



EP Working Group of the Moment: a joint initiative between the EHRA National Cardiac Societies Committee, the EHRA Young EP Committee and the EHRA E-Communications Committee

Presentation of the Working Group on Electrophysiology of the Serbian Cardiology Society



Cardiology Society of Serbia: <http://uksrb.rs/>

There are three separate Working Groups on heart rhythm disorders within the Serbian Cardiology Society.

1. Working Group on Electrophysiology

- President of the WG on EP 2017-2019: **Dr Dejan Kojić** (*Dedinje, Cardiovascular Institute, Belgrade*)
- President of the WG on EP 2019-2021: **Dr Aleksandar Kocijančić** (*Clinical Centre of Serbia, Belgrade*)

2. Working Group on pacing and cardiac resynchronization therapy

3. Working Group on cardiac arrhythmias

Demographic Data

The current population of Serbia: 7 million.

Healthcare system: National Health System with public medical insurance for all.

Data from the EHRA White Book 2017 (2013-2016):

year	Catheter ablations per million inhabitants	AF ablations per million inhabitants
2013	144	21
2014	145	33
2015	147	42
2016	144	47
2018	197	69





National EP Strategy

In 2017, the EPWG of the Cardiology Society of Serbia announced its **Strategy for development of EP in Serbia 2018-2023**, according to the following main goals:

- Increasing the number of EP Centers (goal is 7 EP centers),
- Increasing the number of catheter ablations (goal is 250-300 ablations per million),
- Education of young electrophysiologists,
- Better integration and representation within EHRA,
- Organization of National EP Congress and educational courses in the field of EP
- Scientific EP programmes

Data from 2019:

Cardiologists (Members of the CSS)	1150
EP Centers/EP Labs	5/5
<i>Independent EP Centers</i>	3
<i>Dependent EP Centers</i>	2
Experienced interventional electrophysiologists	8
Electrophysiologists with EHRA certification/exam	4
EP Trainees	10
Catheter ablations (2018)	1380 (197 per million inhabitants)
AF ablations (2018)	480 (69 per million inhabitants)
VT (SHD) ablations (2018)	45
Pacing Centers	19
Pacing specialists/Implanting physicians	57/49

National EP Congress

In June 2019, the EPWG of the Cardiology Society of Serbia organized its **First Conference (EP Serbia 2019)** – a regional EP meeting, with respectable international faculty, EHRA Joint Session, and significant EHRA support.

There is an intention for the National EP Congress to become a biannual meeting.

Certification

There is no National certification programme for interventional electrophysiology.

However, EHRA certification is recommended, but not compulsory.



4 Electrophysiologists have passed the EHRA Certification.

Good Serbian representation within EHRA!

Throughout the last years, collaboration with EHRA has strengthened.

- EHRA Members: **8**
 - EHRA Committee Members: **3**
1. Scientific Initiatives Committee Chair: Doc dr Tatjana Potpara



2. National Cardiac Societies Committee Member: Dr Dejan Kojić



3. Young EP Ambassador: Dr Bratislav Kirćanski





Future Directions

In the next few years we expect significant improvement in the number of ablations per million as new EP centers become independent.

The most important issues at this time, besides setting up new EP Centers and increasing the number of ablations will be:

1. ***Education of young electrophysiologists***

- Developing the basic training courses in experienced centres in Serbia for EP fellows.

2. ***Improving the cooperation with EHRA***

- Improving the EHRA membership in Serbia,
- Increasing number of EHRA Certified Physicians,
- Participation in EHRA endorsed courses,
- Participation in EHRA Observerships,
- Scientific programmes

