

2023

EBCOG Annual Report

European Board & College of
Obstetrics and Gynaecology





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Appendix 1: A complete list of publications by the Standing Committee of Standards of Care and Position statements

Foreword



How was the year 2023? Certainly, an eventful year. Several devastating earthquakes, geopolitical tensions with conflicts in Europe and the Middle East, nations and their citizens facing the evils of the war. The impact was also felt across wider Europe and globally. It was also a year of change. The WHO finally declared end of the COVID-19 pandemic, India overtook China to become the most populous country and artificial intelligence is already making an effect in our lives.

At home, EBCOG was busy in capacity building to improve women's health through education and training, centre accreditation, curriculum development and ensuring high quality postgraduate examination. These activities remain as our core activities. An important milestone in 2023 is to receive the European Union grant for the GESEA project to incorporate simulation in the PACT curriculum. Thanks to the relentless work of the SCTA and SCTR committee members in this project. The examination department took the next bold step to offer spring and summer dates for the Part 1 exam and an overseas centre for the Part 2 exam thereby offering more flexibility and choice to candidates for their career progression. Our relationship with the specialist societies is strengthened by the most prolific work of the Standing Committee on Standards of Care and Position Statement (SCSCPS). In addition, our work with various stakeholders in women's health, particularly UNFPA, has provided country level support to various Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asia regions (EECA).

The beginning of the year was marked by EBCOG's presence in the All-India congress in recognition to its role in women's health and honouring of the President-Elect of EBCOG as a Fellow of their college. Congratulations to Professor Frank Louwen.

The Krakow congress brought several dignitaries from across the world. Three days of scientific exchange of ideas and networking not only marked the event but collaboration with the Japanese society saw the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) which saw Japanese trainees exchanging ideas with their European counterparts. Going forward ENTOG trainees and EBCOG officers look forward to participating in the Japanese congress in 2024.

The fall of 2023 was exciting with EBCOG's presence at FIGO. Dignitaries from around the world visited our booth and the EBCOG reception provided a good opportunity for networking and catching up with many friends from across the world. It was a great honour for EBCOG when our President-Elect was elected as the President-Elect of FIGO.



Finally in November, the election at the EBCOG Council. The Council paid a tribute to the outgoing President and the Secretary-General and welcomed the new officers. It was a privilege and honour to serve as the Treasurer for three and half years and am excited and humbled to be elected as the President-Elect.

We look forward to work with you all to uphold our vision of improving women’s health during their life course.

Sambit Mukhopadhyay MD DNB FRCOG MSc MMed

Treasurer 2019 – 2023

Consultant Gynaecologist Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Trust UK

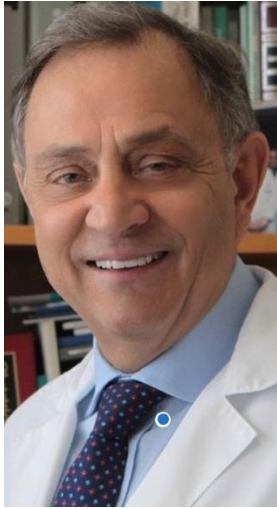
Chair, Professional Development Committee RCOG



Figure 1 EBCOG Congress May 2023



From the Desk of the President



On behalf of the EBCOG Executive Committee, I am very happy to present you our third Annual Report for the year 2023.

EBCOG continued to support its mission in education and training. The examinations were expanded for the first time to take place twice, for both the Part 1 and Part 2 exams, while pre-examination courses were organised in collaboration with StudyMEDIC. The SCTA continues the revision of the EBCOG-PACT curriculum, in conjunction with the GESEA4EU project. This project on education and training is funded by an EU grant that was awarded to ESGE and EBCOG. Hospital visitations, the production of position statements, and the ENTOG Exchange programme, including the collaboration with the Japanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology (JSOG), all went on successfully

this year.

In our on-going collaboration with UEMS, we regularly attend their business meetings on postgraduate training and the European training requirements (ETRS), the Council for European Specialists Medical Assessment (CESMA), the newly established Thematic Federation for Medical Ethics (TFME), as well as the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME). We have continued to do the EACCME reviews for UEMS.

EBCOG also continued to maintain a close relationship with FIGO. EBCOG is present in the FIGO Board of Trustees representing Europe. My term as the European Regional Trustee ended and Past-President Professor Chiara Benedetto was elected to represent Europe in the upcoming term. Elections were held at the FIGO Congress in Paris in October 2023, and EBCOG was very active with lecture(s), a Session and a booth. Moreover, Professor Frank Louwen was elected as the President-Elect of FIGO at the Congress.

In May, EBCOG held an exciting Joint Congress with the Polish Society in Krakow, Poland. Thanks to the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Program was very robust, and addressed many important issues in the whole spectrum of our specialty and the sub-specialties, covered by world experts. We experienced a high level of participation and abstracts, which will be detailed later in the report. The Congress marked the official launch of the exchange program with the Japanese Society (JSOG). Officers and trainees of JSOG were welcomed to the Krakow Congress, and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed to continue this partnership in the future.



The Council Meeting in November 2023 marked the end of my term as President of EBCOG. I would like to take this opportunity to thank from the bottom of my heart the Council Members and the National Societies for their trust and support. Similarly, I want to warmly thank my fellow Officers Frank Louwen, Nuno Martins, Sambit Mukhopadhyay and the Members of the Executive Committee and all Standing Committees, as well as our Central Office Administrator Kate Thorman for their devotion, hard work and invaluable contribution to what we were able to accomplish. I have greatly enjoyed working with all of them.

It has been a real privilege and an immense honour for me to serve you as the President of EBCOG for the last three years and I will always be available to assist, whenever needed. I am particularly happy that I am succeeded by a very distinguished colleague and good friend Professor Frank Louwen, as well as by a very experienced group of colleagues and friends. I wish them great success, for which I have no doubt!

Basil C. Tarlatzis, MD, PhD, FRCOG (hon)

Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics - Gynecology and Human Reproduction

President of EBCOG 2020 – 2023

Regional Trustee - Europe, FIGO Board of Trustees, 2021 – 2023



Figure 2: Professor Tarlatzis at the EBCOG 2023 Congress



Who's Who In EBCOG

Introduction

EBCOG was created in 1996 as the result of a fusion between the European Board of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (EBGO) and the European College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ECOG). EBCOG is the Board of the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Section of UEMS. The statutory purpose of UEMS is to harmonise and improve the quality of medical specialist practice in the European Union (EU). Education is a key element in this field, and UEMS has been pursuing the formulation of a common policy in the field of training for many years. EBCOG's aim is to improve the health of women and unborn and new-born babies by promoting the highest possible standards of care. EBCOG's core activities are education and training. We work with subspecialties, special interest societies, trainees and European interest groups to achieve this. We work and support European trainees' organisation, ENTOG, and offer fellowships to ENTOG trainees to improve their knowledge and skills and broaden horizons by visiting advanced centres in Europe.

EBCOG Structure: Who is who?

The EBCOG Council is the decision-making body of EBCOG and is made up of two national delegates from each of our 33 member countries. National delegates are members of both EBCOG and the UEMS Section of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Councils and Council meetings are joint meetings of the EBCOG and Section Councils. EBCOG has four Officers, (President, President-Elect, Secretary-General and Treasurer) and an Executive Committee. Subscription fees are payable annually and are calculated according to the UEMS 'key'. There are now 34 countries represented on our Council: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel (Observer), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, The Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia*, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, and United Kingdom.



In addition, we also work closely with the four subspecialist societies: materno-foetal medicine (EAPM, the European Association of Perinatal Medicine), gynaecological oncology (ESGO, the European Society of Gynaecological Oncology), reproductive medicine (ESHRE, the European Society for Human Reproduction & Embryology), and urogynaecology (EUGA, the European Urogynaecology Association).



STRUCTURE

Standing Committee on Training and Assessment (SCTA)

Chair: Professor Fionnuala McAuliffe

Standing Committee on Training Recognition (SCTR)

Chair: Professor Juriy Wladimiroff (through Nov. 2023), Dr Petr Velebil (Nov. 2023 onward)

Standing Committee on Examination (SCE)

Chair: Professor Ioannis E. Messinis

Scientific Committee, EBCOG Congress Krakow 2023

Chair: Dr Rudi Campo

Standing Committee on Standards of Care and Position Statements (SCSCPS)

Chair: Dr Tahir Mahmood

Fellowships Working Group

Chair: Dr Petr Velebil

Examination Secretariat

Mr Alexandros Peristeropoulos

EBCOG Central Office

Ms Kate Thorman



Webmaster

Dr Jure Klanjšček

European Network of Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ENTOG) (as of Sept. 2023)

Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou – President

Dr Esther McNeill – Treasurer

Dr Mei Yee Ng – Secretary-General

Dr Rafał Zadykowicz – Webmaster

Dr Sara Vodopivec – Member

European Urogynaecology Association (EUGA)

Professor Stavros Athanasiou

European Association of Perinatal-Medicine (EAPM)

Professor Diogo Ayres-de-Campos

European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO)

Dr Maja Pakiz

European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE)

Dr Tatjana Motrenko

Dr Borut Kovacic, Embryology Representative



European Society of Gynaecological Surgery (ESGE)
Dr Ursula Catena

European Association of Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (EURAPAG)
Professor Zana Bumbuliene

European Midwives Association (EMA)
Mrs Agnes Simon (through Sept. 2023), Professor Victoria Vivilaki (Sept. 2023 onward)

European Society of Contraception (ESC)
Professor Gabriele Merki
Professor Johannes Bitzer

European Federation For Colposcopy (EFC)
Jana Zodzika

International Society of Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynecology (ISPOG)
Sibil Tschudin

International Society for the Vulvovaginal Disease (ISSVD)
Pedro Vieira Baptista



Figure 3 EBCOG Council, November 2023



COUNCIL MEMBERS

(as of November 2023)

