Biological agents are widely used in dermatology particularly for the treatment of psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. They include anti-TNF-α agents and ustekinumab, but in the very near future secukinumab, other anti-IL17 as well as anti-IL-23 drugs will be licensed. On the other hand, the patent of TNF-α agents is expiring. Infliximab EU patents expired in August 2014 and the etanercept EU patent will expire in February 2015. Therefore there is much interest in developing generics of biologics, which are called “biosimilars”.

More similarities than differences …

Biosimilars should be cheaper with a cost reduction of 20-30% compared to originators. Generic drugs generally only require comparative pharmacokinetic clinical studies (commonly referred to as bioequivalence studies), whereas biosimilars must undergo rigorous head-to-head Phase I pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic and Phase III clinical testing (which can include multiple studies depending upon the mechanism of action for the various indications) to obtain regulatory approval. Biosimilars have an identical amino acid (AA) sequence of the originator but may differ in the glycosylation pattern and thus secondary and tertiary structures. Therefore, analytics is a very large component of the biosimilar development, whereas for originator the clinical development programme (phase III) is the most extensive part (Figure 1). The cost of phase III clinical studies may be too high to develop a commercially interesting biosimilar. Analytics investigates AA sequence, molecular weight, protein concentrations and aggregation, and binding to the target cytokine, as well as the functional activity in in vitro assays (apoptosis induction, C1q assay, ADCC).

… but more work needed

The biosimilar must be identical or within the reference product range. Indeed, originators are also not identical to themselves as they may change over time, although companies are not showing data in support of the similarity between the initial and later originators. Similarity to the reference product must be demonstrated before starting the clinical development of a biosimilar.

Biosimilars in Dermatology

continued on page 3
24TH EADV CONGRESS
EUROPEAN ACADEMY
OF DERMATOLOGY
AND VENEREOLOGY

7-11 OCTOBER 2015
BELLA CENTER
COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

www.eadvcopenhagen2015.org
Dermatology on the move

The Academy is helping patients by providing continuous medical education to its members to promote uniform high standards of treatment all over Europe, but it does more than that.

Neither skin diseases nor patients are static entities. Skin diseases often display a story, and it is still important to understand the language of primary and secondary morphological changes. Listen to it, and the eruption tells you its own independent story about duration, flares and treatment effects. Through our journal and at our congresses and courses the languages of many skin diseases are being taught.

Patients also tell you their story and many patients move temporarily - or permanently - to other countries, and because skin diseases are often chronic or recurrent, they also seek medical advice in these countries. It is to their great benefit if they receive the same advice and evidence based treatment for the same diagnosis, independently of geography. In this, the Academy is of great help.

Not all Academy activities however belong to academia, some also belong to the agora that is a natural part of the Academy. All meetings and courses are places where the members mix and mingle, where you may establish contacts not only with your neighbour, but with a fellow-academician from another corner of the continent. These contacts form a conduit for patients who move from one country to another, as they are seamlessly referred to a trusted colleague whom you know, because he or she is also a member of the Academy.

In effect, the Academy is therefore also an astonishingly effective clearinghouse for patients on the move. This is an overlooked, but brilliant example of professional collaboration without borders and also surprisingly effective. It is actually so effective that patients seem to take it for granted. They should not and nor should we. Patients move, but they are not easily moved.

Gregor Jemec
Editor

the clinical development. Biosimilars are usually tested clinically only in one indication and then their effectiveness and safety profiles are extrapolated for the other indications already approved for the innovator product. So far, biosimilars have been tested clinically in diseases where the efficacy of the originator is less evident (eg, rheumatoid arthritis and ankylosing spondylitis) and not in psoriasis or inflammatory bowel diseases where the efficacy compared to placebo is much higher, and thus the risk of different results is higher. Both the originator and the biosimilar have identical primary AA structure, but it is possible that even minimal changes in the glycosilation/folding may alter the antibody reactivity, and thus affect immunogenicity, which in turn affects efficacy and safety.

Both the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and European Medicines Agency (EMA) approved the use of biosimilars for all indications, including rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis and inflammatory bowel diseases. An important issue is the interchangeability, which is the possibility of switching from the originator to the biosimilar and vice versa. There are substantial differences between the US and the EU (FDA: interchangeability is automatic, whereas EMA has left the Member States to decide independently).

In general, regulatory agencies and local authorities suggest using biosimilars in biological naïve patients and leaving the decision to the physician on whether or not switching in patients already on biologics.

We believe that biosimilars need to be tested in adequate clinical trials also in patients with psoriasis, as extrapolation may not be sufficient to convince dermatologists about the use of biosimilars in their patients. Moreover, traceability of biosimilars would be very important for pharmacovigilance. However, who is going to pay for effective post-marketing surveillance?

Biosimilars may represent a very important opportunity for lowering the cost of biological therapy and thus rendering them available to a higher number of in need patients.

Giampiero Girolomoni
University of Verona, Italy

References
4. Lee H. Is extrapolation of the safety and efficacy data in one indication to another appropriate for biosimilars? AAPS J 16:22-26, 2014
President's Perspective

Thank you and farewell

Dear Colleagues, Friends and EADV Members,

You are the ACADEMY!

It is a pleasure and an enormous honour for me to address you for the last time as EADV President. My tenure is going to finish in Amsterdam and after the closing ceremony, a new president, Prof Erwin Tschachler will take over the post. I believe he will do his best to bring the Academy to the safe harbour of peace and understanding. I was not the one who could really change anything. But thanks to all of you, I myself feel proud of having had the chance to serve EADV at the highest level.

Nobody, mainly my colleagues from my own country, believed I could even think of the presidency and hardly anybody from the current leadership supposed I could achieve it. But it was you, my dear friends, EADV Members from all over the world, who gave me the trust and chance to compete and to win! And why did I dare to compete? To the best of my knowledge, only three women in the EADV’s history have tried to be elected to the top position within the Academy – and all were professors of dermatology from very important and/or big European countries: Belgium, Italy and the United Kingdom. Nobody from a small, previously communist one, had ever tried.

