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## Message from the ESS President



Dear Colleagues, members, students and friends of the ESS,

It is with high sense of responsibility that I take over the Presidency of the European Shock Society after the European Conference at Chania, Crete 8-11 October 2019. ESS has one unique feature that makes it fully different and far more attractive than any other scientific society. This is the mystery that is uncovered by the word “shock”. Shock is a term that becomes a common topic of interest for almost all medical specialties and for many other scientists working in the research field of biology and medicine. Shock is a common denominator leading to death of both young people and elderly adults with comorbidities, but also a common denominator bringing together scientists with diverse technicalities and unites them for a common goal. This drives the magic of ESS that breaks the boundaries and promotes a strong team spirit leading not only to prominent exchange of scientific ideas but also to friendship between members. These merits are the main reason why to become an ESS member, something I strongly encourage you to do.

The 18th Congress of the ESS at Chania was a great success; reputable scientists and younger colleagues met together for a vivid exchange of ideas. The coming two years are a great challenge for the new board trying to maintain and even promote this achievement. In 2020 we foster two main challenges: on 13-14 June 2020, a European Conference of Bloodstream Infections will take place at Bertinoro, Italy under the chairmanship of Prof. Vittorio Sambri and the auspices of ESS; in the same year, the results of the PROVIDE study, the first clinical trial of personalized treatment in sepsis running under the auspices of ESS will be announced. Both events are an opportunity of promoting the goals of ESS. I do warmly welcome young people to follow both events and to become members of ESS.

I would like to take this opportunity and address warm thanks to the new and old members of our board who are working hard to make our goals reality. I would like to particularly thank the new secretary general Professor Andrea Szabó, the new President-Elect and former Treasurer Prof. Marcin Osuchowski and the new Treasurer Prof. Borna Relja.

I welcome you to the wonderful and exciting world of ESS...



*Transfer of presidency to Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis (left) from Markus Huber-Lang (right) during the ESS Congress*

Evangelos J. Giamarellos-Bourboulis, MD, PhD  
**President: European Shock Society**  
 Professor of Internal Medicine  
 Director: Master (MSc) Program of Infectious Diseases  
 4th Department of Internal Medicine  
 National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece  
 E-mail: [egiamarel@med.uoa.gr](mailto:egiamarel@med.uoa.gr)  
 Co-ordinator: Hellenic Sepsis Study Group  
 ([www.sepsis.gr](http://www.sepsis.gr))

## Message from the past ESS President



*“The distinction between the past, present and future is only a stubborn persistent illusion.”* This quote by Albert Einstein perfectly summarizes our ESS Congress 2019; our common research efforts in the past culminated to a fruitful exchange in the present and would help us segue to a promising future of Shock research. We have been able to forge excellent liaisons through active participation and exchange and I am sure this will inevitably contribute to productive scientific collaborations in the coming years.

As the past president I would like to express my gratitude to every member for their individual contribution, especially to the executive committee, with special thanks to our past secretary Inge Bauer, for her ceaseless efforts in running our society and to propel it to the future.

I particularly enjoyed the clinic-scientific training during the ESS Summer School on hemorrhagic shock. The guided poster-tour was certainly a helpful Socratic method to exchange scientific information, stimulate critical thinking and encourage incisive analyses in budding shock researchers. The session on collaborative European shock research surprisingly provided multiple insights within its convoluted status quo, and encouraged me to be part of it. Furthermore, the joint sessions with the IFSS presided over by Soheyl Bahrami helped us (i.e. ESS) to attune ourselves with other continents as well.

Invariably, we intend to expand and diversify for the benefit of our society through inclusion and exchanges. We are definitely in the spirit of expanding our reach, and it is a welcome opportunity for the ESS to usher our new president Evangelos Giamarellos-Bourboulis from Greece, and Federico Aletti from Italy as a new board member. The northern part of Europe is now represented by Andreas Barratt-Due, from Norway. I especially want to congratulate Marcin Osuchowski as the incoming president from Austria and Poland and Andrea Szabó, from Hungary, both great representatives of the Eastern part of Europe. Last but not least, we should not forget the central Europe with Marc Maegele and our new treasurer Borna Relja, both from Germany. You compose a great team for the present and future of ESS. Welcome!

**It was a pleasant revelation to know we aren't too overwhelmed from Shock research to dance in Greek style. Therefore, you are certainly invited to the next meeting in Athens 2021 - and to become a regular ESS-Member today!**

All the best for your past-present-future,

Markus Huber-Lang  
Past-President of ESS

## Message from the past IFSS President



It was really great seeing everyone in Chania. I think we all enjoyed the beautiful location, the scientific program and the platform provided for international networking. I would like to express my thanks to Markus Huber-Lang (ESS president and Program Chair), for putting together such a fantastic program. I would also like to thank Dimitrios Lambris (Aegean conferences) for the perfect organization of the meeting.

The spirit of the IFSS to improve the international cooperation was nicely reflected throughout the congress. I would like to acknowledge the contribution of the individual member shock societies of the IFSS, including US, China, Japan, Russia, and Latin-America (efforts made by Basilia Zingarelli, Yong-Ming Yao, Hiroyuki Hirasawa, Viktor Moroz/Vladimir Pisarev, and Reinaldo Salomao, retrospectively) by organizing their own sessions in a joined manner with the ESS.