Austria	Professor Wolfgang Umek	Dr Philipp Fössleitner
Belgium	Dr Femke Delporte	Dr Mathieu Luyckx
Bulgaria	Assoc. Professor Milko Sirakov	Professor Blagovest Pehlivanov
Croatia	Professor Miroslav Kopjar	
Cyprus	Dr Marios Liassides	Professor Gabriel Kalakoutis
Czech Republic	Professor Marian Kacerovsky	Professor Vladimir Dvorak
Denmark	Professor Hanne Brix Westergaard	Dr Anna Aabakke
Estonia	Professor Helle Karro	Dr Piret Veerus
Finland	Professor Oskari Heikinheimo	Professor Marjo Tuppurainen
France	Professor Philippe Descamps	Professor Joelle Belaisch Allart
Germany	Dr Klaus Doubek	Professor Frank Louwen
Greece	Dr Nicolas Linardos	Professor Alexandros Rodolakis
Hungary	Dr Nandor Acs	
Iceland	Dr Aðalbjörg Björgvinsdóttir	
Ireland	Dr Michael Robson	Professor Fionnuala McAuliffe
Israel (OBSERVER)	Professor Ron Maymon	
Italy	Professor Luigi Nappi	Dr Annalisa Tancredi
Latvia	Professor Dace Rezeberga	Dr Vija Veisa
Lithuania	Professor Diana Ramašauskaitė	Professor Zana Bumbuliene
Malta	Professor John Mamo	Professor Isabelle Saliba
The Netherlands	Professor Fedde Scheele	Dr Angelique Goverde
Republic of North Macedonia	Professor Gligor Tofoski	
Norway	Professor Yngvild Skåtun Hannestad	Dr Kirsten Hald
Poland	Professor Piotr Sieroszewski	Professor Sebastian Kwiatkowski
Portugal	Professor Helder Ferreira	Professor Teresa Almeida Santos
Romania	Professor Daniel Muresan	Professor Radu Vladareanu
Slovak Republic	Assoc. Professor Alexandra Kristufkova	Dr Mikuláš Redecha
Slovenia	Professor Ksenija Geršak	Professor Borut Kobal
Sweden	Dr Lars Ladfors	Assoc. Professor. Christer Borgfeldt
Switzerland	Professor Gabriele Merki	Professor Johannes Bitzer
Turkey	Professor Cansun Demir	
Ukraine	Professor Valerii Zaporozhan	Professor Vyacheslav Kaminsky
United Kingdom	Dr Ranee Thakar	Professor Stergios Doumouchsis

*Membership of the Russian Federation is temporarily discontinued until the end of military action and removal of forces from Ukraine



From the Desk of the President-Elect



As we have entered the new era after the pandemic and with the ongoing conflict in Europe and in the Middle East, a more collaborative exchange of ideas in medical practice, knowledge translation and research, and even care between the members of the world is necessary to achieve our aims to improve women's health and uphold reproductive rights. EBCOG remains in the forefront in championing reproductive rights for women. We have shown our commitment by investing in education and training for capacity building. The new curriculum in collaboration with the European Society of Contraception and Reproductive Health & Rights will be launched in summer of 2024 and will be shortly followed by the diploma exam.

In my capacity as President-Elect, I have strengthened our ties with FIGO, AOFOG, FOGSI and not the least the WATOG. Trainees are our future, and it is important we value and care for their educational need if we are to be serious about women's health of the future. Having trainees represented at FIGO and working with them in arranging series of workshops and empowering them to teach their colleagues in Europe and beyond had been a great achievement for promoting our vision.

The EBCOG congress at Krakow, Poland brought several dignitaries from around the world, and it was humbling to listen to our Ukrainian colleagues about their experience in providing care for women and their babies in a war-torn country. Having prominent speakers from all over the world gave a global perspective to the congress and our visibility increased more than ever. It was a great opportunity of networking and was interesting to learn that lot of us around the world face similar barriers in advocating women's health and rights.

The Fall of 2023 is an important milestone in my career. Medical leaders, clinicians, policy makers, healthcare industries supporting women's health all assembled at the beautiful city of Paris for the FIGO congress. EBCOG's presence was conspicuous with the presence of a booth and EBCOG session on vaginal surgery. It was humbling to be elected as a President-Elect of the FIGO with over 70% of majority. I would like to thank all member societies of FIGO and feel honoured to be trusted on to serve on such an important role in the global platform.

Back home, I took up the post of President from December 2023, I like to thank my predecessor, the immediate Past-President, Professor Tarlatzis for his dedication and hard work in the last three years to uphold EBCOG's vision of improving women's health and reproductive right through capacity building and advocacy. I am also grateful for his role in FIGO as a Trustee.

A lot of work needs to be done in the next few years. I am keen to develop a methodology of analysing evidence for guideline development. This will clearly help many European societies to adapt evidence according to their need. I think working with scientists and opinion leaders will be crucial in this area. I look forward to work with you all to face the challenges we all face in delivering high quality health care.



See you soon.

Professor Frank Louwen

FRCOG (ad eundem), FAGOS, FICOG, FMOGS, AOGUkraine (hon), IsraelISOG (hon)



Figure 4 Frank Louwen lecturing at EBCOG Congress 2023



Secretary-General Report



2023 marks the end of my second term as Secretary General of EBCOG. There is always room for improvement, but I end my term with the overall feeling of mission accomplished, having faced a pandemic, war in Europe and a profound restructuring of the EBCOG Central Office, amongst many other challenges.

After organizing the Congress in Paris 2018, I was very much involved in the organization of the Congress in Athens 2021 and Krakow 2023, two massively successive Congresses that will certainly leave their mark

in EBCOG's history.

The end of 2023 was also a time to make a final balance and reassure continuity, by handing over all folders to our elected Secretary General Professor Helle Karro, from Estonia.

Professor Frank Louwen from Germany has become the new EBCOG President and President Elect of FIGO. Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay from the United Kingdom will become our next President. Professor Piotr Sieroszewski from Poland is now the new EBCOG Treasurer. And last but not least, Dr Ferry Boekhorst from the Netherlands has been elected the EBCOG Executive Member for the Western Region.

The whole EBCOG family, now with the new team of Officers, is dedicated to assure continuous growth and further development of Women's care. Assisting Ukraine remains on the top table, hopefully with rebuilding at site. Working for the next Congress in 2025 will additionally contribute to keep the EBCOG members working together and ensure another success for EBCOG.

Dr Nuno Nogueira Martins

Secretary-General

Education Supervisor & Head Gynaecological- Oncology Unit of the Department,

Board member PCOG and Sociedade Portuguesa de Ginecologia

Serviço de Ginecologia e Obstetrícia Centro Hospitalar Tondela Viseu, Viseu, Portugal



Treasurer Report



EFOG examinations and membership subscriptions provided the greatest portion of revenue with revenue from exams and courses showing a positive trend year on year. The annual income in the current fiscal year ending 31st December 2023 was a little less than 270,000€, which is higher than the previous year. At the end of the year, we were overspent by 54,000€. This is higher compared to previous year figure of 13,000€. The additional expenses were related to EBCOG's participation at the FIGO congress and organising the overseas OSCE at Dubai, UAE.

UEMS introduced a new accounting software (known as Oodoo) costing over 400,000 € in June 2023. An upgrade was needed to have better functionality and reduce the cost of the organization's body. Whilst the cost of the software was incorporated in the office cost of UEMS office cost, overall, each sections had to pay over 7.5% of their assets to finance the software. EBCOG contributed over 40,000€ towards the accounting software.

On the background of political instability, rising inflation and the current financial situation of the UEMS, which do not generate any return, a new initiative was introduced by the UEMS in investing unused funds from the sections and bodies to investment accounts to generate some income from savings. It has been proposed by UEMS that the interest from the common savings account will be used to support the UEMS bodies and proportionally support contributing UEMS bodies. This will also allow offsetting part of the total management fees charged by UEMS. EBCOG invested over 230,000€ in a common savings account in January 2024 for three months. It needs to be seen the amount of investment return plunged back to the EBCOG account at the end of three months term. However, given the fact that in the next financial year EBCOG needs to invest a substantial amount in guidelines development, updating standards of care documents and co-funding the GESEA4 EU project, a substantial sum of money going into the investment account may not be feasible.

An important milestone in the history of EBCOG is receiving a grant over 125,000€ for GESEA4EU project to incorporate simulation into the PACT curriculum. EBCOG has agreed to co-fund 40 % of the financial expenditure related to implementation of the simulation project in the curriculum. Claiming expenses from the EU grant is clearly lot complicated than I thought. We had to take expert advice from EU accountants and the EU grant office. Thanks to Kate for her diligent work and attention to the details. We have now been able to claim the money and reimburse some of the expenses.



Taking account of 52,000€ from the outstanding EACME fees from CME and 6 years DMEYB 6-year bond (matures 2028) of 72,000€ the total asset at the end of December 2023 was over 600,000€. It seems unlikely we will receive the outstanding CME income from UEMS from the near future.

It was an honour to serve as the Treasurer of the Board. I learned a lot during my tenure of three and half years and was privileged to meet many of you in person. I am also excited and humbled to be elected as your President-Elect. I look forward to seeing you all in the next Council meeting at Leuven, Belgium.

Sambit Mukhopadhyay MD DNB FRCOG MSc MMed

Treasurer

Consultant Gynaecologist Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital NHS Trust UK

Chair, Professional Development Committee RCOG



Figure 5 Dr Mukhopadhyay at the FIGO Congress, with Prof Louwen, Dr Mahmood, Kate Thorman, and Prof Tarlatzis



EBCOG EXECUTIVE (as of December 2023)

Elections were held during Council on 25 November 2023, for the positions of President-Elect, Secretary-General, Treasurer, and Western Region Executive. The election resulted in the creation of the new EBCOG Executive:

Officers

President

Professor Frank Louwen (Germany)

President-Elect

Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay (United Kingdom)

Secretary-General

Professor Helle Karro (Estonia)

Treasurer

Professor Piotr Sieroszewski (Poland)

EBCOG Executive Members

Dr Ferry Boekhorst (Western Region)

Professor Dimitrios Loutradis (Southern Region)

Dr Karen Rose (Northern Region)

Assoc. Professor Alexandra Kristufkova (Eastern Region)

Professor Fionnuala McAuliffe (Pan-European Region)



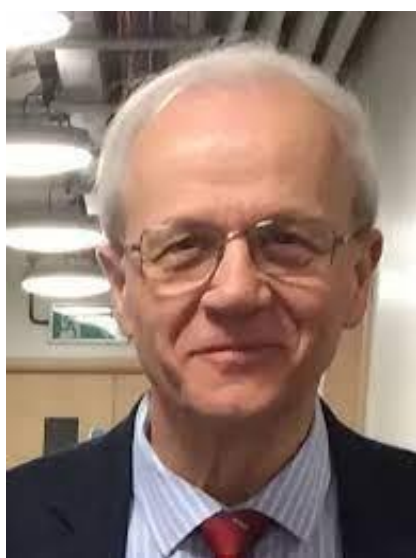
Figure 6 Past-President Basil Tarlatzis, Current President Frank Louwen, President-Elect Sambit Mukhopadhyay

Educational Branch

Standing Committee of Examination Report

Committee Members

Professor Ioannis Messinis (Chair) ▪ Professor Charles Savona Ventura ▪ Professor Diogo Ayres-de-Campos ▪ Professor Johannes Bitzer ▪ Dr Tahir Mahmood ▪ Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay ▪ Dr Petr Velebil ▪ Dr Karen Rose ▪ Dr Mei Yee Ng ▪ Alexandros Peristeropoulos (Secretariat)



The most important event for the year 2023 regarding the EBCOG exams was the positive appraisal of the exams by CESMA, the Council for European Medical Specialists Assessment of UEMS.

