

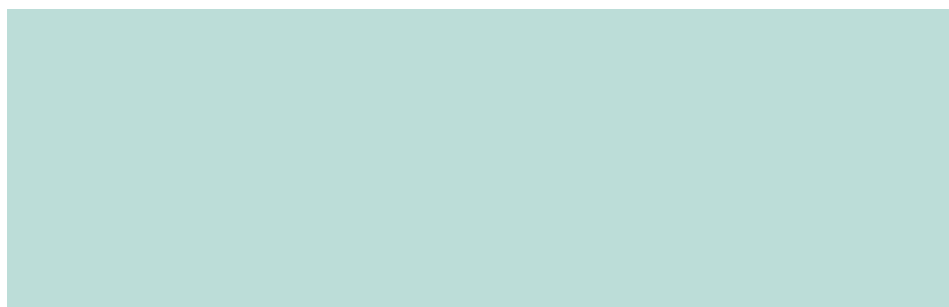
EFORT Annual Report 2023

Genuine priorities:
exploring progressive models



Annual Report 2023

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Message from the Presidents and Secretary General



Prof. Dr. Enrique Gómez Barrena



Mr. David Limb



Prof. Dr. Rob Nelissen

2023 – Genuine priorities: exploring progressive models

Dear National Delegates, dear Presidents, dear Colleagues,

The focus of this address naturally revolves around EFORT's financial situation, which was already identified as precarious during last year's General Assembly, particularly since the financial model on which EFORT is founded produces almost all income from a single event.

As you will be aware, the Congress had to be cancelled for two consecutive years during the Covid pandemic, depleting our reserves. Budgets were set anticipating lean times. But unfortunately, the effect of inflation, hugely increased energy costs coupled with the current geopolitical landscape meant that the net result from the annual congress Vienna 2023 was substantially diminished, forcing us to take difficult decisions.

Our strategy swiftly divided the path ahead into two distinct directions: immediate measures and medium-term solutions. It became evident that structural changes within the organisation and a critical review of the services offered were imperative to navigate through these challenges.

The first set of measures concentrated on refining financial agreements and securing additional funded partnerships to support the organisation's key objectives – Education and aligning with EU approaches in Policies and Initiatives. These priorities were chosen as genuine focal points, acknowledging the limitations that dictate a focused approach rather than exploring a broader spectrum of possibilities.

Furthermore, we explored new models to innovate the management of future congress editions, ensuring alignment with our established priorities.

As part of our mid-term restructuring measures, we conducted a thorough review of income sources within community and membership management activities. We are currently "right-sizing" our workforce and reassessing the necessity of our current office space, considering more adaptable infrastructure. Additionally, we are scrutinising technical providers to optimise scope adaptation and costs.

We are delighted to report that certain initiatives we support will continue without interruption, including the EBOT exam, the webinar series, and EFORT Open Reviews. We are sharing here their success stories.

Additionally, we hope the EU activities report will underscore EFORT's growing visibility and influence within the "Brussels chessboard".

This situation echoes the discussions held during last year's strategy meeting, where we deliberated on the services EFORT should provide and how we should fund our future endeavours. This dialogue must be sustained.

We acknowledge the challenges that lie ahead, and our rescue plan is not solely focused on financial aspects but also integrates progressive models, paving the way for a stronger and more sustainable future.

Prof. Dr. Enrique Gómez Barrena
EFORT President 2022 / 2023

Mr. David Limb
EFORT President 2023 / 2024

Prof. Dr. Rob Nelissen
Secretary General 2023 / 2024



2023 MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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2023 MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-opted Members:

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Prof. Dr. Hakki Sur	Turkey
Prof. Dr. Karl-Göran Thorngren	Sweden
Prof. Dr. Luigi Zagra	Italy

Membership Network

NATIONAL MEMBER SOCIETIES

Albania	AAOST	Albanian Association of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology
Austria	ÖGO	Austrian Society of Orthopaedics and Orthopaedical Surgery
Belarus	BRSMOS	Belarus Republic Scientific Medical Society of Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgeons
Belgium	BVOT	Belgian Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Belgium	SORBCOT	Belgian Royal Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology
Bosnia and Herzegovina	UOTBIH	Association of Orthopedists and Traumatologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria	BOTA	Bulgarian Orthopaedics and Trauma Association
Croatia	COTA/HUOT	Croatian Orthopaedic and Traumatology Association
Croatia	CrOS	Croatian Orthopaedic Society of the Croatian Medical Association
Cyprus	CAOST	Cyprus Association of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology
Czech Republic	CSOT	Czech Society for Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Denmark	DOS	Danish Orthopaedic Society
Estonia	ETOS	Estonian Orthopaedic Society
Finland	SOY-FOA	Finnish Orthopaedic Association
Republic of North Macedonia	MAOT	Macedonian Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
France	SOFcot	French Society of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology
Germany	DGO	German Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Greece	HAOST	Hellenic Association of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology
Hungary	MOT/HOA	Hungarian Orthopaedic Association
Iceland	IBF	Icelandic Orthopaedic Society
Ireland	IOA	Irish Orthopaedic Association
Italy	SIOT	Italian Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Kosovo	KSOTS	Kosovo Society of Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgeons
Lithuania	LSOT/LOTD	Lithuanian Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Luxembourg	SLOT	Luxembourgian Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Malta	AOTSM	Association of Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgeons of Malta
Montenegro	AMOT	Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatologists of Montenegro
Netherlands	NOV	Dutch Orthopaedic Association
Norway	Nof	Norwegian Orthopaedic Association
Poland	PTOITR	Polish Orthopaedic and Traumatologic Society
Portugal	SPOT	Portuguese Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Romania	SOROT	Romanian Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Serbia	SOTA	Serbian Orthopaedic Trauma Association
Slovakia	SOTS	Slovak Orthopaedic and Traumatologic Society
Slovenia	SOA/ZOSZD	Slovenian Orthopaedic Society
Spain	SECOT	Spanish Orthopaedic and Traumatology Society
Sweden	SOF	Swedish Orthopaedic Association
Switzerland		Swiss Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (swiss orthopaedics)
Turkey	TSOT/TOTBID	Turkish Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Ukraine	UAOST	Ukrainian Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons and Traumatologists
United Kingdom	BOA	British Orthopaedic Association

ASSOCIATE SCIENTIFIC MEMBERS

Armenia	AOTRA	The Association of Orthopaedists, Traumatologists and Rehabilitologists of Armenia
Australia	AOA	Australian Orthopaedic Association
Azerbaijan	AAOT	Azerbaijan Association of Orthopaedics and Traumatology
Bangladesh	BOS	Bangladesh Orthopaedic Society
Cameroon	CSOST	Cameroonian Society of Orthopaedics and Trauma Surgery
Egypt	EOA	Egyptian Orthopaedic Association
Iran	POTA	Persian Orthopaedic Trauma Association
Israel	IOA	Israeli Orthopaedic Association
Jordan	JOA	Jordanian Orthopaedic Association
Lebanon	LOA	Lebanese Orthopaedic Association
Mexico	FEMECOT	Mexican Federation of Orthopedic & Traumatology Colleges A.C.
Oman	OSO	Orthopaedic Society of Oman
Saudi Arabia	SOA	Saudi Orthopaedic Association

EUROPEAN SPECIALITY SOCIETIES

ARTOF	Association for the Rational Treatment of Fractures
EBJIS	European Bone and Joint Infection Society
EFAS	European Foot and Ankle Society
EHS	European Hip Society
EKS	European Knee Society
EORS	European Orthopaedic Research Society
EPOS	European Paediatric Orthopaedic Society
ESPA	European Society of Pelvis And Acetabulum
ESSKA	European Society of Sports Traumatology, Knee Surgery and Arthroscopy
ESTES	European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery
ESTROT	European Society of Tissue Regeneration in Orthopaedics and Trauma
EUROSPINE	the Spine Society of Europe
EWAS	European Wrist Arthroscopy Society
FESSH	Federation of European Societies for Surgery of the Hand
ISLASS	International Society of Laser and Percutaneous Procedures in Spinal Surgery
SECEC	European Society for Surgery of the Shoulder and Elbow



"There's a shared recognition of the importance of addressing recruitment challenges and implementing environmentally friendly practices to ensure the longevity and effectiveness of our operations."

COOPERATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Virtual roundtables with member societies

2023 EFORT Fora sessions

- SORBCOT & BVOT | Brussels, Belgium | 27 April 2023
EFORT Forum: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Background and Benefits
- BOTA | Varna, Bulgaria | 20 May 2023
EFORT Forum: Foot and Ankle Trauma
- SECOT | Salamanca, Spain | 28 September 2023
EFORT Forum: Complications in Forefoot Surgery
- HAOST | Athens, Greece | 05 October 2023
EFORT Forum: Severe Injuries of the Elbow
- SOROT | Sinaia, Romania | 20 October 2023
EFORT Forum: A new paradigm in joint replacement
- DGOU | Berlin, Germany | 25 October 2023
EFORT Forum (Combined Session): Periprosthetic Fractures
- TOTBID | Antalya, Turkey | 04 November 2023
EFORT Forum: Common Fractures Around the Shoulder
- SPOT | Vilamoura, Portugal | 02 November 2023
EFORT Forum: Building the Future in Paediatric Trauma / Tips and Tricks
- SIOT | Rome, Italy | 10 November 2023
EFORT Forum: Future Perspectives of Uni and Total Knee Replacement
- SOFCOT | Paris, France | 13 November 2023
EFORT Forum: Evolution in Adulthood of Ligamentoplasties Performed in Children and Adolescents

EFORT held virtual roundtable discussions in 2023 with national delegates from its member societies. The topics discussed included the issues encountered within each country vs. what needs to be discussed on a European level. Further the availability of implants, shortage in workforce and new education models around the congress were debated.

The calls in the second half of the year were timely to share the financial concerns of EFORT currently navigating some financial hurdles. The final payment from the Professional Congress Organiser (PCO) for our recent congress in Vienna fell significantly short of expectations, exacerbating our already delicate financial situation. This setback necessitates a comprehensive structural overhaul, not only for the congress but for the organisation as a whole, prompting the formation of a membership task force to address these challenges. The EFORT Treasurer, Prof. Gilles Pasquier, shed further light on the financial landscape, highlighting the impact of inflation on our expenses and emphasizing the need for prompt action.

One common issue shared is the reliance on congress funding that has become a significant hurdle. This dependency limits our financial flexibility and autonomy. Moreover, the sub-specialty meetings are increasingly creating competitive platforms with our respective National Congresses, diluting our collective focus and resources.

Compounding this issue is the industry's tendency for supporting sub-specialty congresses more over the broader National Congress. Attendees, too, are more and more drawn to these specialised gatherings, favouring them over the more general congress.

As an example, and in response to these dynamics, some national societies are endeavouring to institute change. One proposed solution is to foster collaboration between specialties or alternate between specialty and general meetings on a biennial basis. This strategy aims to strike a balance, ensuring that both specialised and overarching interests are adequately represented and supported within our society.

Work dynamics and the emergence of AI within the profession were also shared in this series of calls.

"We're facing a significant backlog of work that urgently needs attention", declared the British Orthopaedic Association. Coupled with this is the pressing issue of recruitment, retention, and training within our ranks. Currently, doctors are expressing their dissatisfaction with their working conditions, feeling undervalued for the vital work they do. Some societies were pressing that sustainable systems be developed for recruitment and environmental concerns addressed by embracing a green agenda to minimize waste.

Another topic at the forefront is AI: how can we ensure its proper use and integration into our daily work? What does the future hold for AI in our field, and how can we ensure it becomes an integral part of our practice? These are pressing questions that demand careful consideration and strategic planning.

Calls with national delegates of EFORT's member societies took place in March and November 2023.

"We wanted [...] to inspire some stability, if possible, especially in these uncertain times as we strive to find new visions."

—Enrique Gomez-Barrena, EFORT President 2022-2023



EFORT ANNUAL CONGRESS 2023, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

"Come and join us to see where Orthopaedic & Traumatology will stand in the future"
the 24th EFORT Annual Congress in Vienna, Austria from 24 to 26 May 2023

This was the call to action expressed by the EFORT Leadership by deliberately choosing the broad main theme of **"Building the Future of Orthopaedics and Traumatology"**.

We wanted on the one hand to be able to cover the breadth of the O&T specialty and on the other, to inspire some stability, if possible, especially in these uncertain times as we strive to find new visions.

The word "stability", as a magic word in motion analysis and mobility in general, helps us to anchor our professional achievements looking back, for just a little while, and to see the progress made over the years. At the beginning treatments employed traction techniques, Charnley introduced new approaches for hip replacement and later, internal fixation of fractures through nailing and plating had a direct impact on allowing shorter hospital stays and faster return to function. Today's discussions include, besides the scientific perspectives, the aim to be more intermodular and inclusive.

However, the growing musculoskeletal burden meets financial restrictions. The workload of nurses and surgeons can lead to burnout, weaknesses of healthcare systems are emerging more and more everywhere.

