WHO adopts resolution on action on psoriasis

Following the publication of a comprehensive report on psoriasis by the World Health Organization (WHO) Secretariat, a resolution highlighting the need for action on psoriasis was unanimously adopted by the WHO Executive Board members, at their 133rd meeting, held during the 66th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland on 29-30 May 2013. Among its recommendations, the resolution encourages WHO Member states to participate in and strengthen psoriasis awareness activities on World Psoriasis Day – 29 October. It will now be put to the vote at the next World Health Assembly in May 2014.

The International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (IFPA) welcomed the WHO Secretariat’s report: “IFPA and the global psoriasis community welcome the key actions recommended in the report to improve the care and quality of life of people with psoriasis on a national level, and it is our hope that these actions will be given the consideration they deserve”, commented IFPA President Lars Ettarp.

In a side event at the World Health Assembly, organised by WHO member states Argentina, Ecuador and Panama with IFPA, medical and patient experts on psoriasis set out to educate the delegates about the serious and complex nature of the disease. Psoriasis is a serious, chronic, inflammatory, non-communicable disease for which there is currently no cure. According to the official WHO report on psoriasis, the disease affects around 2% of the global population, with an even higher prevalence in some countries.

Psychosocial impact

Special attention was brought to the fact that the mechanism that drives cardiovascular disease is practically identical to that in diabetes, a fact that calls for earlier detection and effective treatment of psoriasis, in order to alleviate the risk of CVD and other severe co-morbid conditions. Psoriasis is a serious non-communicable disease (NCD) that needs greater public awareness of its inflammatory nature, psychosocial impact and shared risk factors with other, more deadly NCDs.

IFPA thanked EADV among many organisations and countries for their invaluable support and commitment to the global psoriasis community.

Help ensure the resolution is passed in 2014

EADV members are urged to reach out to their national ministries of health and patient organisations to endorse the WHO resolution on psoriasis and ensure it has support from as many WHO member states and regions as possible at the next World Health Assembly in May 2014.

continued on page 3 ▶▶
23rd EADV CONGRESS
"Building Bridges"

Amsterdam RAI Convention Centre
Amsterdam,
The Netherlands

8-12 October 2014
www.eadvamsterdam2014.org
WORLD PSORIASIS DAY, 29 OCTOBER

"Treat the Patient – Save the Person"

The objective of the 2013 photo campaign is to show what impact the access (or the lack of access) to treatment has for an individual with psoriasis/psoriatic arthritis. IFPA aims to be able to show both the positive effects - how efficient treatment can really improve patients’ quality of life and lessen the burden for both family and community - and the negative (what it means to have psoriasis/psoriatic arthritis that goes untreated) in a personal and visual manner.

How you can help

Inform your patients and relevant national patient associations about the campaign and how important it is to gain recognition of psoriasis as a serious disease and the need for access to treatment for all people with psoriasis, regardless of where they live.

If you want to help or collect information about the campaign, please contact Barbra Bohannan at IFPA at Barbra.Bohannan@pso.se or visit www.ifpa-pso.org

For further information

WHO Report on Psoriasis
http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB133/B133_5-en.pdf
Resolution on World Psoriasis Day
World Psoriasis Day
www.worldpsoriasisday.com

What lies behind process

In many ways it is a foregone conclusion that better living conditions shift the focus of any society from product to process. Take food as an example, in emergencies people survive on fat and rice; in times of peace and prosperity they tend to pay more attention to the process of how food is produced, and happily prefer handcrafted cheeses from happy cows living on ecological farms, and freshly baked bread. There are naturally many factors involved: some stem from simple opportunity, some from aesthetic choice, some from moral choice, some from marketing efforts, and some from peer pressure.

Similarly, when organisations grow, they change. Initially it is all about product and end result: can we make this work? But as success gets closer, the focus imperceptibly changes to process, and in any mature organisation process predominates. In the mature groups there is a selection, some things become accepted and others do not. It is frequently argued that the better these changes are internalised by, for example, the inhabitants of a country, the more smoothly the society functions. The process brings many good things; however, it does not do so without cost. Usually, the costs are speed and freedom to make radical changes in favour of small groups, eg some French may prefer a king over a president, and France could theoretically become a monarchy again, but it is unlikely to happen next week.

There is a very important presumption in this apparently inexorable organisational maturation process. It is the need for homogeneity. The process, by and large, functions well in small homogenous groups, but in a global perspective where groups are neither homogenous nor small, it may function less well. There are many ways to improve function, and the most effective one is communication. We must agree on the goals, and in order to do so we must communicate appropriately, but not only in content, but also in form.

Gregor Jemec
Editor
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Istanbul was officially founded on the ruins on Byzantium by the Roman Emperor Constantine in 330 AD and it became a privileged place for meeting, discussing and merging different cultures and different lifestyles where Asian and European cultures could easily synergise. The final result is this fantastic city which is hosting the 22nd EADV Congress.

It is a great satisfaction for all EADV members and for me personally to note how the "integration" has been rapid, smooth, friendly and constructive, in spite of the difficulties which were experienced at the beginning of EADV's history. Over the past 25 years, thanks to the energetic and wise activities of the EADV founders, and in spite of the initial divisions, our Academy has become the Academy of all European dermatologists, open to all dermatologists from all over the world with the distinctive mission of bringing our discipline to the highest level of service for our patients.

The current situation

It was a lucky day when the EADV Board voted a few months ago for the reduction of annual membership fees for Junior Members from €75 to €50. I personally took this opportunity very seriously for introducing the new generation into the active life of the Academy and I have officially asked for a task force run only by young dermatologists. Hopefully, many new enthusiastic and talented young dermatologists shall actively participate in the scientific administrative and social life of EADV.

Something new under the sun?

More and more EADV members, founding members and directors are in touch with me day-by-day by e-mail and phone. I am often requested to give personal answers in conversations at the many scientific meetings which I attend with increasing satisfaction. Some questions are more common and more relevant: to these questions I will try to give now my concise and hopefully clear answer, or at least my personal opinion.

The job of the EADV President and Board of Directors

The EADV President is elected by all EADV members in good standing. In fact, the EADV President is the President of the Board of Directors. The directors are elected by a majority vote of the EADV members of their respective countries and should report to the EADV members of their country about all EADV activities. The same Board Members should bring the unmet needs and aspirations of their national members to the entire Board. Does this happen on a regular basis?

The Board members are the only ones responsible for the different activities of EADV, including its financial operations. They are entitled and obliged to have first-hand information on each and every aspect of the life of EADV in order to make responsible and documented choices for the good of all EADV members. In my capacity as President of the Board of Directors, I have myself experienced difficulties in receiving timely information when requested by me.

The job of the EADV committees

EADV is now enriched by the competent and transparent activity of very many different committees which report to the Board. Some of those committees are for unknown reasons considered as privileged committees, for instance the Scientific Programming and/or Executive Committees (EC). The first is responsible for building a sound and vibrant scientific programme based on scientific curricula and on the communication abilities of each and every session chair and speaker, without taking into consideration any political issues. The EC should limit its activity to facilitating day-by-day the decisions autonomously originated by and discussed in the Board of Directors and receive information and instructions from the Board. According to the Bylaws, the Academy is governed by the Board of Directors, not by the EC.

So I ask you to take part directly in the life of EADV according to your position and capacities. Do not forget that I am always available to discuss with you individually the problems and the possible solutions of the different issues which concern our Academy, our discipline and ourselves as individuals. Your comments, suggestions and criticism are and will always be welcome and are intrinsically necessary in our Academy. Please, feel free to contact me personally (http://www.eadv.org/about-eadv/leadership/) to receive friendly and clear information on each and every issue regarding the public activities of EADV. As you know, democracy starts with the active participation of the individual. Tertium non datur.

Jana Hercogová
EADV President (2012-2014)
Dermatologists are increasingly experiencing the complications of tattooing manifested as infections and chronic reactions. Reactions may be very cumbersome despite the small affected area. Several mechanisms are involved, i.e., allergy and T-Cells, foreign body reactions, TNF-α, ROS induction, phototoxicity and photochemistry, etc. Carcinogenesis is also a concern, albeit neoplasia is very rare and could be coincidental.

