ESP Nephropathology Working Group 2017 report

Chairperson: Kerstin Amann, Erlangen, Germany

Secretary: Helmut Hopfer, Basel, Switzerland

Nephropathology WG website

http://www.nephropathology-esp.org/

The website is a valuable resource for nephropathologists. It is managed by Michael Mihatsch, who developed the website, and Helmut Hopfer. It includes educational materials, including links to recent publications, and laboratory methods and protocols, the presentations of recent WG meetings, notices of future meetings and links to related nephrology and nephropathology websites.

Current number of members of the WG: 70

Activities and collaboration with other organisations

The aims and objectives of the ESP Nephropathology WG overlaps with that of several other international professional societies: the Renal Pathology Society (RPS; the global society for nephropathologists), International Academy of Pathology (IAP), European Renal Association and International Society of Nephrology (EDTA/ERA). There are naturally close links between these societies and indeed officers of the Nephropathology WG have leading roles in these other organisations. These links facilitate the recruitment of non-pathologist and non-European speakers at the ECP, attract delegates from outside of Europe, provide additional ways of advertising the ECP to the nephropathology community and improve the educational value of our meetings.

There is an ongoing activity about unification of existing GN registries and nomenclature of renal diseases, respectively, which is led by Amelie Dendooven, Sabine Leh and Thorsten Wiech. This is an interesting and important activity which will need further support from the members of the WG, the ESP and other collaborating societies.

In October 2018 there will be a renal pathology course at the annual meeting of the European Society of Pediatric Nephrology in Antalya, Turkey. The secretary of the WG, Helmut Hopfer, had been approached by the society to organize this course and we asked Amelie Dendooven and Joris Roelofs to organize this for the WG together with our Turkish colleagues İpek Isek Gonul, Sabah Kiremitci and Handan Ozdemir. The course will have a very informal and interactive format and I am sure that this will be greatly appreciated by the pediatric colleagues.

There are other interesting meetings for European nephropathologists in 2018 which will be advertised by the WG, i.e. the ERKNet (European Rare Kidney Disease Network) meeting at Heidelberg (9.-10.5.2018), Pathology Maastricht 2018 (the joint meeting of the British Division of the IAP that includes Holland, Belgium and Ireland, Pathological Society of GB & Ireland, and the Dutch Pathology Society), 19.-22.6.2018 with the nephropathology lectures on 20.6.2018 (organized by Ian Roberts), the ERKNet Nephropathology Workshop in Paris (18./19.10.2018) which will be followed by a RPS one day satellite meetings (20.10.2018).

Nephropathology at the ECP

Attendance at nephropathology sessions of the ECP is further growing. Our meetings at last years meeting at Amsterdam have been extremely well attended and we had most vibrant lectures and discussion. We would like to thank our local hosts Sandrine Florquin and Joris Roelofs from the Amsterdam Medical Center Pathology Department for their support.

Immediately after the meeting the WG has handed in a 6 point-paper to the ESP with comments on what we felt was not ideal at the Amsterdam meeting or could be possibly improved in the future. This was then discussed at the chairs meeting in February 2018.

The MJ Mihatsch & Dusan Ferluga Award for the best abstract in Renal Transplant and Native Kidney Pathology at the ECP was not awarded last year.

2018 meeting in Bilbao will be equally strong and we are sure that it will attract a similar level of interest. We will have a joint session with the WG Pediatric Pathology. Pablo Cannata from Madrid is the local nephropathology host and he has arranged a companion meeting on Saturday.

In parallel we are planning for Nice 2019 with Marion Rabant from Paris as our local host.

Giordano Fellowships

Currently there are two centres recognized to host Giordano Fellowships in Nephropathology: Basel and Erlangen. This number is likely to increase in the next year.

Both centres independent of the Giordano Fellowship have always international guests for education in renal pathology.

Kerstin Amann,

Professor of Nephropathology, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany

July 2018