

2022

Activity Report

ESC COUNCIL ON STROKE

FISCAL YEAR 2022 (APRIL 2021 – MARCH 2022)



Chairperson's Introduction



Prof. Jan Kovac, FESC

Chairperson of the Council on Stroke 2020-2022

Stroke remains one of the two frequently fatal cardiovascular diseases and leading cause of invalidity. Despite significant progress in prevention and treatment of stroke in recent years mortality and morbidity of stroke remained extremely high. Contrary to rapid advances in the field of cardiac therapies, stroke remains significantly undertreated with evidence-based therapies underprovided in many countries in Europe and around the world.

Since its foundation in 2016, membership has grown to more than 2500 physicians, scientists, nurses, technicians and other health professionals from all cardiology specialities (and other specialities), who share an interest in all clinical and pathophysiological aspects of stroke and the interaction of the heart and the brain. An outstanding feature of the Council is its true interdisciplinary concept to reach out to all other specialties involved in stroke care. Therefore, the nucleus as well as the board includes scientists and clinicians from neurology, neuroradiology, vascular surgery, general cardiology, internal medicine, preventive medicine, physiotherapy and others. Despite setbacks with Covid, we managed to accomplish successful online Heart and Brain Conference in June 21. We are very pleased with interest generated among the young generation of specialists, as they will be delivering stroke therapies in the years to come and will also well reflect on dramatic changes in societies with demography, digitalisation as well as economic challenges in post pandemic era.

A wide range of academic activities are included in the programme of the Council such as webinars, position papers, the ESC cardiovascular round table on stroke, joint sessions within the ESC and with partnering societies and the initiative to form a network with national heart & stroke groups and initiatives across Europe and beyond.

Highlights from 2021-2022

→ Counts **2500 members** from multiple disciplines

→ Fourth **Heart & Stroke conference** delivered online

→ **Three webinars** developed

→ Active in the development of **Scientific Documents**

Council on Stroke Nucleus 2020-2022



Jan Kovac
Chairperson



Alison Halliday
Chairperson-Elect



Wolfram Doehner
Past Chairperson



Gregory Lip
Secretary



Milos Taborsky
Treasurer



Renate Schnabel
National Contacts Coordinator



Robert Hatala
*Education & Scientific
Programme Coordinator*



Sandor Nardai
*Communications & Young
Community Coordinator*

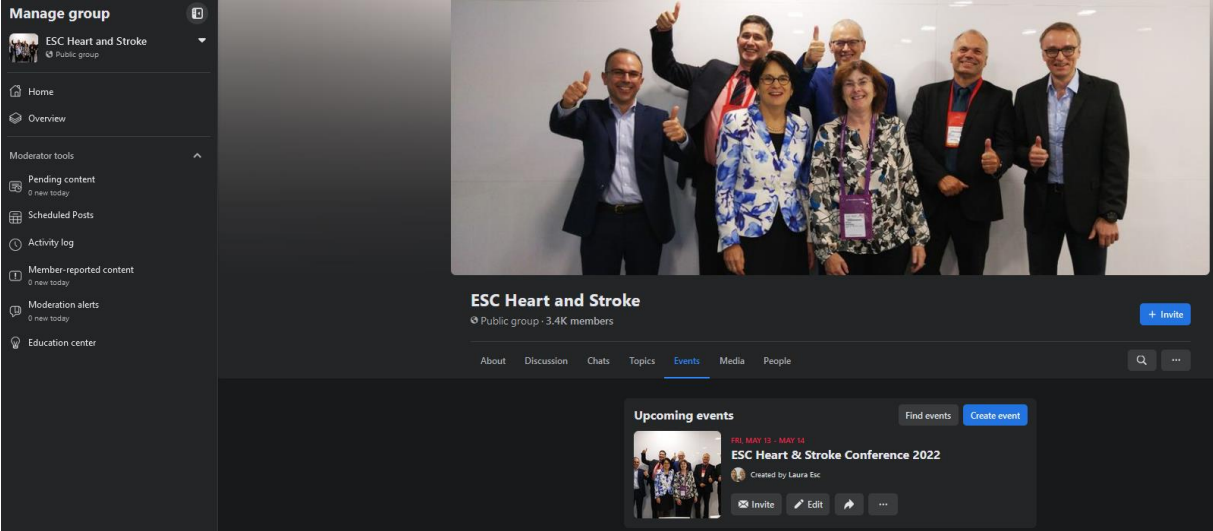


Christophe Cognard
Liaison Officer

Membership

In March 2021, the Council on Stroke counted over 2500 members. It is composed of multidisciplinary physicians and specialists including neurologists, vascular specialists, neurosurgeons, radiologists and interventional cardiologists.

