



Brussels 21st December 2010

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to inform you that the first Clinical Trial Group meeting took place in Nice on 25th - 26th November, and was a great success. About 80 investigators from all over Europe and beyond participated, with groups presenting different projects across a wide range of important critical care research questions, emphasizing both the high level of interest within the Society, and our willingness to collaborate at all levels.

Participants were asked to vote on the projects presented, and the results of this process were weighed by the Trial Groups Steering Committee, leading to the following proposals.

1. **DALI / Defining Antibiotic Levels in Intensive Care unit patients**, presented by Jeffrey Lipman, which we will adopt as a TG trial and encourage everyone to participate in.
2. **oVNI 2 or OVNI Europe**, presented by Elie Azoulay, will be presented at the next Clinical Trial Group Meeting (see below), with the aim being to achieve a protocol that will be ready to be started as soon as possible thereafter. As an observational study, this should be an excellent first project to develop and test some of the collaborative processes that we need to develop.
3. **Feasibility of use of functional hemodynamic variables in hemodynamic management**, presented by Daniel De Backer, is another observational study that will also be discussed further at the next Clinical Trial Group Meeting, with a view to deciding whether it too should be adopted.
4. **CARS Study: Corticosteroids for ALI/ARDS**, presented by Djillali Annane, is an interventional study that has the potential to be the first such study to be adopted by the Trial Group. It will be discussed in detail with a view to working up the protocol to achieve this goal.

For all the other studies that were presented, a recommendation and advice from the Steering Committee will be sent back to the presenters, and we are most grateful for their efforts and the high quality of the presentations.

As President of the European Society Intensive Care Medicine and Chair of the Research Department, we strongly encourage you identify the projects your units wishes to join so enhance the chances of success for trial!

In addition, you also have the opportunity to submit new proposal for initial evaluation and potential presentation at the next Trial Group Meeting, to get input from your peers and support from experts! If you want your project to be considered for presentation at the next meeting, the deadline for submission is the 15th of March 2011.

We shall meet next in Brussels on 5-6 May 2011, so save the date! More details will be circulated soon, and we look forward to seeing you there.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact ESICM office, Research Department (researchdept@esicm.org) or visit our website www.esicm.org.

Yours sincerely,

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Chair of Research Committee