Dear all,

Again, at the past ECCMID, last April in Vienna, our Study Group (SG) held two successful sessions, an Educational Workshop and a Symposium: both were well attended, and the speakers’ excellent presentations generated fruitful discussion. We also had our Annual Business Meeting (ABM), of which full details can be found in the attached minutes. Our Annual Report, as submitted to the Scientific Affairs Committee overseeing all SGs’ activities, is also attached.

During our ABM, ideas for sessions at the next ECCMID in Milan were discussed, and finally, the following two proposals were submitted:

Proposal for an Educational Workshop: Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water: Leisure-associated water-borne infections


2. Infections following recreational use of water: the clinician's perspective.


Proposal for an Official Symposium: Antimicrobial-resistant bacteria in foods and potable water: a recipe for disaster?

1. Antibiotic-resistant bacteria in food: from farm to fork.

2. Antibiotic-resistant bacteria in potable water: tapping in to the problem.

3. Fair exchange? Mobilisation of resistance genes from non-pathogens in food to medically important bacteria.

4. Chewing it over: the clinical and public health relevance of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in food.

Reserve topic: Legionellosis and leisure; causes and consequences.

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Reserve topic: Legionellosis and leisure; causes and consequences.

Pending: Technical Workshop in autumn 2011 or in 2012

As you will see in the ABM’s minutes, two ideas for a Technical Workshop or Course were discussed:

a) “Difficult” pathogens to culture and/or detect from faecal samples – e.g. EHEC, Cryptosporidium, Listeria;

b) Diagnosis of “imported” infections, due to travel and immigration
Action requested from all members:

Please send in (to our Chairperson and/or Secretary):

1. your feedback on the above, including other ideas;
2. your willingness and availability to host such a practical workshop / course at your institution. ESCMID does provide financial help of two kinds: EUR 5,000 as a “budget reserve”, plus a further EUR 5,000 to be used as participants’ travel grants. Of course, additional funding is always required, and usually recruited locally (by your host institution, national scientific societies, companies providing gifts of reagents, etc.)

Looking forward to your feedback and further contributions –

With best wishes,

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