Constitution and Rules for Management

BYLAW 3: Committees & Study Groups

Following the creation of the Heart Failure Association (HFA) of the ESC several innovations have been introduced, one of which being the decision to develop HFA-activities bottom-up, through the formation of Committees and Study Groups.

For General and Specific Rules see Article 7: HFA Committees or Study Groups of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management:
A. ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEES

1. The Nominating Committee (June 17, 2008 – June 16, 2009)
   - Kenneth Dickstein (immediate Past-President)
   - Dirk Brutsaert (Past-President 1)
   - Helmut Drexler (Past-President 2)
   - John McMurray (HFA President, ex-officio)
   - José López-Sendón (councillor)
   - Stephane Hatem (councillor)
   - Ulf Dahlström (councillor)

2. The Executive Committee
   - John McMurray (HFA President)
   - Kenneth Dickstein (immediate Past-President)
   - Piotr Ponikowski (President-Elect)
   - Gerasimos Filippatos (Chairman Clinical Section)
   - Ajay Shah (Chairman Basic Science Section)
   - Stefan Anker (Treasurer)
   - Tiny Jaarsma (Secretary)

3. The Annual Congress Scientific Committee (see Bylaw 1)
4. The HFA Winter Meeting Organization Committee

Mission Statement

To organize the annual “HFA Winter Meeting on Basic Science in Heart Failure”, in collaboration with relevant ESC Working Groups such as
- WG on Cellular Biology of the Heart
- WG on Myocardial Function
- WG on Cardiac Cellular Electrophysiology
- WG on Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Drug Therapy
- ESC Council for Basic Cardiovascular Science

Structure (to be renewed)

- G Hasenfuss (Coordinator - Board member)
- AM Shah (Co-Coordinator, Board member)
- J-L Balligand
- H Drexler
- Barbara Casadei (Italy co-chair of WG Cellular Electrophysiology)
- W van Gilst (Board member & liaison with WG Cardiovasc Pharmacology)
- Guido Tarone (Italy)
- P Doevendans (WG Cellular Biology)
- K Sipido (Basic Science Council and other WGs)
- J McMurray (President HFA; ex-officio)

The composition of the committee should be reviewed at least biannually. It should normally comprise at least 50% HFA Board members while representation of other WGs may vary depending upon the annual topics of the Congress. A regular turnover of the committee (eg, 2-3 members every 2 years) is desirable.

Objectives:
The primary purpose of the Committee is to organize an annual winter congress that brings together the best European scientists working on basic and translational science in the field of heart failure in order to facilitate active interactions, exchange of ideas and the development of strong collaborative networks to raise the competitiveness and profile of European efforts in this area. The Congress should be a high quality meeting comprising a single session (no concurrent sessions) with a very high proportion of active participants but also encouraging the active involvement of more junior investigators. There should be a keen awareness of the importance of translational research relevant to human heart failure in designing the programme. A strong focus on encouragement of informal discussions and interactions (“Gordon conference- format”) is envisaged.

Budget
See HFA Budgetplan.

Circulation of information
Information relating to the meeting both prior to and during the meeting will be circulated in accordance with well-established procedures for the HFA Annual Congress. A booklet of Meeting presentations (abstracts) will be produced for participants but publication will not normally be considered in order to preserve the open and interactive nature of this meeting.
B. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

1. The Committee on Patient Care

Mission statement:

*The committee on patient care aims to improve the organization and content of multidisciplinary clinical care throughout the patient’s journey, focusing on patient well-being, reducing morbidity and prolonging survival.*

Structure:

Members: Tiny Jaarsma (coordinator), Anna Strömberg, Inger Ekman, Theresa McDonagh, Ulf Dahlström, Mitja Lainscak, Andrew Clark, Beatrice Gonzalez, Mary Ryder, Petar Seferovic, John McMurray (ex-officio)

Membership: Institutions with an out-patient, heart failure management program are eligible for membership (nurse and physician represent primary contact).