In the year 2023, the EBCOG Standing Committee on Examinations (SCE) decided the exams were to be held online for Part 1 and onsite for Part 2. Also, new for 2023 was that the exams for both parts were held twice each, with Part 2 taking place in two different countries on the same day. Part 1 exams were held on 13th of May and 2nd of September online, while Part 2 exams were held simultaneously in Lisbon and Dubai (4th of November 2023). Accordingly, two Pre-exam courses were conducted for each part of the exams, one of which for Part 2 was onsite (Dubai).

It is not certain whether the organisation of the exams twice in a year for each part offers a significant advantage, since the total number of candidates for Part 1 in 2023 (118 participants) with two exams (66 in May, 52 in September) was about the same as in 2022 (127 participants) in which the exam was held only once. It remains to be confirmed whether this makes it easier for candidates by giving them the option of choosing the time of the exam but also a possible second opportunity in the same year in case of failure in the first attempt. The majority of applications still come from countries outside Europe.

The appraisal of the EBCOG exams by CESMA is an important distinction, which reflects the efforts of the SCE for the perfect organisation and conduct of the exams. Since 2016, when the exams were held for the first time, the same procedures have been followed giving the exams the format and content that make them valid and widely acceptable. Some of our exam procedures include the consistent use of the objective method of setting the pass mark

for Part 1, i.e. the modified Angoff method, the statistical evaluation of the results after the examination and the validation of the examination by calculating the difficulty of the questions, the ability to discriminate between good and bad candidates and the reliability (reproducibility or consistency) of the test by calculating the Cronbach's alpha index. With the above procedures, an objective assessment of the candidates is carried out, so that the number of successful candidates is not predetermined but is based on the detection of those who deserve to pass the exams.

The pass mark is set by a panel of judges who use, as mentioned, the Angoff method. In the calculation of the final pass mark the candidates' performance is also taken into account. In 2023, the total number of those who passed the Part 1 exam was 53 out of 118 (44.91% passing rate) and they became eligible for the Part 2 (OSCE) exam. The distribution of questions according to the difficulty P-value showed a normal distribution pattern for the obstetrics paper and a left-skewed pattern for the gynaecology paper. Regarding discrimination, the values were overwhelmingly positive. By combining the difficulty P-value and the discrimination value, the item discrimination was calculated, which showed that 85.2% in May and 83.4% in September of the questions provided positive discrimination with only 14.8% and 16.6% respectively providing less discrimination. Finally, the Cronbach's alpha index was ≥ 0.8 for both papers in the two exams showing the reliability of the tests.

In Part 2 exams, in 2023, 70 candidates participated (55 in Dubai of whom 38 passed – 69.09% passing rate and 15 in Lisbon of whom 12 passed – 80% passing rate). The overall passing rate for Part 2 exam was 71.42% (50 out of 70 candidates). This is also the final passing rate for the exams of the year 2023. The Part 2 exams are in the form of OSCE with 10 stations. In the two centres (Dubai and Lisbon), the same topics per station were used. Understandably, the examiners were different. Thus, the Dubai and Lisbon exams were considered to be two different exams and the results were analysed separately. The total number of new fellows (EFOG-EBCOG) for the year 2023 is 50. In both Part 2 exams, the pass mark of each station was set as the median score of the station's borderline candidates, as rated by the examiners.



An important issue for the exam is the writing of new questions. The existing writing group contributes but more questions are needed. So, we also rely on colleagues who volunteer to write questions. All questions before being used in the exams are reviewed and corrected by the Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) in order to meet wording and content needs. Most QAC meetings in 2023 were online meetings, but there was also one in person meeting in Brussels.



The exams for both parts are still conducted with the cooperation of the Swedish organisation Orzone. In addition, the collaboration with the organisation StudyMEDIC from India that began in 2021 also continued in 2023. This collaboration is mainly restricted to the conduction of Pre-exam courses for both parts of the exams. From this co-operation, there is financial benefit for EBCOG as the costs of the courses are taken over by this company, while part of the profit is attributed to EBCOG. In 2023, two courses were organised for Part 1 and two courses for Part 2, one of which was onsite (Dubai).

EBCOG is represented at CESMA meetings by the Chairman of SCE. These meetings are held twice a year and discuss matters related to the conduct and improvement of the conditions for conducting examinations of all medical specialties, representatives of which attend these meetings. In addition, CESMA appraises the exams at the request of interested specialities by visitors, whom CESMA nominate appraisers after they have been properly trained. The Chairman of SCE is one of them and for the year 2023 he participated in the appraisal of 4 exams of different specialities (in 3 of them as the lead appraiser). Two CESMA meetings were held in 2023 one in Rome in May and the second in Brussels in December. In both meetings, various issues related to the organisation of the exams, the preparation of the exams for appraisal, the writing of questions, standard setting etc. were discussed. An update of the standard document on European Examinations is underway.

As mentioned above, our exams were appraised positively by CESMA on two different visits one for Part 1 and a second for Part 2. A Diploma of appraisal was handed over at the December 2023 meeting.

EBCOG continues the collaboration with ESHRE in the organisation and conduction of Reproductive Medicine exams every year. For this purpose, there is a special steering committee made up of representatives of ESHRE and EBCOG. The exams have been held continuously since 2018 and were successfully held in 2023 as well. A total of 8 candidates participated in Part 1 exam held in June online and 5 passed (62.5% passing rate). In Part 2 exam, held in Copenhagen during the ESHRE Annual Meeting, 10 out of 10 participants passed the exam (100% passing rate). Therefore, 10 new European Fellows of Reproductive Medicine (EFRM-ESHRE/EBCOG) have emerged for 2023. At the same time, the cooperation of EBCOG with ESCRH has begun and preparations are being made for the conduct of the first examinations. Specifically, in 2023, two projects were defined, one for midwives, nurses and young doctors (diploma) and the other for senior specialists (fellowship). The selection criteria and the training in modules have been defined as well as the log of experience. The first exams are planned for 2024.

There is no doubt that EBCOG exams have been widely accepted as a means of obtaining an specialist qualification. This is for many non-European doctors a recognition of quality improvement scientifically and professionally and therefore a large number of candidates come from non-European countries. The acceptance of the exams internationally is reflected

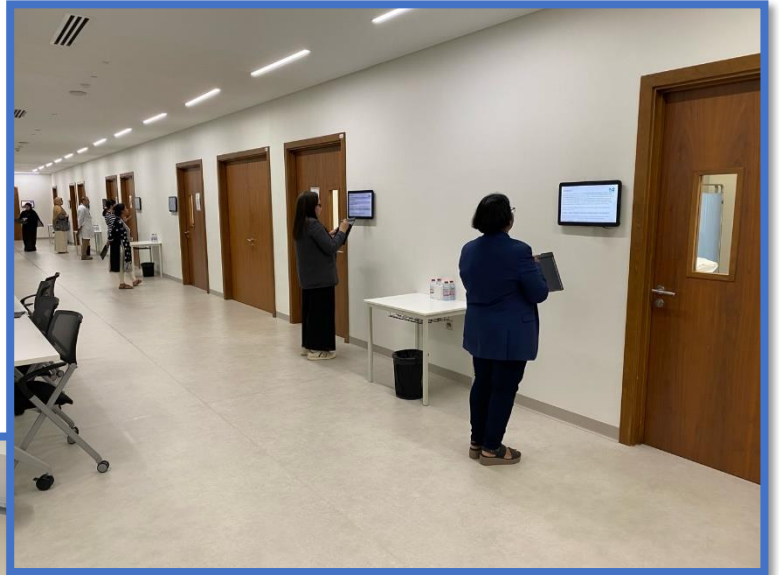


in the increasing number of candidates, which also remained high in 2023. The aim is to further expand the exams within and outside Europe.

Professor Ioannis E. Messinis

Chair SCE

Examiners and participants from the first OSCE in Dubai, November 2023



Standing Committee on Training and Assessment Report

Committee Members (as of December 2023)

Professor Fionnuala McAuliffe (Chair) ▪ Dr Karen Rose (immediate Past-Chair) ▪ Dr Angelique Goverde (Past-Chair) ▪ Professor Fedde Scheele ▪ Dr Anna Aabakke ▪ Dr Annalisa Tancredi ▪ Dr Jure Klanjšček ▪ Dr Goknur Topcu ▪ Dr Ursula Catena ▪ Assoc. Professor Alexandra Kristufkova ▪ Dr Mark Formosa ▪ Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou (ENTOG Representative) ▪ Dr Joan Lennon (Jan-June) / Dr Helena Bartels (June- Dec) (trainee in Ireland)



This report gives an overview of activities carried-out by the EBCOG SCTA in 2023.