So how can we maintain clinical progress, transfer of knowledge and the human factors in balance with the needs (and constraints) of our economies?

Congress Factsheet of the 24th EFORT Annual Congress in Vienna, Austria:



281 sessions including 945 presenting authors and 236 speakers & moderators.



1,469 accepted abstracts:



566 oral Free Paper sessions (5-minutes podium presentations)



360 Poster presentations within Poster Walks (best-rated posters)



518 daily wallpaper Posters



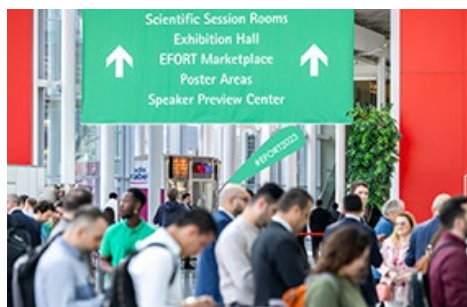
3323 congress attendees



93 participating corporate partners



5 satellite symposia



With "**Misconducts in Science and Medicine**" Professor Alain-Charles Masquelet offered us the perfect transition from key topics presented during the Lisbon 2022 Congress of "Modern Patient needs, Integrity and Trust" and EFORT gave him the floor for the Erwin Morscher Honorary Lecture.

EFORT was delighted to welcome Dr. Goodman to Vienna. He presented the Michael Freeman Honorary Lecture with his session titled "**Mentorship and Preclinical Translational Research: The Scientific Basis of Orthopaedic Surgery**". In essence the session inspired about the scientific basis of orthopaedic surgery and the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders which in general rest on a foundation of 3 disciplines: biology, biomechanics, and biomaterials. However, these areas of academic pursuit are insufficient without the close mentorship of individuals who function as role models for the aspiring surgeon.

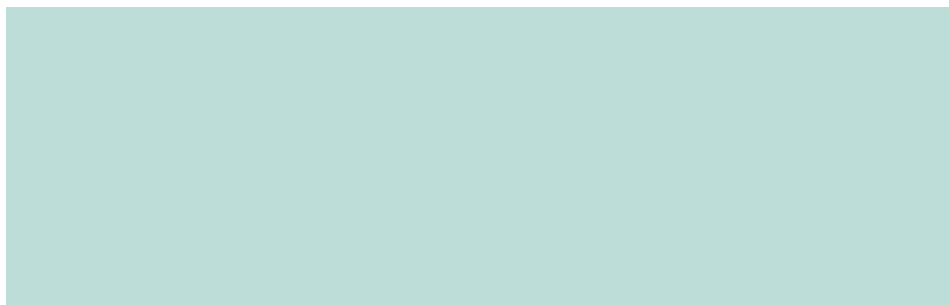
Highlighted sessions – providing a cohesive experience for attendees:

Meet your peers who share the interest of your specialty!

We have always considered collaboration as key and we believe that in future it will be crucially important while we walk our way to adapted formats of face-to-face meetings. We want to create a learning environment based on exchange and crosstalk among the multidisciplinary of Orthopaedics & Traumatology specialties: Teaming up with specialty societies provides another perspective of O&T topics with curated sessions from societies proposing either an approach covering special interest groups, or highlighting the transversality within O&T or even focusing on a topic of its own in alignment with the respective core subspecialty.

The Specialty societies' sessions:

- ARTOF/ESPA: Severe trauma of the proximal tibia and femoral head: management options
- EBJIS: New management concepts for fracture-related infection
- EFAS: Cavovarus foot in 2022 – State of the Art
- EHS: Hip Joint preservation
- EKS: The Knee, a European perspective
- EORS: Personalised implants in orthopaedic joint replacement – Novel technologies and treatment options
- EPOS: Paediatric trauma in 21st century
- ESSKA: Infections after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction: ESSKA and EBJIS recommendations
- ESTES: Thoracolumbar spine injuries
- ESTROT: Fracture healing – recent advances
- EUROSPINE / ISLASS: Minimally invasive spinal surgery: indications, results and pitfalls
- FESSH /EWAS: Updates in distal radius fractures
- SECEC: Advanced technology in shoulder replacement



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Through the ingenuity of people and techniques and from bioengineering over to regulatory science

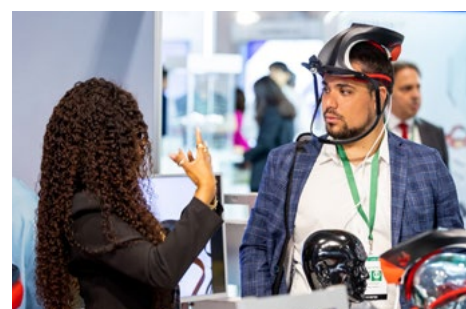
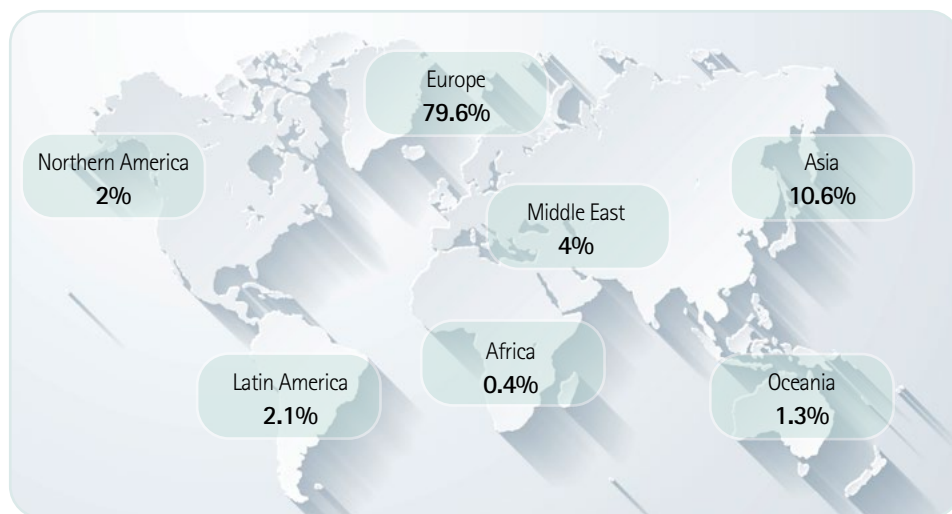
Building the Future of Orthopaedics and Traumatology is indeed a broad topic and yet the importance and capacity to innovate sustains medical progress. In the programme we have seen discussions revolve around on how to keep clinical progress, transfer of knowledge and the human factor in balance with the needs (and constraints) of our daily professional life and to a larger extent our economies?

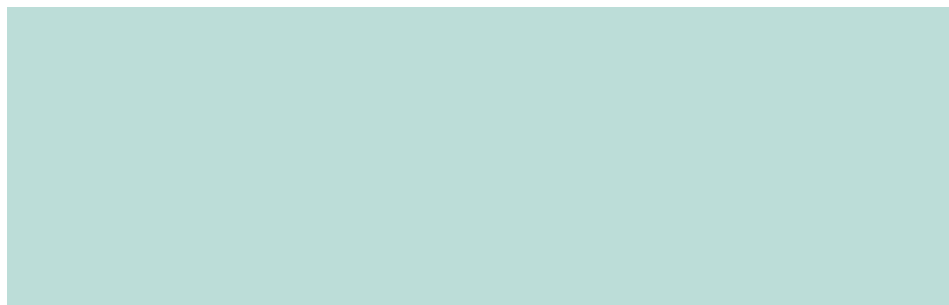
- Robotic Hip Surgery- Is It Needed?
- Best Practice In Digital Orthopaedics
- Psychology In Orthopaedics And Traumatology
- Met And Unmet Needs With Robotic Surgery

But it also goes through the growing need for interdisciplinary competences to link engineering, biology and medicine. The regulatory environment is the other component that we wanted to include in this second selection of sessions highlighting the future of the profession.

- Biological Aspect To Enhance Healing Fracture
- Beyond Today's Implants. Innovation And Regulation
- Novel Biologics-Based Therapies In Orthopaedics
- What Is The Future Of 3D Printing And Planning In Pediatric Orthopedic?

Portrait of Congress participants in 2023 – Main Regions of Work





Honorary Awards

The following individuals were awarded:

- Prof. Li Felländer-Tsai
Immediate Past President
- Prof. Søren Overgaard
Chair of the Science Committee

EFORT Recognition Award

The following individual was awarded:

- Prof. Jorge Mineiro
Chair of the EBOT exam



Scientific Awards

■ The Jacques Duparc Awards

The 10 best-rated poster abstracts submitted to the EFORT Congress received the Jacques Duparc Award, which includes a grant of EUR 500 and a certificate to acknowledge the work for each of the awarded abstract.

- [A Systematic Review And Meta-Analysis Of Operative Vs Non Operative Management For First Time Traumatic Anterior Shoulder Dislocation In Young Adults](#)
Authors: Joe Dixon, Joseph Cutteridge, Pierre Garrido, Carolyn Smith, Alex Woods, Steve Gwilym
- [Evaluation Of Spin In Clinical Literature Of Biodegradable Balloon Spacers For Massive Rotator Cuff Tears](#)
Authors: Amir Fathi, Bryan Bashrum, Michael Kim, Jenny Wang, Laith Hasan, Cory Mayfield, Ioanna Bolia, Joseph Liu, Frank Petrigliano
- [Low- And High-Risk Bone Stress Injuries: More Evidence To Help Guide Clinical Decision-Making. A Systematic Review And Meta-Analysis Of 76 Studies](#)
Authors: Tim Hoenig, Julian Eissele, André Strahl, Kristin Popp, Julian Stürznickel, Kathryn Ackerman, Karsten Hollander, Stuart Warden, Adam Tenforde, Tim Rolvien
- [Management Of De Quervain's Tenosynovitis: A Living Systematic Review And Network Meta-Analysis Of Randomised Studies](#)
Authors: Dimitris Challoumas, Rohan Ramasubbu, Elliot Rooney, Emily Seymour-Jackson, Amit Putti, Neal Millar
- [Patellar Resurfacing Is Associated With Better Knee Specific Functional Outcomes After Posterior Stabilised And Lower Rates Of Anterior Knee Pain After Cruciate Retaining Total Knee Arthroplasty: A Systematic Review And Meta-Analysis](#)
Authors: Cameron Simpson, Evan Wright, Jin Yap Ngee, Nathan Ng, Solomon Ndou, Chloe Scott, Nick Clement
- [Perioperative Essential Amino Acid Supplementation Facilitates Quadriceps Muscle Strength And Volume Recovery Following Total Knee Arthroplasty: A Double-Blind Randomized Control Trial](#)
Authors: Hideki Ueyama, Narihiro Kanemoto, Yoshiki Taniguchi
- [Quality Of Orthopaedic Patient-Reported Outcome Measure \(PROM\) Validation Studies Is Often Insufficient](#)
Authors: Ville Ponkilainen, Ilari Kuitunen, Oskari Pakarinen, Matias Vaajala, Rasmus Liukkonen, Hannes Tukiainen, Mikko Uimonen
- [Rate Of Total Hip Arthroplasty In Patients With Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease After Conservative Or Surgical Treatment: A Systematic Review And Meta-Analysis](#)
Authors: Federico Canavese, Xinwang Zh, Huimei Wu, Chenyu Xiang, Chun Zeng, Hongwen Xu
- [The Risk Of Infection With Tourniquet Use In Total Knee Arthroplasty : A Meta-Analysis Of RCTs](#)
Authors: Ahmed Magan, Olivia Dunseath, Panagiotis Armonis, Andreas Fontalis, Babar Kayani, Warran Wignadasan, Fares Haddad



- Treating Experimental Osteoarthritis And Rheumatoid Arthritis With Calcitonin – A Systematic Review And Meta-Analysis Of Preclinical Data

Authors: Mara Meyer Günderoth, Alexandra Bannach-Brown, Alexander Hildebrandt, Florian Nima Fleckenstein, Tobias Winkler, Carsten Perka, Ulrich Stöckle, Georg Duda, Serafeim Tsitsilonis, Johannes Keller, Robert Karl Zahn, Tazio Maleitzke

■ The Free papers Awards

The 40 best-rated free papers, 20 each in orthopaedics and trauma, were given the option of competing for the EFORT Free Paper Award.

