

Minutes of SIG Reproductive Genetics Business Meeting held at

The ESHRE Annual Meeting in London, 9 July 2013, from 1pm to 2 pm

Joyce Harper – SIG Coordinator - reported on activities, approved and planned Pre-congress courses (PCC) and workshops of the SIG:

1. The PCC in 2014 at the next annual conference in Munich will be on ***The current status of PGD and PGS*** including updates on embryo biopsy, ESHRE PGD Consortium, RCT results on PGS, biology in preimplantation embryo's aneuploidy, pediatric follow-up, overview of NGS and mitochondrial disorders and discussion on ethical dilemmas.
2. There was an announcement of the forthcoming approved Campus workshop on ***Application and challenges of emerging technologies in preimplantation and prenatal diagnosis***, Prague, September 2013. This Campus meeting is organised by SIG Reproductive Genetics and the PGD Consortium.

Members of the SIG were invited to join and distribute the information to all potential interested colleagues. (details see -> <http://www.eshre.eu/ESHRE/English/Calendar/ESHRE-Campus/Application-challenges-of-emerging-technologies/page.aspx/182>)

3. Joyce Harper informed the audience about a forthcoming joint Campus meeting (application submitted) on ***Stem cells: origins, genetics, properties and significance for fertility preservation*** which is planned to take place in Brussels in spring/early summer of 2014. It is a joint activity together with SIG Stem Cells and Task Force Basic Scientists in Reproductive Medicine, SIG Andrology and Task Force Fertility Preservation.
4. There was a discussion on a planned Campus on ***An update on PGS***, which was prepared by Francesco Florentino and originally planned to take place in Rome in autumn of 2014. The original programme has to be modified to comply with guidelines for Campus workshops. It was decided to modify programme and speakers and to postpone the Campus to spring 2015, at that time data collection for RCTs should be completed.
5. There was another proposal for a joined Campus in autumn of 2014 on ***Epigenetics in Reproduction***, which is planned to take place in Lisbon in autumn 2014 as an initiative of the Task Force Basic Scientists in Reproductive Medicine, in collaboration with SIG Embryology and SIG Reproductive Genetics. The local organizer will be Carlos Plancha. There was general agreement that the SIG should go ahead with further planning and application.
6. Joyce Harper informed that there had been a proposal for a Campus meeting on ***Basic Genetics for ART Practitioners*** in Riga, Latvia. A detailed programme and further discussion was postponed.
7. A symposium on reproductive genetics in the main programme of the next annual conference in Munich in 2014 will be on ***Overview of sequencing of cell free fetal DNA*** - Rossa Chiu (Hong Kong) and ***Direct to consumer genetic testing*** - Pascal Borry (Belgium)
8. The PCC at ESHRE 2015 in Lisbon will be on ***Challenges in reproductive genetics***. The programme and speakers were briefly discussed.
9. Topics for sessions in the main programme for ESHRE 2015 were discussed as well. Two talks were proposed for a session on ***„Risks by transmission of mutation or chromosomal aberrations:***

- ***Sex-specific differences in meiotic prophase checkpoints and consequences for fertility*** (John Schimenti)
 - ***Reproductive options for people with recessive disease*** (Christine de Die)
10. Joanne Traeger-Synodinos gave an update on activities of the **PGD consortium**.
11. There was also a brief update on the **EuroGentest report**
12. Publications:
- The paper from the joint campus meeting with the SIG Ethics and Law: ***Dynamics and Ethics of Comprehensive Preimplantation Genetic Testing. A Review of the Challenges*** is now published in Human Reproduction Update.
 - The joint ESHRE/European Society of Human Genetics and Eurogentest collaborative paper ***Current issues in medically assisted reproduction and genetics in Europe: research, clinical practice, ethics, legal issues and policy*** has been approved by the Executive Committees of ESHRE and ESHG and will be submitted to *Human Reproduction* and the European Society of Human Genetics journal for simultaneous publication.
13. There was a brief discussion some changes on the SIG web pages.
14. Joyce Harper gave some information on activities in **E-learning** and disclosed plans to have the first contributions ready by autumn/end of 2013. The new SIG & TF Sub-committee Coordinator - Timur Gurgan - promised his support, especially on promoting E-learning activities.

After discussions with the ESHRE PGD Consortium, the SIG aims to begin by recording four introduction webinars, hopefully with on-line tutorials and online questions to help with continued professional development:

- ***Introduction to genetics*** by Joep Geraedts and Edith Coonen
- ***Introduction to PGD*** by Joyce Harper and Jan Traeger – Synodinos
- ***Embryo biopsy*** by Georgia Kokkali and Cristina Magli
- ***Introduction to accreditation*** by Mike Morris and Sioban SenGupta

PGD Consortium has run a pilot to discuss cases - 1 hour learning sessions. Being recorded for future access. This will be open to all consortium members (Georgia Kokkali).

15. Joyce Harper stepped down as coordinator of the SIG and will become past-coordinator. Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter briefly introduced herself to the audience as new coordinator. Claudia Spits remains as deputy, Tanja Milachich moves from junior deputy to deputy position. Proposals for new junior deputy were encouraged to be submitted to the past coordinator, Joyce Harper and/or the new coordinator, Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter, or to the central office to designate a new junior deputy in the near future.
16. The business meeting was closed and the next SIG meeting was announced for Munich at the next Annual Meeting in 2014.