I have been very much honored and humbled to serve the IFSS for the last three years as its president. My thanks go to all those who have contributed to the progress of the IFSS over the years with tremendous efforts. I am very happy to report that the IFSS has grown by the addition of two new siblings, namely the Korean Shock society (KSS) and the Committee on Shock of the Hellenic Society of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CS-HSCPR).

I am very much convinced that with Dr. Yong-Ming Yao (China) as the current president, Dr. Timothy Billiar (US) as the president-Elect, and with the support of all of you the IFSS will move forward into a prosperous future.



*The IFSS council meeting 2019 in Chania*



*IFSS President Yong-Ming Yao (second from the left) with past ESS president Heinz Redl (middle) and past IFSS president Soheyl Bahrami (second from the right)*

Soheyl Bahrami  
Past-President of the IFSS

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## The (last and first) Treasurer's Corner



### Marcin:

Hello dear ESS team,

This is my final piece on the ESS finances; I am no longer the treasurer given my new role of ESS president-elect. The fiscal operations will go on uninterrupted as Borna Relja (below) has become our new finances captain and will navigate our fiscal ship for another term(s). I am really glad about this change; a position held for too long slowly becomes less operationally effective as a certain type of a (lazy?) routine sets in. Borna will surely refresh the T. function; for example, she will be in charge of making some

upgrades such as setting up a credit card payment for ESS membership so we are more easily accessible for those who want to join our ranks.

We are relatively fresh after our most recent congress in Chania, thus, the final fiscal summary is not yet possible. One thing for sure, we are NOT WORSE off (and we are actually somewhat stronger)! The 18<sup>th</sup> ESS congress took a bit of a different format, with the Aegean Conferences organization assuming the fiscal responsibility for its success. This made us (and the ESS president) financially safe; a really good thing if one wants to focus on the scientific quality of a meeting as Markus Huber-Lang expertly did. Additionally, we received a solid money injection after the previous congress in Paris. Thanks to the unrelenting and continuous activity of our past president, Jean-Marc Cavaillon, shortly before the congress in Chania, we received funds J-MC had saved at the Paris meeting. Thank you very much, Mr. President! The same love goes to our newly-elected ESS councilor, Marc Maegele, who was instrumental in ESS receiving support from industrial sponsors. We are equally grateful to the (US) Shock Society that generously supported us with money as well as in attendance; you noticed that this year's ESS congress was co-organized with the 9th Congress of the International Federation of Shock Societies, right?



### Borna:

Greetings to all European Shock Society Members, and hopefully many newly-joining members! Before looking into the future, I want to first thank our past treasurer (and our ESS president-elect) Marcin Osuchowski for his outstanding services to the ESS. Although he claims to have become less operationally effective due to the routine, this was never visible, quite to the contrary. Yet, I am humbled and proud to serve as your new treasurer. I believe that not only our past presidents Jean-Marc Cavaillon, Markus

Huber-Lang and our ESS councilor, Marc Maegele but also our long dedicated ESS members are the thread that have kept and will continue to keep our society fiscally healthy. I hope that with your support and the income from the membership fees, the ESS will become financially sounder in the near future. One of the primary aims of our society is to educate the next generation of investigators in the field of shock, trauma and sepsis. Facilitating a steady increase in the ESS member ranks will enable us to more generously support the young investigators and students with travel awards/grants. I am aware that the fiscal development is integral to the evolving strategy for the ESS, and since we are all in this together, I am very grateful for your ideas!

**Marcin and Borna:** Ending our joint treasurer's corner piece, allow us to remind you about the very important change that took place at Paris congress in 2017: **The ESS collects membership fees separately of the registration fee for the biennial congress.** This means if you are an ESS

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member and fail to pay the membership on time, you make the life of the ESS (and the treasurer) much harder. We sincerely ask you to square your ESS membership fee before Christmas. Thank you!

Merry Christmas everyone!

Your past treasurer,  
Marcin Osuchowski

Your new treasurer,  
Borna Relja

## Congratulations to our new council members



### Our New General Secretary: Andrea Szabó

Dr. Szabó graduated at the Medical Faculty of the University of Szeged, Hungary and got her PhD degree (in 1998) and her habilitation (in 2012) also there. Her research interests are pathophysiology and microcirculation of shock and ischemia/reperfusion injury. She spent a 18-month postdoctoral fellowship at the Childrens' Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, OH, USA and a 8-month fellowship at the Institute for Clinical & Experimental Surgery, Saarland University, Homburg, Germany. She was a finalist of the Young investigator Award competition of the Shock Society (in 1998, Palm Springs, USA). She was a tutor of 11 PhD theses at the Multidisciplinary Doctoral School, the University of Szeged. She works as an associate professor and an educational advisor at the Institute of Surgical Research (the University of Szeged), where she also teaches surgical techniques and microsurgery.

Dr. Szabó serves as a council member of the ESS executive committee since 2013. She has been editor of the ESS newsletters since 2015 and has been involved in collecting and preserving data of the historical roots of the ESS.

