

EUROSPINE EuSSAB Meeting Protocol

Monday, 22 May 2017

EUROSPINE EuSSAB Spring Meeting 2017 – Munich, Germany

Chair:

Christoph Siepe

Co-Chair of Stakeholder Council

Speakers:

Margareta Nordin

EUROSPINE President

Johan van Lerbeirghe

EuSSAB Representative

Beat Leimbacher

Delegate of the EUROSPINE ExCom

Attendees:

firstname	lastname	country	society
Bart	Depreitere	Belgium	Spine Society of Belgium
Tom	Asklöf	Finland	Finnish Spine Surgery Society
Christoph	Josten	Germany	Deutsche Ges. f. Wirbelsäulen Chirurgie
Ioannis	Magras	Greece	Hellenic Spine Society
John	Mc Cabe	Ireland	Irish Spine Society
Alberto	Di Martino	Italy	Societa Italiana di chirurgia vertebrale - Gruppo Italiano Scoliosi
Ricardo	Feller	Netherlands	Dutch Spine Society
Tomasz	Potaczek	Poland	Polish Society of Spinal Surgery
Manuel	Tavares de Matos	Portugal	Sociedade Portuguesa de patologia da coluna vertebral
Maximo-Alberto	Diez Ulloa	Spain	Sociedad Española de Columna Vertebral
Raoul	Heilbronner	Switzerland	Schweizerische Ges. fuer spinale Chirurgie
Sait	Naderi	Turkey	Turkish Spine Society
Alistair	Stirling	UK	UK Spine Societies Board
Lisa	Roberts	UK	Society for Back Pain Research

Agenda – main topics

1. Welcome / Meeting Goals / Intro Participants
2. Update on EUROSPINE way forward strategy
3. Assessment of progress made so far in EuSSAB activities
4. Proposal to do a SWOT analysis amongst all EuSSAB members
5. Operational Issues
6. Wrap-up & Actions

Protocol:

Christoph Siepe / Claudia Ortner / Beat Leimbacher

Ad 3 Assessment of progress made so far in EuSSAB activities

CURRENT STATUS

27 Institutional Members have joined EUROSPINE and became members of EuSSAB since October 2014. This adds up to almost **7,000** spine specialists from across Europe.

	Country	Institutional Member	Associate Members
1	Austria	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Wirbelsäulen Chirurgie	132
2	Belgium	Spine Society of Belgium	281
3	Czech Republic	Czech Spine Surgery Society	122
4	Germany	Deutsche Wirbelsäulengesellschaft	1.576
5	Greece	Hellenic Spine Society	150
6	Hungary	Hungarian Spine Society	110
7	Italy	Societa Italiana di chirurgia vertebrale - Gruppo Italiano Scoliosis	320
8	Norway	Norwegian Spinal Surgeon Society	41
9	Poland	Polish Society of Spinal Surgery	308
10	Portugal	Sociedade Portuguesa de patologia da coluna vertebral	95
11	Romania	Romanian Medical Society for Spine Surgery	60
12	Spain	Sociedad Española de Columna Vertebral	240
13		Spanish Society of Spine and Spinal Cord Surgery	114
14	Switzerland	swiss orthopaedics	949
15	Turkey	Turkish Spine Society	289
16	UK	UKSSB	790
17	Ireland	Irish Spine Society	45
18	France	Groupe d'Etude de la Scoliose	120
19		Société Française de Chirurgie du Rachidienne	345
20	Russia	Russian Association of Spine Surgeons	310
21	Sweden	Swedish Society of Spinal Surgeons	175
22	Slovenia	Spine Society of Slovenia	66
23	Croatia	Croatian Society for Spinal Surgery	30
24	UK	Society for Back Pain Research (<i>incl. in UKSSB</i>)	159
25	Netherlands	Dutch Spine Society	173
26	Switzerland	Swiss Spine Surgery Society – joined in October 2016	83
27	Finland	Finnish Spine Surgery Society – joined in October 2016	68
TOTAL			6.992

GOALS & BASIC PRINCIPALS FOR EUSSAB

1. EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, aims to closely connect and link the various national / spine specialist societies throughout Europe.
2. For that purpose, EUROSPINE provides a platform – **EUROSPINE's European Spine Societies Advisory Board**, short EuSSAB- that in principal is open for all institutional members of EUROSPINE.