• GOLD Orthopaedics Abstract

Clinical And Neurophysiological Outcome Of A Randomized Controlled Trial For Surgical Vs Non-Surgical Treatment Of Lumbar Spinal Stenosis: The Uppsala Spinal Stenosis Trial (UppSten)

Authors: Konstantinos Pazarlis, Arne Sandberg, Nikos Schizas, Bengt Sandén, Karl Michaëlsson, Anna Punga, Peter Försth

• GOLD Trauma Abstract

Platelet Rich Plasma For Acute Achilles Tendon Rupture: Two-Year Follow-Up Of The PATH-2 Randomised, Placebo-Controlled, Superiority Trial
Authors: Joseph Alsousou, David Keene, Paul Harrison, Heather O'Connor, Susan Wagland, Susan Dutton, Philippa Hulley, Sally Lamb, Keith Willett

• SILVER Orthopaedics Abstract

Impact Of Tumour-Infiltrating Immune Cells On Oncological Outcome (Local Recurrence, Distant Metastasis, Overall Survival) In Soft Tissue Sarcoma Patients

Authors: Maria Anna Smolle, Laurin Herbsthofer, Barbara Prietl, Amin El-Heliebi, Martin Pichler, Martina Tomberger, Julia Feichtinger, Claudia Baumgartner, Andreas Leithner, Bernadette Liegl-Atzwanger, Joanna Szkandera

• SILVER Trauma Abstract

Clavicle Fractures Does Not Increase The Incidence Of Later Diagnosis Of Subacromial Impingement Syndrome. A Registry-Based Case-Control Study With 15-25 Years Follow-Up Of 131.838 Persons From The Danish National Patient Register
Authors: Anne Nyholm, Adam Witten, Kristoffer Weisskirchner Barfod

• BRONZE Orthopaedics Abstract

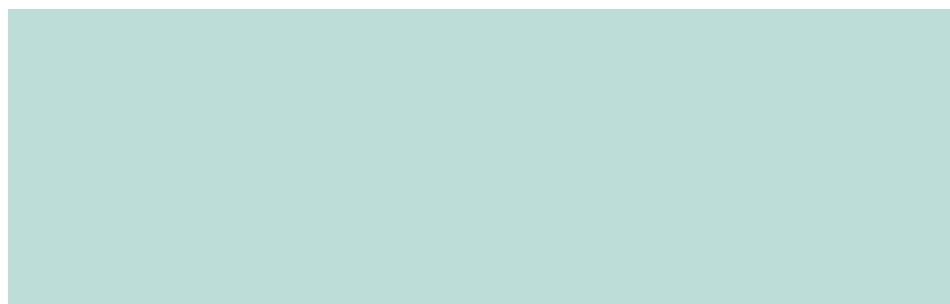
Surgical Reconstruction Or Rehabilitation For Non-Acute And Longstanding ACL Rupture (ACL SNNAP Pragmatic Randomised Controlled Trial)

Authors: David Beard, Loretta Davies, Jonathan Cook, Jose Leal, Heidi Fletcher, Simon Abram, Katie Chegwin, William Jackson, Nicholas Bottomley, Henry Bourke, Andrew Price, ACL SNNAP Study Group Collective

• BRONZE Trauma Abstract

Virtual Children's Fracture Clinic – A Prospective Study Of 5536 Patients Confirming That Efficiency & Cost Saving Does Not Compromise Safety

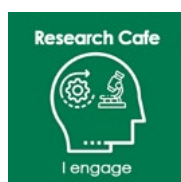
Authors: Kareem Edres, Aly Pathan, Joe Pang, Matthew Goodburn, Rajiv Merchant, Graeme Carlile, Helen Chase, Anish Sanghrajka



The EFOR Market: "Bridging networking with knowledge"

The EFOR Annual Congress 2023 in Vienna offered redefined networking solutions and launched The EFOR Market, open to all. Placed at the heart of the exhibition this hub featured 4 key activities where the call to action was declined in: **I engage – I consolidate – I learn – I master**

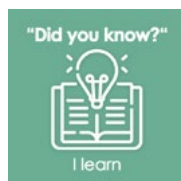
The main areas were:



- The **Research Café** through which the Research Culture and exchange with experts can be strengthened over round table discussions.



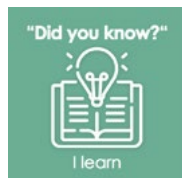
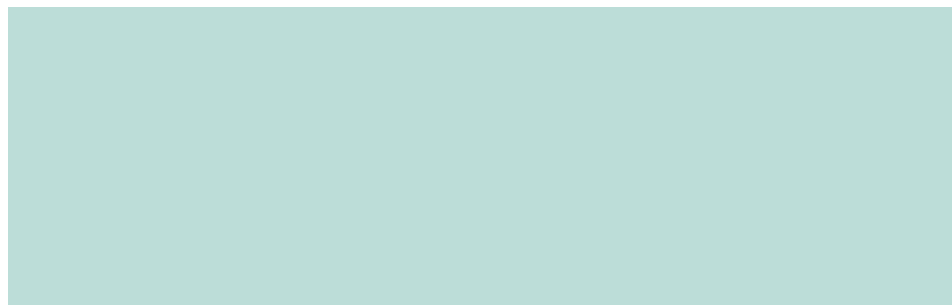
- Mini satellites during which "latest evidence ascertains the value of medical technology". Mini-satellites structured as laser beams for educational or promotional sessions taking place at the Marketplace, and organised by a selected number of companies.



- "Did you know spotlight sessions" to better understand what moves the O&T Community. The objective was to tackle selected areas that impact and enable the current and next generations to improve the overall quality of the profession in orthopaedics and traumatology. Through a series of four sessions, we wanted to present and illustrate aspects around advances in technology, emphasis on education and training and public health and EU initiatives.

The topic on *Digital Orthopaedics* offered an interactive session and tackled Machine Learning (ML) and AI to improve clinical research and practice in orthopaedics and traumatology by providing more accurate diagnoses, personalised treatment plans, and predictive analytics. As these technologies continue to evolve, they will likely play an increasingly important role in the field.

The Art Of Scientific Publishing: Open access publishing has many benefits, including increased visibility, wider dissemination of research findings, and faster and more efficient communication of scientific knowledge. EFOR Open Reviews (EOR) offers content on this basis. But what happens to your submitted manuscript and its way from submission to publication – Is the impact factor alone an indicator to measure the journal's influence and prestige? were some of the main topics discussed by our experts.



New Training Modules And Best Practice In The Delivery Of CME/CPD Lifelong Learning gave an overview on EFORT's main educational offerings and pointed out new avenues through master's programmes or even further on how the EBOT exam is ambitioning to become a standard in an increasing numbers of countries whose national society is a member of EFORT.

EU Affairs: The European Union plays a significant role in shaping healthcare policy



- **Surgical Precision** for which people were granted front row access to live hands-on procedures & techniques. This was mainly run under the format of "Surgical Skills Workshop" hosted and presented by companies

A key strength of this new concept was seen in EFORT's audience diversity and the multidisciplinary of the represented professions within O&T it attracts.

Flanked on both sides by the poster area the aim of the EFORT Marketplace has always been to bridge networking with knowledge.



EFORT

open reviews

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Associate Editors (AEs):

■ Basic Science: Enrique Gómez Barrena
and Bernd Grimm

■ Foot & Ankle: Marino Delmi

■ Hip: Luigi Zagra

■ Knee: Hermes Miozzari

■ Oncology: Stephen Cannon

■ Paediatrics: Yael Gelfer

■ Shoulder & Elbow: Przemysław Lubiawski

■ Spine: Enric Cáceres-Palou

■ Sports & Arthroscopy: René Verdonk

■ Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis:
Christophe Combescure

■ Trauma: Ulrich Stöckle

EFORT OPEN REVIEWS, THE EFORT JOURNAL: RISING INFLUENCE IN THE O&T COMMUNITY

EFORT Open Reviews is an open-access journal that specialises in publishing high-quality instructional review articles across the entire field of Orthopaedics and Traumatology. The journal publishes peer-reviewed articles from international experts, summarising current knowledge and practice in Orthopaedics and Traumatology with the aim of providing systematic coverage of the field.

As the orthopaedic landscape continues to evolve, EFORT Open Reviews remains at the forefront, adapting and expanding its scope to encompass emerging trends and technologies. Its role as an authoritative resource is further solidified by its dedication to providing timely and insightful analyses of current practices and research.

With a keen focus on instructional review articles, EFORT Open Reviews serves as a guiding literature for both seasoned practitioners and trainees alike.

In the dynamic world of scholarly publishing, numbers tell only part of the story. Behind every statistic lies a narrative of dedication, collaboration, and the relentless pursuit of knowledge. In 2023, EFORT Open Reviews received an impressive 207 submissions, is ranked 18th out of 86 journals in the Orthopaedics surgery and Traumatology category and is expected to reach an impact factor of 3.9.

EOR Impact Factor



EOR's 2022 Journal
Impact Factor™



EOR's 2023 Journal
Impact Factor™



Journal in
'Orthopedics' category

The synthetic IF has been calculated with the public Web of Science Citation data. However, this is an estimation which will likely vary slightly in the actual number.

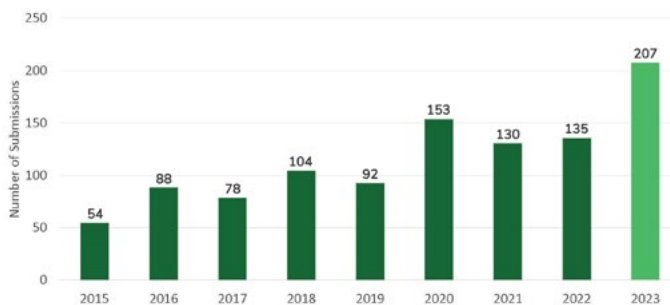
Click on the image to find out

EFORT
open reviews

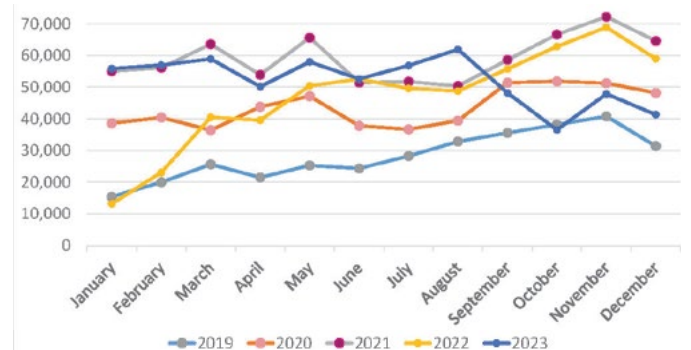
HOW
TO BECOME
A REVIEWER?



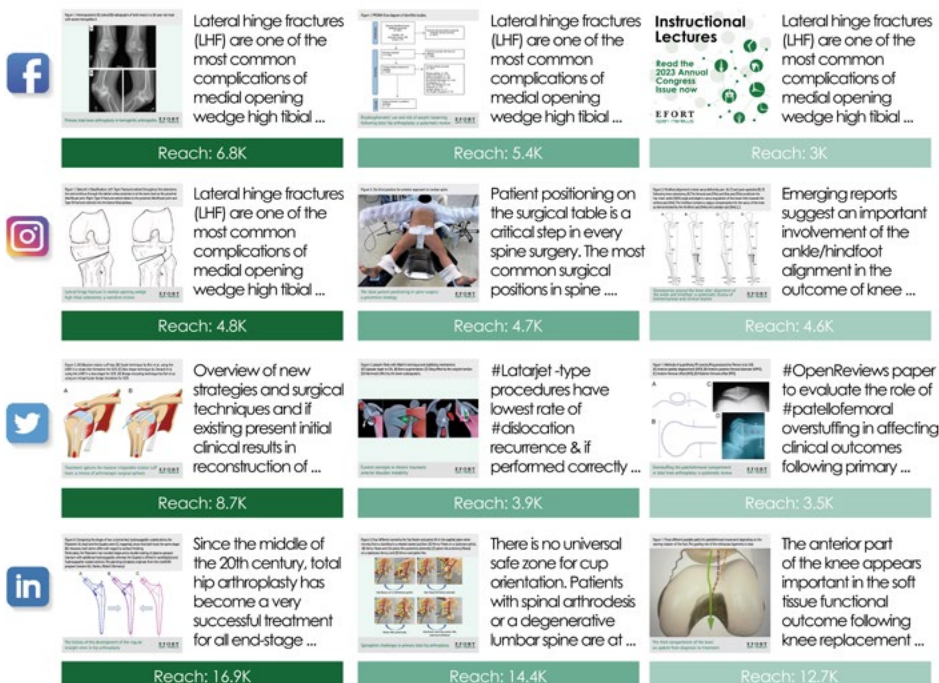
Submissions – by year



Views



Top 3 EOR articles by EFORT social media channel





EFORT ROBOTIC TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

In September 2019, EFORT initiated the Robotic Fellowship Programme, which is comprised of both a 6-month visiting fellowship programme and a travelling fellowship programme. This comprehensive programme received full support through an educational grant generously provided by Stryker.

The primary objective of the fellowship programme was to offer fellows the most comprehensive and practical exposure to Mako robotic orthopaedic procedures. Its core aims were to:

- Enable fellows to seamlessly integrate this cutting-edge technology into their day-to-day practice by actively participating ("scrubbing-in") whenever feasible, adhering to the protocols of the host centre.
- Provide fellows with comprehensive training in a wide spectrum of robotic-assisted hip and knee arthroplasty surgeries, overseen by esteemed surgeons renowned in the field.
- Equip fellows with the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in clinical practice beyond the confines of academic environments, ensuring they are well-prepared for the challenges of real-world orthopaedic surgery.

