

DETAILS

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AIMS, ACTIVITIES AND BOARD

ENCALS is a network of ALS centres in Europe. ALS Centre membership is open to Universities/Hospitals with ALS clinical/research activity. When ALS centres join ENCALS, this is in agreement with the bylaws as listed on the website on the 'About ENCALS' page.

Aims of the foundation of ENCALS are:

1. To develop an European ALS research network + database/biobank that
 - is recognized, visible, active and efficient;
 - agrees on collection/storage of clinical data and biospecimens on a European level;
 - will attract pharmaceutical companies to conduct trials in ALS in Europe;
 - facilitates associated patient-oriented research projects (phenotyping, epidemiology, biomarkers, etc.).
2. To initiate collaboration between funding agencies in Europe to sponsor collectively investigator-initiated European research projects in ALS
3. To reach consensus on a classification of ALS suitable for European research projects
4. To study novel designs for the assessment of the efficacy of new pharmaceutical compounds in ALS

Annual ENCALS meeting

ENCALS organizes a yearly scientific meeting. Researchers from all over Europe come together to present their current and future work in ALS/MND research. The aim of the ENCALS meeting is to allow young researchers for exchange of ideas with peers and with top international investigators.

Attendees can submit an abstract to be presented at the meeting in a platform or poster presentation. Every year the ENCALS award committee selects the best posters with a PhD student as first author for the ENCALS PhD student poster awards.

The ENCALS Young Investigators Award was designed to recognize the brightest and best young scientists in ALS, and is given for outstanding research. Criteria include any or all of novelty, challenge to existing ideas about ALS, results with patient benefit, and impact on our understanding of ALS. The competition is open to researchers aged 35 or less on 1 September of the award year. If there has been a career gap, these years can be left out. Further criteria are (primarily) working at a university/ALS Centre in Europe, Turkey or Israel.

Both awards are designed to stimulate young researchers to continue their hard work in ALS/MND research.

Annual ENCALS satellite meeting

Every year, ENCALS also hosts a satellite meeting prior to the International Symposium on ALS/MND organized by the MND Association. The goal of this satellite symposium is to discuss international collaborations, SOPs and translation of new developments to the clinic.

Attendees are invited to submit an abstract to present in a platform presentation during the meeting.

ENCALS executive board meeting

Twice a year, during the ENCALS meeting, the board comes together in the executive board meeting. Functions of the Executive Board Committee:

- Selection of venue for ENCALS meetings
- The chairperson is responsible for producing a financial report each year
- The treasurer is responsible for verifying the financial annual report
- Appointment of the following:
 - Programme Committee ENCALS meeting
 - ENCALS Award Committee
 - Representatives ENS/EFNS
 - Working groups

Executive board members

1. Chair: Leonard van den Berg (The Netherlands)
2. Co-chair: Orla Hardiman (Ireland)
3. Treasurer: Adriano Chio (Italy)
4. Albert Ludolph (Germany)
5. Philip van Damme (Belgium)
6. Kevin Talbot (England)
7. Markus Weber (Switzerland)
8. Pamela Shaw (England)
9. Jesus Mora Pardina (Spain)
10. Peter Andersen (Sweden)
11. Francois Salachas (France)
12. Magdalena Kuzma (Poland)
13. Sharon Abrahams (Scotland)
14. Julian Grosskreutz (Germany)
15. Ammar Al-Chalabi, chair award committee (England)

FINANCES

Financial report

A financial report of last year is listed on the ENCALS website (encals.eu) on the 'About ENCALS' page.

Income includes:

- Centre membership fees;
- Registration fees annual scientific meeting;
- Donations.

Expenditure includes:

- ENCALS meeting;
- Satellite meeting;
- Administrative support ENCALS office

Capital

As far as there are any reserves, they will consist of spendable capital.

Remuneration and expenses

The members of the Executive Committee, including the chair and co-chair will not be entitled to any remuneration or expenses from the ENCALS account.

However, it is recognized that from time to time, the coordinator may incur minor out of pocket expenses when engaged in ENCALS related activity. These will be reimbursed from the ENCALS account on presentation of vouched receipts to a nominated member of the Executive Board Committee who is not a member of the same centre as the chair and coordinator.

ENCALS

European Network to Cure ALS