3. The national / spine specialist societies are invited to connect and meet on a regular basis within this common EUROSPINE platform
4. This cooperation is intended to be a symbiotic and mutual 'win-win' relationship between EUROSPINE and all its allied national / spine specialist societies (institutional members)
5. As the platform has been established now, EUROSPINE will continue to act as facilitator, while the responsibility has been transferred to EuSSAB members, who will define common goals, challenges and strategies to solve them as equal partners.
6. Connecting institutional members will bring together several thousand associate members throughout Europe under one common umbrella
7. The goal of having one united communication platform and joining forces will strengthen the political position and influence of all EuSSAB members.
8. EUROSPINE and EuSSAB will have the potential to unify processes throughout Europe for
 - a common and homogenous educational program
 - strengthen the united spine surgeons position on an international political scale
 - Institutional members of EUROSPINE benefiting from EUROSPINE activities and investments such as Spine Tango, Patent Line, Research Grants & Courses and more

UPDATE: HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF EUSSAB

- **Two step application process:**
National / spine specialist societies can apply to join EuSSAB after having joined EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe, as an institutional member in a first step of the application process.
- Being an institutional member is mandatory prerequisite for becoming a member of EuSSAB. The decision on the acceptance / rejection of any application will be made by the EUROSPINE ExCom
- Joining of a national / spine specialist society as an institutional member would automatically make all its members associate members of EUROSPINE
- Both institutional membership as well as the associate membership are free of charge

INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL APPLICANTS FOR EUSSAB

- Following the transition from an open to a closed circle, any applicants will have to present themselves and must be voted on by existing members of EuSSAB in a second step of this 2-step application process.
- **Two societies showed their interest to join EuSSAB:**
 - Israel Spine Society
 - Croatian Vertebrologic Society



Decision made: Both societies have been informed on the upcoming steps which are required in the due application process by EUROSPINE ExCom and EUROSPINE's EuSSAB. Each applicant will need to send a letter of intent to join EUROSPINE as an institutional member, which will be addressed to the EUROSPINE ExCom. Upon ExCom approval, they will be invited to present their society at the upcoming meeting of EuSSAB. The voting and decision on the acceptance of the new members of EuSSAB will follow immediately afterwards.

Ad 4 Proposal to do a SWOT analysis amongst all members of EuSSAB

REASONS TO DO A SWOT ANALYSIS & GUIDELINES

In order to define common goals, challenges and strategies and in order to solve them as equal partners, the status quo needs to be analysed.

A SWOT analysis is a basic part of strategic planning in order to analyse:

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Opportunities
- Threats

7 simple rules for a successful swot analysis

1. Specific (ask the same questions)
2. Objective (ask the same questions)
3. Realistic
4. Use context (ask the same questions)
5. Compare with others (ask the same questions)
6. Short and simple
7. Customize to own situation and strategy



EUSSAB SWOT ANALYSIS

Suggestion for role-out:

- EUROSPINE may send questions to all members of EuSSAB, who may then make suggestions for any additions or changes, before the survey is finalised
- EuSSAB contacts will receive an invitation to participate in the survey, deadline for completion: 31 August 2017
- EUROSPINE will analyse all data and present first results at the upcoming EuSSAB meeting in Dublin in October 2017.
- A detailed presentation will be prepared for the Spring Meeting 2018.



Decision made: EuSSAB members agreed on doing a SWOT analysis!