Objectives:

To facilitate and encourage multidisciplinary heart failure care in Europe. We aim to achieve this by:

• Education: Educational meetings and development of curricula.
• Publications relating to delivery of heart failure care.
• Facilitating research.
• Resource for patient care.

Budget

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.

2. The HFA & Industry Committee

Mission statement:

*To use the combined expertise and resources of the HFA and Industry to improve heart failure care through awareness, education, and research among the public, patients and their healthcare providers and decision makers.*

Structure:


Industry representatives: L. Cloarec-Blanchard (Servier International), B.W. Karlson (AstraZeneca), J. Creeden (coordinator), K. Mageean (4D Communications), C. Westerteicher (Philips), N. Uwents (Boston Scientific), A. De Rosa (Medtronic International)

A. Hoes (professor of Clinical Epidemiology & General Practice)

Key Objectives:

a. Establish an effective Partnership between HFA and the Industry.
b. Identify key barriers for the detection, diagnosis and optimal management of heart failure.
c. Develop strategies & programmes to overcome key barriers.
d. Promote ESC Guideline implementation.
e. Promote heart failure research & development in Europe.
Industry Forum

- Abbott International
- Acorn Cardiovascular Inc.
- Amgen
- AstraZeneca
- Guidant Europe
- Philips
- Amgen
- Medtronic Europe
- Medtronic International
- Roche Diagnostics
- Menarini International
- Roche Pharmaceuticals
- Bayer Healthcare AG
- Merck & Co.
- Sanofi-Aventis
- Berlin Chemie Menarini
- Merck KGaA
- Servier International
- Biosite
- Bristol Myers Squibb
- Sankyo Pharma GmbH
- Novartis Pharma AG
- Siemens
- Biotronik GmbH & Co. KG
- Orion Pharma
- Sorin Group
- CV Therapeutics Europe Ltd
- Orgis International GmbH
- St Jude Medical
- 4D Communications
- Otsuka
- Takeda Pharmaceutical
- GE Healthcare
- Pfizer
- Vifor International
- Johnson & Johnson
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Boehringer Ingelheim GmbH
- Leo Pharma
- Boston Scientific
- CardioDynamics Medis
- PDL Biopharma

Budget

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.

3. The Committee on National Heart Failure Societies

Mission statement:

"Create a European network of national heart failure societies or working groups in order to improve the management of patients with heart failure."

Structure:

BOARD MEMBERS:
- Ulf Dahlström, Sweden (coordinator)
- Piotr Ponikowski, Poland
- Petar Seferovic, Serbia
- Dirk Brutsaert, Belgium (sui generis)
- John McMurray, UK (ex-officio)

NON BOARD MEMBERS:
- Maria Crespo, Spain
- Suzanna Hardman, UK
- Andrea Di Lenarda, Italy
- Stefan Stoerk, Germany
- Jeannoel Trochu, France

Objectives:

- Collect information from the National Heart Failure Organizations.
• Facilitate development of National Heart Failure Organizations by sharing the experiences of other heart failure organizations.
• Facilitate the implementation of clinical trials, registries and surveys in Heart Failure.
• Promote the implementation of guidelines.
• Create a clinical research network within interested countries in order to stimulate clinical research collaboration.
• To create a European Network on Surveys and Registries with the following aims:
  - agree on a limited number of patient characteristics to be recommended and included in any local heart failure registry
  - integrate existing European heart failure registries into a European-wide cumulative registry
  - design and initiate implementation of a prospective European Heart Failure Registry

Budget

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.

4. The Committee on Education

Mission statement:

To facilitate the delivery of the mission of the HFA of the ESC by organising and encouraging education about heart failure amongst professionals, patients and society.

