

ECE 2009

► More than 2300 delegates attended the 11th European Congress of Endocrinology in Istanbul in April this year. There was a notable increase in the international outreach of ESE with delegates from 88 countries. Through the efforts of our POC members we have had great success in making our annual meeting so exciting. It synthesized the input of basic researchers, clinical investigators and practicing endocrinologists.

The recipient of the Geoffrey Harris Prize, Jan-Ake Gustafsson, delivered an outstanding lecture on oestrogen receptors.

The journals of our Society are a great source of success to our organisation. The impact factor of these journals is high and rising. This year, the *European Journal of Endocrinology* Prize lecturer, Wiebke Arlt, gave an exciting lecture entitled 'Sex, electrons and the adrenal – why endocrinology excites'.

High profile plenary speakers addressed subjects such as epigenetics, gene therapy of diabetes, thyroid hormone transporters, stress and the brain: from adaptation to disease, adrenal hormone pulsatility, current and novel treatment targets for bone diseases, genetics of type 2 diabetes, and common lessons from rare mutations.

All Symposia were exceptionally well attended as they addressed the most recent results in basic science and clinical management, while the most impressive were translational Symposia, which discussed translation of the results obtained in experimental settings to humans.

This year in Hot Topics authors presented their recently published developments within thyroidology, pituitary, male reproduction and breast biology.

Attendance at the Pros and Cons Symposia on asymptomatic hyperparathyroidism, adrenal venous sampling before surgery and the Debate on management of type 2 diabetes was exceptionally good and we are sure that these debates will continue to generate a lot of attention in the future as well.

At the Congress, awards were given to young investigators based on the top scoring abstracts. A total of 684 poster presentations were made and poster awards were given after judges assessed both the quality and the ability of the presenters to explain and answer questions. Selected outstanding abstracts were presented in the Highlight Symposia and in Oral Sessions.

As for Satellites organised by the industry, the auditoriums were filled beyond capacity with about 450 people, many of whom had to stand or even remain outside the room. With



over 2000 delegates and 13 global and local pharmaceutical companies taking part, the congress was a tremendous success.

The Local Organising Committee and Teamcon made our meeting run smoothly and organised a wonderful social programme.

The 11th ECE in Istanbul was successful and our Society can be proud that this was the largest gathering in 2009 of basic endocrine researchers, clinical endocrine investigators and practicing endocrinologists. We have been accredited by the EACCME with 23 European CME credits.

VERA POPOVIC, CHAIR OF THE POC, AND **FAHRETTIN KELESTIMUR**, CHAIR OF THE LOC

EDITORIAL

► The 11th European Congress of Endocrinology in Istanbul was a great success, with over 2300 delegates and an excellent scientific programme. I would like to thank the POC for all their hard work, the speakers for their outstanding contributions and the organisers, TeamCon, who made the Congress run smoothly.

I would like to thank those who attended the ESE Annual General Meeting (AGM) for their participation. The AGM provides a platform to update members on how your Society has performed during the last year. The AGM took place on Monday 27 April 2009 at the ECE in Istanbul. One of the items discussed, and approved, was the proposal to increase the membership fee for 2010 and the provision of different payment options; this will allow members to pay for 1-year, 3-year or lifetime memberships. The increased membership fee for 2010 will be €70 for Ordinary membership and €35 for reduced rate memberships. However, this will also include free on-line access to *European Journal of Endocrinology*. We believe this small increase still represents excellent value, especially as it includes access to EJE online. Details can be found in the draft minutes, which are now available on the Meetings page in the Members Section of the ESE website. Further information regarding the membership fee for 2010 will be given to members later in the year.

At the AGM we had to say farewell to six Executive Committee members: Professors Ezio Ghigo, Jens Christiansen, Bruno Allolio, Fahrettin Kelestimur and Valdis Pirags and Dr Clara V Alvarez, as they retired from office. I thank them for all their hard work and commitment during their term of office. However, we also welcomed the newly elected Executive Committee members: Professors Wiebke Arlt, Martin Reincke, Andrea Giustina and the new Vice President Professor Paolo Beck-Peccoz and look forward to our future collaboration. Professor AJ van der Lely has now taken office as ESE Treasurer.

The Executive Committee held two Executive Committee meetings and Sub-committee meetings were also held during ECE 2009. The Executive Committee will next meet in Dubrovnik, alongside the 8th ESE Postgraduate Course.

