

Minutes – EAN Epilepsy Scientific Panel, 18.6.2018, 9:00-11:00, Lisbon

Attendants: 20 members



- The Management Group members, Reetta Kälviäinen (Chair), Guido Rubboli (Chair), Andriy Dubenko, Tim Van Oertzen introduce themselves. Eugen Trinka participates as representative of CEA-ILAE. All participants briefly introduce themselves.
- RK presents the 2017-2018 report of activities of the SP. The contributions of the SP to the scientific program of the Lisbon congress are illustrated. A discussion follows about how to get more proposals on epilepsy from the SP for the next congresses; the role of the SP members in suggesting topics is underlined. The educational content and the interest of the topic for general neurologists should also be taken in consideration. It is pointed out that acceptance of a proposal is not guaranteed due to space limitations, therefore also good proposals might be rejected. It is also important to encourage abstract submissions, particularly from young colleagues. The number of abstract submissions this year has been lower respect to Amsterdam 2017 (it might depend also on the concomitance of the ECE in Wien). Comments on the quality of the abstracts presented at the Lisbon congress are made, pointing out that the quality was not always adequate.
- Guidelines. The guidelines on “Diagnostic assessment of Sleep-related epilepsies” of the Joint Task Force EAN/CEA-ILAE/ESRS, coordinated by Lino Nobili, are finalized and the draft is expected after the summer. Three other guidelines are under preparation in collaboration with ILAE-CEA: 1) Status epilepticus (lead ILAE-CEA) 2) Presurgical Evaluation (lead ILAE-CEA) 3) First Seizure (lead EAN). At present, these three guidelines are at different stages of advancement, and their completion is planned for 2018-2019: 1) Status epilepticus – the GRADE evaluation has been concluded; 2)

Presurgical Evaluation, that will include part of the work that has been done in the E-PILEPSY reference network. Evidence based reviews of available literature has been performed in almost all areas related to presurgical evaluation. 3) First seizure guideline. This project is still at a very initial stage; it is agreed that is more appropriate to rename it as “Management of newly diagnosed epilepsy”.

TVO stresses the fact that producing guidelines requires considerable effort and people willing to be committed to that.

- Regarding the production of guidelines by different societies in collaboration, this should be achieved by shared methodologies. The guidelines that are produced will be evaluated by the MG of the SP before submission for publication. Regarding the publication policy of joint guidelines between two societies, they will be published in the journals of both societies. Formal peer review will be performed independently by the two journals.
- The SP is informed that PRAC document of the EMA on VPA produced with the contribution of the EAN SP has been delivered.
- Discussion about the Oslo 2019 EAN meeting. The deadline to send proposals to the EAN Scientific Committee is 16th July 2018. It is asked to the SP members who are interested to submit proposals to send them to the MG by July 9th. Then a teleconference in the MG will be organized to discuss them and to evaluate which ones may be sent to the Scientific Committee. It is agreed that in the future, proposals from the SP members for the incoming EAN congress should be received by the MG before the SP meeting at the EAN congress, in order to discuss them within the SP itself and to decide which ones will be sent to the Congress Scientific Committee.

So far two proposals have been received by the MG; more are expected. The proposals received so far are:

- 1) from Norway: “Refractory status epilepticus: what to do...”. It will be included in the Overarching theme at the Oslo congress that will be “Neuroinflammation”. The tentative agenda (topics and speakers) of this proposal is discussed.
 - 2) from G.Rubboli-L.Nobili. A formal proposal has not been sent yet to the MG (it will be sent by the deadline of July 9th). The plan is to present the guidelines on “Sleep-related epilepsies” that have been finalized and expected to be ready for publication in the next months. The format (Teaching Course or alternatively Case Based Workshop) will be discussed once the proposal will be submitted.
- Participation to the Rare Disease Task Force. RK (ERN EpiCARE) has participated into the work of the task force, but the Task Force will soon reorganize itself and probably more representation will be needed especially from countries outside EU. Members of the panel will be contacted later about this important work.
 - Website development. TVO updates the SP on the purposes and goals of the SP webpage. A member of the SP has to be identified with the task to take care of the SP webpage, by providing updates on the activity of the SP. A minimum of 2 updates per year are expected, more are welcomed. The updates should be clear and focused (an abstract-like format of about 250 words is adequate), they should

report on “breaking news” (such as groundbreaking papers, innovative advances in diagnostics and treatment, etc.), topics discussed at the SP meetings, ongoing activities in the SP. Additional material for the webpage can be: scores and scales for disease assessment, state-of-the-art reviews, historical papers.

Members of the SP are encouraged to send their pictures to be included in the SP webpage.

- ET informs that CEA-ILAE, EAN, and others neurological societies are striving to make joined efforts to present themselves as pursuing common strategies and goals; indeed, it is important that all societies collaborate closely in Brussels, to present as one body taking care of brain diseases, ultimately to get more funding for research and healthcare purposes. He suggests that a “survey” to collect opinions and suggestions from the SP member might contribute to identify which healthcare/research areas the neurological community should prioritize and concentrate efforts in the next 5 years.
- The meeting is adjourned at 11:50h.

Prof. Milan Brázdil