

EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019

TAKE A
LOOK
INSIDE

Editor:
Prof. Gordan Vujanić
Associate editor:
Prof. Metka Volavšek
Layout & proof reading:
Malgorzata Short

CONTENTS:

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ESP	2
EDITOR'S MESSAGE	2
REPORT OF THE ESP SECRETARY	3
MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE (LOC) OF THE ECP 2019 IN NICE	5
ESP EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE – MESSAGE FROM NEW CHAIR.....	7
MESSAGE FROM ESP TRAINEE SUBCOMMITTEE.....	8
PULMONARY PATHOLOGY WORKING GROUP - 20TH ANNIVERSARY	11
A UNIQUE DUO: THE PATHOLOGY PROGRESS TEST AND THE NEW EUROPEAN BOARD OF PATHOLOGY EXAMINATION	12
INTRODUCING THE GENITOURINARY PATHOLOGY SOCIETY (GUPS).....	16
SOME RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS	16
FORTHCOMING MEETINGS	19

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE ESP

(By Prof. Holger Moch)



Dear ESP Members,
Dear Colleagues and
Friends

I am very honoured to be the new President of the European Society of Pathology (ESP). I was nominated as President – elected two years ago – and have witnessed many evolutionary changes in our Society. These changes have been possible due to the great achievements of the previous Executive Committee, the Council, the Education Subcommittee, the Advisory Board, the Working Groups and other committees under the leadership of Professor Dina Tiniakos. The 2019 ESP Strategy Meeting in Athens was organised to develop a new vision and mission for our Society. The recommendations of the ESP Strategy Meeting are now approved by the Council and will be implemented in the next five years. The transformation of the ESP will be associated with the new vision: **Excellence in pathology for optimal patient care**. Our mission is to promote high quality pathology diagnosis for all patients, to promote up-to-date education across Europe and to support cutting-edge research to understand disease and translate science into clinical practice. It is acknowledged that ESP plays an important role to provide cutting-edge information using digital pathology as well as traditional platforms. These tools and the annual Congress of the European Society will strengthen the ESP educational and scientific offerings to the ESP members.

ESP Congress

The 2019 ESP Congress in Nice, France, chaired by Prof. Dina Tiniakos and Prof. Paul Hofman was well-prepared by the organisers and was a great

success, both in terms of attendance, level of discussions, and inspirational mentoring. It was impressive to see the digital transformation of our discipline. The 2020 ESP meeting in Glasgow is being jointly organised with the British Division of the IAP. The process to select cities to host ECPs in 2024 and 2025 has already started.

ESP Academy in 2020

A call for applications will be sent out to all members interested in applying for this interactive workshop.

I am looking forward to the next two years as President of the European Society of Pathology and will work hard to further develop our Society, to strengthen existing collaborations and develop new partnerships with medical and scientific societies.

All the best!

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

(By Prof. Gordan Vujanić)



This Newsletter is reaching you at the very end of the official autumn, so apologies for a small delay in preparing it. It contains a lot of reports which we hope you will find of interest to read.

First, there is a message from the ESP President Prof. Holger Moch, with his reflections about recent activities of the ESP and its future important goals.

Prof. Aurelio Ariza, the ESP Secretary, is reporting on the elections of the ESP Officers and Council members, and acknowledging a great contribution of the members who have completed their term of

office. Since the new Officers and Council members have worked for the ESP in different capacity in the past, there is no doubt they will successfully continue to work for the benefit of the Society.

Prof. Han van Kriken has become an honorary member of the ESP, in recognition of his long and successful service to the Society.

Prof. Paul Hofman is presenting a report from the Nice Congress and its many highlights, both on the scientific and social side. It was a truly memorable Congress, and future congress organisers will have a difficult task to achieve the same or better level.

Prof. Peter Schirmacher, a new Chair of the Education Subcommittee, is introducing its new members, reflecting on its past work, and setting new goals. Education across Europe remains one of the key ESP activities and goals, and it will be achieved through different educational activities, such as European Schools of Pathology, ESP Academy, Pathology Progress test, etc.

Dr Charlotte Kweldman and Dr Daniel Pinto from the ESP Trainee Subcommittee are summarising their many successful activities during the Congress, and have already started on their programme for the next year.

Prof. Fiorella Calabrese, Chair of the Pulmonary Pathology Working Group, is giving a short tour of their activities in the last 20 years.

Prof. Fred Bosman, on behalf of the ESP/UEMS Pathology Task Force, is updating us on the Progress Test and European Board of Pathology Examination, and the reasons for these initiatives, which are gaining support in many countries, and are strongly supported by the ESP.

Prof. Ondrej Hes is introducing a newly formed Genitourinary Pathology Society (GUPS) and inviting all those who are working in the field to join them.

The Newsletter ends with Prof. Metka Volavšek's excellent presentation of the recently published books in pathology, and important forthcoming meetings.

We hope you will find this Newsletter informative and enjoyable to read.

REPORT OF THE ESP SECRETARY

(By Prof. Aurelio Ariza)



Dear ESP members,

Results of the 2019 elections

The procedure for the election of President-Elect, Treasurer, and six members of the Council of the European Society of Pathology (ESP) was completed at the General Assembly held at the European Congress of Pathology (ECP) in Nice.

