

September 2014

Newsletter

European-African HepatoPancreato-Biliary Association



Dear EAHPBA Members,

I am sincerely and deeply sad to begin this note by noticing how much our Community has been touched by the premature loss of two beloved colleagues, Gilles Mentha and Lorenzo Capussotti.

These are the circumstances where writing too much could simply become rhetoriclet me just tell you that I

have personally expressed on behalf of all of us condolences to Gilles's and Lorenzo's families. I wrote to them how deeply we feel their loss, and that we will put all our efforts in order to continue our research in the HPB sciences by dedicating the same love Gilles and Lorenzo had during their professional life to the field of HPB surgery.

Thanks to the hard work of Pierre Clavien, I have inherited a more professional and organized Association, so that things are moving along very fast! In particular, the organization of our upcoming meeting in Manchester, which will be jointly held with ASGBI, the Association of

General Secretary

Our 11th Bi-Annual Congress in Manchester next April is fast approaching. Keep an eye on the enclosed folder of the Manchester Congress and website for important dates.

www.eahpba.org

Membership

Remember to encourage your colleagues to join our Association. We are particularly interested in reaching out to our trainees and medical students

Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland is progressing well due to the enthusiasm of Ajith Siriwardena and his team. Together with Christos Dervenis, we are developing a very exciting scientific program. That all looks really great to me!

We all look forward to hearing of your scientific contributions in Manchester, in particular from your young scientist and co-workers.

The Association is more vibrant than ever. The enthusiasm of our new council members Mò Abu Hilal and Mustapha Adam, who we welcome, is extremely precious, and we are finally seeing some strong contributions from the Middle-Eastern and North-African components of our Association.

More and more national chapters are joining together, and to encourage this process I plan to meet with the Presidents of the National Chapters during the upcoming E-AHPBA meeting in Manchester. The goal is to gather our ideas on how to advance and promote the development of National Chapters and ensure that they have an expanded role within the E-AHPBA.

After a well-deserved summer vacation, I want to wish to all of you a great “back to work”!

Looking forward to seeing you in Manchester!

Truly yours

Claudio Bassi

First Call!!

The E-AHPBA Council would welcome expressions of interest for hosting our 2019 Bi-Annual Congress.

Details including bid requirements can be found on the website (www.EAHPBA.org) or by contacting the secretariat.

Selection will be made in Manchester next April during the General Assembly.

Notes from the General Secretary



Nominating Committee

The E-AHPBA is committed for a regular turn over of councilors, chairs and members of the various committees according to its *by-laws*.

The E-AHPBA is very keen to include motivated and innovative individuals in the leadership of the association with a great desire to promote young HPB doctors covering the broad field of HPB diseases. If you have an interest and are ready to commit some times for the success of the E-AHPBA, please send us a short CV and a few words of motivation. Of course, only active and "in good standing" E-AHPBA or combined E-AHPBA – IHPBA members will be considered.

The nominating committee will propose a few names to the council to replace councilors and other chairs.

Please send your application to the Secretary General

Following on from the very successful IHPBA World Congress held last March in Seoul, Korea organized by Professor Sung-Gyu Lee and his colleagues, we are eagerly looking forward to our own Congress which will be held in Manchester next April.

The meeting which will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland in Manchester between April 22-24, 2015, has the potential to be our best ever. Professor Dervenis and his scientific programme committee working closely with Prof Siriwardena and the LOC have put together a really stimulating programme which will appeal to established and trainee HPB surgeons. The scientific and social programme is now available on our website (www.eahpba.net). I would encourage all of our members to travel to Manchester.

The meeting will be preceded on Tuesday 21st April by a post-graduate course aimed at surgical trainees who hope to sit the UEMS examination in HPB Surgery. The course will be jointly sponsored by the E-AHPBA and the GBIHPBA who will provide a "star-studded" faculty! A very practical and relevant syllabus has been planned. It is an important date for all of your trainees.

The UEMS is planning to hold a number of examinations in the coming months. In conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Pancreas Society of Great Britain and Ireland being held in Guilford, Surrey, UK, an exam will be held on Wednesday 26th November, 2014. A further exam will be held during the Bi-Annual Meeting in Manchester next April. Details regarding both examinations can be found on the E-AHPBA or UEMS websites.

Apart from the Bi-Annual Congress many of our National Chapters will be holding scientific meetings during the year. As I previously, mentioned I would like to use future issues of this newsletter to highlight these meetings. It will help publicize the event as well as raising awareness of the E-AHPBA. Please send the details to my office so we can include them.

Best wishes,

Kevin Conlon



The theme of the 2015 congress is patient-centered care and the meeting is a great opportunity for clinicians and colleagues practicing in HPB to access the latest information. Highlights include:

- The first European update from the 2nd International Laparoscopic Liver surgery consensus conference. This consensus conference is taking place in Tokyo in October 2014 and is an important meeting for all surgeons with an interest in the growing field of **laparoscopic liver surgery**. Professor Wakabayashi and his team have kindly agreed to take up the offer from E-AHPBA to use the meeting to disseminate the key findings of this consensus conference.

