

3/2021

SOCIETY

IASIOS –  
off to a  
great start

MEETING

Looking  
forward to  
ECIO 2022

EDUCATION

The new  
endovascular  
certification

news

SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 25-28  
ONLINE



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING CIRSE 2021!

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**CIRSE Central Office** | Neutorgasse 9, 1010 Vienna, AUSTRIA  
Tel: + 43 1 904 2003, Fax: + 43 1 904 2003 30, [info@cirse.org](mailto:info@cirse.org), [www.cirse.org](http://www.cirse.org)

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CIRSE – CARDIOVASCULAR AND INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF EUROPE / 2021

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IR News is designed to provide information on the activities, congresses and educational ventures of the Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe (CIRSE). While the information in this publication is believed to be true, neither the Editorial Board nor the Editorial Team can accept any legal responsibility for any errors or omissions made. All contributors are responsible for ensuring that submitted articles are their own original work. Contributed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the IR News or of CIRSE.

*2021 has been another eventful, innovative year for CIRSE!*

Dear friends and colleagues,



Another year draws to a close. At the outset of the pandemic, few of us could have imagined how our lives, practices and communications were about to change, or that we'd still be fighting so hard throughout 2021. There have been some triumphs among the challenges – we've become more adaptable, and have worked together to ensure that CIRSE and the IR community as a whole have not slowed our pace of research and exchange. After several successful online meetings, at last, there is a light at the end of the tunnel and plans in motion to meet face-to-face in 2022.

#### **Expanding horizons**

So many exciting projects are underway this year! To meet the growing demand for clinical data as well as support the collection of this data, CIRSE launched its own contract research organisation (CRO), Next Research, in early 2021. Building on years of experience conducting research projects from within CIRSE, NR extends the range of services that can be offered. Flip to page 8 to learn more.

IASIOS, the International Accreditation System for Interventional Oncology Services, opened enrolment to the public earlier this year. In just over a year, enrolment has increased from 12 to 17 centres, and several more have received administrative approval to enrol next year. Several centres have also received an IASIOS seal! Page 14 has all the details.

#### **Expanding education**

As educational opportunities remained largely digital throughout the year, CIRSE has continued to hone and expand our online offerings. There are several new aspects of the CIRSE Library to explore – since October, the start page now features showcased content recommended by Library users.

Additionally, more than 50 topic packages are now available, as well as all of the content from the CIRSE 2021 Summit.

New CIRSE Academy courses have also been published this year, and many more are in the works. The goal of covering the entire European Curriculum and Syllabus for Interventional Radiology through Academy courses will be met in 2022!

The webinar series that began last year is also ongoing, offering a range of highly specialised and innovative live courses that can be easily accessed from anywhere in the world. All previous webinars are available on demand – flip to page 22 to find out what's up next!

Demand for endovascular therapies is rising – in order to increase visibility and highlight IR's clinical proficiency in this field, CIRSE has established a new certification. The European Certification for Endovascular Specialists was launched in September 2021, aiming to highlight the important role that endovascular therapy plays within IR and to acknowledge IRs as clinical experts in these treatments. Find out more details on page 24.

#### **Science for people**

The CIRSE 2021 Summit was a great success! Flip to page 16 to check out some of the highlights of 2021's IR meeting of the year and to get a sneak peek at what's in store for ECIO, ET, and CIRSE 2022.

I hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter, wish you a happy holiday season, and am looking forward to seeing you all in person in 2022!

Afshin Gangi  
*CIRSE President*

*The 2021 General Assembly took place online on November 10.*

# The CIRSE 2021 General Assembly

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The CIRSE General Assembly usually takes place on the occasion of the CIRSE congress; this year's assembly took place via an online meeting as a consequence of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The assembly was held via zoom on November 10, 2021.

CIRSE President Afshin Gangi began by welcoming and thanking the participants of the assembly before highlighting how extraordinary the past two years have been for the society. Due to the pandemic, all events of the past two years have had to be adapted to online meetings to ensure that IR education can continue. In spite of the challenges, CIRSE membership numbers on both an individual and group level have grown to make CIRSE the largest IR society in the world.

Prof. Gangi continued to speak on the CIRSE 2021 Summit, commenting that it was a successful, interactive meeting which received good feedback from participants. He once again extended thanks to all faculty, attendees, and corporate partners that made this meeting possible.

### Ongoing projects and new outlooks

Several new and ongoing projects were then covered, including initiatives in the fields of research, education and certification.

Notably, Next Research, an in-house clinical research organisation, will be a major project in 2022, offering research services tailored to image-guided, minimally invasive medicine by providing a link between practitioners and industry to ensure data needs can be identified and addressed, and conducting clinical data collections that yield real value to practitioners, industry and patients.

2021 was a good year for the European Board of Interventional Radiology (EBIR), with new online access options and multiple languages being introduced. A new certification, the European Certification for Endovascular Specialists, has also been launched this year for EBIR holders who seek recognition of their expertise and experience in the field of endovascular therapy.

CIRSE will continue with its greatly expanded online educational offerings in 2022, with webinars and new Academy courses planned alongside the long-awaited return to onsite events.

### The CIRSE journals

CVIR Editor-in-Chief Klaus Hausegger then presented an update about the journal, which extended its editorial board this year and expanded to include sections on musculoskeletal and neurointerventions. The journal has been successful in the past year, with the impact factor increasing significantly. Prof. Hausegger summarised that CVIR is the largest global journal in IR, with editors from all corners of the earth and editorial board members from 30 nations. He concluded his presentation by thanking all reviewers for their work and dedication and encouraged all CIRSE members to submit their research to the journal.

CVIR Endovascular Editor-in-Chief Jim Reekers then took over the presentation to give an update regarding CIRSE's open access, multidisciplinary journal. He spoke about the current trend that has seen open access journals becoming increasingly popular, and that articles in CVIR Endovascular are now indexed in PubMed Central, Scopus and ESCI. He reported that the number of editorial board members has been growing steadily and that 2020 was a record submission year with only a slight decrease in 2021. Prof. Reekers closed by thanking all authors and reviewers for their support, and by encouraging submissions to the journal.

### Till next year – in Barcelona!

Prof. Gangi closed the meeting by thanking all members for their presence and expressed his wish to see everyone in person at the 2022 General Assembly during the CIRSE Annual Congress in Barcelona.





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## CVIR – VIRTUAL RECEPTION

*On September 21, 2021, CVIR Editor-in-Chief Klaus Hausegger and CVIR Endovascular Editor-in-Chief Jim A. Reekers were joined by many colleagues and friends of CIRSE to praise this year's award winners.*

## CIRSE Journals virtual reception highlights



We were honoured to be joined by colleagues from around the globe in order to celebrate the award winners of 2021. Prof. Hausegger echoed this himself: "This is international IR. Just remember that we cover every region of the world, from Australia to Europe to North and South America. If you publish in our journals, you can be sure that your paper will be distributed and read worldwide."

