Dear Colleagues,

Here is another newsletter from the ESCMID Study Group for Viral Hepatitis (ESGVH) reporting on several important issues that have happened during the past year. There is an update on the recent ECCMID 2015 conference in Copenhagen together with a summary of the business meeting. This is followed by news regarding research and teaching initiatives undertaken by our study group.

We hope you will find this of interest. For further information about our study group and to get involved or to become a member please visit the ESCMID website [www.escmid.org/esgvh](http://www.escmid.org/esgvh).

**ECCMID 2015 in Copenhagen**

Between 25 - 28 April 2015, the 25th ECCMID took place in Copenhagen, in which there were a number of sessions on viral hepatitis, among one which was organised by ESGVH.

*Tuesday, 28 April 2015 2-h symposium: Management of chronic viral hepatitis.*

It was a well-attended and lively session in which the various types of hepatitis were discussed by experts in the field. In addition, Jean Michel Pawlotsky discussed the current effective treatment regimes for hepatitis C and the possibilities for its eradication. Recorded webcasts and presentation slides from the session are available in the ESCMID Online Lecture Library ([OLL](http://www.escmid.org))).
**ESGVH business meeting 2015**

The business meeting was well attended and welcomed new members interested in becoming active within our study group. Attendees were: Joop Arends (chair and involved in ECCMID organizing committee), Hakan Leblebicioglu (involved in SAS committee), Badreddine Kilani (treasurer), Dominique Salmon (co-chair and secretary), Laura Alagna, Adriana Vince (involved in the viral section of the SAS committee), Mojca Natici, Amir Khalighi, Veda Turhan, Orna Moa.

The meeting started with a summary of the year report 2015. Our study group (SG) performed very well in 2014 with lots of activities. This is possible thanks to all active members who involve ESGVH in their activities and publications. It is the aim of the executive committee to continue to increase our study group score and we will support and help members where possible to achieve this.

According to the SG Statutes, there has to be an election every 2 years for a new executive committee. For our study group, the proposal is that the current executive committee (EC) is re-elected for another 2 years while inviting Resat Osarat to join the EC. This proposal was accepted. Persons interested to join the EC committee in the next round of elections are asked to let one of the current EC members know.

The next point discussed was the topics for ECCMID 2016. The preliminary programme has been published online. ESGVH will organise:

- 1h symposium: Hot topics in hepatitis B prevention and treatment
- 2h symposium: What is hot in hepatitis C?
- 2h symposium: Affordable healthcare (together with TAE, Parity Commission, ESGAP)

**ESGVH activities**

*Postgraduate education courses in 2015:*

1) **Advances in Diagnosis and Management of Viral Hepatitis** held on 6-7th March 2015 in Tunis (Tunisia).

2) **Transplant Virology** course held on 28-29th May 2015 in Lausanne (Switzerland) in collaboration with the ESCMID Study Group for Infections in Compromised Hosts (ESGICH).
Planned courses
On October 14-15th 2016 in Cavtat (Croatia), our study group ESGVH, led by Prof. Adriana Vince, will organize a new Postgraduate Education Course entitled “Challenges in management of viral hepatitis” together with the Croatian Society for Infectious Diseases (HDIB), the French Society for Infectious Diseases (SPILF), The Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology Specialty Society of Turkey (EKMUD). Registration is possible via the ESCMID website.

Research project:
– The Lohra project aims is to study viral characteristics of patients with Low HBV-Replication in Adherent TDF/ETV-treated patients has been launched. Members who would like to participate please contact Prof. K. Lacombe at karine.lacombe@aphp.fr
– Hepatitis C antiviral therapy failure Registry (HepCaRe) - ESGHV is invited to participate in this registry organised by the European Society for Translational Antiviral Research (ESAR). The aim is to collect clinical data on anti-HCV therapy failure. To signal a case, please contact: info@esar-society.eu

Scientific publications by members on behalf of our study group in 2015:


**Being a member of ESGVH**

We are very keen on keeping in touch with and getting to know all who are interested in viral hepatitis. If you are interested to become more involved in our study group, please let us know by contacting one of the board members. Furthermore – and especially, if you are already an ESGVH member – please motivate your colleagues and friends to also become a member of our study group at [www.escmid.org/esgvh](http://www.escmid.org/esgvh). If you do not wish to be on our emailing list, please indicate this by sending us an email.

Thank you for your interest in ESGVH. We hope to see you in Istanbul next year.

Warm regards,

**ESGVH Executive Committee**

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