ICCLR2014

- There will be a chance to hear “living legends” such as Professeur Dr Jacques Belghiti, sharing the experience gained over his long and distinguished career.
- An important talk delivered by Dr Christina Ferrone from the USA on the role of women in HPB.
- There are carefully selected “state of the art” talks on key aspects of HPB including:
 - Modern management of pancreatic cancer (Prof Neoptolemos, Liverpool)
 - Colorectal cancer & synchronous liver metastases (Prof Rene Adam, Paris)
 - Peri-hilar cholangiocarcinoma (Dr William Jarnagin, MSKCC)
 - Management of pancreatic necrosis (Dr Marc Besselink, Amsterdam)
- Key debates on important issues relating to HPB practice such as whether liver and pancreas surgery should be separate sub-specialties will also be held.



Short Papers

There will be free paper sessions throughout the meeting. Submission is through the online abstract submission system. **Please do not submit the same abstract to both ASGBI and E-AHPBA.** To better integrate our two meetings, there will be no HPB abstract category at ASGBI in 2015. Thus, all HPB abstracts should be submitted to E-AHPBA. We welcome work in the categories of:

- Liver (benign, malignant, primary and secondary, clinical, basic science or mixed)
- Pancreas (benign or malignant, clinical, basic science or mixed)
- Biliary
- Transplant
- HPB trauma

There will be a special “six of the best” E-AHPBA papers session immediately after the opening ceremony with a prize for the best paper presented by a surgical trainee.

Posters

The ASGBI meeting in Harrogate in 2014 used large high-resolution TV monitors to display electronic posters. This saves the poster presenter the costs of preparing and transporting the poster and allows us to accept up to 400 posters.

We will be delighted to accept poster presentations in the **same categories as the short papers.** Abstracts not accepted for oral presentation may be selected as posters.

Videos

Video presentations are a popular component of E-AHPBA meetings and we welcome videos on HPB surgery including transplantation. There will be “master” video sessions where important HPB techniques are demonstrated by acknowledged experts in HPB.

E-AHPBA Postgraduate Course

There will be an E-AHPBA postgraduate course at the Manchester Central Congress venue on Tuesday the 21st April 2015. The postgraduate course has been a highly popular feature of previous E-AHPBA meetings. This course is aimed principally at HPB and General Surgery trainees and will cover key aspects of the care of patients with HPB problems. The course may also be of benefit to more senior, established surgeons looking for a concise refresher or update. The faculty will comprise recognized leaders in HPB and will include a mix of didactic lecture, question and answer and “how-to-do-it” videos covering the standard HPB operations. A separate fee of £250 (early bird fee of £200) is payable for registration for this course. Refreshments will be provided.

For 2015, the course will include a series of evidence-based talks covering key aspects of the management of common HPB conditions including the following highlights:

- The early and late management of acute pancreatitis.
- The management of chronic pancreatitis – how to select patients for surgical intervention.
- Current management of patients with colorectal hepatic metastases.
- Staging and management of pancreatic neoplasia.

In addition, we will have technical “master” videos from experts in the field covering important aspects of both standard and newer HPB operative techniques including:

- Standard techniques in hepatectomy
- The artery-first technique in pancreaticoduodenectomy
- Portal vein resection in pancreaticoduodenectomy



UEMS HPB Examinations

Guilford, UK November 26th, 2014

Manchester, UK April 24th, 2015

Details on the E-AHPBA (www.eahpba.org) or UEMS websites (www.uems.eu)

Membership News

E-AHPBA is a young and vibrant Association. Membership has continued to grow and we now have in excess of 350 members. Council has recently approved several new initiatives to increase our membership, which is the backbone of E-AHPBA. The General Assembly in Belgrade created two new categories of membership: Allied Health Professionals with a subscription cost of €25 or €70 with the journal HPB and Medical Students at €10 annually.

It is essential for us to recruit young members and together with the Junior Member category these new categories of membership should help to create a firm foundation for future growth by encouraging interest in our specialty. You should encourage your trainees to join the Association attend the Manchester Congress. Not only will the educational component be exceptional but the networking opportunities be superb.

Invoices for the Annual Dues will be sent out from the secretariat in the coming weeks. It is important that you ensure that all the contact and professional details are correct and that the dues are paid! If you have any issues please contact the secretariat.

As we have mentioned in previous Newsletters, we are working towards incorporating National Chapters more formally into E-AHPBA. We recently have seen the development of new chapters in the Middle East and Spain. These will greatly develop the specialty of HPB surgery in these areas and we look forward to members from these chapters participating in future E-AHPBA

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any enquires regarding our Association.

Kind regards,



Kevin Conlon, General Secretary, E-AHPBA

Contact:

Lara Nolan, P.A. to Professor Kevin Conlon, Professorial Surgical Unit, University of Dublin, Trinity College, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, Tallaght Hospital, Tallaght, Dublin 24, Ireland

Tel: +353 1 896 3719, Fax: +353 1 896 3788, E-mail: profsurg@tcd.ie