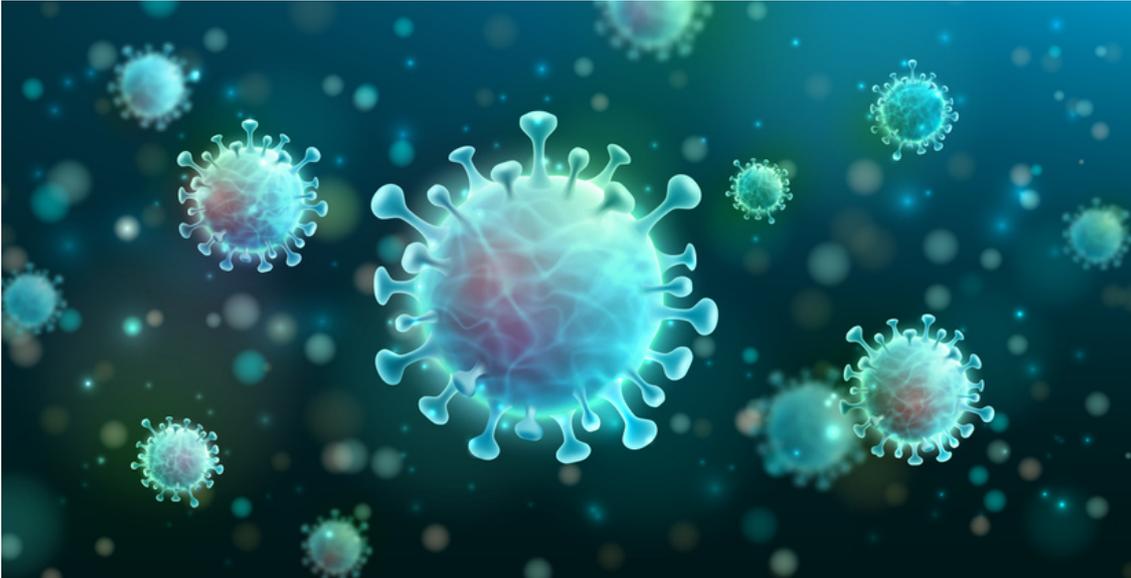




2020 - What a crazy year!



Dear Database Users, Members, Collaborators and Friends,

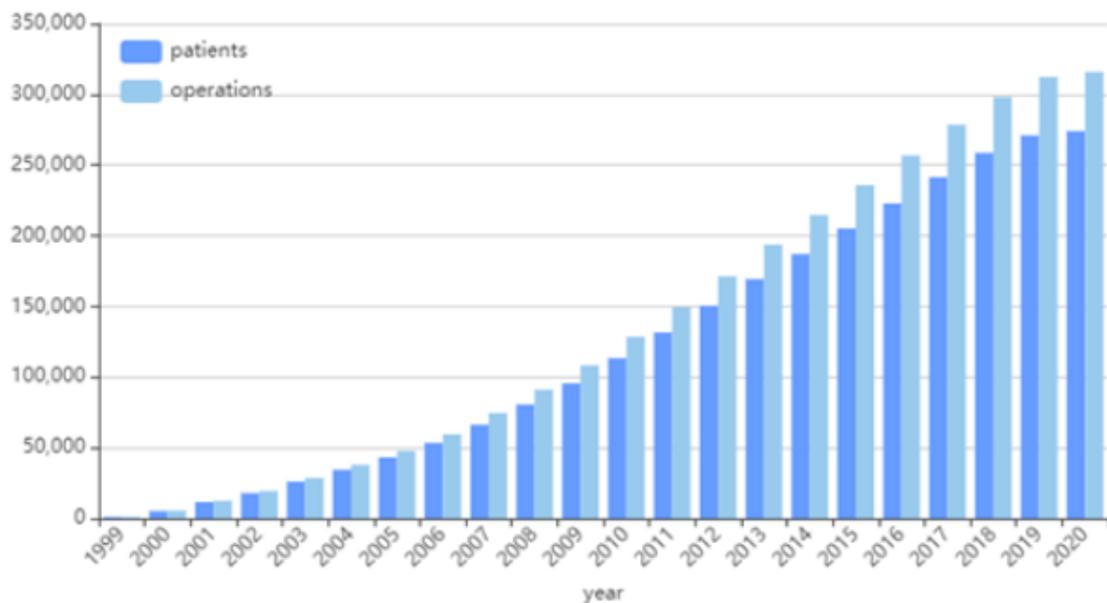
The COVID-19 pandemic in year 2020 kept the world in suspense. We hope that all of you and your beloved ones are healthy and safe. Everybody is needed to bring a contribution in containing the infection and protecting patients, colleagues, families and ourselves. This global health care problem, affects all aspects of health care, social and economic life. Even if not directly involved in the care of patients with COVID-19, every health care worker may be involved due to resource restrictions and the challenge of keeping the care of other patients, like ours with congenital heart defects, ongoing and on a high-quality level.

Nevertheless, the challenges of the pandemic strengthened human bonds in various ways and the world was growing even closer together. Technologies made things possible we never thought of before. Science developed in a rapid way.

For sure at the turn of the year, COVID-19 may not disappear suddenly, but we can go on with strength and empowered by new developments into a hopefully brighter 2021.

We wish you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and all the best for the New Year.

- Your ECHSA CHSD Team



The ECHSA CHSD committee met twice in the year 2020 via teleconference, and continued to work on the improvement of the ECHSA CHSD.