In 2023 extensive programmes took place in the UK, Italy, Germany, Austria and France.

The UK fellowship programme took place in the following host centres:

- Glasgow | Golden Jubilee University National Hospital, Mr Nick Ohly
- London | ROH/UCL, Prof. Fares Haddad

The Italian fellowship programme took place in the following host centres:

- Parma | Casa di Cura Città di Parma, Prof. Adravanti
- Modena | Policlinico of Modena University, Hospital of Modena, Prof. Fabio Catani
- Verona | Clinica San Francesco, Dr. Perazzini
- Rozzano | Istituto Clinico Humanitas, Prof. Guido Grappiolo & Dr. Mattia Loppini

The German/Austrian fellowship programme took place in the following host centres:

- Hannover (DE) | Orthopaedic Clinic of Medical School Hannover, DIAKOVERE Annastift, Prof. Henning Windhagen & Dr. Sufian S. Ahmad
- Brandenburg (DE) | University Clinic Brandenburg an der Havel, Prof. Roland Becker & Dr. Michael Salzmann
- Graz/Kalwang (AT) | AUVA UKH Styria (Steiermark), Dr. Antonio Klasan
- Linz (AT) | Kepler University Clinic Linz, Dr. Philipp Proier



The French fellowship programme took place in the following host centres:

- Nîmes | University Hospital Center of Nîmes, Prof. Pascal Kouyoumdjian
- Lyon | Hôpital de la Croix-Rousse, Prof. Sébastien Lustig

Feedback from fellows and host centres regarding the fellowship program has been overwhelmingly positive. Both fellows and host centres have expressed extreme satisfaction with the experience. Fellows have shown a strong desire to become more actively engaged in the Mako technology and its utilisation.

However, one recurring challenge highlighted by fellows is the difficulty in securing leave for the duration of the 4-week fellowship. This logistical hurdle has posed a significant barrier for some participants, impacting their ability to fully immerse themselves in the program.

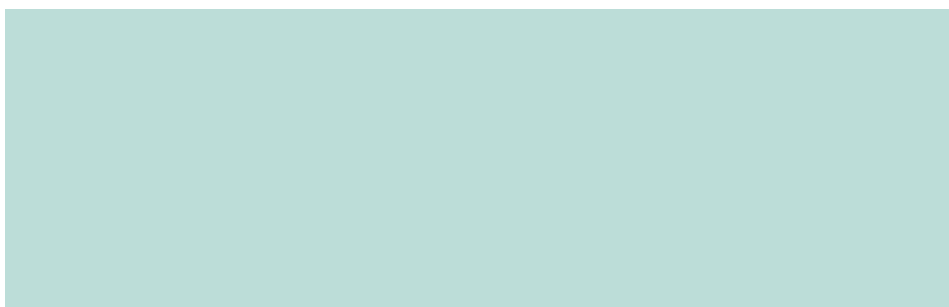
Additionally, the format of 1 week per host centre has presented challenges for surgeons in terms of accumulating a sufficient number of Mako cases within the limited timeframe.

We are pleased to offer a glimpse into the remarkable achievements reached through this fellowship programme by sharing an excerpt from a fellow's report.

"This fellowship was a giant leap in my surgical and knowledge enhancement. It is not only an opportunity to expand my orthopaedic horizons but also to understand the concept of robotic-assisted surgery. It is obvious that books are helpful for overall learning progress, but direct interaction with experienced surgeons is something more. [...]"

It is sure that I learned procedures that will affect my practice in the future and came back to my hometown with energy, new ideas and knowledge, to apply what I have learned to my daily practice."
—Angelo V. Vasiliadis, MD, PhD, participating in the French fellowship programme.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all participating host centres and fellows for building on an immersive educational format and express our appreciation to Stryker for their role in transforming this programme into a tangible and impactful experience.



e-SCIENCE

EFORT e-Science offers scientific content from past EFORT Annual Congresses and eLearning material. After the success of the EFORT pilot webinars, the Board granted approval to move forward with a regular live broadcast.

EFORT Webinars

EFORT 2023 provided the O&T Community with 8 webinars which are available for [replay on https://www.efort.org/webinars](https://www.efort.org/webinars)

■ Floating Knee Injuries | Monday 30 January 2023



Learning objectives:

- Indications and advantages with nails, plates and frames;
- Indications and timing: what to do first
- Concomitant ligamentous and meniscal injuries in the floating knee
- Case-based learning and evidence for the best treatment

■ Digital Orthopaedics II: Wearables & Apps | Monday 27 February 2023



Learning objectives:

- Know the features of a patient journey app as a digital technology.
- Understand the benefits for patients, doctors, therapists and science deploying patient journey apps.
- Empowerment to plan the deployment of a patient journey app in the clinic.
- Become aware of the features, use cases and benefits of harvesting health data from trauma patients and their own devices.
- Know the methods how to set up a patient device data harvesting infrastructure for clinical research or practice.
- Understand the features, use cases and benefits of using a medical device-grade wearable in remote patient monitoring.
- Know the methods on how to deploy a medical-grade wearable in the clinic to improve patient care while reducing hospital visits.



e-SCIENCE

■ Lower Limb Deformity Correction | Monday 27 March 2023



Learning objectives:

- To know the rules and principles of deformity evaluation and correction
- Be able to assess the location and magnitude of the deformity, choose the location of correction, and plan the execution of the correction
- Be able to carefully plan the correction in the frontal and sagittal planes as well as in biplanar deformities

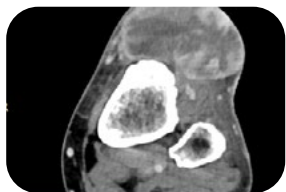
■ EFORT / ESTES Webinar: Fractures Around The Elbow: Floating Elbow Injuries | Monday 24 April 2023



Learning objectives:

- Diagnosis, classification and surgical options for fracture treatment of distal humerus fractures and complex joint injuries of the elbow;
- Treatment concepts for ligamentous injuries
- Surgical options for soft tissue debridement and closure of high-energy injuries

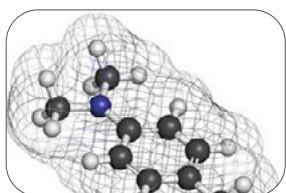
■ Soft Tissue Sarcomas Treatment: An Update | Monday 26 June 2023



Learning objectives:

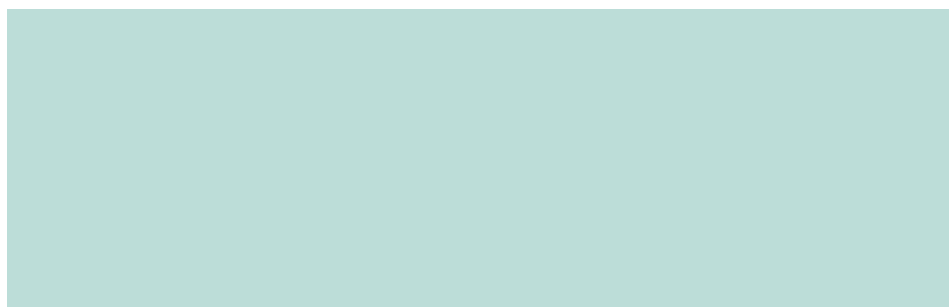
- To understand issues and challenges involved in diagnostic and treatment of soft tissue sarcomas
- To focus on classification and principles of treatment of soft tissue sarcomas
- To look into the concept of orthoplastic approach

■ Cement Revisited | Monday 25 September 2023



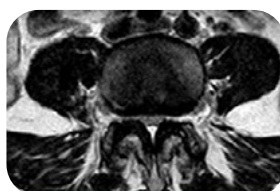
Learning objectives:

- To understand the history and composition of bone cement
- To gain an understanding of the current trends and outcomes of cement use in hip and knee arthroplasty
- To identify the role of antibiotics and other additives in bone cement



e-SCIENCE

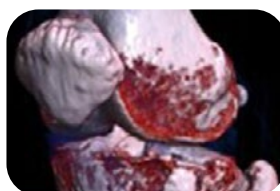
Degenerative Spondylolisthesis | Monday 30 October 2023



Learning objectives:

- To recognise the different types of degenerative spondylolisthesis.
- To evaluate different options for treatment.
- To compare classic and innovative treatments.

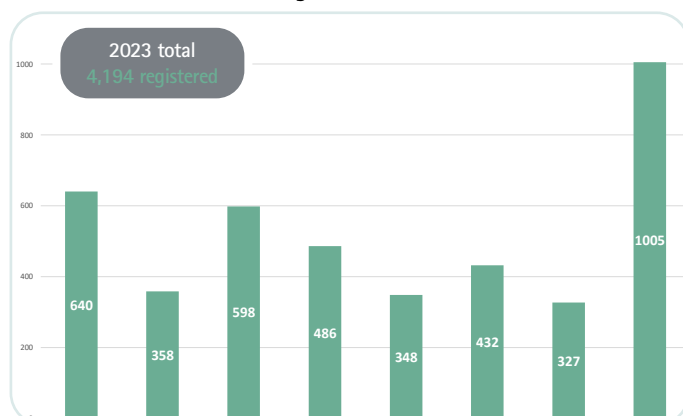
Tibial Plateau Fractures Management | Monday 27 November 2023



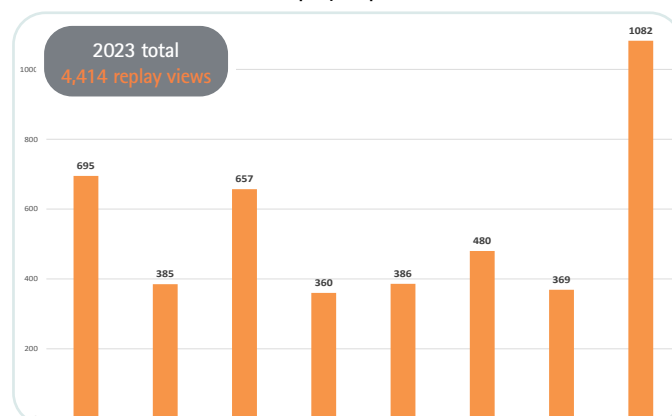
Learning objectives:

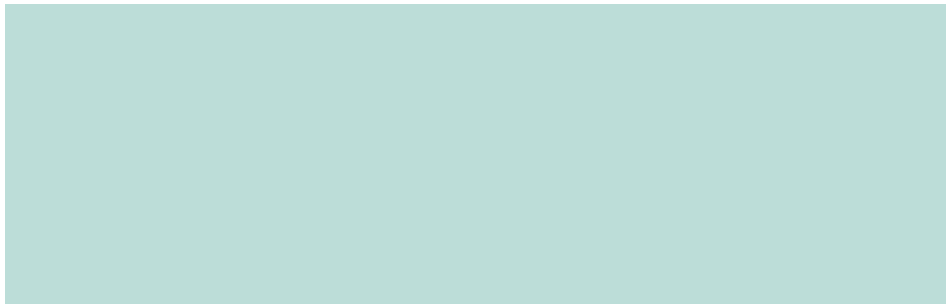
- Indications and advantages with external fixation, plates and nailing.
- Timing and indications
- Case discussion
- Case based learning and evidence for the best treatment

EFORT Webinars 2023 – Registered attendees



EFORT Webinars 2023 – Replays / post event views





EBOT, THE EUROPEAN EXAM

Preparing for Success: Mastering the EBOT Examination

Over the past two decades, the EBOT examination has gained substantial recognition and experienced a surge in popularity. This surge has led to increased demand for examiners, examiner training programs, and logistical support. The examination consists of both written and oral components in English, with the oral section also available in collaboration with some of the national member societies of EFORT. Notably, there is growing interest from countries such as France and Belgium to introduce the exam in French for the oral segment.

The EBOT Exam serves as a specialised assessment in orthopaedics and trauma, with its primary aim being to enhance the standard of knowledge and professional competence among surgeons. Unlike regions where a standardised final examination in the specialty maybe lacking, the EBOT Exam ensures consistency by evaluating candidates based on the fundamental principles of orthopaedics and trauma outlined in the European Curriculum.

[*] To assist candidates in familiarising themselves with the written exam format and evaluating their training levels, we extend an invitation to participate in the EBOT Interim Exam. Registration is currently open for both hospitals and individual candidates. This presents an excellent opportunity for EBOT candidates to undergo a mock exam before their actual EBOT Exam, and EFORT has encouraged European centres to participate in this exercise. Please note that registration of the orthopaedic trainee's hospital is a prerequisite for individual trainee registration.

Furthermore, an essential component of exam preparation is the EFORT Comprehensive Review Course (CRC), typically held during the EFORT Annual Congress at the same venue. This intensive two-half-day review course features multiple lectures covering crucial topics from the syllabus and recent knowledge updates. Candidates receive printed lecture materials in the CRC Syllabus, provided during the course.