*"In 2013, it was a great honor to become a council member of ESS; from the very beginning of my research career, I always carried a great respect to this society. My first mentor (Prof. Nagy) belongs among the founders of ESS. I always felt the atmosphere of the congresses of the European Shock Society and the Shock Society very inspiring. This experience also greatly contributed to my decision to conduct research full time ever since. Being a member of the executive committee I had a chance to see devotion and hard work of great ESS presidents (Jean-Marc Cavaillon and Markus Huber-Lang) and a very efficient secretary (Inge Bauer) from a closer perspective. I particularly appreciated all opportunities when I could also make my own contribution. I was very pleased when I was appointed as a general secretary of ESS. I will do my best to keep up with the standards of Inge (our wonderful past-general secretary), following her footsteps in precise, diligent and conscientious work. I thank for the confidence of the council and the General Assembly."*



*The past-general secretary (Inge Bauer) is awarded by the past-president (Markus Huber-Lang) during the ESS Congress*



### Our New Treasurer: Borna Relja

Dr. Relja graduated in Biology from the Goethe University Frankfurt. After she held the position of Associate Professor at the Department of Trauma, Hand and Reconstructive Surgery, Goethe University Hospital Frankfurt for several years, in October 2019 she obtained a full professor position for Experimental Radiology at the Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg, Germany. Her main research interests are pathophysiology and inflammatory processes in the development of posttraumatic complications and/or comorbidities (e.g. alcohol exposure and hemorrhagic shock, sepsis) with the new scope of biological and molecular imaging.

*“When I was first approached by the past president of the ESS Dr. Jean-Marc Cavaillon to act as a councilor in 2015, I felt a great honor. Being again appointed by the current president Dr. Markus Huber-Lang for this position (and reconfirmed by the ESS council vote) showed the trust this unique society has vested in me. Hopefully, I will be effective for the next 24 months. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all members of the executive committee and the ESS for making this society alive and successful. Warm regards to all members and mentors.”*



### Our newly elected councilor: Federico Aletti

Federico Aletti was born in Milan, Italy, in 1980. He received his M.Sc. in Biomedical Engineering (2005) and his Ph.D. in Bioengineering (2009) from Politecnico di Milano, Italy.

He is currently Assistant Project Scientist in the Department of Bioengineering at the University of California San Diego, USA.

He was awarded a Marie Curie-Sklodowska International Outgoing Fellowship of the European Union for the project “CelSys Shock” (2014-2016). During his Marie Curie-Sklodowska training, he was post-doctoral fellow at Politecnico di Milano and at the University of California San Diego.

Dr. Aletti was a member of the Scientific and Project Coordination Committees of the “ShockOmics” consortium funded by the 7th Framework Program of the European Union (2013-2017). He has coauthored 26 journal papers, 1 book chapter and several conference abstracts. Dr. Aletti has been a member of the International Advisory Board of the journal “Physiological Measurement” since 2016.

The interests of Dr. Aletti include cardiovascular physiology, disease and bioengineering; multiscale modeling of circulatory shock; design of new therapies for intensive care patients; hemodynamic monitoring; modeling of autonomic control of circulation.

## Our newly elected councilor: Andreas Barratt-Due



Andreas Barratt-Due graduated at the Medical Faculty, University of Tromsø, Norway in 1999. He finished his clinical specialty in anesthesiology in 2008 and has been working within different fields like thoracic anesthesia and transplantation. Since 2012, he has been employed as a senior consultant at Oslo University Hospital, Norway, primarily working within the field of intensive care. Dr. Barratt-Due finished his PhD in 2012 with thesis focusing on innate immunity and specifically on the complement system in relation to sepsis and septic shock. Later, he worked as a postdoc and researcher in the Norwegian Complement Research Group, co-supervised several PhD-candidates. From 2009 to 2016, Dr. Barratt-Due was a head of the Norwegian research Committee and continues to act as head of the academic council of the Norwegian Registry of Intensive Care. In 2018, he worked six months at the Queen Elisabeth Central Hospital in Blantyre, Malawi, in a project improving the local anesthesia and intensive care services.

*"It is a great honor to be suggested by Prof. Markus Huber-Lang as a council member of the ESS. This is an important organization that I have followed for years, as sepsis has been one of my core interests. Connecting basic science closer with the clinic is part of translational research, which I believe is one of the most important challenges for today's and future medicine. I see ESS as a fruitful organization in this challenge and hopefully, I will be able to effectively contribute to its goals."*



## Congratulations to the Honorary Members of ESS\*



### Our Honorary Member: Irshad H. Chaudry

Irshad H. Chaudry obtained his PhD from Monash University, Australia and after a PostDoctoral Fellowship at the University of Toronto, was appointed as an Instructor/Assistant Professor at Washington University School of Medicine, USA. He moved to Yale University in 1976 as Associate Professor and was later promoted to Full Professor. In 1986, he moved to Michigan State University as Professor and Director of Surgical Research. Brown University recruited him in 1996 as Professor and Director of the Center for Surgical Research. In 2000, he moved to the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) as Professor of Surgery, Microbiology, Cell, Developmental and Integrative Biology. He served as Vice Chairman of the Department of Surgery from August, 2000 to June, 2015 and as the Director of the Center for Surgical Research at UAB from August, 2000 until June, 2019.

Dr. Chaudry has trained over 100(!) Post-Doctoral and Doctoral students, many of whom have become academic leaders and Department Chairmen. He has served on various NIH Study Sections, including being the Chairman of Surgery, Anesthesia and Trauma Study Section for 2 years; VA Merit Review Board for Surgery; Advisory Committee for Septic Shock Research Program, Navy Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, Maryland; USAMRMC-CDMRP Polytrauma Scientific Review panel member and Chairman; and is a Steering Committee member of the Department of Defense (DoD) Hemorrhage and Resuscitation R&D Committee, USAMRMC since 2010.



