# **European Context**

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## **Conflict of Interest**

• NONE





With the important changes to the statutes of the European Society of Cardiology voted at the occasion of the ESC Congress 2003 in Vienna, the possibility for better and more far-reaching development in the different areas of expertise in cardiology were created and the way for the official creation of Associations opened. As a consequence, and in view of the growing importance of cardiac rhythmology, the European Heart Rhythm Association was created out of the merged Working Groups on arrhythmias and cardiac pacing.

The aim of this new entity shall be to promote the development of expertise in the field in order to improve the quality of life of the European population by reducing the impact of cardiac arrhythmias.

EHRA shall also help members to be recognised as experts in the field of clinical electrophysiology and pacing, offering diplomas based on education and examination, to be responsible for the rhythmology aspects within the ESC and accredit the scientific and educational value of congresses or meetings in Europe and therefore be the place where members' opinions can be made public.



## **EARLY DAYS OF EHRA**

During the structural changing period from WG to Association, the EUROPACE 2003 was held in Paris, December 4-7. The attendance was of over 2,500 participants and industry key players were all present, not only with an important and informative exhibition but also in multiple symposia devoted to review critically therapy-specific topics. The high quality scientific programme attracted the participants and their conclusion was that this meeting is where the European electrophysiologist can learn rhythmology from basics to bedside, have a lively exchange with basic researchers and discuss the most innovative papers. We are all thankful to Prof. Sam Levy for having driven this event to a landmark for 2003 and by this confirmed the strong need amongst our community for the importance and need of this unique event.

EUROPACE is the official congress of EHRA. EUROPACE 2005 will be held June 26-29 in Prague. Original scientific information is published through its official journal Europace.

EHRA will also be the source for important information in our field, like databases on prevalence of arrhythmias and Sudden Death in our population, use of devices and interventions etc. Together with the preparation of guidelines and quality standards, this information will help members for their private and hospital planning strategy.

Finally, EHRA will represent within the European Society of Cardiology the interests of rhythmology and coordinate the exchange of information with National Societies and political authorities.

*Lukas Kappenberger President, European Heart Rhythm Association* 





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## EUROPACE 2005 Committee

### Lukas Kappenberger

Lausanne (CH) President of the EHRA

### Josep Brugada

Barcelona (ES) President Scientific Committee

### Josef Kautzner

Prague (CZ) President Local Host Committee

Carina Blomström-Lundqvist, Uppsala (SE) Martin Borggrefe, Mannheim (DE) Michele Brignole, Lavagna (IT) Hugo Ector, Leuven (BE) Ignacio Fernandez Lozano, Madrid (ES) Jean-Yves Le Heuzey, Paris (FR) Cecilia Linde, Stockholm (SE) Martin Schalij, Leiden (NL) Milos Taborsky, Prague (CZ) Panos Vardas, Heraklion (GR)



## **Europace 2005 Prague**

## **Venue: Congress centre Prague**

Total attendance : 3613

## Abstracts

- 952 submitted abstract
- 687 accepted abstract
- 72,20% acceptance rate

## 2 live cases (IKEM, Homolka)



### EUROPEAN HEART RHYTHM ASSOCIATION (EHRA)

EHRA has now been in existence for 5 years and has over 2,000 members and 8 committees. Via our activities, we strive to provide the best possible tools, education and information in international electrophysiology. While the Board and some committees have changed this past year, enthusiasm and commitment remains, and we are proud to share some of our achievement

An extremely successful EHRA Training Fellowship programme launched in 2007 for young Physicians wishing to gather top-level training in clinical electrophysiology in Europe, was repeated in 2008 with top notch applications.

The editorial board of the journal, led by Professor A.J. Camm thrives with over 4700 subscriptions and increased international article submissions, demonstrating an enhanced visibility and reputation.

The Education, Scientific Documents, Scientific Initiatives and Accreditation Committees have surpassed themselves in knowledge dissemination via simulator and pharmacology courses, preparatory courses for exams, policy conferences, slide resources, key reference library, consensus documents, and accreditation exams. New initiatives are in the pipeline, and the Web and Communications Committee is vital, providing tools and ideas to make this available to our members.

The National Society Committee organised its second "EHRA Summit" in April, where Presidents and Chairpersons of European Societies of Electrophysiology and Arrhythmias met to discuss guideline implementation.

Alliances with other ESC associations via joint congress sessions and activities continue to flourish, as well as our partnership with Cardiostim (with 20 EHRA sessions held in June)



and HRS and whom we begin the writing of our 3rd joint documents

EUROPACE 2007 saw great results in Lisbon with over 4000 attendees and preparations are underway for Berlin 21-24 June 2009.

The EHRA Board continues to look for new ideas and active members who share our enthusiasm and dedication and we take this opportunity to thank all the players in helping build EHRA to what it is today.