The Council continues to reach out to a wider audience via the Heart & Stroke Facebook Group and has dedicated hashtags on Twitter #ESCStroke, #ESCHeartandStroke



Joint Sessions

In 2021-2022, the Council participated in a joint session with the Russian Society for Prevention of Noncommunicable Diseases at [Russia Prevent Neurology](#).

The Council participated in a joint session at the [Heart Failure Online Congress 2021](#).

The Council also participated in the ESC Congress 2021 scientific programme including a [joint session with the European Stroke Organisation](#). This was reciprocated with joint sessions at the ESOC (European Stroke Organisation Congress) in 2021.

Education

Heart & Stroke Conference

In June 2021, the Council delivered a successful [Heart & Stroke online Conference](#). A total of 219 participants, representing a total of 51 countries, took part in the conference.

The event was endorsed by ESO and EAN. The conference was accredited by EACCME[®] with 8 European CME credits.

This event was the fourth international Conference of the ESC Council on Stroke.

The screenshot shows a live virtual hall interface. At the top, it says "Live from Virtual Hall" and "Back to hall list". Below this, the date and time are "04.06.2021 - Friday 18:40 - 18:55". The main title is "Session 8: Final summary, award ceremony and conclusion of the conference" with chairs "Wolfram Doehner, Jan Kovac, Alison Halliday". Below that, it says "1 Poster award ceremony" with speakers "Wolfram Doehner, Jan Kovac, Alison Halliday". The main content area shows a slide titled "ESC HEART & STROKE 2021" with a sub-heading "Poster award ceremony" and a video feed of a man in a blue shirt. The ESC Council Stroke logo is visible in the bottom right of the slide. At the bottom of the interface, there are buttons for "Fullscreen", "Rate", "Questions", "Discussions", and "Ask a question".

Scientific Documents

In 2021/2022 the Council on Stroke Scientific Documents Committee initiated four position papers, partly in collaboration with other Councils, Working Groups and Associations of the ESC and with partners outside of the ESC.

- Integrated care management for optimizing heart disease and stroke.
- Stroke risk management in atherosclerotic carotid disease: From identification of subjects at risk, through pharmacotherapy, to interventions in collaboration with European Society of Vascular Surgery (ESVS) and the European Stroke Organization (ESO)
- Interaction of Heart Failure and Stroke: A Position Paper of the Heart Failure Association of the European Society of Cardiology and ESC Council on Stroke and the ESC Working Group on Thrombosis

Members of the Council also actively contribute to ESC Guidelines, as task force members and reviewers

- We also published inaugural multidisciplinary position statement on Mechanical Thrombectomy in European Heart Journal 2021, Training Requirements for Interventional Cardiologists to become Proficient in Endovascular Stroke Treatment – Mechanical Thrombectomy. Position Paper of the European Society of Cardiology, prepared by the ESC Council on Stroke and the European Association for Percutaneous Cardiovascular Interventions with the support of the European Board for Neurointerventions

Interviews

In 2020-2021, the Council on Stroke started a [series of interviews with the World Stroke Organisation](#):

- [Heart & Brain, what's next?](#) – October 2022
- [The role of the cardiologist of the stroke unit](#) – July 2021



Webinars

In 2021-2022, the Council developed the following webinars:

Date	Title	Presenters	Host	Attendees
June 2021	Cardiac monitoring after ischaemic stroke: evidence and clinical practice	J. Dawson R. Wachter	G. Boriani	487
November 2021	Cognition and atrial fibrillation: a neglected association?	H. Diener G. Lip	R. Hatala	420
January 2022	The acceleration in digital healthcare: challenges and barriers	E. Svennberg D. Richter	I. van Gelder	300

ESC Council Cardiology Practice ESC Council Stroke

WEBINAR
18 January 2022

The acceleration in digital healthcare:
challenges and barriers

This programme is supported by BAYER in the form of an educational grant. The scientific programme has not been influenced in any way by its sponsor.

Research

STEEER-AF

The Council on Stroke is one of the contributing groups in the Educational programme / interventional study on stroke prevention and rhythm control ([STEEER-AF](#)). Stroke prevention and rhythm control Therapy: Evaluation of an Educational Programme of the European Society of Cardiology in a cluster-Randomised trial in patients with Atrial Fibrillation. (STEEER-AF)

Advocacy

The Council formed strategic collaborations with international societies and with partners from several national cardiac societies to build a network towards interdisciplinary Heart & Stroke medicine. The Council has established very good relationships with ESO (European Stroke Organisation), WSO(World Stroke Organisation), EAVS (European Association of Vascular Surgery), ESMINT (European Society of Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy), EAN (European Academy of Neurology), EANS (European Association of Neurosurgical Societies) and various associations and groups within the ESC.

The Board of the Council includes representatives from other ESC Constituent Bodies and external societies (stroke, neurological, neurosurgical, vascular surgical, neuroradiological).

The Council contributes to ESC Advocacy Committee initiatives.