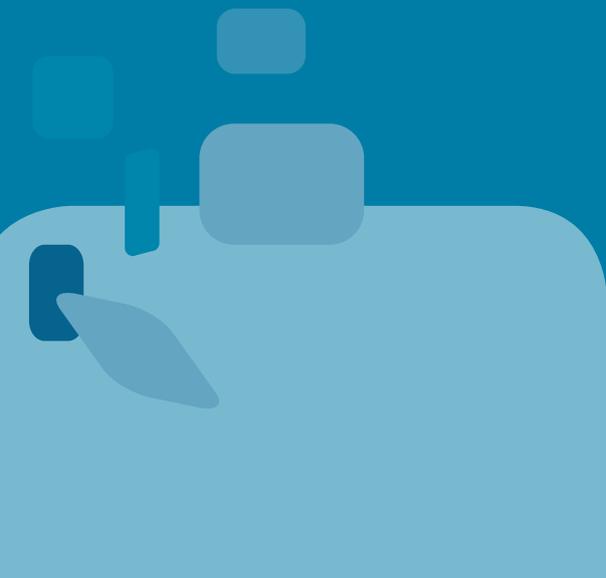




EFIM

European Federation  
of Internal Medicine

# Annual Report 2014





# Aims, Mission and Objectives

The European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) was established in 1996 through a merger of its predecessor AEMI and the Forum of Presidents.

From the start of the organisation the **aims** were as laid down in the statutes:

- To promote Internal Medicine scientifically (but also ethically and professionally)
- To publish research and resolutions
- To organize meetings and congresses
- To establish communication between specialists
- To provide information to private and public organizations

The purpose of EFIM is to re-emphasize the importance of internal medicine in patient care in a world of increasing specialization.

Education, research and the promotion of Internal Medicine are at the heart of the EFIM mission. The European School of Internal Medicine, the annual Clinical Research Course and the EFIM Congress have become popular events, bringing together Internists from across Europe and around the world. EFIM will continue to build programmes that will raise the profile of Internal Medicine and encourage greater collaboration of European Internists in years to come.

Internal Medicine will remain cornerstone of every national health care system.





## Table of Contents

2  
Introduction by  
EFIM President

3  
A Word by  
EFIM Past President

4  
Membership 2014

6  
EFIM Accounts

8  
FDIME Activities  
in 2014

9  
Reports from EFIM  
Subcommittees

13  
Young Internists  
Activity Report

14  
Report from the  
European Board of  
Internal Medicine

15  
Summer and  
Winter Schools

16  
Reports from  
EFIM Working  
Groups

18  
European Journal  
of Internal  
Medicine

19  
European Journal  
of Case Reports  
in Internal Medicine

20  
EFIM Congress

21  
EFIM Website

# Introduction

by *EFIM President*

Dear colleagues

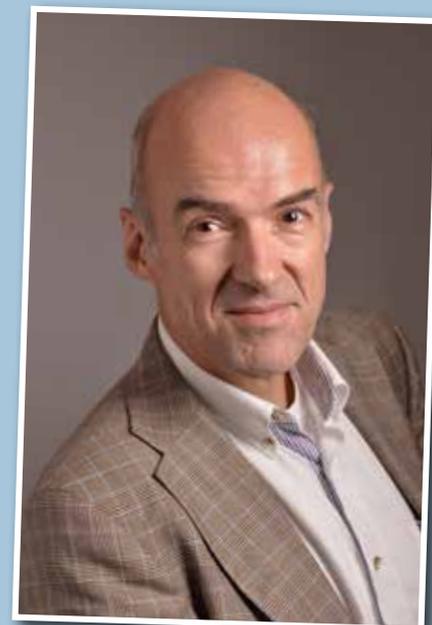
It is with pleasure that I am writing this introduction to the report of activities of the European Federation of Internal Medicine in 2014. EFIM was formed in 1996 through a merger between the Association Européenne de Médecine (d' Interne Ensemble) (AEMI(E)) and the Forum of Presidents of National Societies of Internal Medicine (IM). EFIM now represents more than 40000 internists in Europe and it is the largest professional society of Internal Medicine in Europe. 2014 was a very important year for us. The congress in Geneva had a very high scientific content and drew more than 3000 visitors. We organised a summer school in Sardinia, a winter school in Saas-Fee in addition to many other activities. Furthermore, in 2014 we moved to our own office in Brussels. Through this move we will be able into support our activities and create stronger ties with political decision makers at the European political arena.

For many years, the European Journal of Internal Medicine has been our flagship. In 2014, the impact factor of the journal has increased steadily and is expected to increase further. Furthermore, the journal became freely available for every internist in Europe. Besides EJIM, we launched a second journal; the European Journal of Case Records in Internal Medicine that was created especially for the young internists in Europe who are making their first steps toward a scientific career. Up to now the journal has been very well received and we hope to achieve indexing in Pubmed in 2015.

The main objective of EFIM is to enable internists in Europe to provide better care for all patients in Europe. Internal Medicine is devoted to provide comprehensive and high value care. Internal Medicine is the cornerstone of the delivery of health care in every country. Internal Medicine is particularly important in this era of (sub) specialization. It has an important role in integrating appropriate delivery of care and prevention of overdiagnosis and overtreatment.

Through the overview of our activities in 2014, we hope to give you an insight into our work. We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

**Frank Bosch**  
*EFIM President*



# A Word

by *EFIM Past President*

I have been honoured to represent EFIM in the past 2 years as EFIM President. I strongly believe that Internists are especially skilled in the management of patients who have undifferentiated or multi-system disease processes. I will continue the intensive work that we carried out in the past, promoting EFIM as a scientific organisation aimed at emphasising the central role of internal medicine in an era of increasing complexity.

