Bylaws of the ESCMID Study Group for Infections of the Brain

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 Infections of the Brain (ESGIB)

§ 2 Purpose of the Study Group
Infections of the brain, namely meningitis and encephalitis are life-threatening infections caused by a high number of infectious agents. The case-fatality rate following brain infection is high, and sequelae are frequent in survivors. Due to the diversity of possible causative agents, all mechanisms leading to these severe diseases are not fully understood. Moreover, some data are available on the genetic determinants of these severe clinical presentation among all persons infected with these germs, but they fail to explain all cases. In recent years, the development of new diagnosis tools raised new questions on the best possible investigation and management of patients. Therefore, infections of the brain are a multidisciplinary and transversal field targeting a number of medical specialties, but also several of the sub-specialties of ID and CM represented within ESCMID.

The main objective of ESGIB is to increase knowledge on all aspects of infections of the brain, including research, diagnosis, patients’ management and epidemiology. The secondary objective is to promote collaborations between the teams represented within the ESGIB, and to ease the emergence of new projects. Finally, ESGIB is a favourable environment for young (and less young) scientists working in the field to develop a network and raise their awareness on all aspects of the topic.

§ 3 Membership
No additions to what is stated in the Article 3 of the Study Group Statutes. Of note, members of the ESGIB have to be members of the ESCMID.

§ 4 Assembly of members
All members of the Society shall be entitled to attend the Assembly of Members, which is usually held during ECCMID. The chair of the Study Group convenes the Assembly of Members by sending electronically the Agenda. The notice period shall be at least six 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 pass 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, which consists of:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Science officer
- Education officer

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
The Executive Committee 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 requested by the majority of the voting members.

§ 7 Vacancies in the Executive Committee
A member of the Executive Committee 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 Conferences
The Executive Committee decides on the location and timing of an annual scientific workshop of the ESGIB, taking place the day before or after ECCMID. The Executive committee is in charge of preparing the agenda of the workshop, and chairing the workshop. A social event can be organised following the workshop, with a funding of the ESGIB. The funding is limited to 600 euros.

Approved by the ESGIB Executive Committee: 07 October 2019
Approved by the ESGIB members: 27 October 2019
Approved by the ESCMID Executive Committee: 10 January 2020