

First of all I would like to thank our President, Jaap Willems, for his letter to the national delegates of SECEC asking us to report about shoulder activities in our countries.

As Christian Gerber mentioned during the last General Assembly meeting in Bruges we are in a privileged situation concerning shoulder surgery in Switzerland.

First of all Shoulder surgery is well established in Switzerland and has had a long tradition since the beginning of SECEC. Norbert Gschwend as one of the co-founders and Christian Gerber as a Past President had and still have a leadership function. Members of SECEC are spread all over Switzerland and every University hospital as well as the Schulthess Clinic as the biggest orthopaedic clinic of Switzerland is represented by at least one member of SECEC in a leading position. Additionally shoulder and elbow surgery is well represented in our Swiss Orthopaedic Society. Pierre Hoffmeyer is President of the society and in 2 years Christian Gerber will succeed him in this position. Ongoing education in shoulder and elbow surgery is also established in Switzerland and there are many courses annually organised by the different orthopaedic clinics themselves.

One of the main topics of our next meeting of the Swiss Orthopaedic Society taking place in Geneva 25./26.6.09 will be "The degenerative shoulder". As we have a limited number of orthopaedic surgeons in Switzerland there is no place for a National shoulder Society. We have our Swiss Shoulder Expert Group and participate in the Societies like DVSE, SOFCOT etc. Our young colleagues know SECEC very well and are pleased to join SECEC as junior members. Almost every year SECEC gets new associate or ordinary members from Switzerland.

For these reasons the role of the Swiss ND in my opinion is to represent a link of SECEC to the Swiss orthopaedic Society and to continue to support the secretary of SECEC with respect to contacts etc.

Kind regards,

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