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PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

Message from ESTP President

Dear Friends,

You will find hereby our first quarterly Newsletter of 2014.

For those of us who were not able to attend the XXI Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology in Hannover (February 21-22, 2014), you will learn about the last seminar. It was again a great success with a large audience, high quality presentations and informative histological slides which remain the unique contribution and the attractiveness for toxicologic pathologists. I would like to congratulate the core of the new organizers - Thomas Nolte, Florian Colbatzky, and Ulrich Deschl, Wolfgang Baumgärtner- as well as all the speakers. You will surely be pleased to hear that the effort which was brought 20 years ago by Eberhard Karbe and Wolfgang Drommer in collaboration with ESTP members will continue to provide us a continuous education and better visibility to the European toxicologic pathology.

I would like to inform you about our 2 new committees: 1) Pathology 2.0: Future of toxicology pathology and clinical pathology 2) the Standard for Exchange of Non-Clinical Data (SEND) developed by the Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium’s (CDISC) for non-clinical data collected from animal toxicology studies. As the toxicologic pathologists contribute significantly to those data and as this initiative is directly associated with our global effort for harmonized nomenclature and diagnostic criteria (INHAND), it is our role to share with you these latest information. Even if toxicologic pathology has a solid foundation, it is important for us to remain in the loop of the cutting edge toxicology and it is necessary to take part in the most recent initiatives like computational toxicology.

I have already to encourage you to attend the 2nd Joint European Congress of ESVP, ESTP and ECVP which will be our 12th European Congress of Toxicologic Pathology (Berlin, Germany, August 27 – 30, 2014). This congress will be devoted to “Toxicopathology of the Endocrine and Endocrine Regulated Organs”. Some of our members have already contributed hard in organizing this important meeting which will give us the opportunity to meet other veterinary pathologists and learn about their own experiences and contributions.

With our Internet website, our ESTP newsletter remains our most effective tool to interact and to communicate together. We definitively need to increase the technical and the informative content of our newsletter. Therefore, you are
encouraged to submit information, ideas and proposals to our newsletter committee led by Zuhal Dincer. Dear members of ESTP, you are part of the visibility of our Society.

I CALL ALL OF YOU, FRIENDS & COLLEAGUES, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE QUALITATIVE CONTENT OF OUR NEWSLETTER. WE NEED YOUR HELP AND YOUR INVOLVEMENT.

THANKS FOR JOINING US

Frédéric Schorsch
ESTP President
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Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology XXI: 21/22 February 2014, Hannover, GERMANY

Visiting this annual seminar for the very first time, I was surprised with the large number of participants and the fact that for all attendees (about 120) sets of slides and individual microscopes were available. Provided color printed hand-outs with excellent summaries was very nice, however the experience of seeing the lesions with the microscope provided for each individual was my favorite!

Ryo Fukada (Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd, Kanagawa, Japan) kicked off the seminar with a presentation on GnRH-analogues induced testicular lesions in rats. A classic example of how anatomic variation (vasculature of the rat testes) can lead to animal specific histopathologic findings.

The next presentation, entitled “Epoxiconazole-induced lesions in rat placenta and effects of Estradiol Supplementation”, was given by Maria-Cecilia/Rey-Moreno from BASF SE, Experimental Toxicology and Ecology, Germany. After a clear introduction about the histology of a normal rat placenta, there was an opportunity to look at placentas from treated dams with increased late fetal resorption associated with placental degeneration. The presence of rat placenta specific CYP17-enzyme, its role in estrogen synthesis, relation with gestation and relevance to human were discussed.

Klaus Weber’s first presentation (Anapath, Switzerland) took us into the world of laser scanning microscopy in his presentation “methyl methanesulfonate (MMS) induced sperm lesions”. In his second presentation, entitled “Silicone induced liver lesions”, many more technical feats were shown, like hyperspectral nanoscale microscopy, crystal preparation under digital microscopy, scanning electron microscopy and energy dispersive X-ray analysis. Intense collaboration between sponsor, pathologist and geology scientist from the University of Bern, Switzerland resulted in the proof that the recorded accumulated brown pigment and crystals with Maltese cross formations in the bile ducts of the liver were silicon (the test substance) instead of protoporphyrins.