The Federation of Orthopaedic and Trauma Trainees in Europe (FORTE) Summer School also offers an excellent opportunity for advanced exam preparation. Supported by all European specialty societies, the Summer School features lectures and workshops by internationally renowned speakers. Its scientific program, endorsed by EFORT, spans one immersive week and attracts over 100 trainees from more than 20 European countries annually. [*]

Take advantage of these resources to prepare effectively for the EBOT Examination and increase your chances of success.

**Source: Helpful experience with the European Board of Orthopaedics and Traumatology exam (Sherif Elnikety, FRCS (Orth), MD (Res); Daniel Ryan, MRCS, MFSTEd)*

Current EBOT Examination Board Members:

- Prof. Dr. Enrique Gómez Barrena
Chair of the EBOT Examination and
Chair of the Spanish EBOT Exam
EFORT Immediate Past-President,
representing EFORT
- Prof. Dr. Jorge Mineiro
Past-Chair of the EBOT Examination
representing UEMS
- Dr. Nannin Allington
UEMS President Orthopaedic Section and
EBOT Examiner, representing UEMS
- Prof. Dr. Li Felländer-Tsai
EFORT Past-President, EBOT Examiner
and UEMS National Delegate for Sweden,
representing UEMS
- Prof. Dr. Stefan Nehrer
Chair EFORT Education Committee and
EBOT Examiner representing EFORT
- Prof. Dr. Önder Aydingöz,
EFORT Past President and
EBOT Examiner representing EFORT

Next dates:

- Section I, written part on 11 June 2024.
- Section II, oral part
in French: Brussels, Belgium on 14 June 2024;
in English: on 05 Et 06 October 2024;
in Spanish: Madrid, Spain on 16 Et 17 November 2024;

The exam is open to certified specialists from Europe, trainees in their final year of training in a recognised European training program, as well as non-EU citizens who work in an EU country or a country affiliated to UEMS (Norway, Switzerland, UK).

1st EFORT European Consensus Medical & Scientific Research Requirements for the Clinical Introduction of Artificial Joint Arthroplasty Devices

THE CONSENSUS BOOK

First EFORT European Consensus: Medical and Scientific Research Requirements for the Clinical Introduction of Artificial Joint Arthroplasty Devices.

Orthopaedic and Traumatology innovations have improved care for musculoskeletal disorders and injuries, with new implants, techniques, and research improving patient outcomes. However, the regulatory framework lacks clarity, creating the need for understanding to ensure safety in introducing new implants. Through the EFORT Implant Patient & Staff Safety Initiative (IPSSI) recommendations were issued for developing, implementing, and disseminating innovation in arthroplasty, creating practical guidelines for stakeholders.

The 1st EFORT European Consensus on "Medical & Scientific Research Requirements for the Clinical Introduction of Artificial Joint Arthroplasty Devices" was launched during the 24th EFORT Annual Congress in Vienna. The intended key outcomes of this 1st EFORT European Consensus are agreed, practical pathways to maintain innovation and optimisation of orthopaedic products and workflows within the boundaries of MDR 2017/745.

We would like to acknowledge and thank our Scientific Committee members, all International Expert Delegates, the Delegates from European National & Specialty Societies and the Editorial Team for their outstanding contributions and support during this EFORT European Consensus.

For more information and to download the complete document, please visit the EFORT website at <https://www.efort.org/consensus-book>





UPDATE ON EFORT'S EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

■ EU Affairs Committee

The EFORT Board confirmed the importance of the work of the European Affairs Committee, which responds to policy issues at a European level and updates the National Societies on discussions and issues that impact us at the supranational level. Chaired by Prof. Per Kjaersgaard-Andersen, this Committee met in March and June and will convene again in November. Issues currently being discussed pertain to medical device regulation, custom-made implants, white book updates, and work with the Biomedical Alliance, whose newsletter is shared with the National associations. National Societies can share their priorities and concerns with the Board members through the European Affairs Committee.

■ Working Group on Cobalt

Cobalt has been up-classified by the EU Commission to have potential adverse events for patients. Since Cobalt is present in virtually all metal implants, EFORT has taken up the challenge to address this topic in a coordinated scientific way.

In January 2022, under the aegis of Prof. Rob Nelissen, Secretary General of EFORT, a working group on Cobalt was created aiming at reviewing evidence and producing updated recommendations.

Within this working group, four subgroups were created to address specific topics:

- resurfacing versus large metalhead patients
- active surveillance and aftercare
- toxicity levels and safety
- risk assessments
- knee implants

A five steps approach was adopted to prepare updated advice



Step 1

Gathering experts



Step 2

Preparing supporting materials
Creating working groups



Step 3

Meeting and drafting recommendations



Step 4

Validating recommendations



Step 5

Publishing and disseminating recommendations

To date, three sub-groups have drafted recommendations, and the fourth group is expecting feedback from the national delegates on the national recommendations on Cobalt before it can finalise its work. A final meeting of the working group will be organised before Christmas to review all evidence and produce updated advice on Cobalt.

It is foreseen that, once the subgroups have all finished their recommendation, the working group will submit a scientific paper to publish the results of its work and contribute to advocating for evidence-based decisions at the EU level.



■ Scientific Network

Given the high number of clinical researchers among the EFORT constituency, Prof. Dieter Wirtz, Prof. Frank Schildberg, and Prof. Rob Nelissen suggested creating a Scientific Network aiming at building an EU-wide research platform to achieve high-impact publications and research funding in key areas of orthopaedics and traumatology.

In June 2023, the first meeting of the network took place in the framework of the EFORT Congress in Vienna. Further to this meeting, it was decided that starting topics for consideration would cover periprosthetic joint infection (PJI) and periprosthetic fracture (PF).

The group met online in July and physically in the framework of the European Bone and Joint Infection Society congress in Basel on 13 October 2023. Participants presented their ongoing research work undertaken in their university/medical centre as well as the material and resources available to undertake future research in the above-mentioned topics. Several calls for EU funding were identified to support the work of the network.

The network will now cast an application for the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) funding. It will also apply to other calls as appropriate.

■ Ban of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

EFORT has been made aware, through Industry contact with ESSKA, of a proposal by the European Chemicals Agency to ban the manufacture and commercial use of a class of chemical compounds (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances: PFAS) because of a justified concern that they persist indefinitely in the environment. A consultation was launched early in 2023 and the deadline for responses was set for the end of September 2023.

It appears that no medical expertise was used in developing this proposed ban but, if it is enforced, it could have wide-reaching implications on the availability of many medical products and devices. Although not toxic, many PFAS (Teflon, Gore-Tex, etc. are household examples) have desirable characteristics including high electrical resistance, low coefficients of friction and wettability, resistance to degradation, etc. As such they are critical components in many devices such as arthroscopes and arthroscopic equipment, pacemakers, sutures, and meshes, etc., and for many of these applications there is no currently known alternative.

EFORT became aware of this issue in August 2023, and we immediately set up network calls with advisers within the Biomedical Alliance and European Commission to establish the likely impact on patient care and whether this has been given due consideration. We have concluded that although Industry partners have already responded to the consultation, as have some National Governments who fear the impact on their own manufacturing industry, EFORT with the Biomedical Alliance should itself respond. We will ask for an approach to the phasing out of these substances that allows time for the development of alternatives, the adjustment of supply chains and manufacturing, and of course the testing of devices made with new materials (as a result of the Medical Devices Regulations that have been taxing us for several years now).

For more information on EFORT's EU activities
or if you would like to get involved:
please write to EU@efort.org



CORE-MD

The CORE-MD project has now entered its final year. It aims to review methodologies for the clinical evaluation of high-risk medical devices and recommend new designs to balance innovation, safety, and clinical effectiveness. The CORE-MD consortium brings together medical associations, EU regulators, national public health institutes, notified bodies, academic institutions, patients' groups, and health technology assessment agencies, with the participation of manufacturers' trade associations.

EFORT is participating in the Steering Committee of this EU-funded project and contributes to its daily management. EFORT is notably supporting the organisation of webinars (<https://www.core-md.eu/core-md-webinars/>). Upcoming webinars will address the evidence for high-risk medical devices in the field of diabetic and cardiovascular devices, international standards in clinical evaluation, or the post-market surveillance tool developed by CORE-MD partners.

Building on its previous expertise of Delphi for the IPSSI initiative, EFORT has organised a Delphi-type process to validate the recommendation on clinical evaluation of artificial intelligence (task 2.3).

In the framework of this project, many scientific publications were produced, some of which were published in the EFORT Open Review or presented at the EFORT Congresses. Publications have been made available on the CORE-MD library webpage: <https://www.core-md.eu/library>

At the European level, the work done by CORE-MD partners has been presented at the European Commission's Medical Device Coordination Group (MDCG) as well as the Clinical Investigation and Evaluation (CIE) and the New Emerging Technologies (NET) groups.

In November, two workshops were organised on the matrix of clinical evidence for high-risk medical devices and on the ethics charter for clinical evaluation.

The CORE-MD final conference will be held in Brussels on 15 March 2024.

MUSE – Methodologies for Using Scientific Evidence

A call has been issued to Develop EU methodological frameworks for clinical/performance evaluation and post-market clinical/performance follow-up of medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices (IVDs).

Many partners involved in CORE-MD decided to create another consortium to cast an application for EU funding.

Entitled Methodologies for Using Scientific Evidence – Medical and In Vitro Diagnostic Devices (MUSE), this proposal is currently being elaborated under the aegis of the European Society of Cardiology.

EFORT is working to be involved in this proposal in several work packages.

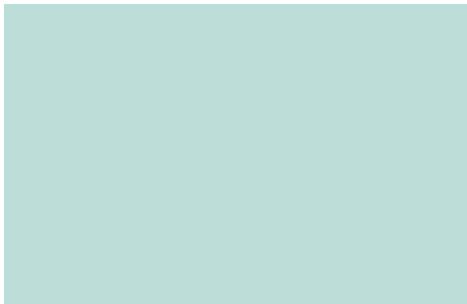
The CORE-MD consortium

- European Society of Cardiology
- European Federation of the National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EFORT)
- Biomedical Alliance in Europe
- European Academy of Paediatrics
- European Patients Forum
- Academisch Ziekenhuis Leiden (Leiden University Medical Centre)
- The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford
- Region Uppsala
- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
- Insel Gruppe AG (University Hospital Bern)
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
- UMIT- Private Universität für Gesundheitswissenschaften, Medizinische Informatik und Technik GmbH (University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology, Hall in Tirol, Austria)
- Göteborgs Universitet (Gothenburg University)
- Politecnico di Milano
- Health Products Regulatory Authority (Dublin)
- Laegemiddelstyrelsen (Danish Medicines Agency, Copenhagen)
- Urząd Rejestracji Produktów Leczniczych, Wyrobów Medycznych i Produktów Biobójczych (Office for Registration of Medicinal Products, Medical Devices and Biocidal Products, Warsaw)
- Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu (National Institute for Public Health and the Environment, Bilthoven, The Netherlands)
- Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Italian National Institute of Health, Rome)
- HTA Austria – Austrian Institute for Health Technology Assessment GmbH (Vienna)
- Fundación Pública Andaluza Progreso y Salud (Progress and Health Foundation, Sevilla)
- European Association of Notified Bodies for Medical Devices

Funding



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under grant agreement No 965246.



EFORT TODAY

Bridging promotional and scientific perspectives to academic excellence

EFORT Today continues to serve as a vital conduit for the latest developments in Orthopaedics and Traumatology (O&T) through its dedicated scientific sections.







In addition to regular updates, readers can anticipate in-depth focus articles on specific topics, complemented by engaging tools like surveys, eLearning modules, eScience features, and curated video content. These interactive elements are thoughtfully designed to foster reader engagement and facilitate targeted learning in various areas of interest within orthopaedics and traumatology.

Furthermore, EFORT Today offers a sneak peek into forthcoming articles slated for publication in EOR, the EFORT Open Reviews Journal. This synergy between the two publications enhances the overall value proposition, providing readers with a holistic understanding of the latest research and clinical insights in the field.

This strategic curation not only bridges the gap between promotional and scientific perspectives but also lays the foundation for readers to delve deeper into academic literature, empowering them to explore complex topics with clarity and confidence.

The newsletter is brought to readership twice a month on a monthly basis, and issues can be accessed freely by subscribing or consulting at www.efort.org/newsletter.

