

## ***Minutes from the Meeting of Scientific Panel Neurosonology***

**EAN 2017, Amsterdam**

**25<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

**Participants:** C. Baracchini, D. Skoloudik, E. Azevedo, Th. Hundsberger, R. Kazmierski, V. Larrue, G. Tsigvoulis, J. Valaikiene, R. Badea, E. Bartels, M. Bodisic, A. Rebigeu, F. Perren,

**Management group:** M. Kaps, D. Skoloudik, N. Uzuner

### **1. Welcome**

Prof. M. Kaps welcomed on behalf of the management group all members of the Scientific Panel Neurosonology, guests, new members, and especially Prof. Dafin Muresanu who is responsible for interacting with the EAN Research Committee and the Scientific Panels.

Prof. Muresanu acknowledged the activities of the SP Neurosonology.

### **2. Agenda**

Prof. M. Kaps reviewed the protocol from the 1. SP Neurosonology meeting in Copenhagen, June 2016.

#### **Planned neurosonology activities during EAN 2017, Amsterdam:**

- a. Hands-on course (coordinated by Prof. C. Baracchini) – HANDS-ON COURSE 4: NEUROSONOLOGY IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF NEUROVASCULAR DISORDERS – LEVEL 1.  
*Problem: Toshiba declined its sponsorship and participation; Natus (TCD) took over the sponsorship, however Mindray (involved by Natus for providing a TCCS system) did not provide a transcranial probe – Participants discussed how to improve future hands-on courses. The recommendation is to contact local neurosonographers and local companies to arrange for the hands-on courses, and provide adequate ultrasound machines.*
- b. Teaching course (coordinated by Prof. F. Perren) : ADVANCED NEUROSONOLOGY – LEVEL 3
- c. Focused workshop (L. Olah) CASE-BASED WORKSHOP 5: UNUSUAL CLINICAL PRESENTATIONS, INTERESTING DIAGNOSTIC FINDINGS AND POTENTIAL THERAPEUTIC SOLUTIONS
- d. Hands-on Course: Assessment of peripheral nerves function and structure in suspected peripheral neuropathies – Level 1

*Common Problem: The capacity of the room was higher than the accepted number of participants. The Panel discussed the possibility to extend the number of participants for workshops (not only 50-60 participants) for the next EAN Meeting. A good proposal would be to buy the tickets on site.*

#### **Accepted activities for the next EAN Congress, Lisbon 2018:**

- a. Hands-on course. Ultrasound in vascular diagnosis. (Theoretical + practical part with machines)
- b. Advanced teaching course (NSRG, ESNCH, coordinated by Prof. F. Perren)

### **Planning for the EAN congress in Oslo, 2019:**

The new rules for Proposals will be available soon (see attachment). The deadline for sending proposals will be June 2018. Proposals should be sent to Prof. M. Kaps / Prof. Csiba till February 2018 in order to have sufficient time to coordinate and bundle the proposals.

### **Guideline Production**

Prof. F. Muresanu informed about guidelines production and encouraged the Panel to set up EAN neurosonology guidelines. The proposals should be sent to the Chief of the Guideline Task Force Panel (Prof. Maurizio Leone). For creating a guideline EAN offers up to 10.000 EUR. Prof. G. Tsvigoulis suggested to use the financial support for a statistician.

Prof. C. Baracchini declared that a *Memorandum of Understanding* has already been signed between EAN and ESNCH and sent to EAN Head Office in Vienna on January 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 in order to cooperate and to coordinate the activities between the two societies. One important field of cooperation in this context is guideline production.

To pool our resources and foster common activities the following guidelines were addressed:

EAN received until now proposals for 2 guidelines:

- a. Circulatory arrest (Brain death)
- b. Transcranial Doppler in subarachnoid haemorrhage

The participants made additional proposals:

- a. Optic nerve sheath enlargement
- b. Sonography of the temporal artery
- c. Sonography of the muscle and nerves
- d. Vasospasm after SAB

N. Uzuner explained the rules for EAN Guideline according to “PICO” (**P** – patient, problem or population; **I** – intervention; **C** – comparison, control or comparator; **O** – outcome).

As the next step, activities will be allocated to different groups, and Prof. D. Skoludik will coordinate these processes (Status of current activities, involved groups and societies, ... ). There was an intensive discussion on which topics should be dealt with preferentially. There was a general agreement not to focus on topics where there is only limited evidence. There was a preference for vasospasm which is already in progress and the sonography of the temporal arteries, because there is already a solid basis for recommendations. Prof. D. Skoludik will coordinate these activities with further interested colleagues. A broad participation is explicitly welcome.

### **ERN<sup>sono</sup>– Network of European Reference Centers in Neurosonology**

Prof. M. Kaps informed about the previous steps to create the Network of European Reference Centers in Neurosonology (**ERN<sup>sono</sup>**): [Copenhagen (SP EAN), Budapest (ESNCH 2016), Discussion with EAN (Prof. A. Federico and Prof. G. Deuschl), Berlin (ESNCH 2017), Amsterdam (EAN 2017)].

This activity was endorsed now by the EAN and by the ESNCH. Some points which are practically relevant for the implementation of the project were discussed and will be finally dealt with by the EAN/ESNCH Steering Committee (D. Skoloudik, B. Malojcic, E. Azevedo). This steering committee will set up a SOP as soon as possible including application forms, certificates and communications with the applicants. The final decision will be taken by the co-chair of the EAN and the chairman of the ESNCH, who will inform the executive committees of both societies. ERN centers will be introduced during the future SP meetings.

### **Communication and website**

Prof. Georgios Tsivgoulis informed about 2 scientific reports sent to EAN during the last 12 months – in June 2016, December 2016.

*Problem: The documents are not available on the EAN webpages. The query will be sent to EAN Scientific Committee (Prof. Muresanu).*

Information about a recent neurosonology book (Manual of Neurosonology , Edited by Baracchini, and Csiba.) should be recommended in the next report.

### **Standards of EAN laboratories for ERN<sup>sono</sup>**

Few editorial points in the *ERN standard draft* were discussed by the Panel. The title should consider that the standard is created for cerebrovascular neurosonology laboratories (e.g. Standards for ERN<sup>sono</sup> Cerebrovascular Laboratories)

Point 1.1, line 1. A neurologist experienced in cerebrovascular disease ... (The responsible person is a neurologist)

The EAN/ESNCH Steering Committee (D. Skoloudik, B. Malojcic, E. Azevedo) will edit and finalize the proposed ERN standards, because it is part of the ERN accreditation.

### **Research projects**

Prof. M. Kaps informed about planned research projects. A template (Clinical Trial Outline Application) will be provided as a basis for the discussion during future panel meetings. Prof. G. Baltgaile sent a proposal for a study comparing classic and new risk factors in Western and Eastern Europe. This will be discussed in more detail by e-mail communication.

Amsterdam, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Prof. Skoloudik

Prof. Kaps