At ECP Nice 2019 two officers and six members of the Council demitted office upon completion of their terms. The two officers were the President-Elect (Prof. Holger Moch) and the Treasurer (Prof. Marco Santucci). In agreement with the ESP Statutes and Bylaws, the election of President-Elect and Treasurer requires, in the first place, asking for the advice of the Nomination Subcommittee (which is composed of the active past presidents) and then presenting that opinion to the Council for its discussion and vote. Following that procedure, the Council nominated Prof. Aleš Ryška for President-Elect and Prof. Maria Rosaria Raspollini for Treasurer. Those two nominations were announced in the ESP Newsletter, in which the membership at large was invited to present other proposals.

I, as ESP Secretary, received no other proposals and, therefore, proceeded to request from the General Assembly in Nice the approval of the election of Prof. Ryška as President-Elect and, subsequently, of Prof. Raspollini as Treasurer. The General Assembly voted by a majority in favour in both cases, with no votes against. Thus, as of 11 September 2019, Prof. Aleš Ryška (Czech Republic) and Prof. Maria Rosaria Raspollini (Italy) became ESP President-Elect and Treasurer, respectively.



Voting during General Assembly

As for the election of members of the Council, the ESP Statutes and Bylaws specify that proposals have to be requested from the Nomination Subcommittee, the Council, and the membership at large. From these various sources I received twelve proposals. After much debate and deliberation about these proposals at its February meeting in Brussels, the Council decided to nominate the following six persons for members of the Council: Profs Marina Kos (Croatia), Ronald de Krijger (The Netherlands), Irene Esposito (Germany), Carolin Lackner (Austria), José Palacios (Spain), and Gitta Turowski (Norway). For each of those nominations I requested the approval of the General Assembly in Nice, which voted in favour by a majority in each case, with no votes against.

Additionally, it is customary that the immediate Past President becomes Chair of the Working Groups. Consequently, Prof. Dina Tiniakos (Greece) proceeded to occupy that post upon completion of her 2-year presidential term. The General Assembly approved her new appointment

by a majority, with no votes against, and expressed its appreciation with a prolonged applause.

Parenthetically, let me highlight what I think are three ground-breaking aspects of Prof. Tiniakos' presidency: first, giving due prominence to trainees and young pathologists; second, procuring gender balance in all ESP endeavours; and third, paying detailed attention to every activity of our Society. Astoundingly, she has pursued all of that with a uniquely gentle touch, as befits her deep rooting in Greek classical culture. One may say that she has been a modern Athena to some current versions of unruly Hercules.

Regarding the Chair of the Advisory Board, that post is customarily occupied by the Past President at the end of his/her term. Since, unfortunately, it was not possible for Prof. Pierre Bedossa to assume those responsibilities, the Council proposed Prof. Marco Santucci (Italy) for the task. The General Assembly approved his appointment and thanked him for his efforts during the long period he has been at the financial helm of the ESP.

In consonance with the aforesaid appointments, the General Assembly also witnessed the conclusion of the terms of Prof. Fátima Carneiro as Chair of the Advisory Board, of Prof. Pierre Bedossa as Chair of the Working Groups, and of Profs Cord Langner, Xavier Matias-Guiu, Maria Rosaria Raspollini, Peter Schirmacher, Tibor Tot and Metka Volavšek as members of the Council. Their excellent work for the ESP was warmly recognised.

The General Assembly was informed of the appointment of Prof. Peter Schirmacher (Germany) as new Chair of the Education Subcommittee. Since this post was left vacant by the election of Prof. Ryška as President-Elect, Prof. Tiniakos, with the support of the Council, proceeded to appoint Prof. Schirmacher to lead our educational efforts. Prof. Ryška's achievements at the head of the Education Subcommittee include the development of the tremendously successful Giordano Fellowships.

Finally, the General Assembly at ECP Nice 2019 also approved an honorary membership for Prof. Han van Krieken, thus recognising his many years of service to the ESP.

With its governing bodies once more renewed as prescribed by its Statutes and Bylaws, the ESP started in Nice a new two-year period under the presidency of Prof. Holger Moch (Switzerland). That period, which will include the congresses of Glasgow and Gothenburg, won't be lacking in substantial challenges and opportunities.

Good luck, Holger!

MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE (LOC) OF THE ECP 2019 IN NICE

(By Prof. Paul Hofman)



Dear Colleagues,
Dear Friends,

It was great to be the host of the thirty-first European Congress of Pathology at the Acropolis Congress Center in Nice last September. As the Chair of the Local Organising Committee I am

very proud to look after the end of this Congress at different numbers and indicators!

To summarise, the total number of participants was 3.894, which represents the highest number of registration for an ECP (except for the joint meeting with the IAP 2016 in Cologne): delegates from 92 countries were present and apart from delegates from France (227) it is worth to note the numerous delegates from the United Kingdom (185), USA (169), Russia (148) and Germany (127). The number of submitted abstracts was more than 1600 and 147 scientific sessions were



Prof. Paul Hofman

organised. Finally, 18 industry-sponsored Symposia took place during the Congress. What is more, the Congress Party and the Congress Concert tickets were rapidly sold out. In this context, ECP Nice 2019 was the largest international congress in Pathology organised in Nice since the last IAP 1998.

The Congress motto "Pathology is Nice" was definitely the common thread of all the meeting days and I guess that all delegates enjoyed not only the high scientific level of the sessions, but also the lovely city of Nice.



