



SCHWEIZERISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR HERZ- UND THORAKALE GEFÄSSCHIRURGIE
SOCIÉTÉ SUISSE DE CHIRURGIE CARDIAQUE ET VASCULAIRE THORACIQUE
SOCIETA SVIZZERA DI CHIRURGIA DEL CUORE E DEI VASI TORACICI

Aarau, 7 April 2020

“Special Swiss Young Cardiac Surgeon Award 2020” Cardiac Surgical Training at the Time of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic poses an unparalleled threat to healthcare worldwide. The transmission of the disease poses a threat to patients and healthcare workers. The number of patients requiring hospital admission and intensive care have engulfed health care systems and may negatively affect standard care for patients presenting with life threatening conditions. COVID-19 associated structural and organizational changes of our clinics have strong impacts on education and training of young cardiac surgeons in formation. Physicians in formation are relocated to COVID units. The reduction of operation volumes is impeding surgical training since the few patients getting operated are mostly high risk and/or on emergent basis. In addition, conferences and training courses are canceled.

One of the central roles of the SGHC SSCC is to foster and support future generations of cardiac surgeons. The SGHC SSCC wants to hear from their junior members. We want to know, what this crisis means to them. Tell us, where you see problems, and tell us, how we could improve. What do you experience during these unprecedented times? What is your daily practice now? How did your education and training change? Does it have an impact on your formation? Does this situation present a chance for change and if this crisis lasts for months, how should we change or adapt education and training in Switzerland?

Tell us about your experience during these difficult times. Share it with us and your cardiac surgery community. Submit your report to the Swiss Society of Cardiac Surgery, until **20th May 2020**.

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The word count should not overcome 7500 words. There is no limit for tables, pictures, graphs and citations.

The awardees receive a monetary prize of total CHF 3'000 and a honorary plaque of the Swiss Cardiac Surgery Society.

Yours sincerely,

Friedrich Eckstein
President SGHC

Peter Matt
Vice-President SGHC

Christoph Huber
Secretary SGHC