The role of authors, reviewers, editors and staff in making these journals possible cannot be overstated.

As Prof. Reekers asserted, "Being a reviewer is important not only for yourself; by being a reviewer, you contribute to your profession and to CIRSE" and we couldn't agree more. Both editors-in-chief thanked all authors and reviewers for their hard work, gave updates on the progress of both journals and moved on to highlight the achievements of this year's award winners.

As part of the CIRSE 2021 Summit, the award ceremony took place online; we look forward to seeing you all next year in person!



*We look forward to seeing everyone who contributes to the journal in person next year!*



#### **Editors' Medal 2021**

10-Year Paclitaxel Dose-Related Outcomes of Drug-Eluting Stents Treated Below the Knee in Patients with Chronic Limb-Threatening Ischemia (The PADI Trial)

*Louise C. D. Konijn, Thijs Wakkie, Marlon I. Spreen, Pim A. de Jong, Lukas C. van Dijk, Jan J. Wever, Hugo T. C. Veger, Randolph G. Statius van Eps, Willem P. Th. M. Mali & Hendrik van Overhagen*

#### **Most Cited Article: Scientific Paper**

Paclitaxel-Coated Zilver PTX Drug-Eluting Stent Treatment Does Not Result in Increased Long-Term All-Cause Mortality Compared to Uncoated Devices

*Michael D. Dake, Gary M. Ansel, Marc Bosiers, Andrew Holden, Osamu Iida, Michael R. Jaff, Aaron E. Lottes, Erin E. O'Leary, Alan T. Saunders, Marc Schermerhorn, Hiroyoshi Yokoi & Thomas Zeller*

#### **Most Cited Article: Review Article**

How to Handle a COVID-19 Patient in the Angiographic Suite

*Anna Maria Ierardi, Bradford J. Wood, Chiara Gaudino, Salvatore Alessio Angileri, Elizabeth C. Jones, Klaus Hausegger & Gianpaolo Carrafiello*

**Most Cited Article: Laboratory Investigation** Comparison of the Thrombogenicity of a Bare and Anti-thrombogenic Coated Flow Diverter in an In Vitro Flow Model *T. Lenz-Habijan, M. Brodde, B. E. Kehrel, C. Bannewitz, K. Gromann, P. Bhogal, M. Aguilar Perez, H. Monstadt & H. Henkes*

#### **Most Downloaded Article**

Old Threat, New Enemy: Is Your Interventional Radiology Service Ready for the Coronavirus Disease 2019?

*Kun Da Zhuang, Bien Soo Tan, Ban Hock Tan, Chow Wei Too & Kiang Hiong Tay*

#### **Article with the Best Media Performance**

Percutaneous Extra-Anatomic Double-Barrel Bypass for Salvage of Hemodialysis Access and Treatment of Venous Occlusive Disease

*Andrew Woerner, David S. Shin, Sandeep S. Vaidya, Sean T. Jones, Mark H. Meissner, Eric J. Monroe, Anthony N. Hage & Jeffrey Forris Beecham Chick*

#### **Outstanding Service to the Journal for the most reviews carried out in 2020:**

*Ali Alsafi, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust/UK  
Yasuaki Arai, National Cancer Center Hospital/JP  
Marco Das, Helios Kliniken Duisburg/DE*



#### **Most Downloaded Article**

Procedural complications of inferior vena cava filter retrieval, an illustrated review

*Keith B. Quencer, Tyler A. Smith, Amy Deipolyi, Hamid Mojibian, Raj Ayyagari, Igor Latich & Rahmat Ali*

#### **Article with the Best Media Performance**

Unnecessary hysterectomies and our role as interventional radiology community

*Gregory C. Makris, Saqib Butt & Tarun Sabharwal*

#### **Outstanding Service to the Journal for the most reviews carried out in 2020:**

*Osman Ahmed, University of Chicago, US  
Colin Cantwell, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Ireland  
Francesco Giurazza, Cardarelli Hospital, Italy  
Alexander Nath, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, UK  
Stavros Spiliopoulos, "ATTIKON" University General Hospital, Greece*



*For this edition's CVIR Endovascular author interview, we spoke to Dr. Sammy Rostampour, an interventional radiologist at Imperial College Hospitals in London.*

# A Q&A with a CVIR Endovascular author

CVIR Endovascular publishes a wide range of article types including case reports, new technologies, original articles, reviews, study protocols, short communications, letters to the editor and editorials. Over the past months, we've spoken to several CVIR Endovascular authors to hear more about their papers, their experience with open access, their thoughts on the currently available options for publishing on IR and more. For this edition's interview, we spoke to Dr. Sammy Rostampour, an interventional radiologist at Imperial College Hospitals in London, England.

**CIRSE: Tell us a little bit about your paper that was published in CVIR Endovascular!**

**Rostampour:** We surveyed UK interventional radiologists to understand how the COVID-19 pandemic had affected their IR services, and how IR services adapted to the challenges faced by the medical world. The survey highlighted how useful day care facilities were in maintaining service in the crisis and that, although changes had to be made, over 80% of respondents could maintain vital 24/7 on-call services. Many centres also assisted clinicians in the ICU by providing central line services.

**CIRSE: Do you think there are currently enough easily accessible interventional radiology publication possibilities for case reports, short communications, technical notes etc.?**

**Rostampour:** I think that it is really important to have a wide variety of publications in the field of interventional radiology. As a procedure-based practical speciality, it is vital to be able to share expertise about the technical aspects of performing procedures and new techniques. Equally, it is essential to perform and publish high-quality scientific research to take the speciality forward. I think it is important that there are a variety of journals which will accept publications of all types – however, it is essential that a high standard is maintained.

**CIRSE: What is your experience with open access?**

**Rostampour:** This was my first open access publication; the entire process was smooth and efficient, and I had a very good experience with the CVIR Endovascular Editorial Team.

**CIRSE: Impact factor is still an important scientific parameter in many institutions, although other parameters like citation index are becoming more important. What are your thoughts on this?**

**Rostampour:** Impact factor is a well-established measure of the importance of scientific findings and helps clinicians and scientists find the most relevant research. However, as a single measure, it has its limitations and should not be the only thing that drives the publication of research. The overall aim should be to report varied and high-quality data, and journals



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*"This was my first open access publication; the entire process was smooth and efficient, and I had a very good experience with the CVIR Endovascular Editorial Team."*



should publish both positive and negative findings of importance.