I am very proud of the EFIM initiatives that have become concrete: the Exchange Program is now a reality, fully supported by EFIM and FDIME. This is a great step forward and we hope to be able to lengthen the exchange period in the future. The activities of Young Internists in EFIM have been extremely valuable during the last 5-7 years and they deserve to be strongly supported in their efforts to promote exchanges between young internists from different countries. Many other activities are ongoing including the working groups in different areas, however nothing could be effective without the active participation of the affiliate National Societies.

The Journal (EJIM), thanks to the Editor and to the scientific contributions that come from you, is an internationally recognized Internal Medicine journal and I encourage you to submit more good papers. EJCRIM is growing, publishing case reports from young authors and success reports from the schools.

The Executive Committee is working closely with the UEMS Section of Internal Medicine through the European Board of Internal Medicine and has active collaboration with EMA, ACP and with the European Alliance of Scientific Medical Societies. Promoting Internal Medicine at the EU level is not something national societies can do individually. EFIM's role is to represent its members at the EU level and keep them informed of matters that could affect our profession as Internists. It is essential that the representatives of all the societies are in direct contact with the governing body of their own society and that they communicate what is happening in EFIM. Therefore, I am very proud for the opening of the EFIM office during my Presidency. I am very confident about the future of EFIM and I hope by working together we can achieve at the European level the respect, recognition and opportunities that many other professional medical organisations have.

***Maria Domenica Capellini***  
*EFIM Past President*



# Membership 2014

	COUNTRY	ORDINARY MEMBERS	MEMBERS
1	ALBANIA	Albanian Society of Internal Medicine	128
2	AUSTRIA	Austrian Society of Internal Medicine	867
3	BELGIUM	Belgian Society of Internal Medicine	280
4	CYPRUS	Cyprus Federation of Internal Medicine	70
5	CZECH. REP.	Czech Society of Internal Medicine	1481
6	ESTONIA	Estonian Society of Internal Medicine	115
7	FADOI Italy	Italian Federation of Associations of Hospital Internists	2237
8	FINLAND	Finnish Society of Internal Medicine	1591
9	FRANCE	French Society of Internal Medicine	1034
10	GERMANY	German Society of Internal Medicine	7745
11	GREECE	Hellenic Society of Internal Medicine	115
12	ICELAND	Icelandic Society of Internal Medicine	200
13	ISRAEL	Israeli Society of Internal Medicine	585
14	ITALY	Italian Society of Internal Medicine	1388
15	LATVIA	Latvian Society of internal Medicine	257
16	LITHUANIA	Lithuanian Society on Internal Medicine	50
17	MALTA	Association of Physicians of Malta	80
18	NETHERLANDS	Dutch Society of Internal Medicine	2000
19	NORWAY	Norwegian Society of Internal Medicine	1392
20	POLAND	Polish Society of Internal Medicine	400
21	PORTUGAL	Portuguesse Society of Internal Medicine	1814
22	ROMANIA	Romanian Society of Internal Medicine	600
23	RUSSIA	Russian Scientific Society of Internal Medicine	950
24	SERBIA	Serbian Society of Internal Medicine	385
25	SLOVAKIA	Slovakian Society of Internal Medicine	250
26	SLOVENIA	Slovenian Society of Internal Medicine	300
27	SAM UK	Society of Acute Medicine UK	906
28	SPAIN	Spanish Society of Internal Medicine	5300
29	SWEDEN	Swedish Society of Internal Medicine	1701
30	SWITZERLAND	Swiss Society of General Internal Medicine	3468
31	TURKEY	Turkish Society of Internal Medicine	1472
32	UNITED KINGDOM	Royal College of Physicians	2415
	<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>ASSOCIATE MEMBERS</b>	<b>MEMBERS</b>
33	TUNISIA	Tunisian Society of Internal Medicine	102
34	MOROCCO	Moroccan Society of Internal Medicine	210
35	ALGERIA	Algerian Society of Internal Medicine	450

