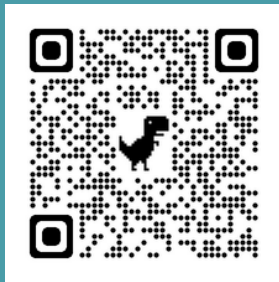




2022 MEMBER NEWSLETTER - 4TH QUARTER



RENEW YOUR BSC MEMBERSHIP and REGISTER FOR THE SYMPOSIUM

Online membership renewal and registration for the yearly symposium is now open.

Please go to <https://www.belgianstrokecouncil.be/bsc-en/#membership>

CALENDAR



October 29th, 2022 World Stroke Day

<https://www.world-stroke.org/world-stroke-day-campaign/world-stroke-day>

November 26th, 2022: 21st BSC Scientific Symposium

<https://belgianstrokecouncil.be/congress-en/>

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21ST BSC SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

The BSC is pleased to welcome everyone to the 21st edition of the Scientific Symposium. This year, the symposium is dedicated to acute stroke management and to diagnosis and management of uncommon stroke causes.

Like last year, there will be an afternoon session dedicated to BSC awards and Stroke research in Belgium. We will end the symposium with a Stroke Quiz played in teams of up to three participants. A prize will be offered to the winning team.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME:

Morning Session

8h00 – 8h45 : welcome coffee

8h45 – 9h00 : general introduction Peter Vanacker, president of the BSC

Session 1: Acute stroke management

9h – 9h25 : Drip & ship versus mothership model Marc Ribo, Barcelona, Spain

9h25 – 9h50 : multimodal imaging selection in the acute stroke : YES Jean-Marc Olivot, Toulouse, France

9h50 – 10h15 : multimodal imaging selection in the acute stroke : NO Robert Fahed, Ottawa, Canada

10h15 – 10h30 : panel discussion

10h30 – 11h 00 : coffee break

Session 2 : diagnosis and management of uncommon causes of stroke

11h – 11h25 : microbleeds / cerebral amyloidosis Barbara Casolla, Nice, France

11h25 – 11h50 : vasculitis of the central nervous system H F de Leeuw, Nijmegen, The Netherlands 11h50 –

12h15 : management of acute extra-cranial carotid occlusion Sara Pilgram-Pastor, Bern, Switzerland

12h15 – 12h30 : panel discussion

12h30 – 13h30 : LUNCH

Afternoon session

13h30 – 13h45 : BSC Awards - 2022 BSC Peeters-Vanhooren ESOC Travel Grant & 2022 Helaers Research Prize for Stroke

13h45- 14h15 : Belgian Trial Network (BeNet) : presentation of the ongoing and forthcoming stroke trial in Belgium

14h15 – 15h00 : Belgian Stroke Council Challenge - Dr Marie Dagonnier & Philippe Desfontaines

- Acute stroke management : clinical case + quiz

- Stroke prevention : clinical case + quiz

- Diagnosis challenges

15h00 - Closing remarks

Date: Saturday November 26th, 2022

Location: Provinciehuis, Leuven

Registration: <https://www.belgianstrokecouncil.be/congress-en>

Free entrance for BSC members. 50 € for non-members; 20 € for paramedics and neurologists in training; free for patients and students

Accreditation requested (ethics & economy)

UPDATE ON THROMBOLYTIC DRUG SHORTAGE



Thrombolytic drug shortage is expected to last until 2024. The manufacturing company is limiting supply to all countries worldwide. Currently, the impact on future drug delivery is still unclear. However, for the month October, drug delivery will be further restricted.

Additionally, the production of Actosolv, mainly used for IV catheter obstruction, has not yet been resumed and will likely become unavailable from January 2023.

With the help of Belgian experts, FAGG/AFMPS has released guidance for hospital pharmacists and medical doctors concerning the shortage of thrombolytic drugs. The guideline serves the purpose of making other medical specialities aware of the shortage and restricting the use of thrombolytics for non-urgent indications. Centralisation of hospital stock and monitoring of local usage is highly recommended. With regards to treatment of ischemic stroke, increased use of MRI or CT perfusion imaging is recommended to avoid treating stroke mimics as much as possible, avoiding off-label alteplase use and optimisation of alteplase dosing using complete vials of 20 and 50mg, taking into account local availability of both dosages, is advised to avoid wastage.

Additional guidance by the European Stroke Organization and Zorgnet-Icuro is expected shortly.

Read the FAGG recommendation here

Dutch:

<https://tinyurl.com/4hf5xvxp>

French:

<https://tinyurl.com/c7av4k4c>

WEBSITE/MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The BSC is happy to announce that membership registration is now available via the website. We encourage you to visit <https://www.belgianstrokecouncil.be/bsc-en/#membership> to renew your membership and pay safely online.