Beautiful Nice

Participants now certainly have good memories of the “promenade des Anglais”, the streets and restaurants of the Old City, the “place Massena” and, for some, the beach and the sea. But, importantly, we could also say that Nice pathology is nice, since we have seen great oral communication, fantastic key-note lectures, and exciting poster sessions as well.

New approaches in the field of pathology were developed, such as Artificial Intelligence associated with slides assessment, digital pathology, liquid biopsy, multiplex immunohistochemistry, etc. The

ECP in Nice proposed an agenda for change, since pathology is progressively changing with many different paths in the near future. This latest ECP represented an opportunity for all of us, however more notably for the younger pathologists, to get the ball rolling toward new horizons and all the developments which are calling for changes in approaches to a new pathology world.



However, beside these new developments, the Congress took care also to continue highlighting that morphological approaches by microscopy are still the fundamental basis for establishing the diagnosis and the prognosis of many diseases. Taken together this Congress showed us that we need to be able to become modern pathologists by integrating various practices, both old and new. This highlighted a major issue for the near future of pathology.

The Social programme was great with a lovely Opening Ceremony showing a dance performance made by local dancers and the folk dancing Ciamada Nissarda, and with a classic concert which took place in the oldest church of the city, the Cathedral Sainte-Reparate located downtown.



Opening Ceremony - Ciamada Nissarda

The Congress offered a wide range of tours for accompanying persons in Nice, from Monaco to Cannes cities. The Congress Party organised on the last day was very successful and lasted until late in a nice palace located in front of the Mediterranean Sea.



Cathedral Sainte-Reparate

Finally, I have to say that the great success of the ECP in Nice was the result of a team effort and I would like to acknowledge many persons. Special thanks need to be given to all the COP Hanser team for their professionalism and their strong experience. Many other people worked hard in order to make this Congress successful too, such as the

team of Acropolis Congress Center, and many people from the City Council as well. I had the chance to organise this Congress with the great team of the European Society of Pathology, Dina Tiniakos, the President of the ESP, Rael Al Dieri, Director-General of the ESP, Fatima Carneiro, but also my French Colleagues from the French Society of Pathology, Jean Christophe Sabourin, Jean Fléjou and Pierre Bedossa.

It was for me a real pleasure and an honor to be the local President of the Congress and I do hope that all participants have fond memories of Nice ECP 2019!



Congress bag

ESP EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE – MESSAGE FROM NEW CHAIR

(By Prof. Peter Schirmacher)



- Raed Al Dieri (Belgium)

Introductory remarks

With its first business meeting on 9th September in Nice the term of the new Education Subcommittee started. The new Subcommittee consist of the following members:

- Anna Batistatou (Greece)
- Fred Bosman (Netherlands)
- Catarina Eloy (Portugal)
- Kathrin Glatz (Switzerland)
- Charlotte Kweldam (Netherlands; as representative of the Trainee Subcommittee)
- Andrzej Marszalek (Poland)
- Peter Schirmacher (Germany; Chair)



Prof. Peter Schirmacher

The new Subcommittee explicitly valued and thanked Aleš Ryška and the previous Education Subcommittee for its tremendous work and success; we can be proud of the quality and success of the different ESP educational measures, ranging from growth of the Giordano Fellowship programme, ESP Advanced Training Centers, over our new ESP Academy and the Progress Test up to many training measures in the ECP and European School of Pathology (EScOP) courses. ESP has reached a new level of educational measures provided to its members and this is a solid basis for the years to come. For the upcoming term the main tasks of the Education Subcommittee as consented with the ESP Council will be:

- Comprehensive analysis of the status and perspective of all ESP educational measures and suggestions for the future educational strategy to the Council.
- Further development of the ESP courses programmes and all further training measures. This will be a main focus of the

Subcommittee and will include a new ES-coP courses concept, the further development of the ESP Academy and growth of the Giordano Fellowship programme up to a broader activity of ESP in the training measures of other cooperating societies.

- Strengthening of the ESP E-learning platform and linking it to the courses programme and the pathology progress test. Also, the potential for social media for educational measures and outreach will be tested.
- Reviewing our impact and possibilities in medical undergraduate education and also in non-medical professions with the aim of strengthening a decision for a career in Pathology.
- Securing sustainability and quality of the pathology progress test.

Due to the multitude of tasks, the Education Subcommittee has decided to allocate responsibilities for the different topics among its members. With its expertise, the new Subcommittee is well positioned to address these tasks. It will physically meet twice annually, once on the occasion of the ECP.

Several important steps and decisions have already been made:

The ESP council has decided to follow the wish of the Subcommittee to further strengthen the resources of the ESP office supporting educational activities.

There is long-term commitment to the biannual ESP Academy. The next ESP Academy (ESPA) will take place again at Waterloo (20.-23.6. 2020). The call for applications will be open soon and the Subcommittee will select the next participants. Plans for ESPA 2022 and 2024 are already in discussion

The Education Subcommittee will review the current EScoP courses portfolio up to the end of the year and will discuss it and suggest a new concept at its next meeting.

Also, a new development concept for the E-learning platform seems necessary and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Finally, it has to be pointed out that educational activities are an important task of the ESP, if not the most important one. Their success is crucially dependent on participation, engagement and feedback of the members and especially the many volunteers and participants, who decide about the quality and success of the different activities. The Education Subcommittee may set the frame and give directions how to further develop the programme, but we depend on all our members to contribute; therefore: get involved!

