

# Final Proposal for the Governance Structure of the European Sepsis Alliance (ESA)

## ESA Congress

The ESA Congress consists of one representative from each of the European GSA member organizations.

The role of the ESA Congress is to approve the establishment of further ESA Working Groups, and to nominate and elect the members of the ESA Steering Committee.

## ESA Working Groups

Following the recommendation of the GSA, the ESA started to establish three core working groups:

- **Policy and Stakeholder Engagement**
- **Patient Support and Advocacy**
- **Research**

The immediate establishment of these working groups will need to be approved retrospectively by the ESA Congress, but their establishment was so fundamental to the rapid progress of the ESA that the GSA leadership believed this to be of immediate importance.

The working groups should invite representation by individuals and representatives of organizations that are not members of the GSA, where skills add value. Each working group should elect a coordinator and deputy coordinator. The coordinator will also be a member of the ESA Congress and the ESA Steering Committee.

## ESA Steering Committee

The steering committee shall comprise 12 members, at least one representing each of the four European regions – northern, western, southern, and eastern. Given the important work of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), the Chair of the SIS-Section of ESICM

will be a member of the ESA Steering Committee for the first election period, in addition to the 12 regular members.

At least two members of this steering committee should be representatives of patient's advocacy organizations or persons personally affected by sepsis. The ESA Steering Committee may elect a chair and a deputy chair to coordinate the work of the ESA.

### **ESA Administrative and Financial Support**

Under the provision of adequate external funding to this project, the GSA, via its head office, will assign a dedicated project coordinator to support the establishment and the work of the ESA. Dependent upon approval of the GSA Board, the GSA will also assign 50% of income from the European GSA member organizations to the work of the ESA.

### **Elections – July/August 2019**

Each member of the ESA Congress may nominate up to one person for the ESA Steering Committee. That person may be another ESA Congress member, an external individual, or him- or herself.

The election for the ESA Steering Committee will take place as an online vote, each congress member will have a total of 9 votes (12 steering committee members minus the 3 coordinators of the working groups), with exactly one vote per candidate.

Elections shall be held every three years, and every two years for the first two election periods.

Besides regional representation as described above, we strive to have a diverse representation of genders, ethnicities, race, religion, political beliefs, education, socioeconomic backgrounds, disabilities, and sexual orientation in the ESA Steering Committee.

### **Timeline for the First ESA Elections**

July 4 <sup>th</sup> to July 25 <sup>th</sup>	Nominations for ESA Steering Committee
July 30 <sup>th</sup> to Aug 9 <sup>th</sup>	Online Election for ESA Steering Committee
Aug 19 <sup>th</sup> to Sep 6 <sup>th</sup>	First Meeting of the ESA Steering Committee