



# ERS/National Society Toolkit

## **WELCOME**

Welcome to the European Respiratory Society's membership network!

As an organisation that is now affiliated with ERS, there are several ways you can get involved with ERS activities and also use ERS communication platforms to share your own news.

## **OVERVIEW**

The following document provides you with a range of tools and useful information:

1. Communications about ERS and the new membership agreement
2. Joining an ERS Assembly and Group
3. Sharing your news on ERS channels
4. Sharing ERS news you on your channels
5. Deliver ERS activities at a national/regional level
6. Deliver scientific and educational activities jointly with ERS
7. Encourage your members to engage with ERS activities
8. Raise awareness of ERS funding and award opportunities for members
9. Contribute to the ERS International Congress
10. Spreading the message of Healthy Lungs for Life
11. Using resources and the patient network of the European Lung Foundation
12. Useful contacts at ERS and ELF
13. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## 1. COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT ERS

### Membership agreement

You may wish to communicate about the new membership agreement on your website. To help you include the correct information, we have put together a template news article and logo for you to download and use, including spaces to update your own personalised information. We have also provided you with an overview mailing that can be sent out to members reminding them of the different ways to engage with ERS.

- [Download the template news article](#)
- [Download the logo](#)
- [Download the “reminder to engage” mailing template](#)

### Standard description of ERS

If you need a standard description of ERS, then please visit our website and use the standard text about ERS. This can be found here: <http://www.ersnet.org/about-us/who-we-are.html>

## 2. JOINING AN ERS ASSEMBLY AND GROUP

Active membership is the most beneficial for everyone and by joining the assemblies and groups, members can help set the scientific and educational agenda across all ERS activities. There are 11 Assemblies, specialising in different areas of respiratory medicine, and each divided into groups. To get the most from membership, we encourage members to join one main group and up to two more groups to best suit professional interest areas.

The first choice is a main group where members can exercise voting rights and the second and third choice groups allow members to keep up to date with this professional interest area via mailings that are relevant to this topic. The selection is made when members first login MyERS and can be amended at any time.

[Download the step-by-step guide to show you how to join an assembly](#)

## 3. SHARING YOUR NEWS ON ERS CHANNELS

As you are part of our network of respiratory organisations, there are a number of options available to you to help communicate your own news and events on ERS channels:

### Respiratory worldwide

This online column is a communications platform for leaders from a national or regional organisation to share their thoughts and opinions on key topics in the respiratory field. The articles are posted monthly and in addition to being shared on the ERS website, they are disseminated in the ERS newsletter and on social media channels.

- [Download the Respiratory worldwide overview to learn more](#)
- [View previous articles and subscribe for updates](#)
- [Contact the Communications Team to submit your own article](#)

### **Social media**

ERS has a number of social media channels where you can learn more about our news and events and interact with our membership network and other respiratory stakeholders.

Please feel free to follow us, or like our pages and engage in the content we share on these channels.

- ERS Twitter: [www.Twitter.com/ERSTalk](http://www.Twitter.com/ERSTalk)
- ERS Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EuropeanRespiratorySociety](http://www.facebook.com/EuropeanRespiratorySociety)
- ERS LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/ers](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ers)
- ERS YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/EuropeanRespiratory](http://www.youtube.com/user/EuropeanRespiratory)

If your Society is not yet utilising these social media channels, but would like some advice to set them up, the ERS Communications Team would be happy to help. Please contact them directly using the details at the end of this document.

### **Calendar of events**

ERS hosts a worldwide calendar of events on our website, where you are free to submit your own activities. Events are categorised into ERS events, ERS endorsed events and non-ERS events. If you would like to have your event endorsed, there are a number of criteria that must be fulfilled. Find out more in section 5 of this document or send your event requests to the ERS communications team: [dould@europeanlung.org](mailto:dould@europeanlung.org)

### **During your annual conference**

We are happy to share news coming from your annual conference on our communication channels. At events where we are in attendance, we will plan to send live updates on our social media channels. We'd also be happy to receive from you any press releases related to the event so that we can share the latest research news in our newsletter.

## **4. SHARING ERS NEWS ON YOUR CHANNELS**

To ensure your members are kept up to date with ERS news and events, we would appreciate your support with sharing news and events that your members have access to as a member of ERS. This includes our International Congress, our educational courses and events, our Fellowships and CRCs application deadlines, as well as our Research Seminars and other conferences.

We would appreciate your support in the following ways:

- Listing the ERS International Congress in your own events section on the website
- Listing local ERS events relevant for your members
- Sharing news articles we may send you that are relevant for your members
- Sharing posts from the Respiratory worldwide column, to increase our network's access to the views of different respiratory leaders

## 5. DELIVER ERS ACTIVITIES AT A NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL

It is possible to deliver established ERS events and activities at a national/regional level. Using resources provided by ERS, you can choose to deliver the following activities to members in your own country/region.

- National delivery of the Adult and Paediatric for in-training and self-assessment in English
- National delivery of the Spirometry train the trainer programme
- Apply to organise of National Societies Summer Schools
- Application for Accreditation of national training centres
- Organisation of joint sessions at the National/Regional congress
- Translation of ERS material
- Accreditation of training centres

Contact [education@ersnet.org](mailto:education@ersnet.org) to find out more.

