Welcome to our October 2019 TAE Newsletter!

Dear friends and colleagues,

Welcome to our October 2019 TAE Newsletter! We are happy to introduce to you our new TAE Steering Committee members elected in September 2019. We truly appreciate your activity within TAE and your excellent support! Please find below information that might be of great interest to you.

Best wishes,
TAE Steering committee

Welcome on board to new TAE Steering Committee Members!

I am very honoured to become a member of a group of highly motivated young professionals, determined to improve the training in clinical microbiology and infectious diseases. I am looking forward to overcoming current challenges and setting the grounds for a better future in clinical microbiology and infectious diseases.

Anja Šterbenc, MD, PhD, trainee in Clinical Microbiology
Institute of Microbiology and Immunology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
I am honoured to be a member of the Steering Committee of TAE. At the beginning of my microbiological career, I am full of energy, optimism and enthusiasm that we can work together to improve the collaboration of residents and specialists in clinical microbiology and infectious diseases. I am looking forward to new experience we are going to build up together.

Ivana Antal, MD, trainee in Clinical Microbiology
University Hospital for Infectious Diseases
“Dr. Fran Mihaljević”, Zagreb, Croatia

I am very honoured to have been elected for the TAE SC and committed to accomplishing the TAE aims. I am looking forward to contributing to the improvement of ID/CM training, strength collaborations and disseminate the ESCMID world of opportunities among trainees.

Maria Joao Lopes, MD, trainee in Infectious Diseases
Department of Infectious Diseases, Hospital Prof. Doutor Fernando Fonseca, Amadora, Portugal

I am really excited about this opportunity to join the TAE Steering Committee for the next three years. During my term I would like to intensify efforts to harmonize training curricula and to spread ideas of best practices in residency training. As a third year resident in CM, I know how important it is to team up with other residents to tackle the everyday challenges inside and outside the lab.

Katharina Last, MD, MA, trainee in Clinical Microbiology
Institute of Medical Microbiology and Hygiene, Saarland University Medical Center, Homburg, Germany
TAE Steering Committee Autumn meeting in Belgrade

TAE Steering Committee members had a very productive and stimulating Autumn Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, 27-29 September 2019. Many thanks to Benjamin Schirra from ESCMID Office for support and help with the organisation of the meeting! “New” and “old” members of TAE steering committee attended the meeting, while Prof. Emmanuelle Cambau participated in the meeting via an online platform. Important issues have been discussed such as collaboration with other societies, the update of TAE Standard operating procedures, organisation of the TAE day 2020, ECCMID 2020, organisation of the 1st TAE/ESCMID Leadership Academy in Belgrade 2020 and new ideas for surveys and education…
Check out upcoming ECCMID 2020!

Join us for TAE Trainees day on Sunday, April 19th 2020!

Every year at ECCMID, TAE organizes roundtable sessions with renowned experts. This session provides an excellent opportunity for trainees to discuss career development and career/research opportunities, and get inspiration from the experts’ own career journey. This will also be a perfect opportunity to build stronger links between senior experts and future professionals. This year we will again organize a funny quiz which you liked very much last year :) We will also have a Twitter contest with interesting awards! In addition, you will have the opportunity to participate in the ceremony of the “TAE Outstanding Trainee Award” during TAE day.

TAE Thematic week

Thematic Week is TAE’s Monthly Educational Social Media Project which aims to provide research updates on CM&ID for scientists and physicians working in the field. Started in December 2017, we have prepared 14 Thematic Weeks and 2 “Year in review”.

Follow us and read the most interesting updates from TAE! Follow #ThematicWeek
UEMS ID Annual meeting

Successful UEMS ID Annual meeting was held in Berlin, Germany on 21st September 2019 where participants discussed about the ID exam and improvement of ID training across the Europe. Muge Cevik represented TAE SC on this important meeting.

1st TAE/ESCMID Leadership Academy: Creating future leaders in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology
Belgrade, Serbia 2020

1st TAE/ESCMID Leadership Academy: “Creating future leaders in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology” will be held in Belgrade, Serbia, May 30-31, 2020. Course objectives are to address the challenges and opportunities in CM and ID, to provide updates in training curriculum to address shifting needs, to help trainees and young consultants acquire knowledge and skills in epidemiology, critical appraisal of published material, manuscript writing, to develop crucial skills in leadership and management and to provide knowledge and skills to early-career scientists and young specialists on how to become emerging leaders in CM and ID. The Course will cover topics such as

- “How to get funding for your research”
- “Changes in the core training program and European exam for infectious diseases and clinical microbiology”
- “Outbreak management exercise”
- “The future infectious diseases and clinical microbiology specialist - what are the qualities and skills needed in a changing healthcare workforce”
- “Professional and training challenges and opportunities in clinical microbiology and infectious diseases”, etc.

Speakers are CM/ID experts, ESCMID Executive Committee representatives, UEMS CM and ID representatives, etc. More info will be provided soon.
This year, ESCMID summer school took place in Liverpool, the UK, where the renowned Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine is located. Established in 1898, it was the first institution in the world dedicated to research and teaching in tropical medicine and infectious disease. At the time, Liverpool was a prominent port city which carried on an extensive trade with overseas regions such as West and Southern Africa.

We were hosted by Prof. William Hope and Prof. Nick Beeching who were the summer school 2019 directors. They had prepared with ESCMID Executive committee an attractive and comprehensive program including updates on classical themes as well as emerging hot topics. The faculty was formed by a group of expert speakers covering a wide range of different specialties from many different European countries. Long coffee breaks were ideal to exchange with the experts that we do not usually get the chance to meet in person. We were also taught how to dress properly to handle category IV infected patient as you can see on the pictures of one of us, Andrea, suffocating under layers of plastic for educational purposes!

Summer school is a great place to learn but also a great time to meet your amazing peers from clinical microbiology and infectious diseases all over the world, visit an exciting cultural city and vibrant night life with the summer school crew. We owe this incredible time together to our dedicated liverpudlians, or rather «Scouses», James Cruise, Susie Gould, Merna Samuel and Adam Kirby!

Join the next summer school in July 2020 in Portugal!

*Sarah Delliere and Valentijn Schweitzer, TAE SC representatives*
Publications of the month

1. CMI had a great thematic issue with manuscripts developed from ECCMID 2019 session @mobilemicrobiologylaboratory:

2. Read this interesting survey which is conducted among ESGAP, EUCIC and TAE! Survey demonstrates substantial heterogeneity and large room for improvement in AMS and IPC activities in European countries, both from an educational and an organizational perspective!


3. Artificial intelligence and machine learning are trendy subjects in medicine. But what exactly is machine learning? How far have we come with this new technology in infectious disease? Read this comprehensive review by Peiffer-Smadja et al. to fully understand!


TAE trainee survey

TAE trainee survey on research competencies of CM & ID trainees will be closed soon! This survey aims to assess research competencies of CM & ID trainees and identify factors associated with involvement in research during specialist clinical training (residency) to identify gaps and disparities in training, and therefore, to inform further curriculum development in CM & ID training. This survey takes <4 mins to complete and we would highly appreciate if you could fill it and also share it with your colleagues that are training in ID and CM!

TAE National Representatives

The TAE Steering Committee is currently revising the pool of national representatives. We are looking for enthusiastic trainees in CM and ID to channel information from the TAE within their national societies and networks of colleagues. Are you interested in working with the TAE SC and being part of the process of building a strong international network of CM and ID trainees? Do not hesitate to contact us by email to find out more!

If you are interested to become a TAE National Representative or if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us: tae@escmid.org

Did you miss previous TAE Newsletters? Don’t worry, you can find them in our archive.