SCTA structure

The SCTA had 4 working groups throughout 2023, which included the following tasks:

1. To update the (Project in achieving consensus in training) PACT/European Training Requirements (ETR) for the core postgraduate training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
2. GESEA4EU European Project
3. To Implement PACT/ETR across Europe
4. To update the Train the Trainers (TTT) courses
5. To develop E-learning and simulation modules in both Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Leads

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Update PACT group | Fionnuala McAuliffe + Sofia Tsiapakidou |
| 2. GESEA4EU European Project | Sofia Tsiapakidou |
| 3. Implementation of PACT group | Fedde Scheele + Anna Aabakke + Mark Formosa |
| 4. TTT group | Angelique Goverde+ Karen Rose + Goknur Topcu |
| 5. E-Learning/Simulation Group | Alexandra Kristufkova + Goknur Topcu |

Update PACT/ETR

A survey of European trainees and Council members on the 2018 version of PACT was undertaken in 2022 and during 2023 SCTA met monthly to incorporate these comments into the next version of PACT. We are aware that the original PACT was the outcome of a DELPHI process so it is important that in our amendments we keep to the core content of PACT, which is the consensus view of trainers in Europe. Feedback has been obtained from



the specialty societies in the amended version. Revision of PACT requires a considerable amount of work and the committee has demonstrated exceptional dedication to this.

The commencement of GESEA4EU project, the outputs of which will be incorporated into PACT, has moved the timeline for PACT new version to February 2025.

Clinical Leadership (presented by Dr Anabela Serranito) received significant support from ENTOG and SCTA members alike and will be incorporated into the ‘non-technical skills’ section of PACT during 2024. A subgroup of SCTA and ENTOG members will work on this content.

GESEA4EU European Project (<https://gesea.eu/gesea4eu-about2/>)

In 2023 ESGE led on a successful grant application led by Dr Rudi Campo and Prof Fedde Scheele to improve training in gynaecological endoscopy throughout Europe, with EBCOG as a collaborator. The project runs from Oct 2022 to Feb 2025.

GESEA4EU Project summary

With the introduction of endoscopy, advanced imaging techniques and robotics, modern surgery is becoming increasingly more digital and requires adaptations to the educational model to address the demands for new skills as needed not only by surgeons but also by healthcare professionals in general. The increase in complexity that these developments bring, demands an equipped operating room, where surgeons, nurses and other supportive staff can operate in synergy and with increased efficiency. The GESEA Educational Programme is well established and provides certification to gynaecological surgeons with more than 3,200 certificates issued to date. While certification and diploma modules of GESEA’s Educational Programme for gynaecological surgeons are standardized and implemented in Diploma Centres across Europe and beyond, the training itself is much less standardised.

The aim of this project is to develop standardised learning modules applicable and recognised across Europe based on our consortium partners’ experiences. Furthermore, ESGE wishes to expand the scope of the programme to include training also for nurses and supporting non-clinical staff, including related industries. Endoscopy and robotics require a high level of skills and teamwork between all parties of the health workforce which can only be achieved through efficient and validated training. Lastly, standardisation of the training of the Trainers that will execute the programme is also primordial.

During the scope of this project, 27 learning modules will be developed and trialled in 12 centres within the existing network. Furthermore, 9 new centres will be identified in Northern and Eastern Europe where the learning modules will be piloted. These modules will be taken up in the GESEA Educational Programme to be implemented across Europe and will be promoted through the European Board & College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology as part of the EBCOG-PACT framework.



During 2023 a survey on the current status of obstetric and gynaecological simulation facilities was carried out and will inform the PACT curriculum in gynaecological endoscopy and obstetric simulation skills.

PACT Implementation

Implementation of PACT remains a priority for SCTA and the GESEA4EU project will assist in this will the roll out of GESEA4EU into many new centres. The aim is to identify local leads in each centre across Europe for PACT implementation.

In 2023 agreement was reached within the SCTA (with Prof Fedde Scheele and Dr Mark Formosa leading) together with SCTR leads Prof Wladimiroff and Dr Petr Velebil to



incorporate a PACT implementation survey into the hospital visits. The survey would list ten knowledge and skills in Obstetrics & Gynaecology and non-technical skills as outlined in PACT to assess how centres are implementing PACT. The aim is to stimulate interest in PACT and for centres applying for EBCOG accreditation to consider how to incorporate PACT principles and training into their training programmes. Final version of the survey will be agreed in 2024.

Train the Trainers (TTT)

The overall aims are twofold:

To help trainers, supervisors and programme directors develop the educational skills they need to support the training delivery,

To establish, on a national basis, EBCOG supported TTT courses in those countries that currently do not have a TTT programme.

The TTT group's goals for 2023 were to continue with TTTS courses. A very successful course was held in Estonia on Nov 11th with Prof Helle Karro amongst others in Tallinn who were trained up as new TTTS facilitators. Further courses are planned for 2024 including courses in Vilnius, Lithuania, Vienna, Graz in Austria. There are also plans to apply for CME points for TTT course participation.

E-Learning/Simulation group

This group is currently collating freely available and suitable E-learning and simulation resources for dissemination to our trainers. Dr Goknur Topcu is exploring the addition of obstetric emergencies and instrumental delivery to existing e learning tools.

Future Meetings

The working groups intend to meet regularly (virtually) to work on the committee projects, whilst the core members will join 4 times a year, in timing with the EBCOG Council and Executive meetings. The EBCOG officers informed the SCTA that they will fund 1 in-person meeting a year, the timing of which is up to the committee/chair of the SCTA. The SCTA will continue to meet with the subspecialties 1-2x a year as well as with the Educational Leads (Chair of the Education Branch, SCE and SCTR).

I am honoured to Chair this committee of exceptionally motivated and enthusiastic individuals and look forward to another productive year of committee work.

Prof Fionnuala McAuliffe

Chair SCTR



Figure 7 SCTA Committee, November 2023

Standing Committee on Training Recognition Report

Committee Members

Professor Juriy Wladimiroff (Chair) ▪ Professor Jaroslav Feyereisl ▪ Professor Philippe Judlin
 ▪ Professor Ioannis Messinis ▪ Dr Jure Klanjšček ▪ Dr Karen Rose ▪ Professor Sebastian Kwiatkowski ▪ Professor Cansun Demir ▪ Dr Dmytro Ledin ▪ Dr Ferry Boekhorst ▪ Dr Nuno Martins ▪ Dr Rudi Campo



The SCTR met four times: online three times and on-site once.

Also this year, the main focus has been on conducting first visits and re-visits on-site and on-line to training units across Europe.

A total of 23 hospital visits has been completed:

- Greece: Larissa, Thessaloniki (3rd Dept),
- Turkey: Adana, Bursa, Istanbul, Izmir,
- Italy: Monza, Novara, Florence;
- Austria: Vienna,
- Slovenia: Maribor,
- Flemish Belgium: Bruges, Gent, Antwerp, Brussels 2x; Yper;
- Czech Republic: Zlin;
- Lithuania: Vilnius, Kaunas;
- Estonia: Tartu, Tallinn East, Tallinn West.

Professor Helle Karro has been nominated as the EBCOG Local Co-ordinator for the Baltic States: Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia. There are now five Local Co-ordinators: Prof Mikulas Redicha for The Czech Republic and Slovakia; Prof Alexandros Rodolakis for Greece; Dr Guy Orye for Flemish Belgium; Prof Sebastian Kwiatkowski for Poland and Prof Helle Karro for the Baltic States.

At the EBCOG Congress in Krakow, a lecture was delivered by the SCTR Chair on the principles of EBCOG Hospital Visiting and a successful Training the Visitors course was run for 13 Polish delegates by Dr Petr Velebil, Prof Ioannis Messinis and the SCTR Chair with the support of Prof Sebastian Kwiatkowski.



A meeting took place between Professor Mark Formosa representing the EBCOG SCTA and the SCTR on PACT implementation. The SCTR agreed to collaborate in this area with focus on how each training unit is currently implementing the PACT and to what extent.

The SCTR has recently updated the list of “accredited EBCOG Hospital Visitors” referring to those colleagues who had built up considerable experience in conducting hospital visits. This time it also included colleagues who had initially started as co-visitors representing ENTOG and subsequently acted as EBCOG Visitors. It was emphasised that the visiting experience of former ENTOG members should not get lost.

The procedure of informing the EBCOG Treasurer about planned hospital visits was reviewed. The Visiting Agreement Form describing the financial conditions for the visit and signed by the Head of Department of the training unit to be visited should be sent to the EBCOG Treasurer at least one month before the planned visit.

Professor Sebastian Kwiatkowski is working on a plan for re-activating EBCOG Hospital Visiting in Poland which was initiated by the then President of EBCOG: Dr Tahir Mahmood and the current SCTR Chair in 2016.



Figure 8 SCTR Committee, November 2023

Following the Training the Visitors course in Krakow, three new Polish training centres have expressed interest in EBCOG accreditation of their training programme in 2024.

Last but not least, the current Chair of the SCTR will retire on Friday 24th November. Professor Petr Velebil will succeed him. The SCTR wishes Prof Velebil every success as the new Chair of the SCTR.

Professor Juriy Wladimiroff

[Chair SCTR](#)

Standing Committee on Standards of Care and Position Statements Report

Committee Members

Dr Tahir Mahmood (Chair) ▪ Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay ▪ Professor Ioannis Messinis ▪ Professor Charles Savona Ventura ▪ Professor Johannes Bitzer ▪ Professor Diogo Ayres-de-Campos ▪ Dr Petr Velebil ▪ Dr Agnieszka Horała ▪ Dr Ferry Boekhorst ▪ Assoc. Professor. Alexandra Kristufkova ▪ Dr Hajra Khattak ▪ Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou



EBCOG was the first European professional organisation within EU to establish a multidisciplinary working group in 2010, during the presidency of Professor Peter Hornnes. The working group was chaired by Dr Tahir Mahmood. This working group produced two documents describing standards of care in Obstetrics and Neonatal Care and in Gynaecology. These two documents were launched at the EU Parliament in October 2014 during the Presidency of Professor Chiara Benedetto. These standards of care were translated in Russian language by financial support from UNFPA-EECA Region and the Russian Version was launched at the EBCOG Congress in Torino, 2016.

In parallel to the work of the Standards of Care Working Group, EBCOG Council approved the appointment of Professor Allan Templeton as: “Position Statements Lead” in 2013, who led in this role till his retirement from the EBCOG Executive Board in November 2017.

Dr Tahir Mahmood was invited by Professor Jacky Nizard, President EBCOG to lead the new working group, “Standards by of Care and Position Statements” in November 2017, with an enhanced role to promote standards of care.

