

MINUTES
OF THE ESHRE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) REPRODUCTIVE GENETICS BUSINESS MEETING
AT ESHRE 2014

Munich, Tuesday July 2nd, 1pm to 2pm

Welcome note and the agenda was first presented by Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter as SIG Co-ordinator

1. The co-ordinator introduced again the members of the steering committee () and announced changes in the committee at the next annual conference in Lisbon 2015: Joyce Harper will step down as past co-ordinator, Claudia Spits will become new co-ordinator and Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter past co-ordinator. Members of SIG are encouraged to propose new members of the steering committee.
2. Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter informed on past and planned activities of SIG:
 - Past Campus on “Stem cells: origins, genetics, properties and significance for fertility preservation”, Brussels, April 2014;
 - Forthcoming Campus on “Epigenetics in Reproduction”, Lisbon, September 2014;
 - Upcoming Campus on “Update on PGS”, Rome March 2015;
 - Past PCC in Munich, June 2014, on “The current status of PGD and PGS”;
 - Forthcoming PCC in Lisbon, June 2015, on “Genetic and genomic mechanisms and markers associated with gamete and embryo quality”
 - Publications with input from SIG in Human Reproduction and Human Reproduction Update.
3. There was a brief discussion on future activity and a Campus in 2016. Edith Coonen proposed to host a Campus of the SIG together with the PGD Consortium in spring 2016 in Maastricht which should contain a hands-on part for safety and reliability of PGD diagnosis plus talks from invited speakers referring to recent developments in PGD.
4. Joanne Traeger-Synodinos introduced Edith Coonen as new co-ordinator of the PGD consortium. Edith Coonen gave a brief report on activities of the consortium on:
 - the status of PGD/PGS analysis and data base for collection of PGD data online.
 - There was a brief discussion on requirements and restrictions of depth of data base headed by Cristina Magli. It was decided that another questionnaire will be send out soon and that there is an urgent need to establish the new online data base
 - Joanne Traeger-Synodinos discussed the project of the follow up of _PGD/HLA testing;
 - Edith Coonen and Joanne Traeger Synodinos reported on first interactive webinar in May, 2014- another is planned in late September/October October 2014; there was a brief discussion on additional genetic courses in Advanced Genetics.
 - The programme for the Campus in Maastricht focussed on PGD has to be completed for approval by the Executive Board of ESHRE by spring next year.

5. Joyce C. Harper informed on the progress on E-learning
 - There was a discussion on recording of the PCCs and campus workshops and whether they should be put online individually or all together. No final decision was made.
 - There was a discussion about the assessments: 45 minutes - 1 point CME; 1h30min – 2 points? Accreditation will be further discussed with ESHRE and administrative office. (Basic introduction/ Entire session, one lecture or topic by topic? 2nd level: basic or advanced?) For further discussion, members of the SIG/PGD Consortium will discuss the ideas from TED conferences (www.ted.com) with short lectures and brilliant ideas; costs have also to be considered.
 - E-learning should be free of charge for the SIG members. Further information will be passed on by Joyce Harper as member of the ESHRE e-learning group.

6. There was a general discussion on proposals for the PCC and invited speakers for the Annual Conference of ESHRE in Helsinki in 2016. Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter encouraged participants and members of the SIG to propose topics.

Since a PGD workshop is planned for spring 2016 it was decided to focus the PCC on basic research and general topics in reproductive genetics in the summer PCC.

Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter proposed three possibly interesting areas that might be of specific interest for members: Genetics in PCOS and in subfertility; Primary ovarian insufficiency (POI); Extracellular nucleic acids, subfertility – e.g. in male and/versus female POF. Biomarkers may be already presented by speakers in the main programme.

Joanne Traeger-Synodinos proposed that the title of the PCC should refer to “Genetics and genomics in male and female infertility” since it will cover all topics discussed before.

Ursula Eichenlaub-Ritter encouraged all members to send suggestions for further topics and speakers to her or central office to be discussed at the meeting of the International Scientific Committee in November.

Before closing the business meeting it was discussed and decided to have the next meeting in Lisbon at the end of the PCC and announce that in time on the web-side and in the programme of the PCC to hopefully have a large attendance.