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ESGVM Executive Committee (EC)
Prof Dr Luca GUARDABASSI
Dr Els BROENS
Prof Dr Maria Constança POMBA
Dr Carmen ESPINOSA-GONGORA
Dr Lisbeth Rem JESSEN
Prof Dr Patrick BUTAYE
Dr Dorina TIMOFTE

1. Election Executive Committee members

All current members of the Executive Committee are at the end of their term. Some of them will run for candidate again, but all other members of the Study Group are more than welcome to apply for a position within the Executive Committee; note that only ESCMID members can apply. Every candidate runs for member of the Executive Committee, not for a specific role. Positions within the Executive Committee (minimally Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer) are decided on by the Executive Committee members themselves, after internal deliberations.

The ESCMID Executive office will coordinate the election process using an online platform. Tina Møller Sørensen and Cindy Dierikx will represent ESGVM during this process.

2. Articles and conference presentations

The following publications and conference presentations have been produced by ESGVM members on behalf of the Study Group:


  - Guardabassi L. 2018. Veterinary antimicrobial stewardship in the EU. Australian Veterinary Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference (AVAMS), 11-13 November 2018, Queensland, Australia (keynote lecture, see attached programme).
  - Guardabassi L. 2018. Four lectures at the German Congress for Veterinary Dermatology as part of a continuing education event for veterinary practitioners organized by the German Veterinary Association, 15-17 June 2018, Frankfurt, Germany.
  - Timofte D. 2018. Antimicrobial resistance in animal reservoirs. Annual conference of the Microbiology Society, 10-13 April, Birmingham, United Kingdom.

3. Educational activities

ESGVM postgraduate course


- Guardabassi L. 2018. Veterinary antimicrobial stewardship in the EU. Australian Veterinary Antimicrobial Stewardship Conference (AVAMS), 11-13 November 2018, Queensland, Australia (keynote lecture, see attached programme).
- Guardabassi L. 2018. Four lectures at the German Congress for Veterinary Dermatology as part of a continuing education event for veterinary practitioners organized by the German Veterinary Association, 15-17 June 2018, Frankfurt, Germany.
- Timofte D. 2018. Antimicrobial resistance in animal reservoirs. Annual conference of the Microbiology Society, 10-13 April, Birmingham, United Kingdom.
ESGVM and ESGAP have organized a second course on antimicrobial stewardship entitled ‘Challenges in Veterinary Hospital Infection Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship’.

The course was held on 4th of April 2018 as a satellite meeting at the annual British Small Animal Veterinary Association (BSAVA) congress (5 - 8 April) in Birmingham, United Kingdom.

4. Research projects

Identification, taxonomy and ecology of the Staphylococcus intermedius group (SIG)

This project was granted in November 2016 to Dr Arshnee MOODLEY (University of Copenhagen, Denmark) through the ESCMID SG Research Funding. The project was completed in December 2017 and mentioned in the ESCMID newsletter on the 28 August 2018. The aims of the study, were to 1) evaluate the performance of the Vitek MS in differentiating the SIG members and 2) perform whole genome analysis (WGS) to elucidate the phylogeny and validate the current taxonomic structure leading to a better understanding of the ecology of these species. The Vitek MS SIG MALDI-TOF MS super spectral profiles are available for ESGVM members upon request to expand their in-house reference spectra database and improve SIG identification. Identification, taxonomy and ecology of the Staphylococcus intermedius group. The results of this study will soon be published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

PREPARE-VET (PREscriber Perspectives on Antibiotic use and Resistance Education in Europe – VETERinary medicine).

This ESGVM project in collaboration with the ESCMID Study Group for Antibiotic Policies (ESGAP) aimed at evaluating the quality of education on antimicrobial stewardship in final year veterinary students using a questionnaire. The project is coordinated by Dr Carmen ESPINOSA-GONGORA and involves 101 veterinary schools in 31 European countries. The survey is closed and the final results will be analysed in June 2019.

5. Guidelines

ESGVM guideline core group

An ESGVM guideline core group chaired by Dr LR JESSEN was established at the ECCMID 2017 in Vienna. The scope of the core group is to promote prudent antimicrobial use among veterinary practitioners in Europe and to improve patient management and outcome considering the ecological impact of treatment.

Current Guidelines activities include:

- Antimicrobial Management of Canine Acute Gastrointestinal Disease: Chair Lisbeth Rem Jessen. Status: Awaiting approval of project and drafting group by the ESCMID guidelines director.