Over the past seven years, the profile of the working group incrementally changed. The group has been proactive in expanding its horizon and making it more relevant to promote the women’s reproductive sexual rights and standards of care women through advocacy. The working group had also worked very closely with other stakeholders such as UNFPA, FIGO, EMAS, EAPM, and other professional organisations like European Society of Contraception, European Colposcopy Society, ISIDOG, EURAPAG and CNGOF.

Based upon the enhanced role and productivity of the working group, the Council of EBCOG agreed that the Working Group should be elevated to a full Standing Committee, named, “EBCOG Standing Committee on Standards of Care and Position Statements” in May 2022. A full list of publications is attached (Appendix 1).

The new Standing Committee was active in 2023 in publishing not only many position statements, but also remained active addressing issues of healthcare inequalities for the provision of sexual and reproductive services within Europe.



The Standing Committee is also closely aligned to the work of UNFPA- Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region, the relationship management of web platform Flo and the European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology (EJOGRB). All work produced by the standing committee is published in the EJOGRB.

Position Statements published during 2023

- High-intensity exercise during pregnancy – A position paper by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG). Marlon Harmsworth, Charles Savona-Ventura, Tahir Mahmood. EJOGRB 2023; 285: 56-58 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.03.038>)
- Harmful effects of opioid use in pregnancy: A scientific review commissioned by the European Board and College of obstetrics and gynaecology (EBCOG). AnnaMaria Vella, Charles Savona-Ventura, Tahir Mahmood. EJOGRB 2023; 286: 70-75 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.05.019>)

This review was also translated and published in the Chinese Journal 仲子星, 杨立伟, 欧洲妇产科学会关于孕期滥用阿片类药物有害作用的科学综述. 中华围产医学杂志, (10): p. 857-857.2023

- The potential impact of tobacco use on female fertility and pregnancy outcomes: An invited scientific review by EBCOG. Sofia Tsiapakidou, Charles Savona-Ventura, Tahir Mahmood. EJOGRB 2023; 290: 85-87 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.08.384>)



- EBCOG position statement on Inequalities in screening for cervical and breast cancer. Márcia Vieira-Coimbra, Nuno Nogueira-Martins, Rafal Zadykowicz, Hugo Rodrigues Gaspar, Jean Calleja-Agius, Maja Pakiz, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood. EJOGRB 2023; 289: 217-218 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.08.386>)
- Provision of screening services for cervical and breast cancer – A scientific study commissioned by the European Board & College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG). Márcia Vieira-Coimbra, Nuno Nogueira-Martins, Rafal Zadykowicz,



Hugo Rodrigues Gaspar, Jean Calleja-Agius, Maja Pakiz, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood. EJOGRB 2023; 289: 208-216
(<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.08.385>)

New and On-Going Projects:

Health inequalities in the provision of Sexual Reproductive Healthcare and the provision of Contraception

This joint project with European Society of Contraception and Reproductive Health is being led by Professor Johannes Bitzer and Dr Sam Mukhopadhyay.

Capacity building: Workforce for the provision of SRH Services in Europe and UNFPA-EECA Region

This project is being led by Professor Johannes Bitzer and Dr Tahir Mahmood in close association with European Society of Contraception (ESC). The work of this group has led to signing a Memorandum of Understanding between EBCOG and ESC to set up a joint examination committee to deliver post graduate examinations in SRH; European Diploma in Contraception and SRH (EDSRH) for Nurses, Midwives and Family Doctors. There will also be an examination for Specialists in SRH, European Fellow in SRH (EFSRH). The working group is optimistic about launching EDSRH online examination in autumn 2024.

Multi-disciplinary working party report “Use of DHA for preterm birth prevent”

Professor Charles Savona-Ventura represented EBCOG on a European Multidisciplinary working party to assess the scientific evidence on the use of DHA for the prevention of pre-term birth. Working party has now produced a paper which is being published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

EBCOG will also publish a position statement on this subject once paper has been published.

Maternal Mortality in Europe

This project is being led by Dr Athanasios Kallianidis, Professor Sophie Alexander, Professor Petr Velebil and Associate Professor Alexandra Kristufkova.

Workforce challenges in Europe

Medical and Midwifery services are facing huge challenges all over the Europe. There is a serious concern about pressure of work, stress and a higher incidence of trainees dropping out of training programmes. This project is being led by Frank Louwen and Sambit Mukhopadhyay. Our current working group includes representatives from ENTOG and European Association of Midwives.

Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou, President ENTOG and Professor Stergios Doumouchtsis has created a questionnaire to collect data all over the Europe.



The impact of genomics on the future practice of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

A position statement and scientific review are expected on “The impact of Genomics on the future of Foetal and Maternal Medicine”, led by Fionnuala McAuliffe.

Preservation of fertility and newer techniques in oncology fertility

This project is being led by Dr Hajra Khattak, Professor Melanie Davis and Professor Richard Anderson.

Climate change and its impact on future practice of Obstetrics and Gynaecology”

Scientific review to be led by Dr Ferry Boekhorst and Colleagues.

Caesarean Sections in Europe

This project is being overseen by Professor Juriy Wladimiroff, Dr Petr Velebil, Dr Tahir Mahmood and Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou. The group is working on three papers.

First paper will describe the experience of EBCOG Hospital Accreditation Programme and trends observed in Caesarean Section Rates in more than 200 large training units within Europe over the past 20 years.

Second paper will be written in conjunction with colleagues from Euro-Peristat and will describe secular trends in Caesarean Section rates at country levels with Europe.

Third paper will describe evidence-based strategies to deal with rising rates of Caesarean Section.

EBCOG and UNFPA Achievements over the past ten years of collaboration:

EBCOG has been working with UNFPA- Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region (EECARO) since 2014 as a scientific partner. During this collaboration significant achievements have been made.

- Standards of Care translated in Russian (2016) and launched at the EBCOG Congress, Torino in 2016. These documents are accessible at the UNFPA-EECARO website as well.
- Implementing standards of care training workshops in Ukraine and Lithuania (2014).
- PACT Project (European Requirement for Training) has been published for Specialists Training – web linked at UNFPA-EECA.
- UNFPA/EBCOG Visiting Fellowships programme visit the centres of excellence (2016-2018).
- Building SRH Experts Capacity via Master Programme delivered in Georgia (2017).
- Country level support to embed Standards of Care and assess compliance (North Macedonia) 2018.
- Supporting Country level policies (Antenatal care for women with disabilities (Georgia) 2021 –





- Supported Central Asia UNFPA professional event “Reducing Maternal Mortality” – Uzbekistan 2022 Via Zoom.
- Web-seminars during Covid-19 Pandemic (delivered by Jacky Nizard, Johannes Bitzer, Tahir Mahmood) 2021

EBCOG-UNFPA Future collaboration

- Regional UNFPA meeting of all countries of EECA-Region attended by delegates from 24 Countries. Delegates comprised of all UNFPA country teams, MOH representatives and three ministers (Georgia, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan).
- Dr Tahir Mahmood delivered two keynote lectures on strategies: Reducing Maternal Mortality and SRH Services provision and took part in discussion about the development of regional strategy.
- UNFPA has requested more practical assistance from EBCOG around capacity building for the provision of SRH Services. EBCOG and ESC has nominated six senior consultants with expertise in maternal and SRH to provide support in the future.
- EBCOG-ESC Project: The commitment to develop tools for an integrated SRH Service – tool development led by Johannes Bitzer
 - Handbook has been published on SRH and contraception by Cambridge Press to support Diploma Examination
 - EBCOG Post graduate Textbook on SRH is in press with the Cambridge Press. This book will support Fellowship Examination in the future.
 - Online material at ESC website
 - Workforce developments (Examination)
 - European Diploma in SRH Care (EDSRH: EBCOG/ESC) Examination
 - European Fellow in SRH Care (EFSRH: EBCOG/ESC) Examination
- Web hosting of UNFPA materials on the EBCOG website in a dedicated section (<https://ebcog.eu/ebcog-unfpa-collaboration/>)

Dr Tahir Mahmood CBE

Chair SCSCPS

Past-President EBCOG



Fellowship Working Group Report

Working Group Members

Dr Petr Velebil (Chair) ▪ Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay ▪ Dr Jure Klanjšček ▪ Dr Ferry Boekhorst (through September) ▪ Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou (September onward)



The EBCOG/ENTOG Fellowships WG continued its work on regular Fellowships for trainees and on a new fellowship programme for Ukrainian colleagues in 2023.

There were three EBCOG/ENTOG fellowships granted for 2023. All three were completed within 2023. The Fellowship WG continued cooperation with Ukrainian representatives in promotion of the new fellowship programme for Ukrainian doctors, with rules approved by the EBCOG at the end of 2022. Because only one application was received by

the original deadline of February 28, 2023, an extension was made until June 15, 2023.

The WG received three applications, two of them were eligible. The WG suggested that in the extraordinary circumstances of war, that EBCOG should go ahead and start with the fellowship programme and award the fellowships to initiate the process. It would serve the purpose better than another deadline extension. This stand was supported by the Executive Board and decision was made in August 2023 to grant one 3-months fellowship for a trainee and one 6-months fellowship for a specialist, both to be completed within one-year period. The applications for standard EBCOG/ENTOG fellowships for 2024 were opened in May 2023, and announced on respective web pages. Deadline for the applications for 2024 is 30 September 2023. However, due to lack of applications, the deadline was extended till the end of 2023.

The new ENTOG President, Dr. Sofia Tsiapakidou took over the ENTOG representation in the ENTOG/EBCOG Fellowship Working group at the end of September 2023. The Fellowships WG thanked the past president of ENTOG Dr. Ferry Boekhorst for his excellent input to the WG activities.

The EBCOG/ENTOG Fellowships WG reported regularly to the Executive Board and during EBCOG Council meetings in 2023.

Dr Petr Velebil

Chair Fellowship Working Group



Congress Report

EBCOG Krakow 2023



2023 saw the culmination of two years of intense planning – the fully in-person congress was held jointly by EBCOG and the Polish Society from 18-20 May 2023 in Krakow, Poland. This was in conjunction with the 100th anniversary celebration of the Polish Society.

