

Administrative Report
Working Group Nephropathology of the ESP
Period: 2012

Chairman: Michael J. Mihatsch (Secretary: Helmut Hopfer), Basel, Switzerland

1. Website

In 2008 a professional website was established for the WG Nephropathology (see <http://www.nephropathology-esp.org/>). To date, 522 nephropathologists (and related disciplines) from 72 different countries have registered. 60 % of the homepage members come from Europe, 20 % from the USA, 10 % from Asia. Members are regularly informed about a wide variety of topics in 10 Newsletters/year. The technical notes for light microscopy, IHC, EM, Immuno-EM were updated in 2012. Up to date, more than 175 presentations were uploaded onto the homepage, which may be used for teaching without permission. On average we have 20 visits per day.

2. M.J.Mihatsch and D.Ferluga Award

With support of the RPS, the above research award for the best abstract (OFP) in the fields of native kidney disease and renal transplant pathology was established.

The recipients will be selected on the basis of the quality of her/his abstract(s) submitted to the ECP. Awards of €300 were presented at the ECP 2011 and 2012, together with a certificate. The prize winners were the following:

Prize winners 2011

- Marion Rabant (Paris, France) □

Histological markers of CNI nephrotoxicity: Specific or not specific?

- Jan Hinrich Bräsen (Kiel /Germany) □

Renal retinol reabsorption is essential in tubular damage and regeneration.

Prize winners 2012

- Ivana Simic (Heidelberg, Germany)
Podocyte loss and glomerulosclerosis in inducible mouse model of podocin mutation-related nephrotic syndrome
- Helmut Hopfer (Basel, Switzerland) ☑
Pathology of resolving polyomavirus nephropathy

3. Organisation and co-organisation of the following meetings by the WG Nephropathology

Year and place, Type	Meeting
2012, Ohrid, Macedonia IV th. Macedonian Congress of Nephrology	Half day course about native kidney disease, drug induced kidney disease, pathology of transplanted kidneys
2012, Prague, Czech Republic, ECP	Renal sessions Session about Tx-pathology of solid organ transplants

In 2011, the European School of Nephropathology organized a one day training course in Ohrid for pathologists, followed by a half day course for nephrologists this year. Next year a lab technician will spend one month for training in Basel.

4. Funding of the above activities

For the ECP in Prague, sponsorship funding of €5,000 was raised for travel expenses, hotel accommodation and registration fees. The travel expenses for the Macedonian congress were covered by the speakers themselves.

5. Chairmanship for 2012 and 2013

Dr. H.Hopfer and M.J. Mihatsch are acting as secretary and chairman for 2012 and 2013.

6. Training for lab technicians

Training for one month of a lab technician from Macedonia is scheduled for February 2013 in Basel. Sponsors were found for financial support (accommodation and travel expenses).

6. Outlook and problems

6.1 Continuous improvement of the website so that it becomes a universal information platform for nephropathology is planned.

6.2 Further strengthening of the links between the Renal Pathology Society and the WG Nephropathology, with respect to the organisation of joint meetings, training courses and collaborative studies.

6.3 Development and improvement of continuous “Training Courses” on 3 levels:

- national: national language, level: basic and advanced
- international: english, level: basic and advanced
- European School of Nephropathology (“Nephropathology on Tours”): english, level: basic and advanced for small countries and countries with few nephropathologists
- ECP: english, level: high end training

Problems: Financial support for the ECP should be increased to at least €2000. This amount covers travel expenses and accommodation for 2 speakers from the US.

M.J. Mihatsch

H. Hopfer

Basel November 2012