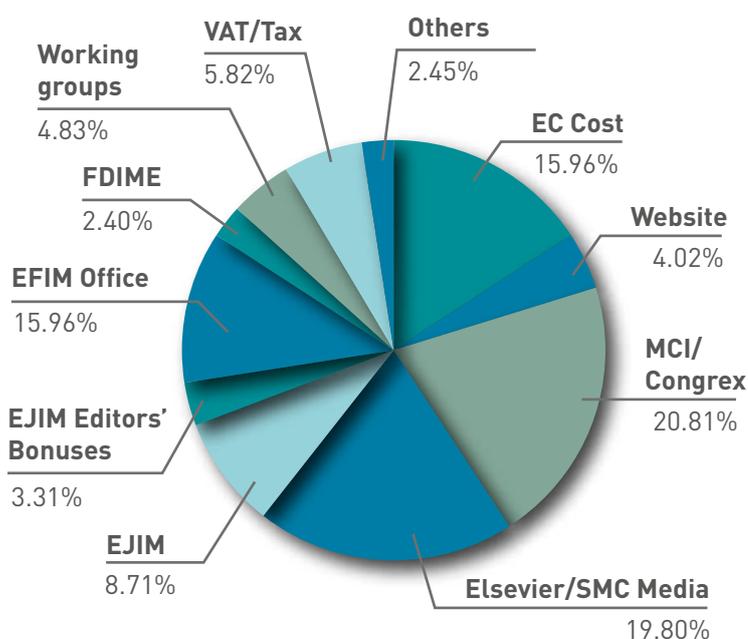


# EFIM Accounts

## Revenues & Expenditures

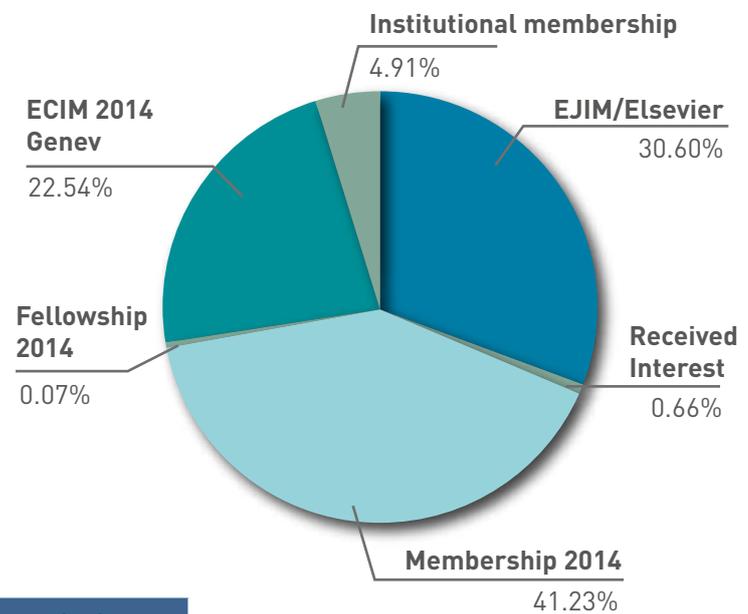
### EFIM 2014 - EXPENDITURES

	ACCOUNTS	FINAL
	APPROVED	31/12/2014
EC Cost	€ 29,000.00	33,316.33
Website	€ 6,000.00	8,394.17
MCI / Congrex / Secretariat	€ 66,876.12	43,441.32
Elsevier / EJIM Silvia Malosio	€ 43,500.00	41,341.16
EJIM		18,183.75
EJIM Editors' Bonuses		6,900.00
EFIM Office / Secretariat		24,829.21
FDIME	€ 5,000.00	5,000.00
Working Groups	€ 19,000.00	15,500.00
VAT / Tax	€ 10,800.00	12,147.25
Others	€ 10,000.00	5,123.05
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>€ 190,176.12</b>	<b>212,106.63</b>



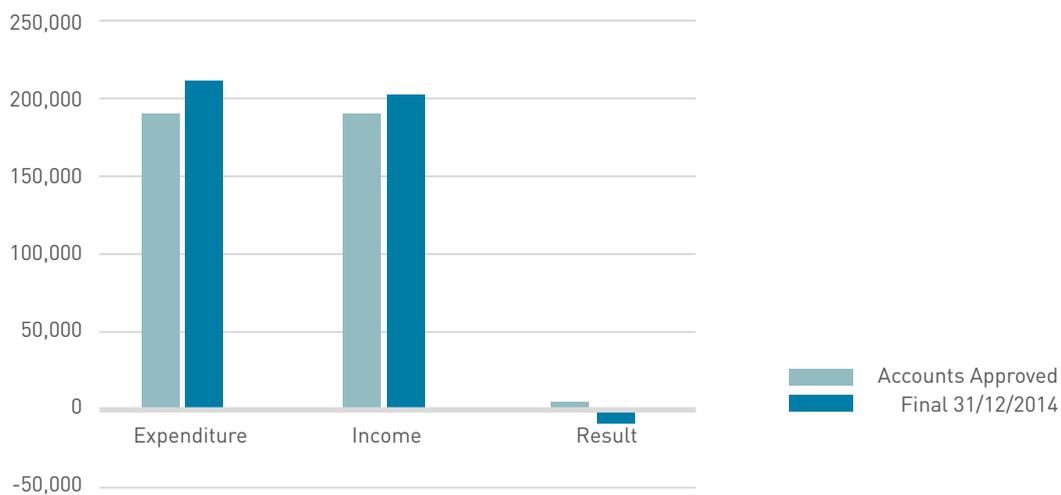
## EFIM 2014 - INCOME

	ACCOUNTS	FINAL
	APPROVED	31/12/2014
EJIM/Elsevier	€ 45,000.00	62,340.52
Received Interest	€ 3,000.00	1,341.15
Contribution Countries	€ 82,066.00	83,996.00
Contribution Fellows	€ 900.00	135.00
Congress EFIM-13 Prague	€ 50,000.00	45,919.15
Corporate Memberships	€ 10,000.00	10,000.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>€ 190,966.00</b>	<b>203,731.82</b>



## 2014 - RESULT PREVIEW

	ACCOUNTS APPROVED	FINAL 31/12/2014
expenditures	€ 190,176.12	€ 212,106.63
incomes	€ 190,966.00	€ 203,731.82
<b>RESULT</b>	<b>€ 789.88</b>	<b>-€ 8,370.81</b>



# FDIME Activities in 2014



The Foundation has given **6 educational bursaries** to young internists permitting their participation in the European School of Internal Medicine (ESIM):

- One resident from Tunisia and one from Morocco to the winter school in Saas-Fee, Switzerland, in January 2014,
- Four (from Latvia, Tunisia, Serbia and Albania) to the summer school in Sardinia, Italy in June 2014.

The Foundation organised the **10th Clinical Research Seminar** in Paris from 7 to 9 July 2014. There were 40 applicants to the seminar; 17 were selected, coming from 13 different European countries. The duration of the seminar was two and a half days. The seminar comprised 11 lectures or workshops given or moderated by 12 senior academic speakers. The detailed programme and the slides presentations are available on the FDIME website. The evaluations given anonymously by the residents can be summarized by an average mark 3.5 out of 4.

The Foundation has offered **one grant of 20,000 euros** to support a young internist for a research project

in rare diseases in adults. Five complete applications have been received.

The bursaries contributed by the FDIME after evaluation of the research projects by an international committee of experts chaired by Professor Loïc Guillevin.

**Mrs Janet Stevens**, who has been the administrative secretary of FDIME since its creation retired during the year 2014. The board and the management committee have unanimously expressed their gratitude for her dedication to the Foundation and the quality of her work. The management committee has recruited **Mrs Romy Alig** as a new administrative secretary of FDIME.

