



MINISTÉRIO DA EDUCAÇÃO
UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO PARANÁ
SETOR DE CIÊNCIAS DA SAÚDE
DEPARTAMENTO DE CLÍNICA MÉDICA

October 12th, 2023

Dear members of the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) Executive Committee

The aim of this letter is to present the academic research center in Brazil that has been indicated by the Sociedade Brasileira de Endocrinologia e Metabologia (SBEM) to receive the European candidate for the “Bilateral EYES Observership Program”, a new initiative to be developed in partnership between ESE and SBEM.

The Brazilian center is the Serviço de Endocrinologia e Metabologia do Hospital de Clínicas da Universidade Federal do Paraná (SEMPR) located in Curitiba, south of Brazil. SEMPR is an academic institution that stands out as a national and international reference center in medical care, teaching, research, and professional training, in the area of endocrine and metabolic diseases. The team is made up by university professors, specialized endocrine physicians, in-training resident and postgraduate students, and other health professionals (nutritionists, nurses, physiotherapists), that provides around 15.000 outpatient consultations annually to patients of the Brazilian public health system (SUS), in addition to several procedures, such as bone densitometry, thyroid ultrasound, and endocrine tests, that are carried out in the SEMPR Medical Center. Moreover, the team is also responsible for the assistance of hospitalized patients with endocrine and metabolic diseases in the University Hospital.

The structure of SEMPR consists of specialized units in diabetes, obesity, adolescent and transition endocrinology, adrenal and gonadal disorders, thyroid, neuroendocrine and bone metabolism. Each unit is coordinated by a mentor who discusses all clinical cases seen in outpatient and inpatient care, as described in the Table below:



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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Thyroid procedures Diabetes and pregnancy General endocrinology	Obesity Nutrition Thyroid procedures General endocrinology	Thyroid Thyroid and pregnancy General endocrinology	Diabetes General endocrinology	General endocrinology
Afternoon	Obesity – Bariatric surgery Neuroendocrinology General endocrinology	Bone metabolism	General endocrinology	General endocrinology	Adrenal and gonadal disorders General endocrinology



SEMPR Medical Center

Beyond health care work, SEMPR has a program of educational activities that are carried out in its own auditorium every Monday (8:00-9:00 AM) and Friday (08:00-09:30 AM). These sessions consist of discussion of clinical cases, journal clubs, hot topics with reviews and updates of relevant issues, echoes of meetings, presentation of theses and postgraduate projects, usually presented by the SEMPR team, local, national or international guest speakers, in a hybrid mode broadcast via ZOOM platform. More than 1,650 seminars have been performed and registered since the first one held in 1999.

The research and publication carried out by our group is among the most productive in Brazil, with around 500 articles published in peer review journals, several book chapters, and countless graduate and postgraduate monographs, dissertations, and thesis. Some of our members are well-recognized by their work as investigators in international clinical trials. We are proud that due to our intense activities, SEMPR was the subject of an article published in the ESE News on issue 31, Autumn 2016, a very special edition of the journal that celebrates 10 years of ESE! More information about SEMPR can be obtained directly from our website: www.sempr.org.br with some information available in English <https://www.sempr.org.br/EN/who-we-are>



SEMPR auditorium

The Endo Explorer



In pursuit of excellence...

After a massive effort in the state of Brazil, it's time to make Brazil's endocrine arena, where SEMPR is leading the field.

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; genius will not; unworldly genius will not; education will not; the world's full of educated dunces. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent."

Calvin Coolidge (1872-1933)

Persistence and determination were key factors in establishing a research center dedicated to endocrinology in our medical school in Curitiba, Brazil.

In 1998, I returned to my hometown after 4 years of postgraduate training at the Research Center for Endocrinology and Metabolism at Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Gothenburg, Sweden, under the mentorship of Ole Isaksson and Uwe Carlsson. I came back with an idea hammering in my head to transform our academic institution into a national and international reference center for healthcare, teaching, research and training in endocrine and metabolic diseases.

With full support and encouragement from my mentor and friend Hans Graf, I led a gray dove and started to prepare a project which was dubbed "SEMPR" (Serviço de Endocrinologia e Metabolismo do Paraná), an abbreviation that signified our academic division within the university hospital, and also resembles the Portuguese word "sempre" meaning "forever". In other words, it would be an academic project without an expiry date.

The first steps

The project was ambitious, the demands and challenges were many and government funding was limited, almost absent. To overcome the economic obstacles, our strategy was to build business-community partnerships, which has proved a very successful approach in maintaining our activities over the years.

Initial resources were scarce, and allowed us to set up our first headquarters in 1999, into which I moved and began work with a group of gifted collaborators trained in different areas of endocrinology. In the subsequent years, many other young and extremely skilled fellows were recruited, and multidisciplinary units especially dedicated to the clinical, basic, metabolism, diabetes, obesity, pediatric and translational endocrinology, pituitary and thyroid were formed.

Undoubtedly, one of the most satisfying aspects of my professional career has been to inspire so many colleagues to seek the same goals and ideals, working together to turn a dream into a reality.

Pursuit of excellence and internationalization

We continued advancing, thanks to the team's hard work, and in 2006 moved to a larger property where the SEMPR Medical Centre was built with funds raised through the efforts of our group. SEMPR is now one of the largest Brazilian academic centers fully dedicated to endocrinology, with a long history of fruitful collaboration with other institutions.

Our research has consistently been presented and received awards at national and international meetings, and has accounted for more than 500 articles published in peer review journals, as well as numerous dissertations, theses, books and book chapters. We have been involved in several clinical trials and multicenter studies, and in the training of hundreds of residents, fellows and graduate and postgraduate students from all parts of Brazil and other countries.

Last, but not least, our multidisciplinary team is deeply committed to endocrine care, and we are very proud to offer high quality healthcare to thousands of patients using the Brazilian public healthcare system (SUS) each year.

Retaining our ideology of persistence and dedication, the "SEMPR family" is proactively building a promising future with new achievements, innovative ideas and excellence in endocrinology.

Cesar Luiz Bogaczewski
Professor of Endocrinology, Department of Internal Medicine, Endocrine Division (SEMPR), Federal University of Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil

Cesar Bogaczewski is also Chair of the International Committee of the Brazilian Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism and Associate Editor for South America of European Journal of Endocrinology.

References
1. *ESE News* 2016, August/September/October Issue 31: 27-31.

10 European Society of Endocrinology *The European Endocrine Society* **European Society of Endocrinology**

ESE News – Autumn 2016



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For all the reasons stated above, we are very pleased with the opportunity to take part of this exciting initiative of ESE-SBEM and to welcome a member of the EYES Observership Program in our institution.

Sincerely Yours,

César Luiz Boguszewski

Full Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, Federal University of Parana (UFPR)

Head of SEMPR

Past-President of SBEM 2021-2022

SEMPR - Serviço de Endocrinologia e Metabologia do Hospital de Clínicas da Universidade Federal do Paraná (SEMPR)

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