*Irshad H. Chaudry with ESS President Markus Huber-Lang*

Irshad Chaudry received the *Senior Faculty Meritorious Research Award from Sigma Xi, Michigan State University Chapter* in 1992, the *Distinguished Faculty Award at Michigan State University* in 1992-1993, the *Shock Society Scientific Achievement Award* in 1997, and the NIH **MERIT AWARD** in 1999. He also received the American Heart Association *Lifetime Achievement Award for Trauma Science* in 2005. He has been funded by the NIH, DARPA and DoD grants. An Honorary membership was bestowed upon him by the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma in 1993; by the Society of University Surgeons in 1993; and by the European Shock Society on October 11, 2019. He has served as President of the US Shock Society, Surgical Infection Society, and the International Federation of Shock Societies. He was bestowed an Honorary Professorship at Southern Medical University, Guangzhou, China in 2005; and at Hebei North University, China in 2012.

Dr. Chaudry is the Editor-in-Chief of the journal SHOCK since 1994; is an editorial board member of the *American J Surgery*, and various other journals. He has published over 640 peer-reviewed papers, and over 100 specifically dealing with the salutary effects of estrogen and estrogen derivatives including Ethinyl estradiol-3-sulfate. Dr. Chaudry and his colleagues have been granted two patents for treating trauma-hemorrhage and various adverse circulatory conditions including traumatic brain injury using estrogens.

*\*approved by General Assembly of 11 October, 2019 (Chania, Greece)*

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## Our Honorary Member: Christoph Thiemermann

Christoph Thiemermann is Professor of Pharmacology and Centre Lead for Translational Medicine & Therapeutics at the William Harvey Research Institute (WHRI), Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) and Deputy Director of the Centre for Diabetic Kidney Disease at the Royal London Hospital, Bart's Health NHS Trust.

He graduated with honours in Medicine (1986), obtained his MD in Medicine (1987, *summa cum laude*) from the University in Cologne in Germany (awarded University Prize 1987 for 'Best Doctorate Degree of all Faculties of the University of Cologne') and received consecutive Fellowships from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and the Thyssen Foundation (Germany). He joined the WHRI in July 1987, where he obtained a PhD in Pharmacology under the supervision of The Nobel Laureate Sir John Vane in 1991.

Dr. Thiemermann is a scientist/clinician with a strong research track record in cardiovascular disease (acute medicine, renal disease, shock) with a specific expertise in target-drug discovery, pharmacology and translational medicine. Since 2007, he serves as centre lead for Translational Medicine at the WHRI/Barts NHS Trust and (since 2015) deputy director of the Centre for Diabetic Kidney Disease at Bart's Health NHS Trust. His recent successes include the phase II RCTs evaluating the effects of pentoxifylline in patients with chronic kidney disease (on dialysis) and the repositioning of the antimalarial drug artesunate for patients with severe haemorrhage and organ failure.



*Chris Thiemermann with ESS President Markus Huber-Lang*

Dr. Thiemermann's research was recognised by Awards of the British Pharmacological Society (1994), the Surgical Infection Society Europe (1999) and the Menarini-Award for CV Research (2001). Over the years, Dr. Thiemermann's research has been generously supported by the British Heart Foundation (Senior Fellow from 1996 to 2001), the European Union, the Medical Research Council, Kidney Research UK and William Harvey Research Foundation, Barts and the London Charity (BLC) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

Dr. Thiemermann has published more than 420 scientific articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, which have been cited more than 30,000-times (h-index:91, Google Open Scholar). He is a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the United Kingdom, a Fellow of the British Pharmacological Society, a Foreign Member (for life) of the Academy of Sciences of Portugal (Lisboa), a Member of the Fellowships Committee of the NIHR (since 2008), Chair of the Post-Doctoral Fellowships Committee of the NIHR (since 2016), Past-President of the European Shock Society (presidency 2008-2011), Member of the Executive Council of the World Federation of Shock Societies (since 2008), Senior Associate Editor (Europe) of the Journal Shock (2003-2017).

Dr. Thiemermann has significant commercial and drug development experience and serves a director (since 1995), and since 2003 the CEO of William Harvey Research Limited ([www.williamharvey.co.uk](http://www.williamharvey.co.uk)). Since 2003, this non-profit company has generated over £ 10 Million in research funds for the William Harvey Research Institute and donated more than £ 1 Million to charity (William Harvey Research Foundation).

## Congratulations to our award winners (ESS Congress 2019)

### ENIAC finalists



*The ENIAC winners (from the left to the right) (2<sup>nd</sup> prize winner Andreia Luís, the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize winner Richard Carden, the 1<sup>st</sup> prize winner Shireen Mohammad) with the president, general secretary and treasurer of ESS*

- 1<sup>st</sup> place:**      **Shireen Mohammad, UK**  
Does metabolic endotoxemia play a role in the insulin-resistance, steatohepatitis and proteinuria caused by high-fat diet in mice?
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place:**    **Andreia Luís, Austria**  
Unfolded protein response in traumatic hemorrhagic shock improved blood circulation and relieved organ injury.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place:**    **Richard Carden, UK**  
Early cardiovascular dysfunction drives in-hospital trauma deaths.
- Finalist:**      **Hessel Peters-Sengers, The Netherlands**  
Abdominal sepsis is associated with stronger host response aberrations when compared with sepsis caused by community-acquired pneumonia.
- Finalist:**      **Li-xing Tian (presented by Xiao-yuan Ma; off scoring), China**  
Cytochrome P450 1A1 enhances inflammatory responses and impedes phagocytosis of bacteria in macrophages during sepsis.