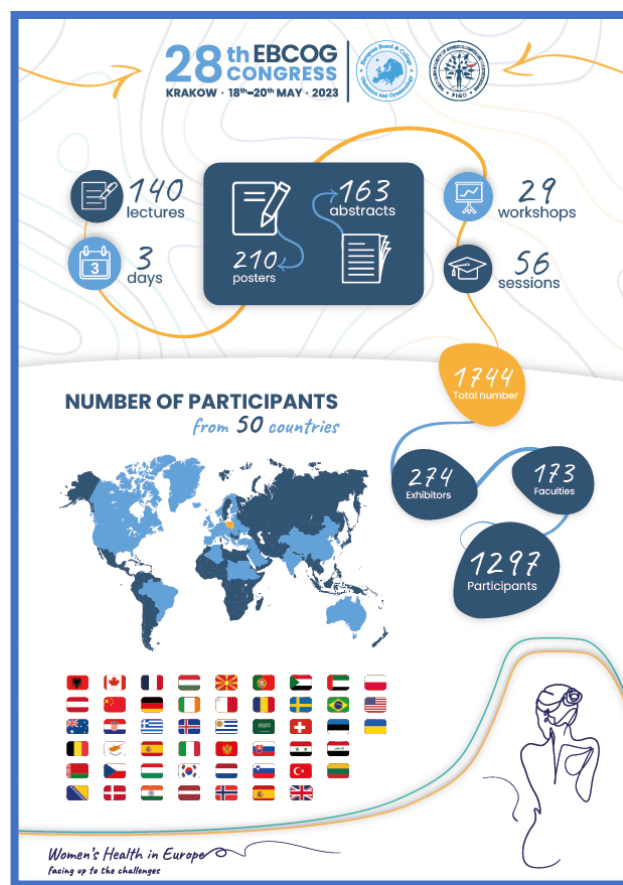
The Scientific Committee, led by myself, Congress President Basil Tarlatzis, and Polish Society President Piotr Sieroszewski, and the PCO (MedicaExpert - led by Mateusz

Lubarski), worked tirelessly to support this massively successful event. The Scientific and Organizational Committees thank everyone involved in the congress for all of their hard work.

The congress featured a robust scientific programme on a wide variety of topics, led by five keynote speakers. Thirty-two parallel sessions covered obstetrics, gynaecology, endometriosis, infertility, lifestyle, minimally invasive surgery, innovation, and social issues. Twelve societies contributed to the programme with their own sessions. Innovative ideas such as the Challenge the Expert sessions were incorporated into the programme. Each day began with breakfast sessions dedicated to the presentation of abstracts and ended with hands-on training and masterclasses.

There were also many opportunities for colleagues to socialise, including a sold-out gala dinner. This gave everyone a chance to experience the beautiful and historic city of Krakow. The well-attended opening and closing ceremonies including touching tributes to departed colleagues, and the honours of EBCOG's newest Fellows.

In total, 1,297 participants from 50 countries made this event a success.



The congress would not have been a success without the participation and contribution of EBCOG’s Council members. We thank you for your support.



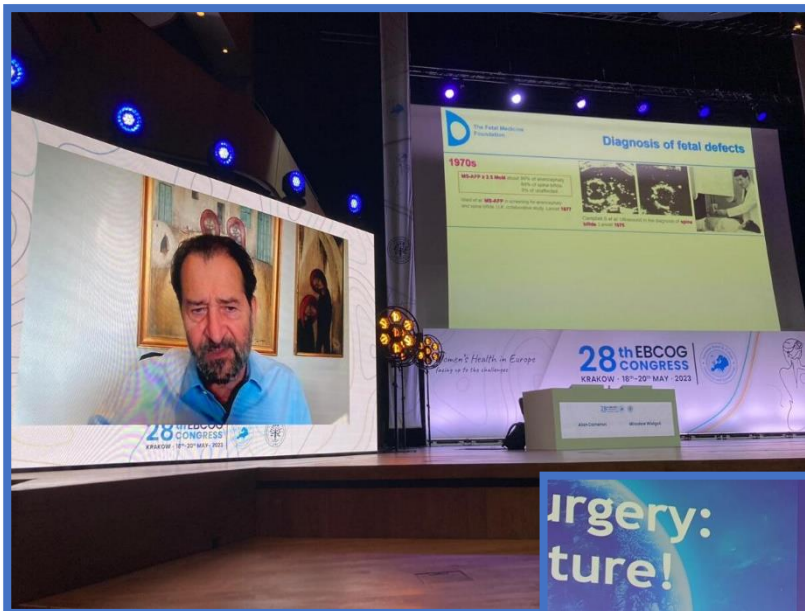
The EBCOG booth provided a place for participants to learn more about the organisation.



*The booth also provided a meeting point for colleagues.
L to R: Basil Tarlatzis, Tahir Mahmood, Johannes Bitzer, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Fionnuala McAuliffe, Ioannis Messinis, Petr Velebil*

L to R: Nuno Martins, Frank Louwen, Rudi Campo

The congress was opened by EBCOG President Professor Basil Tarlatzis



The keynote speakers attracted large audiences. Keynote speaker Dr Jeanne Conry also became an Honorary Fellow of EBCOG.





Thirty-two parallel sessions were offered, and abstracts were presented through the congress.



There were also many opportunities to socialize, including the sold-out gala dinner.





The closing ceremony gave us a chance to honour the new EFOG-EBCOG recipients, and friends departed too soon.



We thank the Polish Society for their help in planning a fantastic event.





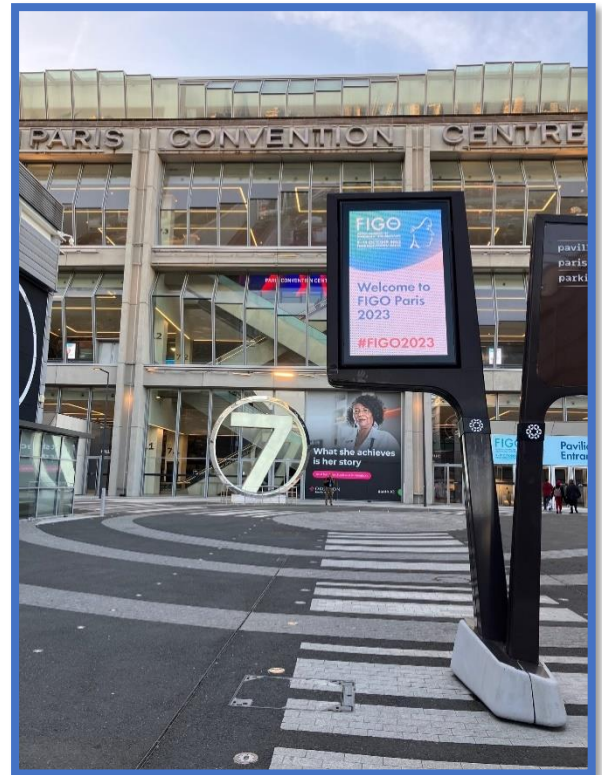
FIGO 2023

The 24th FIGO Congress occurred 9-12 October 2023 in Paris.

EBCOG was present with a booth and held a reception on the evening of 10 October 2023. It was a unique opportunity to introduce colleagues from all over the world to our organisation, on European soil for the first time in a number of years.

ENTOG was also present and was active in the WATOG One World Exchange.

Elections were held at the congress, which resulted in Professor Frank Louwen's win as President-Elect of FIGO. Professor Chiara Benedetto became the new Regional Trustee of Europe after the term of Professor Basil Tarlatzis ended. France, Ireland, and Ukraine were newly elected as European Council Member countries, and joined continuing European members Finland, Germany, Greece, and the United Kingdom.



*EBCOG reception,
10 October 2023*





Webmaster Report



WEBSITE

The main platform of informing public about our activities is still our website ebcog.eu, which had over 21.000 visitors in 2023 and more than 50.000 views. Weekly we have in average around 1000-1500 views, the most was in week before congress – more than 2000. The most followed topic is Exam, followed by Congress and Fellowships. Most of our visitors find our site through Google search.

FACEBOOK

Facebook is the only social network that was active for EBCOG before 2022 and it still has by far the highest reach. It has more than 9000 followers, more women than men and the most represented age group is 35-44 years. Facebook page had 6900 visits in 2023, reach of our posts was 21000.

INSTAGRAM

Instagram has younger audience than Facebook, mostly 25-34 years old. Reach is still much smaller than Facebook, but it is growing rapidly and we more than tripled the number of followers in 2023.

X (TWITTER)

The account has 102 followers, growing from 40 in the beginning of the year.

LINKEDIN

Our group has 312 members, 29 posts were published, which had 2000 views.

NEWSLETTER

We sent 4 newsletters to our 2228 members in 2023. 30-50% of emails are read.

Most of our social media accounts still have fairly low number of followers, but the number was steadily growing in 2023. In 2024 we plan to continue to improve website – in close cooperation with Standing Committees and to expand the reach of social media accounts.

Dr Jure Klanjšček

EBCOG Webmaster





ENTOG Report

The European Network of Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ENTOG) is a non-governmental, independent and non-profit organisation. ENTOG was officially founded with its first ENTOG Council in Athens, Greece, in 1997 in accordance with the Belgian Act of 25 October 1919, as amended by the 6 December 1954 Act. ENTOG is an official body of EBCOG (European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology) and therefore UEMS (Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes).

ENTOG aims and works hard to achieve a better understanding of training in gynaecology-obstetrics in different European countries, thus helping to ensure a comparable standard of training.

The ENTOG Executive Committee 2023-2024

On Thursday 21st of September the ENTOG Council meeting took place in Birmingham. Council elections took place for the new Executive committee of 2023-2024. Available positions were President, Secretary General, Treasurer and Member.

ENTOG Executive committee for 2023-2024 (see Figure 9) is:

- President: **Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou**, Greece.
Member of SCTA, SCSCPS, and EBCOG/ENTOG Fellowship working group.
- Secretary-General: **Dr Mei Yee Ng**, Ireland.
Member of SCE.
- Treasurer: **Dr Esther McNeill**, United Kingdom.
- Executive Member-Webmaster: **Dr Rafal Zadykowicz**, Poland.
Member of SCTR.
- Executive Member: **Dr Sara Vodopivec**, Slovenia.



