

**President**

Dr. Hayato Kurihara
(Milan, Italy)
hayato.kurihara@gmail.com

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(Leiden, The Netherlands)
I.B.Schipper@lumc.nl

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(Aachen, Germany)
fhildebrand@ukaachen.de

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(Beverley, United Kingdom)
tilsed@doctors.org.uk

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(Groningen, The Netherlands)
k.w.wendt@umcg.nl

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(Madrid, Spain)
crey@salud.madrid.org

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(Jaén, Spain)
isidromartinez@me.com

Editor-in-Chief EJTES

Prof. Dr. Ingo Marzi
(Frankfurt, Germany)
marzi@trauma.uni-frankfurt.de

Message from the Editor-in-Chief of the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery

Dear colleagues, members, and friends!

The large number of manuscripts submitted to the journal has remained at a high level in recent years. We can now record close to 1,000 original papers per year as submissions, which are then processed in the further review process. I would especially like to thank my fellow editors, the section editors and the entire editorial board of the journal as well as the all reviewers who actively support the European Journal for Trauma and Emergency Surgery. The challenges of filtering out the right contributions in terms of their originality, relevance and quality are quite demanding. Without these persistent and continuous academic contributions of all colleagues interested in the field of trauma and emergency surgery across the globe, the current positive development of the journal with increasing publications would not be possible.

Meanwhile, our journal reaches a very high readership, with the very high number of more than 45,000 full articles accesses per month! Even if this does not mean that these articles are read completely, it can be assumed that a large proportion is incorporated into further publications and research work and is cited in the process. This can be seen by the fact that the number of citations has increased significantly in the last three years from (impact factor year 2019: 477 citations, 2020: 901 citations, and 2021: 1187 citations), which has led to a significant increase in the impact factor. On the other hand, we have significantly more papers published the last years (source items in impact factor years 2019: 223, 2020: 244 and 2021: 500), which underlines the attractiveness of our journal.

Due to the well-known change in ISI criteria, there was a significant increase in the impact factor to 3.649 in 2021, a fact that was well received by the surgical community internationally. However, due to the then introduced immediate counting of all online first publications, the impact factor has dropped slightly again to 2.374 this year. This is also the reason why we now have so many contributions printed in very large issues in 2022, as we will basically be measured against all online first publications in the future. On the other hand, this will lead to accepted contributions being placed in journal issues much earlier than in the past.

Since all these changes of the impact factor calculation are now essentially complete, we can build on this basis and allow our impact factor to rise steadily again in the future, as in recent years. I hereby would like to ask you strongly, when writing new manuscripts, to perform a literature search in the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency for all scientific papers in order to be able to include relevant contributions in our journal into your work.

To improve the visibility of the published articles in the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency, we have introduced so-called *Topical Collections*. These *Collections* are compilations of topics published in the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery. The *Collections* will be found at the top of the website next to the Editorial Board and Aims and Scope, and are sorted by topics. For example, you might find all articles published in the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency concerning “Proximal humerus fractures” or “Appendicitis”, and so on, in their particular collection. This facilitates the search for the

current literature immensely, so that I would recommend looking at these collections in the future. In this respect, I would be very grateful if those interested in moderating such collections would contact me, so that we can also address special fields in a targeted manner.

Overall, the journal is characterized by a high level of activity of all - authors, reviewers, editorial board members - and it is one of the faces of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery to the world. In this regard, I would like to point out that we update the Editorial Board every year and are happy to include active reviewers into the Advisory Board and, if they are active, further in the Editorial board. In addition, I would like to offer every board member or member of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery once again to design special issues on interesting topics. Just send me a mail with your ideas (marzi@trauma.uni-frankfurt.de) and we will discuss the options.

With a big thank you to all involved in the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery and to the publisher Springer Nature, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a good start into the New Year, despite the troubled times we have been experiencing for the last three years.

