



The Intensive Connection

ESICM Research Endorsement of Research Projects Rules

Revised Version
Approved Dec 2023

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 is eligible to submit an application? Research investigators and research groups affiliated with the ESICM who have actively contributed to the society are eligible to apply for project endorsement. (Any question concerning eligibility will be decided by the Research Committee.)

Which activities are eligible?

The ESICM Research Committee targets scientific and educational research activities of interest to the ESICM 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 prior to distribution or publication.

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.

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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 fail to meet current legal and ethical standards.
- The Project lead investigator on behalf of the Steering Committee is expected to provide the ESICM Research Committee with a brief update on the project developments every 6 months 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.
- ☐ The applicant agrees to first submit the primary paper to ICM or ICMx.

VI. How to apply for ESICM Endorsement

Eligible candidates should contact research@esicm.org to request an application form, or go to the research webpage of the ESICM website to download the application form. 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 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
- ☐ Evidence of past or current collaboration within the ESICM

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 the President, President-elect, Secretary General and Chair of the Research).

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 after running it again through the above-mentioned members of the Executive Committee.