## 6. DELIVER SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES JOINTLY WITH ERS

A number of scientific and educational activities can be delivered jointly with ERS. This includes:

- Co-funding of Fellowships. Contact [fellowships@ersnet.org](mailto:fellowships@ersnet.org) to find out more.
- Joint development of courses with specific national needs. Contact [education@ersnet.org](mailto:education@ersnet.org) to find out more.

## 7. ENCOURAGE YOUR MEMBERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO ERS ACTIVITIES

As new ERS members, your members are welcome to engage with all ERS initiatives and activities that will help us reach our shared goal of improving respiratory health. Where relevant, please encourage your members to input into these resources to ensure they remain valuable for respiratory health professionals across the world:

- [Submitting cases to the ERS e-learning site](#)
- [Contributing articles to Respipedia](#)
- [Apply to join or organise an ERS Research Seminar](#)

## 8. RAISE AWARENESS OF ERS FUNDING AND AWARD OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

ERS helps all members further their goals in respiratory medicine and research through funding opportunities. A range of opportunities are available for members from all disciplines and backgrounds. Your members can benefit from these opportunities – please share the following information:

- Applying for [Task Forces](#) or [Clinical Research Collaborations](#)
- Applying for [Grants](#)
- Applying for [Awards](#)
- Applying for [Fellowships](#)
- Applying for [event endorsement by ERS](#) or [download the application form](#)

## 9. CONTRIBUTE TO THE ERS INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

The ERS International Congress is our biggest event of the year and the largest gathering of respiratory professionals in the world. As Society now affiliated with us, there are a number of opportunities for you to contribute to this event:

- [Join us in the World Village](#)
- [Sponsorship of attendees](#)
- [Submit session proposals](#)

## 10. SPREADING THE MESSAGE OF HEALTHY LUNGS FOR LIFE

Healthy Lungs for Life is one of the largest ever lung health campaigns, raising awareness of the importance of healthy lungs to healthcare professionals, scientists, primary care, patients, policymakers and the public through a full range of events, projects and promotional activities. Each year, a new theme is launched with the aim of education healthcare professionals, patients and the wider public about how to prevent lung diseases.

ERS and our sister Society, the European Lung Foundation hold a number of launch events during the ERS International Congress. All the materials used in these events are then made available for free online for other respiratory societies to hold their own awareness-raising activities in their country or region.

We believe that it is vital to spread the messages from the Healthy Lungs for Life campaign across the world as part of our shared mission of promoting lung health in order to alleviate suffering from disease and would value your support in reaching your local stakeholders.

There are many ways in which you can bring Healthy Lungs for Life to your own community:

- [Hold a Healthy Lungs for Life event](#)
- [Display a Healthy Lungs for Life poster in your workplace](#)
- Follow the campaign on social media ([@europeanlung](#) or [@ERStalk](#))
- [Take and share the Healthy Lungs for Life quiz](#)
- [View and share the Healthy Lungs for Life videos](#)

[Download the Healthy Lungs for Life flyer to learn more](#)

## 11. USING THE RESOURCES OF THE EUROPEAN LUNG FOUNDATION

The European Lung Foundation (ELF) was founded by the European Respiratory Society (ERS) with the aim of bringing together patients and the public with respiratory professionals to positively influence lung health. ELF communicates the latest developments in lung health to people with lung conditions, the public, policy makers and the media. ELF also gives people with lung diseases and the general public the opportunity to influence lung health research and guidelines at the European level.

ELF can work with you in the following ways:

- Providing resources and tools to hold Healthy Lungs for Life events in your country
- Supporting you to set up a patient organisation in your area if there is not currently one
- Working with you to translate our patient materials into your language, or developing materials on topics important to your society

- Working with your national patient organisations in European and international research and developing guidelines for healthcare professionals
- Training and support for patients in your country through the European Patient Ambassador Programme

Download the [ELF flyer for National Societies](#) or contact Dr Pippa Powell, Director of ELF, to learn more: [pippa.powell@europeanlung.org](mailto:pippa.powell@europeanlung.org)

## 12. KEY CONTACTS AT ERS AND ELF

### Membership Team

The role of the membership department is to administer all ERS membership activities and maintain fruitful relationships with National and Regional Societies that hold international membership contracts with ERS. The department takes care of all ERS representation/stands at non-ERS events and liaises with all ERS departments to collect and prepare promotional material for the ERS Congress and other related conferences.

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### Press and Communications Team

The Press and Communications Team coordinates the communication of the work and activities of the ERS to all audiences in the respiratory stakeholder pyramid, including ERS members, respiratory professionals, primary care, the public, patients and media. This encompasses the ERS website, ER Weekly newsletter, social media channels and working with the ELF team on press and public awareness activities.

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## 12. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

### What benefits do I get from joining ERS through my National/Regional Society?

If you join ERS through your National/Regional Society, you will receive the full benefits of being an ERS member, including online access to ERS publications, webcasts, scientific content, and discounts to conferences and events at a reduced annual membership fee of €20.