Hyperplastic epidermal reaction to red in an FC Barcelona fan, suspected allergic

Mild reaction to lilac/red nuance, suspected allergic

Ulcerating reaction to red, suspected allergic

Tattoo pigments are micro particles of impure organic stuff. Tattoo inks are crude products sold across any national border. About 10% of new inks contain the bacteria Staphylococci, Coli and Streptococci. Inks are a potential vector for the international spread of serious infections such as MRSA and VTEC. The whole field is a free-for-all with very little regulation. With pigments being particulate and not soluble chemicals, traditional toxicology is without valid instruments in the assessment of their risk. There is a major challenge for dermatology and dermatologists to face. EADV's Congress in Istanbul this October includes a session on allergy and tattoos, and EADV also in the past occasionally has had sessions on the problem. Worldwide it is estimated that 120 million people are tattooed (BfR, Berlin/Germany).

European Society of Tattoo and Pigment Research

In Copenhagen the very first European Congress on Tattoo and Pigment Research will soon take place, wwwECTP2013.org. On this occasion a new EADV sister society shall be inaugurated, the European Society of Tattoo and Pigment Research (ESTP).

The congress organisers have requested EADV to establish a task force on the tattoo and pigment problem. Such a task force shall, on behalf of EADV and together with ESTP, outline and propose new policies and programmes to European Union institutions, regulators, and professionals including dermatologists. The development of vigilance and databases to measure and monitor the problem need to be set up as a top priority.

If you are interested in contributing to these initiatives, please contact:

Prof. Jørgen Serup MD DMSc
Dermatology, Bispebjerg University Hospital
Copenhagen, Denmark
joergen.vedelskov.serup@regionh.dk
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The day is approaching fast. There are only a few weeks to the start of the 22nd EADV Congress, and presumably you have already made your arrangements to attend this congress and to visit Istanbul, a city at the meeting point of two continents. The Congress Venue ICC (Istanbul Convention Center) is close to Taksim Square, the heart of the metropolis. The congress will start on Wednesday, 2 October with the “Networking Symposium”. Do not miss this ceremony which will be enriched with music from Anatolia and then enjoy five days in a magnificent city.

A special thank-you to the supporting local society, the Turkish Society of Dermatology. Founded in 1968 it has been the leading representative of Turkish dermato-venereologists at both national and international level. As Turkish dermatologists, we feel a great privilege this year to organise the most important dermatologic event of our continent, in our country. Our family is composed of approximately 2.000 dermatologists. Two outstanding dermatologists from Istanbul have a special role in the history of Turkish dermatology: Hulusi Behçet, who described Behçet’s disease more than 60 years ago, is most likely the most famous of all Turkish dermatologists. Moreover, Türkan Saylan, who is the laureate of international Gandhi award for her efforts in the war on leprosy (1986), was also one of the most eminent social activists in our country. We now have a young generation of dermatologists, who are eager to learn and who have already adapted all trends in modern dermatological sciences.

Sights not to be missed
We recommend you explore the well-known areas of the city and attractive historical sites, such as Hagia Sophia, the Sultanahmet Mosque, Topkapi Palace and Galata Tower reflecting the mixed cultural treasures in the city's history, but also do not miss the Bosphorus area, a unique natural beauty between the two continents. A cruise on the Bosphorus will be unforgettable and you can feed seagulls. Please visit Galata Tower, which is on the cover of our congress booklet, to enjoy the best view of the old city. Nişantaşı, five minutes’ walk from the congress centre, is a district famous as fashion centre but also hosts offices of many senior dermatologists.

Istanbul has been a city of complex interactions and synthesis of everyday life over many centuries. You have to breathe this charming atmosphere and share your experiences with other dermatologists from around the globe.

Programme overview
Our Congress has an outstanding scientific programme welcoming more than 500 chairs, co-chairs and speakers from all over the world who will share their knowledge and experiences related to all fields of dermatological and venereological diseases emphasising recent developments.

As a small sample of sessions which should not be missed to update your knowledge and your management skills:

- Dermoscopy courses at advanced level, chaired by Wilhelm Stolz, and at intermediate level, chaired by Fezal Özdemir
- Four different “What’s New?” sessions will take place:
  - in research by Antonio Costanzo
  - in therapy by Hervé Bachelez,
  - in venereology by Derek Freedman
  - in clinical dermatology by Wolfram Sterry

All are a good opportunity to be informed about new inventions in our field.

- The workshop, chaired by Georg Stingl, on the topic “Off-label and orphan drugs in dermatovenerology”
- A unique symposium devoted to Behçet’s disease in its homeland, chaired by Erkan Alpsoy.
- A plenary lecture about pemphigus by John R Stanley.

Please also note that CME certificates will be available to download for a period of one year from www.eadvistanbul2013.org for processing with the national authority in your country of practice.

You will discover definitely many more reasons to join us at this event which will be surely unforgettable both scientifically and socially.

Many thanks to all the committees of our congress and especially to you for joining us!

Looking forward to meeting you in Istanbul.

Can Baykal  Mehmet Ali Gürer
Congress President  Honorary President
Istanbul session highlights

Opening Plenary Lecture: Orphan diseases in Europe

The 22nd EADV Congress will open with a Plenary Lecture from ‘Europe’s most dynamic and active leader in rare/orphan diseases’, Dr Ségolène Aymé (Paris), who will discuss the “current and future challenges of orphan diseases in Europe”.

Not to be missed… A stimulating, thought-provoking lecture shortly before the Networking Symposium!

Location: Harbiye Hall
Time: 18.00-18.30

ESDR sessions in Istanbul

Profs Alexander Enk (Heidelberg), Jonathan Barker (London) and Nick Reynolds (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) will lead the first of two ESDR sessions in Istanbul with their lectures on “New insights in skin biology: What the clinician should know about them” on Friday, 4 October.

Mark this date in your agenda now…

Location: Üsküdar 3
Time: 14.45-16.15

Closing the ESDR participation will be Prof Jens Schröder (Kiel) with his Plenary Lecture on “Antimicrobial peptides” on Saturday, 5 October.

His extensive knowledge and research on this topic should not be missed…

Location: Harbiye Hall
Time: 13.30-14.30

Update from both sides of the pond – Joint EADV/AAD Symposium

International experts in dermatology from Europe and the United States will join forces to provide a stimulating session on “selected cutaneous signs of internal diseases”, “hair care and disorders in people of colour”, “unique cutaneous manifestations of oncologic drugs” as well as “the broad clinical spectrum, diagnosis and management of dermatitis herpetiformis”.

Different continents, differing dermatological management!

Embark on this journey with Prof Henry Lim (Detroit) and his crew…

Location: Camlica Hall
Date: Saturday, 5 October
Time: 11.30-13.00

New interactive EADV session – Virtual Dermatopathology

Dr Ellen Mooney (Reykjavik), Prof Franco Rongioletti (Genoa) and Prof Werner Kempf (Zürich) will host the first state-of-the-art self-assessment virtual dermatopathology course in Istanbul, on Friday 4 October.

Book now to secure your place… seats limited! (own laptop required)

Location: Hamidiye Hall
Time: 14.45-17.45

Board Member Profile

Mette Søndergaard Deleuran
(Denmark)

“I graduated from medical school at the University of Aarhus, Denmark in 1988 and was a research fellow at the Department of Dermatology, University of Aarhus from 1989 to 1991, followed by a year at the Charing Cross Sunley Research Centre and Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology in London.

In 1994 I defended my thesis on the regulation of inflammatory cytokines related to the skin. I became a specialist in dermato-venereology in 1999 and was appointed to a position as associate professor at the University of Aarhus, Denmark.

My main interest in research and education is atopic dermatitis and I established an Eczema School at the department in 1999, educating parents of children with moderate to severe atopic dermatitis. The school is still active and helps patients and parents to cope with the disease, and to treat it correctly.