Figure 9: ENTOG Executive 2023-2024

2023 activities

The **ENTOG Exchange & Scientific Meeting 2023** took place in Birmingham, United Kingdom and it was a truly remarkable experience. 44 European trainees from 29 different ENTOG member countries participated, making it a vibrant and diverse exchange experience. Trainees were hosted by 19 different hospitals across 12 cities throughout the United

Kingdom, offering a rich tapestry of experiences and insights into the local healthcare systems.

After spending three days visiting these hospitals and exploring their respective cities, all trainees converged in the dynamic city of Birmingham. On the 21st of September, an inaugural workshop on leadership **‘Bridging the Future – Leadership in Obstetrics and Gynaecology’** was facilitated by Dr. Anabela Serranito, followed by the ENTOG Council



meeting (see Figure 11). The following day was marked by a full-day scientific meeting focused on Periconception Medicine, a collaborative effort with the West Midlands Obstetrics & Gynaecology Trainees. This year, we had the esteemed presence of two EBCOG Officers, Prof. Louwen and Dr. Mukhopadhyay at our Scientific Meeting.

The success of this year's ENTOG exchange is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the United Kingdom Local Organising Committee, who meticulously orchestrated this event, allowing everyone a glimpse into the life of a UK NHS trainee. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those involved in making this event not only possible but also profoundly impactful.

Figure 10 Bridging the Future – Leadership in Obstetrics and Gynaecology workshop, Birmingham 2023

ENTOG MINI-EXCHANGE 2023 took place in Krakow and Katowice, Poland

from 15th to 17th of May prior to the 28th EBCOG Congress. Three more Japanese trainees participated in this inaugural pilot Exchange, thanks to EBCOG’s collaboration and initiative with the Japanese Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

EBCOG-JSOG Exchange 2024 three ENTOG members were selected as EBCOG-ENTOG Ambassadors at the 76th Annual Congress of the Japan Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology from 19th to 21st April 2024 at PACIFICO Yokohama North, Yokohama, Japan.

Election of ENTOG Exchange in 2025 took place during the council meeting in Birmingham. Congratulations are extended to the German Trainee Society! ENTOG EXCHANGE 2025 will be in **Germany**.

28th EBCOG Congress saw active participation from ENTOG in various sessions, with a standout being the ENTOG Trainee Session on ‘Ultrasound: Back to Basics - What every trainee should be able to do’ which became one of the most attended ENTOG sessions in EBCOG Congress history. The event also featured 252 abstract submissions from ENTOG



members, a joint ENTOG/WATOG session on ‘Teach the Breech’ and ‘Challenge the Expert’ sessions led by ENTOG members.

ENTOG Exchange Switzerland 2024 preliminary Exchange and Scientific programme’s planning was presented by Junges Forum President Evelin Beizermann during ENTOG Council in Birmingham. The Scientific meeting will be a whole day event focused on **Innovation in Gynecology & Obstetrics**.

ENTOG Representatives in WATOG from 2023 until 2025 are Sofia Tsiapakidou and Rafał Zadykowicz, who will be part of WATOG Executive Board and working with WATOG to unite trainees and young specialists worldwide. Mei Yee Ng, ENTOG Secretary General is newly elected as WATOG Secretary.

Consequently, there are three ENTOG representatives serving on the FIGO Subcommittees - Mei Yee Ng is Member of Minimal Access Surgery, Rafał Zadykowicz is Member of Ethical Aspects of Human Reproduction and Womens’ Health and Sofia Tsiapakidou, formerly in Urogynaecology and Pelvic Floor Disorders, is now Member of Menstrual Disorders and Related Health Impacts FIGO Subcommittee.

WATOG-ENTOG One World Exchange took place in France, prior to FIGO World Congress in Paris, October 2023, where 10 ENTOG members had the opportunity to discover the French Obstetrics and Gynaecology training and health system and compare similarities and differences with other WATOG members from all over the world.

ENTOG-FVVO Trainee Editorial Board was composed by five trainees, as ENTOG Trainee Assistant Editor, ENTOG Trainee Associate Editor and ENTOG Editorial Team Member.

ENTOG-EJOG Trainee Editors positions were expanded from one to 6 positions and a new ENTOG-EJOGX Trainee Editor position was launched. In recognition of exemplary performance, one of our existing Trainee Editors has been promoted to Associate Editor.

One2One Exchange There were nine One2One Exchanges in 2023, that took place in Rome, Calais, Drogheda, Ankara and Istanbul, each offering a unique blend of cultural and professional insights. In addition to our current hosting offers in Rome and Istanbul, we now have ENTOG members hosting in Edinburgh, Innsbruck, Cork, and Frankfurt.

Scientific Meetings

ENTOG has been a contributing, actively involved, and/or co-organising entity in the following scientific meetings:

- European Society of Sexual Medicine (ESSM) Congress Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 16th to 18th February 2023 16–18, 2023
- 28th EBCOG Congress in Krakow, Poland, 18th to 20th May 2023.
- IFFS World Congress in Athens, Greece, 10th to 13th September 2023



- ESGE-YEP Exchange and European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE) 32nd Annual Meeting in Brussels, Belgium, 1st to 4th October 2023
- One World Exchange and XXIV FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics in Paris, France 9th -12th October 2023
- XVI EUGA Annual Meeting, Italy, 19th to 21st October 2023 with ENTOG – EUGA Trainee Committee Session Training in Urogynecology: Trainee’s perspective, in Varese, Italy.
- European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health (ECTMIH) , Utrecht, the Netherlands, 20th to 23rd November 2023

ENTOG Joint Webinars

- **ISUOG Trainee Webinar** on 5th of July focused on the differential diagnosis of myometrial lesions and the application of intra-partum ultrasound.
- **ESSM-YoSEMA-ENTOG webinar** on 29th of November crucially highlighted Female Sexual Dysfunction from reproductive age to menopause.
- **ENTOG-TTOG Ultrasound Diagnosis of Endometriosis and Correlations to the surgical findings** on the 29th of November.
- **ENTOG-IPVS New Frontiers in Cervical Cancer** on 14th of December featured experts discussing the latest advancements in cervical cancer treatment.

EBCOG hospital accreditation visits

ENTOG took part in on-site and on-line hospital accreditation visits in close collaboration with the Standing Committee on Training Recognition of EBCOG.

EBCOG/ENTOG Fellowship Grant

3 ENTOG trainees participated and finished their three-month EBCOG Fellowship in 2023. Fabiana Interlandi from Italy visited 2nd Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece, Elzbieta Bumbul-Mazurek from Poland visited Vilnius University in Lithuania, and Andreea Elena Dumitru from Romania visited UC Louvain, Cliniques Saint-Luc in Belgium.

ENTOG Treasurer report

ENTOG activities are financially supported by EBCOG with a €6500 annual contribution. The account is held by the EBCOG Treasurer. Due to rising travel costs and price inflation, ENTOG exceeded the budget by approximately €800.

2024 is expected to be a productive and busy year again for ENTOG. This year, we hope ENTOG will be actively involved in ESSM, EAPM, EURAPAG, ESGO, ESGE, IPVS, ISUOG, and EUGA scientific meetings and many more events that will benefit ENTOG members.

Dr Sofia Tsiapakidou
President, ENTOG



APPENDIX

A complete list of publications by the Standing Committee of Standards of Care and Position statements (Updated March 2024)

1.
Public Health importance of antenatal care (2013)
[Facts Views Vis Obgyn.](#) 2015; 7(1): 5–6
2.
Mahmood T & Hornnes P. Scaling up the screening.
(in) Public Service Review- European Union issue 21 (March 2011): 214-217
(www.publicservice.co.uk)
3.
EBCOG Position statement on IVF Treatment and Single Embryo Transfer
[Facts Views Vis Obgyn.](#) 2014; 6(1): 5–6.
4.
EBCOG Position statement on Medical Abortion
Published: April 15, 2016 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2016.04.015>
5.
EBCOG Position statement on Obesity and women’s Health
[Facts Views Vis Obgyn.](#) 2014; 6(4): 175–176.
6.
EBCOG Position statement on Alcohol and Pregnancy
Published: May 02, 2016 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2016.04.020>
7.
EBCOG Position statement on Violence against women
Published: February 03, 2017 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2017.01.059>
8.
EBCOG Position statement on Caesarean sections in Europe
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2017.04.018>
9.
EBCOG Position statement on Female Genital Mutilation
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2017.04.019>
10.
Mahmood, Tahir and Tamar Khomasuridze. Improving Standards of Care in Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Eastern and Central Asian Region.
Entre Nous 2015: 83: 26-27 (ISSN: 1014-8485)



11.
Smith A, Leroy M, Mahmood T, Mercer C. Migrant women's Health Issues: Addressing Barriers to Health Care for Migrant Women with irregular status.
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12.
Mahmood T, Mercer C, Tschudin S, Bitzer J, Gonzales Mesa E, Rowe H, Edozien L.
Perinatal mental Health: Bridging the gaps in Policy and Practice.
Entre Nous WHO Europe: 2016;85: 22-23
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Benhalima K, Chantel M, Damm P, Van Assche A, Devlieger R, Desoya G, Corcoy R, Mahmood T, Nizard J, Savona-Ventura C, Dunne F. A proposal for the use of uniform diagnostic criteria for gestational diabetes in Europe: an opinion paper by the European Board & College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG).
Diabetologia, 2015: DOI 10.1007/s00125-015-3615-7
14.
Katrien Benhalima, Peter Damm, Andre Van Assche, Chantal Mathieu, Roland Devlieger, Tahir Mahmood, Fidelma Dunne. Screening for gestational diabetes in Europe: Where do we stand and how to move forward? A scientific paper commissioned by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG).
European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology;2016: 201:192-196
15.
Katrien Benhalima, Chantal Mathieu, Andre Van Assche, Peter Damm, Roland Devlieger, Tahir Mahmood, Fidelma Dunne. Survey by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on screening for gestational diabetes in Europe.
European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology;2016: 201:197-202
16.
Kristel Van Calsteren, Ksenija Gersak, Hiltrun Sundseth, Ingrid Klingmann, Lode Dewulf, Andre Van Assche, Tahir Mahmood. Position statement from the European Board and College of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (EBCOG)- The use of medicines during pregnancy- call for action.
European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology;2016: 201: 189-191
17.
Rudi Campo, Arnaud Wattiez, Vasilis Tanos, Attilio Di Spiezio Sardo, Grigoris Grimbizis, Diethelm Wallwiener, Sara Brucker, Marco Puga, Roger Molinas, Peter Donovan, Jan Deprest, Yves Van Belle, Ann Lissens, Anja Herrmann, Mahmood Tahir, Chiara Benedetto, Igno Siebert, Benoit Rabischong, Rudy Leon De Wilde. Gynaecological Endoscopic Surgical Education and Assessment. A diploma programme in Gynaecological endoscopic surgery.
European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology; 2016: 199;183-186