### Presidential awards

- Ekaterina Chernevskaya, Russia
- Attila Rutai, Hungary



*The Presidential Awardee Ekaterina Chernevskaya (in the middle) and Attila Rutai (second from the left) with board member of ESS*



**Poster Awards:**

- Mattia Amoroso, Germany
- Kieu Le, The Netherlands
- Bastiaan Haak, The Netherlands
- Attila Rutai, Hungary
- Tanja Seibold, Germany
- Mariska Meijer, The Netherlands



*The Poster Award winners between the president (left) and the General Secretary (right)*

**ESS Travel Awards**

- Richard Carden, UK
- Andrea Janicová, Germany
- Andreia Luís, Austria
- Shireen Mohammad, UK
- Charles Neu, Germany
- Caroline O'Riordan, UK
- Nikita Patel, UK
- Hessel Peters-Sengers, The Netherlands
- Li-xing Tian, China
- Fabrice Uhel, The Netherlands
- Nora Wolff, The Netherlands



*The ESS Travel Award winners with ESS board members*

**IFSS Travel Awards**

- Fatemeh Asgari, Italy
- Monique Fonseca, Brazil
- Yoshihisa Fujinami, Japan
- Mouna Ben Azaiz, Tunisia
- Rafael Saia, Brazil
- Masafumi Saito, Japan
- Michelle Wakeley, USA



*The IFSS Travel Award winners between ESS and IFSS presidents (left and right)*

**Aegean Travel Awards**

- Sadaf Davoudian, Italy
- Bastiaan Haak, The Netherlands
- Antonia Lange, Germany
- Kieu Le, The Netherlands
- László Juhász, Hungary
- Chao Ren, China
- Tanja Seibold, Germany
- Sefika Senol, Turkey
- Isabelle Sobbe, Germany
- Szabolcs Tallósy, Hungary
- Birte Weber, Germany
- Johannes Zipperle, Austria



*The Aegean Travel Award winners with the ESS president and Dimitrios Lambris (Aegean Conferences)*



## Reminiscence of the ESS Congress 2019 – Summer School on Hemorrhagic Shock

**Emergency Room, Chania, 8th October 2019, 2 p.m.:**



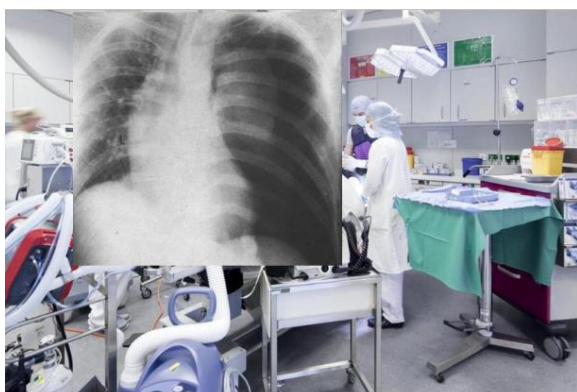
Around 40 enthusiastic ESS students took the challenge to join a simulated emergency setting at the summer school on hemorrhagic shock. The school started with several introductory lectures covering the hemodynamic changes, along with immune-, coagulation- and organ responses. Afterwards, Marcin Osuchowski discussed various tips and demonstrated common pitfalls of adequate modelling of hemorrhagic shock in animals. Furthermore, every

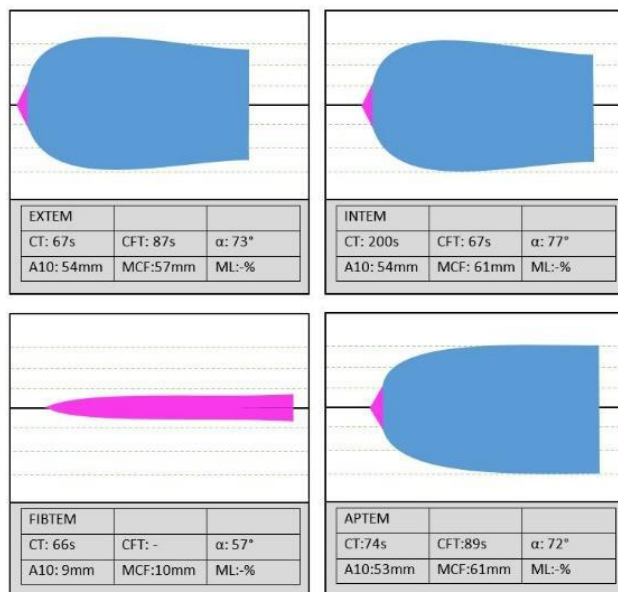
student received an outstanding script written by our past president Jean-Marc Cavaillon, Paris, on a historical perspective of shock. The script covers a great journey through the centuries with numerous impressive colorful illustrations on the development of shock research and treatment from the very past to present.

