

2015 Annual Report of ESP Working Group of Digestive Diseases

Status of the Working Group End of 2015

Currently the Working Group has 135 members (*updated on February 2, 2016*), and all are members of the ESP (according to the rules of the society).

We remind you that, in 2015, our society has decided on a general change in the management of working group membership.

All ESP members have received an email, in which they have been asked to register actively on the society's homepage for the working group(s) they intend to be members in. The system is online-based only.

There has been one invitation by the ESP to apply working group(s), and Cord Langner, past-Chair of our working group, has sent emails to the old members reminding them to register. However, still some previous members of our working group have not applied.

It is important that we have the highest number of members interested in digestive diseases pathology as possible. Therefore, every member of the ESP interested in the field should apply on the ESP website, and you may ask interested colleagues to do so. You can also contact your national group(s) specialized in GI and/or liver-pancreas pathology to ask them to inform their members on the interest to become a member of our working group.

ECP Belgrade 2015

The Working Group of Digestive Diseases presented the following six sessions, which were all well attended and generally well received:

Symposium: Hereditary tumours in the digestive system.

ESP/UEG Symposium: Early neoplastic lesions in the GI tract.

Short Course: Cholestasis: from newborn to adults (organized in common with Paediatric Working Group).

Slide Seminar: What the pathologist needs to know in GI pathology.

Business Meeting: What's hot in digestive pathology?

Video session: Inflammatory lesions of the lower GI tract.

We sincerely thank all chairs, co-chairs and presenters for their excellent work.

In all, 201 abstracts had been submitted to the Working Group of Digestive Diseases for the Belgrade congress, illustrating the central role of our subspecialty. There were 165 abstracts for the GI tract and 36 abstracts for the hepatobiliary system.

Four independent members of the Working Group scored the abstracts, which meant a huge amount of work. The names of the presenters and the institutions, in which the work had been performed was unknown to the reviewers (blinded review). Based upon the scores, the final decision (reject, accept poster, accept oral presentation) was made by the scientific committee of the congress. 26 (13%) abstracts were selected for oral free paper presentation and 155 (77%) for poster presentation. The rejection rate was 10%.

As in the years before, the posters were subdivided into three groups of comparable sizes (57 upper GIT, 58 lower GIT, 40 hepatobiliary) with three poster chairs, respectively. By doing so, it was technically possible to visit all posters and discuss the findings with the presenters.

We are proud to present the following young colleague in this annual report:

Dr. Eva Karamitopoulou-Diamantis, Bern, Switzerland, received the George Tiniakos Award for the best free-paper presentation in gastrointestinal, liver and pancreatobiliary pathology. Her presentation was entitled “Indications for a strategic role of the stromal cells in the tumour progression of pancreatic cancer”.

New WG chairman and secretary

During the business meeting in Belgrade, a proposal was made for new WG chairman and Secretary. The proposal was approved by all present members:

Chair: Pr Jean-François Fléjou, Hôpital Saint-Antoine, Faculté de Médecine Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris, France. jean-francois.flejou@aphp.fr

Secretary: Pr Christine Sempoux, Institut Universitaire de Pathologie, Faculté de Biologie et Médecine, Lausanne, Switzerland. Christine.Sempoux@chuv.ch

Collaboration with United European Gastroenterology (UEG)

In 2013, the ESP was approved as Ordinary Member of the UEG which was a great success for the whole society but also for the Working Group of Digestive Diseases.

As indicated above, the Belgrade Congress hosted the third ESP/UEG Joint Symposium. Both clinical colleagues and pathologists highlighted – Early neoplastic lesions in the digestive tract - which led to a lively discussion.

In October, several colleagues of the Working Group again participated in the program of the UEG week in Barcelona.

The working group's pathology UEG program had been presented on the homepage of the European Network of Gastrointestinal Pathology (ENGIP, www.medunigraz.at/ENGIP) before the meeting.

Collaboration with the European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) and the European Microscopic Colitis Group (EMCG)

ESP and ECCO are working on a closer relationship between both societies. In March 2016, a histological course on IBD pathology (H-ECCO masterclass) will be included in the program of ECCO's annual congress in Amsterdam.

The EMCG received the UEG Link Award. In collaboration with ESP, EMCG aims to raise awareness for microscopic colitis and is currently implementing a European registry for the disease.

ECP-IAP meeting, Cologne 2016

The planning for the European Congress of Pathology to be held in Cologne September 2016 was finalized end of 2015. For the first time, this congress will be a joint meeting with IAP (German division / GDIAP).

Gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary-pancreas went separate for the organization, with three conveners for GI pathology (GDIAP: Thomas Kirchner – International IAP: Priyanthi Kumarasinghe – ESP: Cord Langner) and three conveners for hepatobiliary (GDIAP: Hans-Peter Fischer – International IAP: Venancio Avancini Alves – ESP: Valérie Paradis).

The Working Group is going to present seven GIT sessions and three liver-pancreas sessions, which is a very high number. Very many international famous speakers will come.

Early in 2016 we will start the planning for the 2017 congress in Amsterdam.

The ECP-IAP Cologne program of WG DDP is shown on the ENGIP homepage (www.medunigraz.at/ENGIP; Working Group of Digestive Diseases ESP).

ESP Advanced Training Centers & Giordano Fellowship

This important initiative from the ESP gives the opportunity to fellows to have a stage in well-recognized centres.

16 centres are currently available on the ESP website, among these two focus on GI and one on liver:

- ESP Advanced Training Centre for Colorectal Cancer and Precursor Lesions. Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Head of training program: Iris Nagtegaal.
- ESP Advanced Training Centre for Gastrointestinal Pathology. Graz, Austria. Head of Training Program: Cord Langner.
- ESP Advanced Training Centre for Liver Pathology. Basel, Switzerland. Head of Training Program: Luigi Terraciano.

Jean-François Fléjou, Chairman

Christine Sempoux, Secretary

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