

June 20, 2016

Dear CTS Members:

As part of the growing collaboration between our societies, a special agreement was signed in May 2016 between the Canadian Thoracic Society (CTS) and the European Respiratory Society (ERS). This innovative agreement enables CTS members to become ERS members with all associated benefits and privileges at a special discounted rate. We are pleased to provide you with the details, as follows:

#### **'Opt In' Approach**

- Joining the ERS through this mechanism is completely voluntary
- The option to join ERS for 1 or 3 years will be included in the online CTS and CRHP membership forms
- CTS members will be able to join ERS at the special rate when they renew their annual CTS or CRHP membership

#### **Annual Membership fees via CTS**

- CTS member under 65 years of age: \$35 per year / \$105 for 3 years (plus applicable taxes) – this represents a savings of \$65-\$175 per year, depending on the ERS category of membership)
- CTS member aged over 65 years of age: *complimentary ERS annual membership*

#### **ERS Membership benefits**

- Electronic access to the following journals: the *European Respiratory Journal* (ERJ) including ERS Congress Abstracts and proceedings supplements of the ERJ, *European respiratory Review* (ERR), *Breathe and the Monograph*
- Receipt of the ERS Weekly newsletter
- Possibility to order printed copies of the ERS publications at a special discounted price
- Discounted registration fees to the ERS International congress
- Opportunity to participate at the scientific program of the annual congress of the ERS
- Preferred access to ERS Educational Services online and Events
- Opportunity to participate and vote in the constitutional meetings of the ERS
- Opportunity to become a candidate for elections of ERS Assemblies up to Assembly Head
- Opportunity to become a candidate for elections of the Executive Committee up to ERS Presidency
- Opportunity to apply for the prestigious academic distinction of "Fellow of the ERS" (FERS)

#### **Compensation for CTS members who are already members of the ERS**

CTS members who already hold an ERS membership and with membership fees paid to ERS still valid for more than 12 months will be compensated in the form of a voucher for the value of their remaining membership to be redeemed in exchange of ERS activities and services.

In order to make all ERS membership benefits available to CTS members, CTS must disclose some of your personal data (name and e-mail address) to ERS for the sole purpose of creating a database of CTS members to be used only under the terms of this agreement.

If you wish to take advantage of the membership agreement with ERS **before** your renewal date in order to get the Early Bird registration rate for the [ERS International Congress](#) this fall, you can opt in now by completing a brief form and paying a one-time introductory rate of \$20 at the following link: <https://cts.lung.ca/civicrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=12>

We hope this agreement proves advantageous to CTS as well as of mutual individual and collective benefits for the members of our two societies.

Kind regards,



Andrew Halayko, PhD, FCAHS  
CTS President



Diane Lougheed, MD, MSc, FRCPC  
CTS Past President



Prof. Jørgen Vetsbo  
ERS President



Prof. Dr. Giovanni Battista Migliori  
ERS Secretary General

Enc. ERS Membership FAQ

### What benefits do I get from joining ERS through the CTS?

If you join ERS through the CTS, you will receive the full benefits of being an ERS member, including unrestricted access to ERS publications, webcasts, scientific content, and discounts to conferences and events at a reduced annual membership fee of 20 EUR.

However, Joint Members do not receive hard copies of ERS publications. To receive these, you need to subscribe as a direct member and pay the regular membership annual fee.

### If I'm already a member of ERS, do I need to cancel my existing membership?

No. Your membership data will be automatically updated, however, you will still be required to pay the ERS-CTS Joint Membership Fee. If your membership is still valid for more than 6 months, the ERS will provide you with refund in the form of a voucher to be either used to pay for registration to educational and scientific events, to purchase items on our bookshop or to claim back as cash at our annual congress.

### If I'm already a member of ERS or have been a member of the ERS in the past, will I need new login details to access ERS material?

No. Your previous existing login details will remain the same.

### Do I have to pay for the new membership?

That depends on whether you are already a member of the ERS. If you already are a member of the ERS your membership data will be automatically updated by the ERS and you will be refunded for the excessive payment of the membership in the form of a voucher to be used towards various ERS activities. You will be required to pay the \$35 fee in the subsequent year(s).

If you are not yet a member of the ERS, the following fees apply:

- Member under 65 years of age: \$35 per year
- Member aged over 65 years of age: **complimentary annual membership**

### If I become an ERS member through the CTS or renew my ERS membership through the CTS, can I still receive the hard copies of the journals?