Achievements

Since my President-Elect period, I started to suggest new ideas and let’s have a look at some which were realised:

- New awards were introduced and were highly appreciated by all awardees
- Junior Members have started to benefit from the reduced membership fee of €50 since 2014
- New media campaigns focused on skin cancers and professional diseases caused by the sun are ongoing
- EADV membership is growing and, I believe, will grow even more
- New social events (breakfasts for international and junior members) were introduced
- A completely innovative scientific programme for our congresses and symposia is being introduced
- New projects are starting thanks to careful selection by the PPRC etc.

On the other hand, I was not able to convince the leadership to approve:

- Regional representation on all EADV committees from West, East, South, North
- Limiting the length of time one person can serve the Academy to a maximum of 12 years
- Fellowships to all national dermatological societies from the countries of EADV members to get support to attend the EADV congress or symposium each year etc.

Much still to do

Looking around, we are now living in a changing world and facing a lot of new problems. Are you happier? Both professionally and personally, is your daily life more satisfying to you? Are your clinics growing and your patients suffering less? Does anybody help you in the fight with other specialists, non-medical skin care providers, or internet non-medical experts? And even if you do not perceive these problems as real ones, do you have enough time for yourself, your family, your friends and co-workers? Despite this, our Academy is flourishing, our congresses are becoming bigger and bigger (we attracted more participants at our congress in Istanbul than the AAD had in Denver), and we are inventing more and more educational events.

I feel proud of all I have done, but I could definitely do more and better. And what made me happy during my EADV Presidency?

- You who trusted me, advised me, and criticised me
- You who surprised me in good ways and bad
- You who joined EADV and made it the biggest member society in history
- You who bothered me with permanent questions “why can’t I be the one...”

I would like to thank you ALL, you and the Academy have completely changed my life. You made me the Queen of European Dermatology. Thank you very much for a wonderful two years!

I promise to use all my new knowledge and experience for the good of dermatology and venereology, for our residents, colleagues and patients.

I wish you good health, happiness and passion for all the activities you like.

Yours truly ever,

Jana Hercogová
EADV President (2012-2014)
Dear Colleagues,

From 8-12 October we will meet in Amsterdam for the 23rd EADV Congress. It is a privilege to be the hosting city and we will present our clinical, scientific and organisational skills to you with our best efforts.

This event appears to be not only a way to build bridges to future knowledge, it is also the incentive for us to better understand our dermatological past and present. In the beautifully illustrated book ‘Dutch Contributions to Dermatology’, written for all (inter)national visitors to the congress and edited by five committed Dutch dermatologists, we give an introduction to the origin of Dutch dermatology and its past and present scientific contributions.

**Focus on Dutch Dermatology**

Dutch dermatology developed in the second half of the 19th century in close cooperation with the German and French traditions. With the appointment of Chanfleury van Ijsselsteijn as the first professor of skin and venereal diseases in Amsterdam in 1867, the foundation of Dutch academic dermatology was laid. Amsterdam, with its rich seafaring tradition, is a liberal city: Prof van Ijsselstein was appointed in response to the venereal problem. Combating venereal diseases and scientific research into this group of disorders remained high on the agenda for decades.

Attention gradually moved from sexually-transmitted infections and other infectious diseases in the 19th century and first half of the 20th century towards non-infectious diseases, including inflammatory disorders, oncology and phlebology in the second half of the last century. Gradually a Dutch school of dermatology developed in an intensive scientific exchange with European and non-European countries. Many internationally distinguished Dutch dermatologists arose, such as Siemens (congenital ichthyosiform dermatoses), Polano (clinical dermatology), Zoon (balanitis plasmocellularis), Jansen (structure of dermal collagen) and Ruiter (vasculitis allergica). With the appointment of Cormane (lupus band phenomena) in 1968 in Amsterdam attention on inflammatory disease and immunodermatology grew tremendously.

Johannes Wilhelmus Henricus Mali (Nijmegen) is one of the initiators of dermatophlebology. All these famous Dutch dermatologistts and many more have contributed internationally to the development of dermatology. Together with Spain, Portugal and Italy, the Netherlands founded the first society of micrographic surgery. Dermat-oncology has been an important topic for many years, including the standardised treatment for T-cell lymphomas based on research in the Netherlands. We also have a tradition in Bullous disease research and genodermatoses.

**Science and culture**

By attending the congress in Amsterdam you can experience the broad dermatologic tradition that is present in the Netherlands. But let us finally bring to your attention to another aspect of your stay here in Amsterdam: jumping from science to culture is not difficult in this city. For our international guests Amsterdam is one of the most appreciated cities with a valuable cultural heritage, to be found in many renowned museums, and with a rich culinary tradition, ranging from the typical Dutch potato stew to a rich Indonesian rice table.

On Wednesday evening, 8 October, you will have the chance to meet and experience our culture at the cocktail and networking ceremony in the RAI Congress Centre. EADV is preparing a very special welcome and we encourage you to meet and greet your colleagues in anticipation of a scientifically challenging congress.

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Catherine (Bibi) van Montfrans  
EADV Board Member (NL)  
Martino Neumann  
EADV Treasurer-Elect
For the first course on Wound Management and Telemedicine, 19 residents in dermatology and one plastic surgeon gathered at EADV House in Brussels. This splendid ‘Art Nouveau’ building, located in a very nice quarter of Brussels, was a very warm and comfortable place to explore wound management over two days.

Twenty young doctors from 10 different European countries were selected to attend the course. Their knowledge in wound management was good and they were keen to improve their expertise as they encounter chronic wounds in their everyday practice.

World specialists

All the speakers were well-known international specialists in wound care: Prof Marco Romanelli, a dermatologist from Pisa and also an associate professor at Miami University; Dr Sylvie Meaume, a dermatologist and geriatrician and President of the French Wound Healing Society; Dr Luc Téot, a plastic surgeon and President of the Academy of Wound Technology; and Dr Anne Dompmartin, a dermatologist in charge of teledermatology for the French Society of Dermatology. All these speakers are involved in wound care and clinical research in their daily practice.