EFORT Today at a glance (as of 31 December 2023):

-  26,760 contacts
-  10,227 unique readers/month (average)
-  24 issues in 2023
-  642,232 emails sent in 2023
-  38.2% open rate (average)
-  6.5% click through (average)

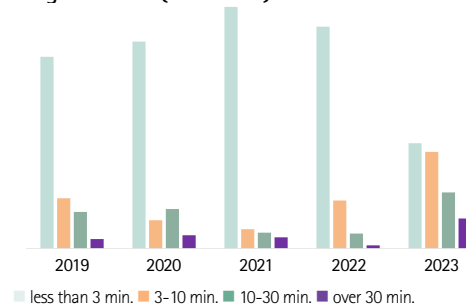


WEBSITE

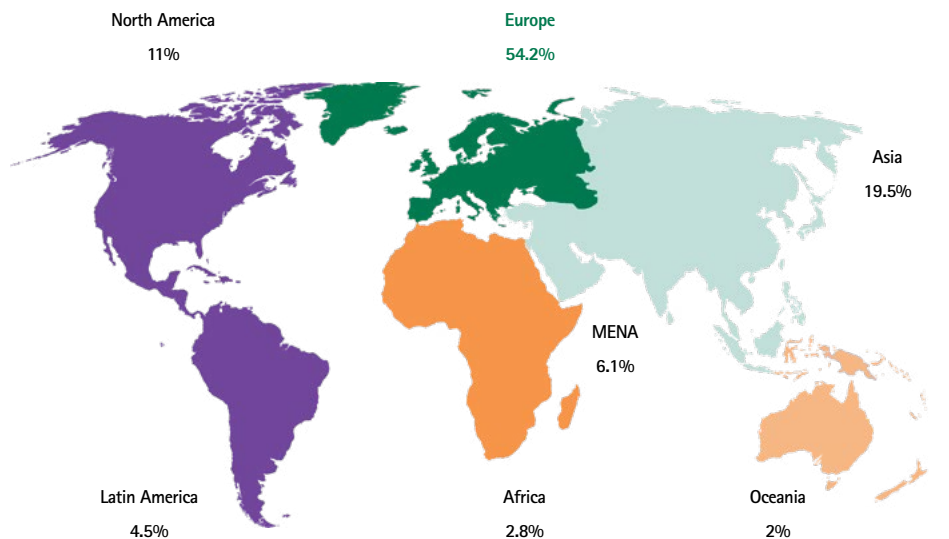
EFORT Websphere at a glance (as of 31 December 2023):

- 1,771,995 visits in 2023
- Top five visited pages:
 - Vienna 2023 homepage <https://congress.efort.org> (37.9%)
 - Main homepage www.efort.org (28%)
 - Orthopaedic Event Calendar <https://www.efort.org/orthopaedic-event-calendar> (13.8%)
 - EFORT webinars <https://www.efort.org/webinars> (12.6%)
 - Lisbon 2022 homepage <https://congress.efort.org> (7.7%)

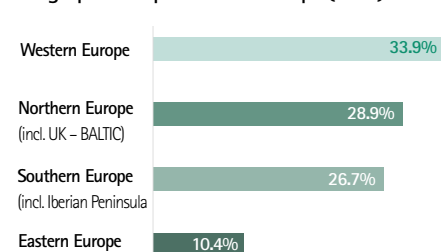
Length of visits (in minutes)



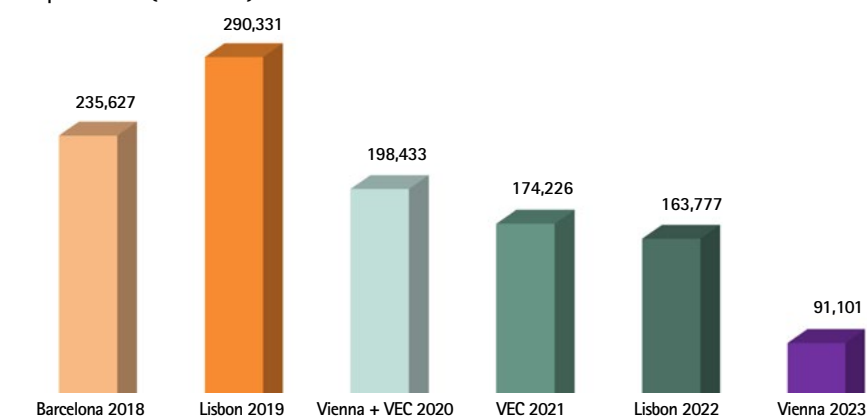
Unique visitors – geographical repartition (in %)



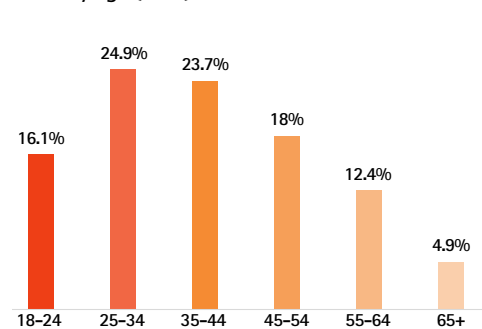
Geographical repartition in Europe (in %)



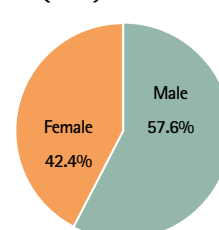
Unique visitors (in volume)

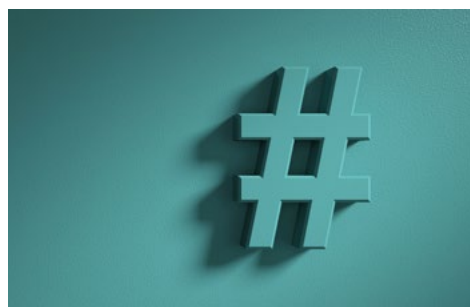


Visits by age (in %)



Visits by gender (in %)





SOCIAL MEDIA

EFORT has ensured the continuity of its social media presence and the constant growth of its Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Youtube channels up to a regular posting.

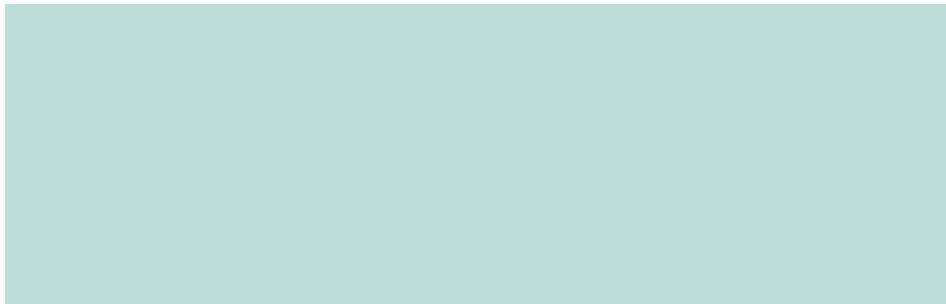
EFORT's social media news strategy reflects the development of EFORT products and programmes (EFORT Open Reviews, EFORT Congress, Webinars, Fellowships....). Posting still respects a fair balance between purely scientific content and messages on educational activities of a more promotional and marketing nature.

2023 Social media channels overview



- Engagement: sum of reactions, comments and shares received by content associated with EFORT channel (for the selected timeframe).
- Inbound messages by sentiment: sum of inbound messages received by EFORT (comments, posts by others and private messages). Does not include comments from the author of the post

Outreach



2023 Social media channels: Top 3 posts by Engagement Rate

Post with highest reach

EFORT
Dec 21, 16:00

Advanced hemophilic knee arthropathy is a frequent and devastating manifestation of severe hemophilia with significant implications for activities of daily living. Hemophilic arthropathy is caused by repeated bleeding.

EFORT
Dec 26, 14:00

The main indication of bisphosphonates (BPs) is osteoporosis treatment. However, there is growing interest in the peri- and postoperative use of BPs to mitigate total hip arthroplasty (THA) aseptic loosening.

TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME
SUPPORTED BY **stryker**
www.efort.org/robotic

Are you enthusiastic about incorporating robotic surgery into your future career and eager to receive comprehensive training in a diverse spectrum of robotic assisted hip and knee arthroplasty procedures? **Apply**

Post with highest engagement

EFORT
Apr 24, 17:02

Met And Unmet Needs With #RoboticSurgery on Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 14:45 is one of the #EFORT2023 Congress Debate Fora we recommend you not to miss! <https://bit.ly/3M3dF5s> #surgicaltechnique #orthotwitter

EFORT
May 25, 06:57

Don't forget next week's free EFORT Webinar on Floating #Knee Injuries, on Monday 30 January 2023. It will be chaired by Michael Brix, Denmark. Check available resources & registration www.efort.org/webinars

EFORT
May 25, 06:55

2nd day of #EFORT2023 Congress kicks off now! Hope you will enjoy the scientific programme cooked up for you & will appreciate interactions with your peers & our partners! Use <http://bit.ly/2u1ufYH> /EFORT App to plan

Most engaging post

EFORT
May 25, 17:02

Lateral hinge fracture in medial opening wedge high tibial osteotomy - a narrative review. [efort.org/lateral-hinge-fractures-lhwf](https://www.efort.org/lateral-hinge-fractures-lhwf) are one of the most common complications of medial opening wedge high tibial osteotomy.

stryker
Thank you Prof. Lustig

Robotic Fellowship Program

efort live are always glad to see knowledge sharing amongst O&T peers. www.efort.org

WELCOME

efortlive The second day of #EFORT2023 Congress kicks off now! We hope you will enjoy the scientific programme. www.efort.org

Post with highest engagement

EFORT
May 25, 20:21

EFORT COOP FORUMS
Management of the stiff elbow: a literature review

Mark J. Simonsen, MSc. It was the EFORT2023, how far have you come? M. J. Simonsen and J. Simonsen

Happy to share that our paper about the most recent evidence-based treatment for the stiff elbow has been

EFORT
May 26, 16:57

Thanks to all participants, faculty & collaborating partners attending hashtag#EFORT2023. Empowering

EFORT
May 25, 06:17

Yesterday's EFORT 2023 was amazing, and I can't wait for today's meeting to start. Yesterday's sessions left me

Berney Associés

Geneva, May 14, 2024

Report of the statutory auditor on the ordinary audit for the year 2023 to the General Meeting of EFORT, Rolle

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of EFORT (the Association), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2023, and the income statement, the cash flow statement, the statement of changes in restricted funds and general funds for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER and comply with Swiss law and the Association's statutes.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Standards on Auditing (SA-CH). Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the provisions of Swiss law and the requirements of the Swiss audit profession, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Berney Associés

Material Uncertainty Related to Going Concern

We draw attention to note 7.7 "Going concern" in the notes to the financial statements, which states that the Association had financial issues in 2023 and recorded a significant operating loss of CHF 555'579 and is therefore over-indebted as of December 31, 2023. These conditions and other matters described in note 7.7 describe the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. The Executive Committee is aware of the situation and took short and mid-term measures to enable the Association to overcome the over-indebtedness. To this end, the Association has obtained subordinated loans to cover the over-indebtedness. Given this, along with the other measures taken, the Executive Committee is confident that the continuity of the company can be assured. Should the measures disclosed in the note 7.7 not be successful, we draw the attention of the Executive Committee to article 77 of the Swiss Civil Code. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Executive Committee's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the provisions of Swiss law, the Swiss GAAP FER and the Association's statutes, and for such internal control as the Executive Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Executive Committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Executive Committee either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Swiss law and SA-CH will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Berney Associés

As part of an audit in accordance with Swiss law and SA-CH, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Executive Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with the Executive Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Berney Associés

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with article 69b para. 3 CC in connection with article 728a para. 1 item 3 CO and SA-CH 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of financial statements according to the instructions of the Executive Committee.

We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you, disclosing negative general funds of CHF 490'693, be approved.

Furthermore, we draw attention to the fact that EFORT is over-indebted as per article 69d CC in conjunction with article 725b CO. Due to the fact that the company's creditors subordinated their claims amounting to CHF 500'000 as of today, the Executive Committee has refrained from notifying the court.

