



Research Grants, Didier Patte Prize and Selection of Best Papers

Dear members, colleagues & friends

In this newsletter I would like to inform you all about some of the activities that the R & D committee have been undertaking.

As you are aware SECEC awards grants and various prizes for members. The R & D committee are responsible for assessing applications and objectively deciding the winners. We award the **SECEC research grant** every year and the **Didier Patte prize** every two years. The committee is also responsible for the selection of best papers presented at our annual congress. In **Istanbul this year** we will be doing the same however to ensure that we will grade all presentations in a similar, objective and standardised way we will be adopting a new and novel assessment grid

In addition we are working a few additional projects which, we hope, will help you in your daily practice. However, such projects will only succeed with your active and enthusiastic participation.

Scores and Surveys

Firstly we will **update the link** dedicated to all types of **scores** on the website. All members will be able to download this information for their own use.

Secondly we are keen to develop the facility of **surveys**. We believe that well-structured surveys that are monitored by the R & D committee can be very beneficial to the membership. In fact the Society's website is already well developed to administer surveys amongst the membership. We currently developing guidelines for such surveys and these will soon be published on the website. In principle we will be asking members who are interested in conducting a survey to apply via the website. The R & D committee will evaluate the surveys for content, methodology, relevance etc. in a similar way to how we look at abstract submissions. The R & D committee may just accept the submissions or may suggest changes to the submission. Once approved by the committee the surveys will be broadcast on the website.

Daily Practice and Multicentre Studies

Thirdly we think that we should be looking at the management of simple conditions across Europe and drawing from our member's experiences which have been influenced by healthcare and economic systems, local knowledge etc. We will be presenting simple case studies and ask short and precise questions that will allow us to draw pertinent conclusions. This project will be conducted in conjunction with the qualifications committee. We hope to present interesting cases and look forward to your active participation. The first case will be sent in the near future and we thank you in advance for your support

Finally we believe that as a society we should be looking at setting up **multicentre studies on a European scale**. Such studies are not easy to set up and hence we need to give a lot of thought at what topics we should be looking at. In the first instance we believe that we should look at **rare pathologies** only, representing just a few cases a year. This would make setting up and data collection a little easier. Perhaps we should look at descriptive information as the first step and then look at treatment options in the second phase. We will keep the membership informed about our deliberations.

Kind regards,
Luc Favard