**CIRSE: Young scientists can find it difficult to get their first papers published. Do you think that CVIR Endovascular can play a role in alleviating the situation?**

**Rostampour:** Producing high-quality scientific research takes time, and many interventional radiologists in the UK currently do not do an MD/PhD. Most trainees carry out research alongside their clinical practice. CVIR Endovascular accepts a wide range of papers and

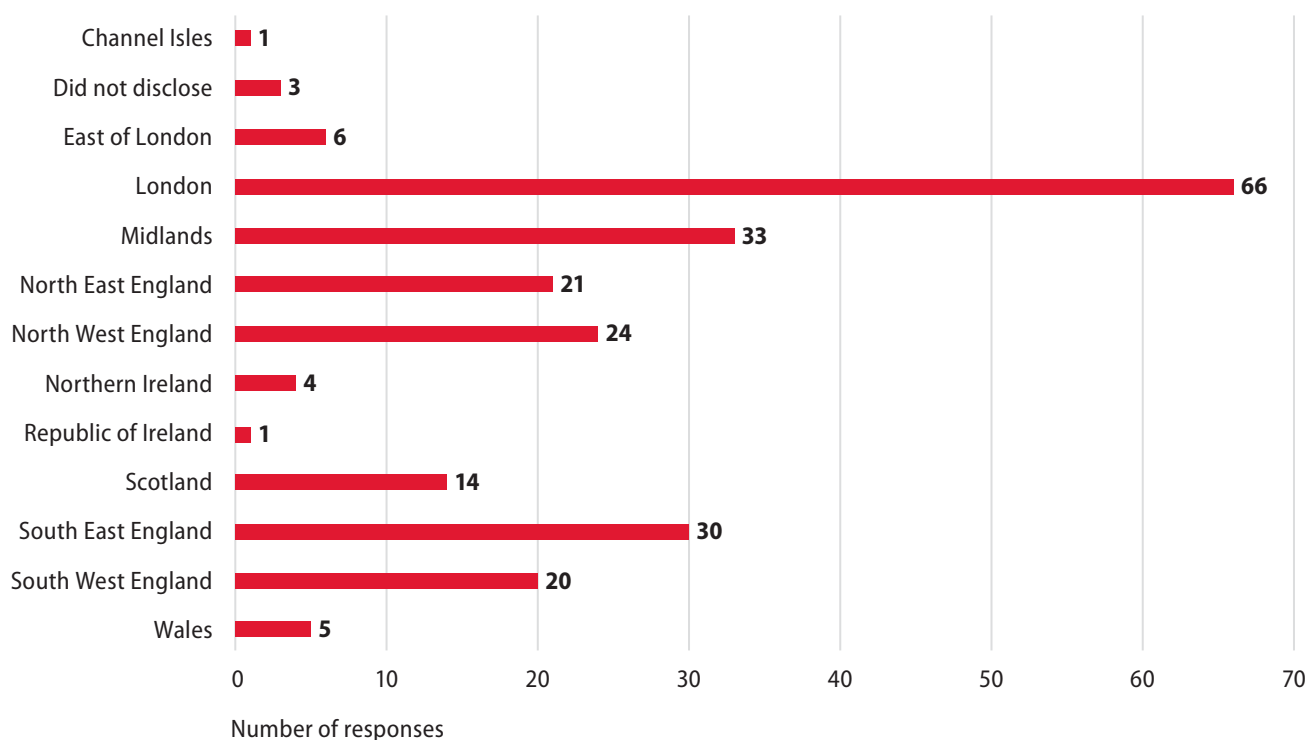
as such is a fantastic place for trainees to submit case reports, communications and technical tips.

**CIRSE: Would you consider submitting your scientific work to CVIR Endovascular again?**

**Rostampour:** I would definitely submit work to this journal again and look forward to doing so. We had a good response to our paper last year, and a good experience working with the editorial team.

Visit [www.cvirendovascular.org](http://www.cvirendovascular.org) for more details about the journal.

#### LOCATION OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS



*Location of respondents to Dr. Rostampour's survey*

## Introducing Next Research

To meet the growing demand for clinical data and support its collection, CIRSE launched its own contract research organisation (CRO), Next Research, in early 2021. Building on years of experience conducting research projects from within CIRSE, Next Research extends the range of services that can be offered.

Adding on to the successful model of observational cohort studies with CIRSE acting as the scientific sponsor responsible for quality control and safety, Next Research is also able to offer CRO services for studies with scientific sponsorship by other organisations.

Furthermore, with a mission extending beyond research services in the field of IR, Next Research has conducted numerous market research and educational activities in 2021.

### **Mission**

#### **Research services tailored to image-guided, minimally invasive medicine**

- Provide a link between practitioners and industry to ensure data needs can be identified and addressed
- Conduct clinical data collections that yield real value to practitioners, industry, and patients

#### **Educational activities**

- Address the knowledge and skill gap many young IRs are facing with regards to clinical research
- Equip young talents in IR with the skills, knowledge, and tools necessary to become leaders of tomorrow

### **Collaboration benefits**

- Quality
- Network
- Society-synergies
- Flexibility

**44,000**

Health care professionals

**8,772**

CIRSE members

**122**

Hospitals currently participating



Next Research aims to offer services to studies sponsored by CIRSE and by other organisations.



### New research project: RESPECT

Introducing our newest study RESPECT –  
REgiStry for Percutaneous ElectroChemoTherapy

#### Study Overview – Timeline

- **Start-up phase**  
Fri 01.10.21 – Wed 30.03.22
- **Invitation & contracting**  
Thu 31.03.22 – Thu 29.09.22
- **Enrolment phase**  
Fri 30.09.22 – Tue 30.09.25
- **Follow-up phase**  
Wed 01.10.25 – Wed 30.09.26
- **Close-out**  
Thu 01.10.26 – Wed 31.03.27
- **Publication**  
Thu 01.04.27 – Thu 30.09.27

#### Steering Committee

PD. Dr. Attila Kovacs (Co-Chairperson)  
Prof. Philipp Wiggerman (Co-Chairperson)

Prof. Dirk Arnold, Prof. Francois Cornelis,  
Prof. Guiseppe Curigliano, Dr. Roberto Iezzi,  
PD. Dr. Michael Moche, Dr. Franco Orsi, Dr. Tze Wah

#### Study objectives

##### Primary objective

- To assess the effectiveness of ECT performed with the CLINIPORATOR® device in controlling hepatocellular carcinoma.

##### Primary endpoint

- Effectiveness: local tumour control at 12 months on a per lesion basis measured according to mRECIST with CT or MRI imaging

##### Secondary endpoints

- Adverse events and toxicity (CTCAE 5.0)
- Overall survival
- Overall local disease-free survival
- Hepatic disease-free survival
- Quality of life (VNS for pain, EORTC's QLQ-C30 with HCC module, EQ-5D)
- Time to untreatable progression
- Systemic cancer therapy vacation
- Economic aspects

##### Enrolment target

- 250 patients

RESPECT

### Market research & educational activities

#### Surveys



#### Webinars



*Legal requirements for obtaining and retaining market access as well as cost coverage by health insurers or government payers can be a hurdle for manufacturers.*

## PMCF and reimbursement studies

While market access requirements are regulated on an EU level (EU Medical Device Regulation, MDR), reimbursement of hospitals for services provided by insurances or governments differ not only between European countries, but even within countries.

