



ESUR CMSC Working Rules

Version December 2025

The Contrast Media Safety Committee (CMSC) is a committee of the European Society of Urogenital Radiology (ESUR) that is composed of a group of radiology clinicians and scientists who share a common interest in the study of the safety and application of contrast media in a wide variety of clinical and pre-clinical conditions. The committee was established in 1994.

Aims

The main focus of the CMSC is:

Safe clinical practice:

To advise on the safe clinical use of contrast media in imaging and to highlight potential safety aspects associated with contrast media and to assess the risk benefit balance, including the environmental impacts.

Guidelines:

To create and update scientific, evidence-based guidelines on management of potential adverse events of contrast media and the safe administration and handling of contrast media for medical imaging.

Education:

To educate health care professionals about safe clinical use of contrast media in clinical practice at scientific congresses, symposia, and other meetings.

Means

CMSC uses the following means for achieving the abovementioned aims:

Regular Face-to-Face Meetings

CMSC will hold regular face-to-face meetings to discuss all the details of CMSC guideline manuscripts, other CMSC business issues, and important contrast media safety issues.

Minimally, a 2-day face-to-face meeting every 2 years in a central location in Europe is held. Secretarial and organizational on-site support at the meeting, as well as organization of travel and accommodation, are provided by the ESUR Office.



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Regular Online Communications and Meetings

CMSC will hold regular electronic communications, including regular virtual meetings, via technologies like Zoom/Teams, etc. Meeting organization is provided by the ESUR Office.

CMSC guidelines should primarily be based on evidence-based literature but also supported by multidisciplinary expert-based opinions. Guideline updates can be published online only and integrated with the evidence-based recommendations from manuscripts.

Official online CMSC guidelines will be primarily published in English. Translation can be produced and published after the endorsement of the CMSC. The copyrights of the guidelines belong to the CMSC in any case.

Connection with Comparable Committees

CMSC will establish close working relations with other institutions working on safe use of contrast media via mutual membership or electronic meetings:

Membership

The committee includes academic members, corresponding members, and honorary members.

Members should be willing to spend some own personal time in writing and developing new guidelines. Therefore, enthusiasm, knowledge of, and experience with contrast media is more important than the geographical European region where the member comes from or their imaging subspecialty.

Although CMSC is a committee of the ESUR, other subspecialties are welcome on the CMSC (Abdominal, Thoracic, Cardiovascular, Interventional, Neuro and Head & Neck, Musculoskeletal, Emergency, Nuclear, and Paediatric Radiology). Members should have further linkages to all relevant European radiological subspecialty societies.

Academic Members :

A limited number (10-15) of members with proven activity in the field of contrast media form the core of the CMSC. Academic members write, discuss, approve, and publish the guidelines. The academic member must be or become an ESUR member.

New academic members can be nominated by other academic members. They are invited by the CMSC Executive Board members and are appointed by normal majority of the sitting academic members.



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Their appointment is for a minimum of 5 years and can be renewed as necessary, as long as the member keeps an active role as defined below:

As the activities of the committee largely depend on the work of its members, the CMSC members should play an active role in the committee and should:

- Participate in at least one face-to-face meeting per year
- Participate in a guideline writing group during their mandate

Honorary Members

When an academic member does not want to continue the active membership requirements and after proposal by the board, he can access the Honorary Membership statute.

Honorary members play a consultancy role and can be present at online and face-to-face CMSC meetings. Honorary members can **still** assume a role in new guideline writing groups. Honorary members can no longer apply for CMSC Executive Board positions.

Consultants

The committee includes industry consultants, clinical consultants.

Industry consultants from the scientific departments of contrast media vendors are an asset in guideline creation and are added to the CMSC in an ex-officio capacity. Industry consultants are approached by the ESUR Board in close communication with the CMSC Executive Board members. Industry consultants participate in all CMSC scientific discussions and can be present at all face-to-face meetings but will not be involved in the final recommendations.

Subject matter experts: Consultants with experience with contrast media can be added to broaden the perspective of the committee with clinical judgements, and to make guidelines multidisciplinary. They are for example nephrologists, vascular medicine physicians, vascular surgeons, (interventional) cardiologists, endocrinologists, allergologists, urologists, hospital pharmacists, and clinical chemists and epidemiologist. Clinical consultants are approached by the Executive Board members and may represent different European clinical scientific societies. They are appointed as a consultant to the academic members of CMSC for a specific project and renewed as necessary. Residents and trainees can be subject matter experts.

Leadership

A 3-person Executive Board serves as the face of the group. This Board is composed of a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. The Chair and Vice Chair are appointed by the ESUR Board and should be below the age of 70 when they start their mandate. The secretary is appointed by the CMSC academic members in consensus and his term is renewed or terminated when the Chair and Vice Chair terms are renewed, terminated or changed.

The Executive Board is supported by the ESUR Office.



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The chair and vice-chair are responsible for the relationship with the executive board of the ESUR, in particular:

- Political issues with ESUR
- Finances issues with ESUR and contrast media companies
- Agenda of the CMSC meetings and minutes
- Educational activities

The secretary is in charge of:

- Literature searches and dissemination among members
- Follow-up of the drafts of the guidelines decided in the CMSC meetings
- Submission of the papers to European Radiology or other journals

Executive Board members are appointed for a period of 5 years. This period can be extended for one additional period, i.e., one person can co-lead the CMSC for a maximum of 10 years. Alternate succession is strived for, so that members of the Executive Board will not step down at the same time.

Only academic members of CMSC can apply for a leadership position. If more than one person applies for a vacant position, elections among the academic members will take place. The person who receives most of the votes is proposed to the ESUR board who makes the final decision.

Finances

The CMSC is financially fully supported by ESUR for means stated above. ESUR finances all regular face-to-face and electronic meetings, and, when needed, the attendance of clinical consultants at these meetings.

All financial resources of the committee come from ESUR. Industry can support the CMSC work through ESUR, but not directly the CMSC.

Open Access publication fees are integrated into the annual budgets for CMSC. Where possible contracts for Open Access publication of the academic institutions of the academic members should be used.

CMSC Guideline Consultant Support

CMSC promotes support by industry, epidemiology, and clinical consultants. When needed, attendance at the face-to-face meetings is provided by the ESUR Office.



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Guideline Authorship

Guideline Publication Policy

CMSC will submit the guideline papers to European Radiology and offer Open Access from the date of publication to ensure a wide dissemination. When necessary, publications can be submitted to other journals which provide Open Access.

The names of all the academic members of the committee should be included as co-authors of guidelines and reports published by the committee, in alphabetical order. The first authors are those members who have written and been actively involved in editing the report.

Subject matter experts that have been actively involved in editing the report are included as co-authors. Normally, an academic member will be first author, and subject matter experts are maximally second author. In selected projects subject matter experts can be a joint-first author, together with one of the academic CMSC members. The last authors should be the vice chair and chair of the CMSC

Industry consultants will be listed in a footnote in all the published reports.

The statement “ESUR Contrast Media Safety Committee guidelines” should always be included in the title of the report to reflect that it is the work of the committee.

Dissemination activities

Open access to the guidelines, translations, educational programmes through webinars or face to face meetings, training programmes, CMSC website or any other dissemination activity can be organized by the CMSC under the umbrella of ESUR with potential industry support.

Final considerations

Any situation that is not covered by these working rules, the CMSC and ESUR board have the authority to resolve matters by consensus.