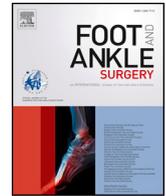


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Editorial

EFAS Score validated in 13 languages with more than 3 billion total speakers[☆]

This issue includes the fifth publication of the EFAS Score Committee containing the validated Spanish and Estonian versions of the EFAS Score [1–5]. Thus, the validated and published language-specific score versions cover 13 languages in total (Dutch, English, Estonian, German, Finnish, French, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Persian, Spanish, Swedish and Turkish) comprising 454 million or 61% of all mother tongues in Europe [5]. When looking at total speakers (mother tongue and secondary languages), the EFAS Score is validated for 3 billion total speakers [5]. When EFAS established the EFAS Score Committee in 2013, this success was not foreseeable [6]. The EFAS Score Committee was "just" founded to develop, validate, and publish a new score, the "EFAS Score", which should be not specific for single pathologies for different European languages [6]. The principal aim of this project was to develop and validate the EFAS Score simultaneously for different European languages. The validation started with four languages (English, German, French and Swedish) and it took five years of hard work to publish the first EFAS score versions for seven different languages (English, German, French, Swedish, Dutch, Polish, Italian) [1]. Even with the English score version included in this first publication, the breakthrough of the EFAS Score covering 3 billion total speakers was reached especially with the recently validated Portuguese and actually validated Spanish versions [4,5]. Not necessary to mention that the validated EFAS Score versions cover by far the most mother tongues and total speakers of all foot and ankle scores worldwide. Where should this development end? What about the missing top ten worldwide languages (Chinese (Mandarin and others), Hindi/Urdu, Arabic and Bengali)? Should the EFAS Score Committee attempt to validate the EFAS Score for these clearly non-European languages? As the EFAS Score Committee is part of EFAS, this needs to be decided also by

EFAS? Lately, the EFAS Council has decided to start EFAS Score validation in Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese). What do you think as a reader of Foot and Ankle Surgery and EFAS member?

All score versions are freely available at www.efas.net. The following languages are still under validation: Norwegian, Danish, Hungarian and Arabic. For further language validation requests of other languages please contact the EFAS Score Committee.

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[☆] Footnote: #Wikipedia, January 1, 2023

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