

ESTP Newsletter 2020 (3)



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President's Column



Dear ESTP members,
As we are near the end of 2020 (at last dare I say), I thought it was a good time to reflect on the past and see what we've learnt as pathologists during this unprecedented time. And the main quality is flexibility. Who knew that a profession still seen sometimes as "interesting, only dusty, backward-looking, antisocial" could organize itself to quickly respond to the new challenges? Webinars, a virtual AGM and workshops, strong interest in new technologies and ways of communication and more! What a change 😊
Joke aside, we should be proud as a society for all that has been done this year. And we'll apply what we've learnt for the next Classic Examples. Unfortunately, this meeting will also be a remote one. But I'm still looking forward to seeing you all in person, hopefully in Torino for the Cutting Edge Meeting. Fingers crossed.

In the meantime, let me share with you two pictures of the latest CEM in Lyon showing why our meetings are so good:

Great science and talks with full conference rooms, and time to mingle and discover a city. Hoping to do that again soon, I will wish you a safe and peaceful end of year period.

Kind regards,
Franck Chanut
ESTP Chairman



CEM Lyon 2017: Roman Museum



CEM Lyon 2017: Guess who this ExCom member is?

ESTP Classic Examples in Toxicologic Pathology

Each year the ESTP sponsors a two-day seminar on classic examples in toxicologic pathology where they provide handouts, scanned slides and glass slides for participants to view. The proceedings of these meetings will now be published yearly in *Toxicologic Pathology*, in a format similar to the NTP Satellite Symposium Proceedings. The first publication is currently being drafted and will be from the 2020 meeting held February 21 and 22 in Hannover, Germany. Many thanks to speakers, organizers and especially Dr. Thomas Nolte for helping to make this happen!

Béatrice Gauthier
Associate Editor TXP
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INHAND: Publications for rodents and non-rodent species dog, minipig, rabbit and non-human primate completed – outlook on the future

The INHAND (International Harmonization of Nomenclature and Diagnostic Criteria for Lesions) project (www.toxpath.org/inhand.asp) is a global joint initiative of the Societies of Toxicologic Pathology from Europe (ESTP), Great Britain (BSTP), Japan (JSTP) and North America (STP) to develop an internationally accepted nomenclature for proliferative and nonproliferative lesions in laboratory animals, focusing on microscopic lesions. Its aim is to provide a standardized nomenclature for classifying microscopic lesions observed in most tissues and organs for use in toxicologic pathology.

Starting in 2005, the ESTP has been involved continuously in the INHAND project's Global Editorial and Steering Committee (GESC) and many expert toxicologic pathologists nominated by the participating societies were contributing in the different INHAND organ working groups, at that time with the aim to develop and publish a standardized nomenclature and diagnostic criteria for rats and mice. Meanwhile there are 15 publications

for the various rodent organ systems available, all can be accessed via the ESTP nomenclature website (<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/nomenclature/index.php>). There is **free access** for download of the pdf-documents.

Currently, additional manuscripts for the non-rodent laboratory animal species dog, minipig, rabbit and non-human primate have been submitted by the INHAND non-rodent species working groups to the two tox path journals (ToxPathol and J ToxicolPathol). These publications focus on the differences between rodents and non-rodent species and refer to the rodent nomenclature publications.

The content includes spontaneous lesions as well as lesions induced by exposure to test materials. Parasitic and infectious lesions relevant for toxicologic pathologists are included as well. The publication of the dog and minipig nomenclature manuscripts will be in the journal *Toxicologic Pathology* and is scheduled for early 2021. The manuscripts of the rabbit and non-human primate nomenclature have been submitted to the Japanese Journal of Toxicologic Pathology for publication in 2021. For updated information please visit the ESTP website (<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/nomenclature/index.php>).

For members of all Societies of Toxicologic Pathology the documents and photographs are also available electronically on the goRENI system (<http://www.goreni.org/>) with user-friendly search and navigation functions. In the past, the draft manuscripts were posted on goRENI for membership discussion.

Many photomicrographs are included in the printed publications and these are augmented in the online version. The sources of the material included histopathology picture and slide databases from governmental institutions, academia, and industrial laboratories throughout the world.

A widely accepted and utilized international harmonization of nomenclature for lesions in laboratory animals should provide a common language among regulatory and scientific research organizations in different countries

and increase and enrich international exchanges of information among toxicologists and pathologists. The current INHAND terminology will be largely included in the term lists available for SEND (Standardization for Exchange of Nonclinical Data) submissions to the regulatory authorities.

