



# Regenerative Hepatology

## Board Report 2022: Foundation (Stichting) Regenerative Hepatology

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The Foundation Regenerative Hepatology is registered with the Chamber of Commerce under number 80698247.

Registered address: Luwte 6 | 3454TL de Meern.

The Board Report is available for viewing on the website <https://regenerativehepatology.com/> and at the association's office.

Date: 31-12-2022

Chairman:

Bart Spee

Secretary:

Pedro Baptista

Treasurer:

Louis C. Penning

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## Introduction

In 2022, Foundation Regenerative Hepatology has continued its mission to support and advance research and innovation in regenerative medicine, particularly in hepatology. Our foundation is aligned with the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) and is committed to addressing the critical shortage of donor organs through scientific advancement. The year 2022 is most recognizable as the first year that we organized a successful symposium that brought together scientists from the field of regenerative hepatology to advance the knowledge of our partners and increase the implementation of new technologies to aid patients with liver disease. The First Symposium of Regenerative Hepatology, held in London, UK, 21-06-2022, was attended by our board, steering committee and 65 scientist from all over Europe.

## 1. Financial Overview

The foundation's financial performance for 2022 was steady, with donations from the EASL supporting the majority of the projects. We have been actively engaging with donors and collaborating with partner organizations like the EASL International Liver Foundation (EILF) to secure funding for future fellowships and research projects.

- Income: The total income for 2022 was derived from donations, most notably from EASL International Liver Foundation (EILF), and MILTENYI BIOTEC LIMITED.

- Expenses: The key expense areas were operational costs associated with the foundation and reimbursements of speakers for the First Symposium of Regenerative Hepatology, held in London, UK, 21-06-2022.

- Grants and Fellowships: The foundation did not award Albert Geerts fellowships this year. Typically, a fellowship is valued at €40,000.00, covering salary and travel expenses, for which insufficient funding was received this year.

## 2. Board and Management

The foundation is led by an experienced team of professionals from the scientific and medical fields. All board members and steering committee work on a voluntary basis, ensuring that the foundation's resources are used as effectively as possible for research purposes.

- Chairman: Bart Spee
- Secretary: Pedro Baptista
- Treasurer: Louis C. Penning

The board meets regularly to discuss the progress of ongoing research projects, funding efforts, and organizational matters. In 2022, the board (not always complete) convened 6 times.

Steering committee:

- Professor Tobias Cantz
- Professor Frédéric Lemaigre
- Professor Etienne Sokal
- Professor Ludovic Vallier

Members:

- Dr Giuseppe Mazza
- Professor Paolo De Coppi
- Professor Marc Lowdell
- Dr Fotis Sampaziotis
- Dr Andrea Banfi
- Professor Stuart Forbes
- Professor Mario Strazzabosco
- Dr. Gareth Sullivan
- Jean-Charles Duclos-Vallée

Honorary members:

- Professor Massimo Pinzani

Members can apply via the website <https://regenerativehepatology.com/our-members/>. The board members are appointed for a term of three years. Reappointment is possible for a maximum of two additional three-year terms.

### **3. Website**

The website <https://regenerativehepatology.com/> was maintained by the EASL International Liver Foundation (EILF) and the company Soto. No costs were administered to the foundation. Management of the website will need to be changed to the foundation in the next couple of years. The website Regenerative Hepatology represents the EASL Consortium for Regenerative Hepatology well and describes its focus on addressing the shortage of donor livers through advancements in bioengineering. The site also highlights the consortium's mission to create bioengineered liver tissues and bile ducts. It details their research strategy, fellowships (such as the Albert Geerts Fellowship), and upcoming symposiums. The goal is to develop transplantable liver tissues for clinical use. It also provides information on funding, research projects, and the managing board.

### **4. Research and Scientific Collaboration**

In 2022, the foundation played a crucial role in the advancement of regenerative hepatology, specifically focusing on liver disease. Through collaboration with European research groups,

we supported efforts in stem cell technology and biotechnology aimed at developing artificial organs.

The following milestones were achieved:

- Research symposium, the foundation organized the First Symposium of Regenerative Hepatology, held in London, UK, 21-06-2022. With an attendance of 65 scientist from the field of Regenerative Hepatology.

## 5. Challenges and Opportunities

One of the key challenges faced in 2022 was securing adequate funding for the growing scope of the foundation's projects. However, our strategic partnerships, particularly with EILF, have opened up new opportunities for funding. The exposure and network, preferably by memberships will have to continue to grow over the next couple of years.

## 6. Future Outlook

Looking ahead to 2023, the foundation plans to:

- Award the Albert Geerts fellowship programme to a new bright spark in the field.
- Increase engagement with international donors and foundations, including private partners, to secure long-term funding for research projects.
- Continue our collaboration with key stakeholders in the field of regenerative hepatology.
- Organize the second Symposium of Regenerative Hepatology, the day before the EASL conference in Vienna, Austria.

## 7. Collaborations with Other Organizations

### *National*

Dutch patient organizations: Although there are no active concrete project patient organizations, the NLV (Dutch Liver Patients Association) does collaborate structurally with our foundation members. In any case, relevant information is exchanged between them.

### *International*

The foundation works closely together with the EASL International Liver Foundation (EILF), a global non-profit organization focused on advancing liver health and reducing the burden of liver disease worldwide. It works alongside the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL) to promote education, advocacy, and research. EILF funds innovative projects, offers fellowships, and builds partnerships to support liver disease awareness, prevention, and treatment. Its initiatives aim to improve care standards and influence public health policies related to liver disease.

## 8. Explanation of Financial Figures 2022

### *General*

The year 2022 closed with a profit of €4,071.00. As this is the first active year of the foundation, we use this as association's equity. The membership continues to grow, and sponsoring has increased due to increase interest. Donations and other gifts have not been achieved.

### *Balance Sheet*

Assets: Fixed assets are not relevant to the foundation. The bulk of liquid assets consists of the balances in the ING bank accounts.

Liabilities: Equity increased due to the sponsoring. This said, we cannot expect the income to cover upcoming symposia over the next years. Hence, we require at least the double amount of equity to cover the expenses of the foundation in the next year.

### *Balance in 2022*

- Costs bank account: €179.37
- Reimbursement speakers: €1,462.64
- Sponsoring: € 5,863.82
- Poster prize: € 150.00
- Interest beyond the limit: € 0.46

### *Income and Expenses Statement*

Income: Sponsorship revenues covered all expenses.

Expenses: Maintenance costs include bank account and interest beyond the limit. The IT costs, including website licenses and domain renewals was still covered by EASL International Liver Foundation (EILF).

### *Result*

The positive operating result is mainly due to higher-than-expected sponsorships. The board proposes to use the remaining funds as a reserve. In addition, a registration fee for the symposium will be implemented for the next years at €75.00 to cover additional expenses.

## **Conclusion**

The year 2022 has been one of growth and progress for Foundation Regenerative Hepatology. We are proud of our accomplishments and optimistic about the future as we continue contributing to life-saving research and innovation in regenerative medicine.