The European Society of Intensive Care Medicine is proud to award an Honorary Membership to Dr Sameer Jog for his outstanding contribution to research and education in the field of Intensive Care in India.

Sameer Jog received his MBBS (medical graduation) from Pune University (India) in 1995. Thereafter, he obtained his specialisation in Internal Medicine at Pune University in 1998, graduating with highest honours. He rapidly oriented his career in intensive care, obtaining his Indian Diploma in Critical Care Medicine (IDCCM) in 2004 and his European Diploma in Intensive Care (EDIC) part 1 in 2014, and part 2 in 2015. He is currently Consultant Intensivist in the Department of Intensive Care Medicine at Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital, Pune, India.

Dedicated to patient care and treating critically ill patients from various horizons, his large ICU is one of the best in India. Patients with limited resources, as well as wealthier ones, are treated with the same attention and enthusiasm. Despite working in a country where resources allocated to health care are sometimes limited, he and his colleagues try to provide the best and most appropriate care in difficult conditions.

Sameer is a front runner, implementing new technologies and spreading state of the art therapies like HFOV, Therapeutic Hypothermia, ECMO, Electrical Impedance Tomography, or Trans Pulmonary Pressure Monitoring to other Indian ICUs, and promoting their use among his colleagues.

Dr Jog is markedly involved in research. In addition to his own research, which is mostly focused on infections, and in particular tropical diseases, he has included patients in many collaborative studies. He is coordinator of a recently launched local research group - the ISCCM Pune Research Initiative. In addition, he has been the National Coordinator of several studies of the ESICM Trials Group, including the "Fluid challenges in intensive care (FENICE) study" in which he enthusiastically stimulated his Indian colleagues to contribute, so much so, that India was one of the top including countries in that trial. He is also Associate Editor of the Indian Journal of Critical Care Medicine.

Sameer’s interest and involvement in education is very strong. At a local level, he stimulates his fellows to successfully pass the national exam and also EDIC. At national level, he has been a recognised teacher of the IDCCM/IFCCM programmes since 2005 and a recognised teacher/ guide for the National Board of Examinations (INDIA) for FNB Critical Care since 2007. Sameer has been Chairman of the Scientific Committee of the 'Best of Brussels' since 2013, developing the programme of a high-level symposium in India and offering his Indian fellows the possibility to learn and interact with world-renowned experts.

Dr Jog is also very present in the life of our Society and was the International Representative for the Asia Pacific Region and a Council Member from 2012-2015. He was the first Indian to obtain this position and he executed these roles with intense devotion and enthusiasm. With his help, ESICM witnessed an exponential increase in the number of members in this region, and particularly in India. Even after the end of his tenure in office, he has continued to promote ESICM activities in India, including the EDIC preparation courses and exams.

Sameer is also a very kind person, with a good sense of humour. He is profoundly inspired by Mahatma Gandhi. One of Gandhi’s preferred quotes, which describes Sameer’s behaviour at the bedside is: "Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man [woman] whom you may have seen, and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him [her]? Will he [she] gain anything by it? Will it restore him [her] to a control over his [her] own life and destiny?"

I am privileged to present Sameer Jog this award in recognition of his service to intensive care medicine, caring for all critically ill patients with the best and most accurate techniques in difficult conditions, for promoting education in the Indian subcontinent and for his important contribution to ESICM.

DANIEL DE BACKER
ESICM President