MESSAGE FROM ESP TRAINEE SUBCOMMITTEE

(By Dr Charlotte Kweldam and Dr Daniel Pinto)



Dear Fellow Residents,
Dear Colleagues,

Once again, the ESP has treated all of us to a fantastic ECP Conference. This time at the Côte d'Azur, combining pathology with the lively, beautiful French city of Nice, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea.

We would like to start with a special thank you. First, and most of all, to all the trainees and specialists who attended and participated in our sessions, Trainees' Assembly and social event. All our efforts were for you, and it is you who make them worthwhile. Second, to the Speakers and Chairs who agreed to participate and share their expertise. And last, but not least, to all the organisation of the ESP, for their tireless support and availability at a moment's notice. A special shout out to Prof. Dina Tiniakos and Dr Raed Al Dieri – thank you!



On the rooftop!

As usual, several prominent European pathologists were also present, and we hope you took the chance to get to know them a bit better away from the microscope. At the beginning of the evening, we were afraid the wind might pick up; but instead, it slowed down, and we enjoyed lovely weather. We had the opportunity to meet new people and have fun, while enjoying French finger food, wines and signature cocktails. The overall feedback was very positive and, to many, an experience that will not be forgotten in a hurry.



Now, a brief summary of our activities at the ECP Nice 2019:

Our first event was on Saturday. We invited you to climb with us to the rooftop of Hotel Monsigny and meet trainees from all over Europe, at the top of Nice. One hundred of you took up our invitation, and we are very glad you did. Despite increasing the maximum capacity, we once again were fully booked. It is fantastic to see the willingness of trainees from all over the continent to participate, and we hope to be working in the future to make the social event accessible to as many of you as possible.



Hotel Monsigny rooftop

The remaining events took place on Tuesday and Wednesday: a slide seminar joint session with the Molecular Pathology (MOPA) Working Group, Trainees' Assembly and Trainees' Session.

During the joint session, trainees from several European countries presented cases in which MOPA was of particular importance. They were very original and clearly presented, featuring cases both rare and common, highlighting the subtleties of MOPA with which we must deal in our day-to-day practices. The attendees were very participative and showed a lot of interest. We are well satisfied with the final result. Thank you to the MOPA WG and particularly to Prof. Gerald Hoefler for organising this session with us. It is our goal to keep organising lectures such as this in cooperation with different WGs, with trainees as speakers, but appealing to all audiences.



Trainees' Assembly

The Trainees' Assembly was a great success as well. We shared with you the highlights of the many things the ESP offers to trainees at the moment, how to take advantage of those possibilities and what the Trainee Subcommittee has been trying to do for you these past two years. We then asked about what else we can do for you in the future and had a productive and lively discussion. Thank you for coming and participating. You are the future of Pathology and perhaps of the Trainee

Subcommittee. Stay tuned and keep showing up, you never know where your ideas might take you.

Regarding this year's Trainees' Session, we chose to do a session on post-graduate training conditions all over Europe, with presentations by both trainees and experts on these topics. The results of a questionnaire about the current status of sub-specialisation in Europe were presented for the first time in this session. Prof. Serpil Sak was fantastic in helping with both the questionnaire and the session. We discussed the heterogeneity of training conditions, examination methods and the future UEMS European exam and how it relates to the ESP Progress Test. The pathologists and trainees who participated were incredible as well and it was a real pleasure to have you share your realities with the world. Thank to you all. There was great interest in this session, and we hope we can keep its spirit alive and to contribute to the improvement of training conditions for trainees all over Europe.

All in all, the ECP 2019 was a great success for the trainees. Resulting from decisions taken during this conference, there will be upcoming changes to the working of the ESP Trainee Subcommittee. We hope it will be better than it has ever been, and as usual, we'll need your participation to make it work. So, pay attention, if the topic interests you – you'll be hearing more from us soon.

As for the ECP 2020 in Glasgow, next year, we will keep our line of work. We will be cooperating with the BDIAP and hope to make a social programme that is both fun and accessible to as many people as possible. Next years' sessions will also be (we hope!) a pleasant surprise to all. We are already at work. Please stay tuned for more news from us!

PULMONARY PATHOLOGY WORKING GROUP - 20TH ANNIVERSARY

(By Prof. Fiorella Calabrese)



The Pulmonary Pathology Working Group (PPWG) was founded during the ESP Congress in Barcelona in 1999. There was an attempt the year before during Pulmonary Pathology Meetings organised by

Emilio Fernandez Alvarez, Pathologist at the Marañón Hospital in Madrid. This first attempt did not work as members of one of the EU countries opposed.

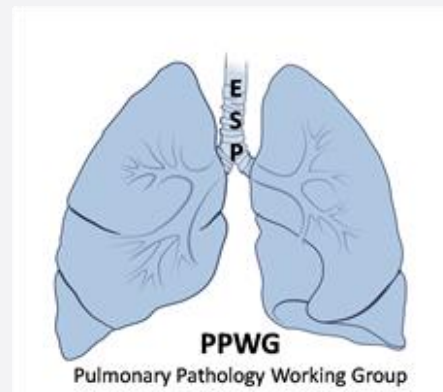
However, in Barcelona we succeeded!

