

The ESCMID Study Group for Antibiotic Policies – ESGAP

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Who Are We?

Background

The ESCMID Study Group for Antibiotic Policies - ESGAP - was set up in 1998, the inaugural meeting was held at the 9th ECCMID in Berlin with Professor Jos van der Meer as Chairman and Dr Ian Gould as Secretary.

Mission Statement:

To play a significant role in Europe in formulating and promulgating strategies to improve antimicrobial prescribing policies and practices and to improve patient care and prevent or reduce the development of antimicrobial resistance.

Aims:

- To increase communication between interested parties in member countries by establishing links between any existing networks and to provide a forum for all those involved in antimicrobial stewardship
- To promote an awareness of antimicrobial misuse
- To provide an opportunity for training in the appropriate use of antimicrobials through workshops and courses in collaboration with other ESCMID Study Groups or other organisations
- To provide the evidence base that will provide a better understanding of the factors involved in antimicrobial misuse and to inform the strategies to meet our mission statement by:
 - facilitating the collection and establishing the comparability of antibiotic prescribing data within the EU
 - identifying problems of antimicrobial resistance related to antimicrobial use
 - to provide tools that will enable the implementation and monitoring of prescribing policies and practices

ESGAP has currently 95 members, has been recognized as the highest-performing Study Group in 2015 and will be presented in the ESCMID yearbook.

 <p>Target Audience Around 100 participants (infectious diseases specialists, clinical microbiologists, clinical pharmacists, and healthcare professionals interested in antimicrobial stewardship).</p> <p>Faculty Members Bogna Borek, Ljubljana, Slovenia Guillaume Béraud, Paris, France Roger Briggemann, Nijmegen, Netherlands Sara Conger, Baltimore, MD, United States Kaja de Wit, Dresden, Germany Oliver J. Sigge, Stockholm, Sweden Dieder Ergonul, Istanbul, Turkey Jozef Gajdos, Nijmegen, Netherlands and Hasselt, Belgium Stjepan Hecimovic, Geneva, Switzerland Philip Howard, Leeds, United Kingdom Marlene Hutter, Nijmegen, Netherlands Benedikt Huttner, Geneva, Switzerland Diamantis Kofteridis, Nicosia, Greece Tomislav Kostyanov, Antwerp, Belgium Bart-Jan Kullberg, Nijmegen, Netherlands Dimitrios Koronis, Stockholm, Sweden Josef Ramon Paño Pardo, Zaragoza, Spain Jan Prins, Amsterdam, Netherlands Céline Pulcini, Nancy, France Jeroen Schouten, Nijmegen, Netherlands Theo Verheij, Utrecht, Netherlands Vera Vlahovic-Palcevski, Split, Croatia Agnes Wechsler-Foerdoes, Vienna, Austria</p>	<p>Contact</p> <p>Contact Person (Scientific Programme) Prof. Jan Prins Academic Medical Center, Room F4-21P Meibergdreef 9 1105 AZ, Amsterdam Netherlands Phone +31 205 664 380 Fax +31 205 592 286 e.j.prins@amc.uva.nl</p> <p>Administrative Secretariat Ellis Erven Congress Care Postbus 440 3200 AH, Wageningen Netherlands Phone +31 205 901 415 Fax +31 205 501 417 e.arnold@congresscare.com</p> <p><small>ESGAP is a project of the ESCMID Study Group for Antibiotic Policies (ESGAP). © ESCMID 2015. All rights reserved.</small></p>	<p>ESCMID MANAGING INFECTIONS PROMOTING SCIENCE</p> <p>ESCMID Postgraduate Education Course Antimicrobial Stewardship: a Practical and Integrated Approach</p> <p>Ijmuiden Aan Zee, Netherlands 7 – 8 April 2016</p> 	<p>ESCMID Postgraduate Education Course Antimicrobial Stewardship: a Practical and Integrated Approach</p> <p>Organisers • ESCMID Study Group for Antibiotic Policies (ESGAP) • Dutch Working Party on Antibiotic Policy (SWAB)</p> <p>Course Coordinators • Bogna Borek, Ljubljana, Slovenia • Jan Prins, Amsterdam, Netherlands • Céline Pulcini, Nancy, France</p> <p>Course Objectives The course aims to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflect the antibiotic stewardship initiatives being in place worldwide.• Reflect the scientific background of antibiotic stewardship interventions.• Learn the basic principles of antimicrobial resistance and contemporary surveillance.• Reflect the quality management aspects of antimicrobial stewardship.• Learn the practical aspects of antimicrobial stewardship interventions.• Learn the aspects of antibiotic stewardship in various settings: hospital (wards, surgery, ICU, haematology), primary care, general public, long-term care facilities.• Learn about barriers to antimicrobial stewardship and how to address them, using behaviour change theories.</p>
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Research and Development

