



Osteosynthesis &
Trauma Care Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



The year 2020 was particular due to the international health situation with the Covid-19 virus that paralyzed the whole world. All physical events were cancelled or postponed to 2021. However, the OTC -F worked on the improvement of its organization bringing more transparency and preparing hopefully a better future.

I. GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

As it was decided during the General Assembly in June 2019, the OTC Foundation has been audited by Stryker (main grantor) to control the financial records and the potential misuse of funds. The Audit took place during the last quarter of 2019 and final results have been presented early January 2020. The results are overall correct and prove that the Foundation has been managed according to its activities by following the decisions of the Executive Board and the General Assembly.

The misuse of funds was not substantiated during the review. However, several corrective and preventive actions have been suggested in order to bring more transparency in the financial records and whole organization.

Main points are:

- Review rules for compensation of BOT, EB, TF members and HCP's according to their role within the foundation. A "per hour" compensation should be preferred to a "per diem" one.
- Make a clear strategy for travel expenses
- Make a clear separation regarding the work of E. Zloczower as member of the BOT and as member of the Management team.
- Improve vendor and services selection by asking competitive offers for significant projects.
- Review main documents like due diligence packages, code of conduct, bylaws, etc.

Due to the arrival of the Covid-19 virus, BOT and EB members met several times via digital meetings. The work to bring more transparency and clear guidelines and rules are set up for the future organization.

Final documents should be presented and approved during the General Assembly in June 2021.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY - DIGITAL MEETING ON 18th JUNE 2020

The GA was supposed to take place in Brussels in June. Unfortunately, the health situation did not allow to meet physically. Luckily, the contract with the hotel and the deposit already paid could be transferred to June 2021.

Thus, the GA 2020 took place on 18th June virtually.

19 chapters were represented with members of the BOT, EB, chairs of TF as well as grantor representatives.

Reports were given on:

- The summary outcome of the audit
- The financial overview that showed a positive end balance 2019 with 22 887 CHF. Budget 2020 has been completely revised with a substantial decrease.
- The structure and organization regarding BOT and EB
- The Election of next incoming president with call for applicants by the latest 1st Oct.
- The Honorary award 2020: postponed to 2021
- The work of the TF Education
- The work of the Research Committee
- The two new chapters (Belgium and Austria)

Leadership Forum (LF) 2020

The LF could not take place as well and has been postponed to June 2021.

The scientific program is in preparation by OTC Belgium's president S. Clockearts. Belgium will host the meeting hopefully in June 2021.

The LF will be followed by a Course Director Platform program, organized by TF Education, program mostly based on the use of new technologies and how to organize courses.

EB/BOT MEETING IN FRANKFURT ON 29TH SEPTEMBER

M. Edwards, O. Trapp, E. Zloczower and M. Hamm met in small committee in Frankfurt on 29th September. It was the only physical meeting that could take place in 2020. The goal of the meeting was to work and to progress on all aspects of the foundation's organization further to the Audit. Review has been done on: tenders/benchmarks, services providers, remuneration principles, election principles, legal and compliance rules, financial services, research support, administrative support, communication/website, redraft of official regulations, compensations, etc. Each topic was scrupulously discussed, decisions and suggestions were taken with target of presenting a proper overview during the mid-term meeting in November. Keeping in mind that next steps will be the presentation and approval of all decisions during the GA 2021.

MID-TERM EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, 13TH NOVEMBER 2020

The meeting was held via Zoom with the BOT members, EB and TF representatives.

