**ESTRO National Societies Committee: Key achievements in 2020 and projects for 2021**

Dear National Societies representatives,

Dear Colleagues,

We are slowly coming to the end of a year that has been, in many ways, very challenging and at times very difficult for our community. In a context that, we all hope, will evolve positively soon, we would like to thank you all for your collaboration and wish you a safe and heartwarming end of year season.

We take this opportunity to look back and share with you the National Societies Committee’s key achievements in 2020, as well as present the next steps for 2021.

**Key achievements 2020**

* **National Societies' needs as assessed by the ESTRO National Society Committee:**

Survey held with the contribution of European National Societies to determine how ESTRO can collaborate with Radiation Oncology National Societies according to its mission and values, and to define the new roadmap to strengthen the National Societies network role in the forthcoming years. Publication in the *Green Journal* [here](https://www.thegreenjournal.com/article/S0167-8140%2820%2930717-9/fulltext)

* **National Societies Committee - ACROP collaboration:**

Every 2-3 months, the Advisory Committee in Radiation Oncology Practice (ACROP) provides the National Societies Committee with checklists related to new proposals/guidelines for suggestions and feedback. This collaboration represents a good opportunity for the National Societies Committee to be present on the scene.

* **Contribution to the ESTRO COVID-19 webpage:**

The National Societies Committee invited all National Societies to share their research initiatives and publications related to COVID-19 on the ESTRO website, under the [COVID-19 repository](https://www.estro.org/https/www-estro-org/About/Newsroom/COVID-19-and-Radiotherapy).

* **HERO COVID-19 survey:**

Validation of the HERO (Health Economics in Radiation Oncology) group survey by the Radiation Oncologists members of the National Societies Committee.

**Next steps 2021**

* **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion survey**:

The project is held by the ESTRO Young Committee in collaboration with the National Societies Committee in order to benchmark the situation of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the field of radiation oncology in Europe. The results will create a starting point and a snapshot of the situation, to evaluate what strategies could be put into place to tackle possible issues.

* **Quality indicators (QI) initiative:**

The objective of the project is to set a minimum number of quality indicators in radiation oncology that could be used by National Societies across Europe.

The project will be structured into four parts:

* First a review paper summarising the publications on QI in RT
* A survey to collect National Societies initiatives in Quality Indicators in RT
* Prepare Delphi consensus with the QI collected from the national sets + bibliographic review
* Involve national societies in Delphi consensus in order to select the final list of QI

We would like to invite PhD students and young and committed physicists, radiation oncologists and RTTs that would wish to work on this project to contact the ESTRO office:

Valérie Cremades [vcremades@estro.org](mailto:vcremades@estro.org" \t "_blank)

* **National Societies Day:**

Due to the COVID-19 context, the National Societies Day 2020 has been postponed to 2021. For the occasion, it was decided to spread the Day on 2 specific events, held in different periods:

* June 2021 (date TBC): ***National Societies afternoon***

Online debate where National Societies representatives will be invited to discuss specific questions related to their experience at national level in the COVID-19 context.

* 29 August 2021: ***National Societies networking evening***

Face-to-face meeting held during the [ESTRO congress 2021](https://www.estro.org/Congresses/ESTRO-2021)in Madrid. Panel discussions will be held on National Societies engagement

* **National Societies Committee-ACROP collaboration:**

Continuation of the collaboration in 2021. The NSC wishes to reinforce this collaboration, involving the National Societies to identify experts on topics presented by ACROP.

* **Development of National Societies database**to ensure an efficient collaboration and reinforce the networking between the Committee and the National Societies in Europe.

* **National Societies Committee meetings:**

The Committee members meet every 2 months to discuss the evolution of the projects and the next actions to be taken.

We are very grateful for your cooperation and are looking forward to a fruitful and committed new year.

Best regards,

The ESTRO National Societies Committee

Chair: Barbara Jereczek-Fossa, Milan, Italy

Bartosz Bak, Poznan, Poland

Ludwig van den Berghe, Gent, Belgium

Jan Bussink, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

Maia Dzhugashvili, Murcia, Spain

Cristina Garibaldi, Milan, Italy

Nuria Jornet, Barcelona, Spain

Li Tee Tan, Cambridge, United Kingdom

Esther Troost, Dresden, Germany

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