18. Anna Richmond, Sweta Priyanka, Tahir Mahmood, Paul Wood. Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology in Europe: Clinical Services, Standards of Care, and Training. *Journal of Paediatric & Adolescent Gynaecology*, 2016; 29 (3); 299-303
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20. Messini CI, Daponte A, Anifandis G, Mahmood T, Messinis IE. Standards of Care in Infertility in Europe. *European J Obstet Gynae Reprod Biol*, 2016; 207; 205-210
21. Luca Gianaroli, Anna Pia Ferraretti, Maria Cristina Magli, Serena Sgargi. Current regulatory arrangements for assisted conception treatment in European countries. *EJOGRB* Published October 20, 2016 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2016.10.00>
22. Rees M, Lambrinouadaki I, Bitzer J, Mahmood T. Joint Opinion paper, “Ageing and Sexual Health” by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and the European Menopause and Andropause Society. *European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology*, 2018 (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/J.ejogrb.2017.04.024>)
23. Kapur A, Mahmood T, Hod M. The unmet need for universal testing for hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy and the FIGO Guideline- Invited Commentary. *BJOG* 2017; 125(5): 529-531 (doi:10.1111/1471-0528.14659)
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26. Egan E, Hod M, Mahmood T, Dunne F. Perspective on diagnostic strategies for Hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy-dealing with the barriers and challenges in Europe. *Diabetes Research and Clinical Practice*, 2018: 145;67-72
27. Mahmood T on behalf of European Board and College of obstetrics and Gynaecology. EBCOG Position Statement on Caesarean Section in Europe. European Board and College of obstetrics and Gynaecology,



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28.

Hod M, Pretty M, Mahmood T: . Joint position statement on universal screening for GDM in Europe by FIGO, EBCOG and EAPM.

EJOGRB, 2018:228; 329-330

29.

Maud Van de Venne, Tahir Mahmood on behalf of EBCOG. EBCOG Position Statement – Travelling when pregnant.

Eur J Obstet Gynecol (2018), <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2018.10.002>

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Sharon Cameron, Michelle Cooper, Yvonne Kerr, Tahir Mahmood on behalf of EBCOG. EBCOG position statement – Public health role of sexual health and relationships education.

EJOGRB, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2019.01.002>

31.

C Benedetto, A Carosso, M Corezzi , C M Zotti EBCOG position statement: Vaccination in pregnancy.

EJOGRB, DOI: 10.1016/j.ejogrb.2019.04.022

32.

Ivonne Bedei, Zana Bumbulienne, Mirko Sirakov, Tahir Mahmood, Paul Wood. Provision of Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology in Europe today: A joint review by the European Association of Adolescent and Paediatric Gynaecology (EURAPG) and the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG).

Eur J Obs Gynae Rep Biol 2019; 235:116-120

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EJOGRB 2018: 233;110-115

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Eur J Obs Gynae Rep Biol 2020; 244: 38-39



36.

Bertrand Gachon, Renaud De Tayrac, Thomas Schmitz, Tahir Mahmood, Jacky Nizard, Xavier Fritel. Should we advise women that prelabour caesarean section prevents pelvic floor dysfunction?

Eur J Obs Gynae Rep Biol 2020; 244: 31-34

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EJOGRB 250 (2020): 246-249

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Francoise Shenfield, Ioannis Messinis, Tahir Mahmood. Ethical analysis of Cross-Border Reproductive Care: EBCOG Position statement

Eur J Obs Gynae Rep Biol 2020; 252: 568-569

43.

Mahmood T. Breech presentation at term: is the time to revisit the mode of birth (invited commentary).

EJOGRB 2020;252:570-571

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B. Paul, CJ Möllmann, U Kielland-Kaisen, S Schulze, W Schaarschmidt, N Bock, D Brüggmann, F Louwen, L Jennewein. Maternal and neonatal outcome after vaginal breech delivery at term after cesarean section – a prospective cohort study of the Frankfurt breech at term cohort (FRABAT)

EJOGRB 2020

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Ulrikke Kielland-Kaisen, Bettina Paul, Lukas Jennewein, Anna Klemt, Charlotte J. Möllmann, Nina Bock, Wiebke Schaarschmidt, Dörthe Brüggmann, Frank Louwen. Maternal and neonatal outcome after vaginal breech delivery of nulliparous versus multiparous women of singletons at term—A prospective evaluation of the Frankfurt breech at term cohort (FRABAT).

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Charlotte J. Möllmann, Ulrikke Kielland-Kaisen, Bettina Paul, Sally Schulze, Lukas Jennewein, Frank Louwen, Dörthe Brüggmann. Vaginal breech delivery of pregnancy before and after the estimated due date—A prospective cohort study.

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Becky Liu, Mercede Sebghati, Asma Khalil. Why not plan an elective Caesarean section for breech presentation at term – safety first? Invited Commentary

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2020.03.048>

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Dörthe Brüggmann, Jenny M. Jaque, Doris Klingelhöfer, David A. Groneberg, Frank Louwen. Breech Presentation - A scientiometric analysis of the global research output.

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Eur J Obs Gynae Rep Biol 2021 ;262:256-258
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Ioannis E. Messinis, Christina I. Messinis, Georgios M. Anifandis, Alexandros Daponde, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood. EBCOG position statement: Inequality in fertility treatment in people of colour
EJOGRB, 2021: 266: 74-76)
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Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Basil Tarlatzis, Tahir Mahmood. EBCOG Position Statement to mark “ World patient safety day-safe mother and newborn care” on 17th September 2021
EJOGRB 2021;266: 111-113
55.
Topcu G, Savona-Ventura C, Ayres-de-Campos D, Mukhopadhyay S, Messinis I, Mahmood T, Cassar OA, Sultana SG. Provision of antenatal care in Europe- A scientific study commissioned by European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology
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Charles Savona- Ventura, Tahir Mahmood, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Nuno Martins, Frank Louwen, Basil Tarlatzis. The consequences of armed conflict on the health of women and newborn and sexual reproductive health: A position statement by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
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Charles Savona-Ventura, Tahir Mahmood. The role of traditional complementary physical interventions in obstetrics- A scientific review commissioned by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG)
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2022.10.009>

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Hajra Khattak, Ioannis E. Messinis, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood. EBCOG position statement on inequalities in antenatal care provision in Europe: in the wake of an EBCOG survey.

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Sarah Petch, Fionnuala McAuliffe, Sharleen O'Reilly, Cliona Murphy, Sam Coulter-Smith, Diogo Ayres de Campos, Hajra Khattak, Tahir Mahmood. Folic Acid fortification of flour to prevent Neural Tube Defects in Europe: A position statement by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

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Frank Louwen, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood, Nuno Martins, Basil Tarlatzis. The United States Supreme Court ruling and women's reproductive rights: A position statement by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Eur J Obs Gynae Rep Biol 2022;279: 130-131

63.

Marlon Harmsworth, Charles Savona-Ventura, Tahir Mahmood. High-intensity exercise during pregnancy – A position paper by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG).

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EJOGRB 2023; 290: 85-87

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66.

Márcia Vieira-Coimbra, Nuno Nogueira-Martins, Rafal Zadykowicz, Hugo Rodrigues Gaspar, Jean Calleja-Agius, Maja Pakiz, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood.

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EJOGRB 2023; 289: 217-218

(<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.08.386>)

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Márcia Vieira-Coimbra, Nuno Nogueira-Martins, Rafal Zadykowicz, Hugo Rodrigues Gaspar, Jean Calleja-Agius, Maja Pakiz, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Tahir Mahmood. Provision of screening services for cervical and breast cancer – A scientific study commissioned by the European Board & College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG).

EJOGRB 2023; 289: 208-216

(<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2023.08.385>)

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Charles Savona-Ventura, Tahir Mahmood, Sambit Mukhopadhyay, Frank Louwen.: Omega-3 fatty acid supply in pregnancy for risk reduction of preterm and early preterm birth: A position statement by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG).

EJOGRB 2024 DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2024.02.009>

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Diogo Ayres-de-Campos, Frank Louwen, Victoria Vivilaki, Chiara Benedetto, Neena Modi, Mirosław Wielgos, Melania-Elena Pop Tudose, Susanna Timonen, Marlene Reyns, Branka Yli, Pernilla Stenback, Ines Nunes, Burcu Yurtsal, Christophe Vayssiere, Georges-Emmanuel Roth, Maria Jonsson, Petra Bakker, Enrico Lopriore, Stefan Verlohren, Bo Jacobsson. European Association of Perinatal Medicine (EAPM), European Board and College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (EBCOG), European Midwives Association (EMA). Joint position statement: Substandard and disrespectful care in labour – because words matter.

EJOGRB 2024 296 205-207

(<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejogrb.2024.02.048>)

Mini Symposia Series Published (included in the above list)

1.

Obesity and Gestational Diabetes Mellitus in Europe (Three papers series, published in 2015)

2.

Infertility in Europe (Three papers series, published in 2016)

3.

Paediatric and adolescent Gynaecology- three papers series jointly developed by EURAPAG and EBCOG published in 2019

4.

Mini Symposium on Breech Presentation: Published in September, 2020 (EJOG)

A series of 4 research papers, three invited commentaries, and one Clinical Guideline from the French College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists



Current ongoing Projects

- Health inequalities in the provision of Sexual Reproductive Healthcare and the provision of Contraception
- Capacity building: Workforce for the provision of SRH Services in Europe and UNFPA-EECA Region
- Maternal Mortality in Europe
- Workforce challenges in Europe
- “The impact of genomics on the future practice of Obstetrics and Gynaecology”
- “Preservation of fertility and newer techniques in oncology fertility”
- “Climate change and its impact on future practice of Obstetrics and Gynaecology”