

CHAPTER I GENERAL RULES

Article 1. Legal Name of the Society

a/ The name of the Society shall be the “International Scientific Society of Ectopic Calcification”.

b/ The short name of the Society shall be “ISSEC”.

Article 2. Duration of the Society

The duration of the Society is considered indeterminate.

Article 3. Aims of the Society

The general aims of the Society are as follows:

- To create awareness for ectopic mineralization in human medicine
- To promote research in the field of ectopic/soft tissue mineralization
- To develop standards of clinical practice for ectopic mineralization disorders
- To strive for the integration of patients’ needs and input, scientific research and its implementation in clinics
- To stimulate education of patients, specialists, students, and the public in the different areas of ectopic mineralization
- To facilitate contacts between persons who share/have an interest in these aims
- To promote the career of scientists in the field of ectopic/soft tissue mineralization
- To disseminate information in the area of ectopic/soft tissue mineralization

All these general aims will be achieved by activities detailed in Article 4.

Article 4. Activities of the Society

Specifically, the Society will:

- Organize a biennial Societal conference
- Disseminate information related to ectopic mineralization to all public by
 - creating and maintaining a website
 - publishing a bimonthly newsletter
 - interacting through social networks and by other means
- To award prize(s) and (travel) grants within the realm of possibilities and depending on the financial state of the Society.
- Further activities may be carried out:
 - e.g., organizing and/or sponsoring international meetings, seminars, technical courses, webinars, summer/training schools, etc.,

Article 5. Society address

The Society will be formally located 17 rue de la République 54140 Jarville-la-Malgrange, France.

CHAPTER II

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 6. Composition and role of General Assembly (GA)

The General Assembly (GA) is the supreme organ of the decision in the Society. The GA comprises all active members, each having the right to vote. Each member's vote equally counts as one.

The GA shall deliberate on all matters not included in the legal or statutory attributions of the other bodies of the Society, in particular:

- Approve the Society's fundamental lines of action;
- Elect the members of the Executive Board (EB);
- Annually appraise, discuss and vote on the budget and the Activity Plan for the following year, as well as the management report and accounts;
- Approve the amendment of the Bylaws and on the dissolution, split or merge of the Society;
- Approve the Society to become a member of International Unions, Federations, Confederations or Alliances;
- Validate the fees to be paid by the members, as well as the deadline for its regularization, as decided by the EB;
- Approve the minutes of the GA electronically;
- Approve the acquisition and disposal, under any title, of real estate and other assets either of income or historical or artistic value.

The GA can be organized physically or virtually and can meet in ordinary and extraordinary sessions.

Article 7. Ordinary General Assembly.

The GA will meet in ordinary and extraordinary sessions. The ordinary GA should be organized at least once a year. The ordinary GA is convened by the Secretary by email and advertised on the Society's website at least 30 days before the event, stating the exact day, time, and location. A quorum of 50% + 1 of all members is needed for the GA to begin at the scheduled time. In the absence of the quorum, the GA is automatically convened 15 minutes later with any number of attendees. The chair, in general the President, is elected by the GA.

The members of the Society and the Advisory Board may suggest items to be discussed at the GA by sending them to the Executive Board at least 21 days before the GA. Fifteen days before the GA, the final agenda (list of points, documents to discuss and/or approve) shall be sent by email to all members.

Article 8. Extraordinary General Assembly

The extraordinary GA can be organized if necessary, similarly to the ordinary GA. In addition, it can be convened at the request of 50% of the members of the Executive Board, the Advisory Board, or at the request of at least 25% of the full members. In the latter case, all members of the Executive Board have the right and obligation to organize the GA within the following 30 days physically or virtually according to the wish of those who requested the GA and by also taking into account that the largest number of members can participate. The extraordinary GA should also be convened both by email and advertised on the website, stating the exact date and time and by indicating the agenda (list of points, documents to discuss and/or approve). The members of the Society may

suggest items to be discussed at the extraordinary GA by sending them to the Executive Board at least 21 days before the GA. 15 days before the GA, the final agenda (list of points, documents to discuss and/or approve) shall be sent by email to all members.

Article 9. General Assembly Resolutions

In general, decisions at a GA are made by a simple majority (only counting approvals or disapprovals. Nulls, blanks, or abstentions are not considered). In the case of a tie, the vote of the Chair adjudicates.

Deliberations on the matters related to the merge of the Society and becoming a member of other international entities shall only be valid if they obtain a favorable vote of at least two-thirds of the votes cast (following the same counting rules).

Resolutions taken on matters outside of the agenda are invalid.

Any discussion can be part of the GA.

CHAPTER III EXECUTIVE BOARD

Article 10. Composition of the Executive Board

The Executive Board (EB) comprises a President (active), a Vice-president, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Dissemination director, and two other elected members as voting members. Furthermore, the President-Elect and the Past President are temporary members of the EB. The President of the Advisory Board is an invited member of the EB without the right to vote.