There were many attendees from several European countries. The primary structure was by representatives from each European country, which should form the transmission forces to create local national groups. Helmut Popper was elected as the first chair and secretary of the PPWG (1999-2003). Until 2005 the programme of the ECP meetings was formulated by email with input of all representatives from the different countries. Everyone was invited to participate and make proposals. After sending mails around a final decision was made. Since the meetings were biannually, we usually tried to have many sessions. Due to our success in Ljubljana, we were able to organise several sessions.

Members at that time and group leaders at the beginning were few, but with a good representation from several countries: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and UK. At

that time, we had no representatives from Hungary, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Switzerland, Croatia, Luxembourg, Moldavia and Ireland.

These national representatives were asked to form national groups, or in case such groups already existed, to connect them with the PPWG. Each representative sent a list of members from the national group and this formed the PPWG interest list. This list also served for selecting speakers and chairs for the sessions. This activity within the PPWG was welcomed.



For the following years, the main task was to organise the programme for the ECP, which was bi-annual until 2011. Originally, the 1991 Congress was planned for Ljubljana, but due to the war, it was cancelled. However, the Congress was organised in Berlin, where the PPWG had a few presentations. The first Congress where the PPWG appeared officially was in Ljubljana, in 2003, with over 200 attending our sessions. Izidor Kern organised a tour to one of the famous caves, and we had a pulmonary pathology dinner in a lovely restaurant.

Helmut Popper started a research project on rare lung and pleural diseases, which was funded by the EU. He attracted lung pathologist from 24 institutions across Europe to collect more than 800 cases of rare pleuropulmonary diseases. Very productive collaboration started and the group got together on several occasions in Graz, and thus formed a very strong scientific base for PPWG.

In 2002 there was an intercongress meeting in Baveno, Italy, where the Working Group Chairs presented their groups and the progress done in the previous period.

The next congresses were in Paris (2005), Istanbul (2007), Florence (2009), and in-between there were intercongress meetings, and at all of them pulmonary pathology sessions were well attended. In 2003 we decided to have formal elections of the Chairs: Frederic Capron was elected as Chair for 2003-2005. In 2005 Helmut Popper was forced to take over for another period (2005-2007).

ESP started with annual congresses since Helsinki (2011). ESP gave more attention to WGs as being real constituents of the Society. This policy is reflected in preparing scientific programme of the annual Congress. In addition, ESP supported WG financially.

Then a new structure was created. The Chair and Secretary (in-coming Chair) were elected together, with the Secretary taking over the Chair position after 2 years.

The Chairs in the following years were Wim Timens, Handan Zeren, Richard Attanoos, Lina Carvalho and Fiorella Calabrese. In 2016 the ESP decided to have the Chairs for a period of 4 years. Currently the president of PPWG is Fiorella Calabrese and Co-Chair (formerly Secretary) Izidor Kern, who will take the Chair position for the next period 2020-2024. The next Co-Chair is about to be elected.

The membership of PPWG has grown significantly over the recent years with 146 members coming from different countries.

What has always distinguished the PPWG is the deep sense of belonging to the ESP, promoting scientific and educational initiatives planned and endorsed by the Society.

Several PPWG members are very active organising the annual EScOP courses, short international

courses, slide seminars endorsed by ESP and host research fellows (Giordano fellowship) being recognised ESP Advanced Training (EAT) Centers (e.g. Graz, Nice).



L-R: Françoise Galateau Salle, Wim Timmens, Helmut Popper, Handan Zeren, Fiorella Calabrese, Izidor Kern

The characteristics of the group can be summarised in a few words: friendship, enthusiasm and deep love for their discipline renewed and enriched by the contributions of talented young pathologists.

A UNIQUE DUO: THE PATHOLOGY PROGRESS TEST AND THE NEW EUROPEAN BOARD OF PATHOLOGY EXAMINATION

(By Prof. Fred Bosman, on behalf of the ESP/UEMS Pathology Task Force Progress test/EBP examination)



Training in Europe?

Pathology training has long ago ceased to be a purely national affair. Many pathologists practice their specialty in a country other than that in which they were originally

trained. International mobility of medical practitioners is observed between European countries as well as between continents. The fact that the EU countries recognise each other's specialty diplomas and qualifications makes mobility within the EU relatively simple and so some European countries have an annual influx of foreign medical specialists exceeding 20% of their own 'production rate' of qualified specialists. This implies that some other European countries see their efforts to train qualified medical specialists part into thin air, as a significant proportion of their 'end product' leaves the country! All this mobility exists, even though training programmes in the countries in the EU are quite different, and training programmes in one European country might not fully comply with the requirements for certification of a Medical Specialist in another European country.

Continuous evaluation of trainees

Continuous evaluation of trainees is a complex, multidimensional effort. Its main goal is to monitor trainee progress, by informing trainees about

- the complex set of competencies important for a practicing pathologist,
- their weaknesses and strengths,
- their progress in competency development relative to the goals set (e.g. certification requirements).

