurich, Dr. Eugène Patry in Geneva, Dr. Henri Secrétan in Lausanne, and Prof. Fritz Zollinger, who later became medical director of SUVA. Since its founding years there always has been and still is a close contact between the SGTV and the SUVA (archives, secretary, presidents).

The “Swiss Society of Traumatologists” was founded on January 7, 1912 in Berne and was called “Société médicale Suisse des accidents du travail” by the French-speaking Swiss. On April 28, 1912 the first Annual General Meeting was held in Olten by the founding committee consisting of Constantin Kaufmann (Fig. 1), Eugène Patry (Fig. 2), Fritz Zollinger (Fig. 3) and 16 participating doctors (the Statutes were approved by circular). The aim of the new society was “to unite Swiss doctors involved in traumatology”. The focus was placed on the study of important issues relating to accidents and to the profession and on promoting the work of its members by personal interaction, lectures, discussions and demonstrations at the meetings. “The Society forms the National Committee of the international medical congress on traumatology in Switzerland” (quote from Baur). From 1914 onwards, on the initiative of the Society, lectures on traumatology were held at all Swiss universities.

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As a response to increasing work-related disorders the name of the society was changed to “Swiss Society for Traumatology and Occupational Diseases” (SGUB) in 1928, in French “Société médicale Suisse des accidents du travail et des maladies professionnelles”. In the 1930s the SGUB was regarded as “one of the largest medical societies dedicated to a particular specialty in our country” (F. Zollinger 1934). In the 1980s the activities of the society were regarded in certain surgical and orthopaedic circles as an unnecessary duplication of the now existant professional societies. The SGTV was never a professional society but a “contact society” for all, who were interested in trauma. In 1992 work-related medicine was separated by statute from traumatology and the society changed its name to “Swiss Society for Traumatology and Insurance Medicine”. This remains its name today 100 years after its foundation as the “Swiss Society of Traumatologists”.

The circumstances and arguments that led to the foundation of the “Swiss Society of Traumatologists” were naturally present in other European countries, for example, Germany and Austria. For this reason, an international traumatology congress was held in Liège in 1905 on the initiative of Belgian doctors. Switzerland, through the managerial board of the SGUB, later maintained close ties with the committee for international traumatology congresses.

In 1931 the congress was held in Switzerland for the first time, in Geneva. This series of congresses was interrupted by World War II. In 1972, on the initiative of Maurice E. Müller, the first German-Austrian-Swiss Trauma Symposium was held in Berne. These congresses were then held every 4 years on rotation through the three countries. From 1994 onwards Central European congresses were organized in order to include the former “East-Bloc states”. At the congress in Amsterdam in 1998, the “European Trauma Society” (ETS) was founded. This society was formed as the umbrella organization for the national trauma societies in Europe and the SGUB (now renamed as SGTV) was a member. There was another society for trauma and emergency surgery in Europe at the same time called the European Association for Trauma and Emergency Surgery. On the initiative of the two presidents, Otmar Trentz (ETS) and Sten Lennquist (EATES), the first joint congress was held in May 2007 in Graz in order to merge the two societies and establish the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES). ESTES was officially registered with the Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (UEMS) in Brüssel on November 9, 2007. Consequently, the SGTV has been a member of ESTES since 1997 and now in 2012 in Basel, 100 years after its foundation, SGTV will have the pleasure of hosting the 13th European Congress for Trauma and Emergency Surgery.

The Society has had its own journal since 1928, namely, the “Zeitschrift für Unfallmedizin und Berufskrankheiten” (ZUB), since 1992 entitled “Zeitschrift für Unfall- und Versicherungsmedizin” (ZUV)¹. In 1995 the ZUV was merged with the journal of Swiss Society of Surgery to form a new journal entitled “Swiss Surgery”. In 2003 “Swiss Surgery” stopped publication. SGTV became co-publisher of the “European Journal of Trauma”, later entitled “European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery”. SGTV is also co-publisher of “Operative Orthopädie und Traumatologie” (“Journal of Orthopaedics and Traumatology”).

Although SGTV is now of only moderate national importance (partly because it cannot awarded credit points as these are reserved for professional societies), it is firmly integrated into the European community through its collaboration with the European umbrella organization ESTES. The creation of a logo for the society and its own website (www.sgtv.org) has improved its general image and public identity over recent years and brought it into line with current concepts. The purpose of the society remains unchanged, namely, to gather members from all the established professional institutes/societies and all doctors interested in traumatology to maintain and foster mutual interaction and friendship. With the increasing subdivision of professional institutes into specialities, drawing together a dedicated community with specialist knowledge remains a most worthwhile objective.

Source: Archives of the SGTV (held by SUVA Lucerne) and “A rough history of the Swiss Society of Traumatology and Occupational Diseases” by Ernst Baur, Lucerne 1993, unpublished.

The authors wish to thank Joy Buchanan, Gambia, for her English translation of the manuscript.

¹ ZUB: Journal of Traumatology and Occupational Diseases; ZUV: Journal of Trauma and Insurance Medicine

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The three founders of the SGTV



Constantin Kaufmann, general surgeon, associate professor (1853–1934)



Eugène Patry, general surgeon (1866–1934)



Fritz Zollinger, general surgeon, professor (1884–1950)

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Announcements

**Welcome to the 13th European Congress of Trauma & Emergency Surgery
in Basel!
May 12–15, 2012**



The early bird catches the worm!

Register now and benefit from the Early Bird Registration Fees! Early Bird Deadline is Monday, February 20, 2012.

Consult your pillow!

We have secured hotel rooms in 5*, 4*, 3* and 2* hotels at competitive rates. Please note that May is absolute peak season in Basel and therefore early hotel booking is highly recommended! Please book your hotel online when registering for the congress.

The Scientific Programme tailored to your needs!

- Instructional lectures and round table discussions with opinion leaders and experts covering recurrent and hot topics
- Keynote speakers in joint with free paper presentations
- The poster exhibition, poster sessions and hands-on workshops
- Curtain-up and “How I do it” sessions

Basel – The place to be – easy to reach and exciting to explore!

Please visit www.estesonline.org for up-to-date information on the scientific program, online registration, accommodation booking and pre-congress courses.

Sincerely,

The ECTES 2012 Organizing Team

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