



COVID-19: EFORT's Official Statement for Vienna 2020

With major events being cancelled worldwide over the past few days, we know that many in our community are wondering about this year's EFORT Annual Congress in Vienna.

The 21st EFORT Annual Congress is due to take place from 10 to 12 June, three months from now, and the EFORT Board and teams continue with the organization of the congress with the aim of delivering prime orthopaedic and trauma education.

We are very enthusiastic about the ongoing support of industry and attendees who continue to register. To date we have not experienced any substantial impact as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, though we are taking account of all developments in our planning. Mindful of our duty of care, and placing the safety & health of all participants as the absolute priority, we want to reassure you that we are working on what the appropriate sanitary and related health measures should be.

We feel our community can maintain its professional development to sustain solidarity throughout the European and Global Orthopaedics and Traumatology profession. Nevertheless, it is our responsibility to act with discernment by collaborating and discussing with our partners in Austria, health authorities & scientists to implement and keep abreast of their advice. We want to stay alert in this situation but we are also focused on delivering a high quality scientific programme. May we take this opportunity to share our strong beliefs in the scientific, educational as well as social benefits that can be derived from pan-European large-scale meetings such as the EFORT Annual Congress.

We will be updating our various information channels with the latest developments and invite you to check back on regular basis.

In the meantime, we look forward to welcoming you to Vienna and wish you and your families all the best for the challenges ahead in the fight against Covid-19.

The EFORT Board and teams



News from the Biomedical Alliance Biomedical Alliance in Europe

The Biomedical Alliance in Europe is the result of a unique initiative of 32 leading European medical societies that together include more than 400,000 researchers and health professionals. EFORT joined the Biomed Alliance in 2018. EFORT is concentrating on specific topics only, CME and Medical Device Regulation, to be able to achieve actual goals. The Biomedical Alliance is recognised by the EU as notified body and through that, EFORT and its National Societies can actively influence the healthcare agenda.

Take a look at the monthly updates from the Biomedical Alliance to find out more about the different activities: <https://www.biomedeuropa.org/news/biomed-updates.html>

The Decade of Healthy Ageing and the Global Call to Action to Improve the Care of People with Fragility Fractures

The world's population is ageing and the World Health Organisation (WHO) announced that, for the first time in history, there will soon be more older people than young. The increase in global life expectancy brings new challenges not only to the older age group but also to the healthcare systems. That's why the years 2020–2030 have been declared as the "Decade of Healthy Ageing" by the WHO. This gives us the opportunity to find better ways to cope with the health problems of the aged population and to provide better quality of life for them.

One major consequence of ageing of the population is that the incidence of fragility fractures is increasing and we are still at the beginning of the tsunami. A [Global Call to Action](#) to Improve the Care of People with Fragility Fractures was published by six leading organisations – EFORT, European Geriatric Medicine Society (EuGMS), Fragility Fracture Network (FFN), International Collaboration of Orthopaedic Nursing (ICON), International Geriatric Fracture Society (IGFS) and the International Osteoporosis Foundation (IOF) – stating that there is an urgent need to improve:

acute multidisciplinary care for the person who suffers a hip, clinical vertebral or other major fragility fracture rapid secondary prevention after first occurrence of all fragility



fracture, including those in younger people as well as those in older persons, to prevent future fractures ongoing post-acute care of people whose ability to function is impaired by hip and major fragility fractures.

To date, more than 100 organisations have endorsed the Global Call to Action on Fragility Fractures. As orthopaedic surgeons, maintaining mobility and activity through life is what we are always trying to achieve for our patients. Our specialty is well-positioned to contribute to healthy ageing. We invite our member National Associations, Associated Scientific Members and collaborating Specialty Societies to endorse the global call if they have not already done so (please contact CtA@ff-network.org). We also invite all of you, valued members of the international orthopaedic community to be active in the initiatives related to the Decade of Healthy Ageing.

New Medical Device Regulation in Europe: A Collaborative Effort of Stakeholders to Improve Patient Safety

Editorial in "Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research" by Emmanuel Thienpont MD, MBA, PhD, Gianluca Quaglio MD, PhD, Theodoros Karapiperis PhD, Per Kjaersgaard-Andersen MD, PhD

A Collaborative effort for quality in response to recent reports in the lay media and scientific journals about complications associated with joint arthroplasties and other medical devices [3, 12, 13], the Presidents of the European Knee Society (EKS) and the European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EFORT) met with stakeholders in Brussels, Belgium in April 2019 [7] to discuss the European Union's (EU) new Medical Device Regulation (Regulation 2017/745 of the European Parliament and of the Council 2017/745 of 5 April 2017 [9] concerning medical devices, OJ No L 117/1 of 2017-05-05). This regulation overhauls the current medical device safety regulations in the EU and is scheduled for implementation in May 2020.

Read the full article [here](#)

EFORT Updates 01/2020

Rolle, March 2020

www.efort.org



21st EFORT Congress Vienna June 2020: KEY DATES

Advanced Scientific Programme available online on 15 March 2020

Final Presentation Schedules to Authors on 15 March 2020

Late Online Registration applies until 07 May 2020

**Pre-upload of oral presentations available online and Poster upload deadline
11 May 2020**