Continuous evaluation provides trainees and training staff with opportunities to detect problems in progress at an early stage and allows them to take timely actions to attack eventual underlying problems. As the trainee advances, this will also provide privileged moments to discuss future career orientation. In many countries a variety of test instruments have been implemented to monitor progress in the various competency domains, including knowledge tests, short in-service assessments, objective structured assessments of technical skills, 360-degree feedback evaluations and structured annual assessments

European Board of Pathology Examination

The EU administration has deployed a lot of effort into getting to some level of harmonisation through the creation of the European Union of Medical

Specialists (UEMS). This body has specialist sections, e.g. for Pathology the European Board of Pathology, with the intention to assure equal quality through harmonisation of the different training programmes. UEMS has tried through its specialist sections, i.e. for pathology the European Board of Pathology (EBP), to harmonise the different training programmes in order to assure equal quality. To this end the EBP created an examination already more than two decades ago. However, due to dominance of national governing boards and regulations, the EBP approach has not achieved the acclaim it would merit, as the EBP examination failed to gain EU wide recognition. The EBP is now in the process of redevelopment of the EBP examination. It has mandated the ESP to participate in the development of the new examination, which will be similar to the progress test and of which the final format (online or in a full-day examination setting prior to the annual ECP, as it used to be until 2017) is still under consideration. In this context, the ESP/EBP progress test provides not only a self-assessment tool; it prepares the trainee for the EBP examination and might ultimately replace or complement national knowledge and diagnostic skill testing. This requires the creation of a test item bank to make it easier to generate the Progress/Boards test, but also to evaluate the quality of the test items in terms of the level of difficulty and selectivity. The Working Groups of the ESP provide the necessary expertise in writing test items, and final supervision of creating the test/examination is supervised by a combined ESP/EBP Task Force.

Why a progress test?

An EU-wide test is conceivable only when it can be taken via internet. Online tests can evaluate knowledge and some level of diagnostic skills. Other competencies require different assessment modalities and a 'written' test could therefore never be the dominant requirement for certification as medical specialist. The concept of the progress test as an online self-assessment tool is rather simple: it does not make sense to attempt to create tests at intermediate level to assess progress, as the differences between training programmes (between countries but also within a single country

between different training institutes) are such, that intermediate levels would be by definition incomparable. The chosen solution is a test at exit level for all trainees (but not necessarily limited to trainees; many qualified pathologists have taken the test). Trainees at an entry level would be expected to have a relatively low score but this should go up each year, as an indication of the progress made. Ultimately, the exit level would have to be the same for all, regardless of the provenance in Europe of the participating trainee. Essential prerequisites for an adequate test would be good coverage of the learning objectives, well designed and selective test items (capacity to distinguish between those who 'know and can' and those who 'do not') and the IT infrastructure to include digitised slide-based questions. With Europe-wide adherence to this approach to evaluation, such a test might become a European instrument in the accreditation process of pathologists in whichever European country. With this concept experience was gained in the EUROPALS project, which was funded by the EU in the period 2009-2014.

Experience gained

In a previous approach, notably in the EU funded European Pathology Assessment and Learning System (EUROPALS) project, a progress test was created and rolled out Europe-wide. Between 2009 and 2014 the test was run during six consecutive years with up to 650 participants per test. The tests consisted of knowledge-oriented multiple-choice questions, still image and virtual-slide-based, as well as extended matching questions. The questions addressed diagnostic histopathology knowledge, but also molecular pathology items and understanding of mechanisms of disease. Due to lack of funding the EUROPALS test had to be discontinued in 2014.

The ESP/EBP Progress Test was (re)launched in June 2018 under co-responsibility of the ESP/EBP. Sustainability is guaranteed by ESP funding, embedding in the ESP Education sub-committee, creation of a Task Force with ESP and EBP members and active participation of the ESP Working Groups. A blueprint for the content of the test has been developed and approved. The IT

platform to deploy the test online functions satisfactorily. The Task Force continues to develop interactions with programme coordinators/examiners in European countries with help from the ESP Advisory Board, which is the organ of liaison between ESP and the National Societies of Pathology. Pathology educators are encouraged to actively engage in this developing project, in providing external feedback on the project as it develops, expertise in terms of e.g. the test item validation group, and they are also encouraged to contribute test items.

The 2018 test had 428 participants, of whom however only about 50% completed the test. The 2019 progress test had 357 participants, of whom about 70% completed the test. Participants were from 37 countries; the 10 countries with the highest numbers of participants are listed in table 1:

Table 1

Country	Number of participants
Turkey	53
Sweden	41
Netherlands	31
United Kingdom	28
Portugal	24
Spain	21
Greece	19
France	13
Italy	11
Switzerland	10

Fig. 1 shows a bar graph illustrating the number of participants per year of training. Note that a significant proportion of the participants had already completed their training and were certified as specialist.

Fig.1



Fig. 2 illustrates score distributions for the second- and fourth-year cohort. Note a slight shift towards higher scores for the fourth-year cohort (lower panel), illustrating the progress test principle. Progress is primarily monitored at the individual level; analysis of general scores at population level do not properly illustrate the potential power of a progress test.

Fig.2



Participants in the test were requested to respond to survey questions after finishing the test. These provide a general appreciation of the experiences of the participants. About half of the respondents wanted more image and virtual slide-based questions in the test. The overwhelming majority of the respondents found the test difficult, but reasonable. Overall rating of the test was 'not a very helpful way of assessing senior trainees' (10%), 'a reasonable test of the skills of a senior trainee' (45%) and 'good to very good' (45%). Open comments regarded the content: 'it doesn't reflect the day-to-day practice of a pathologist' or 'not corresponding to our training programme', 'too many questions at subspecialty level', 'include ancillary techniques in the case-based questions', 'too many questions about disease mechanisms and molecular and cellular biology'. These will help the task force to improve the test content.

An important practical comment was to have the test open also during the weekend. The decision has been taken to leave the test open for two weeks, including at least one weekend. Countless very positive comments were made: 'I loved it', 'I think that this kind of tests should be done more frequently', 'perfect, keep going!', to name a few.