No, when joining the ERS through your National/Regional society or renewing your membership, you will only have access to the online version of the ERS publications, including the ERS Journals. However, you can keep on receiving the print copies of the journals by opting out of the Joint membership National/Regional Society & ERS and registering to the ERS as a direct member. In this case, the regular ERS membership categories will apply for the payment of the annual membership fee.

### How will my current membership with the CTS change?

You will have access to ERS membership benefits in addition to unchanged access to your CTS membership benefits. However, please note that when joining the ERS or renewing your ERS membership through the CTS, you will only get online access to the ERS publications, including the journals. **To keep receiving print copies of journals you need to join/renew the ERS as a direct member.** The regular ERS membership categories will apply for the payment of the annual membership fee.

### How do I join an assembly or working group of the ERS?

The assemblies and groups specialise in specific domains of respiratory medicine and set out the scientific and educational agenda across all ERS activities. The ERS has 11 Assemblies, divided into groups which members can choose to become affiliated to.

The selection is made upon your first login into '[my ers](#)'.

You can join up to 3 groups of your interest: the first one is your affiliation, the second and third choice affiliation is in order to receive mailings and circulars regarding these topics. The voting right may only be exercised within the first choice of affiliation. To find out more about your ERS membership and ERS activities, please visit: [www.ersnet.org](http://www.ersnet.org).

**Is becoming a member of the ERS assemblies compulsory when joining the ERS?**

It is not compulsory, however highly recommended in order for you to fully benefit from your membership and be active in the scientific and educational activities of the ERS. By becoming affiliated to an assemblies and working groups you become part of the nerve centre of ERS; voting for new leaders, shaping key activities such as the Congress programme and task forces, and being the first to hear about new opportunities and events in your professional interest area.

**Can I modify the selection of assemblies and working groups I want to be involved in?**

Yes, you can modify your selection through the [MyERS portal](#) at any time.

**How can I update my contact details and check my membership status?**

You can update your contact details and check your membership whenever needed through the [MyERS portal](#). Alternatively if you experience any issues with the system you can contact the ERS Membership team at [members@ersnet.org](mailto:members@ersnet.org).

**I am under 35 years old and an ERS Silver Member. Do I still have to pay for joint membership?**

The ERS has eliminated its Silver Membership under 35 category under the scope of the signed agreement. Existing active members of ERS under the age of 35 can wait for their membership to expire before renewing through the CTS. New members below the age of 35 will be requested to pay the full Joint ERS-CTS Membership fee.

**I do not have an email address. Can I still take advantage of the joint membership?**

To take full advantage of the benefits the joint membership scheme provides, a working email address is required. We therefore strongly encourage you to set up an email account to fully benefit from the ERS advantages.

**I am not a member of the Canadian Thoracic Society - can I still be a member of ERS?**

You can become a member of the ERS by applying directly as before. However, if you are eligible, you will need to become a member of the National/Regional society in your country of residence to benefit from the reduced ERS membership fee. Please note that by choosing not to be a member of the National/Regional society, the regular ERS membership categories will apply for the payment of the annual membership fee.

To become a member of the ERS or renew your membership as a direct member, please complete the online application process through your [MyERS account](#).

**How can I renew my membership with the ERS as a direct member?**

To become a member of the ERS or renew your membership as a direct member, please complete the online application process through your [MyERS account](#).

Category	Membership fee
<b>Gold</b>	
Gold	170 EUR/year
Gold Dual *( dual membership with ATs/APSR/CTS/EAACI/ESTS/ISAM)	145 EUR/year
Gold online - GDP between USD 10,000 and 20,000	<u>85 EUR/year</u>
Gold online – GDP <10,000 USD	<u>50 EUR/year</u>
<u>Gold Senior (over 68 years)</u>	<u>70 EUR/year</u>
<b>Silver</b>	
Scientist	70 EUR/year

Allied Health Professional	70 EUR/year
Under 35 (under 35 years )	FREE OF CHARGE

**I am a member of my National/Regional society, but do not want to be a member of ERS. Can I opt out?**

Yes, joining the ERS through this special arrangement is strictly voluntary.

**Who should I contact for more information about the new programme?**

You may contact Katherine Strong, CTS Executive Assistant at the Canadian Thoracic Society, or the ERS Membership Services who will provide you with further information and/or assistance as required.

- Canadian Thoracic Society: [ctsinfo@lung.ca](mailto:ctsinfo@lung.ca) / Katherine Strong at 613-569--6411, ext. 267
- ERS Membership Services: [members@ersnet.org](mailto:members@ersnet.org)