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Editorial

The meeting point of airway enthusiasts from the past to the future: European Airway Congress



The European Airway Congress (EAC) has been successfully held five times in different European centres [1,2]. Unfortunately, this conference on airway management had to be postponed over the last two years as the COVID-19 pandemic made such an event impossible. The SARS-CoV2 pandemic influenced life all over the world following the declaration of World Health Organization on March 12, 2020 [3]. The transition to the 2022 conference took much more than 2 years. During these 2 years, no scientific meeting was held on airway management, with the opportunity for practical application, which is very important for airway management, as well as the cognitive understanding conveyed by internet-based learning methods. That's why the European Airway Management Society (EAMS) planned to have a conference in 2022 and decided to celebrate the 6th EAC in Turkey under the motto of "Breathing Again." The COVID 19 pandemic has taken many of our colleagues' lives. Unfortunately, air hunger at the end-of-life posed challenges and they could not breathe again. Dedicated to them, we decided to make the motto of our congress "Breathing Again".

The scientific and organizing committee of the conference are happy to invite all our colleagues who are devoted to airway management to this congress, which is planned to be held between 28 September and October 1, 2022. The current EAMS president Dr. Massimiliano Sorbello and the president-elect Prof. Kemal Tolga Saracoglu will chair this congress. The scientific committee is led by its chairman Prof. Arnd Timmermann (Germany) and is composed of Prof. Pavel Michalek (Czech Republic), Dr. Michael Seltz Kristensen (Denmark), Dr. Xavier Onrubia (Spain), Dr. Pedro Charco Mora (Spain), Prof. Thomas Gaszinski (Poland), Prof. Sheila Myatra (India) and Prof. Ross Hofmeyer (South Africa). The organizing committee members including Prof. Ayten Saracoglu (Chair, Turkey), Dr. Ana Isabel Pereira (Portugal), Dr. Paula Chiesa (Argentina), Dr. Daniela Godoroja (Romania), Dr. Nabil Al Hamid Shallik (Qatar).

Keynote speakers will talk on hot airway management related topics like new airway management guidelines released in 2022, ventilation in the intensive care unit, human factors and airway management, the most important airway management papers over the last few years, and much more. All these will be announced on the conference website: <https://eac2022.org/>.

The conference program will include mini workshops and expert round tables, and planned topics are: The management of physiologically difficult airway in the ICU, nasal endoscopy for anesthesiologists, the right time for neck rescue, possibilities of airway ultrasonography, the airway management lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic, and novel options in airway management for bariatric surgery.

Industry Lunch Workshop Sessions will open a view on the most advanced developments from our commercial partners. A unique session will be "learning from our real airway cases". Participants will have the opportunity to submit their real difficult airway cases for a discussion with an expert panel and the entire audience.

The Difficult Airway Management Workshop on Thursday, will give all participants the opportunity to participate and increase their experience with the latest devices and airway management strategies. A group of airway experts as tutors will be waiting for you.

Abstracts for the conference will be accepted only via submission system: <https://eac2022.org/abstracts>. Abstracts sent via e-mail as post cannot be handled. At least one of the authors is required to register for the symposium. Those who are stated to present their abstract are expected to participate in the congress and transfer of this duty is not considered appropriate. This should be taken into account in ordering the names on the abstract.

The layout of an abstract reporting scientific studies should follow a standard format like an introduction or objective of the presentation, the material and methods section, the results, a short discussion, and a summary or conclusion. Case studies should consist of an introduction, the purpose of the abstract, the detailed case, a discussion of key points, and a summary. A submitted abstract should not exceed 500 words excluding the title, authors, affiliation and not more than 3 references.

We would like to invite all airway enthusiasts to submit their abstracts to one of the following categories:

- Airway management strategies
- Equipment
- Teaching and education
- Lessons learned from COVID-19 pandemics
- Airway Management under special circumstances
- My interesting airway case

Furthermore, the conference introduces and announces a new format for presentation: the special video-clip category, which invites short video sequences of up to 3 mins duration. The content of this category is not strictly defined – we expect to receive the cases such as "how I do it", "learning from the cases", "novel techniques" or "airway management challenges". Presentations need to be in English and presenters needs to provide their video clips in a format that is suitable to be presented at the conference. Details are available on the conference's website.

Accepted abstracts for the 6th European Airway Congress will

get the opportunity for oral presentations, e-poster, and video presentations. Abstracts of acceptable scientific, educational, innovative, high quality will be taken into consideration. Rare case reports with a dedicated learning point or novel solution are very welcome. The ten best of the best abstracts will enter the oral presentation competition on Saturday morning and each oral presentation will be judged by an international airway expert jury. The winners will be awarded.

The traditional EAMS photo contest [4,5], which has become a European Airway Congress classic, will be repeated again this year as well. The best photos submitted on pediatric and adult airway management will be selected and awarded.

This airway congress will be organized in a hybrid version. Congress speakers and some of the participants will come to the congress venue and will join the sessions physically. The venue will be announced soon. Some participants will participate in some of the streamed sessions in the virtual congress room. Obviously, the registration fees of the physical participation and online participation are different. Before June 1, 2022, the registration fee will be 400€ for the international delegates non-EAMS members face to face and 100€ online. International delegates EAMS members will pay 300€ for the face-to-face meeting and 80€ for the online participation. The registration fee for EAMS members who are residents, non-physician health care providers or delegates from low-income countries will be 150€.

A Teach the Airway Teacher (TAT) course will be held the day before the congress. The main aim of the TAT course is to increase future airway teachers' level of airway management teaching competences with the final aim to increase patient safety during airway management [6]. TAT course delegates are expected to organize their own airway management teaching events at the department where they work after the course. After completing the post-TAT course assignment, participants will get the EAMS Airway Teacher Diploma [7]. We invite you to be a part of this game, subscription to the TAT course can be done via the congress website.

Please consider sparing your time before or after the congress too. There will be social activities and tours to explore beautiful Antalya and around. We invite you all to register at: <https://eac2022.org/registration> and breath again in the 6th EAC.

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None.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Ayten Saracoglu: Conceptualization, Methodology, Writing –

original draft. **Arnd Timmermann:** Data curation, Writing – review & editing.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests: Ayten Saracoglu is the Chair of Organizing Committee, Pavel Mikhalek is a member of Scientific Committee, Arnd Timmermann is the Chair of Scientific Committee for the 6th European Airway Congress

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