I participate as a committee member of the worldwide OPENED Dermatology programme, which is a patient education network and I am also a founding member of the new International Society of Atopic Dermatitis. In 2005 I was appointed Chairman of the Dept of Dermatology, Aarhus University Hospital, and from 2008-2010 I was the president of the Danish Dermatological Society.

I have published more than 75 articles in peer-reviewed journals and several book chapters (before 1995 under the name of Mette Kristensen). Many of the publications covered basal and clinical aspects of atopic dermatitis, psoriasis, and other inflammatory skin diseases.

I have been a member of EADV for many years and since 2012 a member of the EADV’s Project Proposal and Review Committee. EADV has developed into a powerful and influential organisation during recent years with members from all over the world. EADV should especially focus on the young dermatologists in training, and continue to develop the Fostering courses”.

As part of “Skin Cancer Awareness Day”, Members of the European Parliament Against Cancer (MAC) held a roundtable debate on 4 December 2012 at the European Parliament organised by the Association of European Cancer Leagues (Dr Wendy Yared), EADV (Prof Jana Hercogová) and Euromelanoma (Prof Véronique del Marmol) on the dangers of sunbed use – one of the main causes of skin cancer among young people. (See also Dr Myrto-Georgia Trakatelli’s report on MEPs’ questions related to sunbeds and melanoma in EADV News No 47.)

Moderated by Alojz Peterle MEP and Christel Shaldemose MEP, the roundtable gathered together other members of the European Parliament, as well as representatives from WHO, Euroskin and EADO (Jean-Jacques Grob). The European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Consumer (DG SANCO), represented by its Director, Jacqueline Minor, and Octavian Vasile also participated in the debate.

Current evidence and legislation

EADV President Jana Hercogová introduced the roundtable by outlining the risk factors and health impacts of the different types of skin cancers and precursors. She highlighted the clear link between extensive UV exposure and the risk of developing skin cancer – which is why the use of sunbeds should be strongly regulated and banned for minors.

Mathieu Boniol (Euroskin and IARC) gave a short summary of the epidemiological proof leading to the evidence of a strong correlation between the use of sunbeds and the development of skin cancer.

Gerry McElwee (Irish Cancer league) presented the Sunbed Legislation & Underage Use in Northern Ireland, while Dr Emilie van Deventer (WHO) and Dr Isabel Longo (EADO and Euromelanoma Spain) gave a global overview on sunbed legislation. Emilie based her presentation on the story of Claire Oliver, an Australian teenager, who died from melanoma. Her story has led to regulations limiting – or totally banning - the use of sunbeds in Australia.

Dr Longo presented the results of a survey conducted in 21 countries by Euromelanoma: 40% of the countries lacked age restrictions and access to self-tanning devices was considered a major concern in 50% of them. There is a clear prevalence of sunbed use among minors that positively correlates with a lack of restriction on the growth and availability of self-tanning devices.

From the presentation by Octavian Vasile from the European Commission it became clear that there are a number of EU standards to regulate the safety of sunbeds, but many Member States are not enforcing these regulations.

Call to action

After an animated roundtable and concluding remarks, a call to action was proposed and signed by all participants and particularly endorsed by all MEP and NGOs representatives. Its goals include the wish to assist in the creation of EU-wide legislation that would ensure:

- A total ban on sunbeds for under-18s
- Forbidding advertising of sunbeds and home tanning devices
- Documentation and standardisation of health advice given at tanning outlets and provided with home devices
- A complete ban on coin-operated tanning devices and home tanning devices
- Implementation of a registry of tanning centres and equipment in EU Member States
- Strict implementation of the regulations with monitoring by independent statutory bodies in Member States.

In addition, Member States and relevant stakeholders should be encouraged to develop, run and monitor educational campaigns that target the most susceptible populations.

Debate

The day was concluded by a debate at the Danish Embassy on approaches to early detection of skin cancer in Europe. Muriel Gerkens from the Belgian Federal Parliament described the work of a cross-party group of Belgian Federal MPs to secure a national Parliamentary Resolution on primary and secondary prevention of skin cancer. Prof Ekhard Breitbart gave an overview of the German skin cancer screening programme - the first nationwide programme of its kind in the world. Since the introduction of the first pilot programme in Schleswig Holstein skin cancer-related deaths in that region decreased by 50% over a ten-year period. Initial data suggests that the national programme can reduce the burden of skin cancer on German taxpayers by over €250 million per year.

Despite the impressive statistics coming out of Germany, all panellists highlighted the need for better data collection across Europe on all forms of skin cancer to be able to formulate effective responses at European and national level.
Prof del Marmol gave an overview of the efforts of the Euromelanoma campaign to gather epidemiological data through annual public screenings in more than 30 European countries.

Alojz Peterle concluded the debate with a reflection of the importance this type of event in providing policy-makers with the knowledge to be able to take action for the benefit of European citizens.

Follow-up

Conscious of the dangers of sunbed use and of the importance to take actions, on 7 February 2013, DG Health and Consumers invited Prof del Marmol (Euromelanoma) and Dr Yared (ECL) to present figures for Europe, to emphasise the risks of sunbed use to Member States and to invite countries to implement regulation of this devices in their own country.

White Book

In order to summarise all the elements concerning sunbed use in Europe, ECL and Euromelanoma, together with Euroskin, supported the writing of a white book to provide scientific information to all interested stakeholders interested by the topic, to be published shortly.

Véronique del Marmol MD PhD
Chair Euromelanoma Europe
Head of Dermatology Department
Erasmus Hospital
Brussels, Belgium
E-mail: v.marmol@skynet.be

I t is now one year since I had the honour to be elected by EADV members as EADV President-Elect. The position of President-Elect gives one the opportunity to reflect on how to face the challenges of European dermatology and plan how to work best as incoming President for the benefit of the Academy and its members.

During the past 12 years I have been actively involved in the leadership of the Academy as a Board delegate, Board representative to the EC, EADV Secretary General and currently as President-Elect. This experience has made me understand that the role of the President is not to “rule” – he/she has in fact no executive powers – but an EADV President can provide leadership by bringing together and encouraging all those members elected to committees and other responsible positions as well as the staff who work on behalf of the Academy and channel their efforts in a coordinated way for the benefit of EADV and its members.

Harmonisation

The President also acts a Chairperson of the Executive Committee and the Board. The Board is comprised of more than 50 directors from different countries, from different cultural and economic backgrounds who speak more than 20 different languages. The Board is united by the common belief that progress in dermatology is only possible through international exchange and harmonisation. It meets twice a year to direct the business of EADV. These meetings are not social events but days of hard work: the Board has to scrutinise the reports of the officers and committee chairmen, to approve or disapprove of how the day-to-day EADV business is conducted under the guidance of the EC and to take strategic decisions about the future development of our organisation.

All Board directors are doing this work on a voluntary basis as are the officers and committee chairmen. As in any democratic organisation the EADV Board elects Officers that they entrust with the detailed business of the Academy, such as a Treasurer who reports to them on the state of the EADV finances, and a Secretary General who prepares the work for meetings and keeps records of proceedings. In addition, the Board appoints many committees including a Finance Committee to oversee the finances and provide a further level of internal security for the Academy (in addition to AGM-appointed auditors) and a Scientific Programming Committee to prepare the detailed Congress and Symposium academic content that has been so successful to date. I see the role of the President as fosterung a climate of mutual trust and cooperation in the Board and to support committees and staff in their efforts.

The EADV president is also, of course, the public face of our Academy. As our main spokesperson, the President must represent the values of EADV that members have worked to establish over more than 25 years and present it as the positive united Academy that it truly is.

Inspired by the work that so many members have voluntarily contributed to establishing our credentials and bringing us together, I look forward to the challenges and privilege of becoming EADV President next year.
The EADV online CME Corner has just been upgraded. Besides the usual monthly JEADV article with MCQs, this section now also contains a state-of-the-art clinico-pathological self-assessment module (SAM) which has been developed in association with the Nordic Institute of Virtual Dermatopathology. This corner, which is only available to EADV members, serves as an excellent CME exercise and update for specialists and trainees alike.

