

# ESTP Newsletter 2016 (1)



*Editor Zuhal Dincer (zuhal.dincer@novartis.com)*

## President's column



Dear ESTP members,

Welcome to our early Winter edition. I hope that you all had a restful winter vacation and are now well into the demands of a New Year. Apart from battling with a *Tritrichomonas foetus* colitis outbreak in our cats before Christmas and being involved in the diagnosis (a very strange experience in diagnosing your own cats' biopsies) it was a good break for me too.

In the ESTP Board, we have been driving several new initiatives. Following on from our Annual General Meeting in September, the membership voted in favour of being affiliated to the STP's Toxicologic Pathology Journal. I am now pleased to say that the initial steps are now in place. Thank you to all of you who expressed interest in becoming members of the ESTP Editorial Board and in the Associate Editor position. The names will be rolled out to the full membership shortly, but we

have a shortlist which we have already put forward to the STP. This is a tremendous opportunity for the membership to receive the journal (if not already receiving it from another organization), for the work of our organization to be recognized globally, and, additionally, for us to have a voice in the strategic development of the journal. I know that STP and the Editorial Board of the journal are very pleased to have us on board as well. Please look out for the new journal format with our organisation's mission statement and further information in the front page of the journal, together with the society statements of the STP and BSTP.

We are looking forward to the Classic Examples Meeting on 19-20<sup>th</sup> February. This year, we are also pleased to offer a morning workshop entitled "Toxicopathology data and SEND". In the first session, there will be presentations on SEND in general, on how the FDA intends to use the SEND data, and a case story of a first submission to the FDA and on controlled terminology. The presenters will be Gitte Frausing (Data Standards Decisions), Montserrat Cases (Bayer), and there will also be a presentation by Charlotte Keenan (INHAND / CDISC). In the second session, representatives from RITA companies will briefly and informally describe how SEND is implemented in their organizations. This will lead into an open discussion chaired by Gitte Frausing where participants will be able to share their experiences regarding the use of SEND as a format for toxicopathology data. Following on from this, the INHAND manuscript of the Digestive System in rats and mice will be published in JTP shortly and arriving with the members.

Another excellent achievement is that the paper publication "Characterizing "Adversity" of Pathology Findings in Nonclinical Toxicity Studies: Results from the 4<sup>th</sup> ESTP International Expert Workshop" is finalised and has been endorsed by international Toxicologic pathology societies. The paper is now ready for

submission to Toxicologic Pathology. A big thanks to everyone involved in the workshop again, and the rapid turnaround and production of the follow-up publication. It is also pertinent that the 14<sup>th</sup> European Congress on 20<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> September will be bringing together speakers on the topic of “Adverse or Not Adverse-Assessment and Consequences” and there will be a further workshop.

Finally, I would encourage you to inform us of any of your ideas or thoughts on ways in which the society can operate better for you. We are always keen to receive feedback. The ESTP Board looks forward to meeting with some of you face to face at the Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology at Hannover in February.

**Jenny McKay**

**Your Chairman**

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## THE DUTCH SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGIC PATHOLOGY (NLSTP)



*Introduction:* In the eighties the role of the pathologist within the field of safety assessment of food, chemicals and pharmaceutical products became more and more important. In this period, it was recognized that there was a need for specialized pathologists being trained in pathology, toxicology, pharmacology, laboratory animal science and Good Laboratory Practice. For this reason, in 1988 the Dutch Registration Committee for Laboratory Animal Pathologists/Toxicologic Pathologists (CRP/TP: Commissie Registratie Proefdierpathologen / Toxicologische Pathologen) was founded. This Committee falls under the auspices of the Dutch Society of Pathology (NVvP; Nederlandse Vereniging voor Pathologie) and the Royal Dutch Society for Veterinary Medicine (KNMvD; Koninklijke Nederlandse Maatschappij voor Diergeneeskunde) and is responsible for the registration, the re-registration and the training of new laboratory animal pathologists and toxicologic pathologists (see also below *training of the toxicologic pathologist*). Toxicologic pathology is a very specialized area covering both pathologic and toxicologic subjects. Therefore, in the Netherlands, the training of toxicologic pathologist is a joint responsibility of Veterinary Pathologists (united in a section of the NVvP) and registered Toxicologic Pathologists (united in a section of the Dutch Society of Toxicology; NVT).

