Dear colleagues,

The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic has been a challenging time for all Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology Trainees. We want to express our solidarity, and we hope you stay safe in this hardworking moment.

Unfortunately, ECCMID 2020 was cancelled and therefore also the TAE Day Session. Nevertheless, we would like to share with you the winners of the TAE Outstanding Trainee Award 2020. In this issue, we update you about the upcoming TAE activities and other ESCMID initiatives that were postponed and ESCMID initiatives on COVID-19.

If you have an idea about a project we should initiate or if you want to get involved in TAE activities, send us an email at tae@escmid.org.

Best regards,
Aleksandra, Muge, Maria, Katharina, Ivana, Anja, Valentijn and Sarah - your TAE Steering Committee

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More info on our website.
TAE Outstanding Trainee Award winners 2020

Congratulations to this year’s awardees!

Carlos L. Correa-Martinez is an Infection Control Resident at University Hospital Münster, Germany and Parul Kodan is a Senior Resident at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, India. Know more about their training achievements on our website.

1. What was your most impressive learning moment during your CM/ID/IC training so far?
An outbreak can strike at any time in any area of the hospital. It is always impressive and inspirational to see how different professionals with very diverse backgrounds and abilities come together and work hand in hand to get the situation under control, most of the time working against the clock. Everyone has something valuable to contribute in order to reach a common goal. That’s team work at its best.

2. Why did you initially decide to go into ID/CM/IC?
Ever since I was a medical student I wanted to work with infectious diseases. I couldn’t decide if from a clinical or epidemiological perspective, or if I wanted to work in the lab. And I didn’t like the idea of having to pick one single path. IC gave me the possibility to do a very comprehensive and exciting training with a lot of hands-on work in the lab and in the clinical field.

3. What are you looking forward to most at the upcoming ECCMID?
The trivia at the TAE session, of course!

4. What did you like most so far in any of your attended conference/educational course/workshop organized by ESCMID?
Last year I attended a postgraduate course on multidrug resistant Gram-negative bacteria in Greece. Not only did our Greek hosts make us feel like home, but we were also very lucky to be able to learn so much from renowned experts and engage in interesting discussions with colleagues from all over the world.

5. What is your favorite microorganism and why :)?
Having lived in South America I have never really let go of tropical medicine. So I’d have to go with Plasmodium here. Multifaceted, adaptive, sometimes lethal, sometimes more benevolent. Fascinating mix.
1. What was your most impressive learning moment during your CM/ID/IC training so far?
My journey as an ID trainee has been a learning experience all through and it is always a thrill to reach the diagnosis of challenging cases and it is very touching to see the patients who come very sick and then walk back with a smile :). These humbling experiences and the joy of making a difference in most cases is the most impressive part of being an ID physician.

2. Why did you initially decide to go into ID/CM/IC?
Infectious disease holds great potential but unfortunately remains an under recognized speciality in my country. I want to develop this speciality in my country and therefore joined the first batch of DM Infectious diseases (structured three years course) in India. I envision its potential to develop the best antibiotic practices, counter many infections and epidemics and much more. It is broad and ever interesting branch with a scope to touch the life of millions.

3. What are you looking forward to most at the upcoming ECCMID?
ECCMID is one the most vibrant and comprehensive event for any ID trainee and I am excited to be a part of it. I am eager to attend preconference workshop on machine learning, excited about keynote lectures especially on antifungal resistance and MDR efflux and really look forward the explicitlyplanned scientific programs. I am finding it difficult to select the sessions as everything looks so exciting and I cant wait to get there!

4. What did you like most so far in any of your attended conference/educational course/workshop organized by ESCMID?
My ESCMID observership at CHUV, Laussanne under Dr Samuel Oriol, is one of the most cherished experience. It was a great experience to observe at one of the best ID hospital with great faculty and residents who made my one month a memorable learning experience. I would like to thank ESCMID for selecting me for such a beautiful and inspiring experience.

5. What is your favorite microorganism and why :)?
The tiny world of microbes is very impressive and its always amazing to decipher the mysteries of world of microorganisms. It's a tough choice to make a favourite amongst these little creatures. However, mycobacterium tuberculosis has left me at surprise and aghast with its very rare forms and unexpected presentations several times. So I am presently committed in several projects related to deciphering more about extra pulmonary forms of tuberculosis and a part of efforts to fight this tough organisms (including the TB vaccine trial in India). I hope we could unravel its mysteries to save the millions of deaths by this mysterious and strong organism.

Parul Kodan
Postponed TAE/ESCMID Activities

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both events have been postponed to 2021.

The 19th ESCMID Summer School will take place in Carcavelos, Portugal, between 3 - 10 July 2021.

The 1st TAE/ESCMID Leadership Academy will happen in 2021 (date to be confirmed).

We will continue to inform you about any update. Find additional info here.

WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE A TAE SC MEMBER?

I have been a member of the steering committee (SC) of TAE for a little over a year now. As a member of the SC my main focus has been scientific affairs. In the world of evidence-based medicine, research is an important part of our profession. Therefore, it is essential that research opportunities and training is available for all trainees. However, being involved in research during clinical training is a challenge for many. Last year, TAE launched a survey with the aim to identify factors associated with involvement in research during clinical training and identify gaps and disparities in research training. This survey could provide important information which could be used to inform curriculum development for CM & ID training. During my time with TAE I have continuously been surprised by the efforts of my fellow TAE members to come up with innovative ideas about ways to connect trainees worldwide. I have noticed that trainees, and therefore also TAE, are considered to be an important part of ESCMID. This is reflected by the amount of support that TAE receives from the organisation. TAE provides a truly inspiring environment and I am looking forward to the next two years in which I will do my best to continue to serve the interests of trainees in CM & ID.

VALENTIJN SCHWEITZER
Past Scientific Officer and current President-elect
ESCMID Educational Activities on COVID-19

ESCMID Webinars on COVID-19

At ESCMID eACADEMY you can find the past and upcoming webinars on COVID-19 organised by the Society. Keep updated and know how ID/CM experts are dealing with this pandemic. These are Open-Access webinars (no login required), and you can share it with your peers. Access to the webinars here.

ECCVID - ESCMID Conference on Corona Virus Disease

This innovative initiative will be an online conference dedicated to COVID-19. It will take place from Wednesday 23rd to Friday 25th September 2020. You will be able to join ESCMID experts to discuss a broad coverage of COVID-19 related-topics.

Parity Commission Survey 2019/2020

The Parity Commission of ESCMID is conducting a survey on expectations and needs within ESCMID regarding equity and parity. You find the survey here.

ESCMID Parity Commission

DID YOU MISS PREVIOUS TAE NEWSLETTERS?
Don't worry, you can find them in our archive.