



## OTC NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020



**Michael Edwards**  
President OTC Foundation

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear OTC-members,

Hopefully you and your friends and family are safe and sound in these Covid-19 times while enjoying your well-deserved holidays this summer. Globally the world changed during 2020. What started out as a very promising year with many new and exciting educational highlights changed into a very different scenario in just a couple of months. Covid-19 forced OTC-chapters and our grantor Stryker to suspend all hands-on courses both national and international. Our mission to teach, educate and improve trauma healthcare was brought to a standstill. The impact of Corona on the medical society was and still is enormous. While the first wave has passed in Asia, China and Europe, the numbers are rising in Africa and North and South America. With the financial support of our grantor the Foundation and its chapters were able to cover running costs of back-office and local chapters in 2020. Corona however also opened new doors and possibilities. With the help of Stryker, virtual meetings were arranged reducing the need for travel. Digital learning courses and platforms were organized by international OTC faculty (virtual trauma case controversies and Foot & Ankle virtual series hosted by Stryker trauma & extremities division).

Unfortunately, we were also forced to cancel our annual Leadership Forum and General Assembly in 2020. Always a good time and opportunity to meet fellow OTC-surgeons from abroad and spend time with new and old friends. And the start/introduction of a new chapter: OTC Belgium. With the help of Oliver Trapp, Margot Hamm and Emanuel Zloczower the OTC Foundation was able to organize the first virtual GA meeting on June 18th. Although the meeting went fine from a technical point of view personally, I am looking forward to June next year when we will try again to organize the 2021 GA/LF meeting in Brussels, 16-18 June.

When we look to the nearby future, most chapters are gathering momentum to start organizing hands-on and cadaver courses for the year 2021. All within local Covid-19 regulations and restrictions of course. At this time, it is uncertain if a second Covid-19 wave will interfere once more with all our activities.

On October 20th at 2.00 p.m. (Paris time) our Italian colleagues will organize an international webinar on the topic of health care during the COVID-19 pandemic, an interesting expose of their experiences during the first months of this year. OTC-members can apply through the website.

Please contact the OTC Foundation if we can assist individual chapters or course directors with questions and/or issues regarding (re)starting OTC training programs.

I would also like to remind chapter presidents to send in their nominees for the position of incoming president 2022-2023 (mail to [education@otcfoundation.org](mailto:education@otcfoundation.org) before 1st October 2020)

Last, I would like to wish you all a very pleasant summer. Enjoy your holiday and remain safe. Get some well-deserved rest and hope to see you all in 2021.

Warm regards,  
Michael Edwards

---

## NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS



Dr Stefan Clockaerts, President



## OTC BELGIUM

The OTC Belgium has been successfully founded In November 2019. The Board is composed by:

Stefan Clockaerts, President

Filip Stockmans, Vice-President

Geoffroy Vandeputte, Treasurer

Dan Putineau, Secretary

Ionut Caracudovici, Board member

Before the Covid-19 crisis came, the chapter started to prepare its first course that was supposed to take place in Antwerp in November 2020 with theoretical topics in fracture fixation and anatomical workshops.

The chapter was also ready to host the OTC Foundation Leadership Forum and Course Director Platform meeting in June 2020 in Brussels. It would have been the opportunity to celebrate also officially the freshly new born chapter.

Unfortunately due to the international pandemic, all plans have been stopped and have been copy paste to 2021.

---

## OTC AUSTRIA (chapter in construction)



Dr. Ernst Josef Mueller, President

Prim. Univ. Doz. Dr. Ernst Josef Mueller – Austria (future OTC Austria President). The Legal base with the by-laws of the chapter have been formulated. The cooperation with the OTC Germany on the administrative aspect is accomplished as well.

The OTC Austria chapter is nearly set up and will be officially founded as soon as the funding is clarified as well.

The chapter is looking forward to host the OTCF Leadership Forum and General Assembly in Vienna in June 2022.

---

## OTC ITALY

OTC Italy is working actively on an international Webinar that will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> October at 2.00 p.m. (Paris time) dedicated to

***Healthcare during the Covid-19 pandemic: protecting our patients and protecting ourselves***

<https://youtu.be/e8VroxoMUpM>

WORLD WIDE WEBINAR		
Rome, October 20th 2020		02:00 Pm
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE: ENGLISH (no simultaneous traslation)		
            Congress Department: Ph. +39 06 5743634 Administration and Travel office Ph. +39 06 2148065 WWW.OTCITALY.IT	<p align="center"><b>Healthcare during the Covid-19 pandemic: protecting our patients and protecting ourselves</b></p>  <p><b>Wecome and Faculty presentation</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Greetings and Chapters presentation</b>      10 minutes</p> <p align="center"><b>Topics</b></p> <p align="center"><i>Organizing an orthopaedics departments during the Covid Pandemic. Remote clinical services: the role of e-health.</i></p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p> <p align="center"><b>Interactive discussion sharing our international experiences</b>      20 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p>  <p><b>Chapter report</b>      10 minutes</p> <p align="center"><b>Interactive discussion sharing our international experiences</b>      20 minutes</p>  <p><b>Closing remarks</b>      10 minutes</p>	

## NEWS FROM THE EB TASK FORCE EDUCATION

The Education TF met in November 2019 in Prague. The main topic of the meeting was to prepare the Course Director Platform meeting that was supposed to take place in Brussels in June 2020 (now postponed to June 2021).