The summary of the decisions taken in Frankfurt were presented, those are:

- Redraft of the regulations that should be ready for voting in June 21.
- Revision of regulation done by E. Zloczower
- BOT: members should inform at the latest midterm meeting whether they wish to step out or get retired. GA members should also inform if they wish a change in the BOT. In case a BOT member will stop, the GA could suggest candidates and selection should be done during the first quarterly BOT/EB meeting held generally in February. The chosen candidate will be integrated as incoming member with a final vote during the GA in June.
- It has been decided that E. Zloczower stays in the position of legal and counsel service provider.
- Currently, the book accountancy should stay with Bertini Partner (benchmark is requested to check if costs could be reduced).
- The secretariat will be done by M. Hamm under a service provider contract with a yearly lump sum.
- ReCo administration is done by R. Helmer and E. Van Lieshout. E. Van Lieshout will officially take over the management of the Research Committee with help of R. Helmer in background.
- Website: it is the wish that OTC F uses the current knowledge and manpower of OTC Germany and OTC France to take in charge the web administration in the future. Tenders are requested in Germany, Switzerland and France.
- IT Services will stay with SmartDynamic, costs are reasonable and services provided are fine.
- Compensations for all members BOT, EB, TF and HCP's: per diems will be paid if the activities require travelling or presence of more than 8 hours. Hourly rates are paid according to pre-

defined rules by the presidents for prep time, event, postprocessing and no compensation for travel time. Compensation on hourly base is also paid for digital meetings.

- End of March, decision must be taken whether the GA, EB, BOT and LF could be held or not in Brussels in June 2021. In case of cancellation, the GA will be done again in virtual mode.
- Mid-term meeting 2021 is scheduled in Lyon, on 12th and 13th November.
- Location for GA/BOT/EB and LF events 2022 is Vienna and preferred dates June 22nd to 24th.
- Quarterly digital meetings to approve mains expenses, tenders and contracts will be organized with the 3 Presidents (past, present and incoming) and E. Zloczower.
- F. Chana is the candidate for the next incoming President 2022 – 2023, election in June 2021.

The decisions and new organization plans were globally well received.

II. EDUCATION PROGRAM

The EB Task Force Education could not meet in 2020. The group is still composed by Enrique Guerado, OTC Spain; Taco Blokhuis and Micha Holla, OTC Netherlands; Oliver Trapp and Melanie Kall, OTC Germany; Margot Hamm, AIOD Strasbourg and Rikke Thorninger, OTC Denmark.

The ambitious plans to bring trauma education to the next level in 2020 did not succeed as expected due to the Covid-19. Most of the activities were suspended.

In January 2020 M. Hamm successfully set up a Dropbox File backbone for all OTC chapters, M. Kall translated and upgraded the OTC-F online evaluation forms.

Due to COVID-19 the Course Director Course for 2020 in Brussels was cancelled. The exchange of international faculty came to a full stop. A planned visit to the Oculus company was cancelled, and the implementation of the online OTC evaluation forms was paused, since all OTC courses were postponed.

Finally, online meetings and online trainings took a quantum leap forward. Applications like Microsoft Teams, Lifesize, Skype, Zoom were used. Enrique Guerado was a pioneer to set up international webinars in Latin speaking countries before 2020, setting a clear example how to organize an event in the pandemic-time.

With rapid technical improvements of software and increasing experience by the users, online meetings and webinars, became part of the daily routine.

But it is clear that the current online trainings are not able to replace the “old-fashioned” hands-on courses.

From this perspective, it is safe to say that OTC Trauma education in 2020 went to a *different* level.

Education plans for 2021:

- Optimize use of working in digital clouds (Dropbox)
- Help with (online) faculty exchange
- Optimize learning goals and leveled education
- Implement use of evaluation forms (when courses restart)
- Organize Course Director Platform meeting (Brussels 2021)
- Introducing Oculus Quest 2

III. WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATION

The administration of the OTC F website was provided in limited and minimal services by ByTheWay. No marketing actions were done in 2020 as the marketing contract was stopped.

OTCF newsletters were issued two times in 2020: summer and winter.

The annual report of the foundation is published on the OTCF website.

IV. CHAPTER COOPERATION

OTC Italy

OTC Italy organized on October, 20th a world-wide webinar on “Healthcare during the Covid-19 pandemic: protecting our patients and protecting ourselves”

Under the presidency of R. Erasmo M.D. and A. Are M.D.

1 500 participants were connected from all over the world.

OTC F supported the event with a financial support of 2 000 Euros.

Speakers from different chapters coming from all continents were invited for topics and discussions.