If you are interested to contribute to the guidelines or you have ideas on how to support this key activity of ESGVM, please contact the ESGVM Secretary (e.m.broens@uu.nl).

6. Activities at ECCMID 2018 and 2019

At ECCMID 2018 in Madrid, one session was organized by ESGVM:
- ECCMID 2018 Madrid 1-hour Symposium: "Reservoirs of antimicrobial resistance genes".

The symposium was a joint effort involving three other SGs (ESGS, EFWISG, ESGARS).

For ECCMID 2019 in Amsterdam, four proposals (co-)organized by ESGVM have been accepted.
- Educational workshop on Zoonotic species identification with MALDI-TOF MS (ESGVM, ESGMD, ESGPHM)
- 2-hour Symposium on Hot topics in Hepatitis A-E (ESGPHM, ESGVH, ESGIB, EFWISG, ESGVM)
- 2-hour Symposium on Bacterial resistance: evolution, plasmids and fitness (ESGS, EFWISG, ESGVM)
- 1-hour Symposium on You can teach an old dog a new trick – rethinking the zoonotic potential of well-known bacteria (ESGEM, ESGVM)

7. VetCAST

In 2018, one of the priorities of the EUCAST Veterinary Subcommittee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (VetCAST) has been to establish clinical breakpoints for florfenicol against Pasteurella multocida and Mannheimia haemolytica in cattle. After analyzing PK and PD data from various sources, a rationale document describing the process towards these CBPs has been
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produced. Soon this document will be uploaded to the EUCAST homepage for public consultation, and after this process, the CBPs will become freely available online. Among other activities in 2018, VetCAST arranged a successful satellite workshop on PK/PD concepts and modeling during the EAVPT congress in Poland in June, and the intention is to continue with similar educational activities. In October, the VetCAST Steering Committee changed, since Pierre-Louis Toutain and Dik Mevius stepped down and were replaced by Ronette Gehring (new pharmacologist) and Peter Damborg (new Chair). Gudrun Overesch is the new scientific secretary. Although there is still no sustainable funding available, VetCAST will continue working towards new veterinary CBPs. For this purpose, collaboration with different pharmaceutical companies has been established with the intention to retrieve some of the PK data needed.

8. Upcoming events

- **ICOHAR 2019, 16 – 18 April 2019**

ICOHAR 2019 ([icohar2019.org](http://icohar2019.org)) is organized by ESGVM and supported by ESCMID. As part of its mission, ESGVM promotes One Health by facilitating joint research and training collaborations between medical and veterinary microbiologists within areas of common interests, namely zoonoses and antimicrobial resistance. The event is organized in collaboration with other organizations: the ESCMID Study Group for Host and Microbiota Interactions (ESGHAMI), the Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences of the University of Copenhagen, the European Association of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology (EAVPT), the Edinburgh Infectious Diseases (EID) network, the Netherlands Centre for One Health (NCOH) and the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA).

- **VetCAST/ESGVM workshop, 2 – 4 June 2019**

VetCAST is organizing its third training workshop on Quantitative Methods for Veterinary Clinical Breakpoint Determination. Course tutors are Ronette Gehring (Utrecht), Didier Concordet (Toulouse), Peter Damborg (Copenhagen), Pierre Louis Toutain and Ludovic Pelligand (RVC). The location is likely to be Lviv (Ukraine) but could be changed to London (at higher cost though). The number of attendees is limited. Register interest and preferred location to Ludovic Pelligand please (lpelligand@rvc.ac.uk) by February 15th.

9. Other issues

- Presently 68 members are affiliated to the group.

- Next ESGVM Business meeting will be at ECCMID 2019 on Tuesday 16 April 2019, from 8.00 to 10.00 pm in Room G106/107, Amsterdam RAI. The tentative agenda will be communicated shortly before. Please contact the ESGVM Secretary (e.m.broens@uu.nl) if you have any issues that should be included in the agenda.

- **1st ECVM conference, 26 – 27 September 2019, Athens, Greece**

The recently established European College of Veterinary Microbiology ([ecvmicro.org](http://ecvmicro.org)) is organizing its first conference in Athens, Greece. The 1st ICECVM is a two-day event dedicated to Veterinary Microbiology. Amongst other sessions, it will include a forum on One-Health and antimicrobial resistance and a session on Veterinary Specialisation aimed at veterinary medicine students and veterinarians in practice who wish to follow the EBVS specialisation route.