

Identification

Working Group on Pulmonary Circulation and Right Ventricular Function

Nucleus Composition

(Precise name, surname and country)

CHAIRPERSON

Prof. Stavros V. Konstantinides, FESC
Centre for Thrombosis and Haemostasis
Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz
University Medical Center Mainz
Langenbeckstrasse 1, Building 403
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VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Prof. Irene M. Lang, FESC
Professor of Vascular Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Allgemeines Krankenhaus der Stadt Wien
Währinger Gürtel 18-20
A-1090 Vienna - Austria

PAST-CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Miguel Angel Gomez-Sanchez, FESC
Cardiologia Hospital Universitario,
12 de Octubre Avda de Cordoba s/n
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NUCLEUS MEMBERS

Prof. Maurice Beghetti, FESC (CH),
Prof. Marion Delcroix (BE),
Dr. Konstantinos Dimopoulos, FESC (UK),
Prof. Nazzareno Galie (IT),
Dr. George Giannakoulas (GR), [email](#)
Prof. Meinhard Kneussl, FESC (AT),
Prof. Stephan Rosenkranz (DE),
Prof. Sekib Sokolovic, FESC (BA),

EX-OFFICIO NUCLEUS MEMBER

Prof. Nicolas Meneveau, FESC (FR),
Prof. Marc HUMBERT (FR; representing European Respiratory Society

Activities of the Working Group in 2015

Meetings

Please note: ALL scholar activities and endorsed meetings, and the links to their websites, can be found at the WG's website.

- **Two Annual WG Meetings:** One annual Nucleus meeting following by General Assembly at ESC congress; one Nucleus Strategic Meeting each January
- **Endorsement & International Steering Committee Participation:** The *World Thrombosis Day initiative*, in collaboration with the International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis – 13 October, every year: worldwide campaign with local educational events
- **Organization:** Annual *International Master's Degree in Pulmonary Vascular Diseases*, University of Bologna, Italy; 5-10 Master students each academic year
- **Organization:** Biennial *European Spring School on the Science and Practice of Venous Thromboembolism*, Sithonia, Chalkidiki, Greece, 4-10 May 2015; approx. 150 participants
- **Endorsement:** PH Next Generation meeting, London, UK, 12-14 November 2015; approx. 100 participants
- **Endorsement:** PH Congress, Bologna, Italy, 27-28 November 2015; approx. 150 participants
- **Endorsement:** International Society of Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT) 36th Annual Meeting, 27 April 2016, Washington, DC, USA; Joint ISHLT/ESC Symposium: Left, Right, and Together: The Facts and Future of Pulmonary Hypertension in Left Heart Disease
- **Endorsement:** 2nd European Conference on Neonatal and Paediatric Pulmonary Vascular Disease, Groningen, The Netherlands, 8-9 October 2015; approx. 200 participants
- **Young Investigator Awards:** A total of 4 prizes, 2 for the field of pulmonary hypertension and 2 for venous thromboembolism, are awarded each year to the best graded abstracts submitted and presented at the ESC congress. Since 2015 the awards are funded by the WG's own budget.

Papers & Guidelines

- **Writing of Guidelines and Task Force Leadership by WG:**
 - ESC Guidelines on Diagnosis and Treatment of Pulmonary Hypertension, published in 2015
- **Reviewing of other ESC Guidelines:**
 - Pericardial disease, published in 2015
 - Infective Endocarditis, published in 2015
 - Heart Failure, publication expected in spring 2016
- **Position Paper by our WG on Acute RV Failure, in Cooperation with the HFA, September 2015**
 - Submitted for publication to the *Eur J Heart Fail*

Sessions

Proposals for pre-arranged sessions at the ESC main congress

Symposium	030802	Acute pulmonary embolism: what is new two years after the ESC Guidelines?	03.08 - Acute pulmonary embolism
Case-based Symposium	030803	Tough calls in pulmonary embolism	03.08 - Acute pulmonary embolism
Symposium	030901	Pulmonary arterial hypertension in adults with congenital heart disease	03.09 - Chronic pulmonary hypertension
Symposium	030902	How to manage pulmonary hypertension in aortic valve stenosis	03.09 - Chronic pulmonary hypertension
Symposium	030903	Pitfalls in pulmonary hypertension	03.09 - Chronic pulmonary hypertension
Symposium	030904	Pulmonary hypertension in America and Europe	03.09 - Chronic pulmonary hypertension
Symposium	030905	Pulmonary hypertension: specific relevant aspects	03.09 - Chronic pulmonary hypertension
Symposium	030906	Year in review in pulmonary hypertension	03.09 - Chronic pulmonary hypertension

Symposium	031003	Acute heart failure: focus on the right ventricle	03.10 - Right ventricular function
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Please note: Status pending for all proposed sessions.

