

**President****Dr. Christine Gaarder***(Oslo, Norway)*

tinagaar@online.no

Past President**Prof. Dr. Frank Hildebrand***(Aachen, Germany)*

fhildebrand@ukaachen.de

President Elect**Dr. Jan Verbruggen***(Maastricht, The Netherlands)*

j.verbruggen@mumc.nl

Vice-President**Prof. Dr. Hayato Kurihara***(Milan, Italy)*

hayato.kurihara@gmail.com

General Secretary**Prof. Dr. Hans-Christoph Pape***(Zurich, Switzerland)*

hans-christoph.pape@usz.ch

Advisory Council Chair**Cristina Rey Valcarcel***(Madrid, Spain)*

crey@salud.madrid.org

Treasurer**Dr. Isidro Martinez Casas***(Jaén, Spain)*

isidromartinez@me.com

Editor-in-Chief EJTES**Prof. Dr. Ingo Marzi***(Frankfurt, Germany)*

marzi@trauma.uni-frankfurt.de

Message from the Past President United diversity- facing the challenges of the future together

Dear members of ESTES, dear friends

For me, the presidency of ESTES went by very fast. I perceived it as personally very rewarding as well as educational due to fruitful co-operations and common promising projects, but sometimes also challenging discussion. However, what I appreciated most was the outstanding professional as well as personal exchange with various perspectives due to the two surgical souls of our society and national particularities of different European countries. For me this is what makes ESTES so unique and valuable.

For ECTES 2024 in Estoril, we tried to even further encourage this exchange by combined sessions of our sections, committees and Young-ESTES. These and all other sessions as well as the numerous pre-congress courses, very well coordinated by the Local Organization Committee around our congress president Carlos Mesquita, contributed to the big success of ECTES 2024 that is reflected by 894 submitted abstracts, far more than 1000 registrations and the active participation of numerous guest societies, including our guest nation South Africa. Therefore, I would like to thank everyone involved in the organization of this congress. A special thanks goes to Tina Gaarder – your support and innovative input to include topics of upmost future importance (e.g. gender equity, sustainability) significantly enriched ECTES 2024.

Beside organizing our congress, many people involved in ESTES worked hard and with much enthusiasm as well as commitment to move the mission of our society forward. As an impressing example, Young-ESTES grew to an integral part of our society after its foundation at the end of 2022. In this context, they recently presented proposals to bridge the current mentorship gap for young surgeons and trainees. However, ESTES also started initiatives and produced multiple solid results beneficial to (orthopedic) trauma and emergency surgery in many other areas over the last year. It is not possible to mention all results and activities, so let me give you some examples:

- Establishment of the “Research Committee” chaired by Gary Bass
- Foundation of a “Nursing Section” under the leadership of Knut Magne Kolstadbråten and Frederic Lodier
- Drafting of a “Whitebook Polytrauma Management” organized by the Polytrauma Section (Roman Pfeifer, Clemens Horst)
- Consensus on a “European Guideline on the treatment of severely injured patients” organized by the Advisory Council (Cristina Rey Valcárcel)

ESTES European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

www.estesonline.org

Research Committee

The sections of ESTES have always been a fruitful source of interesting research ideas and proposals. For the Nightingale study as the lighthouse project, we especially have to thank Jonathan Tilsed and Roberto Faccincani for their persistence and effort. To further strengthen clinical and basic science within ESTES and to foster interactions between basic scientists and clinicians a Research Committee was formally founded on ECTES 2023 in Ljubljana. Under the lead of Gary Bass, this committee developed a tremendous activity. Using the snapshot audit methodology, a small bowel obstruction study is currently ongoing and has already recruited more than 250 patients in more than 70 ESTES-affiliated centers. Preliminary data of this study was presented in Estoril. Also, at ECTES 2024 a snapshot pelvis has officially been started, others are in the planning process. Furthermore, the committee undertook a survey to determine ESTES-member priorities for surgical research in the short-to-medium term that has been published in EJTES. Further plans include an application for EU-funding to support future snapshot studies, a clinical outcomes registry and a research methods webinar series together with the Educational Committee. Under the new chair, Diego Mariani, also the latter committee has initiated different new initiatives which will ESTES to proceed in the educational field.

Last but not least, the successful work of the Research Committee is also reflected by a significant increase of abstracts submitted for the research field resulting in three poster sessions and highest rated abstracts in the oral abstract session.

Nursing Section

The acute nature of trauma and emergency surgery particularly demands an optimal cooperation and teamwork between various health professionals for the best treatment result. So far, nurses, paramedics and other non-physician professions were not adequately represented within ESTES. Therefore, the Executive Board unanimously decided to implement a Nursing Section that had its inaugural meeting during ECTES 2024 and was already substantially involved in the program of the congress. I am sure that under the leadership of Knut Magne Kolstadbråten and Frederic Lodier this section will become a central part of our society and expand our view on the treatment of the critically injured or ill patient.

Whitebook Polytrauma and European Guideline for the treatment of severely injured patients

So far, a Whitebook and treatment guidelines for severely injured patients on the European level are missing. However, such comprehensive references are of major importance to facilitate discussions within health care politics on devoting appropriate resources for daily clinical care in the field of trauma and emergency medicine.

Based on the German S3 guidelines on the treatment of patients with severe/multiple injuries, a standardized consensus process was performed by the Advisory Council under the guidance of Cristina Rey Valcárcel. In this consensus process 15 national societies agreed on around 140 recommendations thereby creating a solid basis for the first European Guideline on the treatment of severely injured patients. Under the leadership of Roman Pfeifer, chair of the Polytrauma Section, many representatives and members of ESTES contributed to the development of the Whitebook. Beside a comprehensive description of the requirements of personal and structural resources in the prehospital, clinical and rehabilitative setting, the Whitebook also focuses on networking between the clinics and prevention programs. Additional emphasis was put on education and research, as sufficient training of young surgeons and the development of innovative diagnostic and therapeutic strategies are central to mastering the challenges of the future.

The common work within our society and my experiences from the activities as its representative (figure 1) reaffirmed once again that ESTES is a vivid and internationally valued society. Let us keep up this hard work so that our society keeps and even expands its position as the “number one contact point for trauma and emergency surgery” in Europe. I cordially invite you all to ECTES 2025 and hope to see you in Aachen, a real European place located in the border triangle of Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

ESTES European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES)

www.estesonline.org



Announcements

Upcoming related congresses & courses

**60. ÖGU & 5. ÖGOuT Jahrestagung 2024 –
“Akutfälle in der Traumatologie und Orthopädie”**
October 3–5, 2024
Salzburg, Austria

**ECTES: 24th European Congress of Trauma and
Emergency Surgery**
April 13–15, 2025
Aachen, Germany

**First SSES Congress of Trauma and Emergency
Surgery**
November 22–24, 2024
Belgrade, Serbia

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