Annual Report ESCMID Study Group Clinical Parasitology 2009

The ESCMID Study Group for Clinical Parasitology (ESGCP) has been founded as the ESCMID Study Group on Toxoplasmosis (ESGT) in 2003 and has been expanded to the field of Clinical Parasitology (ESGCP) in 2007.

The boardmembers of the ESGCP are:

Chairperson: Prof Birgitta Evengård (Sweden)
Vice-Chairperson: Dr Tom van Gool (the Netherlands)
Secretary: Drs Titia Kortbeek, (the Netherlands)
Scientific Secretary: Dr Eskild Petersen (Denmark)
Treasurer: Prof Hervé Pelloux (France)
Workshop Coordinator: Prof Francis Derouin (France)
Board Member 1: Prof Peter L Chiodini (UK)
Board Member 2: Prof Monica Junie, MD, PhD (Romania)
Board Member 3: Prof François Peyron (France)
Board Member 4: Dr. Miriam-José Alvarez Martínez (Spain)
Additive member: Joakim Forsell (Sweden)

The number of members of ESGCP increased in 2009 from 158 members in dec 2008 (49 different countries) to 411 members in november 2009 (83 different countries).

1) Activities in 2009:

a. Publications, guidelines and consensus documents

The study group published a newsletter in November 2009. It was send to the members of the study group and put on the website.

Publications by members of the board on clinical parasitological topics:


http://www.clinicaloptions.com/inPractice/HIV/Management


Peyron F, When are we going to celebrate the centenary of the discovery of efficient treatment for congenital toxoplasmosis?. Mem. Inst. Oswaldo Cruz, 2009, 104 : 316-319.


Jones ME, Walker E, Chiodini PL, Angus B, Boyne L, Grieve A. Travel medicine has come of age and a new examination marks the 21st birthday. Travel Med Infect Dis. 2009 Jul;7(4):179-80. Epub 2009 Jun 30..


b. Presentations on behalf of the Study Group at scientific meetings

1. Organization of scientific sessions at ECCMID
   Organization of educational workshops at ECCMID Educational workshop Emerging parasites Convener: Eskild Petersen, Århus, DK
   Chagas’ disease: Joaquim Gascon, Barcelona ES,
   Trichinellosis: Eduardo Pozio Rome, IT,
   Fasciolosis and opisthorchiasis, Eskild Peterson , Århus DK
   Multilocular echinococcosis.; Peter Deplazes, Zurich, CH

2. Organization of scientific meetings and workshops outside ECCMID

   a. ESCMID Postgraduate Technical Workshop in Clinical Parasitology, Paris, 30 – 31 March 2009 Out of more than 30 applications, 25 “senior” medical or pharmacy doctors , either physicians or biologists in charge of medical parasitology, infectious diseases or microbial/parasitology laboratories were selected and 6 of them were supported by an ESCMID attendance grant covering the tuition fees. Seventeen nationalities were represented, indicating the widespread need for formation in parasitology over Europe.

   b. Postgraduate Course in Clinical Parasitology, Amsterdam, 8-12 June 2009. Out of 50 applications from 28 countries. 25 were selected and 6 of them were supported by an ESCMID attendance grant covering the tuition fees. Twenty-three nationalities were represented.

c. Educational activities: The ESGCP is looking into starting an E-learning platform, in collaboration with other European partners. The E-learning program might benefit from being translated into some other European languages besides English to appeal to a greater number of colleagues. Francois Peyron is the pioneer for the ESGCP in this project and he is slowly moving forward. The author guidelines are now almost ready. Different topics will need a list of authors and a person to take the lead.

d) Research projects: Birgitta Evengård (Sweden) started with Peter Chiodini (UK) and Eskild Petersen (DK) a project to compare molecular and microscopical methods for diagnosing intestinal parasites. 10 reference labs and 10 other labs in different countries receive 2 batches of materials. The first shipment was in November/December 2009; there will be another shipment in the beginning of 2010. Part of the costs is covered by ESCMID. The results will be presented on behalf of the study group.
**e. Miscellaneous:** The study group did send a questionnaire to all members in November 2009 to have more insights in the composition of the study group and possibilities to have a network on different parasitological topics. The results will be analyzed and presented during the business meeting in Vienna.

2) Planned Activities

**Courses in Clinical Parasitology**

- Postgraduate course in clinical parasitology (Amsterdam): June 7-11, 2010
  Financially supported by ESCMID

Míriam Alvarez will look into organising an Advance course in clinical Parasitology in Barcelona, Spain 2011. The course might be held in September 2011 and will include Toxoplasma, Pneumocystis, Trypanosoma cruzi and Leishmania.

Collaboration with the organization of the **IV International Congress on Congenital Toxoplasmosis**: Marseille (France) October 28th to October 30th 2010. Francois Peyron will be chairman of the scientific committee.

3) Administration

a. December 31st the member list counted 411 members from 66 different countries.

b. Agenda for the General Assembly / Business Meeting

The business meeting of the ESGCP is scheduled on Saturday 10th : 11.00-12.00 hr.

The agenda will be:

1. Welcome
2. Announcements by the chairperson (Tom van Gool)
3. Honorable membership
4. Study group : growth and participating countries 2007-2009 (Titia Kortbeek)
5. Evaluation course in Amsterdam: Tom van Gool.
6. Network in progress (Herve Pelloux, Titia Kortbeek)
7. Research projects
8. e-learning project in parasitology in GP: Francois Peyron
9. Guidelines
10. Proposals Educational workshop and symposia ECCMID 2011

c. Boardmeetings:

- The board had a board meeting during the Helsinki ECCMID on Sunday May 17th 2009 and present were: Board members: Birgitta Evengård, Eskild Peterson, Herve Pelloux, Monica Junie, Francis Derouin, Francois Peyron, Titia Kortbeek. Unable to come to Helsinki: Tom van Gool, Peter Chioldini. Miriam-Jose Alvarez was elected as board member.
- Two other board meetings were telephone conferences: 11th of May and 19th of October

4) Finances:

a. **Credit:** € 500,00
   - **Expenses:** 0

b. **Balance:** € 1,559,04