What are your perspectives for the next 2 years

List your future projects / business plan

The following activities will be organized by the WG in 2016 and 2017:

- **Two Annual WG Meetings:** One annual Nucleus meeting following by General Assembly at ESC congress; one Nucleus Strategic Meeting each January; the latter will be in a different European city each year, to be proposed by the WG Chair.
- ***Biennial European Spring School on the Science and Practice of Venous Thromboembolism;*** approx. 150 participants (the next to be organized in 2017)

Prepare your budget

The following activities will serve as main sources of INCOME for the WG in the years 2016 and 2017:

- ***Annual International Master's Degree in Pulmonary Vascular Diseases,*** University of Bologna, Italy; 5-10 Master students each academic year
- ***Biennial European Spring School on the Science and Practice of Venous Thromboembolism;*** approx. 150 participants (the next to be organized in 2017); up to 30,000 Euros per 2 years

The following activities will be FUNDED by the budget of the WG in the year 2016:

- **Young Investigator Awards:** A total of 4 prizes, 500 Euros each, 2 for the field of pulmonary hypertension and 2 for venous thromboembolism, are awarded each year to the best graded abstracts submitted and presented at the ESC congress. Since 2015 the awards are funded by the WG's own budget.
- **Research grants in pulmonary hypertension and venous thromboembolism (planned – to be confirmed):** A total of 2 grants per annum, up to 20,000 Euros each

Provide us a SWOT analysis of your Working Group

Strengths

- **Expertise of the WG is visible and renowned at the highest level; it is combined with international Leadership both in the field of Pulmonary Embolism and in Pulmonary Hypertension**
 - WG leads the task force for the ESC Pulmonary Embolism guidelines, the most frequently cited international guidelines on this topic
 - WG leads the task force for the ESC Pulmonary Hypertension guidelines, the most frequently cited international guidelines on the topic
- **Expertise of the WG expands to the fields of Thrombosis, Adult Congenital Heart Disease, and (Right) Heart Failure; creates interfaces for synergism the respective WG of the ESC as well as with the HFA**
- **WG attracts and integrates experts from multiple disciplines: Adult & Paediatric Cardiologists, Pulmonologists, Internists, Imaging Experts, Vascular Physicians, Basic Researchers, Pathophysiologists**

Weakness

- **The main weakness of the WG is its relatively small size. The Nucleus is intensifying its efforts to recruit young investigators in the WG, and most of all to motivate them to ACTIVELY participate in its activities. Emphasis is placed on benefiting from the numerous educational events of the WG for maximizing recruitment. We are pleased to confirm that the number of the WG members has been rising steadily during the past 3 years.**

Opportunities

- **The available extensive scientific networking and the efficient longstanding collaborations among the WG members will continue to provide a solid basis for conducting high-end translational research and guidelines-relevant multicentre trials in the field of both pulmonary hypertension and pulmonary embolism in the future. This will ensure the scientific leadership of the WG in the years to come. Enduring scientific leadership ensures optimal conditions for successful applications for European grants within the Horizon 2020 programme, and for exerting political influence on policy makers and other stakeholders at the European level.**

Threats

- **The main threat for our WG, and for other WGs of the ESC, is the small proportion among its members of young researchers and physicians in training. The demographics of our members need strong support at the left side of the distribution curve. As mentioned above, the Nucleus is intensifying its efforts to recruit young investigators in the WG, and most of all to motivate them to ACTIVELY participate in its activities. Emphasis is placed on benefiting from the**

numerous educational events of the WG for maximizing recruitment of next generation physicians and scientists. Young Investigator Awards are a high priority of the WG, both at the ESC congress and at the educational and networking events organized or endorsed by the WG (listed above). We are pleased to confirm that the number of the WG members has been rising steadily during the past 3 years, but the number of young members (below 36 years of age) is still relatively low.