In 2014, the board has accepted a new member, **Dr Jan Willem Elte** from Gouda, Netherlands. Dr Elte has been elected member of the management committee and replaces Doctor Davidson as the Secretary General of the FDIME.

**NEXT CLINICAL RESEARCH SEMINAR!  
PARIS, 6 - 8 JULY 2015**

# Reports from EFIM Subcommittees

## *EFIM European Affairs Subcommittee*

Since the establishment of the subcommittee, the major activities during the first year have mainly focused on:

- Contributing to the European curriculum preparation working with the EFIM/UEMS curriculum board.
- Application of EFIM (as a scientific body) for an ad hoc Commission of Experts aimed to counsel and advise the European Commission in all its activities in the field of rare diseases. In January 2014, the General Directorate of Health of the European Commission officially selected EFIM as a permanent member of this group and appointed Prof. Maria Domenica Cappellini and Prof. Lorenzo Dagna as representatives of EFIM in this Expert Group. This activity is shared with the WG on Rare Diseases
- Investigating the availability of European grants to support activities for postgraduate education in Internal medicine

The activities so far implemented are:

- Nica Cappellini attended the curriculum board meetings and she contributed to the discussion and preparation. In the next phase, the members of the EA Subcommittee will be involved in the macro-area discussion and in the revision of the final curriculum.
- An Erasmus Plus Programme has been identified which may fit the purpose of EFIM in improving the role of Internal Medicine at European level. EFIM meets the criteria for being an eligible participating organization.

## *EFIM Communications Subcommittee*

The subcommittee on communication was launched in 2014 due to increasing problems communicating with individual internists in member countries of EFIM. The subcommittee met for the first time in Geneva during the ESCIM congress.

**Website:** The subcommittee engaged with a new company and a new website editor in 2013. In the beginning, this resulted of course in some problems, but after nu-

merous contacts with Tim Aldiss (from ThinkSearch) significant improvements were made. Especially after the meeting between Tim, Roger and Aneta in London (January 2015), great steps were taken. The website provides many possibilities but the CMS system gives us certain limitations. Tim is working with the developer to improve the performance and make the website easier to update.

**Newsletter:** The subcommittee produced 3 newsletters in 2014. Initially, there were some problems with the distribution of the newsletters in the member countries, but this is slowly improving. The newsletter appears to be highly valued by hospital-based practitioners. EFIM is striving to build a larger database based on the web registrations and current contact data which will contribute substantially in distributing the newsletter via the website to a larger audience.

**Facebook:** It is mainly the young internists who communicate through Facebook. Many reports from the summer and winter schools were produced, as well as other information.

**Twitter:** EFIM is not yet on Twitter, even though the president has his own Twitter Channel (@frankbosch). Social media is included in the development of the Phase 2 of EFIM website. Tim is currently busy with preparing the proposal.

**Meeting of professional secretaries:** In 2014 EFIM headquarters organized a meeting in Brussels for the professional secretaries of the member countries. There were 11 participants from 9 member societies. The ones who were present were very enthusiastic about this crash-course in EFIM matters, mainly given by Jan Willem Elte and Aneta Trajkovska. In general, the communication with the societies whose representatives attended the meeting has improved but EFIM is still struggling to spread the word among the rest of the member societies.

**EJIM:** Since 2014, every internist in Europe has free access to the European Journal of Internal Medicine through the EFIM website. The only requirement is

that the user needs to register on EFIM website and create a profile to be able to get access to the journal. This strategy will allow us to add more internists to our database.

**EJCRIM:** This is an online only open access journal, started by EFIM. It is a great way for internists to communicate and learn from each other.

### *EFIM European Congress of Internal Medicine Subcommittee*

The primary role of EFIM is to promote the scientific and professional aspects of internal medicine throughout Europe. A current focus of the Federation is the European congress in internal medicine for the forthcoming years with strong emphasis on scientific and educational content.

In May 2014, Pedro Conthe (EFIM Secretary General) accepted to chair ECIM Subcommittee and lead the discussion on views about the organization of future EFIM congresses.

The European Congress of Internal Medicine (ECIM) Subcommittee initiated the work with a teleconference held on 24 June 2014. The call focused on the improvement of EFIM future congresses with the following objectives:

1. Get the utmost impact and recognition of future EFIM congresses.
2. Look for maximizing active participation of EU and worldwide attendees.
3. Explore the best funding formulas for maintaining excellent scientific quality and optimizing the collaborative support of the pharmaceutical industry and other associations, foundations and institutions in Europe.

The ECIM Subcommittee consists of the following members:

Daniel Sereni	France
Serhat Unal	Turkey
Dror Dicker	Israel
Paolo Pauletto	Italy
Javier Garcia Alegria	Spain
Eugeniusz Kucharz	Poland

The ECIM subcommittee, after circulating the ideas to the teleconferences, agreed on the following points:

- a. General agreement to organize independently an EFIM congress with the assistance of a Professional Conference Organiser.
- b. To aim for a minimum of 300 attendees (and optimally 1000).
- c. Select attractive meeting places together with local EFIM Congress President. Amsterdam, Milan and Lisbon were suggested as the preferred locations.
- d. Explore the capacity of medical universities, hospitals, medical schools to facilitate better financial outcome for EFIM.
- e. For the scientific program, several topics were raised such as polypharmacy, role of the internist in nursing homes, various workshops etc.
- f. Keep a reduced fee for residents and people less than 35 years of age.
- g. General agreement was reached about the importance of the congress budget by including symposia on selected therapeutic topics. Other ways of sponsorships should be explored in order to make the budget manageable and guarantee success.