From theory we proceeded to practical hands-on training. Martin Wepler and Markus Huber-Lang provided a clinically meaningful case of a polytraumatized young patient volunteered by one of the students



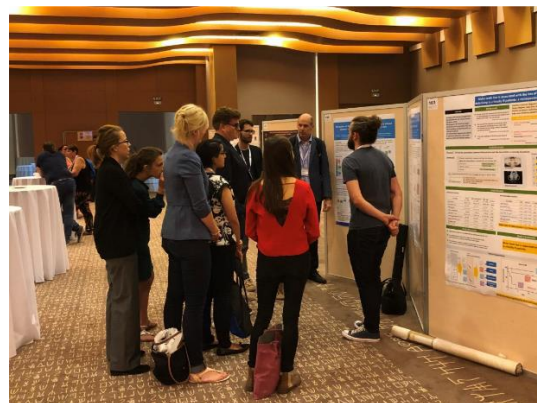
connected to a computer simulation. The principles of anesthesiological and surgical first hour management were demonstrated and repeated by several students. In addition, advanced imaging of the “patient in shock” was shown and various diagnostics were performed under a realistic time pressure condition. A pneumothorax was diagnosed and drained. Hemodynamic stabilization was achieved by infusion therapy and catecholamine support. The hemodynamics reacted promptly and could be seen and heard by every attendee via the monitor in real-time. The clinical examination and the X-ray pictures revealed a femur fracture which was stabilized by a real external fixator. It was indeed a remarkable feat achieved by our young Shock researchers!





After successful anesthesiological and surgical “treatment”, a coagulopathic disorder developed as detected by thrombelastometry. Therefore, after the coffee break, our coagulation experts Marc Maegele and Klaus Görlinger provided a great ROTEM workshop which included basic training, real blood work and real-time ROTEM analyses. Wonderful demonstration!

Following this exciting diagnostic and treatment session, both the students and lecturers went for a well-deserved welcome dinner of ESS. Noteworthy, the summer school continued also during the ESS and IFSS meeting. For the first time, a guided poster tour for interested students of the summer school was performed by Chris Thiernemann and Martijn van Griensven where contemporary topics of hemorrhagic shock research were shown on selected posters.



*Some of the organisers of the summerschool (from left to right): Martin Wepler, Markus Huber-Lang, Chris Thiernemann, Marcin*

Overall, this summer school was most exciting and more important, fun for both, the students and the professors. Special thanks to Martin Wepler, Chris Thiernemann, Marc Maegele, Klaus Görlinger, Martijn van Griensven, Marcin Osuchowski and Dimitrios Lambris who prepared with us the emergency room and to the students who actively participated in the training.

I wonder what patient will be presented at the next ESS meeting in 2021 at Athens.

All the best!

Markus Huber-Lang

## Reminiscence of the ESS Congress 2019 – by a new member



The XVIIIth Congress of the European Shock Society and IXth Congress of the Int'l Federation of Shock Societies in Chania Crete, Greece was an outstanding experience for me. I very much enjoyed the program (summer school, sessions, workshops, and poster sessions). The conference was scientifically very productive, particularly due to the many contributions from research groups working all over the world. I was also glad to see the effort of the European Shock Society and the Int'l Federation of Shock Societies to bring

researchers from countries with unfavorable socioeconomic background to the meeting. It was a great platform for international networking. I was especially honored for the opportunity to be sharing part of my final Ph.D. work at the European New Investigator Award Competition (ENIAC). I would like to thank the committee for the fantastic organization and all the participants for making this excellent congress!

Andreia Luís  
our new member from Vienna

## Welcome new ESS members

**WELCOME**

**Andreia Luís**

Austria

**Bastiaan Haak**

The Netherlands

**Iraklis Tsagkaris**

Greece

**Jesus Francisco Bermejo-Martin**

Spain

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## 2019 Wiggers-Bernard Conference Initiative: developing a randomized, multi-center trial platform for pre-clinical sepsis



After hosting a successful 9<sup>th</sup> Wiggers-Bernard Conference on creating Expert Consensus Guidelines for Pre-clinical Sepsis Studies in Vienna in 2017, the subsequent iteration of the Wiggers-Bernard Initiative took place in Chania, Greece. As the prior one, also the

10th Wiggers-Bernard Conference focused on pre-clinical sepsis modeling topic; this time, however, we gathered under the headline: ***“Pre-clinical Modeling in Sepsis: pre-clinical randomized multi-center trial (pRCT) for sepsis”***.

The subject of the 2019 conference was largely provoked by the abysmal failure rate in the development of new drugs for the treatment of sepsis; the vast majority of the failed therapeutics originated and/or was tested in various pre-clinical endotoxemia and sepsis models. These repeated failures suggest that successful translation of new therapies and/or medications requires major conceptual modifications. A multi-center pre-clinical trial (pRCT) concept appears to represent one of the viable solutions given that it advances pre-clinical sepsis research from partly idiosyncratic single-laboratory animal studies to a multi-center study design. This idea is not new and has been already implemented in the pre-clinical critical care field, e.g., the Operation Brain Trauma Therapy (OBT) platform developed by P. Kochanek and C. Dixon has been successfully testing experimental neuroprotective therapies. A pRCT design-concept likely provides a more robust, transparent and financially attractive assessment tool (versus any single laboratory study) for experimental medications and therapies being considered for testing in clinical trials.