Next Research has a certified and dedicated staff with established expertise for country-specific reimbursement and requirements under EU MDR that can help manufacturers go through these processes smoothly. Get in touch with us if you would like to learn more.

### Post-market clinical follow-up (PMCF)

Since 2021, all devices placed on the market must be in conformity with the EU MDR. In line with the new regulation, manufacturers are now mandated to conduct post-market clinical follow-up (PMCF) investigations by collecting additional information on safety and performance of their products already on the market.

Next Research has three studies that will be used to satisfy PMCF data submission requirements under the new MDR.



### EU MDR/PMCF studies: CIEMAR

CIEMAR has recently been approved to submit post-market clinical follow-up data under MDR by the notified relevant body starting in 2022.

CIEMAR is a prospective, multi-centre observational study that aims to observe the real-life use of MWA treatment for colorectal liver metastases in Europe. In line with the patient recruitment extension until January 2023, site recruitment has been extended until mid-2022.

- Number of enrolling centres: 24
- Patients enrolled to date: 263
- Active nations to date: 11
- Number of initiated sites: 32

**If you would like to receive further information on CIEMAR, please contact:**

Daniela Schweiger | Next Research  
+43 1 904 2003 54 | ciemar@cirse.org



### Reimbursement studies: CIRT-FR

In France, SIR-Spheres are listed as reimbursable by the national health authorities (HAS) for hepatocellular and metastatic colorectal cancer-recommended patients. In order to evaluate the extension of reimbursement for these patients in France for five years, the HAS required evidence of therapy effectiveness.

CIRT-FR was initiated to satisfy the data needs by HAS to decide if reimbursement should be extended as well as to gain a better understanding of the real-life clinical application of radioembolisation with SIR-Spheres in France.

CIRT-FR started data collection in August 2017 and is currently 10 months away from closeout.

Following the submission of a clinical study report in 2021, CIRT-FR is awaiting HAS' decision regarding the renewal of reimbursement, which is expected to be communicated in February 2022.

- **August 2021**  
clinical study report submission to HAS
- **February 2022**  
decision on reimbursement by HAS
- **August 2022**  
database closeout
- **December 2022 and 2023**  
final results

**If you would like to receive further information on CIRT-FR, please contact:**

María Urdániz | Next Research  
+43 1 904 2003 52 | cirt-fr@cirse.org







# Nordic Roots Global Mindset

Bringing medical devices to healthcare  
professionals through partnerships  
[www.mermaidmedical.com/cirse](http://www.mermaidmedical.com/cirse)

*Quality-controlled data collection is key in tackling a scientific question in medical studies and must be accompanied by appropriate statistical analyses and strategic dissemination plan to reach the community.*

## When data collection ends: from analysis to dissemination

With four large multicentre observational studies and several smaller survey-based investigations under its belt, Next Research has shown that it is capable of starting studies and collecting data. Of course, a good data collection procedure must be followed up by a stellar statistical analysis and dissemination strategy. Only then can good quality data reach the medical community, be included in guidelines, and ultimately benefit the patients. As a contract research organisation (CRO), Next Research offers statistical and medical writing expertise.

### Statistical analysis

Next Research is currently extending its in-house statistical capabilities to provide analyses tailored to the needs of individual projects and principal investigators in order to facilitate decision making and explore emerging scientific questions. Beyond these in-house capabilities, Next Research collaborates with independent experts in biostatistics, medical science and public health wherever necessary. After the successful publication of its main manuscript, which focused on a birds-eye view of the registry data, the steering committee of CIRT (CIRSE Registry for SIR-Spheres Therapy) has engaged in analysing the individual indications – such as identifying prognostic factors for survival outcomes in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), cholangiocarcinoma (ICC) and colorectal cancer liver metastases (CRLM). For CIREL, the CIRSE Registry for LifePearl Microsphere, the steering committee has elucidated that the real-life use of irinotecan-loaded transarterial chemoembolisation in CRLM goes beyond guideline recommendations, as the treatment was not only used in salvage settings, but also as first-line or consolidation treatment. These results will be presented to the IR community soon.

### A diverse and targeted dissemination strategy

Once the analyses have been performed, Next Research ensures that the results achieve maximum impact in the medical community by executing a comprehensive dissemination strategy. The target audience and appropriate congresses are identified in close collaboration with the investigators early in the study

development and are reviewed periodically throughout all study phases. Furthermore, Next Research aims to publish the results open access in renowned peer-reviewed journals, ensuring that important clinical evidence is available to the medical community at large. In the last year, the results from CIRT have been presented at large international congresses such as the World GI Congress organised by the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) and the International Liver Congress (ILC), but also at smaller, targeted congresses such as the European Neuroendocrine Tumor Society (ENETS) and the Mediterranean-focused MIO-Live 2021.

Industry partners can also rely on Next Research's services for their dissemination needs. A recent survey conducted by Next Research on ambulatory care was presented at a satellite symposium funded by Terumo at the CIRSE Summit 2021. Similarly, a satellite symposium organised by Sirtex at EANM featured CIRT results alongside the new results from the RESiN study. Finally, the presentation of the COVID-19 survey at the CIRSE 2021 Summit illustrates that Next Research is dedicated to bringing essential information about IR practice to the IR community.

Solid statistics and a comprehensive dissemination strategy are essential for the overall impact of a study – regardless of study type or design. Next Research has shown that it can deliver and is dedicated to bringing high-quality data to the IR community and the medical community at large!

*Bleranda Zeka & Niels de Jong*

- **Proposal design**
- **Study design**
- **Data collection and quality control**
- **Statistical analysis**
- **Medical writing**
- **Strategic dissemination**

[www.nextresearch.org](http://www.nextresearch.org)







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to everything CIRSE has to offer in 2022!

Gain **online access** to the CIRSE Library featuring more than 10,000 titles and online content from all CIRSE congresses, as well as over 50 CIRSE Academy courses covering the entire spectrum of IR, and webinars on a variety of subjects throughout the year for one low price!

It gets even better! If you would like to join one or all CIRSE congresses in person, you will benefit from strongly reduced registration fees as a pass holder.

