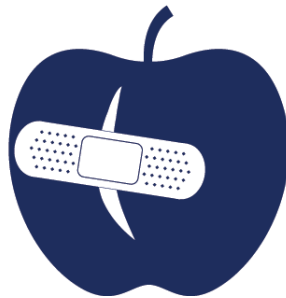




European  
Crohn's and Colitis  
Organisation

## **PROJECT E-QUALITY: ECCO Quality of Care Project**

### **Project Prospectus for Unrestricted Grants**



ECCO Quality of Care Project

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# **E-QUALITY**

**Dear Corporate Members,**

**ECCO would like to invite you to take part in the ongoing project – E-QUALITY.**

Since its inception in 2001, ECCO's mission has been to improve the care of patients with IBD. A major step forward in this journey was when ECCO took the initiative to support the construction of a list of criteria designed to summarise the optimal current standards of care in IBD. This resulted in the publication of Quality of Care Standards in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases: a European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation Position Paper (Journal of Crohn's and Colitis, vol. 14, Issue 8, August 2020, pp. 1037–1048).

This list is based on scientific evidence, interdisciplinary expert consensus, and patient orientated perspectives and is aligned with ECCO Guidelines. The overarching aim of this position statement was to improve standards across institutions.

The project is hosted in the broader IT environment of the UR-CARE Database, which offers a high level of IT standards. IBD Centres already using UR-CARE have the opportunity to request that the E-QUALITY Project is added to their UR-CARE account.

It is crucial to know where the gaps exist as once these are identified, ECCO will be able to advance understanding of how to implement change.

**Main objectives of the project:**

- To investigate management of IBD in the participating centres (structure, processes, outcome measures as listed in the ECCO Quality of Care Position Statement)
- To investigate how this management reflects current ECCO Guidelines/Consensus Statements
- To use the ECCO Guidelines/Consensus statements as a benchmark of quality of care for patients with IBD
- To develop targeted educational programmes based on the results of these investigations

**We welcome industry partners to take part in the E-QUALITY programme.**

In addition to this informative letter please find more information on our website: <https://www.ecco-ibd.eu/education/e-quality.html>.

If you need any further information don't hesitate to contact the ECCO Office ([ecco@ecco-ibd.eu](mailto:ecco@ecco-ibd.eu)).

Thank you very much for your support!

Kind regards,

Gionata Fiorino, Project Leader

## **Project Summary**

### **What is the E-QUALITY Project?**

The E-QUALITY project is an initiative of ECCO to ultimately improve the quality of care of patients living with Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (IBD).

With this project, ECCO goes back to its historic mission: To improve the care of all patients with IBD in all its aspects through international guidelines for practice, education, research and collaboration in the area of IBD.

### **What will the major steps of the E-QUALITY project be?**

- **Current practice vs. ECCO Recommendations: Identifying the gaps**

**First**, ECCO is focusing on identifying the gaps between the quality of standards as defined by ECCO Statements, and the current practice in daily clinical care. All centres are invited to answer this survey. The results will be shared with the IBD Community in a first ECCO publication (or several, depending on the results) in the Journal of Crohn's and Colitis.

The preliminary results from the first survey round on Structure and management of IBD units were reported at ECCO'23 Congress, in February 2023.

The preliminary results from the second survey round on process and outcomes were reported at ECCO '24 Congress, in February 2024.