New developments and upcoming Newsletter topics:



Scores in Congenital Heart Surgery

We prepared a special issue of this Newsletter about **scores in congenital heart surgery**. Read all about scores, their development and usage written by the experts of this field. Further, information on **how to code and use them** should support you in your daily practice.



Artificial Intelligence and Congenital Heart Surgery

In close collaboration with one of the world's most prominent academic institution, the Department of Operations Research at the MIT, a **risk calculator** was developed by using a non-linear methodology based on **machine learning** and **artificial intelligence**, to develop new objective risk models for congenital heart surgery. This will lead to valuable information for centers regarding their areas of strength and opportunities, and further, will be of major impact in quality improvement. We will provide you with more detailed information on artificial intelligence and congenital heart surgery.

Development of an Interventional Cardiology Module



In close collaboration with the AEPC, the development of an **interventional cardiology module** is progressing very well. It will facilitate to enter interventional cardiology data into our database. This will allow a **holistic picture of our patients** with congenital heart disease. In addition, it could improve the **collaboration between medical disciplines**, like cardiology and cardiac surgery. Furthermore, it will help in **follow-up of our patients**. This effort will lead to our database being the **only congenital database in the world** that will include **both surgical and cardiological data**. We will keep you updated.



Congenital Heart Surgery in Europe

The aim of the **ECHSA**, as a scientific society representing the **congenital heart surgeons of Europe**, is to improve the surgical treatment of patients with congenital heart disease. One of our goals is to achieve a maximum of information and insight on the **education**, the **health care provision**, and the **quality of congenital heart surgery** in Europe. The ECHSA CHSD is an analytical and quality improvement tool empowering centers with sophisticated risk stratification, benchmarking and quality improvement initiatives. We will support you with an overview of the current situation of congenital heart surgery in Europe.



Data Verification

Zdzislaw Tobota, MD, and Bohdan Maruszewski, MD, PhD

The purpose of the **source data verification** (SDV) is to ensure that reported data are accurate, complete, and verifiable from source documents and the conduct of the data collection (eg, the coding of diagnoses, procedures and complication) is in compliance with the recommendations.

Learn more about:

- How to apply for data verification
- The verification process
- The verification form
- The verification reports
- The verification certificate

[Read more>>](#)



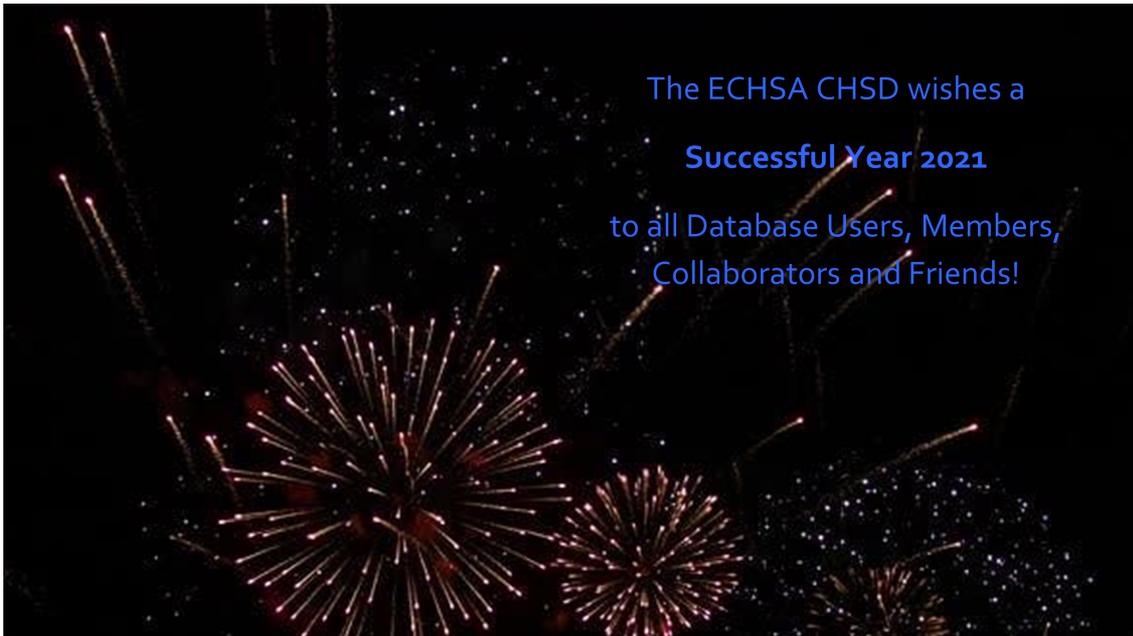
General Information

Editor-in-Chief: Claudia Herbst, MD

Questions or Requests regarding the newsletter or the ECHSA-CHSD itself?

Want to enroll your center to the ECHSA-CHSD?

Contact us: dbnewsletter@echsa.org



The ECHSA CHSD wishes a
Successful Year 2021
to all Database Users, Members,
Collaborators and Friends!

The ECHSA-CHSD Committee

Bohdan Maruszewski *Warsaw, Poland | Committee Chair & Database Director*

George Sarris *Athens, Greece | ECHSA President & Committee Co-Chair*

Ilkka Mattila *Helsinki, Finland | ECHSA Treasurer & Database Treasurer*

Zdzislaw Tobota *Warsaw, Poland | Technical Director*

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