The module contains 10 cases, and each case incorporates a clinical description, clinical photographs and digital histopathology slides which can be enlarged. There are 2 MCQs per case. The questions must be answered in the sequence in which they are presented and cannot be modified once the answers are submitted. You may view the correct answers at the end of each case before proceeding to the next case. The module may be completed over multiple visits by logging on every time. A new module is uploaded every three months and replaces the old one. Hence, you must ensure that the module is completed before it goes offline.

**EADV credits**

One EADV credit will be awarded for every two correct completed cases. A total maximum of five CME credits may be earned per module. However, the whole module must be completed in order to be eligible for a CME certificate.

The registration process is easy and may be viewed via the direct link: [http://www.eadv.org/nc/education/self-assessment-module/](http://www.eadv.org/nc/education/self-assessment-module/)

You only need to go through the registration process once and create an account by entering a username and password of your choice. You may then log onto the system any time with the same username and password. In case of memory failure, the details can be requested again through the “forgot details” link, rather than creating a new account. CME certificates may be downloaded from “My Corner” on the EADV website at the end of the three-month period that the module is online.

Please do take the time to visit and benefit from this exciting new online CME tool besides earning CME points. Good luck!

**Lawrence Scerri**
Chairman
CME-CPD Committee

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**Feedback from Cracow**

The 2013 Spring symposium held in Cracow proved to be yet another successful scientific and social event. Special thanks and congratulations goes to the Symposium President, Prof Jacek Szepietowski and his team, who collaborated very closely with the hardworking SPC and EADV administrative staff.

On a positive note, 24% of returned evaluation forms came from residents (compared to 14% in Prague). Only 29% of respondents had their registration paid by industry (compared to 50% in Prague). Unfortunately, 15% of respondents felt that sessions contained commercial bias.

Noteworthy comments included the need for better projection (Dermoscopy course), a short coffee break to be included in 3-hour courses, complaints related to speakers’ poor English, the importance of session chairs and speakers to respect time, and a strong desire to include more venereology/STI sessions.

The SPC-CME committees will, as always, do their utmost to address these issues. The overall comments were, however, very positive. Some absurd comments included the desire to be provided with pen and paper in the session rooms!

As always, participants are reminded to keep these evaluation forms coming, in order to help us plan future events that better meet everyone’s expectations.

**Most attended sessions (average headcount)**

1. Lecture (PL-A) (448)
2. ‘What’s New?’ session (WN-A) (254)
3. Plenary Lecture (PL-B) (222)
4. Dermoscopy (CO01) (150)
5. Scleroderma and morphea: advances in diagnosis and management (SY06) (137)
6. How I treat acne effectively (FS01) (135)
7. Facial dermatoses (FS03) (133)
8. Acne: old and new treatments (SY12) (132)
Greetings to all from the Membership Committee (Prof Jørgen Serup, Prof Ljiljana Medinica, Dr Arun Inamadar, Dr Sue Cooper, Dr Fabiola Copaci, Junior Representative, and myself). In spite of Summer 2013’s heatwave, we continue to work tirelessly on your behalf! We do admit to taking our holidays, but that was just to recharge our batteries so as to be on top form for the EADV Congress in fabulous and exotic Istanbul in October. We hope that as many of you who can will be there.

Welcome session

EADV membership continues to grow and, at present, we have 500 new Junior Members! The Membership Committee, in order to show how important our new members are to us, has arranged a welcome breakfast session in Istanbul at which we will be delighted to welcome new members of all categories. It will be held on Thursday, 3 October, from 08.00 to 09.30 at the Hilton Hotel. Here, new members will have an opportunity to meet both with us, and with some members of the Executive Committee of the Board. We will be delighted to welcome new members in person and to tell you all the advantages your membership brings with it. And, of course, we will be happy to answer any questions you may have for us.

For those taking part in Scholarship and Fostering courses a common Fostering/Membership application form has been devised in order to cut some of the administrative red tape and facilitate applications for membership.

Not content to rest on our laurels, we continue to seek new members. We are actively promoting our Academy at various congresses including the German national congress (DDG), the World Congress of Cosmetic Dermatology in Athens, Greece, and the national congress in Belgrade. We send printed material including a membership brochure with both membership and Fostering inserts to these congresses. However, at our own congress in Istanbul, and at the JDP in Paris in December, EADV will have a booth on site where members and potential members are welcome to stop by. And of course, in the meantime, any questions and/or suggestions can be sent to membership@eadv.org.

And to finish on a good news note for the Junior Membership category, the Board has approved the reduced fee of €50 for European Junior Members in 2014.

See you in Istanbul!

Sarah Rogers
Chair
Membership Committee
Fostering Dermatology & Venereology Courses

Training Courses for Residents

- **Genodermatoses**
  13-14 January 2014
  Innsbruck, Austria
  Course chair:
  Prof Matthias Schmuth
  Places: 15
  Application deadline: 6 October 2013

- **Paediatric Dermatology**
  14-16 February 2014
  Barcelona, Spain
  Course chair:
  Dr Ramon Grimalt
  Places: 30
  Application deadline: 4 November 2013

- **Melanoma Update and Short Course on Dermoscopy**
  14-16 March 2014
  Zagreb, Croatia
  Course chair:
  Prof Mima Situm & Dr Marija Buljan
  Places: 20
  Application deadline: 28 November 2013

- **Contact Dermatitis**
  19-21 March 2014
  Malmö, Sweden
  Course chairs:
  Profs Margarida Gonçalo & Magnus Bruze
  Places: 25
  Application deadline: 2 December 2013

- **Skin in Organ Transplant Recipients**
  4-6 April 2014
  Zurich, Switzerland
  Course chair:
  Prof Gunther Hofbauer
  Places: 30
  Application deadline: 6 December 2013

Training Courses for Specialists

- **Surgery**
  22-23 November 2013
  Brussels, Belgium
  Course chairs:
  Drs George Reuter & Monika Gniadecka
  Places: 20
  Application deadline: 30 September 2013

- **Interventional Cosmetics**
  2-3 March 2014
  London, UK
  Course chair:
  Dr C Rowland-Payne
  Places: 25
  Application deadline: 6 December 2013

- **Hidradenitis Suppurativa**
  26-28 February 2014
  Brussels, Belgium
  Course chairs:
  Profs C Zouboulis, V Del Marmol, G Jemec
  Places: 20
  Application deadline: 13 December 2013

For further information and how to apply visit the Fostering Section on www.eadv.org or contact fostering@eadv.org
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It is my sincere pleasure and honour to invite you, on behalf of the Local Organising Committee and the entire EADV, to attend the 11th EADV Spring Symposium which will be held in Belgrade, Serbia from 22 - 25 May 2014.

The Serbian Association of Dermato-venereologists, founded in 1927, is proud to have been selected to host the EADV Spring Symposium in Serbia under the motto “Tradition and Innovation”.

**New format**

The 11th EADV Spring Symposium will be completely different from the previous EADV spring events. For the first time, the EADV Spring Symposium will be compact and focused on a selected number of practical important areas with reviews and updates.

The themes will include dermatology and internal medicine, paediatric dermatology, surgery, nail and hair disorders, lasers and cosmetic dermatology, and finally, sexually-transmitted infections. EADV’s Scientific Programming Committee, under the chairmanship of Prof Luca Borradori, has put major efforts into selecting experts able to deliver lectures in a clear, concise and engaging way. The aim and challenge is simply to provide “The best and latest in dermatology and venereology”.

**Enjoy Belgrade**

Belgrade is an open, lively, optimistic and genuinely friendly city, easy to fall in love with. Its geographical position in south-eastern Europe, its cultural and historical diversity, the multitude of local and regional attractions as well as its great accommodation make it an exciting travel destination.