Constitution

1. The Education Committee is a standing institution of the Board of the HFA of the ESC, and as such is bound by the constitution and rules for management of the HFA.
2. The Education Committee is appointed and dissolved by the Board.
3. The objectives, budget, resources and timelines for the committee’s activities are determined by the Board.
4. The Education Committee is responsible to the Board for the HFA mission, specifically to organise education and training programs.
5. The Education Committee should consist of no more than 8 to 10 members, with a minimum of three being Board members. The coordinator should be a HFA Board member. Either the Past-President, or the President, or the President-elect is an ex-officio member.
6. The Committee may be allotted an annual budget after presentation of a financial plan approved by the Board. In order to minimize overall expenses, linking meetings of Committees and Study Groups to the official HFA Board meetings is encouraged.
7. The Committee may accept external financial sponsorship on condition that the money is given in a form of an unrestricted educational grant and is transferred to the HFA (ESC) account to be used by that Committee.
8. The Committee should report at the HFA Board meeting on a regular basis and must submit a written scientific and financial report once a year to the HFA Board.
9. The Term of Office of Committee members is 2 years.
10. Committees can appoint/dissolve Task Forces for special tasks within the Committee. Such Task Forces should consist of at least one board member. Task Forces serve under the responsibility and finances of the Committee for limited missions and for a finite time.

Structure as of 2006:

Board Members: M.R.Cowie (Coordinator), K.Dickstein (Immediate Past-President), ex-officio J. McMurray (President), ex officio, D.Brutsaert, sui generis, G.Filippatos, P.Ponikowski (President-Elect)

Non-Board members: P.Jourdain, R.Hobbs, P.Mills, K.McGregor, B.Travers, C.Angermann

Wednesday, 15 July 2009

To improve quality of life and longevity, through better prevention, diagnosis and treatment of heart failure, including the establishment of networks for its management, education and research.
Objectives:

1. To make recommendations to the HFA Board on an educational strategy, and the implementation of this
2. To facilitate the implementation of the strategy, as directed by the Board
3. To facilitate or organise educational programmes, including training days
4. To facilitate the production of educational materials (books, web resources, DVD and other media)
5. To link, through the appropriate Committee, with the national societies
6. To work with the Industry Liaison Committee on educational matters
7. To keep the HFA board informed of the educational activities in progress on a regular basis.
8. To input, on behalf of the Board, to the ESC Education Committee on matters relating to heart failure

Budget

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.

5. The Committee on Heart Failure Surveys & Registries

Mission Statement

To promote surveys/registries on heart failure in ESC countries in order to improve the knowledge of the management of this disease across Europe.

Structure

BOARD MEMBERS:
Aldo Maggioni, Italy (Coordinator),
John McMurray, Glasgow, UK,
Ulf Dahlström, Linköping, SE

NON-BOARD MEMBERS:
Helmut Drexler, Hannover, DE; Markku Nieminen, Helsinki, FI;
Luigi Tavazzi, Pavia, IT; Marco Metra, Brescia, IT;
Mathias Hochadel: One statistician from the Euro Heart Surveys central structure, Anselm Gitt (ex officio): chairman of the ESC Euro Heart Surveys committee.

Objectives:

1. Determine the list of registries/surveys of interest to be implemented across ESC countries. This includes acute and chronic heart failure, in and out hospital surveys, heart failure with depressed and preserved ejection fraction, surveys in specific subsets of patients.
2. Make recommendations to the HFA Board on:
   a. Priorities.
   b. Timelines.
   c. Specific survey scientific committees.
3. Evaluate the feasibility and scientific content of survey proposals. When necessary, propose amendments to the survey coordinator(s).
4. Ensure scientific surveillance of the ongoing surveys. This includes recruitment status, analysis plan, publications and communication plans. Special attention will be paid to a comprehensive exploitation of existing databases and to a balanced representation of investigators in authorship
5. Keep the HFA board informed of the studies in progress on a quarterly basis.

Budget

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.
6. The Committee on Translational Research

Mission Statement

To promote the development, application and translation of basic science knowledge to clinically relevant questions and targets in the field of heart failure.

