

Letter of intent

It is a great honour to me to be nominated for the election of the ILAE-Commission on European Affairs (CEA). My priorities are:

1. Education

I share the vision of the ILAE-CEA on the importance of advanced education of health-care professionals in the field of epilepsy. At present I am co-director of two on-line ILAE courses (VIREPA) and the course director of a summer school on EEG. I would like to actively contribute to further development of the ILAE educational network, focusing on the new possibilities offered by the internet technology (on-line courses, webinars). The educational agenda (plan) of the ILAE-CEA offers an excellent platform for educational activities. I am willing to contribute to start new courses and strengthen the European epilepsy curriculum and answer unmet needs in various European and global regions. There is a definite need for educational courses in epilepsy also for nurses and non-MD medical staff interested in this field.

2. Improvement of diagnostic methods and clinical care

In spite of technical advances, many new diagnostic methods are not or only rarely implemented in the clinical practice. This is partly due to lack of well-designed, multi-centre diagnostic studies on accuracy and clinical utility of the new methods. I do believe that CEA has a role in organising and co-ordinating such initiatives.

3. Transnational research initiatives

I think that ILAE-CEA should contribute significantly to facilitate transnational research projects by organising research-workshops at the epilepsy congresses. In addition one should make it possible to post project proposals on the ILAE-CEA homepage, in order to find partners for multicentre research projects.

4. Multidisciplinary approach

Epileptology has many connections with other medical specialities. I do believe that improved collaboration with other medical societies will facilitate the professional level of care of the patients with epilepsy. I definitely can see the possibilities of organising joint courses, developing guidelines or initiating studies together with other medical societies.

I am willing to contribute actively as a member of the ILAE-CEA to pursue these goals.

Sándor Beniczky