Belgrade, recently referred to as the “The New Capital of Cool”, is the cultural and administrative capital of Serbia, well known for its lifestyle, famous restaurants as well as its many unique floating restaurants and discotheques with a lively nightlife, excellent national cuisine, and numerous museums, cultural and historical heritage sites. Hence, I hope that you will come in large numbers, not only because of this new, completely reformatted, high-level educational programme, but also to discover this city at the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers.

It will be a great honour to host many distinguished experts in dermatology and venereology, and we will make all feasible efforts to provide the proper environment for acquiring new knowledge, sharing ideas and promoting exchanges among colleagues dermatologists and venereologists.

With warm wishes of welcoming you to Belgrade in May 2014.

Ljiljana M Medenica MD PhD
Chair
11th EADV Spring Symposium
The EADV Task Force on Acne & Rosacea was inaugurated in 2006 under the coordination of Prof Frank C Powell (Dublin, Ireland) and Prof Christos C Zouboulis (Dessau, Germany). It targets the organisation and/or coordination of international/European educational activities in the respective fields of acne and rosacea under the auspices of EADV.

Since its birth the task force has been involved in the following educational events:

1st International Conference on Hidradenitis suppurativa/Acne inversa

The task force actively supported the 1st International Conference on Hidradenitis suppurativa/Acne inversa, which took place from 30 March – 2 April 2006 in Dessau, Germany. About 30 experts in the field participated at this first worldwide scientific event under the scientific direction of Prof Ralf Paus (Lübeck, Germany) and Prof Zouboulis and agreed on:

- a road map for future research on hidradenitis suppurativa/acne inversa
- the so-called Dessauer definition of the disease: “Chronic, inflammatory, recurrent, debilitating skin disease (of the hair follicle) that usually presents after puberty with painful, deep-seated, inflamed lesions in the apocrine gland-bearing areas of the body, most commonly the axillary, inguinal, and anogenital regions”
- a genetic working hypothesis: “A polygenic disease with sporadic cases having defects in a number of critical genes involved in the pathogenesis of hidradenitis suppurativa/acne inversa and familial cases with probably highly penetrant defect(s) in one of these genes”
- the further development of the Hidradenitis Suppurativa Foundation Inc, a non-profit, whose world headquarters at that time were located in San Diego, CA, USA.

2nd International Conference on Sebaceous Gland, Acne and Related Disorders

The task force supported the 2nd International Conference on “Sebaceous Gland, Acne and Related Disorders - Basic and Clinical Research, Clinical Entities and Treatment”, which took place on 14-16 September 2008 in Rome, organised by Prof Zouboulis and Dr Mauro Picardo, just before the 17th EADV Congress in Paris.

Building on the success of the 1st International Conference, which took place in 1997 in Berlin, this conference offered the 190 participants and 60 lecturers from 34 countries, as well as the scientific employees of 19 pharmaceutical and cosmetic companies, a forum for both clinicians and scientists to discuss “what’s new?” in the emerging fields of acne, rosacea and acneiform skin diseases from both the pathogenesis and treatment perspectives. In addition, the multiple functions of the sebaceous gland, considered nowadays to be the “brain of the skin”, were addressed and the results were presented in a conference proceedings book: Zouboulis CC, Picardo M (eds) 2nd International Conference “Sebaceous Gland, Acne, Rosacea and Related Disorders – Basic and Clinical Research, Clinical Entities and Treatment. Medimond International Proceedings (Bologna, Italy, 2009 - ISBN 978-88-7587-490-2).

EADV Fostering Training Course on Acne and Rosacea

Members of the task force participated as lecturers at the EADV Fostering Training Course on Acne and Rosacea, which took place on 7-9 September 2012 in Debrecen, Hungary, under the leadership of Prof Eva Remenyik, Department of Dermatology, University of Debrecen. It offered 30 young EADV members the latest information on research, pathogenesis and treatment of these two most common skin diseases.

Evidence-based medicine and a new textbook

Members of the task force are further involved in educational editorial activities, such as:

- the evidence-based guidelines of acne treatment, which were published in German in the Journal of the Deutsche Dermatologische Gesellschaft (JDDG) and in English in the Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (JEADV)
Pierre Wolkenstein  
(France)

“I am an MD, PhD and full professor at the Department of Dermatology at Henri-Mondor Hospital, University of Paris Est Créteil (head of the Department: Prof Olivier Chosidow). I am the Head of the Division Cancers Immunity Transplantation Infection in this academic hospital in the Greater Paris Region. Among my roles in dermatology in France: General Secretary of the French Society of Dermatology (2006-2008) and then President (2008-2010). Secretary of the Local Scientific Committee of the 17th EADV Congress in Paris; and a member of the EADV Statutes and Development Committee. I am currently President of the College of Professors of Dermatology in France. I am also coordinating two National Referral Centres in the field of rare diseases, one devoted to neurofibromatosis and the other to toxic epidermal necrolysis and other severe cutaneous adverse drug reactions. These two fields constitute my main research interests. My contribution is internationally recognised (more than 200 publications in Pubmed, H index: 30) Indeed the French Neurofibromatosis Group identified the first modifying gene in neurofibromatosis 1 explaining the phenotypic variability of the disorder and conducted a therapeutic trial in patients with symptomatic internal neurofibromas. In the field of severe adverse drug reaction the group at Créteil improved the epidemiological and therapeutic knowledge, especially in toxic epidermal necrolysis.

It is a great honour and responsibility to be elected as a representative of France to the Board of Directors of the Academy. I will promote our values, excellence in clinical research, education and training through our educational and scientific events. I will act to increase the number of young French dermatologists as members of the EADV in collaboration with our College and our National Society. I believe in our common culture and in the richness of our differences.”

• a new multi-author textbook entitled Pathogenesis and Treatment of Acne and Rosacea, which is edited by Profs Christos C Zouboulis, Andreas D Katsambas, and the late Albert M Kligman and with the contribution of over 100 authors - experts in these fields (Springer Verlag).

Future activities
In the future, the Acne & Rosacea Task Force plans to better network European clinical and laboratory researchers in these interesting fields, which represent the most common dermatological diseases.

An EADV Fostering Course for Specialists on Hidradenitis suppurativa/Acne inversa will take place on 26-27 February 2014 at EADV House in Brussels, Belgium, organised by Profs Zouboulis, Véronique del Marmol (Brussels, Belgium) and Gregor B Jemec (Copenhagen, Denmark).

Fostering courses for residents on acne (Prof Eva Remenyik, Debrecen, Hungary) and on rosacea (Prof Frank Powell) are under preparation.

The 3rd International Conference on Hidradenitis suppurativa/Acne inversa, also organised by members of the Acne & Rosacea Task Force, is going to take place on 27-28 February 2014 in Brussels.

Finally, negotiations are planned for the organisation of the 3rd International Conference on Sebaceous Gland, Acne and Related Disorders - Basic and Clinical Research, Clinical Entities and Treatment.

Christos C Zouboulis  
Chair  
Acne & Rosacea Task Force  

C C Zouboulis, A D Katsambas,  
A M Kligman (eds) Pathogenesis and Treatment of Acne and Rosacea,  
(Springer, Heidelberg)
Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the 5th scientific meeting promoted by the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) in Ticino. EADV, a non-profit association founded in 1987, now represents the largest European association in this field, with Lugano as its official headquarters.

After the first four successful meetings held in Bellinzona in recent years, EADV decided to continue this project aimed at fostering clinical care, research, education and training in the field of dermatology and venereology and related medical fields in Ticino.

In close collaboration with the Società Ticinese di Dermatologia, the Dermatology Departments of Ente Ospedaliero Cantonale, the Institute for Research in Biomedicine and EADV’s Scientific Programming Committee, the 2013 one-day meeting will again consist of a basic research session in the morning and a clinically-orientated session in the afternoon.

EADV is proud to be able to include in the programme distinguished researchers and clinicians with recognised experience in their field, who will discuss a number of practical relevant advances.

Medical progress always profits from the co-operation of both researchers and clinicians, for example, in raising research questions, designing clinical and scientific studies, applying new diagnostic and therapeutic methods and providing appropriate material and information on patients and diseases.

