Annual Report 2017

- Regular board meetings were organized by a teleconference on the following dates in 2017: 8/5, 22/5, 14/8, 11/9 and 13/11.
- Monthly teleconferences will be scheduled for 2018.
- Face to face board meetings: 15-16/1 (Brussels); 14/3 (Basel); 23/4 (Vienna); 5/6 (New Orleans); 31/10 (Herzliya).
- The board of the study group consisted in 2017 of the following members:
  - Dr. Eric Claas, Leiden, the Netherlands, treasurer
  - Dr. Adrian Egli, Basel, Switzerland
  - Prof. Dr. Gilbert Greub, Lausanne, Switzerland
  - Prof. Dr. Colin MacKenzie, Dusseldorf, Germany
  - Prof. Dr. Jacob Moran-Gilad, Beer-Sheva, Israel, chair
  - Dr. Marijke Raymaekers, Hasselt, Belgium
  - Dr. Belen Rodriguez, Madrid, Spain
  - Dr. John Rossen, Groningen, the Netherlands, secretary
  - Prof. Dr. Paul Savelkoul, Maastricht, the Netherlands
  - Dr. Kate Templeton, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Reelection board members:
- During the annual BM (ECCMID 2017), candidate board members were voted.
- No need for EC election in 2018

1. COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

1.1. Publications, guidelines and consensus documents:


A concept guidance document was discussed with ESCMID guidelines officer and it was decided that this shall not be an ESCMID guidance. ESGMD is working on a Study Group Position Paper – TBC in 2018

1.2. Presentations on behalf of the Study Group at scientific meetings:

- ECCMID 2017 Vienna, ESGMD, ESCMID Networking Corner Poster ENC019
- Invited symposium @ ASM Microbe meeting (June 2017, New Orleans US) on molecular diagnostics and risk communication.

1.3. Proposals for scientific & educational sessions at ECCMID:

@ECCMID 2017 Vienna:

Selected:

- ECCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Technical aspects of using in house and commercial multiplex assays; Organizer(s): ESGMD (accepted)

Not selected:

- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 1-hour Symposium: Human infections: What comes from the water?; Organizer(s): ESGLI, EFWISG, ESGMD (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 1-hour Symposium: Molecular diagnostics of M. tuberculosis and non-tuberculous mycobacterial infections; Organizer(s): ESGMD, ESGMYC (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Educational Workshop: Molecular diagnostics for facilitating risk communication in outbreak situations; Organizer(s): ESGMD, ESGNI, ESGEM (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Central nervous system infections - new developments in diagnostics; Organizer(s): ESGMD, ESGIB (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: One Health microbiome research in clinical microbiology; Organizer(s): ESGVM, ESGMD (not selected)
- ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Proficiency testing in molecular microbiology - future trends; Organizer(s): ESGMD, GMI (not selected)
• ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Respiratory infections in the immunocompromised patient; Organizer(s): ESGLI, ESGMD, EFISG (not selected)
• ECCMID 2017 Vienna 2-hour Symposium: Unmasking Clostridium difficile - whole-genome sequencing at its best; Organizer(s): ESGMD, ESGCD, ESGEM, ESGNI (not selected)
• ECCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Automated nucleic acid extraction and processing in the hospital lab; Organizer(s): ESGMD (not selected)

1.4. Organization of scientific meetings and workshops outside ECCMID:

• EORTC/ESCMID brainstorming meeting, 14 February 2017, Brussels, Belgium (with official representatives by EFISG, EPASG, ESGAP, ESGARS, ESGBIS, ESGCIP, ESGICH, ESGMD)

1.5. Organization of educational activities outside ECCMID:

• ESCMID course: Capacity-building Workshop: Applications of MALDI-TOF Mass-Spectrometry in Clinical Microbiology. Basel, Switzerland, 13 – 15 March 2017; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Epidemiological Markers (ESGEM), ESCMID Study Group for Molecular Diagnostics (ESGMD), Clinical Microbiology, University Hospital Basel, Basel, Switzerland
• ESCMID course: Capacity-Building Workshop: Whole-Genome Sequencing for Clinical Microbiology and Hospital Epidemiology. Freiburg, Germany, 10 – 13 October 2017; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Epidemiological Markers – ESGEM, ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics – ESGMD, University of Freiburg Medical Center, Freiburg, Germany, University Medical Center Groningen (UMCG), Groningen, Netherlands
• ESCMID course: Improving the Diagnosis of Bloodstream Infections – Advancing Technology and Quality for Better Care. Nice, France, 28 – 31 March 2017; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Bloodstream Infections and Sepsis (ESGBIS), ESCMID Fungal Infection Study Group (EFISG), ESCMID Study Group for Biofilms (ESGB), ESCMID Study Group for Epidemiological Markers (ESGEM), ESCMID Study Group for Molecular Diagnostics (ESGMD), ESCMID Study Group for Staphylococci and Staphylococcal Diseases (ESGS), University of Nice-Sofia Antipolis/Université Côte d’Azur
• ESCMID course: Omics of Host and Pathogens During Infections. Grenoble, France, 6 – 8 September 2017; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Infectious Diseases of the Brain – ESGIB, ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics – ESGMD, Medical University of Grenoble, Grenoble, France
1.6. Funded research projects (especially collaborative projects):