The students first presented personal cases and teachers evaluated their knowledge. The course focused on the importance of wound and vascular assessments which are mandatory for diagnosis and prognosis. Speakers also expounded on such topics as compression, dressings, new technologies and advanced surgical treatments for chronic wounds and scars.

New organisation

A new organisation is being developed on the follow-up of chronic wounds. Dr Dompmartin and Dr Téot demonstrated their work and illustrated it with two videos (sponsored by EADV) that show how nurses and medical doctors work together in a multi-professional approach using telemedicine. They have built a research programme in their two French regions (Basse Normandie and Languedoc-Roussillon) called DOMOPLAIES which has French and European funding. New technologies are also useful in wound assessment and the residents discovered the European research program SWAN i-Care.

On Thursday evening we had a social evening in a cosy restaurant “La Mercerie” very close to the EADV office. We thank Marc Somja for this good choice.

The course was evaluated as very good or excellent by all participants.

We had a great time and very interactive exchanges. We hope that in the future, wound care will increase in dermatology practice and that dermatologists will remain “healing specialists” working with other specialists.

Anne Dompmartin
Course Chair
Josette André finished her term as chair of the Fostering Trainee Education Committee (FTEC) after the Istanbul Congress in 2013. As a former member of the committee, I had the pleasure of working closely under her leadership for five years, and thus participated in the blossoming and success of the courses it organised. I was subsequently elected to replace her and have performed the function of chair since then.

The main task of the FTEC is to foster the organisation of high-level courses, not only with the intention of providing up-to-date scientific information for trainees, but with an added hands-on value that cannot be found in standard meetings.

As the number of participants is restricted to 30, the vast majority of the courses are oversubscribed and a selection process, carried out by the course organiser and one member of the FTEC, is necessary. The selected trainees receive free registration, accommodation and meals. Selection priority is given to junior EADV members and, if chosen, they receive an educational grant.

More courses

The FTEC programme is very successful. It has offered 1504 residents from all over Europe the opportunity to attend one of the 56 courses held between 2005 and 2014. Participants have come from 50 different countries. An annual Summer School, in collaboration with ESDR, has been held since 2010 and the most recent one took place in Helsinki in July of this year. The number of courses continues to rise exponentially from 13 courses, when I took over last year, to a planned 19 courses for 2015 and we are already expecting more than 20 in 2016. There were only four courses five years ago when I became a committee member! The diversity of topics has also increased.

New exciting course topics are contact dermatitis, melanoma, wound healing, bioinformatics for skin research, epidemiology, skin in organ transplant, cryosurgery, and skin imaging, among others. All the courses have been highly rated and both residents and course organisers found the experience so stimulating that some courses were repeated and many residents applied for other courses after their first participation.

Master classes

One of the foremost aims of the Academy is to take advantage of its resources for education. The EADV Executive Committee also asked FTEC to organise a Master Class. In order to allow young residents to get to and participate in such a course, the Academy offered a grant to the approximately 100 applicants who fulfilled the conditions for this educational event. The first Master Class - entitled “Non Melanoma Skin Cancers: A Holistic Approach and State of the Art” - was held in Belgrade. It was extremely successful, and was booked out in just one week, with a total of 102 participants from 14 different countries (see report on page 20). Our administrative staff, without whom the success of these courses would be impossible, had the excellent idea of advertising it on Facebook - the 21st century communication method!

The next EADV meeting is planned in Valencia in the spring of 2015.

Bertrand Richert
Chair
Fostering Trainee Education Committee

To organise an EADV fostering course for trainees, please contact fostering@eadv.org
To apply for a course, go to www.eadv.org and select “fostering courses for trainees”
In the Netherlands, less than 20% of all students follow the highest level of secondary school, which is required to start any academic study. After finishing six years of secondary school, the ‘horror’ starts because you have to draw a place in medical school by lot. It is a weighted lottery where students with ‘cum laude’ are automatically enlisted, but the likelihood of getting in is correlated with the grades obtained in secondary school.

**Lottery system**

In 2012, there were 8,663 applicants of which a fixed number (‘numerus fixus) of 2,800 students eventually enrolled (32% success rate). This ‘lottery’ procedure will change resulting in a selection procedure more focused on quality in 2017.

Medicine can be studied in eight cities in the Netherlands (Amsterdam, Utrecht, Leiden, Rotterdam, Maastricht, Nijmegen and Groningen) and they each host between 1,800 and 2,500 medical students. It takes six years of study of which the final two years consist of rotating internships. Students can choose their last internship, which lasts for three months, as an in-depth introduction to a field of interest. Unfortunately, the hours of dermatology teaching in the curriculum are limited and - even worse - dermatology is no longer a required internship in each of the universities. This makes it even more challenging to teach dermatology in general and attract the best students for dermatology residency in particular.

**Highly competitive entry**

The selection to get into dermatology residency is among the toughest in medicine. Very few young physicians get into dermatology straight after finishing medical school. The usual route is via additional clinical work outside a training programme in internal medicine, surgery and/or dermatology for several years, or via getting a research PhD. The latter explains why the Dutch have such an excellent track record in research because it is the entry to a residency programme for highly motivated young physicians.

Most residents are clinically and/or scientifically experienced at the start of their residency. Depending on the estimate of the required number of dermatologists, each year 30 to 40 residents start their five-year training programme. Their training consists of different compulsory modules, such as ambulatory care, inpatient care, allergy, venereology, dermato-oncology and surgery, phlebology, and UV-therapy.
Netherlands

and UV-induced dermatoses. In contrast to several other countries, but in line with Germany, the level of surgery and phlebology training is high since it is part of the everyday work of dermatologists in the Netherlands.

Of course, each of the eight academic centres has its specific clinical expertise implying a slightly different focus between clinics within the requirements of the programme. This specific expertise is being shared more and more since residents have the option to move temporarily for in-depth clinical rotations to other centres. During these five years, residents are encouraged to do part of their training in non-academic centres to expose them to different patient populations and better prepare themselves for their future careers. In addition to their clinical work, residents receive educational training at their institute and, together with the residents from the other centres, at least four days annually at a national level. After their training, they join the other 450 Dutch dermatologists in primarily hospital-based practices.