However, even with the Covid-19 crisis that paralyzed all physical education and course activities, the TF is continuing to work on some major goals which are: to improve the course evaluation form developed

by OTC Germany and to develop the Dropbox for file sharing.

Exchange of course faculty is currently suspended as physical courses are unfortunately not possible.

In case of need, the Education TF is offering its help to chapters that are interested in setting up online courses.

The task force is also calling the chapters to send young or future course directors to the Course Director Platform meeting, planned now for June in Brussels 2021.

---

## NEWS FROM THE OTCF RESEARCH COMMITTEE (RECO)

RECO convened its 33rd meeting online by zoom on June 16th prior to the GA meeting to which they reported on the latest outcomes of their work. In particular, the latest textbook publication just arrived in January 2020:

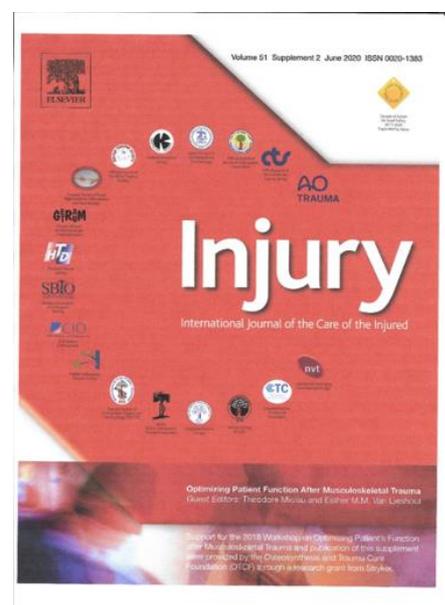
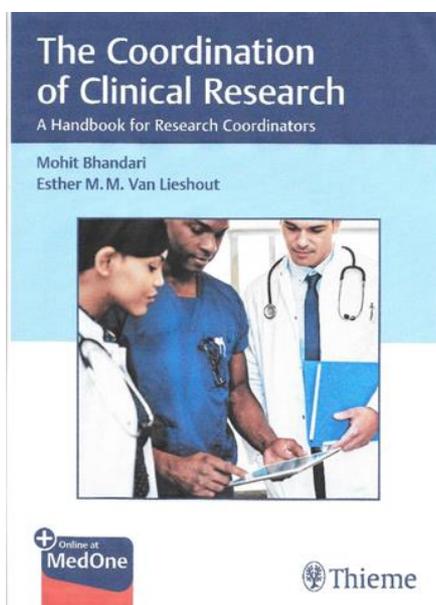
The first book provides the basis for future courses on clinical research coordination.

The second publication just arrived days before the GA. It consists of another INJUY supplement emanating from the research workshop in Toronto, November 2018:

Since no physical meetings with printed documentation are currently possible, the supplement can be read as flipbook on the OTCF website under Research > Research Publications.

The GA took the following decisions concerning the research program of the foundation:

- RECO members remain the same for 2021
- No research grants will be offered in 2020
- The annual "hot topic" workshop has been postponed to November 2021
- The next RECO meeting will be held online in conjunction with the EB mid-term meeting in November 2020



## FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2020

**AIOD Strasbourg online courses** on the latest technologies in locking nailing techniques.  
Courses given by Dr. Gilbert Taglang, international expert in intramedullary nailing of long bones.

- September, 3 – 4 (in English with translation into Italian and Spanish languages)
- October, 15 – 16 (in French)
- November, 5 – 6 (in English)
- November, 19 – 20 (in English)

For more details, please contact: Margot Hamm, [aiod@orange.fr](mailto:aiod@orange.fr)

**OTC Italy World Wide Webinar** on Healthcare during the Covid-19 pandemic: protecting our patients and protecting ourselves

- October, 20 at 2.00 p.m.

For more details, please contact: Sabina Marra at [direzione@balestracongressi.com](mailto:direzione@balestracongressi.com)

---

## OUTLOOK FOR 2021

Please mark your diary:

- The next EB/GA/LF session will take place in **Brussels, Belgium, 15 - 18 June 2021**
  - The next EB Mid-Term Meeting and Research Workshop will take place in **Lyon, France, November 2021** (Date to be confirmed)
- 



**Osteosynthesis &  
Trauma Care Foundation**

@OTC Foundation

Emmenholzweg 1

CH-4528 Zuchwil

Switzerland

[www.otcfoundation.org](http://www.otcfoundation.org)

[info@otcfoundation.org](mailto:info@otcfoundation.org)