



Bylaws of the ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA)

These Bylaws are written rules of conduct of the Study Group, based on the Statutes of the Study Group and in particular Article 5. They set out the form, manner or procedure in which the Study Group is run.

§ 1 Name

ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA).

§ 2 Purpose of the Study Group

The ESCMID Study Group for Non-traditional Antibacterial Therapy (ESGNTA) is a group of physicians, microbiologists, biologists, hospital hygienists, hospital pharmacists and scientists who aim to foster the establishment of clinical, microbiological and pharmaceutical guidelines and tools for the clinical use of Non-traditional Antibacterial therapy. This includes bacteriophages or products thereof, antibodies specific against bacterial targets, microbiome modulating agents, immunomodulating agents and agents targeting toxins or virulence activity, under development or already used in clinical trials or compassionate treatments.

An additional aim is to better delineate bacteria and disease in which non-traditional antibacterial agents might give the best results for controlling infection. It is also aimed at increasing and supporting the knowledge in the phage lysis and other proteins research, and understanding carriers and applications optimal for use of non-traditional antibacterial agents in clinical settings (gel, nanoparticles, etc). Finally promote the creation of academic phage therapy centers in European countries, on the model developed in the USA (Center for Innovative Phage Applications and Therapeutics (IPATH).

Furthermore, ESGNTA will complement and enhance activities with relevant international scientific societies such as the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) and International Society for Viruses of Microbes (VOM).

The topics to be covered by the ESGNTA will include the following:

- Creating standards for clinical phage microbiology (phage hunting, phagograms, phage banking)
- Creating standards for the use of non-traditional antibacterial agents in the clinical practice (indications, way of preparations, carriers, optimal concentrations, pathogens which may be used, uniform protocols, and routes of use)
- Providing fundamental knowledge on phage/host interaction that can guide the therapeutic use of phages.
- Support knowledge exchange on synthetic biology for phage engineering and other non-traditional antibacterials: this will include basic biology and the use of synthetic biology for translational goals (use in therapy).
- Designing, initiating and supporting of non-traditional antibacterials clinical trials
- Supporting the creation of phage therapy centers in different European countries
- Supporting regulatory bodies in creating standards for non-traditional antibacterials preparation for clinical use
- Support and discuss the opportunity to create an EMA monography for phages, allowing the purification and delivery of academic phages in university hospitals
- Creating and supporting an European/International register & database for phage therapy, and if needed for other non-traditional antibacterial agents



§ 3 Membership

No additions to what is stated in the Article 3 of the Study Group Statutes.

§ 4 Assembly of members

All regular members shall be entitled to attend the Assembly of Members, which is usually held at least once a year during ECCMID. Additional meetings may be held at conferences of the related societies in which the EC decided to meet in order to promote topics related to ESGNTA purpose or membership. The chair convenes the Assembly of Members by sending electronically the Agenda. The notice period shall be at least four weeks from the day following the dispatch of convocation. Assembly of members can be held online, except for the annual assembly at ECCMID. The Assembly of Members passes resolutions by a simple majority of the members present.

§ 5 Composition of the Executive Committee

The executive power of the Study Group is vested in the Executive Committee (EC). The EC should consists of:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Scientific officer
- Clinical officer (with focus on clinical use of non-traditional antimicrobial agents).

At least 1 of the SG EC members should be from a field covering topics other than specific phage therapy.

As stated in article 4 of the Statutes, no more than one elected member of the Executive Committee shall come from the same country.

§ 6 Meetings of the Executive Committee

Regular meetings are held at least quarterly either in person, phone or via mail communication. Special meetings may be called by the chair or a majority of the EC voting members.

The EC passes resolutions with the simple majority of its members present; the Chair has the casting vote. The quorum consists of four voting members.

A secret voting procedure may be decided by the chair or requested by the majority of the voting members.

§ 7 Vacancies in the Executive Committee

A member of the EC may vacate the position by resignation or termination of ESCMID membership. Any vacancy occurring in the Committee will normally be filled at the next scheduled election. If the vacancy cannot be filled with the interim appointment of another member, the Executive Committee may initiate new elections for a new member, to cover the remaining period of the term.

§ 8 Publications

The planning, organization and administration of ESGNTA publications covers the areas related to the study group purpose. Topics for such publication will be presented and agreed by the EC. The EC will nominate one person in charge for the publication and will assist in the execution of the publication.



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§ 9 Conferences

The study group will support and promote ECCMID and conferences of related societies, by organising sessions, and if possible student scholarships. Additionally, ESGNTA will initiate Study Group related conferences. The Executive Committee will decide on the location and timing of ESGNTA conferences and meetings and appoint a local organizing team. The local organizing team is responsible for drafting a budget that needs to be approved by the Executive Committee.

Approved by the ESGNTA Executive Committee on: 29 June 2021

Approved by the ESGNTA Assembly of members on: ___TBD___

Approved by the ESCMID Executive Committee on: 8 July 2021