

# Constitution

## **Swiss Branch of the ISSHP (International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy)**

**8<sup>th</sup> December 2006  
Zürich**

# Constitution

## § 1

### Name

(1) The name of the Working Group is „Swiss Branch of the ISSHP (International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy)“ or in short form “Swiss working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy”.

(2) The Working Group will reside at the address of the President of the Swiss Branch of the ISSHP. The address of correspondence is that of the President of this group. **The “Swiss working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy” is part of the “Swiss Academy of Feto-Maternal Medicine, AFMM”.**

## § 2

### Objectives

(1) The Working Group is a charity

(2) The Working Group is an interdisciplinary working group which shall promote the advancement of knowledge and dissemination of information concerning pathophysiology, epidemiology, detection, investigation and treatment of hypertension in pregnancy and related diseases. In particular the aims are:

- a) to promote research and especially interdisciplinary and multicenter research in Switzerland in the field of hypertension in pregnancy including collection of epidemiological data.
- b) to disseminate useful results of research and to advance education in the field of hypertension in pregnancy during local and Swiss-wide scientific and clinical meetings
- c) to establish Swiss guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of hypertension in pregnancy and related diseases in pregnancy
- d) to formulate health policy recommendations in the field of hypertension in pregnancy and to advise health policy institutions in Switzerland on demand. To promote information for the public.
- e) to promote fund raising for scientific work in preeclampsia

## § 3

### Membership

Membership is open to residents of Switzerland active in the field of perinatal medicine and who usually have experience in research and/or are clinically working or have a special interest (professional or non-professional) in the field of hypertensive diseases in

pregnancy and related topics. According to the interdisciplinary character of the working group both clinicians and scientists from disciplines related to hypertension in pregnancy can join the working group. Proposal of membership may be made by submission of an application to the President of the Society. This application should be accompanied by the candidate's qualifications, professional position and a list of relevant publications or subject related activities. The President presents the applicants for election for membership during the annual business and scientific meeting. Membership is confirmed by a simple majority of those voting in favour during the annual meeting. Membership shall be revoked upon failure to attend the annual meeting for several years or if it is decided by the majority of the Members during the annual meeting due to other important reasons. Clinicians and Scientists attending the first meeting of The Swiss working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2006 in Zürich are the Foundation Members of the Working Group. Each of the members can resign from the Working Group by informing the President in writing.

#### **§ 4**

##### **Membership Fee**

Membership in the ISSHP is encouraged. No membership fee for the Swiss Branch of the ISSHP is raised, but such a membership fee might be introduced at a later date.

#### **§ 5**

##### **Officials**

There are three Officials of the "The Swiss working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy": The Swiss Councillor at the ISSHP and the President and Secretary of the Working Group. These functions are on a honorary basis. Prof Holzgreve, a founder of the Swiss group, was the society's first appointee to the International Council charged with establishing this affiliation. In the future the Council member will be elected by the society to serve 5 years, renewable indefinitely. The President and the Secretary are elected for a duration of two years during every second annual business meeting. The President and the Secretary are elected with the simple majority of the attending members during the meeting.

The main tasks of the President are to organize and to chair the annual meeting, to create the agenda of the meeting, to collect applications for the Swiss Working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy, to present the applicants at the meeting and to annually complete the list of members. The President is responsible for the public work of the group and the collaboration with health-policy institutions. The Secretary is the substitute of the President of the group and supports the President at his duties. She/he prepares the summary of the contents of the meeting and distributes this protocol among the members of the working group.

## **§ 6 Meetings**

The Swiss working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy will organize one meeting annually. The meeting comprises a business meeting and a scientific meeting. Both meetings are open for all participants. A protocol of the meeting is prepared by the Secretary and distributed among all members of the Working Group after the meeting. The official language of the meeting and of the protocol is English.

## **§ 7 Change of Constitution, Dissolution**

Changes to the constitution can be decided by a 2/3 majority vote by the members of the Working Group independent from the number of participants. An application to modify the constitution must be sent to the President at least two weeks before the annual meeting in written form. The President will distribute the application for a change of the constitution among all members of the working group at least one week before the annual meeting.

The Swiss working group on Hypertension in Pregnancy may be dissolved by a resolution of 2/3 of the participants of the annual meeting.

Zurich, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2006

For the final draft

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