- SG Research Funding 13828 (Belen Rodriguez-Sanchez, ESGMD): Improvement of species-level detection and identification of non-tuberculous mycobacteria using matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS) (submitted - to be reviewed - planned to run until Jul 2019)
- SG Research Funding 22501 (Spyros Pournaras, ESGMD): Carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter baumannii: whole-genome and phenomic investigation of the traits that favoured the predominance and shift to OXA-23-producing IC2 isolates (planned to run until Jan 2019)
- SG Research Funding 9334 (Inge Gyssens, ESGMD): Pilot study on the microbiome of the appendix and gut in acute appendicitis (completed)

1.7. Other important activities:

- Development of a proficiency testing scheme for genomic diagnostics with QCMD
- ESGMD participated in a successful grant application to the JPI-AMR EU funding opportunity dealing with development of rapid diagnostic tests.
- Collaboration with other working groups:
  - ESCMID study groups: ESGEM, ESGLI, ESGFOR
  - SoGat
  - National working groups: MolecularDiagnostics.be (Belgium), WMDI (The Netherlands), Clinical Virology Network (UK)
  - QCMD (UK)

2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES

@ ECCMID 2018 Madrid:

Selected:

- ECCMID 2018 Madrid Educational Workshop (2 hours) (Accepted): Career development for the next generation of CM/ID professionals; co-arranged with: TAE, ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics, ESGAP - ESCMID SG for Antimicrobial stewardship, UEMS Section of Infectious Diseases, UEMS Section of Medical Microbiology
- ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (1 hour) (Accepted): Bioterrorism preparedness: molecular update; co-arranged with: ESGFOR - ESCMID SG for Forensic and Postmortem Microbiology, ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics
- ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (1 hour) (Accepted): New advances in the molecular detection of atypical agents of respiratory tract infections; co-arranged with: ESGMI - ESCMID SG for Mycoplasma Infections, ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics, ESGLI - ESCMID SG for Legionella Infections
- ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (1 hour) (Accepted): Whole-genome sequencing and anaerobes; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics, ESGCD - ESCMID SG for Clostridium difficile, ESGAI - ESCMID SG for Anaerobic Infections
ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Accepted): The clinical microbiology laboratory in 2020; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics

Not selected:

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Meet-the-Expert (Not Selected): How to develop a quantitative diagnosis PCR; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Not Selected): Automation of the bacteriology laboratory: now and tomorrow …; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Not Selected): Challenges and opportunities in the diagnosis of sexually transmitted diseases; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics, ESGMI - ESCMID SG for Mycoplasma Infections

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Not Selected): Molecular and Genomic diagnostics in the service of infection control at the extremes of age; co-arranged with: ESGIE - ESCMID SG for Infections in the Elderly, ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics, ESGARS - ESCMID SG for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Partly accepted (merged)): Cost effectiveness of new diagnostic approach; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Partly accepted (merged)): How can next generation techniques help the current generation of patients with C. difficile infection?; co-arranged with: ESGCD - ESCMID SG for Clostridium difficile, ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics

ECCMID 2018 Madrid Symposium (2 hour) (Partly accepted (merged)): New diagnostics for anaerobes ; co-arranged with: ESGMD - ESCMID SG for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics, ESGAI - ESCMID SG for Anaerobic Infections

ESCMID 2017 Vienna Meet-the-Expert Session: Technical aspects of using in house and commercial multiplex assays; Organizer(s): ESGMD (accepted)

Outside ECCMID

ESCMID course: 3rd Course on Principles of Molecular Microbiological Diagnostics. Maastricht, Netherlands, 17 - 19 January 2018; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Epidemiological Markers - ESGEM, ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics - ESGMD

ESCMID course: Capacity-building Workshop: Metagenomics in the diagnostic laboratory. Groningen, Netherlands, 21 - 24 October 2018; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics - ESGMD

ESCMID course: Diagnostic microbiology: MALDI-TOF, bacterial genomics, metagenomics, automation and molecular microbiology. Lausanne, Switzerland, 25 - 28 September 2018; organizers: ESCMID Study Group for Epidemiological Markers - ESGEM, ESCMID Study Group for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics – ESGMD
Additional activities:
- Progress the area of proficiency testing / EQA for genomic-based diagnostics
- Discuss future ESGMD position concerning QC/QA of whole genome sequencing
- Carry out survey on operational aspects of integrating WGS in clinical microlabs
- Apply for ESCMID funds for setting up a network for cross-validation and EQA of MALDI-TOF-MS spectral data (lead: Adrian Egli)
- Develop educational activities for molecular and genomic diagnostics in Japan

ADMINISTRATION

2.1. Number of current members:

180 SG members (as of end of December 2017)

We have taken several actions to increase new members and make the study group more visible:
- We have a Linkedin group to make the study group more visible.
- A one pager describing the added value of joining ESGMD has been produced and circulated through various national societies.
- National working groups were asked to distribute the invitation to become a member.

2.2. Agenda for General Assembly/Business Meeting:

Agenda and report of Business Meeting of 2018 will be circulated before ECCMID 2018

3. FINANCES

1. EUR 22,889.16 (as of end of December 2017)

2. Planned costs 2018
   - Administration and teleconferences over 2018: 500 €.
   - Travel of board members on ESGMD business: 4,000 €
   - Board meetings / dinners – 2,000 €
   - One day study group board meeting (7-9 people) in Europe to finalize Position paper (2018): 3000 €

Approval of the balance sheet will be finalized with ESCMID by Eric Claas.

John Rossen, Secretary
Eric Claas, Treasurer
Jacob Moran-Gilad, Chairperson
On behalf of the ESGMD board