ESR iGuide is a clinical decision support system developed by the ESR in cooperation with the National Decision Support Company (NDSC) for the European market. This product will make imaging referral guidelines available in a user-friendly way, supporting referring physicians in choosing the most appropriate exam for each of their patients.

In Europe, the appropriateness of the countless radiological examinations conducted year in, year out can be improved significantly. Imaging referral guidelines are an essential tool to achieve this, but their availability in Europe is limited, and use of the existing guidelines in daily practice is minimal. The recommendations that are available often differ starkly from country to country, even though there is no sound evidence for such divergences. Moreover, as developing and updating guidelines is a complex, arduous process, the available text-based guidelines are only updated every few years. These and other factors contribute to the significant lack of use of imaging referral guidelines.

At a time of budgetary constraints on health systems in many countries, and amid rising concern over the risks of inappropriate radiation exposure, the ESR and NDSC now officially present ESR iGuide as a solution to address these issues. Based on the American College of Radiology’s Appropriateness Criteria, the ESR has developed guidelines adapted to European standards of practice, and in cooperation with NDSC embedded them in a CDS platform. Integrated into the workflow – linking it to hospital ordering systems and electronic health records, for example – ESR iGuide not only offers referring physicians up-to-date and scientifically valid guidance that is regularly updated, it also constitutes an efficient, traceable and reliable way of selecting and ordering imaging exams in daily practice, benefitting general practitioners and other specialists, radiologists, hospital managers and patients alike.

Visit the ESR iGuide booth in the entrance hall or go to www.ESRiGuide.org to find out how ESR iGuide can help you ensure each and every one of your patients gets the best possible treatment!