The Society strives for equal representations of genders, professions, career stages, and geographic regions in the EB.

The President-Elect automatically becomes a temporary member of the EB without the right to vote (unless he/she was already a member of the EB), except for the first elections. After the first elections, the President-Elect starts the term immediately after the elections.

The term of office is a maximum of four years for the elected members of the EB, ending with the start of the new presidential term.

The President proposes the roles of Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and dissemination director to the elected members of the EB. The EB votes the proposed roles. If the President cannot offer acceptable roles to the EB members within three months after the beginning of the term, an extraordinary GA should be organized to vote for a new EB. The same EB cannot be reelected at this election, i.e. at least one member should be different from the previous EB.

The President automatically becomes a Past-President for one year at the end of his/her term. The Past-President is an honorary member of the Executive Board without the right to vote.

In the event of a vacancy in the position of President, this position will be filled by the Vice-President and the latter, replaced by the Secretary.

In the case of a vacancy for another position, that position will be filled by the EB member that best suits the position.

Article 11. Election of the President

The President for the coming term is elected by the GA one year before the end of the term of the present President. The presidential election will be announced on the agenda of the GA. Those who would like to be a candidate should indicate it to the Secretary at the latest 21 days before the GA. All full members can apply to be the President. Each candidate should send a CV, short biography and a motivation letter. The President can be reelected for two consecutive terms. He/she becomes eligible again after one term out of office.

The elections, by secret ballots, are organized and supervised by the EB. The name of all candidates willing to become President should be indicated on the ballots. Each member of the Society will be given one ballot and can select, by secret vote, only one of the candidates. Clear indications will be accepted as valid votes.

The President is elected by a majority of the votes, nulls and blanks excluded. If none of the candidates reaches the majority (50%+1 considered votes), then the second round of election is organized at the same GA, with the candidature of the two candidates who obtained the highest number of votes in the first round.

At the first election, the president-elect will start the term right after the elections.

Should there be a secure way to collect the votes, the election may also take place electronically.

Article 12. Election of the EB members

The Society encourages all members to come forward as candidates to represent equally genders, professions, career stages, and geographic regions within the realm of possibilities.

The elections, by secret ballots, are organized and supervised by the EB. The six members of the EB are elected by the GA at the beginning of the term of the active President. Should there be a secure way to collect the votes, the election may also take place electronically.

All full members can be a candidate to be an EB member. Members of the EB can be reelected for two consecutive terms. They become eligible again after one term out of office.

The name of all candidates applying to become EB member should be indicated on the ballots. A maximum of six candidates can be selected by secret vote. Clear indications will be accepted as positive votes. The candidates who obtained the six highest number of votes at the election will be elected as the new EB members.

In case of vacancy, new elections should be organized no later than at the next GA to complete the EB.

The election will be announced in the agenda of the GA, and those who would like to become candidates should indicate it to the Secretary at the latest 21 days before the GA by stating their intention and sending a CV, short biography and a motivation letter.

Article 13. EB Meetings

EB meetings should be organized at least twice a year. The meetings should be called 15 days in advance by the Secretary or, in his/her absence, the Treasurer. Quorum: 4 members with voting rights, decisions are taken by a simple majority of votes (only counts

pros and cons, not nulls or blank nor abstentions). In case of a tie, the President's vote (or that of the vice-president in case of the absence of the President) decides.

The minutes will be written and signed by the Secretary and the President and sent to all EB members.

Article 14. Attributions

To develop the aims of the Society. If needed, the EB can invite external people to assist the EB in resolving specific issues. These people do not have the right to vote.

The Executive Board shall manage the Society and represent it, particularly in:

- Developing the aims of the Society
- Performing the administrative and economic (financial) management, e.g., signing agreements
- Calling the GA
- Implementing the decisions of the GA;
- Representing the Organization in or out of court;
- Annually preparing and submitting for the opinion of the Advisory Board, and to the GA the Activity Report and the management accounts, as well as the Budget and Activity Plan for the following year. These documents should be submitted at the latest the same time as the GA is called;
- Ensuring compliance with the Law, the Bylaws, and the resolutions of the institution's bodies;
- Accepting and excluding members;
- Establish the fees to be paid by the members, as well as the deadline for their regularization;
- Formation of committees/workgroups (ad hoc/permanent).

Article 15. President

The President represents the Society at any level. He/she is the chair of EB meetings and the GA (unless another member is elected), and authorizes others to sign documents of the Society, and makes decisions in case of emergency.

The President nominates the President of the Advisory Board after consultation with the EB members.

Written declarations that bind the Society are to be signed by the President. The President cannot sign in his or her quality of President any declaration without the prior approval of decision-making bodies with the exception of emergency cases.

In case of demission or long-term absence (at least one year), the president-elect becomes the President, and new members of the EB should be elected. In the absence of President-Elect, the Vice-President takes over the role of President, and new elections should be organized. Until the beginning of his/her term one year after the elections, the President-Elect will have the same rights as any other President-Elect, and the Vice-President will remain acting President.

