

EYES Clinical Observership Program (C.O.P.) Scope

Following the first proposal during the EYES board meeting in Athens, February 2017 and consequent approval of the ESE ExCo communicated during the EYES board meeting in March 2018, we have defined the EYES Clinical Observership Program (C.O.P.).

The C.O.P. will allow Early Career Investigators (ECI) from Europe to grow and learn during a short, one-month stay in various European endocrine centres of expertise. Due to different European laws the time spent at the host centre will be defined as an “observership”.

Ten centres across Europe have confirmed their participation:

- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Diabetic Foot: St Mary’s Hospital, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, **London, UK**. Mentor: Vasiliki Bravis, Consultant of Endocrinology and Diabetes/Clinical Lead for the Trust
- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Menopause: Aretaeion Hospital, Medical School, National and Kapodistrian University of **Athens, Greece**. Mentor: Irene Lambrinouadaki, Professor of Endocrinology
- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Andrology: Papageorgiou Hospital, Medical School, Aristotle University of **Thessaloniki, Greece**. Mentor: Dimitrios G. Goulis, Professor of Reproductive Endocrinology
- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Andrology and sexual medicine, University of **Florence, Italy**. Mentor: Prof. Linda Vignozzi
- ✧ Centre of Expertise for pituitary diseases, **Novara, Italy**. Mentor: Prof. Flavia Prodam
- ✧ Centre of Expertise for Neuroendocrine tumours, **Naples, Italy**. Mentor: Prof. Annamaria Colao
- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Diabetes, “Gemelli” Hospital, **Rome, Italy**. Mentor: Prof. Pontecorvi Alfredo
- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Neuroendocrinology, Clinic for Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases, Clinical Centre of **Serbia, Belgrade**, Mentor: Assoc. Prof. Dragana Miljic
- ✧ Centre of Expertise for Neuroendocrine tumours, Erasmus University Medical Center of **Rotterdam, The Netherlands**. Mentor: Dr. Richard Feelders

- ✧ Centre of Expertise in Clinical Epidemiology and Endocrinology: a guideline-development-observership: – Leiden University Medical Center, Mentor: Prof. dr Olaf Dekkers

Each of the Centres will provide a Mentor and a Contact Person (one of the early career clinicians working at the host centre). Both have to be registered ESE members.

Upon review of all applications, they will be ranked according to the detailed scoring system below.

The highest scoring top three applicants will be selected for the 2020/21 round of the C.O.P. Each successful applicant will be awarded one thousand euros (1000€) as a contribution toward travel expenses.

Seven applicants who do not receive an award for the C.O.P. and also score highly, will be given the opportunity to participate in the program provided they are able to self-fund the visit. No financial contribution will be offered to these individuals. These individuals will further be asked to provide 5-6 sentences explaining how they will self-fund the visit. If more than one applicant in this group expresses interest in the same centre, they will be offered to attend the program at two different periods throughout the year, pending Centre availability. The maximum number of candidates per center per one year is two. If the applicant rejects the non-funded offer, the next highly scoring applicant will be offered to participate in the program. The number of non-funded positions will depend on the number of Centres and the availability; this will change from year to year.

Application Process

Applicants will email their complete application to the EYES C.O.P. coordinator (ie an EYES committee member) to the following email address eyesoprogram@gmail.com.

The required documents are:

- Application form
- Two preferred centres of interest from the list, field of interest, desired month of exchange. EYES will keep all rights to assign the applicant to the second centre of choice if the first preference is not available.
- Two letters of recommendation: one from a Mentor and the other from the Head of Department
- CV (one page) and Motivation letter (max 250 words)
- Signed C.O.P- Terms and Conditions document (*please see C.O.P. Terms and Conditions*)
- ESE membership proof

There will be a deadline for submission of applications. Upon receiving all applications, the EYES C.O.P. coordinators will score the applications against the marking criteria.

All applicants must be financial ESE members and also be registered on the EYES Membermojo website. Applicants are required to be Internal medicine and/or Endocrinologist and/or Diabetologist in training (specialty or subspecialty). Applicants are also required to have published (as one of the authors) at least one paper indexed in Current Contents (CC).

Selection Criteria

The selection will be based on the following scoring criteria:

- Stage of training:
 - First year resident: 1 point
 - Second year resident: 2 points
 - Third year resident: 3 points
 - Final year resident: 4 points
 - Subspecialist in training: 5 points

- CV:
 - No PhD status: 0 points
 - PhD student: 1 point
 - PhD degree: 2 points

- Publications indexed in CC (for a maximum of 5 points):
 - 1 point for each work published with the first name, corresponding or last author
 - 0.5 point for each work published as a co-author

- Abstracts published at the international congress
 - 0.2 point for each abstract selected at the international congress

- Previous training spent abroad:
 - No: 5 points
 - Yes: 0 points

The EYES committee coordinators and one member of the ESE Education Committee (Professor Darko Kastelan) will make the final decision based on the above criteria.

Special circumstances:

- The awarded applicants will not be able to reapply again.
- In the case of a tie, the applicant in a senior year of training will have priority.
- If the awarded applicant for any reason withdraws their application, the next ranked applicant will be selected.
- Selection process will consider gender and geographical distribution.

Administrative implications

The financial support will be provided after the travel and accommodation has been paid for by the applicant and upon forwarding receipts to the ESE office.

All email communication with applicants will be handled by EYES coordinator with one of the ESE officers cc'd. This implies also to Final decision letters (successful/unsuccessful).

Reporting

The successful applicants are required to complete:

- 1) The EYES Observership Logbook: a short notebook with activities during the C.O.P.
- 2) A final report detailing what the applicant gained from this experience (500 words) signed by the Mentor
- 3) Evaluation form of the host centre and EYES. This will be submitted in a form of a report to ESE.
- 4) A photo during the Observership and a 300 word article describing how the experience benefited them; this will be published in the EYES Newsletter.

The awarded applicants will receive a Certificate of the C.O.P.