## THE CIRSE 2022 DIGITAL ALL-ACCESS PASS INCLUDES ONLINE ACCESS TO THESE EVENTS AND SERVICES



The CIRSE 2022 Digital All-Access Pass will be available soon!  
[www.cirse.org/events/2022-digital-all-access-pass](http://www.cirse.org/events/2022-digital-all-access-pass)

*The International Accreditation System for Interventional Oncology Services, is off to a great start after its public launch earlier this year.*

## IASIOS – Booming success after public launch!

With the continued growth and recognition of interventional oncology as a vital part of modern cancer care, facilities providing IO therapies must follow appropriate guidelines if the relevant treatments are to be used safely and appropriately. IASIOS will greatly increase the awareness of IO treatments and facilities, accelerate their development, and encourage the adoption of quality standards for interventional oncology.

It is likewise essential for patient safety and satisfaction that IOs have the ability and means to officially prove their value and expertise, and are recognised not as technicians, but rather as primary clinical providers by patients and hospital administrators. In order to achieve exactly that, IASIOS is designed to help developing oncology facilities plan and improve their services in a way that ultimately benefits the patient. Acquiring the IASIOS seals enables hospitals to certify their commitment to optimising patient care with quantifiable benchmarks.



### Participating centres

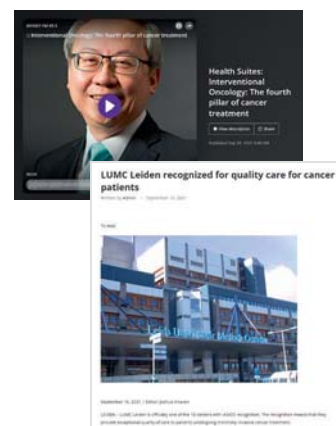
Since making enrolment open to the public, IASIOS – the world's first international accreditation system for interventional oncology services – has had success far beyond its initial expectations. In just over half a year, enrolment has increased from 12 to 17 centres, with several more having confirmed administrative approval for funding and enrolment in 2022. Moreover, the number of centres that have been able to achieve the status of IASIOS Accredited Centre went from four to ten, all of which were the first hospitals from their respective countries to become IASIOS accredited (Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Singapore, Australia and the Netherlands).

Furthermore, two major global milestones were achieved when the first IASIOS Accredited Centre in the southern hemisphere was awarded to I-Med Radiology, Wesley Hospital in Australia, and the first IASIOS Accredited Centre in Asia was awarded to Singapore General Hospital.



### Global support and recognition

Many of the IASIOS centres are internationally known for being pioneers in the field of IO, and their dedication to providing the highest quality and standard of care has been garnering attention from various global media outlets, who have featured IASIOS Accredited Centres in radio interviews, featured articles and press releases.





## *Centres enrolled in the IASIOS system become part of a worldwide community of top IO centres!*

The dedication to providing a globalised standard of care for interventional oncology services is recognised not only among the hospitals and departments seeking to be IASIOS certified, but among the global IO community. So far, 19 distinguished IOs representing various countries around the world have volunteered to sit on the IASIOS Council, which serves as an indicator of the momentum and growth of IASIOS. Additionally, IASIOS is grateful to have received widespread global support from 22 national societies.

### **Building a community of IOs for IOs**

In addition to certifying a high standard of care in the treatment of cancer using minimally invasive techniques, a unique and valuable component to the IASIOS programme has been the building up of a community of likeminded IOs. As the participating centres grow in number, the IASIOS community will develop and strengthen through an annual programme.



Through this, IASIOS members will be able to continuously learn from each other to develop and grow their IO practice and quality of care.

As an IASIOS Enrolled and Accredited Centre, you can expect:

- IASIOS organised annual exclusive events and meetings
- Networking, facilitating connections and mentorship opportunities
- Learning and training workshops for IOs and their teams
- Promotion, visibility and exposure for IASIOS hospitals, departments and IO service lines
- Exclusive chance to privately benchmark and compare standards with other IASIOS centres

### **Limited launch offer**

Centres that enrol in the IASIOS system become part of a worldwide community of top IO centres and can utilise the support provided by the IASIOS office and optional consultancy while they are in the process of improving their IO service lines and preparing their IASIOS application.

IASIOS is currently running a limited launch offer, where the annual membership fee for the first year is waived in addition to a discounted second year – this offer is only available for centres that enrol before the end of 2021, so get your centre involved today!

For more information, visit [www.iasios.org](http://www.iasios.org) or contact the IASIOS team at [office@iasios.org](mailto:office@iasios.org)

*From September 25-28<sup>th</sup>, CIRSE hosted the world's biggest IR meeting online – the CIRSE 2021 Summit.*

# The CIRSE 2021 SUMMIT

The CIRSE 2021 Summit provided a unique experience, bringing together interactive live sessions, on-demand content and a vibrant IR technology page for a seamless congress experience. Numerous features enabled interaction with other congress goers, providing a truly enriching educational experience.

CIRSE 2021 built upon the success of CIRSE 2020, which transformed the meeting into an online congress in order to ensure that IR exchange and education could continue in spite of difficult pandemic times. The Scientific Programme Committee, headed by Profs. Thomas Kröncke and Adam Hatzidakis, ensured that the congress provided the world's most comprehensive platform for IR research, innovation, and evidence-based clinical care. While we look forward to meeting in person again, the online summits made the CIRSE annual meeting more accessible than ever before.

All told, the CIRSE 2021 Summit platform played host to 4,574 participants from 126 countries who collectively watched 11,850 hours of interactive, high-quality IR education.

### Dignitaries and honourees

Awards for both 2021 and 2020 were recognised during the opening ceremony of the congress, with Prof. Julio Palmaz receiving the Gold Medal for 2021 and Prof. Elias Broutzos the Gold Medal for 2020.

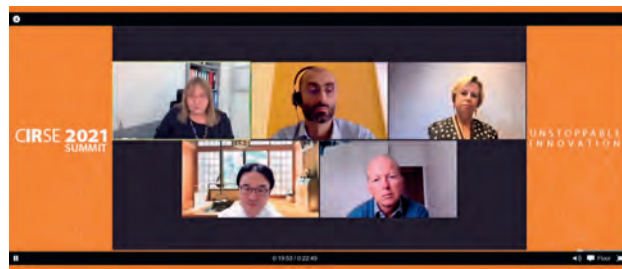


All laudations for the gold medallists and distinguished fellows can be viewed in full on CIRSE's YouTube channel. Click here for a full list of award and honour winners from previous years via the CIRSE website.

### Live and on demand

Starting September 21, on-demand presentations were made available during the lead up to the summit, including poster presentations, free papers, and a selection of focus sessions and fundamental courses.

The live days of the congress from September 25-28 featured expert round tables, hot topic symposia, case-based discussions, and more. In addition to the four live scientific channels, four technology channels broadcast 33 satellite symposia, keeping attendants up to date on all the latest industry developments.



All lectures, presentations and posters from CIRSE 2021 are now available for viewing on-demand via the CIRSE Library.