Membership

BOARD MEMBERS:
1. Ajay Shah (UK) – Coordinator
2. Gerd Hasenfuss (Germany)
3. Jean-Luc Balligand (Belgium)
4. Thomas Eschenhagen (Germany)
5. Walter Paulus (Netherlands)
6. Dirk Brutsaert (Belgium) (sui generis)
7. Stefan Janssens (Belgium)

NON BOARD MEMBERS:
8. Stephane Heymans (Netherlands)
9. Emilio Hirsch (Italy)
10. Godfrey Smith (UK)
11. Denise Hilfiker-Kleiner (Germany)
12. Sylvain Richard (France)

Activities

- To address important translational research topics related to heart failure (eg, stem cells, inflammation, diabetes/metabolic syndrome, gender effects) through the development of European expert groups and networks.
- To engage with relevant funders and policy makers, including the European Commission, in the development of policy and consensus statements on translational research issues.
- To catalyse and facilitate the development of Europe-wide research proposals.
- To provide input into the HFA Research Fellowships schemes
- To provide appropriate input as necessary into the development of the scientific programme for relevant HFA meetings
- To interact with other HFA Committees where appropriate.

Budget

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.
7. **The Committee on Acute Heart Failure**

**Mission Statement**

“The HFA Committee on Acute Heart Failure promotes, coordinates and overlooks study and research on the epidemiology, pathophysiology, diagnosis and management of Acute Heart Failure in order to improve patients outcomes; In order to achieve the above, the committee has recognized the importance:

- to consult with non-cardiologists involved in the management of acute heart failure (internists, intensive-care specialists, emergency medicine physicians, anesthesiologists, general physicians...).
- to build a relationship between different health-care professionals involved in the management of acute heart failure (nurses, pharmacists, hospital administrators, ...).”

**Structure**

Board Members:  Gerasimos Filippatos (coordinator), Piotr Ponikowski, Faiez Zannad, Dirk Brutsaert,

Non Board Members:  Ferenc Follath, Alexandre Mebazaa, Andrew Rhodes, J.L. Vincent, José López-Sendón, Guillaume Jondeau, Markku Nieminen, Pascal de Groote, Mihai Gheorghiade, Marco Metra

**Budget**

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.

8. **The Committee on External Affairs**

**Mission Statement**

- to promote HF research in EU funded projects.
- to interact with HF Societies outside Europe.

**Structure**

Board Members:  Gerd Hasenfuß (coordinator), Ajah Shah, Piotr Ponikowski, Stefan Anker, Dirk Brutsaert,

Non Board Members:  Roberto Ferrari, Ludwig Neyses, Philip Poole-Wilson, Gianluigi Condorelli, Jean-Luc Balligand, Helmut Drexler (ex-officio)

**Budget:**

The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.
9. The Committee on Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction

Mission Statement

The committee on “Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction” of the Heart Failure Association of the European Society of Cardiology promotes, coordinates and overlooks study and research on the pathophysiology, diagnosis and treatment of “Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction” within the Heart Failure Association of the European Society of Cardiology. “Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction” is defined in accordance to the consensus document of the Heart Failure and Echocardiography Associations of the European Society of Cardiology (Eur Heart J 2007;28:2539-50) as a condition characterized by the simultaneous presence of symptoms or signs of fluid overload, a preserved left ventricular ejection fraction and evidence of diastolic left ventricular dysfunction.

Structure

Board Members:
Walter J. Paulus (Amsterdam, NL), Coordinator
John McMurray (Glasgow, UK) – Epidemiology and Clinical Presentation
Burkert Pieske (Goettingen, GE), Dirk Brutsaert (Antwerp, BE)

Non-Board Members:
Carsten Tschöpe, Otto Smiseth, Frank Rademakers, Paolo Marino, Cesare Rusconi, Adelino Leite-Moreira, Istvan Edes, John Sanderson, Alan Fraser, Gilles De Keulenaer, Stephane Heymans, Paolo Marino, Frank Flachskampf, Guiseppe Ambrosio, Vojtech Melenovsky, Hugh McIntyre

Budget
The Committee will be financially supported by the HFA as outlined in Article 7 of the HFA Constitution and Rules for Management.