EANS -YNS Research Collaboration (YNSRC) constitution

1. Aim
   
   i) To develop and promote collaborative neurosurgical research in Europe

2. Objectives
   
   a. The group will fulfil the aim by:
      
      i) Providing a network to support research
      ii) Undertaking collaborative audit and research
      iii) Fostering the concept of data sharing and collaboration

3. Membership
   
   i) All members of the YNS committee are also members of the EANS-YNSRC.
   ii) Each member has one vote at general meetings.

4. Management
   
   i) The EANS-YNSRC shall be administered by the YNS Chair.

5. Running the YNSRC
   
   i) The EANS-YNSRC will meet twice a year (EANS and YNS yearly meetings).
   ii) EANS-YNSRC members should be present (or connected via videolink).
   iii) Voting at EANS-YNSRC meetings shall be by one vote per member. If there is a tied vote, then the YNS Chair shall have a second vote.

6. Project proposals
   
   i) Projects proposals are accepted all year, with the annual deadline for project submission 2 months before the yearly YNS meeting.
   ii) Project proposals are only accepted for consideration through the designated EANS-YNSRC protocol available at the EANS website.
iii) Projects accepted for consideration should have 2 lead figures – one being the senior lead (senior author/PI) and one being the junior lead (typically PhD student aimed at being the first author of any given study).

iv) If a project is chosen by the EANS-YNSRC, a project steering group with the project PI as the project lead will be formed. The committee members will help with the implementation at the respective institutions or find a suitable replacement if unavailable. YNSRC members are entitled to get help in project management from one (1) colleague per center and per project.

v) Any additional financial and/or ethical requirements for implementation of each project (such as materials, publication fees, fees for ethical approval at the various centers) are the responsibility of the project lead. Data storage and dissemination of data are also the responsibilities of the project lead.

7. Publication and ownership of data

i) All actions of the EANS-YNSRC and members of the project steering group(s) must be in line with Good Clinical Practice and data protection act guidelines.

ii) The authorship policy should be defined prior to starting any project by the study steering group.

iii) Any possible changes to the authorship policy during an ongoing project shall be decided by the committee, and authors must comply with the ICMJE (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors) guidelines (www.icmje.org).

iv) The lead authors must have played a key role in data analysis or manuscript preparation in line with ICMJE (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors) guidelines (www.icmje.org).

v) The manuscript must describe the role of each author.

vi) By default, any publication is accredited to the EANS-YNSRC by a phrase “on behalf of the EANS-YNSRC network” in the acknowledgements section.

vii) The EANS Chair of YNC and EANS Scientific liaison will act as final arbitrator in the event of authorship disputes that cannot be resolved in the YNSRC.

viii) All collaborators will be cited alphabetically in the publication. This will be up to 2 per unit, however additional names for a unit may be included at the discretion of the study steering group.

ix) When presenting the results of any EANS-YNSRC study the presenter is responsible for including a complete and up to date acknowledgement slide. This slide must be maintained by the study lead(s) of each project.

x) The data collected (and thus available for analysis) for each study must be made available by the study lead upon request from any part.

xi) Access to the dataset with the aim of further studies by any third party will be at the discretion of the EANS-YNSRC and the respective study lead. Interested parties must apply in writing, stipulating the plan for analysis and dissemination of
findings. A request for access may be declined if the proposal lacks clarity or a satisfactory methodology.

xii) Any analysis of EANS-YNSRC data to be published or presented must include the EANS-YNSRC contributors as co-authors.

xiii) The practice of the EANS-YNSRC should always be to submit manuscripts aiming for the most relevant journal with the highest impact factor. Special consideration, however, should be given to the Journal “Brain&Spine” as the EANS own journal. Nevertheless, the final decision rests with the study lead for each project.

8. Alteration of the Constitution

Proposals for amendments to this constitution must be discussed and decided upon at the YNS committee meeting(s).

9. Adoption of the Constitution

This constitution was adopted by the YNS members and signed by Marisa on the 04th of March of 2022.

Dra. Marisa Gandía

Chair of Young Neurosurgeons Committee