Berney Associés Audit SA

BA Qualified electronic signature



Emilienne FRELÉCHOZ
Licensed Audit Expert
Auditor in charge

BA Qualified electronic signature



Raphaël LEVEAU
Licensed Audit Expert

Enclosure: - financial statements (balance sheet, income statement, cash flow statement, statement of changes in restricted funds and general funds and notes)

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Financial statements



INCOME STATEMENT

	2023	2022
01 January to 31 December	CHF	CHF
Membership fees	156,819	160,855
Donations for restricted projects	37,745	-
Education	156,457	335,229
Annual Congress	2,288,769	2,470,396
Post Graduate Training Programme	-	1,082
Association management	211,111	175,507
Miscellaneous	326	112,488
Net revenue	2,851,227	3,255,557
Administration	503,355	521,337
Executive Committee	113,971	155,783
Marketing & Communication	217,923	278,208
Annual Congress	2,106,568	1,658,283
Post Graduate Training Programme	499	1,759
Public policies and initiatives	138,853	87,321
Education	608,767	583,467
Total operating expenses	3,689,936	3,286,158
Operating result	(838,709)	(30,601)
Interest expense	-	(55)
Foreign exchange gain / (loss)	(5,795)	21,060
Financial result	(5,795)	21,005
Result Before Non-recurring Items	(844,504)	(9,596)
Release of indirect tax provision	125,020	-
Recovery of bad debtors and UK VAT	-	80,657
Result before variation of restricted funds	(719,484)	71,061
Variation of restricted funds	163,905	70,486
Net gain / (loss)	(555,579)	141,547

BALANCE SHEET STATEMENT

	2023	2022
As of 31 December	CHF	CHF
Cash and cash equivalents	177,051	691,557
Accounts receivable	197,907	213,041
Other receivables	73,310	131,935
Prepaid expenses	163,782	98,802
Total current assets	612,050	1,135,335
Tenant's guarantee / deposits	28,255	28,119
Equipment	10,149	19,661
Intangible assets	14,112	41,112
Total non-current assets	52,516	88,892
Total assets	664,566	1,224,227
Accounts payable	458,787	202,023
Other payables	-	45,895
Accruals	60,053	96,526
Provision	55,335	176,159
Deferred revenue	406,451	288,337
Total current liabilities	980,626	808,940
Restricted funds	174,629	350,397
Total restricted funds	174,629	350,397
Accumulated result	64,890	(76,657)
Net gain / (loss)	(555,579)	141,547
Total general funds	(490,693)	64,890
Total liabilities and funds	664,566	1,224,227

David Limb

21 May 2024
Mr. David Limb
EFORT President 2023 / 2024

Prof. Dr. Rob Nelissen

Prof. Dr. Rob Nelissen
EFORT Secretary General



CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	2023	2022
<i>As of 31 December</i>	CHF	CHF
Net gain / (loss) for the year	(555,583)	141,547
Depreciation	36,512	40,343
Impairment	-	-
Change in restricted funds	(175,768)	(86,445)
Financial result	-	55
Change in provisions	(136,614)	(52,279)
Cash flow before change in working capital	(831,453)	43,221
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Debtors	30,924	80,821
Deposits	(136)	-
Other receivables and prepaid expenses	(6,355)	198,896
Accounts payable	256,764	127,349
Other payables	(45,895)	(16,997)
Accruals	(36,473)	50,424
Deferred revenue	118,118	(487,649)
Interests paid	-	(55)
Cash flow from operating activities	(514,506)	(3,990)
Purchase of equipment	-	-
Cash flow from investing activities	-	-
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(514,506)	(3,990)
Balance at 01 January	691,557	695,547
Balance at 31 December	177,051	691,557
Change in cash and cash equivalents	(514,506)	(3,990)

21 May 2024
Mr. David Limb
EFORT President 2023 / 2024

Prof. Dr. Rob Nelissen
EFORT Secretary General



CHANGES IN RESTRICTED FUNDS AND GENERAL FUNDS STATEMENT

	Opening	Allocation	Utilisation	Transfer	Total Variation	Reevaluation	Refund	Closing
2023, CHF								
Restricted funds								
Smith Et Nephew fellowships	49,759	-	(14,760)	-	(14,760)	(2,196)	-	32,803
Microport fellowships	24,552	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,552
Grünenthal elearning and webinars	(16,103)	-	-	15,368	15,368	735	-	-
Grünenthal data collection	36,077	-	(19,062)	(15,368)	(34,430)	(1,647)	-	-
Grünenthal fellowships	27,001	-	(27,001)	-	(27,001)	-	-	-
Grünenthal awareness campaign	147	-	(147)	-	(147)	-	-	-
Grünenthal communication activities	21,003	-	(20,044)	-	(20,044)	(959)	-	-
Medacta educational grant	5,138	-	-	-	-	(301)	-	4,837
Stryker fellowship	117,121	27,748	(36,320)	-	(8,572)	(5,277)	-	103,272
CORE-MD Project – Eu. Society of Cardiology	85,700	9,998	(84,317)	-	(74,319)	(2,219)	-	9,162
Total restricted funds	350,395	37,745	(201,650)	-	(163,905)	(11,863)	-	174,629
General funds	64,890	(555,583)	-	-	(555,583)	-	-	(490,693)
Total general funds	64,890	(555,583)	-	-	(555,583)	-	-	(490,693)
Closing balance at 31 December 2023								(316,064)
2022, CHF								
Restricted funds								
Smith Et Nephew fellowships	62,184	-	(9,197)	-	(9,197)	(3,228)	-	49,759
Microport fellowships	24,552	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,552
Grünenthal elearning and webinars	(16,901)	-	-	-	-	798	-	(16,103)
Grünenthal data collection	51,868	-	(13,530)	-	(13,530)	(2,261)	-	36,077
Grünenthal fellowships	27,001	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,001
Grünenthal awareness campaign	147	-	-	-	-	-	-	147
Grünenthal communication activities	22,044	-	-	-	-	(1,041)	-	21,003
Medacta educational grant	5,393	-	-	-	-	(255)	-	5,138
Stryker fellowship	126,743	-	(3,658)	-	(3,658)	(5,964)	-	117,121
CORE-MD Project – Eu. Society of Cardiology	133,811	-	(44,101)	-	(44,101)	(4,009)	-	85,700
Total restricted funds	436,842	-	(70,486)	-	(70,486)	(15,960)	-	350,397
General funds	(76,657)	141,547	-	-	141,547	-	-	64,890
Total general funds	(76,657)	141,547	-	-	141,547	-	-	64,890
Closing balance at 31 December 2022								415,287

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

General information

The European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology ("EFORT") is an association located in Rolle, Switzerland.

The aim of the Federation is the promotion of the sciences of orthopaedics and traumatology. To accomplish these objectives, the Federation organises European congresses and training programmes, collaborates with universities and other qualified institutions, stimulates basic and clinical research and undertakes any other activity which might be useful in fulfilling its aims. The funds of the Federation may be used only for the aims outlined above.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below.

1.1 Accounting principles

EFORT prepares its accounts in compliance with the policies described in the following notes, Accounting policies applied are in compliance with the Swiss GAAP FER (Swiss Accounting and Reporting Recommendations) 21.

As permitted by Swiss GAAP FER 21, the accounts were prepared in compliance with the conceptual framework, the fundamental recommendations and recommendation 21. The accounts also comply with the article 69a of the Swiss Civil Code.

Information required by Swiss GAAP FER 21 on the performance of the Federation, and not disclosed in the financial report, are included in the annual report.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The income statement is presented using the classification of expenses by function. The statements are based on economic values and present a true and fair view of the Federation's assets, financial position and results of operations.

1.2 Foreign currency translation

a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements were measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Federation operates ('the functional currency'), which is Swiss Francs ("CHF"). The presentation currency is CHF.

b) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transaction. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement.

Balances in foreign currency are revalued using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of closing.

2. Principles of valuation

2.1 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash, balances in bank accounts, and short-term time deposits with a residual term of less than three months. They are valued at their nominal value.

2.2 Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are amounts due from parties for services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer), they are classified as current assets.

These receivables are valued at their nominal values. Credit default risks are accounted for by specific allowances.

2.3 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are valued at purchase cost less any depreciation required by generally accepted accounting principles. Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the fixed asset. The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the income statement.

The useful lives of assets have been determined as follows:

Furniture and Equipment	8 years
Computers and hardware	4-5 years
Software	4-5 years
Leasehold improvements	Lease term

2.4 Intangible assets



Computer software

Costs associated with maintaining software programs are recognised as an expense as incurred. Purchased software are capitalised and amortised on a straight-line basis over a period their estimated useful lives, which does not exceed 4 years.

Internally developed software costs are capitalised only if the following conditions are met:

- software are clearly identifiable;
- costs are reliably determinable;
- the federation has sufficient resources to complete their development;
- software brings measurable benefits to the federation over the course of several years.

The amortisation of internally developed software starts when the asset is ready for use.

2.5 Impairment of assets

The value of non-current assets is assessed on the balance sheet date for signs of impairment. If there is evidence of any lasting reduction in value, the realisable value is calculated (impairment test). If the book value exceeds the realisable value, the difference is recognised in profit and loss as unscheduled depreciation.

2.6 Provisions

Provisions are recognised if an event in the past gives rise to a justified, likely obligation which is of uncertain timing or amount, but which can be estimated reliably. Provisions are measured on the basis of the estimated amount of money required to satisfy the obligation.

2.7 Trade payables and other liabilities

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade payables and other liabilities are stated at their nominal values.

2.8 Employee benefits

Wages, salaries, social contributions, paid annual leave, sick leave and other benefits are paid or accrued undiscounted in the year in which the associated services are rendered by employees of the federation. Legal or constructive obligations such as bonus are recognised for the amount expected to be paid in the year the services are provided.

EFORT is a member of a collective occupational pension that fully insures the risks with an Insurance Company. This pension scheme is financed by employer and employee contributions.



The economic impact of existing pension schemes on the federation is reviewed each year and the related economic benefit or liability recognised. The employer contribution reserves available are recognised as assets. Changes in employer contribution reserves and stated changes in economic impact arising from excess/insufficient cover for pension schemes are recognised in the income statement under personnel expenses.

2.9 Exceptional items

Exceptional items are disclosed separately in the financial statements where it is necessary to do so to provide further understanding of the financial performance. They are material items of income or expense that have been shown separately due to the significance of their nature or amount.

2.10 Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised when the services are rendered, if the amounts can be measured reliably and if it is probable that the Federation will receive future economic benefits.

The main revenue streams of the Federation are Membership fees, Annual Congress income, donations and grants for specific projects.

Membership fees are recognised in the accounting period they relate to.

Annual Congress revenue is composed of registration fees and sponsorship income.

Revenue from sponsorship and registration fees are recognised in the period when the services are rendered. Sponsorship invoiced in advance are deferred in the balance sheet.

Grants and Donations received for restricted projects are recognised as an income when expenses are incurred. If they are not used or partially used during the financial year, the unused amounts are recorded in restricted funds. When used in subsequent years, the restricted funds are reduced accordingly. These movements are captured by the variation of restricted funds in the income statement.

2.11 Leasing

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

The Federation leases certain property, plant and equipment. Leases of property, plant and equipment where the Federation has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's commencement at the lower of the fair value of the leased property and the present value of the minimum lease payments.



Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance charges. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in the Finance Lease Liabilities. The interest element of the finance cost is charged to the income statement over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. The property, plant and equipment acquired under finance leases is depreciated over the shorter of the useful life of the asset and the lease term rebates and excluding taxes and value-added taxes.

3.1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Petty cash	5,150	5,626
UBS, Switzerland, EUR account	92,266	619,270
UBS, Switzerland, EUR account	135	227
UBS, Switzerland, CHF account	65,610	50,806
Raiffeisen, Switzerland, EUR account	-	434
Santander, Spain, EUR account	13,890	15,194
Total cash and cash equivalents	177,051	691,557

3.2 Accounts receivable

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Receivables from third parties	372,180	399,958
Receivables from related parties	-	3,146
Bad debt provision	(174,273)	(190,063)
Total accounts receivable	197,907	213,041



3.3 Other receivables

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Receivable from payroll insurance	10,286	50,328
Other receivables from third parties	63,024	81,607
Total other receivables	73,310	131,935

3.4 Leasehold improvements

	Office	Conference rooms	Total
2023	CHF	CHF	CHF
Purchase value at 01 January 2023	448,661	169,607	618,268
As at 31 December 2023	448,661	169,607	618,268
Accumulated depreciation at 01 January 2023	448,661	169,607	618,268
Depreciation	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	448,661	169,607	618,268
Net book value at 31 December 2023	-	-	-
Thereof leased assets	-	-	-
2022			
Purchase value at 01 January 2022	448,661	169,607	618,268
As at 31 December 2022	448,661	169,607	618,268
Accumulated depreciation at 01 January 2022	448,661	169,607	618,268
Depreciation	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	448,661	169,607	618,268
Net book value at 31 December 2022	-	-	-
Thereof leased assets	-	-	-

David Rime 

3.5 Equipment

	Furniture / Equipment	Hardware	Total
2023	CHF	CHF	CHF
Purchase value at 01 January 2023	17,488	87,301	104,789
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	17,488	87,301	104,789
Accumulated depreciation at 01 January 2023	17,243	67,885	85,128
Depreciation	90	9,422	9,512
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	17,333	77,307	94,640
Net book value at 31 December 2023	155	9,994	10,149
Thereof leased assets	155	-	155

	Furniture / Equipment	Hardware	Total
2022	CHF	CHF	CHF
Purchase value at 01 January 2022	17,488	87,301	104,789
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	17,488	87,301	104,789
Accumulated depreciation at 01 January 2022	16,613	57,056	73,669
Depreciation	630	10,829	11,459
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	17,243	67,885	85,128
Net book value at 31 December 2022	245	19,416	19,661
Thereof leased assets	245	-	245

David Rime 

3.6 Intangible assets

	Software	Total
	CHF	CHF
2023		
Purchase value at 01 January 2023	186,557	186,557
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	186,557	186,557
Accumulated depreciation at 01 January 2023	145,445	145,445
Depreciation	27,000	27,000
Disposals	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	172,445	172,445
Net book value at 31 December 2023	14,112	14,112
2022		
Purchase value at 01 January 2022	186,557	186,557
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	186,557	186,557
Accumulated depreciation at 01 January 2022	116,561	116,561
Depreciation	28,884	28,884
Disposals	-	-
As at 31 December 2022	145,445	145,445
Net book value at 31 December 2022	41,112	41,112

4.1 Other payables

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Social security, pension and payroll taxes	-	41,897
VAT payable	-	3,998
Total other payables	-	45,895

4.2 Accruals

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Other accruals	60,053	96,526
Total accruals	60,053	96,526

The accruals at 31 December 2023 includes Audit and Consulting fees.