Our October meeting took place on the heels of the 18th Congress of the European Shock Society and 9th Congress of the International Federation of Shock Societies, thus, in a very intellectually stimulating environment. Additionally, we were very fortunate to receive support from two top experts in the field of pre-clinical



multi-center animal studies: Malcolm MacLeod (University of Edinburgh, co-coordinator of the EQIPD Innovative Medicines Initiative) and Patrick Kochanek (University of Pittsburgh, head of the OBTT platform). The majority of the 2017 Wiggers-Bernard team attended (30 participants in total) and we also welcomed few new faces including Reinaldo Salomao from Brazil, James Lederer from USA, Andre Scherag and Sebastian Weiss from Germany (see group



photo; not all attendees are present).

As before, the conference was preceded by a significant preparatory workload; we conducted two rounds of multi-question surveys to establish a general feasibility for pRCT as well as to shape preliminary study design framework. We had four key objectives: 1) develop a consensus study-design, 2) select a treatment, 3) define the participating centers and 4) have fun. In the biased opinion of the team, all four objectives have been achieved; the meeting was very discussion-intense yet constructive and conducted in a strong spirit of camaraderie.

We strongly believe that the pRCT initiative is very much needed for pre-clinical sepsis research and it constitutes a positive step in the right direction. We also very much hope that we will be able to effectively transition from the current planning period to the experimental execution phase planned for 2020. The ultimate goal of the pRCT is to improve translation of pre-clinical findings into clinics. We sincerely thank all those who have been supporting us in the above effort either by co-funding it (the Austrian Society of Advancement of Research in Shock and Tissue Engineering; Office of Naval Research Global; all participants), concrete action and/or encouraging words.

Marcin Osuchowski,  
Coordinator of the 2019 Wiggers-Bernard Initiative



## Update on the « Personalized Randomized Trial of Validation and Restoration of Immune Dysfunction in Severe Infections and Sepsis » (PROVIDE) trial

Our developing knowledge of sepsis pathogenesis allowed the understanding of the great heterogeneity of patients. Nowadays everybody is discussing on the need to apply personalized approaches for the management of almost every type of disease including severe infections. However, this cannot rely on the selection of most efficacious regimens for patient subgroups as this is coming from published randomized clinical trials as subgroup analyses are post-hoc findings. As a consequence, prospective randomized clinical trials are needed where the personalized treatment algorithm is compared to the existing standard-of-care. This is a big unmet need for severe infections where current knowledge suggests that pathogenesis resembles to an axis with two opposite edges. Patients with clinical and laboratory features resembling to hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (also known as macrophage activation syndrome-MAS) lie in one edge representing almost 4% of the patients. Patients with features of immunosuppression lie in the other edge representing almost 20% of the patients. The remaining patients lie in between presenting a varying mixture of hyper-inflammation and hypo-inflammation.

The PROVIDE trial (ClinicalTrials.gov registration NCT03332225) is the first clinical trial to cover the described unmet need. The aim is to assess the impact of immunotherapy targeting the personalized needs of the patient. The trial is sponsored by the Hellenic Institute for the Study of Sepsis and it is under the auspices of the European Shock Society. The trial is running since December 2017 at 14 study sites in Greece (EudraCT 2017-002171-26; approval by the National Ethics Committee 78/17; approval by the National Organization for Medicines IS 75-17) and it is anticipated to stop by the end of 2019.

Eligible patients for participation are adults with septic shock (by the Sepsis-3 classification) due to lung infection (community-acquired, hospital-acquired and ventilator-associated) or primary bacteremia or acute cholangitis. One of these patients may eventually be enrolled if he/she presents laboratory findings of either MAS or sepsis-induced immunosuppression in two consecutive measurements 24 hours apart. Screening tools are serum ferritin for MAS and HLA-DR/CD14 co-expression for sepsis-induced immunosuppression. Enrolled patients are randomized through double-blind, double-dummy approach into the immunotherapy arm or the standard-of-care arm. Patients assigned into the immunotherapy arm receive treatment with either intravenous anakinra (targeting MAS) or subcutaneous recombinant IFN $\gamma$  (targeting immunosuppression). Patients assigned into the standard-of-care arm receive intravenous and subcutaneous placebo treatment. Main exclusion criteria are primary and secondary immunodeficiencies and solid and hematologic malignancies.



*Members of the Hellenic Sepsis Study Group*

immune state classification from 162 patients; 35 patients were enrolled in the study. The

Until June 30<sup>th</sup> 2019, 226 patients under vasopressors were screened for eligibility; 64 patients were excluded due to study exclusion criteria and blood

was sampled for

PROVIDE trial is a real challenge since success relies on the proper collaboration of all investigators and of personnel who works in the central study lab. Success can be made possible only through one high-level collaboration network providing rapid exchange of information so that patient screening is facilitated ([www.sepsis.gr](http://www.sepsis.gr)).

We are looking forward to the publication of the main results in our next Newsletter....