This short overview of ‘how to become a dermatologist in the Netherlands’ illustrates that it is a long journey for a six-year-old, but it is absolutely worth it.

Dermatologists are well trained medical specialists who are highly needed to care for patients’ skin in every healthcare system. Therefore, we should be proud like an eagle and shake off the potential Calimero-complex.

Tamar Nijsten

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23rd EADV Congress – Session Highlights

Develop your Leadership Skills

**Thursday, 9 October 2014**
13.30-16.30 (Media Session)

Communication professionals will give you hints on how to become a successful leader in your department or practice.

*Planning to attend? Please send an e-mail to media.pr@eadv.org.*

Improve your Presentation Skills

**Friday, 10 October 2014**
08:00-09:30 (SY20)

Learn how to captivate your audience and get your message across.

The EADV Media & PR Committee will give you hints to improve your speech or presentations.

*More information in the online Scientific Programme: [www.eadvamsterdam2014.org](http://www.eadvamsterdam2014.org)*

*Planning to attend? Please send an e-mail to media.pr@eadv.org.*
The 4th edition of this course was an extremely productive meeting, bringing together participants from all over Europe and India. The main aim was to introduce or increase the knowledge of psychodermatology, a sub-specialty which is attracting attention among the dermatological community.

The course was organised by Dr Françoise Poot, with the collaboration of Prof Uwe Giefer, Prof Jacek Szepietowski and Dr Lucia Tomas-Aragonés. Their extensive experience was evident throughout the course, and among the topics discussed were the management of psychosomatic conditions, the concept of family therapy, and the management of patients with primary psychiatric conditions that present to dermatologists. Such topics are extremely important in our daily practice.

Psychodermatology

The enthusiasm of the tutors throughout the course was a motivational factor for all the participants. Workshops ran in all sessions, making the course highly interactive and enjoyable. Furthermore, the experiences shared by all the other residents were extremely useful to integrate into my usual practice. The feedback provided for this course and its previous editions has been extremely positive, making it one of the most popular resident Fostering courses every year. In addition to this exciting course, we had the opportunity to enjoy the delights of Brussels and the Belgian culture.

I would encourage all residents and specialists to attend future editions of the basic and planned advanced course to improve the knowledge and practice of psychodermatology, so we can provide an optimal service to our patients.

Silvia Aguilar-Duran
Resident dermatologist
Edinburgh, Scotland (UK)
T he annual EADV Congress – this year in Amsterdam - is testament to the great work of Prof Luca Borradori, his Scientific Programming Committee (SPC) and the local organisers, and the result of many years’ planning.

Under the leadership of Prof Borradori, EADV started to identify the best speakers in order to make the congresses more attractive. They introduced the highly appreciated ‘Spotlights’ session and started to create new infrastructures for young dermatologists. The high level achieved by the congress organisation has resulted in more than 9,000 active participants each year at EADV congresses.

New teaching structure

Having now reached such a level of success and participation, we all realise that EADV needs new content, new teaching structures and a modified congress organisation to manage an event of this size and quality. What are the needs? What were the questions you asked us?

We need a programme that is attractive to both young dermatologists and trainees – so that they can come and learn the basic rules of diagnosis and disease management – but also to most EADV members who are Board-certified dermatologists from Europe and other parts of the world and who come with a solid knowledge that they want to develop further for their patient care. Furthermore, others are renowned specialists, such as most of the speakers, and they come to share, discuss and return home with insights into the latest developments across the specialty.

New congress structure

To address these fundamental needs, the current SPC has developed a profoundly revised congress structure that will be implemented from Valencia 2015 on.

Dedicated tracks

One major change directly affects the programme structure. Starting with the Valencia Spring Symposium in 2015, the EADV programme will no longer include seminars that are scattered throughout the programme. Instead, the programme will be presented in half-day or full-day tracks, each track with a focus on a major topic, such as skin cancer, allergy, inflammation, or infectious diseases. These tracks will be presented in a structured way. The tracks start with the clinics, dermato-histopathology and epidemiology, move on to diagnosis and differential diagnosis, and then focus on the classical and advanced treatment options.

Three knowledge levels

The second major change will be the division of the tracks into three different levels of knowledge, with the focus on:

- **Young trainees in dermatology**, who will receive training in the basic understanding of important diseases and classical treatments.
- **Board-certified dermatologists**, who will receive short reviews and, based on these, an extended update, with a strong focus on medical dermatology.
- **An expert forum**, where the most experienced specialists will find a platform to critically exchange and debate the newest developments in dermatology.

To achieve this, we are especially glad that Prof Bertrand Richert, Chair of the Fostering Trainee Education Committee, has joined the SPC to jointly organise the classes for young trainees in dermatology.

In future, training classes for specific topics like surgical dermatology, systemic therapies, onco-dermatology, histology and pathology of skin diseases, laser therapies, aesthetic dermatology and others will be established. All of these structures and changes would not have been possible without the enthusiastic and friendly support of the EADV office in Lugano. They merit particular thanks, especially Nancy Induni, Chief Administrative Officer, and Nadja Hirzel, who greatly helped with her scientific knowledge and organising capacities to restructure the programme.

We all anticipate that the upcoming congresses from 2015–2018 will further help to improve European dermatology in patients with skin diseases. We also rely on valuable feedback from you, and will regularly inform all members on how EADV, now 25 years old, will reach young adulthood, full of curiosity, power and capable of true European leadership.
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am honoured and pleased to invite you, on behalf of the Local Organising Committee, to attend the 12th EADV Spring Symposium which will be held in Valencia, Spain, from 5-8 March 2015.

This Symposium has a renewed format that aims to provide content of the highest quality and relevance. Therefore, many ‘review and update’ sessions as well as ‘educational classes’ will be offered.