V. RESEARCH PROGRAM

Research Committee (RECO)

Members of ReCo were confirmed by the GA in June 2020:

T. Miclau, V. Alt, P. Augat, H. Simpson and E. Van Lieshout.

E. Van Lieshout is taking over as OTC-F Research Manager and will provide administrative support with the help of R. Helmer in background.

Contacts:

- E. Van Lieshout: research@otcfoundation.org
- R. Helmer Richard.helmer@bluewin.ch .

The ReCo met twice in 2020: two digital meetings one in June and one in November.

The HOT TOPIC WORKSHOP

The annual hot topic workshop 2020 on “**New Technologies**”, planned for November 2020 in Lyon, was not possible as a physical meeting. Postponement to November 2021 has been decided, preferably as a physical meeting. The ReCo TF worked already on the scientific program of the workshops and topics could be shared also with the EB members who are willing to participate.

RECO RESEARCH GRANTS

There remain 10 grant projects in various stages of progress. Three each from 2017 and 2019, one from 2018, and three from earlier years. No new grants were awarded in 2020 due to absence of grantor funding.

INJURY SUPPLEMENTS

INJURY Volume 51, supplement 2, June 2020: “Optimizing patient’s Function after Musculoskeletal Trauma”. Guest editors: Theodore Miclau and Esther van Lieshout; due to the Corona crisis this is only available as flipbook on the OTCF website with no printed version.

INJURY Volume 52, Supplement 1, June 2021: “Enhancement of Fracture Healing”. Guest editors: Peter Augat and Hamish Simpson. This supplement will contain around 20 papers from the Prague 2019 workshop presenters. Publication as flipbook in time for GA 2021 in Brussels is planned.

Volker Alt was designated by Elsevier as the Handling Editor for processing of all contributions in accordance with the new electronic paper submission, editing and approval procedures for Injury papers.

COORDINATION OF CLINICAL RESEARCH

Editors: Mohit Bhandari, MD, PhD, Professor, Evidence-Based Orthopaedic Surgery, McMaster University, Canada, and Esther M.M. van Lieshout, MSc, PhD, Associate Professor, Trauma Research Coordinator, Erasmus Medical Center, The Netherlands This fourth volume in the series of OTCF-sponsored methodology textbooks on clinical research is conceived as a guide in executing research for those who coordinate it on a daily basis. The book focuses not on the design of research projects, but rather on the actual execution of such projects. The target readership includes scientists, physicians, surgeons, epidemiologists and statisticians. In the coming years, the book will provide a basic working tool for training courses on coordination of clinical research. Course participants will be provided with a complimentary copy.

OTCF RESEARCH PROGRAM 2015 – 2020

This publication was prepared by RECO to present the achievements of the program over the last five years. It highlights basic, biomechanical, preclinical, and clinical research activities supported by OTCF over the last five years. The first ten years of research are summarized in a comprehensive publication. The subsequent five years are the subject of the present publication. Both publications are available, readable and downloadable, on the website www.otcfoundation.org under >Research >Research Publications.

VI. OTC FOUNDATION SECRETARIAT

Despite the difficult year, support by the grantor was continued after a budget revision allowing to cover essentially the running costs of the Foundation.

The operational coordination and administrative implementation of the foundation program continued with following manpower:

NAME	FUNCTION	PORTFOLIOS
Emanuel Zloczower	Legal Counsel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOT oversight of OTCF • Legal counsel and compliance
Bertini & Partner	Fiduciary Accountant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost center operations • Administrative headquarters
Margot Hamm	Education Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task Force Education program management • Education event organization
Margot Hamm	Executive Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OTCF webmaster • Chapter networking • Communication • Budget administration
Esther van Lieshout	RECO Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research program management • Research events coordination • Budget management backstopping • Research grants administration • RECO meetings coordination
Richard Helmer	RECO Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publications • Administrative help when needed

The OTCF secretariat covers administration and management of the foundation including administrative back-up services to OTC chapters

Strasbourg, 6th January 2021

Margot HAMM,

Education Manager