EADV thus hopes that the 2013 programme will attract the interest and attention of not only all local researchers and dermatologists, but also of allergologists, immunologists, internists and oncologists by addressing areas with significant clinical interdisciplinary overlap.

Venue
Institute of Research in Biomedicine (IRB), via Vincenzo Vela 6, Bellinzona, Switzerland

Date
Thursday, 28 November 2013 from 09.00-17:30

Further information
Contact Diana de Simone: diana@eadv.org

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<th>Immune Response and Skin</th>
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<td>09:00</td>
<td>Marco Cassatella</td>
<td>Institute of Pathology, University of Verona, Italy</td>
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<td>09:20</td>
<td>Santiago Fernández González</td>
<td>IRB, Bellinzona, Switzerland</td>
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<td>09:40</td>
<td>Hans-Uwe Simon</td>
<td>Institute of Pharmacology, University of Bern, Switzerland</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>Mariagrazia Uguccioni</td>
<td>IRB, Bellinzona, Switzerland</td>
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<td>10:50</td>
<td>Silvia Monticelli</td>
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<td>11:10</td>
<td>Robert Hunger</td>
<td>Dermatology, University of Bern, Switzerland</td>
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<td>Masato Kakeda</td>
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<td>11:50</td>
<td>General Discussion</td>
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The whole of Europe is under the spell of the still continuing Euro crisis. The medical profession - and thus also the dermatologist - feels this recession. A solid financial situation for a professional organisation like EADV is the basis for the continuation of the society's activities.

Education is our main goal and the annual congress the main activity. How we finance these activities is changing. Governments increasingly require a stronger separation in congresses and other medical events between the (pharmaceutical) industries and the health professionals. Companies are continuing to merge to become bigger entities by which the total number of sponsors decreases. Finally, the sponsors are less willing to sponsor and/or to make more than a year's contract at a time.

First, we created a solid reserve account in case one of our activities, and particularly our congress, runs into financial difficulty. We also have to think about other problems such as political instability in the congress city or serious air traffic problems etc.

Secondly, we have achieved a significant cost reduction by creating our own congress organisation. In the Lugano head office most of the work for the organisation of our congresses, symposia and courses is coordinated. A local congress organiser is now only necessary for the typically local arrangements.

For the future a rise in membership numbers will be helpful. A big organisation like EADV is much more solid with a membership number in closer relation to the number of participants at its congresses.

EADV is happy to spend money on educational projects. The Scientific Programming Committee already proposed a new format for our spring symposia. Our Fostering courses are popular. However, some activities in the field of our educational programme do not spend all the money that was donated to them. A critical reassessment on a regular basis of the activities is essential to keep in close contact with the needs of our members.

We can conclude that with a strong financial policy and with our eyes focused on the future EADV can navigate its desired route in educating and helping European dermatologist in their professional life and by this to improve European care in dermatological diseases.

Martino Neumann
Chairman
Finance Committee

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**Update from the Finance Committee**

**Weathering the euro crisis**

Alternative sponsor activities such as meetings during the congress but outside the congress venue and organisation are more common than in the past.

The end result is less income for medical congress organisations and especially for EADV. This development seems set to continue for the next few years. The major source of income for EADV comes from the annual congresses. It is not and it has never been the goal to make money out of the spring symposia.

For the past few years the Finance Committee, in close cooperation with the Treasurer and the accountant, has been working on alleviating the above-mentioned developments problems. EADV has developed a strategy, approved by the Board, which will guarantee the continuation of our organisation.

**Beneath the Surface: dermatological clues to underlying disorders**

**Chairs: Luca Borradori, Carlo Mainetti, Franco Rongioletti**

15:10 **Franco Rongioletti**, Dermatology, University of Genoa, Italy
Panniculitides: The ugly duckling of dermatologists and pathologists

15:30 **Giampiero Girolomoni**, Dermatology, University of Verona, Italy
Interstitial granulomatous dermatitis and other cutaneous markers of rheumatological disease

15:50 **Coffee break**

16:10 **Helmut Beltraminelli**, Dermatology, University of Bern, Switzerland
Cutaneous angiomatoses: Reactive vascular proliferation with systemic implications

16:30 **Angelo Valerio Marzano**, Dermatology, University of Milan, Italy
Cutaneous manifestations of autoinflammatory syndromes

16:50 **Gianluca Tadini**, Dermatology, University of Milan, Italy
Skin signs of paediatric emergencies

17:10 **Carlo Mainetti**, EOC Bellinzona, Switzerland
TNF alpha inhibitors and cutaneous complications and side effects
Update from the Scientific Programming Committee

Prof Luca Borradori

Reflections from the outgoing Chair

At the close of my term as SPC Chair, a short review of the practical achievements and developments of EADV’s Scientific Programming Committee (SPC) is not a requirement but is appropriate to the end of my mandate.

I had the privilege to chair the SPC for four years and thereby came into close working contact with a number of remarkable people from various European countries, all with different backgrounds, experience and profiles, but who shared with me the common and honest desire to work together in pleasant collaboration to further develop EADV’s educational programme.

The SPC aims to:

- respond to the need and requirement of board-certified dermatologists and venereologists for continuing medical education and practice development by providing high quality educational programmes
- provide academic dermatologist-venereologists and faculty members with the opportunity to further increase their knowledge as well as the interchange of experiences
- help young dermato-venereologists still in training to improve their postgraduate education and preparation for their board exams as well as to be motivated by the outstanding personalities and experts in various fields
- further improve the collaboration and interdisciplinary knowledge exchange with other medical professional groups, such as nurses. It is anticipated that the development of the health systems in Europe will require and involve an increasing link with nurses in the management of patients in dermatology/venereology. EADV needs to take this into consideration and prepare to take this aspect further.

Increasing workload

The exciting challenge to improve and diversify the educational programme involves an impressive workload spread over a number of dedicated persons on the one hand, which on the other sometimes appears to be underestimated and possibly poorly understood by certain EADV members who, surprisingly, have called for a reduction in the administrative expenditure.

This is ‘surprising’ when you consider the annual development and coordination of more than 400 new scientific sessions, plus the review and supervision of several thousand submitted posters for the two main EADV events in the year in which they occur, come through the committee’s hands. Consider still further that the SPC works 2-3 years ahead on future EADV main events which also have to be planned and implemented; there is likewise the not negligible organisation of the annual regional scientific meeting in Ticino (where EADV has its headquarters and in which local requirements must be respected and EADV’s presence should be built upon in an adequate way). SPC also interfaces with other partners (ESDR, AAD, René Touraine Foundation) and performs the coordination of programmes from sister and sub-specialty societies and from industry, all of which raise the expenditure. This is ‘surprising’ when you consider the annual development and coordination of more than 400 new scientific sessions, plus the review and supervision of several thousand submitted posters for the two main EADV events in the year in which they occur, come through the committee’s hands. Consider still further that the SPC works 2-3 years ahead on future EADV main events which also have to be planned and implemented; there is likewise the not negligible organisation of the annual regional scientific meeting in Ticino (where EADV has its headquarters and in which local requirements must be respected and EADV’s presence should be built upon in an adequate way). SPC also interfaces with other partners (ESDR, AAD, René Touraine Foundation) and performs the coordination of programmes from sister and sub-specialty societies and from industry, all of which raise the expenditure.

1 Scientific programmes are now prepared centrally by the SPC, with the involvement of the CME-CPD Committee, co-opted experts, local scientific committees and congress chairpersons, task forces, and an electronic database which has been developed and implemented. This is a key tool for programme creation, allowing the storage of all congress statistics and speaker listings, the storage of all evaluation ratings of previous speakers and enabling remote rapid speaker searches, and a link to the blueprint (all topics within dermatology/venereology with repartition) and programme schedule grid (automatic generation of the programme).

2 Implementation of an online abstract submission system that allows an online review process based on clear selection criteria (10-30% rejection rate).

3 The introduction of electronic poster presentation, which allows a much more rapid, systematic and cheaper way than the classic paper posters for participants to search and find communications of interest.

