

Editorial

Belgian Anesthesia Trainees (BAT) : Awake while others sleep!



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INTRODUCTION

The Belgian anesthesia landscape is heterogeneous and rich. In our small country, multiple universities organize an education program to become an anesthesiologist. Trainees evolving in those schools have different backgrounds, and communication between them may be uneasy. The Belgian Anesthesia Trainees (BAT) is an independent organization that represents the interests of the Belgian anesthesia trainees. Our aim is to provide a platform of communication about matters concerning Belgian anesthesia training. This communication takes place at several levels. Currently, the BAT has representatives and plays an active role within the 'Belgische Vereniging van Anesthesie en Reanimatie – Société Belge d'Anesthésie et de Réanimation – Belgian Society for Anesthesia and Resuscitation of Belgium' (BVAR – SBAR – SARB), the 'Beroepsvereniging van Specialisten in Anesthesie Reanimatie – Association Professionnelle des Spécialistes en Anesthésie-Réanimation' (BSAR-APSAR), the 'Belgian Association for Regional Anesthesia' (BARA), the 'European Society of Regional Anaesthesia and Pain Therapy' (ESRA), the 'European Society of Anaesthesiology' (ESA) and the 'Vereniging voor Arts-Specialisten in Opleiding' (VASO). Multiple BAT representatives, all residents in training, report on a monthly basis to the BAT. Structurally, the BAT is a nonprofit organization. A G Suite® account optimizes the workflow and centralizes our data in the cloud. To date, we connect with our members through different media such as the BAT website, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. We have a special PubMed Monday section, in which we weekly select one interesting scientific article and share it on the site. All BAT board members act voluntarily and without financial compensation to improve the position of Belgian anesthesia trainees by elaborating the BAT vision points and adhering to the BAT goals.

CURRENT MAJOR PROJECTS

Recently, we managed to organize an Advanced Life Support (ALS) course at reduced prices for BAT members. Ideally this would be free for all anesthesia trainees in the future. It is one of our primary goals to incorporate an ALS course into the general program of the "anesthesia and resuscitation" trainees.

Graduation day 2020 will become the next big project for the BAT. With the permission of the SARB, we have added a hands-on workshop training, a meet and greet with the industry, and a simulation course to the program. Thanks to our sponsors, this will be provided for free for the participating BAT members.

WHY BECOMING A MEMBER ?

Becoming a BAT member is free and offers multiple advantages for anesthesia trainees. Insofar as one of aims is improving education, we plan to offer classes, e-learnings, tools and extra guidance on exams, which we hope will improve success in accomplishing the anesthesia training curriculum, as well as the European Diploma in Anesthesiology and Intensive Care (EDAIC). We want to centralize the knowledge of Belgium anesthesia trainees in one place, where it is readily available for all trainees through a log-in at our website. By joining the BAT, trainees will get the opportunity to follow free workshops and simulation courses. Thanks to the

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BAT, also, they can expand their personal network and join the different anesthesia societies at reduced prices. More details on all the advantages of being a BAT member can be found on our website.

By becoming a member, trainees invest into the future of Belgian anesthesia residents. Additionally, they have the possibility to become an active member of our group. This is an opportunity to acquire practical experience in organizing anesthesia health care in Belgium, within a safe environment. In the future, the BAT will certainly give back even more benefits to the trainee community. And last but not least, the BAT can be the beginning of the future representation of Belgian anesthesiologists. We hope this future will become more secure in an ever-changing landscape of national healthcare.

WHO CAN JOIN ?

All Belgian anesthesia trainees and newly graduate anesthesiologists who are doing an extra

fellowship until 2 years after graduation can join the BAT.

FUTURE

The future is bright! We keep on improving. We are still searching for trainees who want to join and become an active member in our group. In case of any question, we can be contacted by e-mail at info@bat-anesthesia.be or through the social media.

Become a member!
The Belgian Anesthesia Trainees
Awake while others sleep!