The Symposium will also be focused on interesting topics such as pigmented skin lesions, skin cancer, inflammation and inflammatory skin diseases, psoriasis, infectious diseases (including STIs and HIV), facial dermatosis, allergy, adnexal tumours, eczema, cosmetics/anti-ageing and lasers.

For further information about the programme and how to register, please visit: www.eadvvalencia2015.org

About Valencia

Valencia is situated on the eastern Mediterranean coast of Spain. The city has changed enormously in recent decades, becoming a comfortable city in which to live, that combines both historical and avant-garde elements. At this time of year the climate is mild and pleasant, providing the opportunity to enjoy both the city sights and the beach. Thanks to the recent organisation of several important events, the city offers a wide choice of quality accommodation. Valencia is also a vibrant city by day and by night, and is easily accessible either on foot or by public transport. The old river bed offers a nice place for jogging or a bike ride.

Warm welcome

It will be an honour to welcome our most distinguished experts in dermatology, venereology and other related disciplines both as speakers and participants. We aim to provide the most congenial atmosphere possible in which to gain new knowledge, to favour the interaction between European research groups and to stimulate the continued development of dermatology throughout Europe.

We look forward to welcoming you to Valencia in March 2015.

With kindest regards,

Eduardo Nagore
Spring Symposium Chairman

KEY DATES

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Snapshot of new programme structure – Day 1

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The trainee course dealing with skin problems in OTR (organ transplant recipients) was held in April at the University Hospital Zurich. The aim of the course was to introduce the clinical pictures, the mechanisms of skin disease and typical approaches to management. The structure of the course was excellently organised by Prof Gunter Hofbauer, President of the European SCOPE network.

The programme comprised lectures, workshops, a live surgery demonstration and case presentations by the trainees. The first day started with an introduction to the spectrum of skin disease in OTR by Prof Hofbauer, who gave a brief overview of various skin diseases and a short interactive talk regarding their management. Also discussed were diverse drug reactions, bacterial and viral skin infections as well as etiopathogenesis of the skin cancer based on recent research results.

**STROBE**

This was followed by a short epidemiology course by Jan Nico Bouwes Bavinck, where the basics of STROBE (Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology) were explained. In addition to case presentations by trainees, there were lectures on the techniques of shave, punch and excisional biopsies.

**Live surgery**

The next morning focused on a live demonstration of Mohs surgery on two patients by Dr Severin Läuchli, which was a great experience and a positive benefit for many participants. A theoretical backround about the performance and the indications of the surgery was included as well. We continued with an epidemiological workshop. Divided into small groups we were asked to design different studies regarding various topics. In this way we could consolidate our knowledge from the previous day, which was definitely practical for those in the research field. We continued with a dermoscopy lecture focusing on non-melanoma skin cancer. Prof Ralph Braun provided a wide spectrum of dermoscopy images of non-melanocytic and melanocytic lesions and defined their dermoscopic features. Finally, the residents presented their own cases and experiences in OTR, which were very interesting and triggered enriching discussions.

EADV organised a social dinner for all the participants in the evening, which was a great opportunity to get to know each other better and to discuss other topics as well.

**Histopathology**

On the last day we could experience an excellent talk by Dr Leo Schärer regarding histopathology of skin diseases in OTR. The histopathological features of HPV lesions, non-melanoma skin cancer, melanoma, inflammatory dermatoses and infectious disease were reviewed.

Another very beneficial lecture was focused on drugs and their effect on skin in OTR, especially on the revision of immunosuppression in transplant patients with skin cancer - when and how? We finished the course with a discussion on how to run a clinic dedicated to the skin care in OTR with detailed recommendations and tips arising from the experiences of Prof Hofbauer and his SCOPE colleagues.

The course was excellently organised and brought many practical learning opportunities in the field of transplant recipients for the participant. Skin care in organ transplant is definitely an inspiring topic and a big challenge for our diagnostic and therapeutic skills. Hence, I would like to thank the EADV organisers as well as all the lecturers for preparing and leading such a useful and interesting course.

Martina Džambová
Resident
Dermatovenereology Dept
of 2nd Medical Faculty
Charles University, Bulovka Hospital
Prague, Czech Republic
Call for Applications

EADV Scholarships
12th EADV Spring Symposium in Valencia, Spain: 5–8 March 2015

The EADV Honours and Awards Committee, under the chairmanship of Prof Dr Dr h c Christos C Zouboulis, offers scholarships consisting of a free registration to the Symposium and €1,000, including the fee of a one-year EADV membership (for the upcoming calendar year), according to the status of each recipient.

1. Michael Hornstein Memorial Scholarship
   Named after the late distinguished colleague and former Board member Dr Michael Hornstein, EADV will offer this scholarship to one selected applicant from each Central, Eastern, Western & Northern European country.

2. John Stratigos Memorial Scholarship
   Named after the late distinguished colleague, founding member and former President Prof John Stratigos, EADV will offer this scholarship to one selected applicant from each Southern European & Mediterranean country.

3. Imrich Sarkany Non-European Memorial Scholarship
   Named after the late distinguished colleague, founding member and former President Dr Imrich Sarkany, EADV will offer this scholarship to a maximum of eight (8) young dermato-venereologists from non-European countries.

Mandatory Criteria
- Young dermato-venereologists or residents/trainees under 35 years of age
- Must not have previously received an EADV Scholarship
- Must have adequate knowledge of the English language

Required documentation
(in English only)
- The Scholarship Application Form completed online
- A short CV (not more than 3 pages)
- A list of publications written as explained in the document “How to prepare my publications list” available online
- A letter of support, written on official headed paper, signed and stamped, written either by the training director/head of department, hospital or clinic endorsing the application
- A letter of support written by a “Specialist” EADV member endorsing the application
- A current copy of the applicant’s training certificate in English indicating the start and end date or specialist certificate
- A copy of ID (ie identity card, passport) with a passport-size photo

Note: Only complete application files will be submitted to the Honours and Awards Committee.

