



## **EHRA ADVOCACY AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (AQIC)**

### **1. Mission**

The mission of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) is to improve the quality of life and reduce sudden cardiac death by limiting the impact of heart rhythm disturbances. To this end, the heart rhythm professionals need to interact with decision-makers in healthcare, other medical and professional associations, industry partners, and patient advocacy organisations, in order to provide expert advice and support and promote optimal health care policies and standards. Furthermore, the profession needs to promote the implementation of quality improvement initiatives keeping the focus on the patient, to address gaps and disparities in practice, improve outcomes of care and encourage communication, coordination and collaboration between all professionals treating patients with heart rhythm disorders.

The overarching goal of EHRA's Advocacy and Quality Improvement committee (AQIC) is to provide a platform to implement and coordinate these activities to ultimately serve the mission of the EHRA "to improve the quality of life and reduce sudden cardiac death".

### **2. Objectives**

#### **2.1. Advocacy**

- a) To represent EHRA and its goals in all ESC advocacy-related matters (including the ESC Advocacy Committee)
- b) To develop networks and promote communication, coordination and collaboration in the field of advocacy, health policy, quality of care with other societies with similar goals to EHRA
- c) To support the ESC Committee, on its wish to promote the recognition of the ESC and its constituent bodies toward the European Union (EU) and, in particular, the EU Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety
- d) To improve the access to orphan drugs and address gaps and disparities across the EHRA member states



- e) To guarantee access to heart rhythm-related medical devices and address gaps and disparities across the EHRA member states
- f) To promote the development of a standardised nomenclature and interoperability of cardiac implantable electronic devices (CIED) (i.e. development of a common remote monitoring platform for all vendors)
- g) To promote the support of system-based initiatives to reduce the burden of Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) by interacting with European and National policy makers (i.e. promote activities and funding to support research, education and health policies)
- h) To promote the support of system-based initiatives to reduce the burden of Atrial Fibrillation (AF) by interacting with European and National policy makers (i.e. promote activities and funding to support research, education and health policies).
- i) To align with EHRA's patient committee to strengthen the communication, coordination and collaboration with patient advocacy associations to raise awareness regarding the AQIC's mission (in the face of regulators, industry partners and society).

## 2.2. Quality improvement

- a) To represent EHRA and its goals in all ESC quality-related matters (including the ESC Quality of Care Section, the ESC Quality Indicators, and others)
- b) To define standardised key quality indicators for each heart rhythm disturbance (using systematic methodology and aiming at common indicators/tools for simplicity and actionability)
- c) To disseminate the use of the standardised quality indicators among the heart rhythm community to allow benchmarking
- d) To promote anonymous reporting of structure, process and outcome quality indicators by country to identify gaps in care practice
- e) In the long-term, to create a common platform for the prospective, systematic collection of quality indicators at the EU level (e.g. liaise with the ESC's EuroHeart Project)
- f) To facilitate the collection of patients reported outcome measures (PROMs) in routine clinical practice
- g) To facilitate the collection of patients reported outcome measures (PROMs) in routine clinical practice
- j) To promote patient safety by offering recommendations to the EU and national authorities, manufacturers, physicians and patients about cardiac rhythm device safety including device



performance, surveillance, data analysis, device malfunctions, and therapy advisories together with the ESC Advocacy and Regulatory Affairs Committees

### **3. Job descriptions**

#### **3.1. Chair's job description (estimated time commitment: 2 hours/week)**

- a) Sits at the EHRA full Board, reports decision from the Board and feeds back information from the Committee
- b) Promotes EHRA activities and EHRA membership
- c) Represents EHRA and its goals in all ESC advocacy and quality-related matters
- d) Provides leadership to the EHRA AQIC members to define objectives, delegate tasks and to motivate collaborative efforts with creative thinking
- e) Establishes annual objectives, work plans, timelines
- f) Communicates expectations regarding Committee members' input and monitors their performance
- g) Monitors activities, including quality, deadlines and budget and is accountable for results
- h) Schedules, chairs, and prepares agendas of Committee meetings (in person and by web/phone conference).
- i) Prepares reports and presentations for the EHRA Executive Board and addresses all its requests about other EHRA activities
- k) Promotes collaboration with other EHRA committees and coordinators
- l) Reviews minutes and approves final work products and formal communication
- j) Responds to email notifications and solicitations in a timely manner
- k) Maintains confidentiality as appropriate

#### **4. Co-chair's job description (estimated time commitment: 1,5 hours/week)**

- a) Reports to the Chair
  - b) Replaces the Chair at EHRA Board and any other Committee meetings if needed



- c) Assists the Chair to define the EHRA AQIC objectives in line with EHRA and ESC's strategic plans
- d) Makes recommendations on work processes and volunteer assignments
- e) Handles other duties as assigned by the Chair
- f) Responds to email notifications and solicitations in a timely manner
- g) Maintains confidentiality as appropriate

**5. Committee member's job description (estimated time commitment: 1 hour/week)**

- a) Works collaboratively with the Chairman and the ESC/EHRA staff to achieve the Committee's goals and objectives
- b) Participates actively and constructively in all EHRA AQIC meetings (in-person or by web/phone conference), including contributing to Committee deliberations by being familiar with distributed materials and all Committee activities
- c) Delivers assigned tasks within the predefined timelines
- d) Maintains the confidentiality of deliberations and materials
- e) Contributes to the timely completion of AQIC products and deliverables, including meeting ESC/EHRA staff and Committee deadlines
- f) Volunteers for special assignments or tasks when able to
- g) Participates in discussions, meetings/calls and/or voting as appropriate
- h) Responds to email notifications and solicitations in a timely manner

*If absent from 2 consecutive Committee meetings, without any prior notice, the member needs to report to the Chair whether to remain or leave the Committee related to time constraints.*