

## **Report on Euro-CNS involvement at European Congress of Neuropathology**

The European Congress of Pathology was held at the RAI convention center in Amsterdam from 2 to 6 September 2017. Details of the neuropathology part of the program were published in the last issue of Clinical Neuropathology. Euro-CNS had organized four platform sessions and two poster sessions devoted to neuropathology. To our delight, the number of attendants was consistent and the audience appeared to be genuinely interested.

### **Platform sessions (4)**

The neuropathology program started on Tuesday morning (5<sup>th</sup>) with a session titled “How to handle neuropathological issues at autopsy?” Wilfred Den Dunnen (the Netherlands) started with a very clear talk presenting the fundamentals of central nervous system autopsy and brain cutting. Then Belat Kubat (the Netherlands) offered a large panel of illustrations to focus on forensic neuropathology. Marianna Bugiani (the Netherlands) gave comprehensive information on the neuropathological examination in fetuses and children. Martin Lammens (Belgium) underlined the contribution of autopsy in the approach of neuromuscular disorders, and Eleonora Aronica (the Netherlands) shared her knowledge on epilepsy. Annemieke Rozemuller-Kwakkel (the Netherlands) ended the session with the fundamentals of neurodegenerative disorders. Attendants indicated they were very satisfied regarding the clarity of the presentations and the considerable amount of practical information given during this session.

The program also included two sessions focusing on neuro-oncological pathology.

The first session (5 September) entitled 'The pathological diagnosis of CNS tumors: tips and tricks for a down to earth approach'. In this session Pieter Wesseling (the Netherlands), Christian Hartmann (Germany) and Torsten Pietsch (Germany) gave lectures on the integrated morphological and molecular diagnosis that had been introduced in the WHO 2016 classification of CNS tumors, and on how immunohistochemistry can be used to assess the molecular status of a subset of these tumors. Subsequently Felix Sahm (Heidelberg, Germany) gave a talk on methylation profiling as a very promising, novel tool for a (non-morphological!) tissue-based diagnosis of CNS tumors. The second session (6 September) was a videomicroscopy session during the next morning where Hartmann, Wesseling and Pietsch demonstrated how microscopy including immunohistochemistry can be used to reach a definitive, 'WHO 2016 diagnosis' in a series of gliomas and embryonal CNS tumors. Both sessions were well attended and based on the lively discussions during the sessions and the comments afterwards, we believe they were well appreciated.

On Tuesday afternoon (5<sup>th</sup> of September) there was a session on the new insights in the pathology of inflammatory myopathies. Jonathan Baets from Antwerp started with a clinician's point of view on inflammatory myopathies. Debora Pehl from Berlin gave a lecture on the recently published classification of inflammatory myopathies including inflammatory necrotizing myopathies based on antibodies. Benno Küsters from Nijmegen continued with a presentation on the most recent findings in the pathology of Inclusion body myositis. Jan De Bleeker from Ghent closed with a nice presentation of

the clinicopathological pitfalls in the diagnosis of myositis. This very specialized short symposium was well attended by an audience of more than 40 connoisseurs.

### **Posters**

There were 53 neuropathology posters. During the first poster session in the morning, the chairpersons made a pre-selection of the best posters which were presented during the “best poster session in the afternoon”, with a best poster prize.

### **Keynote Lecture**

Not organized by Euro-CNS, but worth mentioning is the very well received 'duo-keynote lecture' on Sunday Sept. 3 entitled 'Leukodystrophies: from oligodendrocytes and myelin to astrocytes' by Prof. Marjo van der Knaap and Dr. Marianna Bugiani (pediatric neurologist resp. neuropathologist of VU University Medical Center Amsterdam).

The Euro-CNS representatives at the Congress considered the whole congress organization satisfactory and the venue excellent.