



EUROPEAN MALIGNANT HYPERTHERMIA GROUP (EMHG)

<https://www.emhg.org>

January 27th, 2026

Role and Contributions of the European Malignant Hyperthermia Group

Malignant Hyperthermia (MH) remains a rare but potentially life-threatening complication of anaesthesia, requiring constant vigilance, education, and adherence to evidence-based standards of care. In alignment with the Helsinki Declarations on Patient Safety in Anaesthesiology (2010 and Helsinki 2.0, 2025), which identify key areas of risk and promote safer anaesthetic practice, the European Malignant Hyperthermia Group (EMHG) is committed to improving patient safety for individuals at risk of MH across Europe and beyond.

The aim of the EMHG is to advance knowledge, diagnosis, prevention, and management of Malignant Hyperthermia through collaboration, research, education, and the development of practical clinical guidance. Since its foundation, the EMHG has played a central role in shaping European and international standards for MH care, supporting both patients and healthcare professionals.

A core mission of the EMHG has been the development of comprehensive, consensus-based guidelines and recommendations that reflect shared expert opinion on current issues in MH. These documents provide practical, clinically applicable guidance designed to enhance safety throughout the peri-operative pathway.

Key guidelines published in leading anaesthesia journals include:

- Diagnostic guidelines for Malignant Hyperthermia:
Rüffert H, Gillies R, Hopkins PM et al. *Br J Anaesth.* 2026;136 (2): 653-661.
- Recognition and management of a malignant hyperthermia crisis
Glahn KPE, Girard T, Hellblom A et al. *Br J Anaesth* 2025;134(1):221-223.
- Peri-operative management of patients known or suspected to be MH-susceptible
Rüffert H, Bastian B, Bendixen D et al. *Br J Anaesth.* 2021;126:120-130.
- Recommendations regarding the availability of dantrolene
Glahn KPE, Bendixen D, Girard T et al. *Br J Anaesth.* 2020;125:133-140.

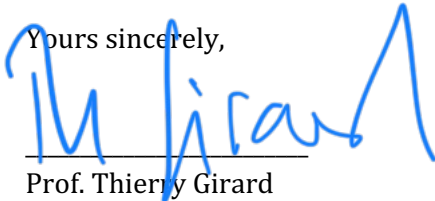
In addition, the EMHG publishes practical recommendations via its website (www.emhg.org) addressing clinically relevant and emerging issues, including life insurance, methoxyflurane use, occupational exposure to volatile anaesthetics, and Malignant Hyperthermia during pregnancy.

The EMHG Malignant Hyperthermia Event Registry is an internet-based database allowing anonymous registration of MH events (<https://mh-event.emhg.org>).

We strongly encourage all colleagues to report suspected or confirmed malignant hyperthermia (MH) incidents to the registry—either directly or in coordination with a National or European MH center. Each submitted case contributes valuable data that enhances our understanding of MH, including its clinical prevalence, genetic penetrance, and the diversity of clinical presentations. By supporting this collective effort, you help advance patient safety and deepen the evidence base that informs future guidelines and research.

We would like to ask your support in disseminating this important information to your members.

Yours sincerely,



Prof. Thierry Girard

Chairman

European Malignant Hyperthermia Group (EMHG)