4 The introduction of a number of new session types and formats, such as the non-dermatological plenary lecture, spotlight sessions, master of dermatology session, controversy session, virtual dermatopathology sessions, and hands-on sessions in response to members’ and participants’ needs and requests. Another important initiative has been the increased exchange with nurses within our congresses through common joint sessions.

Main SPC achievements over the past 4-year term

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Complete reorganisation of EADV’s spring symposia with the introduction of a new focused congress format according to the motto “The best and the latest in Dermatology - EADV Reviews and Updates”, which will premiere in Belgrade in 2014. The symposia will now focus on 4-5 main topics, which will change yearly, with the aim to cover the dermatovenereological blueprint over 3-5 years. The main goal was to offer more focused sessions, allowing an efficient and structured learning and by involving a more compact but high-quality faculty.

Agreement and exchanges with partners, such as AAD, ESDR and the René Touraine Foundation, to create new joint sessions (plenaries, scientific symposia), as well as the development of new initiatives.

Promotion of educational activities in Ticino with the organisation of a one-day high-level meeting with both basic science and clinical subjects.

The establishment of guidelines for programme development, SPC job description and workflow, as well as proposals for criteria and guidelines for the selection of congress venues.

Outstanding matters

There are a number of matters which need careful analysis and resolution:

- **Coordination and better synergy** with the initiatives and projects of other EADV committees (Media & PR, Honours and Awards, Fostering Trainee Education and Fostering Speciality Skills), besides the CME-CPD Committee which already closely works with the SPC.

- **Industry’s role.** It has been the understanding of the SPC that no mix of the official scientific programme with industry-supported events should take place. The industry-supported satellite symposia should be held at the end of the scientific programme each day (and not during the official scientific programme of the day). The theory seems clear but fudges in practice, as some EADV members still appear to enjoy industry offerings like free bags or lunch boxes and are less categorical about preserving the EADV scientific programme.

- **Conflict of interest issues.** The SPC has approached the Board numerous times to address the problem of the personal involvement of EADV Officers (such as President, Secretary General, Treasurer – including past and -elect – and EC Board representatives) in satellite programmes. The presence of EADV officers in industry-supported events raises the question of conflict of interest and impact on the image of EADV. In addition to EADV officers, all speakers involved in the programmes are now requested to clearly disclose their conflict of interest before their talks. Failure to properly disclose conflict of interests should lead to the exclusion of those speakers.

- **Simplification of the scientific programming process.** Now, with the electronic platform available, it is urgent that we simplify the organisation of the scientific programme. By using the available blueprint summarising the educational requirements and themes to cover, the introduction of clear guidelines for the choice of chairs and co-chairs (to indicate their term of service, ensure rotation and changes, and mandate automatic exclusion of non-performing speakers), it should easily be feasible to have the EADV SPC house staff prepare the entire programme. The SPC members should have here a supervising role and simply focus on specific adaptation of the programme, future development and better coordination with the other EADV working groups and committees.

- **Find a way to manage and reduce the substantial SPC workload.** I re-emphasise that any reduction of administrative costs is surely not appropriate. Rather than cost-cutting, I suggest investment in additional staff is most urgently required and has been neglected. Compared to other societies such as AAD, the number of EADV staff involved in scientific programming is low. The employment of a medical dermatologist to address daily issues (replacement of speakers, overview of the poster programme and supervision of the free communications) is essential to ensure our continued success. The goodwill of SPC/CME-CPD members can no longer be taken for granted.

**Thoughts on future directions and challenges**

The SPC members and the SPC Chair have been guided over these past few years by shared values and philosophy when preparing the scientific programmes. It is the strong wish and hope that these values will be followed and respected in the future. In brief, competence, communication and language skills, recognising our rising stars and not neglecting our masters - but finding the rightful place for both, and correct venue choice should be prioritised majorly, whereas favours, personal agendas and networking, and over-influence should not debase the choices made by the SPC.

My conclusion remains that although a lot has been achieved, developed, implemented and improved, the SPC will see no rest due to its endeavours to constantly adapt and reinvent in response to the need for a contemporary product of the highest quality. To achieve this means opening our eyes and investing in what counts.

My private reflection is one of personal gratitude for my term as SPC Chair. I wish to express my sincere thanks and acknowledgment to the various SPC and CME members, coopted members and EADV house staff members who have worked together hand-in-hand throughout my mandate with the principal aim of ensuring the growth of EADV and the success of its educational congresses.

I seize this opportunity of wishing my successor the very best of luck and success and to offer my sincere support to the new Chair.

Luca Borradori
Chair
Scientific Programming Committee
At Istanbul I end my association with the Ethics Committee after nine years. So it is a good time to reflect. I was once asked by a judge in a court who had read my curriculum vitae to define ethics while acting as a witness for the defence of a dermatologist.

Definition of Ethics: It is the science of moral philosophy. But science implies measurement which is not possible for philosophy. Humans in general characterise their own conduct and character and that of other humans by such adjectives as good, bad, right and wrong, and it is the meaning and scope of these adjectives, primarily in relation to human conduct, and ultimately in their final and absolute sense, that ethics investigates.

History of the Committee: At the 1st EADV Spring Symposium in Malta in February 2003, Giorgio Landi (Italy), a founder signatory like Hans Rothenborg (Denmark) the second chairman and myself, the present one, was asked by the Board of Directors to form an Ethics Committee. Subsequently, at the 2nd Spring Symposium in Budapest in April 2004, an election took place and I found myself secretary to the Committee. Bylaws, Board approval, and twice-yearly committee meetings among many other matters were developed and implemented.

Straight away at the Budapest Meeting what I consider two of our most important precepts were drawn up.

Aims and functions of the Ethics Committee

- The aim of the Ethics Committee is to deal with any ethical problem related to EADV. It must take into account the submitted matters and consider if they are related or not to its competency. If so, the Committee will study, analyse and evaluate possible actions for any unclear ethical situation related to the ethics of EADV. In specific circumstances, if needed, it could also propose actions. However, the Ethics Committee is not an executive but an advisory body to the EADV Board and therefore it is only the Board that can undertake the final resolution.
- In general the Committee should express opinion and act as paterfamilias in EADV disputes when internal rules lack clarity or detail. The Ethics Committee will always consider any enquiry about ethical issues relating to EADV made by a member of EADV, or an Officer or member of the Board of EADV. It cannot consider any matter which occurs to members of EADV in the course of their daily or professional lives outside the activities of EADV. It does not give any opinion on legal or judicial matters concerning members of EADV. It is also able to consider and advise on the proper functions of EADV administration, including financial deeds, the correct application of the EADV statutes regarding management and decisions of the Ordinary General Meeting, Board Meetings and activities of other committees, and the conduct of elections and matters of dispute that may result from them.

Duties to patients, colleagues and society

- Physicians of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology should at all times strive towards the care that is most appropriate for their patients, in the light of current knowledge. They should strive to keep their knowledge up-to-date.
- They should observe honesty and proper conduct towards their colleagues, not only in dermatology and venereology, but through all aspects of medicine.
- They should not form judgement on any professional situation until full knowledge of the facts is known.
- They should be watchful in their dealings with governmental or non-governmental bodies, and commercial industry.
- They should abide by these principles throughout their professional lives.

Two amendments were later added by the Committee:

i) Members of EADV should not allow personal animosity to interfere with the collegiality or function of EADV.

ii) Members of EADV should not use their position in relationship to patients, professional activities, commerce and industry, governments and non-governmental organisations, for their personal advantage or personal benefit.

Conflict of Interest

The Committee has opined on matters such as plagiarism of others’ scientific work presented at EADV meetings, the ethical use of clinical photography of patients, and the increased use of electronic means of recording any form of presentation given at meetings of the Academy, among many other matters involving members.

However, in my opinion, perhaps the greatest innovation during my time in office has been the introduction of the document “Of Conflict of Interest” since 2010 which has to be signed by every person in a “Leadership” position in the Academy each year. This is absolutely necessary if academic freedom is to be maintained and the rights and duties of members constantly guarded.