The subcommittee elaborated on a basic survey before starting the debate. The main results from the survey were presented by the ECIM Subcommittee Chair during the AC meeting in Tartu, Estonia, in September of 2014. Request for proposal was published on EFIM website in October. PCOs were given two months to submit their proposal.

## EFIM Research Subcommittee

Basic requirements for the new congress model (ECIM 2016 and 2017):

- General schedule: 2 days.
- Required dates: Friday – Saturday, September, 2016 and 2017.
- Registration fee: 300 euros
- Possible destinations:
  - 2016 Amsterdam, the Netherlands and
  - 2017 to be confirmed.

Medical universities, hospitals, and medical schools will be considered first as potential venues for the congress. Second in line will be offers received from hotels and congress centres.

All proposals received from different countries were analysed in depth.

The Selection Committee composed of 6 members, including the EFIM EC nucleus members and the President of the first congress, Mark Kramer, aided by the secretariat, conducted a detailed preliminary analysis on the proposals received.

Following a conference call held in January 2015, the members of the Selection Committee supported by ECIM Subcommittee selected unanimously 3 companies who had the best proposals.

The 3 companies, AdMedic Tours - Portugal, AIM International – Italy and Kenes Group – Israel, were invited to present their proposal at a meeting that was held in Brussels at the EFIM Headquarter's office on Friday, 6 February.

Following the face-to-face meeting, it was decided to select AIM International as organiser of the 2016 EFIM congress.

Further meetings have been scheduled.

**Chair:** Ramon Pujol

### July, 2014. Acceptance and subsequent constitution of the Subcommittee

Lenka Bosanska	Germany
Armando Carvalho	Portugal
Lorenzo Dagna	Italy
Giancarlo Agnelli	Italy
Mark Kramer	The Netherlands
Monica Bivol	Norway
Maria Victoria Egurbide	Spain

### August, 2014. First message from the chair

Proposals in order to facilitate the process:

#### 1. The aims of the group are:

- a. To increase the visibility of research done by internists at European level.
- b. To promote collaborative projects among European countries.
- c. To obtain funding for those projects.
- d. To offer scientific methodology to young internists (including research courses).
- e. To foster exchange research programmes for internists.
- f. To collaborate with European research agencies.

*It has been suggested to start with the second and third aims (to promote collaborative projects and to obtain funds), as the first aim will be a successful completion of the second and third aims.*

*The fourth, fifth and sixth aims will need further debate because the Subcommittee will need to strategically join other related bodies (FDIME, EBIM, other EFIM subcommittees).*

#### 2. Invite proposals for one or two subjects that would be considered reliable and feasible as a European collaborative project.

*Choose projects where European internists play an important role in the management of disorders occurring within the majority of the European countries. These research projects should belong to the clinical-epidemiological field and ideally be included in the priorities of Horizon 2020.*

### 3. Suggest possible funding for the project

*Suggestions regarding preferences about profit/non-profit research and strategies to get funding. This will be very important for the development of the Subcommittee.*

#### **September, 2014. Proposal of collaborative studies**

The following are possible topics. They are not ranked according to priority.

- Venous thromboembolism in the elderly
  - Underlying diseases
  - Clinical presentation?
  - Outcomes?
  - New anticoagulants?
- Diabetic nephropathy in the elderly
  - Early recognition
  - Prognostic factors
  - Management
- Age as a risk factor for medical errors
  - Epidemiology
  - How we detect and analyse errors? (Autopsy, mortality meetings?, others...)
- Senescence and autoimmunity
  - Giant-cell arteritis. New diagnostic tools. Advances in therapy.
  - SLE in the elderly.
- Elderly people facing critical illness
  - Criteria for admission of elderly people in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU)
  - Elderly cancer patients with acute illness
- Palliative care of chronic heart failure (CHF)
  - Decision-making in end-stage CHF

#### **30 September, 2014 (Tartu).**

##### **Criteria for accepting projects**

Definition of criteria for accepting projects was urged.

- The project should emerge from a sound idea
- Should have evident clinical impact
- Include a minimum of 3 countries and 4 or 5 groups
- There should be guaranteed funding from the beginning
- Ethical principles should be fulfilled
- At least 1 or 2 members in the project should be represented by Young Internists



#### **October, 2014**

- A new proposal coming from Italy (prof. Aliberti) was analysed but not accepted because it did not meet the criteria
  - Evaluation of AFIP Project
- Results: accepted.

#### **December, 2014**

Alchimie project sent for peer review

# Young Internists Activity Report



In the recent Young Internists Assembly meeting in Ayia Napa, Cyprus, elections were held resulting in a change in the composition of the group – bringing with it new ideas and new energy! We welcomed new members from the Netherlands, Belgium and Cyprus but sadly had to say good-bye to Lenka Bosanska who stepped down after serving the group as Secretary, Chair and finally Past Chair. Xavier Roux from France is also leaving the group and Carla Araujo from Portugal completed her term as Chair but will continue to support the group as Past Chair. I was elected as the new Chair, Ieva Ruza (Latvia) will be the new Secretary and Mikko Parry (Finland) was elected as a new subcommittee officer. The new composition of the subcommittee reflects the excellent geographical representation within the group.

The work of the Young Internists over the last year has remained focused on the aims to strengthen the specialty identity of Internal Medicine, to strive for excellence in Internal Medicine training and to encourage trainee representation at all levels. We look back to the first edition of the European School of Internal Medicine organised by a member of the group, and the enthusiasm, curiosity and openness we observed amongst the residents in Riga gave us optimism for the future of Internal Medicine and for the Young Internists movement.

Other projects we are currently working on include improvements to the new website. We have started publishing information about the structure of Internal Medicine training in different European countries as well as tips for those hoping to work abroad. This is intended to facilitate networking and mobility at European level. We also continue to contribute to the running of the exchange programme and make liberal use of social media to encourage communication between Young Internists in different EFIM member countries.