4.3 Deferred Revenue

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Congress sponsorship deferred revenue	406,451	288,337
Total deferred revenue	406,451	288,337

The deferred revenue at 31 December 2023 includes the sponsoring of Hamburg 2024 received in advance.

4.4 Provision

2023, CHF	Tax provision	Employees related	Total
Opening balance at 01 January 2023	124,140	52,019	176,159
Additions	-	55,335	55,335
Release	(125,020)	-	(125,020)
Usage	-	(52,019)	(52,019)
Revaluation	880	-	880
Closing balance at 31 December 2023	0	55,335	55,335

2022, CHF	Tax provision	Employees related	Total
Opening balance at 01 January 2022	136,709	50,591	187,300
Additions	-	52,019	52,019
Usage	-	(50,591)	(50,591)
Revaluation	(12,569)	-	(12,569)
Closing balance at 31 December 2022	124,140	52,019	176,159

The provisions are for overtime and unused vacation of the staff.

In 2019, an additional provision has been accrued for CHF 136,709 regarding a tax risk for VAT.

At 31 December 2023, the risk is considered as unlikely and therefore the provision has been cancelled.

5.1 Annual Congress

	2023		2022	
Congress	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
Lisbon 2022	-	-	2,470,396	1,143,642
Vienna 2023	2,288,769	1,325,037	-	39,406
Hamburg 2024	-	65,480	-	-
Others	-	9,174	-	-
Staff costs	-	706,878	-	475,235
Total in CHF	2,288,769	2,106,568	2,470,396	1,658,283

5.2 Post Graduate Training Programme



Course	2023		2022	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
Basic Science & Research Online	-	499	-	-
Others	-	-	1,082	1,759
Total in CHF	-	499	1,082	1,759

6.1 Education

	2023		2022	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
EBOT	106,443	71,267	85,901	73,360
Foa	-	8,111	-	-
EFORT abroad	-	3,005	-	18,669
EFORT Open Reviews (EOR)	50,000	76,630	70,671	146,790
Visiting fellowships	-	43,257	-	14,193
e-Learning project	-	101,077	178,646	130,019
Speciality Societies Committee	-	543	-	-
Education general	14	1,859	11	1,598
Staff costs	-	303,018	-	198,838
Total in CHF	156,457	608,767	335,229	583,467
Use of restricted funds	117,333	-	12,856	-
Adjusted total in CHF	273,790	608,767	348,085	583,467

6.2 Administration

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Rent and utilities	148,932	146,380
Telephony and postage	17,580	20,890
Depreciation	-	966
Legal fees	8,690	12,743
Audit and accounting fees	147,710	142,260
Staff costs	172,059	156,385
Other expenses	8,384	41,713
Total administration	503,355	521,337

David Rime *S. Rime*

6.3 Executive Committee

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Travel expenses	733	-
Travel expenses	47,581	36,706
Staff costs	61,054	95,803
Other expenses	4,603	23,274
Total Executive Committee	113,971	155,783

6.4 Marketing & Communication

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
Service, support, CRM	14,595	15,557
Portal EFORTnet and public website	21,705	29,434
Depreciation	33,987	33,802
Staff costs	132,108	157,652
Other expenses	15,528	41,763
Total Marketing & Communication	217,923	278,208

6.5 Public policies and initiatives

	2023		2022	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
Core MD	9,998	75,783	-	37,035
MedTech	-	30	-	-
European activities	-	16,828	-	2,763
Specialty Societies	-	-	-	-
NORE	-	1,015	-	1,463
IPSSI	-	10,874	-	-
White book 2022	-	-	-	14,238
Staff costs	-	34,323	-	31,822
Total in CHF	9,998	138,853	-	87,321
Use of restricted funds	84,317	-	57,631	-
Adjusted total in CHF	94,314	138,853	57,631	87,321

6.6 Recovery of bad debtors and UK VAT

In 2023, EFORT has not received recovery of bad debtors.



6.7 Release of indirect tax provision

EFORT has received an extraordinary Income from the reversal of Lisbon 2019 Accrual EUR.

7.1 Pledged assets

The rent of the Rolle offices is guaranteed by a deposit with the UBS for CHF 28,255 (2022: CHF CHF 28,119).

7.2 Pension Fund

The position with the pension fund at the end of the year was a payable of CHF 32,276 (2022: CHF 30,904). The pension fund is fully insured with an insurance company. The capital ratio is therefore 100%.

7.3 Benefits to the Executive Committees and to the Management

Indemnities to cover secretarial expenses and paid to the Members of the Executive Committee amounted to CHF 0 (2022: CHF 0).

These secretarial expenses exclude reimbursements by EFORT of the effective costs incurred by the Members of the Executive Board and other Committees in the normal course of their functions.

As permitted by Swiss GAAP FER 21, benefits paid to management are not disclosed.

7.4 Personnel

For the year 2023, total personnel costs amounted to CHF 1,409,439 (2022: CHF 1,115,735).

In 2023 and in 2022, the Federation employed less than 50 full-time equivalent employees.

7.5 Transactions with related parties

Receivables and payables to related parties were disclosed in the relevant notes. Transactions with related parties other than salary and indemnities are disclosed below.

The EFORT Foundation was invoiced for CHF 11,770 (2022: CHF 12,308), net of VAT, by EFORT for administration services.

7.6 Lease commitments

EFORT entered into operational lease and rental agreements. The future payment commitments are:

	2023	2022
	CHF	CHF
<i>Printer</i>		
Due within one year	7,380	7,380
Due between one to five years	14,760	22,140
Total printer	22,140	29,520
<i>Office rent</i>		
Due within one year	79,880	79,880
Due between one to five years	-	-
Total office rental	79,880	79,880
Total Lease and Rental Commitments	102,020	109,400

7.7 Going concern

The financial situation of EFORT was already identified as perilous at last year's General Assembly, particularly since our financial model relies heavily on income from a single event. The cancellation of the EFORT Annual Congress for two consecutive years during the Covid pandemic significantly depleted our reserves.

A budget was set for this year, anticipating lean times. Unfortunately, the number of congress participants fell below targets, and the impact of inflation and substantially increased energy costs resulted in a significantly diminished net result from the Vienna 2023 congress. These factors have given rise to significant uncertainty that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. This forced the Board to make difficult decisions. In October 2023, the CEO informed the President and Secretary General about concerns of over-indebtedness for EFORT.

Plans were quickly put into motion, dividing the steps forward into two distinct approaches: immediate measures and mid-term solutions. The first set of measures was prepared in anticipation of the possible indication of duties under Art. 725b Swiss Code of Obligation, in connection with Art. 69d Swiss Civil Code.



To address the situation with immediate measures, EFORT has:

- Revised the contract with the current congress organiser to ensure timelier receipt of funds.
- Developed a new congress management approach for congress editions starting in 2025.
- Sought support from the EFORT Foundation, which agreed to grant EFORT a subordinated loan.
- Sought support from another partner, which agreed to grant EFORT a subordinated loan.

As part of mid-term restructuring measures, the following actions are being taken or are in progress:

- Reviewing income sources within community and membership management activities, notably by increasing membership fees for the first time in a decade. Exploring other options such as subspecialty society membership or premium individual membership. A Membership Taskforce has been created for this purpose.
- Re-focusing the priorities around two main pillars (instead of 4), namely Education and European Affairs.
- Reducing staff capacity by 30 to 35% (from the current total FTE of 11 to 7.2 FTE in the future).
- Revisiting the need for current office space and considering adaptable infrastructure that reflects not only the volume of business but also new ways of working through flexible workspace. This new approach is based on extensive remote work with a smaller, permanent base in Rolle, Switzerland, resulting in an approximate 70% decrease in current rental costs.
- Scrutinising areas such as IT management and e-Science technology for potential model revision and/or scope adaptation.

Based on the above, budget and cash flow projections indicate that EFORT will be able to maintain its liquidity at an appropriate level for the next twelve months. Therefore, the financial statements have been prepared based on the going concern principle.



NOTES

Disclosure & Acknowledgement

DISCLOSURE

Since 2016 EFORT has adopted the policy of disclosure of conflict(s) of interest for speakers participating in the EFORT Annual Congresses on a mandatory basis

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2023 saw a continuation of the physical congress environment. As with each edition of the annual congress, EFORT are grateful for support from corporate partners, that recognised and supported ongoing education, science and learning and demonstrated this with their physical presence in Vienna through exhibition, satellite symposium, sponsorship, or a combination of all.

EFORT particularly wishes to thank those partners that supported us with their physical presence in 2023 in what has since proved to be a challenging post-COVID impacted year. Not all of those that we might have expected to be present were able to do so as they had their own challenges, and we very much hope that they are able to return sooner rather than later for the benefit of the entire Orthopaedic and Trauma community. Those partners present can be proud of assisting EFORT in disseminating education whilst respecting compliance. Together we provide stronger solutions.

■ **Exhibitors:** aap Joints GmbH; Albomed GmbH; Alynam Pharmaceuticals; Amplitude; Astrolabe Medical; Aygun Co Inc; APOA; B Braun Aesculap; Baide Medical; Bauerfeind AG; Becton Dickinson (BD); Beijing Chunlizhengda; Beijing Fule Science Et Technology Development Co Ltd; Beijing ZKSK Technology Co Ltd; bioMérieux; Biosan Biotechnology; Biovico Medical Biotech; Bone Et Joint Journal (The); BPB Medica; Canwell Medical Co Ltd; Changzhou Master Precision Tool Co Ltd; Chm sp z.o.o; Community Tissue Services; Condor MedTech GmbH; Contura Orthopaedics Ltd; Corentec; Curvebeam AI; De Soutter Medical Ltd; DePuy Synthes; Dipperson Medical; Doratek Medical; Double Medical Technology Inc; EBJIS; EFAS; EHS; EOR; EORS; ERC Biotechnology; Essity; Estar Medical; Ethicon; F.Colombo Srl; Finceramica; FORTE; G21 s.r.l; Genostis AG; Gomina; Griffin Publisher; Gruppo Bioimpianti SRL; Health-Joy Medical; Hebei Grande Precision Machinery Co Ltd; Implantcast GmbH; ImplanTec GmbH; Innomed Europe LLC; ITS; Intrauma SpA; iWALKfree Inc; Koln3d Technology; Koenigsee Implantate GmbH; LCA Pharmaceutical; Lepu Medical; Lifenet Health; Lima Corporate S.p.a; LSM Med Srl; Marquardt Medizintechnik GmbH; Maxxeus; MDT Int I S.A; Medacta International SA; MediCAD Hectec GmbH; Microport Scientific Cooperatief U.A; Mindray; Mistral Orthopaedics; Mölnlycke Health Care; MTF Biologics; Normmed Medical; NuVasive; Ortho Baltic; Osartis GmbH; Otimed; Permedica Orthopaedics; RegenLab SA; Rejoin Mastin Medical Device Co Ltd; REV-MED, Inc; Sanatmetal Ltd; Sawbones Europe AB; Shanghai Bojin Electric Instrument Et Device Co Ltd; SICOT; Singlecan Medical Products Ltd; Star Sports Medicine; Surgival CO SAU; Suzhou Kangli Orthopaedic Instrument Co Ltd; Tecres Spa; THI Total Healthcare Innovation GmbH; T-LAB; Waston Medical; Wisepress Medical Bookshop.

■ **Satellite symposia:** Alynam Pharmaceuticals; Becton Dickinson (BD); bioMérieux; Medacta International SA Et Zimmer Biomet.

■ **Surgical Skills workshops:** Exactech.

■ **Research Café:** 3M.

■ **Corporate Partnerships and/or Fellowship Programmes**

Medacta International



Smith&Nephew



Stryker





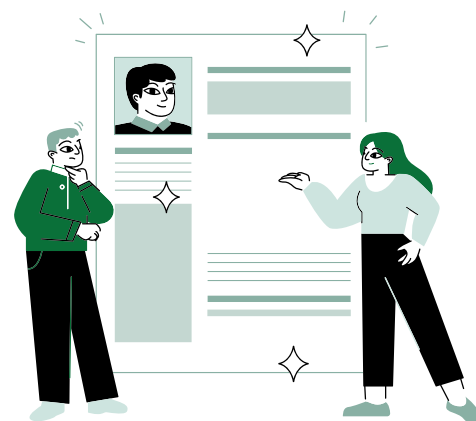
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