I wish all success to the incoming Chairman Herbert Hönigsmann (Austria) aided by the considerations of moral philosophy of the members of the Ethics Committee.

Michael Waugh
Chairman
Ethics Committee
The EADV Fostering Trainee Education Committee (FTEC) is currently composed of Matilde Bylaite (LT), Michaela Starace (IT), Bertrand Richert (BE) and myself. Spyridon Gkalpakiotis (CZ) is the co-opted Junior Member.

The main role of the committee is to foster the organisation of high-level courses, with a hands-on added value that cannot be offered at regular meetings. For example, sessions with slide examination at the microscope or a visit to an epidermolysis bullous house. Research courses are also organised on an annual basis, in collaboration with the European Society of Dermatological Research. Potential course organisers may find updated guidelines on “how to organise a course” on the EADV website.

The courses not only provide up-to-date scientific information to the trainees but also favour interactivity during the courses as well as social networking. This is probably the most worthwhile aspect of these courses. Future dermatologists spend some days together and have the possibility to compare their training, administrative regulations and quality of life. It is the first step towards a professional international network.

Residents who wish to participate in a course can find an activated electronic application form online. With the number of participants being restricted to 30, the vast majority of the courses are oversubscribed and selection is necessary. It is performed by the course organiser and one committee member. Priority is given to trainees who are already EADV members, but the balance between the different European countries is also taken into account. The selected trainees receive a grant for registration, lodging, breakfast, coffee breaks and lunch and are invited to a social event. Junior EADV members also receive an educational grant.

More courses

I was elected chairperson of the EADV Fostering Trainee Education Committee in 2009. Since then, the number of courses has regularly increased from four in 2009 to nine in 2013. Twelve courses are already scheduled for 2014: [http://www.eadv.org/fostering-courses/current-residents-courses/](http://www.eadv.org/fostering-courses/current-residents-courses/)

These courses represent a huge involvement from the course organisers who do it on a voluntary basis, with the help of the EADV administrative staff. They really deserve the gratitude of the Academy and I would like to personally and sincerely thank them.

This year, for the first time, a “Paediatric Dermatology Course” is to take place in Istanbul on 2 October, just prior to the EADV Congress. It will be organised by EADV, in collaboration with the European Society of Paediatric Dermatology. Master Classes will also be initiated. The first one should take place in Belgrade in 2014.

At the end of my term, I would like to thank all our committee members and specially Bertrand Richert who was in charge of numerous selection processes. My thanks also go to Nancy Induni, who provides invaluable help, based on her sound knowledge of EADV rules, and to Ildikó Papp and Marc Somja, our administrative officers. Finally I would also like to address my special thanks to the EADV Treasurers Jørgen Rønnevig and Jon Olafsson who have always supported our programme and approved our budgets.

Josette André
Chair
Fostering Trainee Education Committee
Update from the Secretary General

Developing new leadership talent

Our mission as EADV members is to promote a common goal of advancing dermatological care, education and research. Sharing a common goal obviously helps to build relationship across borders and to gain momentum within an organisation. I am frequently admiring the high level of commitment of EADV members involved in the various committees and task forces who dedicate their time to advance our mission.

Most of the EADV members involved in these EADV leadership functions, including myself, have reached a certain level of seniority in their career. This seniority carries advantages but also has limitations. We certainly need to bring more young dermatologists to take part in the EADV leadership team. They are the future of our organisation and profession.

When I meet young dermatologists or residents at congresses, I always try to motivate them to join the EADV and to contribute to the organisation. I must say I am not always successful and sometimes the answer I get from young colleagues is “what is in it for me?” Clearly some young dermatologists do not have a clear picture of all the initiatives undertaken in their direction by, for example, the EADV Fostering Trainee Education Committee, headed by Josette André, which organises dedicated European courses (see previous page) and the EADV Honours and Awards Committee, led by Christos Zouboulis, which gives many young colleagues the opportunity to attend EADV congresses.

There is obviously a need to develop and bring together motivated young EADV members who can move forward important projects and articulate the future EADV vision. One initiative we would like to promote is to introduce leadership training for young dermatologists who would be interested in contributing to EADV’s future. This idea of developing the leadership skills of “rising stars” has been implemented in other medical professional organisations. Some critical colleagues would say “you cannot train people to become leaders, they are or they are not leaders”.

Although I would agree that some people are “natural leaders”, for most of us, leadership training can help to transform us and to develop the skills necessary to lead teams and to inspire people. A considerable number of books have been written regarding the art of becoming a leader. Most of them focus on behaviours, listing what to do and not to do to become a successful leader. They are useful but barely scratch the surface of the complexity of a human being. Most of these books do not provide the elements that will help us to develop our emotional and intuitive intelligence which are essential for interpersonal relations.

Acceptance and reconnection

In a recent excellent and inspiring book about leadership development, Jill Danks, an executive coach and communication skills trainer uses the concept of the “Leadership Trapeze”¹. The Trapeze refers to the state of vulnerability of a trapeze artist who has to accept insecurity to make “a good performance”. Jill Danks is an executive coach, meditation teacher and yoga teacher who has spent her life developing people who enter or who hold leadership position throughout the world. She has developed the key concepts that accepting vulnerability, developing equanimity and reconnecting with feeling and emotions are the key steps to be come an inspiring leader.

The message brought by Jill Danks in her book is important as it helps us to understand and to go beyond the behaviours sometimes seen with people reaching leadership positions without appropriate coaching and development:

- The tendency to control everything, to overdo things, to show lack of trust in team members.
- The fear of not being good enough at the job or being inadequate is a frequent feeling when we reach leadership positions. This fear can drive us to become judgmental and defensive towards ourselves and towards others. It can prevent us from being generous, from congratulating people and trusting them.

By accepting vulnerability (our own and that of others), reconnecting with our inner emotions, developing our listening skills and not wasting energy in judging our own feelings or those of others, Jill Danks shows that we can gain strength as leaders while establishing good harmony in a team.

We need to help young dermatologists to develop their leadership skills to prepare them to take leadership positions in their career and within EADV. Well-prepared people sharing the values of trusting each other, listening to their own feelings and to others, and developing an open-minded spirit can achieve a lot as a team. This is a splendid opportunity to advance the EADV mission.

Carle Paul
EADV Secretary General

Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The next AGM of the Academy will be held on Friday, 4 October 2013, during the 22nd EADV Congress in Istanbul, Turkey.

For further details, please visit www.eadv.org (for members only).

Calendar of Events

> 2013

3rd 5-Continent-Congress
18-21 September 2013
Cannes, France

12th World Congress of Paediatric Dermatology
25-27 September 2013
Madrid, Spain

22nd EADV Congress
2-6 October 2013
Istanbul, Turkey

1st International Congress on Controversies in Dermatology - Burning Issues in Clinical Practice (CCD)
7-10 November 2013
Berlin, Germany

1st European Congress on Tattoo and Pigment Research
13-14 November 2013
Copenhagen, Denmark

EADV Dermatological Meeting in Ticino 2013: From the Bench to the Clinic
28 November 2013
Bellinzona, Switzerland

> 2014

Introduction to Photodermatology, Photodynamic Therapy & Laser Therapy
28 April - 2 May 2014
Dundee, Scotland, UK

11th EADV Spring Symposium
22-25 May 2014
Belgrade, Serbia

10th EADO Congress
7-10 May 2014
Vilnius, Lithuania

12th European Society for Paediatric Dermatology (ESPD) Congress
12-14 June 2014
Kiel, Germany

XV World Congress on Cancers of the Skin
3-6 September 2014
Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

5th World Congress of Teledermatology
18-20 September 2014
Barcelona, Spain

23rd EADV Congress
8-12 October 2014
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

> 2015

European Workshop on Skin Immune Mediated Inflammatory Diseases
24-26 April 2014
Verona, Italy

23rd World Congress of Dermatology
8-13 June 2015
Vancouver, Canada
11TH EADV SPRING SYMPOSIUM

22-25 May 2014

Sava Centar
Belgrade, Serbia