



ESPID endorsement guidelines regarding requests for educational and related collaboration

Background

In the ESPID strategic plan several goals are associated with increasing the visibility of ESPID, promoting the importance of the paediatric infectious diseases speciality in Europe and participating in educational activities across the world. Ways to achieve these goals include ESPID accepting invitations to organise symposia or sessions at national or international scientific meetings, to accept invitations by meeting organisers to recommend or provide expert members to present on relevant topics in paediatric infectious diseases at meetings and to endorse courses, meetings and other educational and research activities organised by or involving ESPID members. Such activities may provide excellent opportunities to communicate knowledge. However, the ESPID board has to be selective with these requests as capacity for both the board and for potential speakers is finite. Therefore, specific internal guidelines are needed to inform a selection process primarily based on quality and expected outcome of the requested activities.

Endorsement Guidelines

Examples of activities that can be considered for endorsement by the ESPID board follow. Before endorsing these activities the ESPID board will consult the ESPID scientific and/or educational committees when it is considered necessary. In general (but see item 3), the ESPID board will not control or monitor the material presented by speakers recommended or supported as it is expected that they will represent their personal views and not necessarily the views of the ESPID board. Where necessary, the ESPID board will assign one or more individual members with expertise in the respective area on a case by case basis. Although Board members are not excluded from themselves taking such roles, in general, situations in which individual Board members might be perceived to benefit personally or professionally from Board decisions should be avoided.

1. Organising symposia, sessions and workshops on topics relevant to paediatric infectious diseases at international and national scientific meetings.
2. Recommending speakers to international scientific organisations or learned societies to present topics relevant to paediatric infectious diseases.
3. Recommending experts to represent ESPID in expert committees or other advisory bodies on topics relevant to paediatric infectious diseases. In such cases selected experts are expected to act in the best interests of PID in general and ESPID in particular. As such it is expected that they will solicit comments from the ESPID Board in advance of such meetings and also report back any meeting outcomes of significance afterwards. Where relevant, views expressed by experts representing ESPID at such meetings should be in accordance with the ESPID strategic plan.
4. Participation in developing reviews and position/discussion papers on topics relevant to paediatric infectious diseases requested by non-profit organisations, editors of international scientific journals and European Regulatory bodies (like EMA, ECDC etc.).

5. Endorsing (and allowing the use of the ESPID logo by) courses and academic meetings of direct relevance to PID and in which there is involvement of ESPID members as organisers and/or speakers.

The ESPID board will generally not endorse or support activities relating to:

1. Meetings or symposia, expert committees, advisory bodies and publications, guidelines and position papers organised and/or sponsored exclusively by the pharmaceutical industry or companies selling medical products, equipment and devices unless such sponsorship is of an educational and unrestricted nature which guarantees no sponsor influence upon either process or content.
2. Meeting or symposia on topics not relevant to paediatric infectious diseases

When activities are endorsed by the ESPID board, they may also agree to cover some or all of the costs associated with them on a case by case basis and subject to availability of funding as advised by the Treasurer. Where travel and subsistence costs are covered for members undertaking such activities the current reimbursement rules will normally apply.

Requests simply to inform members and others about activities of potential interest to them (most usually by adding a link to the ESPID website and on rare occasions by email) do not require endorsement or Board consideration but should be directed to the secretariat who will seek confirmation of suitability from the ESPID secretary or another ESPID officer if the secretary is not available.

These endorsement guidelines are published on the ESPID website (members area) and are subject to revision by the ESPID board at least every 3 years with updates or modifications as needed.

Date approved by ESPID board: version 1 April 14, 2011
Latest revision: version 26 August, 2015