The study comparing end-of-life decision making in different European countries designed by members of the group is about to launch, and there are also plans to expand this to include physicians practising in China in a separate analysis, thanks to our intercontinental connections. The next project will take the format of 'flash mob' research and potential topics are hotly debated at the moment.

Plans for the Young Internists Day at the Moscow congress in October are taking shape, with eminent speakers under discussion for the keynote lecture. As usual, we will bring something fresh and different to the congress with a focus on interactive formats and non-clinical topics. With the fantastic value registration fee of 100 Euros for physicians in training, we hope to see many Young Internists in Moscow!



# Report from the European Board of Internal Medicine

The European Board of Internal Medicine (EBIM) is formed jointly by the European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) and the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) Section of Internal Medicine. The members of the EBIM are Werner Bauer, Chairman, Maria Dominica Cappellini and Jan Willem Elte from EFIM and Claire Higgins, Rijk Gans and Runolfur Palsson from the UEMS Section of Internal Medicine.

Currently, the EBIM is in the process of developing a European curriculum in internal medicine. This challenging project was first introduced at the EFIM Administrative Council meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, in May of 2014, and a progress report was presented at the EFIM Administrative Council meeting and the UEMS Section of Internal Medicine meeting in Tartu, Estonia, in September the same year. The principal goal is to develop a standard curriculum for specialty training in internal medicine which is applicable to all nations belonging to the European Community as well as member countries of UEMS and EFIM. An additional aim is to create a core curriculum in internal medicine that may serve as a foundation for the first 2 years of training in medical specialties other than internal medicine.

The curriculum will contain recommendations regarding educational framework, objectives, content, desired outcomes and administrative oversight of a training programme in internal medicine. The focal point will be the minimum competencies in internal medicine that all trainees should have acquired on completion of a training programme. In addition to standards for training in internal medicine, the curriculum may serve as a guidance for maintenance of competence of qualified internists. The curriculum will be trainee-centered and attempts will be made to address the perspective of patients and the needs of the population in the European countries.

The intention is to have a final draft of the curriculum ready for review in the spring of 2015. The national internal medicine societies in Europe will be invited to participate and provide their input in the final stages. For this purpose, meetings with representatives of national societies from several regions (macro-regions) in Europe will be organised where members of the EBIM Curriculum Committee will present the curriculum draft. All comments received from the national representatives will be seriously considered during revision of the draft and production of a final version of the curriculum. The plan is to present the internal medicine curriculum to the EFIM Administrative Council and the UEMS Council for approval in the autumn of 2015.

## The European Board of Internal Medicine Curriculum Committee consist of:

<b>Rijk Gans</b>	<b>Chair, UEMS Section of Internal Medicine</b>
Clare Higgins	UEMS Section of Internal Medicine
Runolfur Palsson	UEMS Section of Internal Medicine
Maria Domenica Cappellini	EFIM
Jan Willem Elte	EFIM
Werner Bauer	EFIM, President of EBIM
Ion Bruckner	EFIM
Mark Cranston	Young Internists Assembly
Monique Slee-Valentijn	Young Internists Assembly

# Summer and Winter Schools



## ESIM Winter 2014

ESIM Winter 2014 was organised for the fourth time in Saas-Fee, Switzerland, in January, 2014 thanks to Prof. Verena Briner. Young internists from 18 different countries and speakers from 8 countries attended the school. The 3 CPCs were the best received sessions, followed by the case presentations. The atmosphere was great, generated by a very good team and fascinating programme. Dr. Philippe Jaeger was congratulated for being a great speaker.

Some of the social activities had to be cancelled due to bad weather, however walking in the winter wonderland was amazing experience for all the participants.

## ESIM Summer 2014

ESIM Summer was held in the Free Beach Club at Costa Rei, Sardinia, in June, 2014. 44 Residents from 22 different countries attended. The course included the usual mixture of formal lectures, case presentations and workshops with 2 CPCs. FDIME awarded 4

ESIM bursaries to YI from Albania, Serbia, Tunisia and Latvia.

Nicola Montano, the ESIM Summer Director, introduced several innovations this year: Keynote Speaker Dr. Richard Smith, former Editor of BMJ, was invited to give presentation on the Less is More initiative,

There were 3 clinical themes, each based on a case scenario and followed by 2 related lectures.

Atrial fibrillation guideline workshop over 2 hours based on a specific part of the AF guideline, 'Management of the acute presentation of AF'.

This was a highly successful school, both in terms of the scientific programme, the social cohesion of the residents, and the organisation by the Director and his team. There was a high level of resident interaction during the scientific programme, fulfilling the primary objective of the School.

# Reports from EFIM Working Groups

## Quality of Care and Professional Issues WG

The Working Group on Quality of Care and Professional Issues signals and investigates professional issues on Internal medicine throughout Europe. The working group formulates and publishes position papers on behalf of EFIM.”

The WG members are:	
Mark H.H. Kramer (chairman)	Netherlands
Werner Bauer	Switzerland
Antonio Baptista	Portugal
Luis Campos	Portugal
Dror Dicker	Israel
Mine Durusu	Turkey
Narciso Oliveira	Portugal
Shirley Rigby	UK
Frauke Weidanz	UK

The Working Group on Professional Issues has published two papers in 2014/2015:

1. **The changing face of internal medicine: Patient centred care.** M.H.H. Kramer, W. Bauer, D. Dicker, M. Durusu-Tanriover, F. Ferreira, S.P. Rigby, X. Roux, P.M. Schumm-Draeger, F. Weidanz, J.H. van Hulsteijn, On behalf of the Working Group on Professional Issues, European Federation of Internal medicine (EFIM). *European Journal of Internal Medicine* 2014;25:125-127.
2. **What is the role of general internists in the tertiary or academic setting?** Mine Durusu Tanriover a, Shirley Rigby, L. Harry van Hulsteijn, Faustino Ferreira, Narcisso Oliveira, Petra-Maria Schumm-Draeger, Frauke Weidanz, Mark H.H. Kramer, On behalf of the Working Group on Professional Issues, European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM). *European Journal of Internal Medicine* 2015;26:9–11.