Ad 5 Operational Issues

COMMUNICATION & POTENTIAL FOR MUTUAL PROMOTION

- Please keep your data for the mailing list up to date and communicate any changes to Claudia Ortner, membership@eurospine.org
- EUROSPINE currently displays all EuSSAB members on their website (www.eurospine.org/eussabmembers.htm) including logos and links to the societies' websites (if known).
Please assist us in providing us with vectorised images of your logos (.eps, .pdf, .ai, .cdr) and correct URL's.
- Additionally, EUROSPINE would like to introduce society profiles for EuSSAB members, presenting quick facts, logo & picture and answers to a short interview on society history & structure, educational programmes, society's future aims and more.
- Furthermore, EUROSPINE offers to display your events in their new online events calendar (www.eurospine.org/activities-calendar.htm).
The meetings are of particular interest to neurosurgeons, orthopaedic and trauma surgeons practising in the field of spinal surgery alike, and also to researchers and other professionals dedicated to conditions of spinal pathologies.
- In return, it would be much appreciated if you could display EUROSPINE's website www.eurospine.org and logo (attached) on your national society's website in order to support our mutual promotion.

Kindly note the correct way of writing EUROSPINE:

EUROSPINE, the Spine Society of Europe (not EuroSpine or Eurospine)

correct abbreviation: **EUROSPINE** (not SSE)

Your efforts in this respect would be very appreciated. Thank you in advance!

➤ **Decision made:** Questionnaires for society profiles will be part one of the SWOT analysis!

GUIDELINES / RULES FOR FUTURE COOPERATION

A draft for rules of cooperation will be distributed before the next EuSSAB meeting in Dublin in October 2017, so the implementation of these rules can be agreed upon during that meeting.

VOTING RIGHTS & NEXT VOTINGS

Voting process

- As a rule the following applies: **1 country = 1 society = 1 representative = 1 vote**
- For countries with more than one society: **1 country = multiple societies = multiple representatives = 1 vote.**

Thus, countries with >1 society may have to **alternate voting rights**

- If multiple countries are represented within one society (i.e. Russia, Ukraine):
1 society = multiple countries = 1 representative = 1 vote

➤ **Decision made:** simple majority of votes for decisions on any EuSSAB topics.

Upcoming election on EuSSAB Vice Representative

In October 2017 the term of Johan Van Lerbeirghe as our first EuSSAB Representative will come to an end, and Christoph Josten, the current EuSSAB Vice Representative, will take over responsibility as the EuSSAB Representative.

Therefore, the EuSSAB board will have to elect a new EuSSAB Vice Representative in the course of the next EuSSAB Meeting.

➤ A call for applications for the position of the EuSSAB Vice Representative will be distributed shortly.

Ad 6 Wrap-up & Actions

Agenda for EUROSPINE EuSSAB Meeting, Dublin 2017

1. EuSSAB update (JvL/CS 10')
 - Feedback from 1st EuSSAB Representative JvL on his term
 - Feedback from EuSSAB spring meeting
2. Update on Education as core topic for EuSSAB (Bernhard Meyer 30')
 - Latest developments in EUROSPINE's education approach (a.o. diploma equivalence)
 - Q&A and open discussion of core issues
3. SWOT Analysis and way forward (JvL 45')
 - Results of Analysis done by all EuSSAB members
 - Short overview of EUROSPINE's core activities that EuSSAB members could benefit from
 - Conclusions for way forward – major future focus of EuSSAB beyond Education
4. Votes / elections and decisions to be made (CS/JvL) 30'
 - Election of new EuSSAB Vice Representative
 - Final vote on rules of cooperation
 - New Institutional Membership Applications:
 - Israel Spine Society
 - Croatian Vertebrologic Society
5. Core agenda points for full day EuSSAB meeting in spring 2018 (5')

It was agreed that the next meeting should take place during the upcoming EUROSPINE annual meeting in Dublin, EUROSPINE 2017, on Thursday, 12 October 2017 from 08:00—10:00.

A formal invitation including further details and the agenda will be sent soon.



Christoph Siepe

Annex

Presentation - EUROSPINE EuSSAB meeting Munich – presentation (C Siepe)

http://www.eurospine.org/cm_data/20170623_EuSSAB_Presentation_Spring_Meeting_Munich.pdf