

Committee Report 2024

ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

7 January 2025

Report of the ESO Committees - Summary

Stroke Unit Certification Committee

- **Apostolos Safouris, Greece (Chair)**
- Aleksandras Vilionskis, Lithuania
- Ana Catarina Fonseca, Portugal
- Bijoy Menon, Canada (non-voting advisory member)
- Bjorn Thorarinsson, Iceland
- Cristina Hobeau, France
- Marta Nowakowska-Kotas, Poland
- Natalia Perez de la Ossa, Spain
- Paolo Candelaresi, Italy
- Vlad Tiu, Romania
- Volker Putz, Germany

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

Activity during 2024

- After ESOC 2024 the committee held meetings every month instead of every three months
- The following projects will be presented:
 1. Paper to be submitted to ESJ with new accreditation criteria
 2. Live audit proposal for 10% of applications
 3. Cooperation with Angels Initiative
 4. Web page update proposal
 5. Cooperation with the Société Française NeuroVasculaire (SFNV)
 6. Webinar
 7. European Survey on stroke accreditation in collaboration with SAP-E

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

Older projects close to completion

1. Paper to be submitted to European Stroke Journal
 - Status: Former Chair is finalising the first draft
 - Timeline: Within a few weeks will be circulated among members for review
2. New application forms
 - Status: Ready
 - Timeline: Will be included in the appendix of the above-mentioned paper and will then appear on the ESO website
3. Live audits
 - Final proposal drafted by former chair.

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

Cooperation with Angels

- Lead: Safouris Apostolos
- Develop a pathway for Diamond/Platinum Centers to proceed with ESO accreditation
 - Regular Zoom meetings since ESOC 2024 with Angels Initiative representative Elisa Salvati.
 - Ongoing work on modifying the Angels Initiative Hospital Resource Form (HRF) to include all ESO SU accreditation criteria.
 - Simona Sacco and Michèle Schaub Jackson have been updated on the progress

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

Cooperation with Angels

- Lead: Safouris Apostolos
- Action plan: present during ESOC 2025 an example of a pilot “speed accreditation” ESOC:
 - Q1: HRF template completed (January), selection of 2-3 Platinum/Diamonds pilot hospitals (January-February), completion of the HRF (Angels+hospitals) and collection of additional documents (“accreditation pack”) (Feb-March)
 - Q2: Pilots send the “accreditation pack” to the ESO committee (Beginning of April) that evaluate their status (Beginning of May), feedbacks from the ESO committee/hospitals will be shared at the Angels-ESO meeting and the experience of 1 hospital can be shared at the ESO conference as a “pilot speed accreditation for a Platinum/Diamond hospital”. In this way we can present a 5 months long accreditation process that can be appealing for other hospitals to get involved.

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

Website

- Leads: Vlad Tiu and Apostolos Safouris
- There is consensus among all committee members that there is a lot of room for improvement of the ESO accreditation application web page
- The members of the committee are committed to work with the IT group to update the web page to accommodate for the upcoming accreditation criteria but also create a user-friendly platform.

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Webinar

- Leads: Marta Nowakowska-Kotas and Noémie Le Quément
- Title: 'Stroke Units - What Are the Core Elements and Why Is It Worth Implementing Them?'
- Speaker 1: Hanne Christensen (confirmed her interest): The effect of stroke unit certification on workflow and outcomes
Speaker 2: Vlad Tiu
- Planned to take place summer 2025

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

France:

Cooperation with the Société Française NeuroVasculaire (SFNV)

- Lead: Christina Hobeanu
- Engagement at the 29th Congress of the SFNV
 - A poster submission showcased the ESO Certification, complemented by a quiz featuring 13 questions to collect feedback for expanding the certification's reach in France. –
 - An oral presentation ensured the ESO Certification was prominently presented during the conference. The presentation received positive feedback, including commendations from the past president of the SFNV Sonia Alamowitch.
- Finalize a comprehensive pathway for France to achieve ESO certification during 2025, with a formal proposal planned for submission to the Executive Committee.

Report of the ESO Stroke Unit Certification Committee

Collaboration with SAP-E:

Survey on the status of stroke certification processes in European countries

- Leads: Ana Catarina Fonseca, Bjorn Thorarinsson, Paolo Candelaresi
- Supervisor: Francesca Pezzella
- F. Pezzella will provide supporting documents to aid in its development. Online data should be used. The survey will be reviewed by the EC.
- F Pezzella via the EC will assist in distributing the survey to relevant contacts. The aim is to circulate the final version to the national coordinators of SAP-E as possibly to all organisational members.
- Once the data is collected, publish the results in the ESJ.