### IDEAS at the 2021 Summit

IDEAS, the Interdisciplinary Endovascular Aortic Symposium, took place during the last two days of the live Summit. IDEAS is an integral platform for promoting aortic education and keeping an open dialogue between interventional radiology and vascular surgery, and the IDEAS Programme Committee worked hard to ensure a comprehensive interdisciplinary meeting. A faculty of world-renowned experts hosted focus sessions, expert

*Summit attendees collectively watched a total of 11,850 hours of interactive, high-quality IR education!*

round tables, and case-based discussions presenting the latest aortic technology and evidence. Stroke in TEVAR and refining endovascular interventions for aortic arch pathology were highlights of the IDEAS programme, and a new session called “Amazing aortic interventions” showed how complicated cases were solved through technology and creativity.

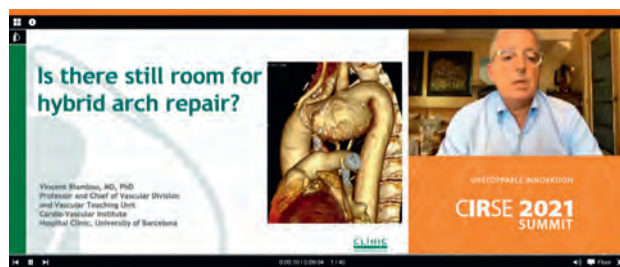
### The third PAD Day

PAD Day returned for a third year at CIRSE, exploring all aspects of peripheral arterial disease and its treatment. Of particular note, a FIRST@CIRSE session provided a stage for the latest evidence from PAD trials and studies. Further highlights included a controversy session on drug-based technology, a hot topic symposium on vessel preparation prior to drug delivery, and focus sessions on evidence in CLTI and optimisation of outcomes in complex femoro-popliteal occlusive disease.

### The CIRSE 2021 Summit top ten

Missed out on something you wanted to see? Click through to view the ten most viewed sessions at the CIRSE 2021 Summit.

1. PAD Day: The evolving body of knowledge, evidence and solutions for chronic limb-threatening ischaemia (CLTI)
2. Amazing Interventions
3. PAD Day: Vessel preparation prior to drug delivery – when and how
4. How to treat a medium to large unresectable HCC (> 3cm)
5. Chronic mesenteric ischaemia
6. Thyroid percutaneous procedures
7. Acute mesenteric ischaemia
8. Acute limb ischaemia
9. There is still a place for TARE in HCC
10. Percutaneous arteriovenous fistulas: the way forward



### The Summit Studio

An easing of COVID-19 restrictions throughout the summer and early fall in most of Europe made it possible to have a small group of dedicated experts onsite in Vienna to discuss the Summit live every morning and evening.

The studio also allowed for the filming of videos for Library topic packages and research updates – check out CIRSE’s official YouTube channel and follow us on LinkedIn, Twitter or Facebook to ensure you never miss a video!



### Looking forward

Join us next year for CIRSE 2022, September 10-14, featuring an excellent onsite experience and unlimited online access. We look forward to welcoming you to Barcelona!



*Join us in Vienna from April 24-27 for the annual European Conference on Interventional Oncology (ECIO)*

## ECIO 2022 – Pushing the boundaries of innovation in IO care

The long-awaited return to in-person congresses is finally just around the corner! ECIO 2022, taking place in Vienna from April 24-27, will allow interventional oncology specialists to reconnect face-to-face to share the field's latest research and technology. Featuring the most comprehensive programme to date, ECIO 2022 will cover everything there is to know about the fourth pillar of cancer care, ranging from established therapies to new applications as well as the most state-of-the-art tools and materials.

### Most expansive programme to date

The ECIO 2022 programme will cover the entire spectrum of treatments interventional oncology can offer to cancer patients. Key topics include immuno-oncology and how it can be further combined with minimally-invasive procedures; tips and tricks for conducting lung and liver ablation, cryotherapy and cementoplasty; the impact of interventional oncology on CEC tumour boards; the state of artificial intelligence and its influence on decision making processes; MSK for advanced indications; paediatric interventions; and so much more.

Research also remains an ever-important focus – a Meet the PI session will explore the importance of building and refining the evidence base for interventional oncology procedures. This will provide an excellent platform for exploring upcoming studies such as the Embocept study, ProActif and the ABC study. In addition, a clinical focus session will give young researchers a look at how to best conceptualise, set up, and evaluate research and study projects.

As always, ECIO 2022 will boast a strong focus on devices, bringing key players together to share the newest developments in IO technology. Along with an expansive exhibition, hands-on device training sessions, safe sedation workshops and various satellite symposia will allow participants to refine technical skills and take a closer look at the field's latest devices.

### Location, Location, Location

Vienna has consistently been voted one of the world's best conference and event destinations. MESSE WIEN's prime position in the city and expansive exhibition space will provide the ideal place for ECIO's return to in-person events. The conference centre is located within easy walking distance of several hotels, and just a 20-minute drive from Vienna's International Airport. With two underground lines that run past the congress venue, it is quick and easy to see everything Vienna has to offer. Plus, Vienna's renowned Prater park is just around the corner providing the perfect spot to unwind after a busy congress day.



### Bring your tumour board colleague

ECIO offers the unique opportunity to invite your non-radiologist colleague to the congress as part of the Collaborating Against Cancer Initiative, aiming to further improve IR knowledge within your tumour boards, and expand possibilities for multidisciplinary collaboration. This is a great chance to share the scientific advancements and capabilities of interventional oncology with your non-radiologist colleagues. All non-IR participants invited under this initiative will gain free access to the full scientific and industry programme.

Find out more and hear from past Collaborating Against Cancer Initiative participants about how the experience was worthwhile for them:

[Browse the programme](#)

[Collaborating Against Cancer Initiative](#)



Abstract submission will be open for ECIO 2022 until January 13!

ECIO

### Submit your abstract by January 13

Submitting an abstract for ECIO 2022 gives participants the opportunity to share their work at a leading congress, have it published in a special supplement of CVIR – the longest-running journal in the field of vascular and interventional radiology – and also receive free registration to ECIO 2022. New this year, successful abstracts will also be eligible to receive either a Poster Award or the Best Free Paper Award.



#### POSTER AWARDS

The winners of the Poster Awards will be selected by the ECIO Scientific Programme Committee. The presenter of the poster receiving the Magna Cum Laude Award will receive free onsite registration for a CIRSE 2022 or 2023 congress of their choice and an interview with them will be published in CIRSE's newsletter IR News. All poster award winners will be invited to submit their work to CVIR.



#### BEST FREE PAPER AWARD

The best free paper will be selected by ECIO congress attendees. Its presenter will receive free onsite registration for a CIRSE 2022 or 2023 congress of their choice. The awardee will be invited to submit their paper to CVIR and an interview will be published in the CIRSE newsletter.

The following abstract types will be accepted:

#### Scientific abstract

Present your latest research to the world by submitting your project, study or trial. All scientific abstracts should include a description of purpose, materials and methods, results, and a conclusion. Scientific abstracts will be presented either orally or as an electronic poster.

