



## **EHRA ADVOCACY, QUALITY IMPROVEMENT AND HEALTH ECONOMICS COMMITTEE (AQIHEC)**

### **1. Mission**

The mission of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) is to improve the quality of life and reduce sudden cardiac death by limiting the impact of heart rhythm disturbances. To this end, the heart rhythm professionals need to interact with decision-makers in healthcare, other medical and professional associations, industry partners, and patient advocacy organisations, to provide expert advice and support and promote optimal health care policies and standards. Furthermore, the profession needs to promote the implementation of quality improvement initiatives keeping the focus on the patient, to address gaps and disparities in practice, improve outcomes of care and encourage communication, coordination and collaboration between all professionals treating patients with heart rhythm disorders.

The overarching goal of EHRA's Advocacy Quality Improvement and Health Economic committee (AQIHEC) is to provide a platform to implement and coordinate these activities to ultimately serve the mission of the EHRA "to improve the quality of life and reduce sudden cardiac death".

### **2. Objectives**

#### **2.1. Advocacy**

- a) To represent EHRA and its goals in all ESC advocacy-related matters (including the ESC Advocacy Committee).
- b) To develop networks and promote communication, coordination, and collaboration in the field of advocacy, health policy, quality of care with other societies with similar goals to EHRA.
- c) To support the ESC Committee, in its wish to promote the recognition of the ESC and its constituent bodies to the European Union (EU) and, specifically, the EU Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety.
- d) To improve the access to orphan drugs and address gaps and disparities across the EHRA member states.



- e) To guarantee access to heart rhythm-related medical devices and address gaps and disparities across the EHRA member states.
- f) To promote the development of a standardised nomenclature and interoperability of cardiac implantable electronic devices (CIED) (i.e. development of a common remote monitoring platform for all vendors).
- g) To promote the support of system-based initiatives to reduce the burden of Sudden Cardiac Death (SCD) by interacting with European and National policy makers (i.e. promote activities and funding to support research, education, and health policies).
- h) To promote the support of system-based initiatives to reduce the burden of Atrial Fibrillation (AF) by interacting with European and National policy makers (i.e. promote activities and funding to support research, education, and health policies).
- i) To align with EHRA's patient committee to strengthen the communication, coordination, and collaboration with patient advocacy associations to raise awareness regarding the AQIHEC's mission (in the face of regulators, industry partners and society).

## 2.2. Quality improvement

- a) To represent EHRA and its goals in all ESC quality-related matters (including the ESC Quality of Care Section, the ESC Quality Indicators, and others).
- b) To define standardised key quality indicators for each heart rhythm disturbance (using systematic methodology, aiming for common indicators/tools for simplicity and actionability).
- c) To disseminate the use of standardised quality indicators among the heart rhythm community to allow benchmarking.
- d) To promote anonymous reporting of structure, process, and outcome quality indicators by country to identify gaps in care practice.
- e) In the long-term, to create a common platform for the prospective, systematic collection of quality indicators at the EU level (e.g. liaise with the ESC's EuroHeart Project).
- f) To facilitate the collection of patients reported outcome (PROs) using validated patients reported outcome measures (PROMs) in routine clinical practice
- j) To promote patient safety by offering recommendations to the EU and national authorities, manufacturers, clinicians, and patients about cardiac rhythm device safety including device performance, surveillance, data analysis, device malfunctions, and therapy advisories together with the ESC Advocacy and Regulatory Affairs Committees





### 2.3. Health economics

- a) To promote independent cost-effectiveness analysis or other economic analysis targeted to highlight the economic value of drugs/interventions in the field of arrhythmia management and sudden death prevention.
- b) To contribute to education initiatives relating to health economic aspects of EP and device therapy.
- c) To work with the Scientific Documents Committee to provide Health Economics information relevant to Guidelines, Position Statements and Consensus Statements.
- d) To provide original articles on health technology assessment of EP and device therapy.
- e) To work with payers and industry on the Health Economics of EP and device therapy.
- f) To support the advancement of reimbursement in the field of EP and device therapy.

## 3. Job descriptions

### 3.1. Chair's job description (estimated time commitment: 2 hours/week)

- a) Sits on the EHRA full Board, reports decision from the Board and feeds back information from the Committee
- b) Promotes EHRA activities and EHRA membership
- c) Represents EHRA and its goals in all ESC advocacy, quality and health economics-related matters
- d) Provides leadership to the EHRA AQIHEC members to define objectives, delegate tasks and to motivate collaborative efforts with creative thinking
- e) Establishes annual objectives, work plans, timelines
- f) Communicates expectations regarding Committee members' input and monitors their performance
- g) Monitors activities, including quality, deadlines and budget and is accountable for results
- h) Schedules, chairs, and prepares agendas of Committee meetings (in person and by web/phone conference).
- i) Prepares reports and presentations for the EHRA Executive Board and addresses all its requests about other EHRA activities
- k) Promotes collaboration with other EHRA committees and coordinators
- l) Reviews minutes and approves final work products and formal communication



- j) Responds to email notifications and solicitations in a timely manner
- k) Maintains confidentiality as appropriate

#### **4. Co-chair's job description (estimated time commitment: 1,5 hours/week)**

- a) Reports to the Chair
  - b) Replaces the Chair at EHRA Board and any other Committee meetings if needed
  - c) Assists the Chair to define the EHRA AQIHEC objectives in line with EHRA and ESC's strategic plans
  - d) Makes recommendations on work processes and volunteer assignments
  - e) Handles other duties as assigned by the Chair
  - f) Responds to email notifications and solicitations in a timely manner
  - g) Maintains confidentiality as appropriate

#### **5. Committee member's job description (estimated time commitment: 1 hour/week)**

- a) Works collaboratively with the Chair and co-chair(s) and the ESC/EHRA staff to achieve the Committee's goals and objectives
- b) Participates actively and constructively in all EHRA AQIHEC meetings (in-person or by web/phone conference), including contributing to Committee deliberations by being familiar with distributed materials and all Committee activities
- c) Delivers assigned tasks within the predefined timelines
- d) Maintains the confidentiality of deliberations and materials
- e) Contributes to the timely completion of AQIHEC products and deliverables, including meeting ESC/EHRA staff and Committee deadlines
- f) Volunteers for special assignments or tasks when able to
- g) Participates in discussions, meetings/calls and/or voting as appropriate
- h) Responds to email notifications and solicitations in a timely manner

*If absent from 2 consecutive Committee meetings, without any prior notice, the member needs to report to the Chair whether to remain or leave the Committee related to time constraints.*