

Editorial

Realizações e Resultados da Sociedade Europeia de Medicina Física e de Reabilitação (ESPRM) e de suas Comissões (2011-2015)

Achievements and Outcomes of the European Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ESPRM) and its Committees (2011-2015)

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The European Society of PRM was founded in 2003, (changing the European Federation of PRM Societies, which was created in 1963). The participation of National Societies remained as its central element, but memberships available to individual members specialized in PRM have also been created.

The National PRM member societies (which in 1963 were only 5) have reached nowadays the number of 36 (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYROM, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia (Society and Association), Lithuania, Luxemburg, Montenegro, Norway, Portugal, Poland, Republic of San Marino, Republic of SPRSKA, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey, Russia and Ukraine), as well as 2 co-operating Societies (Israel, and Jordan).

The Mission of ESPRM is:

- a) to be the leading scientific European Society for physicians in the field of physical and rehabilitation medicine,
- b) to improve the knowledge of fundamentals and the management of activities, participation and contextual factors of people with a disability and
- c) to improve and maintain a strong connection between research and clinical practice in PRM.

The Vision of ESPRM is:

- a) to set highest standard in rehabilitation science.

- b) to integrate PRM scientists from all European regions (East, West, North, South)

- c) to support scientific activity at all levels (methods, exchange, education, funding programs)

- d) to support young PRM scientists

- e) to influence policies in the field of disability and rehabilitation wherever it is appropriate.

The last 4 years we have all seen many accomplishments within ESPRM, due largely to the hard work and valued contributions of many ESPRM Members.

During these years, the role of the Society as the European Body for science and research in PRM, has strengthened with regards to its close cooperation with other organisms which work at European level in the Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine field (UEMS PRM Section, European Board and European Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine), as well as at International level with (ISPRM) the International Society of PRM, RI (Rehabilitation International), EFIC (European Pain Federation), EUGMS (European Union Geriatric Medicine Society) etc. Agreements aiming at close collaboration have been signed with all these bodies.

Thanks to an important decision for the future of ESPRM (which was the selection of PCO for management), since January 1st 2013 ESPRM has the support of the Company Goldair AMC, (based on a contract signed by the Treasurer).

(1) Immediate Past President of ESPRM

Data de submissão: outubro 2015

Data de aceitação: outubro 2015

The professional Secretary working with us for the benefit of ESPRM, has created a new logo and a new website guiding its development and keeping it updated.

During the last four years Executive Committee members have participated in the great development of ESPRM, with various tasks and with many contributions by PRM colleagues from all European Countries (ESPRM has started in 2011 with 26 and has arrived in 2015 to 36 member Societies).

Our official Journal, "European Journal of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine" has been guided these last years by its Editor-in-Chief, firmly at the helm, and the impact factors show the great standing of the journal in the international scenario.

ESPRM main activities

The very successful Congresses held by the European Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine during the period 2011-2015 (ECPRM 2012 in Thessaloniki, Greece and ECPRM 2014 in Marseille, France) have been the main events promoting the activities of the society in the research.

The preparation of the 20th ESPRM congress in 2016 in Estoril, Portugal, has already started. We are now eagerly waiting for the Estoril congress, which will have an excellent scientific program, thanks to our Portuguese colleagues, as well as to the Scientific and Organizing Committee.

Committees work

As a result of all the delegates great efforts the following Committees have been established:

Publication Committee with "Journal Network"-
Chair: Franco FRANCHIGNONI

Public Health Committee - Chair: Christoph GUTENBRUNNER

Musculoskeletal Disorders Research Committee -
Chair: Fitnat DINCER

Guidelines Committee - Chair: Pedro CANTISTA

Research in PRM Committee - Chair: Alain DELARQUE

Pain and Disability Committee – Chair: Daniel WEVER

Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) Committee – Chair: Stefano NEGRINI

Robotic in Rehabilitation Committee - Chair: Alessandro GIUSTINI

Moreover (2) task forces have been established:

ESPRM SIG for SCI and Rehabilitation in elderly patients.

More activities:

- a) A contract for cooperation of ESPRM in the Leonardo Da Vinci Teaching of Innovation program has been signed with Prof Enrique Varela Donoso responsible and active for this collaboration.
- b) Thanks to a call by the Past President Alessandro Giustini, ESPRM has participated in a 2015 proposal for Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education Program: TechReh, and I am glad to inform that our proposal was selected for EU co-funding.
- c) The E-book "Musculoskeletal ultrasound in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine" co-sponsored by ESPRM, has already been distributed to all ESPRM delegates in paper version and a call to all European National Societies has been sent, asking them about their interest to receive free codes to distribute to their members according to the No of members declared, for downloading the electronic version of the book. Already more than 2000 codes have been distributed.

Plans already started

Strategically it was of major importance to include more members into ESPRM's work and to increase activity in between the congresses. This goal could only be reached if committees and task forces had interesting topics and were managed effectively. Politically ESPRM should integrate all regions of Europe in a balanced way. This especially meant to develop an active strategy of involvement of PRM specialists in Eastern Europe. Starting point for such involvement was:

- a) to directly contact the presidents and boards of those national PRM societies who have not joined ESPRM yet,
- b) to offer the aforementioned services to the respective societies and to provide support for the development of their infrastructure,
- c) In order to avoid a too high frequency of congresses, ESPRM congresses possibly could be combined in some cases with the regional forums (Mediterranean PRM Forum, Baltic & North Sea Forum)

ESPRM Past Presidents

Henk Stam (2003 – 2007)

Alessandro Giustini (2007 – 2011)

During the 17 th European Congress in Venice in 2010, I have been elected as President elect, and my Presidency has started during the 2011 autumn meeting in Beograd, Serbia.

I am honored to be holding this position since then, and I am excited about what we managed to accomplish all together in the last four years. They have been hugely stimulating, wonderfully fulfilling and very busy years.

My term as President has arrived to its end, in St Petersburg meeting, where I turned the Presidency over to Alain Delarque, President elect since March 2013, who has already started his four years term as President.

Executive Committee (2011 – 2015)

President : Xanthi MICHAIL
 President Elect: Alain DELARQUE
 Treasurer : Daniel WEVER
 Deputy Treasurer: Alvydas JUOCEVICIUS
 General Secretary: Elena ILIEVA
 Deputy secretary: Renato NUNES
 Member: Fitnat DINCER
 Member: Liismari KRUGER
 Member: Enrique VARELA DONOSO
 Member: Mauro ZAMPOLINI

New Executive Committee (Sept. 2015 – 2019)

President :Alain DELARQUE
 Past President: Xanthi MICHAIL
 Daniel WEVER
 Alvydas JUOCEVICIUS
 Carlotte KIEKENS
 Marguerite LECHES
 Jolanda KUJAWA
 Mark DELARGY
 Pedro CANTISTA
 Paolo BOLDRINI

The long history and the many people involved, have led ESPRM to its current robust state.

Being sure that ESPRM will have close cooperation with all European Region during the next 4 years, I take the opportunity to wish to the incoming President and the

members of the ESPRM new Executive Committee, every success in their major goal to support Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in the scientific arena of Europe and to bring together established clinicians and young researchers in PRM.