

EUROSPINE’s EuSSAB Meeting 2018 – Protocol

EUROSPINE 2018, Barcelona, Spain

Barcelona, Spain, Thursday, 20 September 2018, 8:30 – 10:30

Chair:

Christoph Siepe (CS)
Co-Chair of Stakeholder Council

Protocol:

Christoph Siepe, Claudia Ortner
Beat Leimbacher

Speakers:

Frank Kandziora (FK)
EUROSPINE President
Margareta Nordin (MN)
EUROSPINE Past President
Beat Leimbacher (BL)
EUROSPINE Delegate to the ExCom

Johan van Lerbeirghe (JvL)
EuSSAB Past Representative
Michal Božík (MB)
Representative of Slovak Spine Society

Tamar Pincus (TP)
EUROSPINE Patient Line Committee
Philipp Sell (PS)
EUROSPINE Patient Line

Claudia Ortner (CO)
EUROSPINE Membership Relations

Attendees:

First Name	Last Name	Country	Society
Johan	van Lerbeirghe	Belgium	Spine Society Belgium
Darko	Perović	Croatia	Croatian Society for Vertebrology
Rachid	Bech-Azeddine	Denmark	Danish Society of Spinal Surgery
Tom	Asklöf	Finland	Finnish Society of Spine Surgery
Jarkko	Halme	Finland	Finnish Society of Spine Surgery
Ioannis	Magras	Greece	Hellenic Spine Society
Kostantinos	Paterakis	Greece	Hellenic Spine Society
Aron	Lazary	Hungary	Hungarian Spine Society
John	Mc Cabe	Ireland	Irish Spine Society
Nachshon	Knoller	Israel	Israel Spine Society
Giuseppe	Costanzo	Italy	SICV & GIS
Andrea	Luca	Italy	SICV & GIS
Ricardo	Feller	Netherlands	Dutch Spine Society
Arnold	Vreeling	Netherlands	Dutch Spine Society
Roger	Trana	Norway	Norwegian Spinal Surgeon Society

Manuel	Tavares de Matos	Portugal	Sociedade Portuguesa de Patologia da Coluna Vertebral
Eugen Cezar	Popescu	Romania	Societatea Medicala Romana de Chirurgie Spinala
Artem	Gushcha	Russia	Association of Spinal Surgeons of Russia
Michal	Božík	Slovakia	Slovak Spine Society
Matevž	Topolovec	Slovenia	Spine Society of Slovenia
Máximo-Alberto	Díez Ulloa	Spain	GEER
Alfonso	Vázquez Miguez	Spain	NEURORAQUIS
Svante	Berg	Sweden	Swedish Society of Spinal Surgeons
Hans	Möller	Sweden	Swedish Society of Spinal Surgeons
Raoul	Heilbronner	Switzerland	Swiss Society of Spinal Surgery
Serdar	Kahraman	Turkey	Turkish Spine Society
Sait	Naderi	Turkey	Turkish Spine Society
Naffis	Ajarwalla	United Kingdom	Society for Back Pain Research
Patrick	Statham	United Kingdom	United Kingdom Spine Societies Board

Agenda – Main Topics

1. Welcome / Meeting Goals / Intro Participants (ALL)
2. Update from the EuSSAB Spring meeting, April 2018, SWOT analysis (JvL)
3. Further leverage / how to benefit from EUROSPINE activities (FK, BL, MN, TP, PS)
4. Votes / elections and decisions to be made (CS, MB))
5. Operational Issues (CO, CS)
6. Core agenda points for full day EuSSAB meeting in spring 2019 (CS)

Topic 2 - Update from the EuSSAB Spring meeting, April 2018, SWOT analysis (JvL)

As already presented in the past meetings we had a 100% response rate for the EuSSAB SWOT Analysis in 2017/2018.

Individual SWOT grids were prepared for each society in order to summarise the answers to the survey and to give a clear picture about strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of each society.

The individual grids as well as the overall EuSSAB grid were given to the participants of the meeting in Munich and are available for review.

These grids can help to benchmark and exchange, learn from each other and set up common strategies.

Opportunities and Threats were further analysed and an example of acting as one united force was presented.

[Please refer to the presentation for further details.](#)

Topic 3 - Further leverage / how to benefit from EUROSPINE activities

3.1. Certification of Spine Centres (FK)

EUROSPINE's mission is to optimize patient care

The Task Force EUROSPINE Surgical Spine Centre of Excellence (SSCoE) has developed a European certification process for surgical spine centres.

The Task Force represents a collaboration between the German Spine Society (DWG), EUROSPINE and the EUROSPINE Foundation (ESF).

The initial step was to develop internal rules, guidelines and criteria to be used as a basis for an independent certification system.

For this European exercise, a Delphi process has been implemented to build consensus on the internal rules, guidelines and criteria.

