

Protocol No: 250/12-11-2014

To Eucomed Compliance Panel

Attention:
Mrs. Christine SAINVIL

Subject: ORGANIZATION OF THE:

66th International Congress of the European Society for Cardiovascular and Endovascular Surgery

Jointly organized with the

LIVE 2017 Symposium

May 18-21, 2017,
KOS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE (KICC), GREECE

Larissa, November 12th, 2014

Dear Mrs C. Sainvil,

I would like to inform you that I have taken the privilege and honour to organize the **66th Annual Congress of the European Society for Cardiovascular and Endovascular Surgery (ESCVS)** back to back with the **LIVE 2017 Symposium** that is yearly organized from the **Institute of Vascular Diseases (IVD)**.

The **European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery (ESCVS)** is the oldest society in the field of Cardiovascular Surgery and brings together Vascular Surgeons, Cardio-thoracic Surgeons, Cardiac Perfusionists and nurses.

LIVE Symposium is organized every year in different cities of Greece by the Institute of Vascular Diseases aiming to establish LIVE as a unique forum in the field Vascular education and innovation in Southern Europe and Mediterranean region. It has been a great pleasure the fact that since 2012 (3rd LIVE2012) and for three years now, the LIVE Symposium has been endorsed and supported by the ESCVS society (along with other European and International Societies and Organizations since its beginning in 2010).

Therefore we are very pleased to welcome the **66th Annual Congress of the European Society for Cardiovascular and Endovascular Surgery (ESCVS)** in our country and on the occasion we have chosen to be held in May 18-21, 2017 in the Kos International Convention Centre, in Kos island.

Given the importance of strengthening the European network for (Endo)Vascular & Cardiovascular Surgery we do believe that a jointly organized programme would become beneficial for all those involved in the management of vascular, cardiovascular and thoracic diseases bringing all these specialists together to discuss all recent advances and controversial issues in a friendly environment promoting science, collaboration and friendship.

The choice to host this joint event in the Kos International Convention Centre was based on the reality that it is the largest Conference Center in the Mediterranean region, one of the most important Convention Centers in Greece, with state of the art infrastructure and more than a decade of experience. It is the only Convention Centre that can host **in the same building and operate at the same time – in parallel** – 20 meeting rooms. Additionally, it is supported with completely autonomous catering facilities for up to 2,500 people and can provide accommodation facilities of 1,450 guestrooms next to it.

This decision is also based on the following important factors:

- ✓ The island of Kos Island is the 3rd largest island in the Dodecanese (Rhodes holds the 1st place and Karpathos the 2nd one) and the 2nd one in terms of population.
- ✓ Kos island is easily accessible by direct international flights and charter flights from 28 countries and 83 cities) as well by ferryboat (sea connections from Piraeus, Rhodes, Crete and Bodrum, Turkey).
- ✓ There are about 40 direct European flights per day in May
- ✓ There are 2-3 daily direct flights from Athens (50 minutes flight time), from Thessaloniki, and from Rhodes and Crete Islands.
- ✓ Bodrum - Turkey as well (only 40min away from Kos Island by boat) is a major airport hub hosting over 50 charter flights every day from all over the world.

At this point we would like also to point out that Kos island has a historical importance for Physicians all over the world since it was the birthplace of Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine. In the center of the town there is the “Plane Tree of Hippocrates”, where the Physician used to teach Medicine. Today, Kos hosts the **International Hippocratic Foundation** and the **Hippocratic Museum**. Near the Museum, there are the ruins of **the largest and the most preserved “Asclepieion” (Healing Temple) in the world**, where the participants of all congresses have the opportunity to attend the Re-Enactment of the Hippocratic Oath, a moving and unique ceremony.

Kos island has already hosted with great success numerous of International scientific events and for the forthcoming future it has been also selected by important scientific organizations to host their events such as :

European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI), www.efiweb.eu (2015)

Association for European Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology (AEPC), www.aepc.org (2018)

A 3-day scientific programme will be carefully designed with the participation of more than 150 well-known experts in vascular surgery and cardiothoracic surgery from all over the world. It is of importance to make explicitly clear that the organizers, aim to put together strictly educational scientific congresses, where hospitality will be limited to hotel accommodation (only for the dates of the scientific programme, namely 18-21/05/2017), necessary coffee breaks and light lunches, as well as the welcome reception (to which all registered participants will be expected to attend). Based on this criterion, no gala dinner, or any other social events are considered.

In my capacity as the President of the Congresses I would greatly appreciate it if you could evaluate the appropriateness of this highly scientific event designed to take place in Kos island regarding compliance with all your requirements. Of course we do inform you that we have managed to **keep low prices for all accommodation services in 4 star hotel of the Kipriotis complex (approximately 130 euros per night on HB basis including breakfast and Dinner).**

The above factors have taken important consideration from us in order to keep in line with the national and European regulations.

We would very much value your tentative approval in order to move forward with this organization.

Yours sincerely,

Athanasios Giannoukas

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