- **ECCO's Recommendations**

ECCO's Recommendations in term of Quality Standards of Care were published in August 2020 in the Journal of Crohn's and Colitis "Quality of Care Standards in Inflammatory Bowel Disease: a European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation Position Paper". In this Position Statement, ECCO listed 111 quality standards that represent the optimum quality of care according to ECCO, grouped into three main domains:

- i) **Structure** (IBD Core team, interdisciplinary team, IBD facilities)
    - ii) **Process** (any process related to IBD, such as diagnosis, monitoring, special situations)
    - iii) **Outcomes** (objectives and quality measures able to quantify the effectiveness of structures and processes)

- **Fill the gaps**

**Second**, having identified the gaps, ECCO will aim at setting up educational tools and/or activities to fill them.

To do so, the Taskforce started several initiatives listed below:

- Two webinars are scheduled; to highlight the gaps and quality standards being applied in different IBD units across Europe, one on June 2024 and the other on September 2024.
  - A public profile idea is being developed for the centres participating in the E-QUALITY project, where they can give information about their centres and the availabilities on hosting IBD professionals as trainees, to establish the quality of care standards.
  - Lastly, the Taskforce is exploring the idea to incentivize patient education by a potential collaboration with EFCCA.

### **Use of data for E-QUALITY**

- For the E-QUALITY project, data collected by statistical survey rounds are used retrospectively to compare current clinical practice and ECCO's Recommendations. In terms of priorities, ECCO plans the main domains of investigations to be: Structure, Process and Outcomes.

### **Timeline of the project**

The estimated duration of the project is 3 to 5 years.

The preliminary results are available on the E-QUALITY webpage as abstracts from ECCO '23 and ECCO '24 congresses.

## The Project so Far...

- **Webinar:** Quality of care in Europe: lights and shadows – Part II – September 30, 2025 – CME Points TBA
- **Webinar:** Quality of care in Europe: lights and shadows – Part I – June 19, 2025 – 1,0 CME Points
- **Publication:** Gaps between European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation quality standards of care and the real world on diagnosis and monitoring inflammatory bowel disease across Europe: results from the E-QUALITY survey: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ecco-jcc/jjaf105>
- **Publication:** Gaps between European Crohn's Colitis Organisation quality standards of care and the real world on structure of IBD units across Europe: results from E-QUALITY survey: <https://doi.org/10.1093/ecco-jcc/jjaf094>
- **Webinar:** Practical Solutions – September 5, 2024
- **Webinar:** Theoretical Approaches - June 16, 2024
- **In ECCO'24 Digital Oral Presentation 3:** Gaps between ECCO Quality Standards of Care and the real-world data: E-QUALITY Survey-Phase II: [https://academic.oup.com/ecco-jcc/article/18/Supplement\\_1/i75/7586181](https://academic.oup.com/ecco-jcc/article/18/Supplement_1/i75/7586181)
- **In ECCO'23 Oral Presentation 19:** Gaps between ECCO Quality Standards of Care and the real world data: E-QUALITY Survey: [https://academic.oup.com/ecco-jcc/article/17/Supplement\\_1/i26/7009309](https://academic.oup.com/ecco-jcc/article/17/Supplement_1/i26/7009309)

### **Industry support**

ECCO is looking for support via **unrestricted educational grants** from industry. No exclusivity is foreseen: The number of companies which can support the project is not limited as this is an initiative for the entire IBD Community.

**ECCO is first reaching out to its Corporate Members to offer them the priority for this project.**

Amount foreseen per year and per company: **EUR 50,000.**

If a long-term agreement is not possible, the support can be re-evaluated after each year.

The grants will be used to support the entire project (no distinction will be made per topic).

## Grant Donorship form - E-QUALITY Project

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We are committing the following grant amount (to be confirmed by the ECCO Office):  
NB: this is not seen as a service exchange, hence VAT will not be applicable

<b>Company data</b> - the company name as it should appear in official listings (final programme, website)	
Name of Company	_____
VAT Number (N/A)	_____
Postal Address	_____
ZIP / City / Country	_____
Contact Person	_____
Telephone	_____ Fax _____
Email	_____

Please use this address as the invoicing address:     yes             no

<b>Communication Agency</b> – in case you have appointed a third party to act on your company's behalf	
Name of Company	_____
VAT Number	_____
Postal Address	_____
ZIP / City / Country	_____
Contact Person	_____
Telephone	_____ Fax _____
Email	_____

Please use this address as the invoicing address:     yes             no