

**The Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Diseases (EGID) Working Group  
of ESPGHAN**

**CHARTER**

The Eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases Working group (EGID-WG) is a group of paediatric gastroenterologists from ESPGHAN whose goals are to generate collaborative international research (clinical and basic) and to provide a prominent role with regards to current management of eosinophilic diseases of the gastrointestinal tract in children.

The aims of the group are:

1. **Research:** To perform collaborative research of all types as agreed within the group, including registries.
2. **Guidelines:** To develop and update management guidelines and position papers on behalf of ESPGHAN regarding paediatric eosinophilic diseases of the gastrointestinal tract.
3. **Advocacy:** To provide expert opinions and advocate for the benefit of paediatric patients when needed.
4. **Education:** To improve medical care of children with eosinophilic diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, by promoting good clinical practice including various educational tools, lectures and publications.

**EGID-WG Membership roles**

1. Members of the EGID-WG must be members of ESPGHAN.
2. Non-ESPGHAN members can be a part of EGID-WG if they are experts in the field of eosinophilic diseases of the gastrointestinal tract working outside paediatric gastroenterology (e.g. in adult gastroenterology, immunology, epidemiology, histopathology) whose expertise and contribution is essential to the projects and tasks of the EGID-WG.
3. When a site or center has one member, other person from this site can attend the group while in charge of (coordinating) a new research project. Membership is not transferable—nor can observers vote by proxy for members. Sites that have had two members prior to April 2016 when this clause has been agreed upon will continue to have two or more members until one member steps down.
4. Every member has one vote during ballots (voting for positions, new members, new initiatives etc).
5. Membership requires active participation in group activities. Members who have been absent for two or more consecutive annual meetings without reasonable cause or who have not participated in group activities for over

two years (collaborative research, guidelines development etc), their membership should be questioned.

6. The executive committee (EC) of EGID-WG will aim to organise an annual meeting to discuss about future and ongoing projects in more detail. An additional meeting will be held during ESPGHAN meeting. Attendance of meetings and activities by observers may be allowed if cleared by the executive committee (EC). These may include participants and research coordinators in relevant studies. The EC and host will decide the fee for observers as they are expected to cover their expenses. Observer status does not confer membership with the resulting rights and obligations as stated above. The arrangement of a meeting before/after the annual meeting (e.g. the launch of a new study) is allowed if cleared by the EC, but finances have to be discussed with GIC.

### **Elections**

1. Up to four members of the EGID-WG will serve as an EC (Chair, research coordinator, secretary and financial liaison). Each committee member will be elected by secret ballot for a term of 3 years. One of these members will be elected specifically for the role of Chair of the group. The newly formed EC will decide between themselves on other three positions. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms on the committee. Nominees for a position in the EC are required to submit a CV, a personal statement why they should be elected to the EC (1-2 paragraphs).
2. Optimal number of EGID-WG ESPGHAN and non-ESPGHAN members should not exceed 35. If applications exceed this number, the term of each member needs to be limited with the option for re-election. The EGID-working group will try to cover the expenses of members for meetings, within the current Rules and Regulations of ESPGHAN.
3. New members will be elected by secret ballot by the EGID-WG members.
4. Nominees for membership are required to submit a CV, a personal statement why they should be elected to the EGID-WG (1-2 paragraphs).
5. Each eligible group member will indicate which of the nominees (new and existing) should be elected according to the number of available slots (e.g. if 10 people compete for 5 slots, each member will indicate only 5 names). Nominees will be elected based on the cumulative points achieved by all voting members.
6. Members are expected to vote primarily according to the perceived merit to meet and promote the goals of the group. Geographic diversion will be also considered but as a secondary point.
7. Existing members who are standing for re-election are allowed to vote for other nominees but not for themselves in order to leverage chances with nominees from the interest group.

### **Collaborative research**

1. Any member of the group may propose a research project by email to EC before the meeting. If the project is acceptable for the EC the frontal presentation during the annual meeting is expected.
2. The proposal must include the following:
  - a. Subheadings: *background and rationale, hypotheses, aims, explicit methods (design, eligibility criteria, outcomes, power calculation, statistical approach), and importance.*
  - b. Authorship plan (in general balancing scientific merit, invested effort and number of included patients/samples from each site). In any case, each EGID-WG publication will include a full list of contributing members in an addendum to be listed as much as possible in PubMed.
  - c. The anticipated reporting standard of the final manuscript (e.g. CONSORT, STARD etc- see last clause of this section).
3. The EC must ensure that every manuscript carrying the name of the EGID-WG is of sufficient merit, value and scientific rigor. This will be verified both at the time of the proposal submission and at conclusion of the study. Projects with only one manufacturer's product involved cannot be published as "ESPGHAN" manuscripts. All manuscripts will be approved by the EC including the EGID-WG name prior to submission.
4. In addition, each research project will be discussed in an annual meeting for allowing the entire group to vote for the study as a WG paper. If such presentation is not feasible (e.g. desire to publish prior to the meeting or unavailability of the authors to present), the EC may decide on behalf of the group.
5. Governed by the above restrictions, all manuscripts arising from the group will have the name of the group (Eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases Working Group of ESPGHAN). Author's list will include as a suffix "on behalf of the Eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases Working Group of ESPGHAN".
6. Research projects may be published in any journal according to the discretion of the co-authors.
7. All manuscripts carrying the name of the EGID-WG will be reported according to accepted standards to ensure that the final reports are of highest possible quality. Examples:
  - CONSORT statement - checklist and flow diagram for reporting RCT
  - SPIRIT statement - protocol items for intervention trials (good checklist for other studies also)
  - STROBE statement – reporting observational studies (cohort, case-control and cross-sectional)
  - CARE - checklist and flow diagram for reporting case reports and series

STARD statement – checklist and flow diagram for reporting diagnostic accuracy

TRIPOD statement – reporting diagnostic or prognostic modelling

RECORD statement – reporting routinely-held health administrative data observational studies

PRISMA - checklist and flow diagram for reporting SR and MA

SQUIRE statement and checklist – reporting quality improvement studies

#### **Position papers and guidelines**

1. Position papers and guidelines will be established according to ESPGHAN rules and regulations following an open call to all members of the EGID-WG and other WG when appropriate for specific projects.
2. Selection of members to participate in the projects will be decided (based on merit only) by the ad-hoc committees nominated by the EGID-WG.
3. The final voting reported in the manuscript will include the writing group and EGID-WG members. A pre-final version will be sent to all WG members for comments.
4. Position papers and guidelines will be published in JPGN unless explicitly required otherwise.

Any member of the EGID-WG can propose the modification of the charter to the EC. The members of EC will consider the possible modification of the charter. The discussion and voting about proposed changes of the charter will be held at the annual meetings. The modification will be confirmed by absolute majority quorum of more than 2/3 of the members at the meeting.