Conclusions

Harmonisation of training programmes or a single qualifying exit test for pathology in Europe is an illusion as certifying bodies are at national level, and therefore a single exit test is not the optimal approach and not all learning objectives can be easily tested. A European progress test can contribute to monitoring the knowledge and (some) skills and thus to harmonisation of training outcome.

The test is again operational since 2018 and has been met with positive acclaim. It provides an anonymous self-evaluation test, homologous to the new European Board of Pathology examination. It is supported by the ESP and UEMS. You are all invited to take the test!

INTRODUCING THE GENITOURINARY PATHOLOGY SOCIETY (GUPS)

(By Prof. Ondrej Hes)



The Genito-urinary Pathology Society (GUPS) is a new international society dedicated to urologic pathology that was formed in

September 2018. GUPS aims to advance the care of patients with urologic diseases through improvements in the subspecialty by enhancing best practices, research and education. GUPS has grown quickly and within a year had reached almost 350 members from more than 30 countries. GUPS is also an official Companion Society of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) and had its first successful companion meeting during the USCAP 2019 Annual Meeting.

The GUPS mission is to provide a worldwide education of the advances in urologic pathology and to use an evidence-based approach to promote best practices in the field. GUPS will also be a forum for networking and collaboration of urologic pathologists around the world and will foster inter-institutional and international research. Most recently, GUPS has undertaken a project to address the open and unresolved questions in prostate cancer grading. This project included a broad international representation and the results will be published soon.

GUPS intends to be a multidisciplinary society and is open to all professionals with interest in urologic pathology, including:

- Academic and Community Pathologists
- Residents and Fellows

- Clinicians: Urologists, Oncologists, Radiation oncologists
- Translational and basic scientists

You can learn more about the GUPS at: <https://gupathsociety.org/> and you can follow the GUPS on Twitter (@GU_Path_Society) and Instagram (gu_path_society). Trainees - residents and fellows in urologic pathology can also join the GUPS – the membership is free for trainees! New members can join directly through the 'Join us' link on the GUPS website.

If you have an interest in urologic pathology – you can also become a GUPS member, where you can further your knowledge and professional development and network with colleagues around the world!

SOME RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOKS

(By Prof. Metka Volavšek)



WHO Classification of Digestive System Tumours

WHO Classification of Tumours, 5th Edition, Volume 1

5th ed., 635 pages, 1000 illus., ~ 140€, IARC (2019)

Digestive System Tumours is the first volume in the 5th edition of the WHO series on the classification of human tumours. This series (also known as the WHO Blue Books) is regarded as the gold

standard for the diagnosis of tumours and comprises a unique synthesis of histopathological diagnosis with digital and molecular pathology. These authoritative and concise reference books provide indispensable international standards for anyone involved in the care of patients with cancer or in cancer research, underpinning individual patient treatment as well as research into all aspects of cancer causation, prevention, therapy, and education.

Clinical Pathology of the Placenta

Martin Vogel, Gitta Turowski
470 pages, ~ 95€, De Gruyter (2019)

This book performs a distinct introduction to the pathology of the placenta and its membranes, abortion material included, with the aim to facilitate and protect the quality of the morphological placental diagnostics by the pathologists. Seven chapters with coloured figures illustrating gross anatomy, development and maturation of the placenta explain the functional morphology in its clinical correlation of single and multiple findings for the pathologists, obstetricians and neonatologists. Moreover, the book contributes to a better understanding of pre- and perinatal investigations, maternal diseases, fetal outcomes and follow up of the newborns, as well as to the prevention of worse outcome in further pregnancies. The atlas intends to stimulate the interest for perinatal pathology and to contribute to a better interdisciplinary understanding of pathologists and clinicians, midwives and nurses.

Diagnostic Pathology: Molecular Oncology, 2nd Edition

Mohammad A. Vasef, Aaron Auerbach
Series: Diagnostic Pathology
2nd ed., 1016 pages, 2700 illus., ~ 300€, Elsevier (2019)

Covering all aspects of molecular pathology as it relates to the transformation and pathogenesis of cancer, this award-winning volume in the Diagnostic Pathology series is an expert resource for pathologists at all levels of experience and training, both as a quick reference and as an efficient

review to improve knowledge and skills. This easily accessible, point-of-care reference features templated, bulleted content that is generously illustrated with charts, graphs, tables, and colour photomicrographs of histology with special stains. It offers a practical, clinical approach to examining how molecular mutations affect common medical diseases and identifies the relevant and appropriate molecular tests to perform for a complete work-up in the era of molecular-targeted therapies.

Diagnostic Pathology: Infectious Diseases, 2nd Edition

Danny A. Milner
Series: Diagnostic Pathology
2nd ed., 496 pages, 1100 illus., ~ 210€, Elsevier (2019)

Part of the highly regarded Diagnostic Pathology series and written by Danny A. Milner, Jr., MD, this updated volume covers all aspects of infectious disease pathology, including anatomic manifestations and how to ensure a complete and accurate sign out at the microscope. Concise, focused chapters, supported by thousands of high-quality images, make this second edition an excellent point-of-care resource for pathologists at all levels of experience and training; both as a quick reference and as an efficient review to improve knowledge and skills.

