

EDITORIAL

The Hellenic Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology: Past, Present & Future

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Hellenic Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology

The Hellenic Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology (HSMR/EEMA) was founded in September 2014 by 23 radiologists, who created a scientific society dedicated to supporting musculoskeletal (MSK) radiology in Greece. Founding members included Greek academic, private and public health system radiologists with interest and experience in MSK radiology, based in Greece and Europe. As for today, at least 77 radiologists and a few non-radiologists have joined the HSMR as full or allied members. The HSMR is led by an Executive Committee (ExCom) elected every three years by the General Assembly by electronic voting. The first ExCom was led by Professor Apostolos Karantanas, who shared his experience as a former European Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology (ESSR) president to inspire and empower the first steps of HSMR. Today, three elections down the line, the present ExCom includes Konstantinos Pikoulas, Elena Drakonaki, Olympia Papakonstantinou, Athena Plagou and Georgios Delimpasis. The history, statutes and all activities of HSMR are available online [1]. The site also provides practical information on MSK imaging for patients.

The main purpose of the HSMR is to promote MSK radiology by organising several scientific activities. Since 2015, several joined seminars with the upper limb and microsurgery clinic of Trauma General

Hospital (KAT) were organised, under the ESSR endorsement. During the COVID pandemic, HSMR has organised a series of webinars on shoulder imaging with the contribution of Greek radiologists, anatomists and shoulder surgeons. Dr. Klaus Wörtler, Professor of Radiology in the University of Munich and honorary HSMR member, has also contributed with an invited talk. The online “Quiz case of the month” was also established in 2018 and has been very popular among the HSMR members.

Several HSMR members are active ESSR members and hold positions in ESSR and ESR committees and subcommittees. As a result, a partnership agreement with the ESSR was established in 2018, providing promotion and endorsement of HSMR activities by ESSR, ex-officio membership of one HSMR representative in the ESSR national societies/groups committee and continuous information about initiatives and actions in MSK imaging in Europe [2].

The HSMR is a continuously evolving and growing scientific society. Dissemination of knowledge among radiologists will remain the primary goal. An important task is to enhance public awareness of the clinical role of the MSK radiologist by promoting MSK ultrasound and intervention both among clinical doctors and patients. The establishment of research protocols among HSMR members will en-

hance sharing of experiences. Finally, being an allied ESSR partner, the HSMR will further encourage Greek radiologists to undertake the ESSR Diploma of MSK Radiology (EDiMSK) endorsed by the ESR [3]. This Diploma is a European certification of compe-

tence in MSK imaging, which, given the lack of Greek national certification, may help to establish MSK radiology as a recognised subspecialty in Greece [4]. Shaping the future of MSK radiology in Greece is the future challenge for the HSMR. **R**

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