Prof. Dr. Ingo Marzi

Editor-in-Chief

European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery

Report of ESTES Congress Grant Winner Julian Scherer



After my arrival in Oslo, Norway from Cape Town, South Africa, I partook in the Polytrauma Course® which was held at the University Hospital of Oslo as one of the precourses of the 21st ECTES. The purpose of this course was to deepen knowledge on the treatment of polytraumatized patients “beyond ATLS”. Very interesting and most certainly very educative lectures, given by internationally renowned speakers, formed the main body of the course, which was held over two days. Between each topic of the program, very interesting case presentations were given including interactive polls, which made the course even more lively and successful. After the course, my former colleagues from Zurich, Switzerland and I had a lot of interesting conversations with the speakers and decided then to explore beautiful Oslo by foot. The first day of the congress started early because I would not want to miss the session on traumatic brain injury and polytrauma, since this still reflects a very relevant topic in the treatment of polytraumatized patients. A lot of interesting talks on, for example, the “timing of surgery in patients with TBI” as well as acute “neurosurgery in severe TBI patients” by Eirik Helseth, Professor of Neurosurgery, Oslo University Hospital, were given. Afterwards I had the opportunity to present my poster on “Pre-hospital and hospital trauma care during COVID-19 lockdown—experiences from a metropolitan European level 1 trauma center” in the poster session for trauma systems and prehospital care. I was able to admire posters of colleagues from all over the world, which was very informative and gave us the opportunity to exchange experiences as well as knowledge between different countries and even between different continents. Following the poster session, I attended the TSACO session which was chaired by Timothy Fabian and David Spain. Again, very interesting and innovative talks were given on topics like bleeding control, immune cell characteristics of fracture healing as well as the new concept of “lipidomics”. At the end of this session, the two best talks were awarded with an article publication in “Trauma Surgery & Acute Care Open”. Following this interesting session, I attended the session “multiple rib fractures” chaired by Hans-Christoph Pape and Robert Winchell which gave interesting insights on different treatment algorithms in the U.S. and Europe as well as existing data and recommendations on the fixation or/and conservative treatment of multiple rib fractures.

The opening ceremony was held by Prof. Christine Gaarder, University Hospital of Oslo. The focus was laid on the current human tragedy happening in the Ukraine. The ambassador of the Ukraine gave insights on the current situation in his country in terms of medical and surgical care. To brighten up the obvious diminished mood of the participants and guests, a traditional Norwegian acrobatic dance was performed followed by honorary awards. Next to my two colleagues, it was a great honor to receive one of the ECTES grants which was handed over by ESTES president Inger Schipper. The second day of this year’s ECTES started again early with a session on “new definition of major fracture?” focusing on aspects of major fractures (ESTES working group), pelvic fractures, vascular injuries in major fractures

as well as major injuries to the spinal column. I was very proud to present two of my abstracts focusing on gunshot injuries in central Europe and the AIS/ISS interobserver variability in the session “VTS/POLYTRAUMA/GENERAL” chaired by Luke Leenen (Utrecht, the Netherlands). In addition to talks on hemorrhage and vascular injuries and trauma scoring by my very respected colleagues, I was very impressed by the talk on “resuscitative endovascular balloon occlusion of the aorta with distal resuscitation (reboa-dr)” by an American colleague, which showed proof of concept for a new REBOA technique in which, despite occlusion, perfusion of the distal part of the vessel can still be maintained. After the session, the presenters and I had a great discussion on trauma scoring systems and endovascular resuscitation in the “coffee corner” of the congress. After a light lunch, I again attended the poster session to gain further insights in current research on emergency surgery, polytrauma and future developments and techniques. As a member of the Polytrauma Course Steering Board, I attended the Polytrauma Section Meeting on Major Fractures before heading to the official welcome reception held in the beautiful city hall of Oslo, where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded. Besides admiring the beautiful interior and art, it was a very good social event to connect with colleagues from all over the world and to initiate new connections.

The third and sadly last day of the congress started with the session on “SYSTEMS” which provided insight on topics like trauma triage criteria, mortality risk stratification in traumatic brain injury and the accuracy and uncertainty of prehospital clinical assessments on major injuries. Following this very informative session with great discussions, I attended the session “Resus” which focused on major bleeding and coagulopathy complications. In this session, we had some great discussions that sometimes took longer than the actual talks, which for me, reflects the high quality of the presented research as well as of the researchers. After the closing ceremony, where several poster presentations and oral presentations were awarded, former colleagues from Zurich and I decided to do a boat tour around the beautiful Fjords of Oslo, before starting the long trip back to South Africa on the next day.

Summarizing, the 21st ECTES was a complete success, with outstanding presentations and most certainly magnificent researchers and personalities. This congress encouraged me to further pursue my research engagement in order to present new data at the 22nd European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, held in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

I would like to thank ESTES for the chance to present my research work at the congress and the support I received by the congress grant, without which I would not have been able to attend.

Thank you!
Julian Scherer

Announcements

Upcoming related congresses & courses

MUSEC Course

January 23, 2023

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

ECTES 2023

May 7–9, 2023

Ljubljana, Slovenia

More congresses and courses to be found in the **ESTES events calendar** at
www.estesonline.org

European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery
Franz-Käfer-Straße 8 | 3100 St. Pölten | AUSTRIA
phone: +43 660 433 95 78