

Rome: September 11th, 2008

Dr. S. Gumina  
Italian National Delegate for the SECEC/ESSSE.

Dear President,

as you know, in Italy there are three scientific societies that are directly or marginally interested in shoulder and elbow surgery: The SICSeG (Italian society for the surgery of the shoulder and elbow); the SIA (Italian arthroscopy society) and the SIGASCOT (Italian society for the surgery of the knee, sports, cartilage and for the study of orthopaedic technologies). However, it is easily understandable that the only society that is completely dedicated to shoulder and elbow disorders is the SICSeG. The executive committee of each society is constituted by authoritative colleagues, but the scientific contribution on shoulder and elbow given by SIA and SIGASCOT is poor. In fact, during the biennium 2007-2008, each member of the EC of the SICSeG was mainly publishing 1.8 indexed articles. The number decreases at 0.25 and 0.8 for the members of SIA and SIGASCOT, respectively. Furthermore, shoulder and elbow problems are discussed within dedicated symposia during the SIA and SIGASCOT national meetings; but they never represented the main topic of these scientific events. On the other hand, I think that the SIA effort in organizing cadaver labs in US is admirable. Considering their history and the scarce propensity of SIA and SIGASCOT to the open surgery for shoulder and elbow disorders, I believe the ESSKA represents their natural scientific reference. Recently, the SIA President has clearly expressed this thought in a letter which he sent to me .

I believe that SICSeG has to be considered as the natural daughter of the SECEC. Its congresses reproduce the scientific styles of the European Society. Instructional courses, symposia and paper presentations always have a high scientific level.

**In October 2007**, the SICSeG organized the:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> National Course on Shoulder and Elbow Surgery, S. Patrignano, Rimini (President: Dr. G. Porcellini:);

**in May 2008**, the:

- 9<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the SICSeG, Rome (President: Prof. F. Postacchini)

**in October 2008**, there will be an:

- International course on shoulder disorder, entitled “Arthroscopy, Arthroplasty and Fractured”, organized by the three Presidents of SICSeG, SIA and SIGASCOT.

Finally, **in April 2009** SICSeG is organizing another:

- International Course on Shoulder, Brescia, (Presidents: Dr. D. Petriccioli and V. De Cupis)

and **numerous regional meetings** where shoulder and elbow disorders are discussed with radiologists and anaesthesiologists.

**Congresses and Courses with the patronage of SICSeG:**

III° CONGRESSO NAZIONALE A.I.M.S. 26.05.2007 Presidente Dr. Leandro Palomba;

I MEETING: ELBOW ARTHROSCOPY Bologna, September 10-11/2007 President: Dr. Roberto Rotini;

Annual National Course of SIA; Tarvisio UD, Gennaio 2008;

I Cadaver Lab (Nice, France) 12-13.Febbraio, 2008;

CORSO A.I.M.S. June 7th, 2008; President: Dr. Leandro Palomba

I TRAUMA MEETING OTODI October, 2-4, 2008; President: Dr Maurizio Fontana

SICSeG (founded in 1992) is a healthy Society. It has more than 350 members; most of them are active and interested in world innovations. The Italian scientific community is very active. At the 25<sup>th</sup> annual meeting on shoulder arthroscopy and fracture (San Diego, June, 2008 President dr. Esch) it was the most representative after that of US citizens. We estimate that a high number of Italians will participate in the SECEC Congress.

Best personal regards,

Stefano Gumina (MD, PhD)