Research projects (especially collaborative projects):

- ESGAP Open Virtual Learning Community (OVLC):** ESGAP OVLC was launched in 2014 as an open-access, web-based resource targeted to providing information and tools to promote AS among healthcare professionals. The ESGAP/ESCMID Antimicrobial Stewardship Learning Community (ESGAP-AS-LC) is intended to: a) provide a platform for showcasing, disseminating and highlighting good practice of antimicrobial use; b) promote opinion exchanges and debate regarding antimicrobial use, policy and stewardship; c) facilitate the access to common international platform where multilingual updated contents could be readily available for involved professionals.
- ID-CM-IC staffing survey** (collaboration between ESGAP, ESGIE, ESGNI, Professional Affairs Subcommittee): the study is finished and a manuscript has been sent to CMI for publication.
- YPAR survey** (collaboration with TAE) (Young Doctors' Perspectives on Antibiotic use and Resistance in Europe in 2015): so far, more than 1000 junior doctors have participated.
- A consensus for antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship competencies in collaboration with several SGs (ESGNI, ESGIAI, ESGIE, ESGCIP, ESGBIS, ESGCD) will be led by ESGAP.
- Student-PREPARE:** the ESGAP European survey on teaching of prudent antibiotic prescribing to final year medical students is completed (Around 10,000 participants).
- Update of the 2011 Forgotten antibiotics survey:** ESGAP conducted in 2011 a survey on the availability of 30 forgotten antibiotics in Europe, the USA, Canada and Australia (PMID: 22198992). An update of this survey is underway, in collaboration with React (www.reactgroup.org).
- A European survey, to explore in which countries selective reporting of susceptibility testing results has been already implemented at a large scale (regional, national) and how it has been organized, in collaboration with EUCIC, ESGAP and EUCAST.
- Two surveys have just been approved by ESCMID: "Legal liability and defensive medicine in antibiotic prescribing: a multicentre cross-sectional survey" and "Legal aspects of antimicrobial stewardship: an inventory of antimicrobial stewardship legislation in Europe".

Completed Activities:

Some publications, guidelines and consensus documents:

- How do physicians cope with controversial topics in existing guidelines for the management of infective endocarditis? Results of an international survey. Béraud G, Pulcini C, Paño-Pardo JR, Hoen B, Beovic B, Nathwani D; ESGAP. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2015 Oct 19. PMID: 26493845
- European survey on principles of prudent antibiotic prescribing teaching in undergraduate students. Pulcini C, Wencker F, Frimodt-Møller N, Kern WV, Nathwani D, Rodríguez-Baño J, Simonsen GS, Vlahović-Palčevski V, Gyssens IC; ESGAP Curriculum Working Group. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2015 Apr;21(4):354-61. PMID: 25658523
- An international cross-sectional survey of antimicrobial stewardship programmes in hospitals. Howard P, Pulcini C, Levy Hara G, West RM, Gould IM, Harbarth S, Nathwani D; ESCMID Study Group for Antimicrobial Policies (ESGAP); ISC Group on Antimicrobial Stewardship. J Antimicrob Chemother. 2015 Apr;70(4):1245-55. PMID: 25527272
- How can we improve antibiotic prescribing in primary care? Dyar OJ, Beović B, Vlahović-Palčevski V, Verheij T, Pulcini C; on behalf of ESGAP. Expert Rev Anti Infect Ther. 2016 Apr;14(4):403-13.