*Training of the toxicologic pathologist:* Starting from 1989 (after a “de facto” recognition of 18 pathologists working in the field of toxicologic pathology at that time), all newcomers in the field of toxicologic pathology have to follow an extensive training program that is composed, approved and controlled by the CRP/TP. The candidate should be academically educated, preferably as a veterinarian, but medical doctors, biologists and biomedical scientists may be accepted as trainee based on their pathology- and/or toxicology-related knowledge and experience. The training program comprises at least 4 years and consists partly of courses, but the major part consists of on-the-job-training supervised by an experienced Board Certified Toxicologic Pathologist. The training program is additionally monitored by an external tutor. After successful completion of the training program, the candidate will be accredited and registered as Toxicologic Pathologist (‘Dutch CRP/TP Certified Toxicologic Pathologist’). A re-registration procedure every 5 years warrants active participation and abiding proficiency of the registered toxicologic pathologist within his/her profession.

*The Dutch Society of Toxicologic Pathology:* The Dutch Society of Toxicologic Pathology (NLSTP) is a section within the Dutch Society of Toxicology (NVT). Embedding in the toxicologic society ensures up-to-date knowledge in this field and communication between the different toxicological disciplines (teratology / reprotoxicology, genetic toxicology, risk assessment etc.). The NVT organizes annual scientific conferences and distributes news magazines and vacancies. The main goals of the NL-STP (together with the NVT) are:

- To improve the knowledge of pathology in the broadest sense concerning the effects of pharmacologic and chemical compounds exposed to human and animals
- To improve the training of the toxicologic pathologists: both “in-training” and “registered”
- To obtain international recognition
- To improve the cooperation with similar organizations in other countries
- To act actively in national and international aspects within the field of toxicologic pathology

Involvement of the different professional disciplines (NVvP, KNMvD, NVT) in education, registration and science confirms the interdisciplinary character of toxicologic pathology and stimulates joint meetings such as “Slide Seminars” (twice a year with the veterinary pathologists) or other interdisciplinary meetings in the area of Toxicology (with the toxicologists).

Currently, there are 15 Dutch CRP/TP Certified Toxicologic Pathologists of which 12 are active in the Netherlands (in research, government or CROs). The other pathologists are active outside the Netherlands. The Dutch Society of Toxicologic Pathology is a sister

organization of the European Society of Toxicologic Pathology (ESTP) and participates in the board meetings of the ESTP.

More information is provided on the home page of the NVT at the section Toxicologic Pathology:

<http://www.toxicologie.nl/index.php/en/sections-3/toxicologic-pathology>

**Eveline de Rijk**

**On behalf of Dutch Society**

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## THE FRENCH SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGIC PATHOLOGY



The French STP (Société Française de Pathologie Toxicologique, <http://toxpathfrance.org/>) was established in 2003, but its roots date from far earlier, as it resulted from the merge of the SFAT (French Society of

Toxicologic Pathologic Anatomy) and the Association of former students and teachers of the CES (advanced training) in toxicologic pathology.

Membership is granted to professionals active in the field, either French or working in France or abroad, mainly in tox path but also in academia. Any new member must fill an application form with reference letters from two SFPT members. The application is assessed by the Executive Committee and confirmed during the next General Assembly.

As of 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016, the membership amounts to 94. Students from the French post-graduate training program in vet path (DESV en anatomie pathologique, DESV-AP, organized by the 4 French vet schools) can become non-paying members if they wish to be involved in the Society's life, until 2 years after the end of their residency (so that they can still be members while they are preparing for the ECVP board exam). Retired members benefit from a reduced fee.

The Members elect the Executive Committee (currently 11 Administrators) for a 4-year renewable term, and the Administrators elect the Bureau (President, Secretary, Treasurer and adjuncts) among them.

The Annual Scientific Meeting is coupled with the Annual General Assembly, generally held in May, and

serves for networking and presenting up-to-date scientific information. End of May 2016, ABCAL (Association of clinical pathologists for laboratory animals) and the SFPT will jointly organize their scientific meeting over 2 days, with as topic "Assessment of immune response in toxicology" in Giverny (Normandy), close to the Giverny Museum of Impressionisms. In 2017, the SFAPV (French Society of Veterinary Anatomic Pathology, [www.sfapv.com](http://www.sfapv.com)) and the SFPT will join the ECVP, ESVP and ESTP for the organization of the Cutting Edge 2017 in Lyon.

