

2018 Annual Report of ESP Working Group of Digestive Diseases

Status of the Working Group End of 2018

Currently the Working Group has 266 members (*updated on July 24, 2019*), and all are members of the ESP (according to the rules of the society). This means a +41 increase since last year.

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.

The WG has been very much involved in the preparation of ECPs.

European Congress of Pathology, Bilbao 2018

From a general point of view, and from the GI/liver point of view, the congress was a great success. The city was beautiful, and the congress center was perfect.

The Working Group presented 8 sessions in total. Very many international famous speakers participated.

The following sessions took place:

- Joint Symposium Digestive Diseases Pathology & Rodger Haggitt Gastrointestinal Pathology Society: New features in inflammatory diseases of the GI tract.
- ESP / H-ECCO joint Symposium: Inflammatory bowel disease and the liver.
- Slide Seminar: A practical approach to appendiceal neoplasia and associated peritoneal disease.

- ESP / UEG Joint Symposium: Early cancers of the lower GI tract.
- Symposium: Pancreatic adenocarcinoma: what's new?
- WG symposium and Business meeting: What's hot in digestive pathology?
- Joint Short course Digestive Diseases Pathology & the Hans Popper Hepatopathology Society: Recent advances that will change how you practice liver pathology.
- Joint Videomicroscopy with the Paediatric and perinatal pathology WG: Uncommon causes of diarrhoea in children and adults.

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

Oral free papers and posters:

Before the congress, 10 independent reviewers representing our Working Group scored the abstracts, which meant a huge amount of work. We sincerely thank those reviewers for their commitment. 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 was made by the scientific committee of the congress. 25 abstracts were selected for oral free paper presentation, 110 for poster presentation and 97 for E-poster presentation.

The posters were subdivided into groups of comparable sizes (GIT, hepatobiliary) with poster chairs. It was technically possible to visit all posters and discuss the findings with the presenters.

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

Dr. Amedeo Sciarra, Switzerland, received the George Tiniakos Award for the best free-paper presentation in gastrointestinal, liver and pancreatobiliary pathology. His presentation was entitled "Hepatocyte transporters expression in hepatocellular adenoma subtypes and focal nodular hyperplasia helps to understand their imaging at Gd-EOB-DTPA magnetic resonance imaging".

During the Business meeting, a proposal was made to our members to participate to two international surveys: Tumour regression grading survey (M. Westerhoff, USA, R. Langer, Switzerland), and Pancreatobiliary path survey (G. Kim and D. Allende, USA).

2019 ECP, Nice

Early in 2018 we have started the planning for the 2019 congress in Nice. As you imagine, this congress is of special importance for the Chair of the Digestive Diseases WG!

Proposals were made in due course to the Scientific Committee during the Bilbao congress, and most have been approved.

As a result, again there will be 8 sessions of GI/liver/pancreas during the Nice congress, including symposia entitled “Immune-related hepatobiliary and pancreatic disorders: update of old classifications and new disease entities” and „Microsatellite instability in tumours of the digestive tract. From bench to bedside“, a video-microscopy session on “Endoscopic resection of early tumours of the digestive tract: new issues, pitfalls“, a joint symposium with the UEG (United European Gastroenterology) on “Challenging Issues of post-treatment conditions in GI cancer pathology “, a joint slide seminar with the Infectious Diseases WG entitled „Infectious lesions of the GI tract: new entities and pitfalls“. For the third time at the ECP, a common session will be organized by the Rodger Haggitt Society and our working group, entitled “The pathology of syndromic polyposes of the gastrointestinal tract“, and for the second time a common session will be organized with the Hans Popper Hepatopathology Society, entitled “Hepatocellular carcinoma: from the basic to the complex”; both sessions will have outstanding speakers from the USA and Europe. Our traditional symposium + Business meeting will be entitled “The new WHO classification of tumours of the digestive system”, with 4 top experts, responsible for the new WHO classification that will be available just before the congress, and will be the first of the 5th edition of WHO “blue books”!

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.

The 7th Joint Symposium will be held in Nice ECP 2019, devoted to „ Challenging Issues of post-treatment conditions in GI cancer pathology “.

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

ESP and ECCO have engaged a close relationship between both societies. In March 2016, a histological course on IBD pathology (H-ECCO masterclass) was included in the program of ECCO's annual congress in Amsterdam. It was renewed in ECCO 2017 (Barcelona), and in ECCO 2018 (Vienna).

A joint symposium was held in Bilbao, entitled "Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and the liver". The WG specially thanks Cord Langner and Roger Feakins for the implementation and continuation of this fruitful collaboration.

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.

25 centres are currently available on the ESP website, among these two focus on GI and two 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.
- ESP Advanced Training Center in the area of Liver Pathology. Heidelberg, Germany. Head of Training Program: Peter Schirmacher.

Jean-François Fléjou, Chairman

Christine Sempoux, Secretary