The guidelines for the definition of quality criteria cover various sub-categories:

- Characteristics of equipment, diagnostic/therapeutic/interdisciplinary facilities
- Staff and staff qualification
- On-call duty and possibility to perform emergency surgery
- Outpatient clinic, consultation hours for spine pathologies
- Quality management
- Accreditation for a surgical training program (Neuro/ Ortho/ Trauma)
- Research and teaching, advanced training and further education
- Frequency and complexity of surgeries (min surgeries and points/pathology)

EUROSPINE evaluated various Certification Companies, before finally contracting CERTIQ (certification company) to handle the certification process.

CERTIQ is an independent, accredited, State- and Health Ministry certified (ISO- 17021 / ISO 9001, etc.) quality controlled certification company based in Fürth/Germany.

Further proceedings/ time line:

- Audits of Test Centers (October – December 2018)
 - Meeting of the TF SSCOE (18 January 2019, Frankfurt, Germany)
- ⇒ **Open the SSCOE Project to EUSSAB : 1 February 2019**

[Please refer to the presentation for further details on guidelines and the certification process.](#)

3.2. Education & Spine Tango (BL)

As both topics were discussed in detail during the past meetings, please find attached just a brief update (contact for more detailed info or any action to be initiated: Julie-Lyn Noël (noel@eurospine.org))

Achievements Education – Diploma Equivalence programme

- 212 diplomas delivered through the equivalence programme (2016-now)
- 89 diplomas delivered through the equivalence programme in 2018
- Ongoing partnership with societies in France, Germany, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Turkey
- Other professional societies involved in spine care may adapt and deliver training for the EUROSPINE Diploma, consistent with its learning outcomes.

- Strong cooperation agreements established with EANS (European Association of Neurosurgical Societies) and EFORT (European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology)

Major future goals Education: Further strengthening the alignment of education across Europe by

- Additional EuSSAB members joining the equivalence programme
- Implement a cost and learning efficient e-learning platform to offer our two EUROSPINE diplomas for an affordable price – first offering in Q3/4 2019

Spine Tango

- Major goals:
 - Further strengthen Spine Tango registry activities at the benefit of all EuSSAB members
 - Increase the number of participating countries and individual hospitals by further improving the efficiency of the data collection process and ensure the coverage of local country specific needs
- Achievements 2018:
 - The Belgium Spine Society has decided to use Spine Tango and its data collection process for building and establishing its national spine registry
 - EUROSPINE has launched a provider selection process to ensure a best practice approach for our spine registry activities in the long run which will be at the benefit for all EuSSAB members and all the hospitals interested in joining the registry (final decision in Oct 2019)

3.3. Non-surgical activities of EUROSPINE (MN)

With the surgical diploma being a true success, EUROSPINE was convinced that a non-surgical diploma would be of value for integrated care for all spine clinicians and assembled a Task Force in fall 2017

EDISC = EUROSPINE Diploma in Inter-professional Spine Care

EDISC is EPIC = Evidence-based, Patient centred, Integrated / Inter-professional and Collaborative

Conservative management of spinal disorders is rapidly evolving and moving away from an “intervention-centric” approach to a “patient-centred” approach.

EUROSPINE is leading the way globally in changing the nature of the management of spinal conditions with EDISC.

Consisting of Rheumatologists, Chiropractors, Paediatricians, Psychologists, Epidemiologists, Physiotherapists, Naprapaths, Osteopaths, Physiatrists, Geriatricians, Radiologists and Spine surgeons, the task force is truly inter-professional!

The first EDISC pilot courses will take place in the course of Education Week 2019 (1-5 July 2019, Geneva). Further plans include a complete EDISC programme with all 4 modules for Education Week 2020.

Support needed from EuSSAB

- Please provide two reviewers preferably one non surgeon and one spine surgeon of high quality
- Reviewer must review all modules and give comments in track mode on word file, all files will be accessible by Black Board
- Please send the individual’s contact to Margareta Nordin (dmn2@nyu.edu) and Julie-Lyn Noël (noel@eurospine.org) so we can make contact right after the annual meeting
- Review time will be short, 3 weeks in November 2018

- If you do not have 2 reviewers we will be happy with one reviewer. EUROSPINE membership not necessarily required.
- EDISC needs your input

[Please refer to the presentation for further details on the preliminary programme and current actions.](#)

3.4. Patient Line (TP & PS)

Patient Line is EUROSPINE's patient information platform with the aim to offer public access to the accumulated know how and expertise represented by the EUROSPINE membership. It provides up-to-date information to patients in an easy-to-understand format. It is managed and edited by a cross-disciplinary committee of experts, including clinicians, researchers and non-clinicians. The information presented is based on the most recent evidence.

Goals of Patient Line:

- provide information that represents the high ethical standards of the EUROSPINE membership.
- Information should be of high quality and it allows freedom of choice and informed decision making for patients and care givers regardless of their background.
- Continue to increase its reach to the public.
- We believe that through this platform, patients will have better satisfaction, confidence to manage their problems and ultimately to obtain better outcomes

Regardless of how well the consultation goes in terms of rapport, empathy and trust, patients only feel fully reassured when they receive clear information about aetiology, diagnosis and available interventions of their condition.

Patient Line is structured to address exactly these points.