Updates of terms, criteria and photographs can be suggested via change control request forms and will then be discussed by the respective working groups and the GESC. All Updates are made available on goRENI. A list with the most recent terms, which have undergone an organ wide harmonization process, can be requested via goRENI (https://www.goreni.org/gr3_nomenclature.php) by everybody and might be used to set up tox path data entry systems. For any additional information please contact the ESTP (<https://www.eurotoxpath.org/>) or the goRENI responsables.

The most current INHAND projects are the development of a standardized nomenclature for “fish” used in toxicologic pathology and for harmonized terminology and descriptions for lesions observed in studies targeting “Non-rodent ocular toxicity“.

To keep the working groups running for decisions on change control requests and for updates with recent research results in the near future the incorporation of the younger generation of experienced Tox Path Society members for replacement of retiring members is anticipated. In addition to the skilled expertise gained during the discussions this is a great chance for networking with international colleagues bringing the scientific community close together.

Sincerely yours,
Susanne Rittinghausen,
ESTP Councillor for Nomenclature
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Joint webinars ESTP/SFTP/BSTP and ECVP/ESVP

In November we had the first two webinars. We thank the presenters for sharing their experience and Anna-Lena Frisk and Jerome Abadie for the moderation. The topics were a potpourri in order to be attractive for a wide audience of both veterinary and toxicologic pathologists. The webinars were well attended by members of all societies. The first webinar on November 4th attracted about 250 participants, the second webinar just over 200 participants. Most participants remained logged-in during the presentations. The feedback forms had a very positive feedback with high ratings for the speakers, organization and format. The exception was the short discussion time in the first webinar, which was addressed in the second webinar, resulting in a positive response for the discussion.

What is next? Many participants in the feedback liked the joint format and suggested to have these regularly e.g. quarterly. We will discuss this, as well as topics and format (e.g. potpourri, special topics, joint format) in the organization committee and the board and keep you updated. Webinars are likely to be part of professional life even in post Corona times. On behalf of the organizing group,

Rita Deuchande and Rebecca Terry, BSTP
Raffaella Capobianco, PieruligiFant, Johannes Harleman, and Anna-Lena Frisk, ESTP
Céline Thuilliez and Catherine Thirion-Delalande, SFPT
Jerome Abadie, ESVP
Pierre Maliver, ECVP

Have a peaceful and blessed time over the holidays.

Looking forward to seeing you all again virtually or f2f in the New Year.

Hans Harleman

My vows as Councillor for the Younger Generation

In my new role of Councillor for the Younger Generation, I would like to express all my gratitude to my predecessor, Angele Breithaupt, for her precious commitment aiming at attracting junior scientists, pathology residents and veterinary students into the field. I hope that my contribution will also effectively serve our Society. "Toxicologic pathology has given me a lot all along my career, and I want to return this priceless gift." This statement, from a highly experienced pathologist, has inspired me. I wish that all together, members of the ESTP, we will continue raising awareness about our discipline and attracting new scientists into a field with fascinating career opportunities.

As recently communicated, the ESTP will support the residency program at the University of Veterinary Medicine (Tierärztliche Hochschule, TiHo) in Hannover (Germany) by offering a comprehensive introduction to toxicologic pathology. This program will be open to all students across Europe and beyond. If you are interested in giving a lecture and conveying your enthusiasm for toxicologic pathology, please contact the dedicated working group.



In addition, despite the challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic, opportunities for internships in pharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations are very much needed. Your mentoring plays a key role in promoting understanding of the role that the toxicologic pathologist plays in drug development and encouraging exploration of an

important career option. I count on you to contact me for any internship opportunities that you may have for veterinary students, residents in pathology or young certified pathologists. I am convinced that you will enjoy having motivated young scientists to complete your team and you will be thrilled to convey your passion to the new generation. What an incredible reward for my colleagues and myself when we heard that our 2019 intern Laine recently accepted an offer to the combined anatomic pathology residency/PhD program at Johns Hopkins in the US. She cited her positive experience with us as an important factor in her decision. We were thrilled indeed!

Finally, a special note for our young colleagues (but this note is not exclusive – anyone who feel young is also called out!): don't hesitate to enter the ESTP committees and ESTP working groups. Volunteers are precious and hard to find. Although you may feel inexperienced and clueless (I felt the same when I started), your enthusiasm and curiosity are prized and your contribution will be as decisive as the one of experienced pathologists. So, if you wish to collaborate with expert scientists, broaden your knowledge, expand your network and have much fun, please think about volunteering for the ESTP committees and working groups.