**If I'm already a member of ERS, do I need to cancel my existing membership?**

No. Your membership data will be automatically updated. You will still be required to pay the ERS Joint Membership fee of €20. If your existing direct membership with ERS is still valid for more than 6 months, ERS will provide you with refund in the form of a voucher that can be used to pay for either registration at events, print journal subscriptions (*ERJ*, *ERR*, *Breathe*) or to claim back as cash at our annual congress.

**If I'm already a member of ERS or have been a member of the ERS in the past, will I need new login details to access ERS material?**

No. The login details that you have used for your previous account will remain valid.

**Do I have to pay for the new membership?**

If you already are a member of ERS, you will be required to pay the ERS Joint Membership fee of €20 and then you will be refunded for remaining paid period of your existing direct membership in the form of a voucher to be used towards various ERS activities.

If you are not yet a member of ERS, the following fees apply:

- Member under 65 years of age: €20/\$25 per year
- Member aged over 65 years of age: €0/€0 per year (*complimentary annual membership*)

**If I become an ERS member or renew my membership through my National/Regional society, can I still receive print copies of the journals?**

When joining or renewing your ERS membership through your National/Regional society, you will only have online access to ERS publications.

Joint Members can opt to receive print copies of the *European Respiratory Journal*, the *European Respiratory Review* and *Breathe* for additional yearly subscription fees. This subscription can be added to your membership on MyERS.

**How will my current membership with the National/Regional society change?**

You will have access to ERS membership benefits in addition to unchanged access to your National/Regional's Society membership benefits.

**How do I join an ERS assembly or working group?**

The ERS community comprises Assemblies and Groups that specialise in specific areas of respiratory medicine and set the scientific and educational agenda across all ERS activities. ERS has 11 Assemblies, divided into groups, which members can choose to become affiliated with.

When you first log in to the [MyERS portal](#), you can join up to 3 groups of interest: the first one is your main group where you can exercise your voting rights and the second and third choice groups allow you to keep up to date with this professional interest area via mailings relevant to this topic.

To find out more about your ERS membership and ERS activities, please visit: [www.ersnet.org](http://www.ersnet.org).

### **Is becoming a member of the ERS assemblies compulsory when joining ERS?**

Joining the ERS assemblies is not compulsory but it is highly recommended in order for you to fully benefit from your membership and be active in the scientific and educational activities of ERS. By becoming affiliated to an assembly and working groups you become part of the nerve centre of ERS; voting for new leaders, shaping key activities such as the Congress programme and task forces, and being the first to hear about new opportunities and events in your professional interest area.

### **Can I modify the selection of assemblies and working groups I want to be involved in?**

Yes, you can modify your selection through the [MyERS portal](#) at any time.

### **How can I update my contact details and check my membership status?**

You can update your contact details and check your membership whenever needed through the [MyERS portal](#). Alternatively if you experience any issues with the system you can contact the ERS Membership team at [members@ersnet.org](mailto:members@ersnet.org).

### **I am under 35 years old and an ERS Silver Member. Do I still have to pay for joint membership?**

In countries where a joint agreement exists with a National or Regional respiratory society, the ERS Silver Membership category no longer exists. In these countries, existing active

members of ERS under the age of 35 can wait for their membership to expire before renewing through the National/Regional society. New ERS members below the age of 35 will be requested to pay the full Joint Membership fee of €20.

If your national/regional society is not yet part of the joint agreement with ERS, you can still join ERS directly. ERS offers different membership categories based on age, country of residence and professional activity. Please complete the online application process through the [MyERS portal](#).

**I do not have an email address. Can I still take advantage of the joint membership?**

To take full advantage of the benefits the joint membership scheme provides, a working email address is required. We therefore strongly encourage you to set up an email account to fully benefit from ERS membership.

**I am not a member of the National/Regional society in my country/region of residence; can I still be a member of ERS?**

Yes you can join the ERS directly as a direct member through the [MyERS portal](#) where you can complete the application process through the [MyERS portal](#).

If your national/regional society is not yet part of the joint agreement with ERS, you can still join ERS directly.

ERS offers different membership categories based on age, country of residence and professional activity. Please complete the online application process through the [MyERS portal](#).

**How can I renew my membership with the ERS as a direct member?**

To become a member of the ERS or renew your membership as a direct member, please complete the online application process through the [MyERS portal](#).

Category	Membership fee
<b>Gold</b>	
Gold	170 EUR/year
Gold Dual *( dual membership with ATS/APSR/CTS/EAACI/ESTS/ISAM)	145 EUR/year

Gold online - GDP between USD 10,000 and 20,000	<u>85 EUR/year</u>
Gold online - GDP <10,000 USD	<u>50 EUR/year</u>
<u>Gold Senior (over 68 years)</u>	<u>70 EUR/year</u>
<b>Silver</b>	
Scientist	70 EUR/year
Allied Health Professional	70 EUR/year
Under 35 years	FREE OF CHARGE

**I am a member of my National/Regional society, but do not want to be a member of ERS.  
Can I opt out?**

Yes, you can opt out by informing your National/Regional society of your choice.