Application deadline for all scholarships:
15 October 2014 (12:00 am CET)
Further information & the application form(s) available at: http://www.eadv.org/scholarships

Note: Applicants will be notified about receipt of application by email.
This information will be available on the EADV website from mid-July 2014.
Applicants will be informed about their status of the application around December 2014.
The membership year and status will be activated for the calendar year 2016.
Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to announce the 6th EADV scientific meeting, to be held at the Institute of Research in Biomedicine (IRB) in Ticino, Switzerland. EADV is a non-profit association, founded in 1987, and is now the largest European association in the fields of dermatology and venereology, with its headquarters in Lugano in Ticino.

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

**Immune response and skin**

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 2014 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 relevant practical 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 2014 programme will raise the interest and attention of not only of all local researchers and dermatologists, but also of allergologists, immunologists, internists and oncologists by addressing areas with significant clinical interdisciplinary overlap.

For further information please contact valeria@eadv.org

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**Organising Committee**

Top left: Prof Luca Borradori (University of Bern, Switzerland) 
Centre: Dr Carlo Mainetti (EOC, Bellinzona, Switzerland) 
Top right: Prof Robert Hunger (University of Bern, Switzerland)

Top left: Prof Franco Rongioletti (University of Genoa, Italy) 
Centre: Prof Antonio LanzaVecchia (IRB, Bellinzona, Switzerland) 
Top right: Dr Mariagrazia Uguccioni (IRB, Bellinzona, Switzerland)

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**Programme**

**Morning research programme:**

**IMMUNE RESPONSE AND SKIN**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00</td>
<td>Marcus Thelen (IRB, Switzerland)</td>
<td>The chemokine decoy receptor ACKR3 in health and disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:20</td>
<td>Viola Puddinu (IRB, Switzerland)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Helmut Beltraminelli (University of Bern, Switzerland)</td>
<td>ACKR3 in cutaneous B cell lymphomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:40</td>
<td>Santiago Fernandez-Gonzalez (IRB, Switzerland)</td>
<td>Role of macrophage-neutrophil interaction in the initiation of the immune response against influenza vaccine</td>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Hans-Uwe Simon (University of Bern, Switzerland)</td>
<td>Regulation of MBP toxicity in eosinophilic diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>Coffee break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:40</td>
<td>Silvia Monticelli (IRB, Switzerland)</td>
<td>Mast cell epigenetics</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Christoph Schlapbach (University of Bern, Switzerland)</td>
<td>Skin resident T cells - Evidence in mice and men?</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20</td>
<td>Michel Gilliet (CHUV Lausanne, Switzerland)</td>
<td>Antimicrobial peptides in skin immunity and autoimmunity</td>
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Among the main benefits, all members are entitled to:

- Substantial reductions on registration fees for EADV scientific meetings (Congresses & Spring Symposia)
- A subscription to the *Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology* (hard copy and/or online depending on membership category) - Impact factor: 3.3
- A subscription to *EADV News*, a regular update on Academy activities and opportunities (hard copy and/or online depending on membership category)
- Access to the “Members only” areas of the EADV website (member directory, JEADV online, Newsletter online, your personal account for the following membership categories: Ordinary, Junior, Specialist, International and retired)
- Participate in EADV’s extensive and highly successful Fostering Dermatology & Venereology Programme with focused meetings directed at both Junior members as well as office dermatologists;
- Access to CME-CPD online questionnaires
- Access to webcasts and presentations of past EADV scientific meetings.

**Join EADV!**

Become a member of Europe's largest dermatological and venereological society and connect with colleagues from across the continent and around the world.

Membership categories cater for all levels within our specialty, from resident to specialist, with special rates for Junior members.

Come and apply at the EADV Resource Centre at the 23rd EADV Congress in Amsterdam.

Or find out more and apply online at [www.eadv.org/memberships](http://www.eadv.org/memberships)
Our three main partners in European dermatology

EADV recognises that there are three major societies in dermatology and venereology whose work overlaps to a degree with that of our Academy in a common goal to promote different aspects of our specialty in Europe. Former EADV President Johannes Ring (current editor of the JEADV) referred to them as the EADV’s “Sister Societies” in Europe and the name has stuck!

UEMS

The oldest of the three “sisters” is the Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (UEMS) which was founded in 1958. It is not a society in the same sense as the others but representatives of the 29 member states of the European Union (EU) participate in meetings. These delegates in turn represent 1.3 million specialists throughout Europe. UEMS’ main tasks are to improve the quality of specialist care, enhance continuing medical education and harmonise medical specialist training in the EU.

ESDR

The European Society for Dermatologic Research (ESDR) is the second oldest of the “sisters” being founded in 1970. It focuses on bringing together clinicians and basic scientists in order to carry out research that will help understanding of the mechanisms of skin diseases and through this to improve treatments for patients. It has approximately 1,200 members and participates in the publishing of the prestigious Journal of Investigative Dermatology.

EDF

The smallest and youngest of the European sister society is the European Dermatology Forum (EDF). This was established in 1997 and has some 200 members. Its objective is to provide leadership for the profession and to plan and promote strategic policy in Europe with regard to education, training, and disease management guidelines. EDF also organises the annual Euroderm Excellence teaching courses for final year resident trainees that have been highly acclaimed.

EDF is by far the biggest society in Europe with over 4,000 members. It organises major congresses and symposia throughout Europe and funds training programmes and scholarships for residents in our specialty as well as established practitioners. It also publishes its own journal the Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (JEADV).

So it is evident that while each society has differing objectives, there is a clear overlap between the aims and co-ordination of effort between societies is important to get the maximum benefit for our patients and the specialty.

Cordial relations

How do the Sisters get on with each other? Remarkably well! Indeed many individual dermatologists are members of all three societies. An example of this is the type of co-operation between societies includes EADV hosting an ESDR session at its main annual congress while ESDR reciprocates with a clinical EADV session at its annual meeting.

EDF provides a grant that financially supports the publication of the EDF “White Book” that reviews the challenges of skin disease in Europe. EADV also gives a formal presentation about its strategy and development at the annual meeting of EDF members, and the presidents of EDF, ESDR and UEMS are invited to EADV social events (the President’s Dinner at the annual congress).