Article 16. Vice-president

The Vice-President can take over the functions of the President in case of absence.

Article 17. Secretary

The secretary

- Registers data of members;
- Notifies new and leave memberships;
- Convenes GA and extraordinary GA;
- Organizes, writes, and signs the minutes of EB and GA;
- Keeps the archives of the Society;
- Writes the annual memo;
- Prepares certificates.

Article 18. Treasurer

The Treasurer is responsible for the

- Accountability of the Society,
- Annual or extraordinary reports of the list of incomes and expenses,
- Signs all payments.

Article 19. Dissemination director

The role of the Dissemination Director is to organize the dissemination of information related to the activities of the Society within and outside of the Society, namely:

- To promote and update the Society's website and information on Social and other Networks, either directly or via external services
- To organize the edition of Newsletters
- To participate in the organization of the Society's activities (e.g., biennial conference, webinars, etc.)

CHAPTER IV ADVISORY BOARD

Article 20. Advisory Board

The Advisory Board (AB) comprises at least eight members, having two members representing each of the following corpus: clinicians, scientists, patients, and students (Ph.D. and post-doc or Early Career Researcher). The members of the AB are co-opted by the President of the AB. The term for AB members is 6 years. Members of the AB can be nominated for two consecutive terms. Members of the AB should resign as soon as they stop fulfilling the criteria based on which they were co-opted. The President of the AB is a permanently invited member of EB. He/she does not participate in the votes of the EB.

The AB assists the EB in the aims of the Society and can be consulted at any time for any questions regarding medical, scientific, patient organization, or teaching/training topics. The AB should review the Activity Report and the management accounts, as well as the Budget and Activity Plan for the following year.

CHAPTER V MEMBERS

Article 21. Types

Full members:

Individuals who have a professional interest in pursuing the Society's aims.

Individuals representing and delegated by Patient Organizations (maximum 2/ organization), which have an interest in pursuing the Society's aims

Honorary members:

By invitation of an active individual or an individual representing a Society by the Executive Board or by giving the emeritus state to a previously active member.

Supporting members:

All other organizations who have an interest in pursuing the Society's aims. Supporting members become members by invitation of the EB.

Article 22. Requirements

Full members: application form to be completed and sent to the Secretary Executive Board for final decision. The applicant will be accepted upon the decision of the EB. The applicant will become a full member after he/she has paid the necessary membership and registration fees determined in euros.

Article 23. Loss of membership

A member will lose his/her quality if voluntarily wishes to, or does not pay the fee after three official reminders, if the member endangers the reputation of the Society seriously, or in case of death. The loss will be effective after the EB decision.

Article 24. Role of full members

Full members have the following rights and duties:

- Right to vote at the GA
- Participate to promote the interests and aims of the Society
- Refrain from anything that could endanger the reputation and purpose of the Society
- Have to observe the bylaws of the Society and the decisions made by the EB and GA
- Pay the fees on time

Article 25. Honorary members.

Honorary members are expected to promote the Society and increase its visibility.

CHAPTER VI ECONOMIC RULES

Article 26. Economic resources

Membership fees and registration fees are decided by the EB.

Funds will be administered by the EB (i.e. the Treasurer).

Article 27. Length of the economic exercise

Starting from the creation of the Society, annually.

CHAPTER VII MODIFICATION

Article 28. Modification of bylaws

Only by the GA and by 2/3 of the casted votes can the bylaws be modified.

**CHAPTER VIII
DISSOLUTION**

Article 29. Dissolution

It is approved by 4/5 members of those attending in extraordinary or ordinary General Assembly by secret vote.

The voting for dissolution will not occur if at least a number of members equal to the number of members of the governing bodies (EB plus AB) declare themselves willing to ensure the permanence of the organization, whatever the number of votes against.

Article 30. Closing and transfers of a remnant

The EB will designate a specific committee for the liquidation of the Society and decide what to do with remnants once all due payments are completed. In the case of non-profit organizations, remnants should be donated to other similar societies.

**CHAPTER IX
TEMPORARY RULES**

Article 31. Founding of the Society

The Society is created at a founding General Assembly. Founding members are those who:

- Participate at the founding GA
- Accept the documents prepared by the Organizing Committee

Article 32. Temporary direction of the Society

The first, temporary EB (tEB) is composed of the 7 members of the Organizing Committee, which prepared all necessary documents for the founding of the Society. One of the organizing committee members will be elected as President by the tEB. The term of the tEB is ending at the end of the temporary period.

Article 33. Duration of the temporary period

The temporary period has a maximum duration of 9 months from the founding GA. The temporary period will end with the first regular GA, which will also elect the first regular President and EB.

Article 34. Attributions of the temporary EB

Same as the regular EB (see article 14). The President will nominate after discussion with the EB members the president of a temporary Advisory Board (tAB).

Article 35. Temporary Advisory Board

The president of the (tAB) nominates the members of the tAB as described in article 20. The term of the tAB is one year from the nomination of its President.