

## Brief History of the Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society.

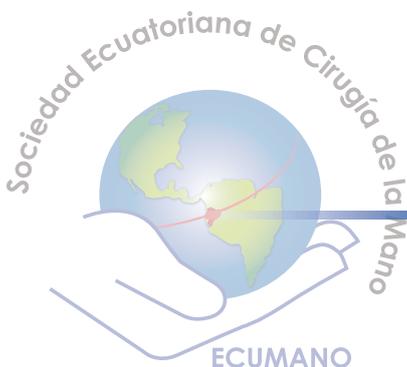


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Hand surgery in Ecuador has an interesting history, in 1964 the first transplant of a hand in the world was registered in the city of Guayaquil, a historic milestone that Dr. Roberto Gilbert Elizalde performed with his surgical team receiving international support that came to study the case from Boston, despite this fact and for many reasons the development of hand surgery as a specialty in Ecuador was very slow and it was not until only 5 years ago that a group of specialists in hand surgery saw the need to have an entity that is able to represent the Ecuadorian specialists in hand surgery. Until then, the closest representation to it was the Ecuadorian Orthopedics and Traumatology Society with the chapter dedicated to hand pathology, however there was no entity with recognition of the Ecuadorian State that represents the specialists in surgery of the hand in a clear, specific and formal way.

Since then, began the hard work of achieving this recognition, 3 years ago during the 2016 global congress of hand surgery, held in Buenos Aires Argentina, this group of specialists decided to sign a document during a meeting held in a restaurant in that city, a document that does not involve legal status but nevertheless compromised several of its signatories who took it as the true Act of Foundation of the Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society, this signature committed to work for the growth of the specialty in a small country that for some time was forgotten in this beautiful specialty.

It is not until a short time later that one of the promoters of the project met with the current president of IFSSH Dr. Marc García Elias, who after the question "How is Ecuador in the IFSSH?" Was able to answer that this small country does not exist for IFSSH and he would like very much to have representation in the largest Federation of Hand Surgeons in the world. This is how the legal formation of ECUMANO began with the work in pursuit of obtaining the approval of the State as well as achieving the growth of the specialty in Ecuador.





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The legal life of ECUMANO begins on May 17, 2019 when the Ecuadorian Public Health Ministry published the Ministerial Agreement 0360 - 2019 with which it recognizes and gives legal personality to the Ecuadorian Hand Surgery Society, it is immediately after demonstrating the Working time previously invested, that the membership of ECUMANO as part of the IFSSH was accepted in Berlin.

In spite of the short legal life of ECUMANO we have been part of the organization of several courses and we have done some Webinar with foreign guests, always trying to involve related societies of all the world, courses that have served for the diffusion of the most frequent topics of the specialty in Ecuador, we have also participated in international courses such as the Binational Colombo Venezuelan Congress and even the 2018 European Congress of Hand Surgery in Copenhagen, always representing a country that is small in territory but very big in work .

Currently ECUMANO has 5 founding members, 10 associate members and 4 aspiring members, at this moment the growth of the Society expects a rebound due to the recent incorporation to the IFSSH after which we have received requests from more than 5 surgeons who wish to join this society and work for the growth of hand surgery in the country.

Dr. Fidel Cayon.  
President  
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ECUMANO

