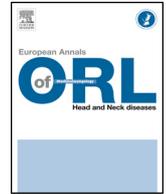




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Editorial

YO-IFOS 5 years on: Looking back and to the future

After 5 years of existence, it is time to look back on YO-IFOS' activity. Since its creation during the world IFOS congress in Paris in 2017, YO-IFOS has grown and given young ENTs from all over the world the opportunity to connect with one-another. YO-IFOS has also been a great vector for the dissemination of knowledge and has allowed the development of international collaborative research. YO-IFOS is organized in 4 committees: networking, education, research and congress organization.

Networking is the cornerstone of YO-IFOS as its goal is to connect young ENTs (under 45 years old) from around the world. YO-IFOS now gathers nearly 1000 ENTs from 102 countries (Fig. 1) and the Twitter account @YO_IFOS has 902 followers. The website is also a vector of information, with for example, during the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the creation of a page gathering scientific information and guidelines on the management of the crisis translated into several languages (<https://www.yoifos.com/covid-19-information-and-guidance>). Most importantly, networking has given many young ENTs the opportunity to conduct an extraordinary amount of collaborative work in both education and research.

In the Education Committee, great efforts have been invested into educational videos, as they are a fantastic tool for sharing knowledge. Modern technology has made it much easier to design and disseminate them. The first step was to develop and publish international guidelines on video production methodology. For

this purpose, 27 experts from 12 countries participated in the development of a consensus that resulted in the publication of the IVORY Guidelines (Instructional Videos in Otorhinolaryngology by YO-IFOS) [1]. Collaboration with the *European Annals of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Diseases* journal has then led to the publication of 4 special issues of educational surgical videos. A call for submission was launched to YO-IFOS members and resulted in 54 publications from 18 countries! (<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/european-annals-of-otorhinolaryngology-head-and-neck-diseases/special-issues>) [2-4]. YO-IFOS also participated in the organization of international courses, such as those in South Africa and Vietnam (<https://www.ifosworld.org/2019-ho-chi-minh-vietnam>). The COVID-19 pandemic forced the medical and scientific world to adapt and YO-IFOS organized many webinars in collaboration with the University of Cape Town (South Africa) and the French Society of Otorhinolaryngology (SFORL). These webinars, with speakers from the 5 continents, were a great success and can be viewed in replay on the group's website <https://yoifos.com/yo-ifos-uct-africa-virtual-ent-0>.

The research activity has been amazing and in the past 5 years, due to extremely productive international collaborations, YO-IFOS have published 232 scientific articles and editorials! (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=YO-IFOS&sort=date>). One of the main areas of research was COVID-19; YO-IFOS



Fig. 1. World map showing all countries (in red) with at least one YO-IFOS representative (map created with mapchart.net).

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published 72 scientific articles on this subject. The Research Committee is also organized into sub-committees according to the sub-specialties in order to link young ENT specialists according to their preferred topic. A large number of international collaborative articles have then been published in all areas of ENT, including original articles, literature reviews, videos, clinical cases, letters to the editor and editorials, as well as international surveys and methodological articles [5,6]. In addition to all these publications, YO-IFOS have coordinated 2 special issues of the *European Annals of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Diseases* with original articles from the 5 continents (<https://www.journals.elsevier.com/european-annals-of-otorhinolaryngology-head-and-neck-diseases/special-issues>).

In addition to having participated in major international congresses, YO-IFOS have an important role in the preparation of the scientific program of the next IFOS World Congress to be held in Dubai from January 17 to 21, 2023 (<https://www.ifosdubai2023.com/>). As YO-IFOS are focused on innovation, they have developed an innovative scientific program based on sessions such as “meet the Masters”, “ENT practice and sustainability”, “YO-IFOS video contest”, “ENT and scientific skills”, “ENT and patent” and the YO-IFOS challenge.

Continuing to look towards the future, the YO-IFOS board will be renewed during the World Congress in Dubai with even more innovative projects. If you are under 45 years old and wish to become a member, you can register directly on the website (<https://srv2.key4events.com/key4register/register.aspx?e=12>). If you wish to be a candidate to join the future board, you can send us your candidacy by email (yo@ifosworld.org) specifying your country of origin, your age and your motivations.

E–see you or see you in Dubai!

Disclosure of interest

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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N. Fakhry^{a,*}
A.M. Aldhafeeri^b
F. Almuhawwas^c
B. Frayssé^d
H. Al Rand^e
M. Profant^f
V. Couloigner^g
N. Teissier^h
F. Simonⁱ

^a President of YO-IFOS. Department of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology Head and Neck Surgery, La Conception University Hospital, AP–HM, Aix-Marseille université, Marseille, France

^b Vice-President of YO-IFOS. Department of Otolaryngology, Hafr Albaten Central Hospital, Hafr Albaten, Saudi Arabia

^c Vice secretary of YO-IFOS. College of Medicine, King Saud University, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

^d President of IFOS. Service d’Otologie, Otoneurologie et ORL pédiatrique, hôpital Pierre-Paul Riquet, CHU Purpan, Toulouse, France

^e Vice President of IFOS. Department of Otorhinolaryngology, Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Hospital, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

^f General Secretary of IFOS. Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Faculty of Medicine and University Hospital, Comenius University Bratislava, Bratislava, Slovakia

^g General Secretary of the French Society of Otorhinolaryngology (SFORL). Department of Paediatric Otolaryngology, hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, AP–HP - université de Paris, Paris, France

^h General Secretary of YO-IFOS. Pediatric ENT Department, Robert-Debré Hospital, Paris 7 Denis Diderot University, 48, Boulevard Sérurier, 75019 Paris, France

ⁱ Vice-chair of the YO-IFOS Education Committee. Department of Paediatric Otolaryngology, Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades, AP-HP - Université de Paris, Paris, France

* Corresponding author. Centre hospitalier universitaire (CHU) la Conception, Assistance Publique–Hôpitaux de Marseille (AP–HM), service ORL et chirurgie cervico-faciale, 147, boulevard Baille, 13005 Marseille, France.
E-mail address: nicolas.fakhry@ap-hm.fr (N. Fakhry)