

ESO endorsed Certification for Switzerland Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

1. PURPOSE

ESO aims at increasing the quality of stroke care in Europe. Among other steps, encouraging hospitals across Europe to fulfill the criteria for certification as ESO Stroke Unit (SU) or Stroke Center (SC) is one of the prioritized measures to reach this goal. Switzerland fulfills all these criteria. Since 2012, a well-defined, mandated, and established SU/SC-certification process is in continuous use.

2. PROCEDURE

- Online submission of a Swiss Hospital (only after national (Re)-Certification) (Certification | [ESO <eso-certification@eso-stroke.org>](mailto:ESO<eso-certification@eso-stroke.org>))
- Please provide your Swiss Auditing report
- Additional Documents and Information needed during online submission

ESO-Criterion	Description	Points to score	Description of the information to be provided by the applicant (-> self declaration)	Self declaration (additional documents to be attached if required)	Scores given by ESO-auditor
ESO A4	A stroke neurologist or a neurology-experienced stroke physician leads an outpatient clinic dedicated to stroke patients In case of a missing outpatient clinic, specify the follow-up of stroke care	0/1/2/3	CV of the medical leader of the outpatient clinic Name and written agreement(s) with the leaders of follow-up of stroke care.		
ESO G3	Minimal number of beds with automated monitoring HIGHER MINIMUM: n=4	0/1/2/3	Provide your number of beds with automated monitoring		
ESO G6	Documentation of age, sex, admission stroke severity case fatality, of discharge NIHSS, discharge mRS	0/1/2/3	Official and authorized hospital statistics by annual report or database with online link		
ESO G7	Documentation of quality of stroke care: % documented swallowing test, early mobilisation, and prevention of DVT	0/1/2/3	Provide your numbers		

ESO G8	Access to local stroke support organisation	0/1/2/3	Description, online link		
ESO G9*	Number of the relevant diagnostics (Number of TTE/TTE., Numbers of Neurovascular Ultrasound, Number of brain CT/MRi and CTA/MRA)	0/1/2/3	Official and authorised hospital statistics by annual report or database with online link		
Total ESO-Certification	i.e. Sum of the above scores (to be filled in by the ESO-auditor)				
TOTAL Swiss-Certification	To be filled in by the applicants based on the SWISS Certificate (attached)				
Total SWISS+ESO-Certification	To be filled in by the ESO-auditor				
Proposal	With regard to the application for an ESO-Stroke Unit certificate in combination with the Swiss certificate, the ESO-auditor proposes approval or discard (ESO-Auditor please indicate) to the ESO Stroke Unit Committee Date/Name of ESO-auditor: _____ / _____				

- The ESO Invoice of EUR 100 will be sent automatically after submission
- The ESO Head Office will inform the SFCNS Office (Anna Schmidt <certification-sfcns@imk.ch>) about the new application for an ESO certificate, valid only in combination with the Swiss certificate
- SFCNS will send out their respective invoice
- Applicants will complete the above mentioned information and documents plus a pdf of the Swiss auditing report.
- Auditing of the additional ESO-criteria will be done by one auditor, familiar with both the Swiss and the ESO certification process (see list below).
- After both payments were done, the aforementioned auditor will be contacted by ESO (Certification | [ESO <eso-certification@eso-stroke.org>](mailto:eso-certification@eso-stroke.org))
- She or he will audit the additional ESO-criteria based on the self declaration and the Swiss certification report. In case of open questions, the auditor may require additional information to be provided by the applicant (via ESO)
- The auditor will propose approval or discard of the application.
- The ESO-Stroke Unit committee renders the final decision
- ESO will inform the applicant and provide a certificate (online) or a rejection letter.

3. DEFINITIONS

ESO – European Stroke Organisation

SFCNS – Swiss Federation of Clinical Neuro-Societies

List of auditors, familiar with both the Swiss and the ESO certification process:

Marcel Arnold, Philippe Lyrer, Stefan Engelter (November 2023)