

20 June 2014

Dear Hanne,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the European Stroke Organisation (ESO) we are writing to you in your capacity as President of the Danish Stroke Society.

We are delighted to announce the **new annual ESO Conference (ESOC)**, the first of which will be held in Glasgow from 17-19 April, 2015. We invite you and your society's members to join us. We intend to attract a large international community involved in stroke care and research. We would strongly welcome your personal endorsement of our plans and your encouragement to the network of colleagues in your country, including any who are less politically or research-active and may not be fully informed of the background.

ESO is the leading clinical and scientific stroke association in Europe, and conducts a wide range of educational, political and scientific activities. For example, it generates the European Guidelines for Stroke Management, runs the Summer and Winter Schools, the European Master in Stroke Medicine program, the European Stroke Science Workshop and over a dozen committees handling issues such as Trials, Stroke Unit Certification, Women in Stroke etc.

With overwhelming support from our General Assembly, we are founding a new conference to bring a **democratic approach and financial transparency** to our principal meeting in a way that was not possible previously, while extending the huge scientific success of European meetings. Our conference budget will be available to ESO members, exactly like the annual ESO budget. Any modest profit, and we aim only for this, will be controlled entirely by ESO and used for ESO's proven educational, political and scientific activities. Background information can be found in our presidential newsletter on www.eso-stroke.org.

Our ESO Executive Committee is taking direct planning responsibility, in partnership with Kenes International, a PCO with wide experience in international medical conferences, such as the World Stroke Congresses.

We have already

- prepared a preliminary official conference program,
- created a list of attractive teaching courses and workshops that will run simultaneously to the main program,
- decided to facilitate editorial boards, investigator meetings, satellite symposia and meetings of other stroke interest groups during the conference,
- invited potential sponsors to join this new conference, with strong initial support.

The conference website at www.eso.kenes.com will be updated as new information becomes available.

Executive Committee

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(Glasgow, United Kingdom)

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Over the next weeks and months, we will

- invite all ESO members and potential international delegates to propose topics and activities for the conference 2015 and the years thereafter,
- involve international prominent stroke experts to help us develop the official program and select additional speakers,
- issue invitations for membership of our scientific advisory board,
- invite members to the scientific support committee, including young stroke physicians and researchers,
- announce the deadline for abstract submission in January 2015.

We invite you to **share this important information with the members of your society** and other national colleagues involved in stroke care and research.

If needed, the members of the ESOC program committee are available to answer your questions or receive your input.

We hope to see you in Glasgow in 2015!

Yours sincerely,



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Patrik Michel
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PS: ESOC will offer favourable registration fees. Further reductions will be granted to young participants and ESO members. If your organisation is member of ESO, **your own members can join ESO for the reduced fee of 50 Euros** (or 150 Euros for fellows). Also, junior ESO-membership is free of charge for applicants up to 35 years if certain conditions are met. Please encourage your members to apply for ESO membership on www.eso-stroke.org/eso-stroke/membership.html.