Atlas of Cytopathology: A Pattern Based Approach

Christopher J VandenBussche, Erika F. Rodriguez, Derek B. Allison, M. Lisa Zhang
Series: Pattern-Based Approach
448 pages, ~ 240€, Wolters Kluwer (2019)

Atlas of Cytopathology: A Pattern Based Approach is the latest installment in a unique new series designed to present diagnostic processes in a way similar to how clinicians actually review specimens. The book is image-rich, with scores of illustrations and tables, and filled with checklists, FAQs, and other tools to support fast, easy comprehension of material. Highlighted are common rather than obscure diseases and conditions, and

“normal” cytology is presented first to give you a benchmark for subsequent discussions.

Investigation of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

Marta C. Cohen, Irene B. Scheimberg, J. Bruce Beckwith, Fern R. Hauck (Eds)

Series: Diagnostic Pediatric Pathology

288 pages, 177 illus., ~110€, Cambridge University Press (2019)

Sudden unexpected infant death, including sudden infant death syndrome, is in the developed world the leading cause of death in infants one month to one year of age. A thorough investigation is crucial for accurate diagnosis. As part of the Diagnostic Pediatric Pathology Series, this book provides a detailed guide to various diagnoses and strong frameworks across continents, for strong support in conducting a multi-professional approach to the physio-pathological mechanisms behind SIDS. Offering sensitive consideration for parents in mourning, this book rigorously explores current standards of police investigation and post-mortem, incorporating all aspects of the investigation, including the home visit, medical history and autopsy findings. Written by multidisciplinary experts, this vital guide uses clear reference tables and diagrams to present cutting-edge knowledge for use by paediatric and general pathologists, paediatricians, medico-legal practitioners, and all involved in the investigation of sudden infant death.

Pathology of Heart Disease in the Fetus, Infant and Child. Autopsy, Surgical and Molecular Pathology

Michael T. Ashworth

348 pages, 588 illus., ~170€, Cambridge University Press (2019)

In recent years, there have been no books published on paediatric cardiac pathology despite enormous developments in genetics, a marked explosion of paediatric transplant programmes, surges in knowledge of fetal cardiac pathology and understanding of congenital heart disease,

and the emergence of a flourishing cardiac imaging discipline. This book will be the first unified and comprehensive source of reference for childhood heart disease, covering the full field of paediatric cardiac pathology, in one volume. Comprising the twenty-five-year experience of a single pathologist, the full spectrum of the pathology of heart disease, from the fetus to the adult is uniquely presented here. Richly illustrated, with over 800 colour photographs, general and paediatric pathologists alike will be able to examine the microscopic features of the conditions described, with a specific focus on metabolic disease for practitioners, worldwide.

Hematopathology

Thierry Molina (Ed.)

Series: Encyclopedia of Pathology

505 pages, 461 illus., ~480€, Springer (2020)

This book covers the complete field of pulmonary pathology, from Acute Leukaemia to the WHO classification. The alphabetically arranged entries, each of which provides a detailed description of a specific pathological disease pattern, allow readers to quickly and easily find the information they need.

Glomerulonephritis

Howard Trachtman, Jonathan J. Hogan, Leal Herlitz, Edgar V. Lerma (Eds.)

888 pages, 159 illus., ~590€, Springer (2010)

This Handbook serves as a convenient, state-of-the-art and comprehensive resource on the pathogenesis, diagnosis, and treatment of glomerular diseases. Clinical approaches, modalities and challenges are provided, along with new developments since the publication of Kidney Disease Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO): Glomerulonephritis. Chapters dedicated to glomerular diseases mirror the current classification schemes used by Nephrologists and Pathologists and will include definition and natural history, epidemiology, clinical manifestations, pathology, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment (algorithms when appropriate), prognosis and future prospects and current direction of research.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

(By Prof. Metka Volavšek)



Diagnostic Pathology of the Urinary System and Male Genital Organs

Vincent Academy of Pathology (VAP)

25-27 November 2019

Linz, Austria

Annual Meeting of the Andalusian Society of Digestive Pathology

Andalusian Society of Digestive Pathology (SAPD)

28-30 November 2019

Seville, Spain

33rd Congress of the Valencian Society of Digestive Pathology

Valencian Society of Digestive Pathology (SVPD)

28-29 November 2019

València, Spain

European School of Pathology EScoP

Update in urinary System and Male Genital Tract Pathology

4-6 December 2019

Zagreb, Croatia

50th Professor Janez Plečnik Memorial Meeting with International Symposium "MOLECULAR PATHOLOGY"

Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

6 December 2019

Ljubljana, Slovenia

Pediatric Pathology For General Surgical Pathologists

United States & Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP)

11-13 December 2019

Palm Springs, United States (USA)

2020 Tutorial on Neoplastic Hematopathology

20-24 January 2020

Naples, United States (USA)

USCAP: 109th Annual Meeting

United States & Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP)

29 February – 5 March 2020

Los Angeles, United States (USA)

9th Annual Spring Meeting of the American Association of Pathologists' Assistants

American Association of Pathologists' Assistants

16-18 March 2020

Charlotte, United States (USA)

Pathology Update 2020

The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia

20-22 March 2020

Sydney, Australia

Diagnostic Gastrointestinal & Liver Pathology

Medical University Graz

23-25 April 2020

Graz, Austria

Out of the Mold: The Emergence of Modern Dermatopathology Imagined Through Maladies in Wax

United States & Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP)

27-30 April 2020

Paris, France