EADV has a representative who sits on the Board of UEMS (currently Prof Sorin Tiplica from Romania) and he reports to the EADV Board on UEMS activities.

EADV provides a number of grants to help encourage the participation of younger dermatologists in these European societies, among them, free one-year membership of the Academy to all residents who are chosen by EDF to attend their Euroderm Excellence course, and grants to encourage the participation of candidates sitting the UEMS Board examinations.

EDF also provides very significant financial support to the European Skin Research Foundation (ESRF), a foundation that was founded by ESDR and aims to promote research in our specialty through grants and fellowship awards.

There are of course many other societies in Europe that perform important roles in promoting and protecting our specialty, but for EADV the “sisters” are special, almost family!

Vital co-operation

It is vitally important that each society co-operates and co-ordinates its efforts on behalf of our patients with skin and venereal diseases and on behalf of our specialty. We need to capitalise on the strength that comes from our unified voices and varied interests and talents to counter the attacks on our specialty’s resources in many parts of Europe at present. It will require a combined effort of all the “sisters” to ensure that we as dermato-venereologists remain in a position to provide the best of care to our patients in Europe.

Frank Powell

EADV Past-President
A young resident talks to EADV about his experience of participating in an EADV Fostering Programme course. This not only increased his surgical skills but led to a traineeship with Prof Bertrand Richert, Chair of the Fostering trainee Education Committee, who was also one of the course lecturers.

Could you give us a short introduction about yourself?

My name is Tiago Mestre. I’m in the last year of my dermatology and venereology residency at Hospital Curry Cabral, in Lisbon, Portugal.

How did you get to know about the EADV Fostering courses?

I heard about the courses from my Portuguese colleagues. They went to the Paediatric Dermatology Course and they really like the experience and so they advised me to apply. I was in my dermatological surgery year, so I enrolled on the Intermediate-Advanced Surgery Fostering Course, chaired by Dr Florence Corgibet.

What impression did you have of the Intermediate-Advance surgery course?

The course was really good. Everything was really well planned: the venue of the course, the accommodation, and the choice of the professors and lectures. Besides being technically very good, the course covered the basics to advanced surgery, helping all residents with different skills, always with great empathy from the lecturers. Furthermore, the course had a fantastic practical part (flaps and grafts on pig skin) which I also think is a landmark of EADV’s courses.

How did you come up with the idea of an internship in Belgium?

When I did the Surgery course, I wanted to improve my surgical skills. During the course there was a lecture about nail surgery, which showed me the fantastic field of nail diseases and nail surgery. Taking advantage of the informal setting of the course, it allowed me to ask to one of the world experts in nail surgery for the opportunity to intern the following year as part of my residency training. And so I spent some months in Brussels this year, and I must thank EADV for that and Prof Bertrand Richert.

Did this have an impact in your professional/academic career?

Definitely yes. First, because the people you meet inspire you to pursue technical perfection, clinical investigation and better care for patients. They also remain as an example for your professional life. Second, EADV courses alert me for some areas of dermatology that residents sometimes ignore because they don’t have so much experience in them or they are not aware of them. Third, it really had an impact on my professional career. I chose one of my residency optional internships because of the EADV Advanced Surgery Course. Fourth, by having to present a case report or a journal club in all the courses, you improve your presentation skills in English, share your experience with other colleagues and discuss your difficult cases with some of the world experts in that field.

Do you think that the investment in EADV courses for residents is a good initiative of the Academy?

I think so, yes. First, the courses allow the sharing of up-to-date knowledge and skills in dermatology, which helps to unify patients’ care in different countries with different resources in Europe. Second, they allow a more intensive teaching in a specific field, which is very difficult to achieve in a congress course. Third, because they are made for small groups, you get to know each other and you make good friends; most of the people that I met on the courses I still keep in touch with today. Also, by being free of charge and giving a grant to EADV’s members they allow residents from less wealthy countries to manage the travel cost and that gives everyone a more equal chance to attend a course. Finally, you get to know interesting cities that you would never explore in big meetings or even on your holidays!

Based on your experience, would you recommend the EADV courses?

Yes, I recommend them and I think that by word of mouth every resident that went to any of the EADV residents’ courses recommends them to. So, maybe that’s the reason why the courses are becoming more competitive, with more residents applying every year.
The first part of the morning session was packed with six speakers divided among four groups of topics: Epidemiology, Photodermatology, Imaging of non-melanoma skin cancers (NMSC) and Confirming the diagnosis. After this first round of lectures the speakers discussed each other's talks and posed questions about their talks that the students had to reply to using an instant voting system. The speakers also debated questions in a panel session.

The second part of the morning saw more specific lectures on NMSC special conditions and preventing NMSCs (systemic and topical photoprotection). The session closed with a round of interactive questions about all the lectures.

In the afternoon, after an address by EADV President Prof Jana Hercogová, there were more lectures and quiz questions.

Participants

The vast majority of participants came from neighbouring countries, such as Hungary, Romania, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina etc. Of these, the biggest number (55%) came from Romania where our courses seem to be very attractive given the fact that in many cases they complement part of their education.

Evaluation

The results from the questionnaires were very positive overall. The students graded the course an average of 4.52 out of 5 overall and for relevance. However, some participants would have liked the Master Class to be more practical and to allow more time for questions.

Grants

The course was fully funded by EADV as part of its education strategy. In order to allow young residents to travel and be able to participate in these courses the Academy also offered grants to eligible applicants. These grants have proved to be a very good initiative as they allow residents from all the different regions of Europe participate.

Special thanks go to EADV staff member Ana Miriam Ravelo Gonzalez, who worked closely on the organisation of the event, and to the local staff who proved to be extremely helpful and ensured that the course ran smoothly and as planned.

Bertrand Richert
Course Chair

EADV master Class

Prof Bertrand Richert

Non-Melanoma Skin Cancers: A Holistic Approach and State of the Art

21 May 2014
Belgrade, Serbia

A lecture at the NMSC Master Class

Participants at the NMSC Master Class

EADV News

Published by EADV
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Design & Production: MCI

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John Steinert Strauss MD, 88, Professor Emeritus, University of Iowa College of Medicine, USA, died peacefully at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City on 28 July 2014.

