

Who we are

The European Society of Radiology (ESR) representing more than 69.000 radiologists and acting as the umbrella organisation of all European national radiological societies is taking an increasing interest in the needs and expectations of patients.

In 2013, the European Society of Radiology began taking its communication with patient groups to another level, and at the society's annual meeting, the European Congress of Radiology, the **ESR Patient Advisory Group (ESR-PAG)** was launched.

The goal of the **ESR Patient Advisory Group (ESR-PAG)** is to bring together patients, the public and imaging professionals in order to positively influence advances in the field of medical imaging to the benefit of patients in Europe.

Being the first of its kind the group is chaired by a patient representative and includes members from several disease specific patient groups, as well as radiologists and radiographers.



What we do for you



1 Involvement

Involving patient representatives in strategic decisions regarding medical imaging and ensuring a patient centred, 'human' approach is embedded in the work of ESR.

2 Communication

Improving communication between patients and the healthcare professionals working in a radiology department and thus improving its services through feedback and recommendations based on patients' experiences.

3 Education

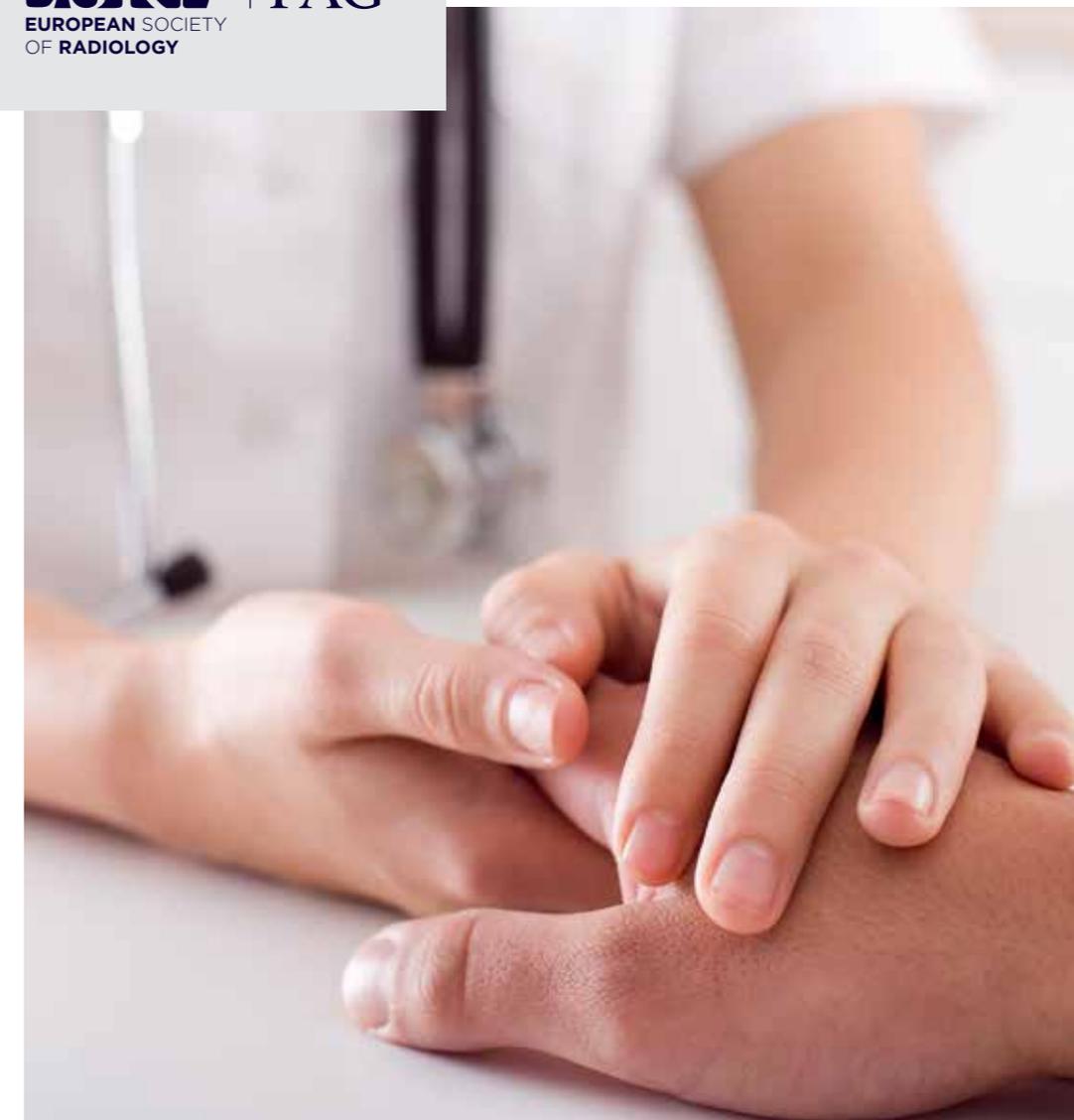
Raising awareness and improving the knowledge of patients about medical imaging procedures.

4 Networking

Liaising with patient groups and key stakeholders on policy issues of common interest.

