March 2015

Dear Colleague,

It has been an exciting and busy time since ECCMID 2014. A new team, led by William Couet has taken over from the team led by Ursula Theuretzbacher for EPASG. We are thankful to Ursula and her committee for their excellent work in recent years. The new committee hopes to build on these excellent strengths!

Prof William A. Craig

Sadly, the PK/PD world has lost a leader and pioneer that has directly or indirectly influenced all of our careers. Prof Craig passed away recently and our thoughts go out to his family, friends and colleagues that are too numerous to name. The inspiration and innovation of Prof Craig has shaped most of the presentations, posters and research in anti-infective PK/PD. He will rightly be remembered as a humble, but brilliant man who has provided a base upon which anti-infective pharmacology has been able to grow into an essential part of drug development, drug optimisation and clinical practice.

EPASG Highlights 2014

Workshops and Postgraduate courses (co-)organized by EPASG:

ESCIMID Conference on Reviving Old Antibiotics, 22 - 24 October 2014, Vienna
This conference was a great success and we thank Ursula Theuretzbacher and Johan Mouton for their organization of a compelling programme. It provided a friendly opportunity to present, share, discuss, and learn about improved usage of everyday and last-resort antibiotics.

Advanced Antimicrobial Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Modelling and Simulation, 6 - 8 October 2014, Liverpool, United Kingdom. Coordinated by William Hope and The University of Liverpool


Bringing PK and PD in Fungal Infections into the Clinic, 4 - 6 July 2014, Nijmegen, The Netherlands in conjunction with ESCMID Fungal Infection Study Group (EFISG). Co-coordinated by Roger Brüggemann and Ursula Theuretzbacher.
Save the date for these important upcoming EPASG events:
Moving antimicrobial stewardship forward in special patient populations, October 2015 (Date to be confirmed), Ferney-Voltaire, France

Improving the Dosage of Old Antibiotics, 29 November - 1 December 2015, Nijmegen, Netherlands

EPASG @ ECCMID 2015
The sessions co-organized with EPASG in Copenhagen are listed below. Please make sure you attend and make the most of these excellent speakers and presentations. Full details can be found on the ECCMID 2015 website.

- Meet-the-Expert Session: How to organise and implement antimicrobial therapeutic drug monitoring?
- 2-hour Educational Workshop: Basic concepts of pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- 2-hour Symposium: Cutting-edge issues in translational pharmacodynamics and personalised antimicrobial therapy
- Meet-the-Expert Session: How to adapt dosing in critically ill patients?
- 1-hour Symposium: Has use of PK/PD ever saved the life of a patient? Pro-Con Debate
- 2-hour Symposium: Resurrecting old antimicrobial agents

Do not miss our EPASG Business Meeting at ECCMID 2015. Join us and be part of all activities and collaborations. Details to follow for date, time and location.

Publications and presentations for 2014-5


EPASG Study Grant – New!!
We are excited to announce a new study grant which is available for members of EPASG. The grant is intended to foster collaboration across laboratories and help mentoring of young investigators who may wish to spend some time in a laboratory that can provide additional education/training that is not available locally. The grants are available up to Euro 1000 and we invite applications for 2015 with a short deadline of March 31st. However, this will be an ongoing scheme and we aim to provide at least 2 grants per year.

To apply, please send an email to the EPASG Executive Committee, Prof William Couet (Chairperson) via Jason Roberts, j.roberts2@uq.edu.au. Please provide a letter of application outlining why you have chosen the intended laboratory and the objectives of your stay. You will also need to provide letters of support from your supervisor and the intended hosting laboratory.

If you are awarded the Study Grant, then you will be required to complete a short study report which can be included in the EPASG newsletter. You should also provide copies of receipts that you are claiming for and these will then be reimbursed after your visit.

Awards will be presented annually at ECCMID Congresses.

If you are interested in actively participating in the planning and organisation of EPASG activities, please become EPASG member on our website (www.escmid.org/epasg). It only takes you some minutes.

Note: Study Group membership is only available for ESCMID members (low basic membership fees are available here). When you are ESCMID member, EPASG membership is free of charge.

To request more in-depth information or to discuss our work, please contact us directly. We appreciate any comments, suggestions, and contributions! Share with us ideas for new projects and help growing the PK/PD community in Europe and beyond!

The EPASG Executive Committee
William Couet (Chairperson)
Jason Roberts (Secretary)
Elisabet Nielsen (Treasurer)