Matthias Rinke from Bayer Pharma AG shared a perfect example of induced histopathologic lesions from two local tolerance studies in target animal safety tests in his presentation titled “Local skeletal muscle lesions in pig(let)s. Sequels after intramuscular injection”.

The first day was closed by a thorough story about dual Insulin-like growth factor-1 (IGF-1) receptor (IGF-IR)/Insulin receptor (IR) inhibitors, presented by Sébastian Laurent (Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH&Co, KG, Germany). Slides of the pancreas (islets), eye (lens) and femur were available to examine induced lesions.

Björn Jacobsen (F.Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Switzerland) started on Saturday morning with a nice overview of α2u-globulin, obstructive and retrograde nephropathy in rat kidneys. The onset for this investigation was a small molecule designed for treatment of a CNS disease which resulted in these kidneys findings. However only in intact males (absent
in castrated male rats, female rats and other species). Therefore, it was concluded that lesions were related to \(\alpha_2u\)-globulin and not relevant for human.

Sandra de Jonghe (Janssen Research & Development, Belgium) told us about a rat-specific mechanism for tumor formation with the SGLT2 inhibitor “canagliflozin”. After finding an increase in 3 tumor types (pheochromocytomas, renal tubular tumors and testicular Leydig cell tumors) further investigation was started. It is very admiring when one can tell the whole mechanistic picture of probably years of work in just 45 minutes.

Hans Harleman (PCS-Consult LTD, UK) held a presentation titled “Prolactin and tumour patterns – Relevance for man”, which was accompanied by a set of slides with a variety of rat mammary gland and uterine tumors.

The seminar was closed by Florian Colbatzky (Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co.KG, Germany) who guided us through the mode of actions of IAPs (Inhibitor of Apoptosis Proteins) and its activators, the mechanism of side effects of IAP activators and the relevance for humans.

Overall they were two worthwhile days with plenty of classical examples supplemented with more in depth reviews of pathways. Many thanks to the Hannover Graduate School for Veterinary Pathobiology, Neuroinfectiology and Translational Medicine, the Department of Pathology at the University of Veterinary Medicine in Hannover and the European Society of Toxicologic Pathology for offering this seminar. And thanks for the companies that supported this seminar by providing education information, slides and speakers.

I would like to acknowledge Dr. Florian Colbatzky for his excellent job in leading the seminar and launching the discussions.

I am already looking very much forward to attend the seminar next year!

Ankie Lambregts
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Pathology 2.0 Committee - Update

Pathology 2.0 is a new ESTP committee dedicated to the future of pathology and the additional techniques that we can use in drug development. It is composed of 27 members, coming from all over the world and from various backgrounds (Academia, Pharmaceutical Industry, Agrochemical, CRO, Consultants), giving us a nice diversity.

As of today, we created 6 subgroups, each with a specific goal (should it be training, understanding the current situation, producing articles or posters) in order to provide to membership some learning opportunities. The committee will be sending soon a short survey, aiming to understand the current situation and identifying the needs. We would be grateful if every member could reply to it, so please watch this space!

Finally, the committee will be supporting the 2015 ESTP/BTSP annual meeting with members in the scientific organizing committee.

Franck Chanut
Chair of the Pathology 2.0 Committee
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Pathology 2.0 Committee - Update
Message from the Secretary

Dear members,

In September 2014, three positions within the Executive Committee of our Society will have to be filled in:

- ESTP Treasurer
- ESTP Secretary
- ESTP Designated Chairman

If you are willing to commit to an active contribution to the ESTP in any of these roles, please contact myself or Frédéric Schorsch. It is positive to have new people joining the Executive Committee to bring their own and new vision to our society. Please consider that alternative candidates and nominations will be accepted for these roles as well and included in the voting options.

The Executive Committee will nominate candidates for the roles of:

- Councilor for IFSTP
- Councilor for the Younger Generation
- Councilor for the University Teachers
- Councilor for Electronic Communication

Elections for the ESTP Executive Committee board will be conducted soon (between May and July) by means of an electronic voting procedure. At our next Annual General Assembly in Berlin, we will endorse the results of the election.

We look forward to receiving your applications. Thank you for your attention.

Kind regards

Francesco Marchesi
ESTP Secretary
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