ENGOT
European Network of Gynaecological Oncological Trial groups

BYLAWS

1. Who we are
ENGOT is a pan-European Network of Gynaecological Oncological Trial Groups supported by and part of the European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO).
ENGOT is a network of national and regional clinical trial units that coordinates and promotes clinical trials within Europe for women with gynaecological cancer. This coordination is particularly relevant for academic clinical trials, translational research, research on rare diseases, and for clinical trials sponsored by industry to perform multinational studies in Europe.

2. Mission statement
ENGOT is a platform that guarantees that Europe is incorporated in the medical progress in gynaecological oncology, and that all European patients and countries can participate in an active way in clinical research and progress.
The ultimate goal is to bring the best treatment to gynaecological cancer patients through the highest quality science, thereby enabling every patient in every European country to access a clinical trial.

3. Membership
3.1. Members of ENGOT are Study Groups located in ESGO countries who are able to fulfil the requirements of the bylaws. https://www.esgo.org/explore/esgo/ which focus on gynaecologic oncology.

3.2. Each group should nominate 2 official representatives to ENGOT, 1 clinician and 1 operational member.

3.3. New groups need to apply with information on:
- Group structure
- List of institutions with which they are affiliated
- List of formerly performed (or current) trials and publications
- Data management and statistical capacities

3.4. Decisions regarding new group membership are made by vote at the General Assembly meeting (held twice per year). The current group members who are present at the meeting each have one vote (each group has one vote). The new group needs to obtain a majority of 75% of the votes to be accepted as members of ENGOT.

3.5. In principle, several groups per country are allowed but the new group should have additional value (representing another region/other cancer types/other focus of interest, etc.) compared with the already accepted ENGOT group in that country.

3.6. In the case of an application of a group from a country with an existing national group, the existing national group has the right to comment on the appropriateness of accepting another group from the same country.

3.7. Representatives of groups should be members of ESGO.

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4. Leadership

4.1. There is a dual chairpersonship consisting of one clinician (Clinical Chair) and one operational person (Operational Chair). The chairpersons are appointed for two years. The two chairpersons should not come from one study group and, in addition, should represent different countries. Past Chairs and Chair Elects should also be from different countries and groups.

4.2. The set-up of the chairs are as follows:

- Past Chair (Clinician and Operations) – Vice-Chair for 1 year following completion of Chair duties
- Current Chair (Clinician and Operations)
- Chair Elect (Clinician and Operations) – Vice Chair for 1 year prior to starting Chair duties

During the last year of the Current Chairs term, Chair Elects are appointed who will succeed the Current Chairs after their 2 year term and who replace the Vice-Chair. A Past Chair remains Vice Chair for 1 year after their Current Chair term is completed.

4.3. At the second meeting during the Current chair term, nominations are put forward for the Chair Elects. The Current Chairs nominate candidates, however additional candidates can be also nominated by groups under the condition that nomination is supported by a respective trial group and at least two ENGOT members (trial groups). Every group has one vote for Operational Chair and one vote for Clinical Chair. Voting is done at the beginning of the meeting anonymously on paper, which is counted by the independent ENGOT office present. Absolute majority of votes of clinicians present elect the Clinical Chair, and absolute majority of votes of operational people present, elects the Operational Chair. In the case of a tie, Current Chairs have 2 votes. A direct re-election is not allowed. An announcement is then made at the end of the meeting regarding the successful candidates.

Starting the 2nd year of office, Chair Elects are in place to support the Current Chairs. Past Chairs stand down as Vice-Chairs.

5. Finances

5.1. ENGOT has a sub-account under ESGO account with authorization rights for both chairpersons.

5.2. The ENGOT member groups do not pay a membership fee to ENGOT.

5.3. ENGOT is financed by contributions coming from ENGOT trials and of educational activities. Leading groups of ENGOT trials, negotiate a fee for ENGOT from the supporting body for setting up a study. The amount of contributions appointed to each trial is detailed in the minutes from ENGOT meetings and available from the secretariat upon request.

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