Dr Strauss was born on 15 July 1926, the son of Maurice and Carolyn Ullman Strauss in New Haven, Connecticut. He served in the US Navy from 1944 to 1945 and in the Naval Reserves from 1952 until 1954.

Dr Strauss received both his BSc and MD from Yale University. He completed his internship at the University of Chicago. Following his internship, he completed his residency in dermatology and a research fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. He served as an instructor at the University of Pennsylvania and then advanced through the ranks from assistant professor through professor at the Boston University School of Medicine. In January 1978, Dr Strauss became the Chair of the Department of Dermatology at the University of Iowa, a position that he held until 1998. At the time of his death Dr Strauss was a professor emeritus.

He was the author of more than 275 articles. Many of these publications were in the area of sebaceous gland biology and the pathophysiology of acne and its therapy. He was instrumental in the introduction of retinoids to the therapeutic armamentarium of medicine. Dr Strauss was elected to the membership of the prestigious American Association of Professors in recognition of his accomplishments as a physician-scientist.

Dr Strauss has served at various times in leadership positions of every major professional organization in dermatology. He was President of the American Academy of Dermatology, Secretary-Treasurer and President of the Society for Investigative Dermatology, both Secretary-Treasurer and President of the American Dermatological Association, the Board of Trustees and President of the Dermatology Foundation.

Perhaps Dr Strauss’s longest commitment to any of dermatology’s specialty organisations was to the American Board of Dermatology. He served nine years as a Board Director, was the President and continued to serve as a special advisor to the Board for more than 10 additional years. In the larger world of academic medicine, John was Chairman of the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) and also served as President of the Executive Committee of the American Council of Graduate Medical Education. John mentored many young academicians through his faculty positions and affiliation with these professional organisations and provided a wonderful perspective and wisdom to all.

Dr Strauss is survived by his wife of 63 years, Susan Thalheimer Strauss, and by his two daughters.

Memorial services will be held at a later time and date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in care of the University of Iowa Foundation, PO Box 4550, Iowa City, IA 52244-4550; for the Hancher Auditorium; or the Department of Dermatology at the University of Iowa College of Medicine.

(Courtesy of The Gazette, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, USA; reprinted and abridged from the website of the Society of Investigative Dermatology: www.sidnet.org/inmemoriam)
Training Courses for Residents 2014

Hair & Scalp
14-16 November 2014 - Bologna, Italy
Course chair: Dr Bianca Maria Piraccini
Places: 25

Advanced STIs
19-21 November 2014 - Amsterdam, Netherlands
Course chair: Prof Henry de Vries
Places: 30

Training Courses for Residents 2015

Genodermatoses
12-13 January 2015 - Innsbruck, Austria
Course chairs: Prof Johann Bauer, Prof Matthias Schmuth

Dermatopathology Basic (Winter School)
26-30 January 2015 - Zurich, Switzerland
Course chairs: Dr Katrin Kerl, Prof Werner Kempf, Assoc Prof Dr Jivko Kamarachev

Paediatric Dermatology
Tbc February 2015 - Barcelona, Spain
Course chair: Dr Ramon Grimalt

Skin in Organ Transplant & Mohs Surgery
Tbc March 2015 - Zurich, Switzerland
Course chair: Prof Günther Hofbauer

Contact Dermatitis
Tbc March 2015 - Malmo, Sweden
Course chairs: Prof M Gonçalo, Prof M Bruze

Intermediate Surgery
Tbc April 2015 - Brussels, Belgium
Course chair: Dr Florence Corgibet

And many more to come:
Lasers, Dermatopathology (Advanced), Dermatoscopy, Rosacea and Acne, Non-Invasive Skin Imaging...

Training Courses for Specialists 2014

Phlebology
7-8 November 2014 - Dusseldorf, Germany
Course chair: Dr Rolf Ostendorf
Places: 15

Training Courses for Specialists 2015

Hidradenitis Suppurativa/Acne Inversa
Tbc February 2014 - Brussels, Belgium
Course chairs: Prof C Zouboulis, Prof V del Marmol, Prof G B Jemec

Videomicroscopy
Tbc May 2015 - Prague, Czech Republic
Course chair: Prof Arenberger

Surgery
Tbc April 2015 - Brussels, Belgium
Course chairs: Dr Reuter, Dr Gniadecka

And many more to come:
Botulinumtoxine, Vascular malformations, Nails, Atopic/Occupational dermatitis, Media training for specialists...

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

NOTE
• Resident courses are for free and students can receive an EADV grant of €400
• Specialist courses are affordable at a very low price and with a guarantee of receiving CME points.

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VAN MONTFRANS Catherine (NL)
WOLKENSTEIN Pierre (FR)

Chief Administrative Officer
INDUNI Nancy

Calendar of Events

> 2014

1st Euro-Asian Melanoma Congress
18-21 September 2014
Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

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

XXVIII IUSTI Europe Congress
18-20 September 2014
St Julian’s, Malta

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

2014 International Congress of the Society for Melanoma Research
13-16 November 2014
Zurich, Switzerland

> 2015

EUROGIN 2015
4-7 February 2015
Seville, Spain

12th EADV Spring Symposium
5-8 March 2015
Valencia, Spain

> 2016

13th EADV Spring Symposium
28 September-2 October 2016
Vienna, Austria

24th EADV Congress
7-11 October 2015
Copenhagen, Denmark

> 2017

26th EADV Congress
13-17 September 2017
Geneva, Switzerland

EADV Headquarters
Via delle Scuole, 12
CH- 6900 Lugano, Switzerland
Tel: +41-91-973 4520
Fax: +41-91-973 4530
E-mail: office@eadv.org

EADV (Succursale belge)
Avenue General de Gaulle, 38
BE- 1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32-2-650 0090
Fax: +32-2-650 0098

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Alexandre Dews
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12th EADV Spring Symposium

5-8 March 2015
Palacio de Congresos
Valencia, Spain
www.eadvvalencia2015.org