We met during the AC meetings in Estonia, Switzerland and Cyprus. New subjects of interest for EFIM will be presented during the following AC meeting. In 2015/2016 two opinion papers will be drafted for publication in EJIM.

## Rare Diseases WG

The Working Group on Rare Diseases of EFIM was first proposed in 2010 in Luzern and started its activities the following year. The WG first studied the perceptions of rare diseases in the EU and tried to analyze the specific needs that EU physicians have when dealing with rare diseases.

A major achievement happened in 2013 when the WG proposed EFIM for seating in an ad hoc Commission of Experts aimed to counsel and advise the European Commission in all its activities in the field of rare diseases. In January 2014, the General Directorate of Health of the European Commission officially selected EFIM as a permanent member of this group and appointed Prof. Lorenzo Dagna and Prof. Maria Domenica Cappellini as representatives of EFIM in this Expert Group.

The Expert Group first met on February 2014 in Luxembourg and Prof. Lorenzo Dagna from EFIM was elected to coordinate other scientific societies participating in the Group (the European Societies of Pediatrics, Human Genetics and Hematology).

The next meeting of the Commission, which will be held in mid-March in Luxembourg, will discuss on the European Reference Networks for Rare Diseases (including updates on the implementation of Art. 12 of Directive 2011/24/EU on patients' rights in cross-border healthcare), on EU Joint Actions for Rare diseases, on National registries, EU standardization on coding and procedures, and on genetic testing for rare diseases. The WG Group of EFIM, in strong connection with the EFIM Research Subcommittee, the EU Affairs Subcommittee and the FDIME, is thoroughly analyzing the significant opportunities raised by the participation in the Commission and the outstanding possibility of networking with other scientific societies and groups. In particular, we are currently working on a possible research and educational project, which could be coordinated between EFIM and the European Academy of Pediatrics aimed at defining the best path that could guide patients with rare diseases during the transition from pediatric to adult care.



## ADVICE WG

The Surveys on adult vaccinations have been completed. Unfortunately the surveys could not be sent through EFIM website and, therefore, the members of the ADVICE WG established a new survey monkey that has been tested in Turkey.

- A review article on the obstacles in adult vaccination and importance of Internal Medicine in leading this field was written. A draft of this article will be presented during the General Assembly in Moscow.
- One of the WG members, Dr. Lale Ozisk attended a workshop on the joint procurement of medical countermeasures/High-level hearing on the implementation of the Council Recommendation on seasonal influenza vaccination on behalf of EFIM in Luxembourg on 29 - 30 April 2015. Report from this workshop will be published on the EFIM website.

## Exchange Programme

The European Exchange Programme has gradually become stronger and is gaining popularity in the Young Internists community. The feedback from the residents has been excellent and the participating centres and tutors are also enjoying the experience. The aims of the EFIM Exchange Programme are to provide opportunities for Young Internists to gain additional knowledge and skills. This gives Young Internists an opportunity to become more confident and self-reliant in their professional life and to better understand the realities of Internal Medicine in other European countries. Each national Society can select 5 candidates each year for participation in the programme. There are 20 scholarships available supported by EFIM and the FDIME.



# European Journal of Internal Medicine

*Prepared by Karena Grundy, Publisher, Elsevier*

The European Journal of Internal Medicine has had a successful year in 2014. When looking at the various measurements we can see increases and declines in all the right metrics.

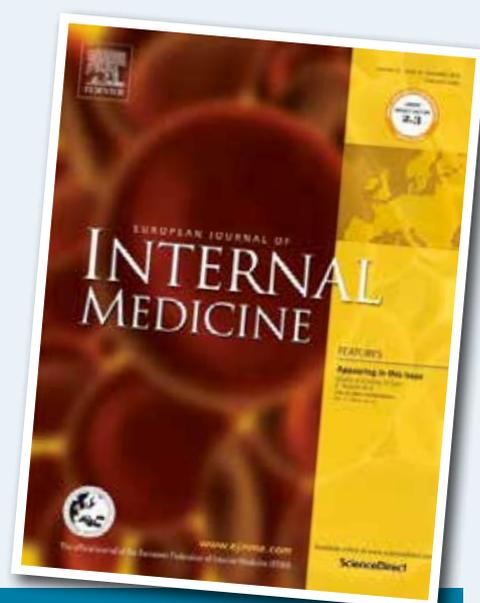
There has been an almost 20% growth in the number of submissions in 2014 in comparison to 2013, although the greatest growth appears to be in submissions from China and Taiwan. In spite of this growth the editorial handling times have remained extremely competitive, with an average handling time from submissions to final decision at just over 5 weeks.

The time from submission to publication has continued to decrease, which is primarily due to the increase from 8 to 10 issues in 2014. This is a key factor that influences author's decision to publish in a journal.

Another aspect that influences an author's choice to publish is the Impact Factor and with the release of the 2013 JCR Science edition it has continued to grow and is currently 2.3 with a ranking of 37 out of 156 journals listed under MEDICINE, GENERAL & INTERNAL. Within Scopus we can see that the citations to the journal are continuing to increase with an average number of citations at 2,854 in 2014 in comparison to 2,726 in 2013.

Readership of European Journal of Internal Medicine is primarily online and this comes through a number of sources. The ScienceDirect platform usage has increased by over 2% in comparison to the previous year. The Journal Platform ([www.ejinme.com](http://www.ejinme.com)) usage has doubled in 2014 when compared to 2013. Another platform is ClinicalKey, which has also shown a high increase in usage of over 175% in 2014 in comparison to 2013.

