ESP Breast WG activities during 2013

The main goals of the WG during the year were extending the membership, focusing on educational issues and evidence-based medicine. Future activities should aim to facilitate establishing a better balance between morphology and molecular medicine in the programs of the future congresses.

The main focus of the Breast WG, as during the past years, was to create a high-quality proposal for the European Congress of Pathology in Lisbon, Portugal. The WG organized 144 presentations during the Congress in form of a symposium, short course, slide seminar, oral free paper session, poster session, and business meeting.

The Symposium focused on Mechanisms of metastasis and was chaired by Fernando Schmitt, Portugal, and Gábor Cserni, Hungary. The session included six presentations of the following speakers: Fernando Schmitt, Portugal, Maja Oktay, USA, Gábor Cserni, Hungary, Géza Ács, USA, Michael Detmar, Switzerland, and Joana Paredes, Portugal.

The Short course was entitled Determining breast cancer proliferative activity and chaired by Manuela Lacerda, Portugal and James Going, United Kingdom. The speakers of the session were Thomas Decker, Germany, Zsuzsanna Varga, Switzerland, Going, James, United Kingdom, and Dorthe Grabau, Sweden.

The Slide seminar was entitled The many faces of basal-like cancers, chaired by Isabel Amendoeira, Portugal, and Zsuzsanna Varga, Switzerland. The cases were presented by Ales Ryska, Czech Republic, Erika Resetkova, USA, Saudade André, Portugal, Gábor Cserni, Hungary, Isabel Amendoeira, Portugal, and Zsuzsanna Varga, Switzerland.

The Oral Free Paper Session was chaired by Lars A. Akslen, Norway and Snejana Tomic, Croatia.

Poster Session was very rich and included 119 posters. It was chaired by James Degaetano, Malta, Slavica Knežević Ušalj, Serbia, and Carlos Lopes, Portugal.

The Business meeting of the WG was chaired by Tibor Tot, Sweden, and Clive Wells, UK. During the scientific part of the meeting DR Puay-Hoon Tan, Singapore, the President of the International Society of Breast Pathology give a presentation on Phyllodes tumors: updates on classification and biological behavior. Burning issues were also discussed by Clive Wells, UK (The definition of breast pathologist) and Vincenzo Eusebi, Italy, (Breast EScoP efforts). At the end of the meeting, Professor Anna Sapino, Italy, was elected for the new chair of the WG. The mandate of the secretary, Professor Gabor Cserni, Hungary was prolonged.

The WG organized a successful EScoP course in Zagreb, Croatia, in November. The local organizer was DR Luka Brcic. The faculty included Professors Anna Sapino, Maria Pia Foschini and Tibor Tot.

The course program included frontal teaching lectures on:
- Normal breast tissue and fibrocystic change
- General pathology of breast lesions
- Papillary lesions of the breast
- DCIS
- Radiological - pathological correlation of cancer in situ
- Ductal carcinoma NOS, prognostic and predictive factors
- Lobular cancer
Invasive breast carcinoma special types
Preoperative diagnostic approach
Postoperative work - up of the specimen
Assessment of the lymph nodes

Each session was followed by discussion.
The program included: 1 slide seminar on “Rare breast tumors”, Microscopic sessions on typing, grading, molecular parameters and cases demonstration.