#### FIRST@ECIO Clinical Trial

Supporting the dissemination of the latest research in interventional oncology, this new category will allow physicians to submit abstracts on clinical trials with prospective study design first presented at ECIO. Abstracts can be submitted as an oral presentation or electronic poster.

#### Educational abstract

Educational abstracts should include learning objectives, a background description, all relevant clinical findings, procedure details, and a conclusion. This type of abstract can only be presented as electronic posters.

#### Case report

Structured around the patient's clinical history, pre-treatment imaging, treatment options and results, as well as a thorough discussion, this type of abstract should conclude with the most important take-home points. Case reports can be presented as electronic posters only.

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# Cancerworld

[www.cancerworld.net](http://www.cancerworld.net)

*The European Conference on Embolotherapy will resume as an in-person meeting in 2022!*

## Looking forward to ET 2022

# ET2022

The European Conference on Embolotherapy, ET, will take place June 22-25 in Nice, France.

ET was established in 2019 in order to create a meeting bringing together researchers, practitioners, and industry in the field of embolotherapy. The first ET meeting in Valencia saw more than 800 experts coming together to share, connect, and further the evidence base in their field. ET had to be cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic but returned in full force as an online meeting in June of 2021. Now, the Scientific Programming Committee headed by Profs. Patrick Haage and Otto van Delden is looking forward to welcoming delegates in person this June in Nice.

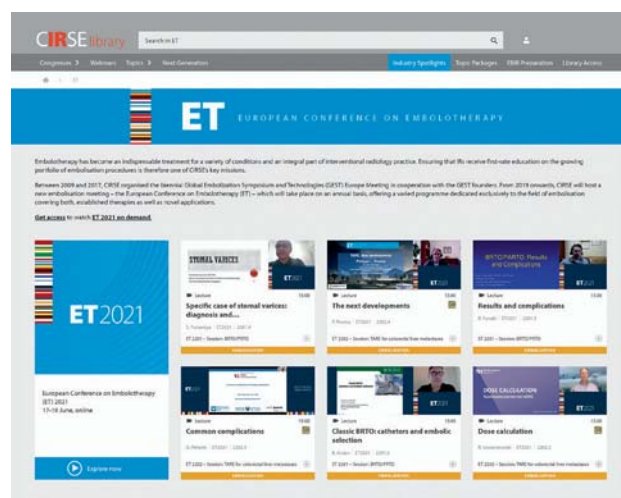
ET 2022 will feature a four-day programme providing a platform for renowned experts in the field to share their knowledge, insights and the latest research results.

The 2022 scientific programme will cover a wide range of topics on both well-known therapies and new treatments. Particular areas of focus will include neurointerventions, joint treatments and treatments for paediatric patients. Other highlights will include embolisation in trauma, GI bleeding and women's health. The programme can be viewed in full here.

For the first time, ET 2022 will invite participants to submit their abstracts for the meeting, and a wide range of interesting submissions from around the world is anticipated. Submitting your abstract to ET allows you to share your work at the world's most far-reaching and innovative embolotherapy meeting, and additionally have

it published in a special supplement of CVIR, the longest-running journal in the field of vascular and interventional radiology. Four abstract types will be accepted for 2022, including scientific abstracts, educational abstracts, case reports and FIRST@ET abstracts. Details on all abstract types can be found here. Submission will open in December 2021 and close on February 17, 2022.

If you'd like to brush up your knowledge in advance of the congress, all presentations from ET 2021 and ET 2019 can be viewed via the CIRSE Library.



We anticipate a very interesting ET 2022 which will let participants stay ahead of the curve in this rapidly evolving field of practice.

We look forward to seeing you all in Nice!

# InterventionalNews

A specialised news source in the interventional field

An abstract line art illustration of several faces in orange lines on a blue background. The faces are stylized, with some having large eyes and others having more defined features like lips and noses. They are arranged in a cluster, overlapping each other.

SCIENCE FOR PEOPLE

Barcelona, Spain  
September 10-14

# CIRSE 2022

featuring **IDEAS**

SUBMIT  
YOUR  
ABSTRACT!

Reach the world's largest IR audience  
with your work and showcase  
your scientific achievements and  
educational material by submitting  
an abstract to CIRSE 2022.

All accepted abstracts will be published  
in a special supplement of CVIR, the  
longest-running journal in the field of  
vascular and interventional radiology.

**Don't miss this opportunity –  
Submission will open in January 2022!**

Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe

*CIRSE's online educational offerings bring the world of IR to your fingertips – anytime.*

## Check out our new online content!

### The CIRSE Library – IR knowledge from six years of CIRSE congresses

After another successful online congress, all on-demand content from the CIRSE 2021 Summit is now available on the CIRSE Library. CIRSE members and All-Access Pass holders can access all scientific and industry content for free.

In addition, the CIRSE Library start page now features showcased content. Highlighting recommendations by CIRSE Library users, this new segment offers a regular fresh perspective on current topics in an easy to watch format.

The Library now has over 50 topic packages on a wide variety of subjects with curated content conveniently put together for you. The CIRSE 2021 Summit highlight packages include content from the most recent congress, providing the latest research and discussions while also supplementing with lectures from previous events.

In order to cater to the different IR specialties and improve the user-friendliness of the CIRSE Library, a drop-down menu has been introduced to make it easier to access content on your topic of interest. Each link leads to a

pre-set filter where you can further refine your search to find exactly what you are looking for.

Interventional radiologists planning to take the EBIR examination should take note of the “EBIR preparation” menu item in the top navigation bar. This button leads to a comprehensive compendium of content suitable for the learning needs of EBIR candidates structured around the European Curriculum and Syllabus for Interventional Radiology.

### The CIRSE Academy – CME-accredited courses for self-paced learning

The CIRSE Academy was initially established to provide an educational module for each chapter of the European Curriculum and Syllabus for Interventional Radiology. These modules offer a vital resource for IRs planning to sit the EBIR exam.

At the moment, IR experts are preparing the material for 24 totally new Academy courses that will be launched on the CIRSE Academy in the course of the coming year, adding to the 44 Academy courses already available online, 27 of which are fully CME accredited.



European Board of Interventional Radiology

### EBIR Preparation

Topic packages, Academy courses and a selection of recommended lectures from CIRSE events have been arranged according to the structure of the specific IR topics in the [European Curriculum and Syllabus for Interventional Radiology](#).

**Topic packages** are an expert-curated selection of highly relevant lectures for a certain topic while **Academy courses** contain tailor-made content specifically recorded and prepared for training purposes. The latter are fee-based, CME certified and contain a quiz to test the learner's progress. **Recommended lectures** have been chosen by members of the EBIR Council from the broad offer of CIRSE events to facilitate a candidate's search.

