



To all member associations of ESAM

Oslo, 11. April 2019

ESAM is an umbrella organization for Aerospace Medicine in Europe. The society works for the health and safety of all persons involved in aviation and space operations, including passengers. It is a pan-European, independent forum for aerospace medicine and coordinates European aerospace medicine interests in the applicable fora.

In the last few years, ESAM has grown and is becoming a more influential international organization. The representation is broad with a total of 43 member associations of ESAM from 36 countries. The latest organization to join was the Macedonia Society of Aerospace Medicine in 2018.

We acknowledge that time has come for closer collaboration with national member societies to be prioritized and we would like more ESAM activities to be experienced as relevant for the members, in addition to activities such as the biennial ECAM and the ESAM refresher course for AMEs. We believe that a more and united collaboration in scientific production with national members would not only bring the European aerospace medicine family closer, but also assure a more effective production and a voice with higher impact - through a strong mother organization such as ESAM.

ESAM has paved its way to become a recognized organization and stakeholder towards both EASA and ICAO. So far it has been the work performed by the members of the advisory board of ESAM which mainly has been promoted towards these bodies. Now we would like to stimulate and invite national member societies to take part in and contribute to development of aerospace medicine in Europe and beyond.

Please see the attachment with the proposed concept of ESAM Circle of Experts which we introduce as a platform for future influence and collaboration. We ask for your feedback on the concept which at least should include your view to whether this is supported by your organization and how you could contribute. Feedback is appreciated at latest June 15th 2019 to ab@esam.aero

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Wagstaff", written over a horizontal line.

Anthony Wagstaff
President ESAM



Attachment

Concept on Circle of Experts

Hereby we present the proposed concept of Circle of Experts. First an overview of aeromedical scientific production and activities in Europe will be given.

ESAM current work and production

ESAM is an umbrella organization representing individual European National Aerospace Medicine Societies whose aim is to create and promote Aviation and Space Medicine across the continent of Europe by:

- 1) Assisting the various responsible bodies in the development and harmonization of educational activities in Aerospace Medicine throughout Europe.
- 2) Developing continuous information flows and dialogue among the National Aeromedical Associations.
- 3) Encouraging the exchange of scientific results and experience.

Up to today, ESAM contributions have included scientific papers, position papers and information leaflets on topics of interests. In addition ESAM has reviewed selected EASA NPAs and has provided advice and recommendations not only to EASA but also to ICAO. These have included the use of new anticoagulants (NOACs), a recommendation concerning cardiovascular risk assessment in aviation and guide about medications and flying.

In addition the contact between ESAM and the European Association for Aviation Psychology (EAAP) has been developed. One example of this was the founding of the European Pilot Peer Support Initiative (EPPSI) in collaboration with EAAP, ECA (European Cockpit Association), and the Mayday Foundation.

Also the biennial European Congress of Aerospace Medicine (ECAM) has grown to become a popular meeting place for sharing thoughts and aerospace medicine knowledge. During the last two conferences it has been established an ESAM AME refresher course.

Work of National Aerospace Medicine Societies

Several national aeromedical societies organize aerospace medicine courses, both general and refresher courses. Some societies are actively producing scientific work that is potentially important for all ESAM members. With our Circle of Experts initiative we aim to collect the national expertise for the benefit of all ESAM members.

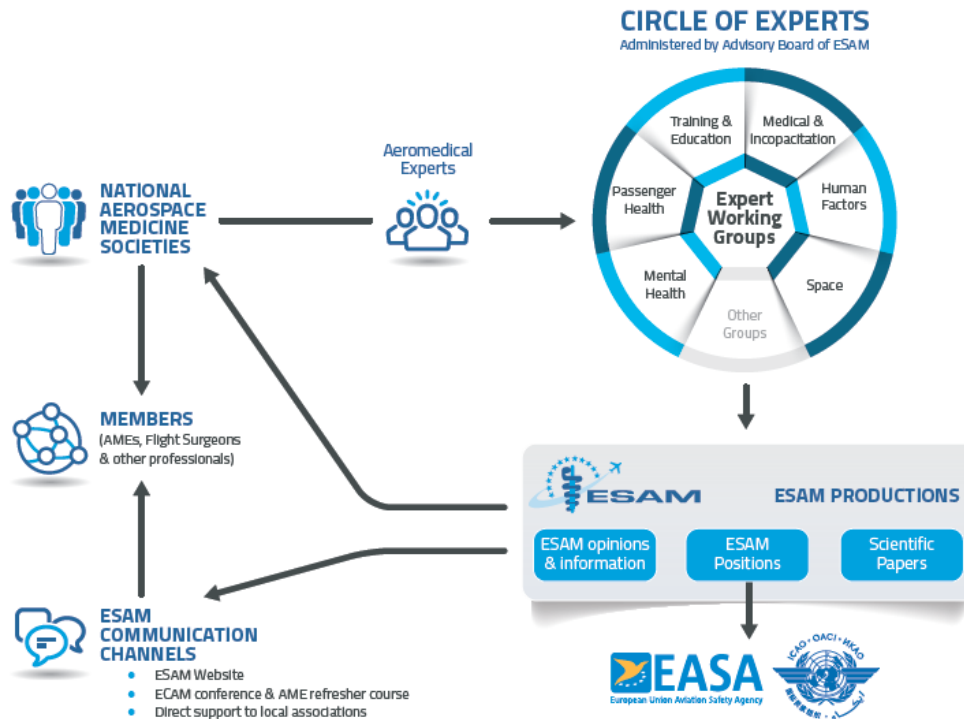
The proposed concept - Circle of experts

ESAM is well suited to organize and represent European scientific aerospace medicine production on behalf of all its members and at top-European level. It has both the network and infrastructure to communicate the information in a credible way to the international audience. The output of ESAM production is primarily 1) ESAM opinions and information, 2) ESAM official positions and 3) scientific publications in peer-reviewed journals.

To secure a high scientific level, production within all of these fields needs to be made by experts and colleagues with knowledge and interest to contribute. These experts should be associated with the national aerospace medicine societies either as members or national collaborators.

The Circle of Experts will consist of interested individuals who will represent different (aero) medical specialties in various working groups, such as clinical medicine, passenger health, mental health, and more. The Circle of Experts will be organized and managed by the Advisory Board of ESAM and each working group will have its designated leader.

Members of this circle will be consulted for advice on specific issues related to their working groups and could also initiate and generate scientific activity on its own. They would mainly be linked with a national member society and in this way secure that the work from member societies will be brought into ESAM and from there further out.



Potentials – What do we get out of this

If we collectively establish the Circle of Experts under ESAM we contribute to create a strong scientific body in Europe, that should be one of the leading voices in Europe. Instead of single countries producing material for their limited audience the same effort by the national experts could be lifted up together with other experts in same field from other countries. And the material generated will be made available for Europe and worldwide. The impact of the work increases. Further, we will naturally promote stronger bonds between ESAM and all national societies.

The next steps

ESAM asks each of the national society that would like to take part in this concept to nominate experts who would like to be active in this new system.

Based on the feed-back of the national societies the ESAM Advisory Board will produce a register of experts, available for all, who are interested and which has the potential to stimulate all parties to become more involved in valuable scientific research of high quality.