The SFPT supports the actions of the ESTP by working with it on regulatory topics and endorsing the ESTP actions, and also by sponsoring the Best Poster Awards at the ESTP Scientific Congress.

The SFPT also supports the DESV-AP by providing lecturers for the modular trainings, reimbursing the expenses of international lecturers and providing the students with free access to the scientific meeting and with bursaries.

The goals of the Society are manifold:

- encourage research and promote the exchange of knowledge in pathology, toxicology and laboratory animal science of drug safety studies, chemicals and food products for humans, animals and the environment;
- promote the role of science in the interpretation of nonclinical studies;
- promote and participate in continuing education in these fields; and to regularly exchange through seminars, working groups and communications all information relating to these areas;
- establish a body of reflection and consultation in these areas;
- be an interlocutor for authorities and national and international regulators;
- promote exchanges with other national and International Societies working in the same objective.

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## SOCIETY OF HUNGARIAN TOXICOLOGISTS

In Hungary, representation of toxicology at the scientific society level dates back to 1984 when the Toxicology Section of the Hungarian Society for Pharmacology (now Hungarian Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology) was established. Following the institution of a separate scientific society for toxicology in 1992 and

the union of the two formations (section and society) in 1995, some subsequent organizational changes including a name change resulted in the Society of Hungarian Toxicologists (SHT) in 2003. Since then, the society has been providing an organization for those working in the field. It became a new sister society of the ESTP in 2010 when the successful 8th ESTP congress in Budapest was organized by the two societies in conjunction.



Any natural person may become a member who is recommended by two members of the society and is approved by the annual general assembly (GA). Organs of the SHT include the GA and the executive committee (EC). The chairman and further 8 members of the EC are elected by the GA for a period of three years. A secretary, a scientific secretary and a treasurer is elected from the members of the EC based on recommendations made by the chairman. The SHT is a member of the international organizations of the toxicologists of Europe and the world, respectively (European Union of Toxicology, EUROTOX and International Union of Toxicology, IUTOX).

The purpose of the society is to provide a professional and scientific forum for toxicologists working in the basic and applied research as well as public health or employed by the regulatory and administrative authorities. It facilitates acquiring and use of knowledge in the field of toxicology and exchange of information between toxicologists and with scientists of related fields. The SHT offers opportunities for every branch of toxicology e.g. nonclinical drug safety, clinical toxicology, chemical toxicology, occupational toxicology, environmental toxicology, etc. Separate sections (working groups) exist within the society for members engaged in drug safety assessment, ecotoxicology and GLP quality assurance. Toxicologic pathologist colleagues can always publish their results within the frame of the poster sessions of the annual congresses where separate toxicologic pathology sessions are also occasionally organized.

The SHT organizes annual scientific conferences with a steadily growing participation rate over the past couple of years. In addition, on the basis of collaboration agreements, the society contributes to the organization of annual conferences of other national scientific societies such as the Hungarian Society for Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology and the Hungarian Ecotoxicology Society.

The SHT supports and facilitates training in toxicology. The society organizes a 2-year postgraduate course in experimental toxicology in conjunction with the Faculty of Veterinary Science Budapest. On a non-regular basis, the SHT also holds one-day workshops (2011: GLP workshop with 95 participants; 2014: Nanotoxicology workshop with 90 participants) or short training courses (2010: Neurotoxicology course with 35 participants) for special topics and organizes scientific lectures and round table discussions. The society has Hungarian as the usual language for its meetings.

The SHT supports the participation of its members in scientific congresses in Hungary and abroad by providing free participation for the authors of the 6 best posters prepared for Hungarian conferences and financial support on an application basis for congresses abroad. At each annual congress of the society, the Cholnoky award (award certificate and plaque) is presented for outstanding life achievement in the field of toxicology to a person chosen by the EC from candidates proposed by the membership.

The SHT provides up to date information concerning its activities on its home-page:

<http://www.hungariantoxicologists.hu/>

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**On behalf of Hungarian Society**

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