In 2014, a number of new initiatives were implemented for the journal, amongst which has been the introduction of Open Access Options, allowing authors to also publish in the journal if their research mandates Open Access. Financially, the journal has performed well and has shown increased revenues in comparison to the previous year. The royalties together with the editorial honorarium has brought to EFIM a healthy income and increased income in comparison to 2013.



*EFIM welcomes all members of the National Societies of EFIM to register to the website for FULL access to the Journal.*

# European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine



The European Journal of Case Reports in Internal Medicine (EJCRIM) has completed over half of the process required for inclusion in **Scopus and PubMed Central** - and there are just a few more weeks until we reach the PMC goal! Now more than ever, we need your support in recommending the journal, citing the articles and promoting the journal among your peers.

**The ESIM Winter School 2015**, recently held in Riga, Latvia, produced 3 articles that were recently accepted for publication. EJCRIM is a great opportunity for young authors to increase their visibility.

**Grand Case Rounds:** EJCRIM is ready to waive any handling fees to University Hospitals that select their best Case Rounds in internal medicine for submission in EJCRIM. Inform your hospital of this opportunity to become *Guest Hospital of the Month!*

**More Online Visibility:** We are proud that our website is increasing the visibility of EJCRIM in the scientific community. Since creating the website in January 2015, we now have +50% regular users and about 46% return visitors. Our users come mostly from the US, followed by Italy, Japan, Spain and the UK. Also, social network activity through the journal's official Facebook page is constantly engaging young readers (25-34 years of age), who represent 41% of our social media audience. Boasting more than 1900 organic "likes", the page is growing in both usage and visibility. We invite you to strongly support the journal among your peers and the larger scientific community by clicking "like" and by suggesting to others to do the same!



# EFIM CONGRESS



## « TOGETHER » - European and Swiss Congress of Internal Medicine 2014

European and Swiss internists attended the European and Swiss Congress of Internal Medicine (ESCIM) in Geneva, Switzerland, in May 2014. Physicians from 56 countries other than Switzerland came to Geneva, and accounted for 28% of the participants. The main goal of the congress, which was called “TOGETHER”, was largely met in terms of facilitating exchange between physicians coming from various backgrounds, educational programmes, practice patterns, specialties within internal medicine, and health care systems. The

scientific level of the symposia, trend lectures, workshops and learning centers was excellent; participants’ feedback showed that the lectures were highly appreciated and that their educational content was highly valued. Two special meetings deserve to be mentioned: one symposium entirely dedicated to non-physicians, which was chaired by professors of nursing; and the Young Internists’ session, where more than 100 young colleagues met and launched the Swiss Young Internists’ Association.”

Register now! [www.efim2015.org](http://www.efim2015.org)

 **14<sup>th</sup>** European Congress of Internal Medicine  
14-16 October **2015** MOSCOW | Crocus Expo

ECIM – 15th European Congress of Internal Medicine –  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 2016  
«Connecting the patient»

# EFIM Website

A renovated EFIM website was launched in May 2014 during the European and Swiss Congress of Internal Medicine in Geneva. EFIM is committed to building an online community for Internal Medicine that will ensure that the conversations that start at the conferences, schools and meetings of EFIM continue long after everyone has gone home. The website is a reference point for EFIM events and activities and allows users to personalise their experience for tailored delivery of news and feeds from forums or discussions. In 2014 we had the following flow:

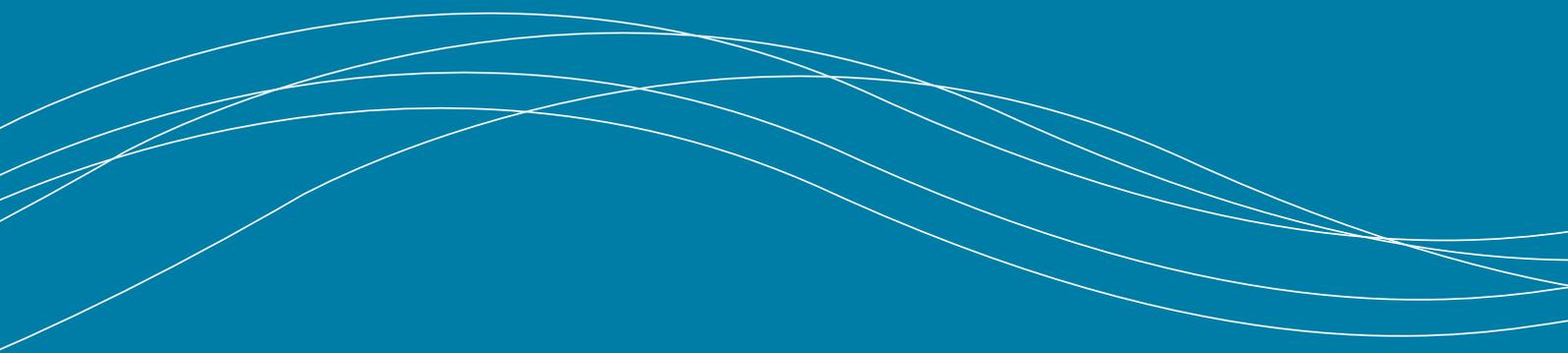
Registered users: 2,645 (unique email addresses)

- Profiles: 277
- Pages visited: 90,280
- Google search: 30,399 (72%)

**Create new account and register NOW: [www.efim.org](http://www.efim.org)**

EFIM web statistics:





Grensstraat 7  
1831 Diegem - Brussels  
Belgium  
TEL +32 2 725 9424  
FAX +32 2 660 3821  
E-MAIL [info@efim.org](mailto:info@efim.org)  
[www.efim.org](http://www.efim.org)