Josep Brugada Terradellas President of the European Heart Rhythm Association

Silvia G. Priori Past President of the European Heart Rhythm Association

Abania: Algeria: Amenia: Austria: Belarus: Belgrum: Bosnia & Herzegovina: Bulgaria: Croacia: Cyprus: Czech Republic Denmark: Egypt: Estonia: Finland: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: France: Georgia: Germany: Greece: Hungary Iceland: Ireland: Israel: Italy: Latvia: Lebanon: Lbya: Lithuania: Luxembourg: Malta: Morocco: Netherlands: Norway Poland Portuga: Republic of Moldavia: Romania: Russian Federation: San Manno: Serbia: Slovenia: Spain: Sweden

Switzerland - Syria Tunisia - Turkey Ukraine - United Kingdom

### The EHRA White Book 2008

The Current Status of Cardiac Electrophysiology in ESC Member Countries

J. Brugada, P. Vardas, C. Wolpert



## EHRA Board 2007-2009





## **CZECH REPUBLIC**





The EHRA White Book 2008 - 65

### 6. Implantable Cardiac Defibrillator

### Number of implanting centres

15

### ICD units implanted

	2006				
Single-chamber	549				
Dual-chamber	321				
Total	1 290				
	2007				
Single-chamber	625				
Dual-chamber	356				
Total	1 478				
		0	500	1 000	150



### 7. Interventional electrophysiology

	2006	2007
Number of ablations performed	2769	2901
Centres performing catheter ablation	Not available	16
Mean number (ablations/centres)	Not available	180
Number of AF ablations	Not available	540

### 8. Device specific

Availability of remote monitoring of devices	

## Availability of a national institution coordinating and guiding device recalls Yes

Name of the institution:

State Institute for Drug Control

# **Eastern Countries Initiative**

- Spontaneous initiative of several EHRA members to arrange for addressed help in a group of Eastern European countries to catch up with the rest of the Europe
- Feb 2010 Pilsen Czech Working group on arrhythmias and pacing invited representatives from different countries of Eastern Europe
- Goal: identify specific problems and suggest how EHRA could help with solution
- 16/17 participated, presented their views







http://populationpyramid.net

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# Why are "Eastern" or "Balkan" Countries Different?



## What are the Consequences?

- Long separation from the rest of the scientific community
- Insufficient "critical mass" of physicians with appropriate knowledge, training and skills
- Difficult access to novel technologies and drugs
- Minimal public awareness (both in medical and general communities)
- Refractoriness of public health care systems to new therapies (absence of reimbursement)



## **Request for specific EHRA Educational Programmes (2010)**

- Promotion of 1 year training fellowship programme
- Proctorship programme
- Short term training felowship programme
- EHRA educational sessions at national congresses
- EHRA Educational materials



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# **ICD for Life Project**

- Slogan formulated in 2010 meeting (Budapest)
- Further content was added within next 2 years
- EHRA endorsed project for electrophysiologists, industry partners, politicians and patient organizations, focusing on fight against sudden cardiac death in individual countries
- Project requiring own structure that will coordinate individual projects in a given countries to increase patient access to ICD implantation



# **The Reality?**



## **ICD for Life project**

- Reality:
- Public contest, 3 countries selected (Georgia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Romania)
- Negotiations with industry failed (no specific structure allowed to be formed)
- Two successful political and educational meetings organized in Tbilisi (Georgia) and in Sarajevo (Bosnia&Herzegovina) with the help of industry
- The logo....





## And video on SCD have remained ....



## **FELLOWSHIPS ON DEVICES (2007-2015)**

Number of fellowships	Eastern Europe/Russ ia	Western Europe/Gre ece	Other
24	8 (33 %)	11 (46%)	5 (21%)

### **EE/WE RATIO: 42% VS 58 %**



## **FELLOWSHIPS ON ABLATION (2007-2015)**

Number of fellowships	`Eastern Europe`/Rus sia	`Western Europe`/Gre ece	Other
87	32 (37 %)	42 (48%)	13 (15%)

### **EE/WE RATIO: 43% VS 57 %**



# **The Mission of EHRA**

"To improve the quality of life of the European population by reducing the impact of cardiac arrhythmias and reduce sudden cardiac death."



## We still have a lot to do....

### 2015 EHRA WHITE BOOK

Country	Population	IPG	CRT	ICD	Ablation
Belarus	9.6	2970	49	172	807
Bulgaria	6.9	3726	303	47	663
Hungary	9.1	6393	941	956	3469
Romania	21.7	4258	289	332	1358
Ukraine	44.3	5258	85	57	2371

Czech R 10.6	9447	1872	2138	5855	
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# EHRA RECOGNISED TRAINING CENTRES

### EHRA Recognised Training Centres (ERTC) is a new initiative that aims to acknowledge and support good educational practices provided by centres

Topic(s): Arrhythmias;

Centres are recognised through the educational and practical teaching programmes they will provide for their fellows.

## About



It is a Quality Label that enables training centres to highlight efficiency, add value to their quality of education and mentoring, increase notoriety as well as attract fellows and practitioners. It is also designed to be used as a mean to verify uniformity of educational tools, standardised practical teaching to improve the overall quality of the laboratories.

### EHRA Membership BENEFITS

Benefits	Lvory	<b>Silver</b>	Gold	Fellow
Services & Discounts				
Discount on EHRA Congresses	1	1	1	1
Access to EHRA Congress Ressources	1	1	1	1
Discount on EHRA Publications (sold onsite during congresses)	1	√	1	1
Discount on EHRA Educational Courses	√	√	1	√
Discount on all cardiology publication from OUP (20% off)	√	√	1	1
Discount on EHRA Book of Pacemaker, ICD & CRT Troubleshooting Case-based (30% off)	√	√	1	1
Access to ESC e-Learning on Arrhythmias & Cardiac Pacing	√	√	√	1
Access to Quaterly e-Newsletter	√	√	√	1
EP Europace Journal (Online)		√	1	~
EP Europace Journal (Combined : Online+print)			1	~