Click into the respective topics to see what is available!

*Please note: The volume of information provided for each topic is not correlated to the importance of the topic in the examination. For more information, please see the EBIR examination blueprint which may be found in chapter 2.1.1.1 of the European Curriculum and Syllabus for IR. This blueprint outlines the learning objectives of the Syllabus and displays how frequently individual topics are examined.*

*EBIR Preparation page at the CIRSE Library*



*Register with CIRSE to make sure you don't miss any of the free webinars planned for 2022!*

With the development of five new courses on clinical practice, priapism, ovarian vein embolisation, venous sampling and percutaneous stone extraction, the goal to cover the whole curriculum with CIRSE Academy courses will be reached in 2022.

### **CIRSE Webinars – Focused learning opportunities, live or on-demand**

CIRSE offers a range of highly specialised and innovative live courses known as the CIRSE Webinars. CIRSE Webinars vary from an hour to a full working day in duration and cover various aspects of interventional radiology practice. The webinars offer high-quality live and pre-recorded lectures, as well as interactive commented videos of interventions. The material is delivered by leading international experts in the field who also engage in lively follow-up discussions and address the questions and comments from the viewers who are always encouraged to actively participate.

### **Watch on demand**

Since the launch of the CIRSE Webinars, 13 webinars have been organised and new ones take place every month. Visit the CIRSE Library to explore all past webinars on demand!

### **Coming up next**

Create a CIRSE account to make sure you don't miss any of the free webinars planned for 2022! We will send you updates about:

- More webinars from the Medtronic series on Innovative treatment strategies for PVD
- CIRSE Webinar on Advancing from TACE to Balloon TACE
- A webinar sponsored by Penumbra (more details to follow)
- ...and many others!

The screenshot shows the CIRSE Library website interface. At the top, there is a search bar labeled "Search in Webinars" and a user profile icon. Below the search bar is a navigation bar with tabs: "Congresses", "Webinars", "Topics", "Next Generation", "Industry Spotlights", "Topic Packages", "EBIR Preparation", and "Library Access". The "Webinars" tab is currently selected. Below the navigation bar, there are three featured webinar cards. Each card includes a thumbnail image, a title, a speaker name, a duration, and a "FREE" badge. The first card is titled "Welcome and course introduction" by P. Pereira, with a duration of 05:00. The second card is titled "Writing a proposal for an IIS" by R. Cazzato, with a duration of 15:00. The third card is titled "Obtaining funding for an IIS: the academic..." by M. Meijerink, with a duration of 15:00. All three cards are categorized under "IR MANAGEMENT".

*CIRSE webinar on investigator initiated studies*

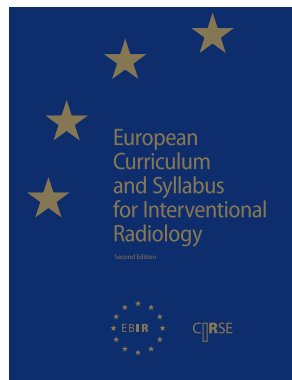
*Endovascular therapies are becoming more widely available, and the demand for these minimally-invasive treatments is also on the rise.*

# Specialisation in endovascular therapy

With the positive development of endovascular therapies being more widely available, the demand for these minimally-invasive treatments has followed suit. In order to further increase visibility and highlight IR's clinical proficiency in this specialist field, CIRSE has established a new evidence-based certification – The European Certification for Endovascular Specialists.

Since 2016, the Endovascular Subcommittee (EVSC) has advised the society on questions related to endovascular therapies and developed and launched projects that support IR in this field. After the group initiated and published a large study (Kok et al. 2018) on clinical and endovascular practice in IR in 2018, it was fairly obvious that its work had only just begun. The survey results confirmed that, while endovascular therapies carried out by IRs face competition through other disciplines, such as vascular surgery or cardiology, “the majority of European IRs remain clinically active in endovascular peripheral arterial interventions”. The survey also showed that IR remains the main provider of endovascular peripheral arterial procedures in over two-thirds of European centres. These findings suggest that it is crucial for IRs to embrace clinical responsibility for their practice. It is also important to note that teaching and training is imperative, but not always clearly outlined in every European country.

In reaction to this, the EVSC, chaired by Prof. Michael Lee, created a certification that requires solid and demonstrable IR training and experience according to an international curriculum. After the initially planned launch date had to be postponed due to the pandemic, the European Certification for Endovascular Specialists was officially introduced in September 2021. Based on the *European Curriculum and Syllabus for*



*Interventional Radiology*, this standardised recognition of performance allows EBIR holders to prove their expert knowledge and experience in performing endovascular procedures.



Its aim is not only to highlight the important role that endovascular therapy plays within IR practice but also to further the acknowledgement of IRs as clinical experts in minimally-invasive and image-guided endovascular treatments. Outlining and providing certification in the field of endovascular therapy will not only benefit the experts, whose medical focus becomes more visible and recognised, but also the patients, who will benefit from skilled specialists and the increased availability of these minimally invasive options. In addition, the goal is to provide a certification of documented expertise to support IRs at a local level and to give young IRs a career perspective as clinicians.

Focused on self-assessment and verified evidence, the certification process features many elements that will allow applicants to prove their experience and knowledge in endovascular therapy, including the provision of documentation and completion of online learning sessions. To guarantee a sound, broad basis, applicants are required to have passed the European Board of Interventional Radiology (EBIR) at least four years prior to application. This period allows for specialisation and the chance to complete a minimum number of advanced

*“This certification will help today’s IRs to gain recognition of their expertise and experience in the field of endovascular therapy and lay a clear pathway for future generations.”*

IR procedures as a first operator. Applicants also need to submit a clinical competency checklist that includes confirmation of their clinical involvement, indicating that they have had sufficient direct consultations with patients. To demonstrate their commitment to staying abreast of the latest developments in the endovascular field, the completion of three CIRSE Academy modules with (advanced) endovascular content is required.

The subcommittee is confident that this certification will not only help today’s IRs to gain recognition of their expertise and experience in the field of endovascular therapy but also lay out a clear pathway for future generations.

**Interested in applying?** Further information about the eligibility criteria and application process can be found **here**.



#### Endovascular Subcommittee

Michael J. Lee | *Chairperson*

Miguel Casares Santiago  
Pascal Chabrot  
Fabrizio Fanelli  
Mohamad Hamady  
Konstantinos Katsanos  
Hong Kuan Kok  
Robert A. Morgan  
Stefan Müller-Hülsbeck  
Thomas Rodt  
Florian Wolf

#### References:

Kok, H.K., Rodt, T., Fanelli, F. et al. Clinical and endovascular practice in interventional radiology: a contemporary European analysis. *CVIR Endovasc* 1, 8 (2018).  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s42155-018-0010-8>.