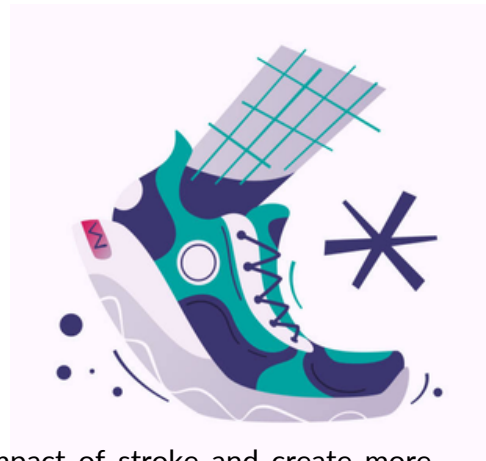
After membership registration you will receive proof of payment (may take up to 7 days).

Membership lasts from September 1st to August 31st the next year.

As always, members have free access to the yearly symposium, which will be organized on November 26th in Leuven.

To register for the 2022 symposium and view the preliminary programme, please visit <https://www.belgianstrokecouncil.be/congress-en/>

FAST4-WARD / WORLD STROKE DAY



October 29th is World Stroke Day. To focus on the impact of stroke and create more awareness, several hospitals are organizing a free interactive walk. Using the izi.TRAVEL app, participants can navigate the interactive and educational parcours at a time and date of their choosing.

Participants may also enter a contest for a chance of winning fun prizes! The winner will be chosen by stroke survivor Steven Spillebeen (a.k.a. Spillie)

For more information please visit the World Stroke Day page at <https://www.belgianstrokecouncil.be/world-stroke-day/#fast4ward>

For free enrollment of your hospital to "fast4-ward" please contact anja.lorrez@azgroeninge.be or julie.derous@azsintjan.be.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

BSC members interested in sharing innovative stroke research concepts or who seek multicenter participation in ongoing or planned stroke studies, kindly submit your abstract to robin.lemmens@uzleuven.be

The research proposals will be discussed during the afternoon session of the 21st BSC scientific symposium

GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS - UPDATE

2022 ESO-ESMINT expedited recommendation on indication for intravenous thrombolysis before mechanical thrombectomy in patients with acute ischemic stroke and anterior circulation large vessel occlusion

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35115395>

2022 AHA/ASA scientific statement - Toward a Better Understanding of Sex- and Gender-Related Differences in Endovascular Stroke Treatment

<https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/STR.0000000000000411>



INTERVIEW WITH

Dr. Noémie Ligot
Vascular neurologist ULB, Brussels
President of the BSC scientific board

What motivated you to become a stroke neurologist?

I began my career teaching neuroanatomy and was very interested in anatomical-clinical correlations typically seen in cerebrovascular injury. During my neurological training, stroke care was revolutionized by potentially curative treatments whose effectiveness depended on rapidity. Setting up this care pathway, coordinating the teams and optimizing their collaboration was a very rewarding experience. Rapid action, taking into account many factors, and a questioning approach to achieve a decisive treatment, corresponds particularly well to my personality. I also appreciate the variations in the pace of the vascular neurologist's work: varying from urgency and rapid action in the acute phase to a calm and thoughtful approach to diagnosis and rehabilitation support. I also like the multi-faceted nature of patient care, which requires specific medical expertise on the one hand, and overall human support for the patient and his or her family in the various phases of the pathology on the other. Similarly, the multidisciplinary approach, through exchanges with other doctors, nurses and paramedics, leading to a synergy of expertise and a sharing of experiences. Finally, neurovascular pathology is a fast-growing field of research, which is particularly attractive because of the possibility of a very concrete and rapid clinical application in our daily practice.

Stroke team metrics

Yearly stroke alerts: 330
 IVT: 30% of stroke alerts
 EVT: approximately 85 pt yearly
 10 stroke unit and 18 post-stroke unit beds

What's your role in the BSC?

As president of the scientific board, I try to be a guiding light and coordinator, ensuring that the projects carried by this team become reality. We organize events like the scientific workshop to promote the activity of young researchers and their networking, or the BSC annual symposium to communicate on stroke news to doctors, paramedics and patients. We are also asked to give expert advice on specific clinical issues (e.g. recommendation of covid vaccination for stroke patients). All these initiatives require collaborative work with volunteer members who do this outside of working hours, which must be coordinated to maintain continuity and coherence between the different actions and approaches.

Why would you recommend colleagues in other centers to join the scientific board of the BSC?

The scientific board brings together neurologists who are active in the Belgian neurovascular field. Each member shares ideas, concerns and solutions on various topics such as improving stroke management, scientific research and actions specifically focused on the needs of patients and their families. Thanks to the synergistic participation of its members, the SB is a platform for concrete initiatives. Our recognized expertise and visibility legitimize and strengthen our positions, recommendations and opinions. This position places us at the crossroads of Belgian and international neurovascular news and actions. Any neurologist actively involved in neurovascular care in Belgium has a role to play in the scientific council.

What direction would you like to see stroke care in Belgium moving towards?

Stroke care in Belgium is far from optimal, particularly because of the great heterogeneity of resources available in the different hospitals and therefore of the quality of care across the country.

An urgent improvement of this situation is essential by applying quality criteria as recommended at European level, by strengthening collaboration between hospitals and by raising awareness of stroke among the population and primary care physicians. The BSC, composed of dedicated Belgian vascular neurologists, is the key body to achieve this goal.

Thank you, Noémie, for your effort and leadership as our scientific board president.