Evangelos Giamarellos-Bourboulis

## Upcoming events



### 49th Critical Care Congress

Febr 16-19, 2020

Orlando, Florida, USA

<https://www.sccm.org/Education-Center/Annual-Congress>

### ISICEM 2020 - 40th International Symposium on Intensive Care and Emergency Medicine

Mar 24-27, 2020, Brussels/Belgium

<https://www.intensive.org/index.asp>



### ESTES 2018: 21th<sup>h</sup> European Congress of Trauma & Emergency Surgery (European Society for Trauma & Emergency Surgery)

April 26–28, 2020 Oslo, Norway

<https://www.estes-congress.org/>



### The Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions (SCAI)

May 13-16, 2020 Atlanta, US

<http://www.scai.org/SCAI2020>



### Joint Congress of the European Society for Surgical Research and Austrian Society for Surgical Research

May 13-15, 2020, Innsbruck, Austria

<https://www.essr2020.at/frontend/index.php>



### Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS) European Chapter Meeting

May 26-29, 2020, Manchester, UK

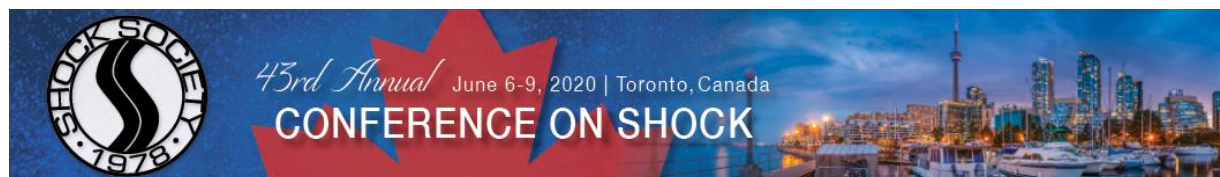
<https://www.termis.org/eu2020/general-information>



### 33rd European Congress on Surgical Infections (SIS-E)

June 3-5, 2020, Madrid, Spain

<http://sis-e.org/>



### 43rd Annual Conference on Shock

June 6-9, 2020, Toronto/Canada

<http://shocksociety.org/Meetings.aspx>

### ESICM's Annual Congress, LIVES

Oct 10-14, 2020, Madrid/Spain

<https://www.esicm.org/events/33rd-annual-congress-madrid/>



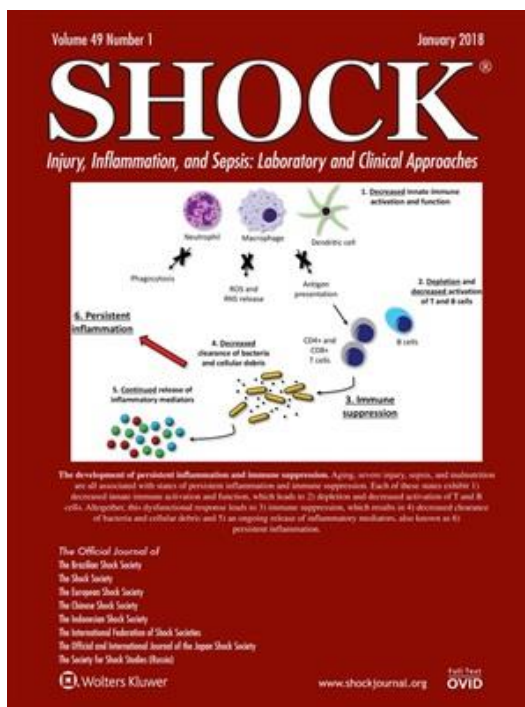


## ESOT Congress 2021

Aug 29 –Sept 1, 2021, Milan, Italy

<https://www.esotcongress.org/esot-2021-milan/>

## Invitation to publish in Shock®



Shock is a monthly journal that publishes the results of investigations in the field of injury, inflammation and sepsis; of clinical and laboratory origin alike (current IF=3.083). It is the official Journal of all international Shock Societies, including ESS. Thanks to its efficient reviewing process, you will typically have your submitted paper reviewed within 15 days.

So do not hesitate, submit your next best results to SHOCK!

<http://www.editorialmanager.com/shock>.



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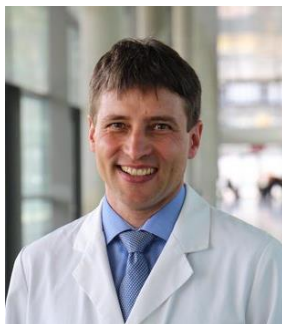
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## ESS Membership

Dear ESS members,  
please kindly pay your ESS membership for 2020/21. Currently, a fixed 2-year membership fee of EUR 100 for regular members and EUR 50 for student members applies.

We sincerely appreciate your contribution; please do not ignore this important commitment.  
We are happy to receive your funds at:

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*Thank you!*



## Last words about the ESS newsletter



### Dear present ESS member,

If you like your ESS Winter Newsletter, please feel free to share it with your colleagues in the lab, department and/or institute. Perhaps, you could use this opportunity to suggest them to join us (a registration form can be found at the end of this Newsletter). Do not forget that we need you to keep improving our society so it stands proud and strong among other international Shock Societies.

This Newsletter, put together by your peers, belongs to you! We invite you to identify with it as members of the ESS. Moreover, we ask you to help us make it even better. Accordingly, we would be delighted to publish in our next issue any input you might be wishing to share with us (e.g. discussion on a given research/popular science topic, announce available positions in your lab, a contribution to the journal club corner, historical memories, comments about sepsis 3.0 etc.)

### Dear past ESS member,

Please do not forget to renew your membership. We need all colleagues, junior and senior alike, to enable the ESS to host in its ranks the best representatives of the European Shock research - at the bedside and/or at bench alike.



Jean-Marc Cavaillon  
our Past-President

## ESS Membership application form

(<http://www.europeanshockociety.org/register>)



Please send completed form to Andrea Szabó (ESS General Secretary):

**e-mail:** [szabo.andrea.exp@med.u-szeged.hu](mailto:szabo.andrea.exp@med.u-szeged.hu)

**fax:** +36 62 545 743

*Form fields shown in italics are optional*

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