5 How to contribute

If you have suggestions or would like to contribute to the work of ESR-PAG, then we would love to hear from you.



ESR PATIENT ADVISORY GROUP



Please contact us at eu-affairs@myesr.org

More information at www.myesr.org



Activities

The ESR-PAG has been active in various fields:

European Congress of Radiology (ECR)

The European Congress of Radiology (ECR) is the ESR's annual meeting taking place in Vienna/Austria and attracting more than 25.000 imaging professionals each year.

The ECR has not only been the venue for the launch of the ESR-PAG and thus its annual face-to-face meeting, but also over the past years has proven to be a well-established communication platform for patients facilitating a direct dialogue between patients and imaging professionals.

International Day of Radiology (IDoR)

The IDoR is an initiative by the European Society of Radiology (ESR), the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and the American College of Radiology (ACR) taking place annually on November 8th to celebrate Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen's discovery of the existence of x-rays in 1895. The IDoR is dedicated to a specific field of medical imaging each year and members of the ESR-PAG contribute by providing interviews and necessary background information on the patients' point of view raising the awareness for the patient's issues.

"In order to deliver effective, inclusive and personalised care and communication with and about the patient, the patient's perspective is inevitable."

Dr. Peter Cavanagh, former chair of the ESR Audit & Standards Subcommittee

Development of information for patients

One of the group's core objectives is to raise awareness and to improve the knowledge of patients on medical imaging. Adequate information on medical imaging procedures requires close collaboration between the radiologists and radiographers, having the necessary expertise, and the patients, providing the 'questions to be asked'.

Collaboration on European topics of common interest

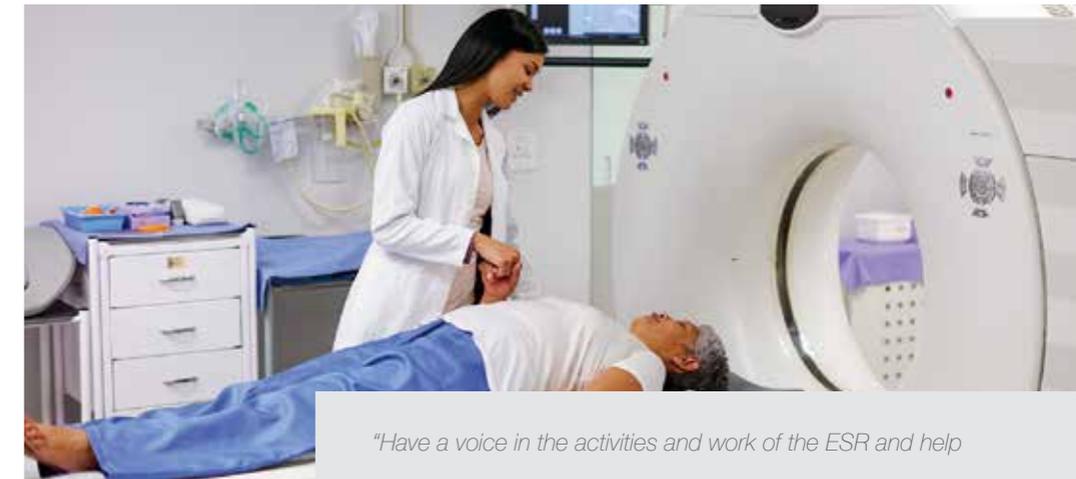
Over the past years, it has shown how vital a combined approach between healthcare professionals and patients can be in order to get recognised and raise awareness for issues of common interest at a European political level.



One successful ESR initiative in this regard is the **EuroSafe Imaging** Campaign bringing together patients, healthcare professionals, regulatory bodies and other relevant health stakeholders to promote quality and safety in medical imaging. By creating a network of imaging departments committed to best practice in radiation protection, the **EuroSafe Imaging Stars** initiative will give radiation protection efforts greater visibility and have a direct impact on clinical practice and patient safety.

Involvement in strategic decisions

The ESR-PAG not only contributes to various ESR initiatives but also provides its direct feedback and input by endorsing strategic ESR white papers or action plans on the society's core activities, guidelines and statements, making sure the patient perspective is heard and reflected.



"Have a voice in the activities and work of the ESR and help improve radiology services to the benefit of Europe's patients"

Dr. Nicola Bedlington, chair of the ESR-PAG

Driver diagram

The ESR-PAG together with the ESR Audit & Standards Subcommittee developed a 'driver diagram on patient-centred care in clinical radiology' in 2015 to ensure that a patient-centred human approach is embedded in the work of the ESR. The driver diagram intends to provide examples of best practices and to improve quality of care. It provides guidance on how to embed patient-centred care within radiology departments by taking the ethics behind patient-centred care from the perspective of the patient and the radiological team into consideration.

Patient empowerment

From May 2015 to June 2016, the European Patients' Forum (EPF) ran a major campaign on Patient Empowerment to promote the understanding of what patient empowerment means from the patient's perspective.

The ESR was amongst the many supporters joining the initiative, providing a helpful perspective as a scientific society. The campaign is a prime example of the excellent and long-standing collaboration between EPF and ESR.