

Minutes of the Neuro-Intensive Care (NIC) Section Meeting — Munich, LIVES 2025

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NIC in Numbers

As of October 2025, the Neuro-Intensive Care (NIC) Section included 2,447 members, among whom 611 were voting members (25%). The growth in voting members reflects a strong and sustained engagement of the neurocritical care community within ESICM.

Webinars and Podcasts 2025

Two NIC-endorsed webinars were organized in 2025, focusing on key topics in neurocritical care: Targeted Temperature Control (TTC) and Transfusion in Acute Brain Injury.

Two podcasts were planned: 'Covert Consciousness in the ICU' featuring Dr. Jan Claassen (Columbia University, USA, 1034 views), and 'Status Epilepticus' with Dr. Jaideep Kapur (University of Virginia, USA, to be planned late 2025).

LIVES 2025 Program

The NIC section contributed to a dynamic and comprehensive program during the LIVES 2025 Congress in Munich. The agenda included two debates ('Should we monitor ICP outside TBI?' and 'Can we predict outcome in coma?'), two thematic sessions ('Uncovering Disorders of Consciousness' and 'Cerebrovascular Diseases'), along with joint debates sessions and joint thematic sessions with other ESICM sections. Additionally, nine poster sessions were endorsed by the NIC section.

Welcome New Deputy NIC : Dr Virginia Newcombe has been elected as new deputy, October 2025. She will be new Chair from Oct 2026 onwards.

Updates from NIC Representatives

- Dr. Carmen Lopez Soto — Education Committee

Presented the ongoing and upcoming educational initiatives: two Clinical Basic Education (CBE) modules on Subarachnoid Aneurysmal Hemorrhage and Trauma Care (in collaboration with the TEM section), as well as the course 'Mastering the Brain in Critical Conditions' (November 19–20, 2025, interactive online format). Further development of modular training pathways in neurocritical care education was discussed.

- Dr. Virginia Newcombe — Research Committee

Presented the 2025 ESICM Research Awards. Grants awarded with particular interest to NIC section:

Established Investigator Award: Nawfel Ben Hamouda (Switzerland) - 18F-Fluorodeoxyglucose-PET CT to Predict Outcome in Comatose Patients after Cardiac Arrest (PET-PREDICT)

Clinical Award: Aaron Blandino Ortiz (Spain) - tarGeted tempeRature mAnagement iN poor-grADe sAh GRANADA Trial

- Dr. Sarah Benghanem — E-learning Committee

Updated the section on ESICM Academy Neuro-ACE courses: modules on neuromuscular conditions, clinical neurophysiology, and coma have been updated. Revisions of neuromonitoring, traumatic brain injury (parts I–V), and ischemic stroke modules are in progress.

Research Activities

- Surveys : the dissemination of surveys is discussed with several NCS members
 1. Current Acute Brain Injury Monitoring Practices within Intensive Care' (Dr. Richard Cashmore, Cambridge) — data collection completed, write-up ongoing.
 2. MINDSurvey ('Multicenter International Dual-perspective Survey on WLST in Acute Brain Injury') — led by Dr. Sarah Benghanem and Dr. Clément Devautour, Cochin Hospital, Paris. This dual survey explores the roles of intensivists and external consultants in care planning discussions for patients with acute brain injury; recruitment ongoing.
 3. Practices of Neuromonitoring in Meningitis caused by *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (Dr Matteo Maugé)
 4. Acute External CSF Derivation Strategies in Neurocritical Care' — survey coordinated by Prof. Hervé Quintard and Dr. Guillaume Plourde to characterize practice variation and guide future trials.
- Observational Studies
 - 'Vasospasm Management in SAH' — multicenter retrospective analysis in progress.
 - 'Non-invasive ICP in TBI Patients in LMICs' (Rubiano–Robba–Taccone) — validation study ongoing, publication in Intensive Care Medicine (2025).
- Randomized Clinical Trials
 - BIKe Trial — Ketamine for sedation in acute brain injury (Geert Meyfroidt et al.), 80 of 102 patients enrolled as of October 2025.
 - LIMIT Trial — Fluid management in traumatic brain injury (Taccone, Robba, Van der Jagt), ongoing recruitment.

New Projects and Proposals for 2026

The section encourages all members to contribute to multicenter collaborations and to propose future research initiatives within the NIC community.

The meeting concluded with an invitation to all members to provide feedback and new ideas for future educational, clinical, and research activities of the NIC Section.