



The Intensive Connection

ESICM Research Endorsement of Research Projects Rules

Revised Version
Jan 2019

I. Mechanisms overview

Aim:

The aim of ESICM Research is to provide mechanisms to facilitate, integrate and support research conducted by members or research groups of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) or collaborating individuals or groups. It is managed by the Research Committee of the ESICM, and reports to the Executive Committee for its actions and activities through the Research Committee.

Who should submit an application?

ESICM offers benefits to Research investigators and Research groups.

Which activities are eligible?

The ESICM Research Committee targets scientific and educational research activities of interest to the intensive Care Medicine community. It may give consideration to a single Research project or to Research group activities as a whole.

Overview of benefits:

ESICM Endorsement includes:

- Inclusion on the ESICM Endorsed Projects webpage.
- Announcement in ESICM Newsletter
- Entitlement to display the ESICM logo together with the following sentence: “Endorsed by the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine” on their documentation, emails and websites. The ESICM should be kept informed of any promotional material embedding the ESICM logo.

II. General principles and obligations for contributors to ESICM Research Activities

Research projects (referred to hereafter as „Projects“) which apply for and receive ESICM Endorsement from the ESICM are partners and agree to abide by the principles and obligations set out below.

All contributors to and participants in ESICM research activities will agree to abide by the principles of ethical conduct in research and clinical practice. They will act in the best interests of their patients and of the scientific community. They will support ESICM as a professional organisation committed to enhance patient care through research and education, and will help to foster the long-term objectives of the society.

¹ Please note that in both cases the contact details of members or ICUs will remain within the ESICM office, which will process the mailing

III. Insight into the ESICM Support Package

The support package includes assistance with:

- **Communication:**

- Space on the ESICM website for project description and communication between researchers.
- Space on the ESICM newsletter for an insert promoting the project,
- Opportunity to display documentation at the ESICM booth whenever available.

- **Annual congress:** Provision of a meeting room during the ESICM annual congress, subject to space availability.

IV. Website

A summary of each endorsed project will be made available on the ESICM website.

V. Contractual agreements

In addition to the general principles above, the Project's Steering Committee / the lead of the Research Group and ESICM will agree to the following specific principles and obligations:

Endorsed projects / Research Group activities

- Endorsed Projects/Research Groups remain independent scientific projects and activities. Endorsement by ESICM does not include the transfer of any rights to ESICM. This applies to ownership of data and analyses as well as study design, organization, or staffing of the Project.
- ESICM has the right to end Endorsement ± Support under the following
 - conditions:
 - The Project is terminated – with or without results.
 - The Project / the activities of the research group demonstrate harm to patients or raise other ethical concerns.
 - The conduct of the Project/ the activities of the research fails to meet current legal and ethical standards.
- ESICM may request the Project lead investigator on behalf of the Steering Committee to provide the ESICM Research Committee with a brief update on the
 - project developments using a specific form.
- ESICM does not accept responsibility for any legal or clinical consequences which arise from a given Project/Research Group

Publication of ESICM endorsed projects

- Submission for publications of all ESICM endorsed projects should acknowledge endorsement with the following statement: “The research project / or study/ or trial/ was endorsed by ESICM”.
- The working documents, papers and results related to activities of research endorsed by ESICM do not represent official statements and positions of ESICM.

VI. How to apply for ESICM Endorsement

Application is open to all investigators/entities interested in critical care research and associated subjects.

If competing applications of equivalent scientific quality are received, ESICM will recommend and facilitate collaboration. If this cannot be achieved, preference may be given to those groups which are already active within the ESICM, and fit best with its objectives.

All projects / studies should be run in at least one EU country.

The ESICM Research Committee will examine and decide upon applications within 10 weeks after submission of a complete application. Applicants are welcome to submit their project in advance to be advised on the eligibility and presentation of their application.

Investigators wishing to submit a project for ESICM Endorsement must provide a copy of the Research Protocol, including:

- Brief summary of project
- Objectives
- Methods, including data items, data collection, and statistical analysis
- Organization and Coordination of the Project:
- Project leader, steering committee
- Time lines: start date, milestones, anticipated end date
- Ethics approval
- Collaborators and partnerships
- A declaration of potential competing interests, such as directorships, paid advisory appointments to industry or academic conflicts of interest.

Investigators must also provide ESICM with the following information:

- Composition of the Research Group
- Organization and coordination of the activities of the Research Group
- Time lines: start date, milestones, anticipated end date of activities
- Objectives and expected “deliverables” of the Research Group
- Collaborators and partnerships

An application form is available on the Research webpage.

The ESICM guarantees that this information will be treated as confidential until final approval. In case of rejection, the data are not processed further.

VII. Evaluation of applications to ESICM

The scientific review will be coordinated by the Chair of the Research Committee. All applications will be assessed by reviewers appointed by the ESICM Research Committee (the Chair or Deputy Chair of the relevant ESICM Section may also be invited to assess the project)..

Before a final decision can be taken, the Applicant may be asked to revise some aspects of the Project. Final decision for endorsement will be taken after approval by the Chair of the ESICM Research Committee