

Standard Operating Procedure
SOP-ESO-2017-November

ESO participation in and endorsement of grant applications

1. Purpose

ESO strongly supports research in the field of diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of stroke. However, to avoid competition with its own members, ESO will on principle not participate as a partner in national or international grant applications.

The following exceptions can be made:

- Applications with the sole intention to obtain funding for the implementation of stroke services, quality improvement, infrastructure, and education (e.g., the organisation of a conference or symposium; e-learning; journal);
- Applications for the development and dissemination of guidelines related to the prevention, diagnosis, and/or treatment of cerebrovascular disease;
- Applications for the promotion or support of stroke research in general.

2. Scope

This SOP lists the participation criteria and defines the application process for an endorsement of academic, multi-national stroke research coordinated by members of ESO.

3. Prerequisites

01 – Application for endorsement of academic, multi-national stroke research coordinated by members of ESO

4. Responsibilities

The request will be evaluated by a minimum of two members of the ESO Executive Committee (ExCom) who are not involved in the application. ESO will inform the applicant of its decision within three weeks after all information relevant to the request has been received. If the application will be endorsed, the applicant will receive a support letter in pdf, signed by the ESO President and Secretary General (who may be substituted by unconflicted office bearers if necessary).

5. Procedure

a. Participation

The ExCom will decide by majority vote whether it should participate in applications. The following criteria may be used, in addition to those mentioned under item 1:

- The activity for which funding is requested will increase knowledge on cerebrovascular disease;

- The activity may be of benefit to the care for patients with cerebrovascular disease;
- The activity does not have commercial purposes and neither promotes a single proprietary product nor products from a single company;
- The activity will not compete with current ESO activities.

The ESO ExCom or Board of Directors (BoD) may also initiate and coordinate such applications.

Members of the ESO Executive Committee, Board of Directors, or any other committee may participate in grant applications on their own behalf. In the application, they may mention their role in ESO, but they should not represent themselves as acting on behalf of ESO in this regard.

ESO participation in grant applications will be reported in the ESO newsletter or in its yearly report.

b. Endorsement

ESO may endorse national or international grant applications if the following criteria have been met:

- The application should be focussed on the epidemiology, prevention, diagnosis, and/or treatment of cerebrovascular disease, or on its personal or societal consequences;
- The application should be scientifically sound and ethically correct, as judged by review of a summary undertaken by a minimum of two unconflicted members of the ExCom (or nominated by the ExCom, if unconflicted members are not available);
- The activity for which funding is requested has an international and not just national character;
- The activity for which funding is requested will be of benefit to the care for patients with cerebrovascular disease in Europe;
- The project needs to be academic and non-commercial;
- The applicant is a member of ESO.

To qualify for endorsement, the applicant will send a filled-out Endorsement Application Form (available on the ESO website) to the ESO Head Office via esoinfo@eso-stroke.org at least four weeks before the decision on endorsement is required. The synopsis included in this form should be sufficient to evaluate the above-mentioned criteria. The ESO ExCom may request additional information from the applicant.

ESO will treat the information supplied confidentially, i.e., the application form will not be distributed outside the ExCom and the ESO office. However, endorsement or refusal of endorsement may be announced publicly, if necessary supported by reasons thereof. Endorsements of successful applications will be reported on the ESO website.

6. References

None

7. Definitions

ESO – European Stroke Organisation

ExCom – Executive Committee

BoD – Board of Directors