Presentations on behalf of the Study Group at scientific meetings:

- ECCMID 2015 Copenhagen: European Network Corner poster
- French Infectious Diseases congress (Journées Nationales d'Infectiologie, SPILF-ESGAP, Nancy, France, June 2015). Symposium on antibiotic stewardship (invited speakers: B Beovic, J Prins, C Pulcini)
- 6th Southeast European Conference on Chemotherapy and Infection, Thessaloniki, Greece, 13-15 November, 2015. Symposium 'The role of education in antibiotic stewardship', co-organized by ESGAP, Croatian Society of Chemotherapy and Slovenian Society for Antimicrobial Chemotherapy (speakers V Vlahovic Palcevski, B Beovic)

Organisation of scientific sessions at ECCMID:

ECCMID 2015 Copenhagen:

- 1-hour Symposium: What is responsible use of antibiotics?; Organiser(s): ESGAP.
- 2-hour Symposium: Antibacterial treatment: how short is long enough?; Organiser(s): ESGAP, French Infectious Diseases Society (SPILF).

Organisation of scientific meetings and workshops outside ECCMID:

- ICAAC September 2015, San Diego (USA): Pre-ICAAC workshop "Antimicrobial Stewardship in Hospitals" (organized in collaboration with ESGAP, IC Gyssens, S Harbarth)

Organisation of educational activities outside ECCMID:

- PGEC: Management and Control of Nosocomial and Health Care Associated Blood Stream Infections. Copenhagen, Denmark, 24 - 25 Apr 2015; Organiser(s): ESGAP, ESGBIS, ESGNI.
- PGEC: Moving antimicrobial stewardship forward in special population settings. Ferney-Voltaire, France, 5-6 Nov 2015; Organiser(s): ESGIE, ESGAP, EPASG, Annecy-Genevois Hospital Centre (CHANGE), Société de Pathologie Infectieuse de Langue Française (SPILF)

Other important activities:

- Céline Pulcini, official ESGAP representative in EUCIC Stakeholder Committee
- Céline Pulcini, official ESGAP representative at ECDC for the Technical Advisory Committee of the European Antibiotic Awareness Day (2 meetings at ECDC in 2015)
- ESGAP Executive Committee members have been officially consulted as experts by the 'Antibiotic Stewardship group' of the French Task Force on Antibiotic Resistance, set up by the French Ministry of Health in January 2015.
- ESGAP Newsletter in February 2015, September 2015, November 2015.
- ESGAP/EUCIC: Nov 2015: ESCMID is setting up infection control committee

Planned Activities

ECCMID 2016 at Amsterdam

- ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 1-hour Symposium: Antibiotic de-escalation (Pro-Con debate); Monday, 11 April 2016 14:30-15:30. Organizer(s): ESGAP
- ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 1-hour Symposium: Prevention and management of bloodstream infections: from here to where?; Sunday, 10 April 2016 11:30-12:30. Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGBIS, ESGNI
- ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Educational Workshop: How to treat patients with Gram-negative infections in high-level resistance settings; Saturday, 9 April 2016 11:00-13:00. Organizer(s): ESGAP, ESGNI
- ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Symposium: Affordable healthcare; Monday, 11 April 2016 09:00-11:00. Organizer(s): TAE, Parity Commission, ESGVH, ESGAP
- ECCMID 2016 Amsterdam 2-hour Educational Workshop: Undergraduate and postgraduate training and assessments in the infection field - a European discussion; Saturday, 9 April 2016 11:00-13:00. Organizer(s): UEMS, TAE, ESGAP, ESGNI

Outside ECCMID

- PGEC: Individualized medicine in infectious diseases: a practical approach. Tübingen, Germany, 24.-25.06.2016; Organiser(s): EPASG, ESGAP, ESCMID Parity Commission
- PGEC: Antimicrobial Stewardship in Veterinary Medicine. Gothenburg, Sweden, 10.-11.09.2016; Organiser(s): ESGVM, ESGAP, University of Copenhagen, University of Lisbon and University of Gothenburg, International Society for Companion Animal Infectious Diseases (ISCAID), European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine – Companion Animals (ECVIM-CA)
- PGEC: 2nd European Course: Antibiotic therapy in practice, organized by UMC Utrecht and ESGAP. Madrid, November 2016.