With my sincere wishes for Merry Christmas and (virus-free) Happy New Year 2021,
Kind regards

Emmanuelle Balme
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Tox Path Resident Training TiHo

Dear ESTP members,

as a lecturer and member of the working group "Tox Path Resident Training TiHo" it is my pleasure to announce that the ESTP will support the residency program at the Veterinary School (TiHo) in Hannover by offering a comprehensive introduction to Toxicologic Pathology. The program has a long-standing

tradition as a part of the Veterinary Pathology residency program at TiHo receiving support from speakers from Pharmaceutical and Chemical companies mainly located in Germany. It is our goal to modernize and change this formerly only locally offered event into an International European program open to ALL students interested in learning more about toxicological pathology.

The organ-based lecture program will provide a general overview on the morphology of organ systems as well as a wide range of examples of xenobiotic-induced changes in short- and long-term toxicity studies and their relevance for safety evaluation. Furthermore, it will give a detailed insight into the everyday work of a toxicological pathologist, showing the many different facets of our work and how exciting it is to be working as a pathologist in a toxicology team. Additionally, general subjects such as introduction to regulatory toxicology, drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics, new technologies (-omics) are discussed. The well-known Classical Examples of Toxicologic Pathology meeting is part of this program, too.

The modules will take place from Friday noon until Saturday afternoon at the TiHo in Hannover. The lectures will be offered free of charge to residents and students from academia and the speakers will not be reimbursed. The ESTP will cover additional administrative cost, coffee breaks, and a pizza lunch on Saturday if not sponsored by the company of one of the speakers. On Friday evening, a self-financed get together will be organized at a restaurant in Hannover, giving the opportunity to network. There is already a framework in place for the lectures which encompasses 16 modules over a period of three and a half years. Due to the COVI-19 situation the first modules during the winter and summer term 2020/2021 will be offered at virtual seminars.

The first module "Introduction to Tox Path" was held virtually using MS Teams. It was held by six presenters from pharmaceutical and agrochemical industry and attended by 28 participants from 4 countries with different levels of experience in pathology, ranging from

master students to residents preparing for the ECVP board exam.

MS Teams as a tool worked well for presenters and enabled interaction during presentations. To keep the seminar style, all presenters had included multiple choice questions that were answered by the participants. During breaks, participants could interact with presenters in breakout rooms (channels), which were actively used. Instead of dinner in the evening, participants and presenters met informally for 1 hour on Friday evening after the end of the seminar for informal chats, also about the life of a pathologist in industry. From presenters and the participants view the seminar was excellently organized. The agenda covered a broad and versatile range of topics, including an introduction into the work of a toxicologic pathologist and various classic and modern tools of a pathologist. The presentations, particularly the interactive format, received a consistently positive response from the participants' side. An upside of the necessity of a virtual meeting was the possibility to include participants from different countries (and even two continents), creating new, long-distance networks.

A big thanks goes to Thomas Nolte, Malgorzata Ciurkiewicz and Mara Lombardo for the organization as well as all speakers for their excellent talks. The vivid participation of the participants was also central in making the seminar effective and entertaining.

New speakers are more than welcome and dearly needed to make this adventure a success. It is our chance to introduce toxicological pathology in an exciting way to young pathologists, and to attract them to our field of expertise. If you are interested in giving a lecture or would like to learn more, please contact us in the "working group ToxPath Modules Hannover". Please also visit the homepage of the Veterinary School https://www.tiho-hannover.de/kliniken-institute/institute/institut-fuer-pathologie/aktuelle-veranstaltungen/toxicologic_pathology_trainin_g_program. We are happy to give you more information and to establish contact to the chair of the module of interest.

I have personally been involved in the tox path modules of the residency training program for students from TiHo in Hannover since 2004. It has been very rewarding to interact with the students over the years, many of them now being colleagues in tox path. Also, the opportunity to work together with colleagues from different companies, setting up the program for the respective module, and to interact at the modules themselves has been not only a pleasure but also educational. It is a great opportunity that we are now able to officially open up this training program for veterinary students / pathology residents from academia with the support of the ESTP.

Anna-Lena Frisk
(afrisk@its.jnj.com)

On behalf of the ESTP, the speakers and
Annette Romeike, Dirk Schaudien,
Emmanuelle Balme, Silvia Guionaud, and
Thomas Nolte from the ESTP working group
Tox Path Residence Training Hannover

On behalf of TiHO
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Baumgärtner
Dr. MalgorzataCieurkiewicz and Mara Sophie
Lombardo