When people are in pain, it is very hard for them to understand and take in information, recall this information at a later stage and make decisions (cannot be done during consultation)

Achievements & Goals:

- Currently available in English, Spanish, French and German.
- 2018 Translations: Dutch, Hebrew, Italian, Turkish
- Each year a further three translations will be added
- Our vision: To provide support for patients across Europe and beyond.
- 2019 Translations: Greek, Polish, Swedish
- Translation is based on the number of languages and their EUROSPINE memberships
- Any translation can also be done sooner ("jump the queue") if a national society is willing to cover the costs for translation of approx. 4,000 EUR
 - i.e. as done for Hebrew by the Israel Spine Society
 All translations have to be done by a professional translation company mandated by EUROSPINE!
- New short videos Talking Heads regarding «Before Surgery»

[Please refer to the presentation for further details.](#)

Topic 4 - Votes & Elections

4.1. Election of new EuSSAB Vice Representative (CS & all)

New incoming EuSSAB Representative

After his one year term as the EuSSAB Representative to the EUROSPINE ExCom, Christoph Josten handed over his position to Ioannis Magras, who was elected as EuSSAB Vice-Representative in October 2017.

Ioannis Magras will be the EuSSAB Representative to the EUROSPINE ExCom until the next annual meeting in October 2019.



Election of EuSSAB Vice Representative

It was agreed that the candidate with the highest votes would be elected to become the next EuSSAB Vice-Representative and thus will lead in the following year, as of the annual meeting 2019.

An application to become the next EuSSAB Vice-Representative was received from Alberto-Maximo Diez-Ulloa (Sociedad Espanola de Columna Vertebral – GEER)

➤ Maximo-Alberto Diez-Ulloa was unanimously confirmed as the next EuSSAB Vice-Representative.



Congratulations and a sincere appreciation from EuSSAB and EUROSPINE for the tremendous support over the last four years!

4.2. New Institutional Membership Applications (CS & MB)

Applications to join EuSSAB were received from an additional two societies. Based on the 2-step application process, all societies are required to apply for a EUROSPINE Institutional Membership first.

- Slovak Spine Society – [please refer to the presentation for further details](#)
 - Ratified by EUROSPINE ExCom
 - Full vote at the EuSSAB meeting, no objection
- Asociación Española de Quiropráctica (AEQ) – [please refer to the presentation for further details](#)
 - Not ratified by EUROSPINE ExCom, therefore not eligible to join EuSSAB

Congratulations to the Slovak Spine Society for successfully joining EUROSPINE's EuSSAB!

Topic 5 - Operational Issues

5.1. Update on society profiles on EUROSPINE website (CO)

A new layout of the EuSSAB society profiles has been implemented on EUROSPINE's website.

Please visit our website and check the profile of your society: www.eurospine.org/eussabmembers.htm
The content and the graphics shown in your society's profile really depend on the input we receive from you. It is in your interest to keep this information up to date!
For any updates and requests for changes, please contact Claudia Ortner, EUROSPINE Membership Relations Manager by email to membership@eurospine.org

5.2. EuSSAB presentation at EUROSPINE 2018 – EUROSPINE's Time Capsule (CO)

Thanks to the great support of our EuSSAB members, an impressive presentation of the entire project since its beginnings in October 2014, was part of EUROSPINE's Time Capsule at our annual meeting, EUROSPINE 2018 in Barcelona. Please visit the meeting website and [check our picture gallery](#).

5.3. EUROSPINE Ambassador Programme (CO)

EUROSPINE introduced a new programme to increase active member involvement, create awareness for our meetings and activities, attract more people to attend especially the annual meeting, and foster collaboration within the EUROSPINE family.

Optional support from EuSSAB could help to find members who are well integrated in both EUROSPINE and their national societies.

[Please refer to the presentation for further details on the EUROSPINE Ambassador Programme.](#)

5.4. EuSSAB Council (CS)

The EUROSPINE Executive Committee made the decision to take out EuSSAB from the Stakeholder Council and establish a separate EuSSAB Council instead.
This automatically created a new ExCom position for the EuSSAB Council.

Rationale for proposal: EuSSAB has such a high importance for EUROSPINE's way forward that the actual set up must be further strengthened at the benefit of all parties involved.

[Please refer to the presentation for further details.](#)

Topic 6 - Core agenda points for full day EuSSAB meeting in spring 2019

To be distributed shortly

Christoph Siepe
Co-Chair EUROSPINE Stakeholder Council

Appendix

<p>EuSSAB annual meeting, Barcelona 2018 (C Siepe, F Kandziora, M Nordin, B Leimbacher, T Pincus, P Sell) view / download presentation</p>
<p>Update – EuSSAB Spring meeting, SWOT analysis (J van Lerbeirghe) view / download presentation</p>
<p>Slovak Spine Society (M Božík) view / download presentation</p>
<p>EUROSPINE & EUROSPINE's EuSSAB logos view / download – EUROSPINE logo view / download – EuSSAB logo</p>
<p>EUROSPINE EuSSAB map – September 2018 view / download map</p>
<p>EuSSAB society profiles on www.eurospine.org view the society profiles</p>



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