As mentioned, the next clinical course will be the 8th Postgraduate Course in Dubrovnik, Croatia (8–10 October 2009) and the preliminary programme is now available on the ESE website. As a new initiative the ESE will also hold its 1st Basic Postgraduate course in Turin, Italy from 24 to 25 September 2009, and further details are on page 3.



Important Dates

www.ece2010.com

Abstract submission now open

Abstract deadline: 8 January 2010

Early registration: 12 March 2010

See page 4 for more information about ECE 2010



EDITORIAL *continued from page 1*

As you know, new members are approved by the Executive Committee and 260 new members joined from November 2007 until ECE 2009; a list can be viewed on the homepage of the ESE website. I extend a warm welcome to the new members and encourage them to play an active role in the running of our Society.

I also welcome two members of Young Active Research, Dominik Schulte and Jens Mittag, who have joined the Newsletter Editorial board to bring exciting topics of interest to all our members.

And finally, Professor Maria Alevizaki, ESE Congress Sub-committee Chair, has now sent the invitation to host ECE 2014 and ECE 2015 and we look forward to receiving the initial expression of interest by 31 July 2009. Further information can be found at http://www.euro-endo.org/meetings/meetings_conferences_proposals.htm.

EBO NIESCHLAG, ESE PRESIDENT

Welcome to new members

We are pleased to welcome over 260 new members whose applications were approved by the Executive Committee at their meetings held during ECE 2009. A list of the new members is available to view via the homepage of the ESE website. We are also pleased to welcome the Associazione Medici Endocrinologi of Italy as an Affiliated Society Member.

ECE2014 and ECE2015

The ESE is pleased to invite proposals to host ECE 2014 and ECE 2015. The deadline for receipt of the initial expression of interest is 31 July 2009. Please see http://www.euro-endo.org/meetings/meetings_conferences_proposals.htm for further details. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the ESE Secretariat (info@euro-endo.org).

For those last few members – remember to pay your membership fee for 2009

Members who have not paid their 2009 membership fee by 30 June 2009 will be lapsed and will no longer receive membership benefits. For a quick and secure method of payment, members can pay online at http://www.euro-endo.org/membership/membership_renewal.htm. If you have any questions or comments please contact the ESE Secretariat at info@euro-endo.org.

ECE 2009 prize winners

Geoffrey Harris Prize

The Geoffrey Harris prize is intended for established workers in the field of basic or clinical neuroendocrinology, and is generously supported by Ipsen. The 2009 prize was awarded to Professor Jan-Ake Gustafsson (Sweden) during ECE 2009.



European Journal of Endocrinology Prize

The *European Journal of Endocrinology* prize is awarded to a candidate who has significantly contributed to the advancement of knowledge in the field of endocrinology through publication. The recipient of this prize for 2009 is Professor Wiebke Arlt (UK).



The Geoffrey Harris and EJE prize lectures, presented at ECE 2009, are now available to view on the ESE website.

Young Investigator Awards and Poster Prize winners

Congratulations to the six winners of the Young Investigator Awards: Dr Guillaume Assie (France) for HTC3, Dr Ercument Dirice (Turkey) for OC2.1, Dr Zsofia Tombol (Hungary) for OC1.4, Dr Nabil Mtraoui (Tunisia) for P178, Dr Marco Bonomi (Italy) for OC3.3, and Dr Sebastian Neggens (Netherlands) for HTC5.

Four Poster Prizes were awarded to: Dr Mar Alvarez-Pedrerol (Spain) for P507 (Clinical), Dr Katerina Saltiki (Greece) for P355 (Clinical), Dr Talita Romanatto (Brazil) for P440 (Basic) and Dr Morgane Pertuit (France) for P678 (Basic).

ESE would like to thank the sponsor Novartis for their continued and generous support of these awards.

The abstracts from ECE 2009 were published in *Endocrine Abstracts* and are now available at www.endocrine-abstracts.org.

ESE 6th Postgraduate Course

8–10 January 2009, Valletta, Malta

► The 6th ESE Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology was held at the historic Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta, Malta and was attended by general physicians and endocrinologists from 24 different countries in Europe and the Mediterranean region.

Both local and international faculty participated in a series of 14 state-of-the-art lectures that highlighted the latest developments in diabetes and endocrinology and emphasised developments in the diagnosis and management of a broad spectrum of diseases dealing with hormonal dysfunction and diabetes mellitus. Lectures on the molecular endocrinology of pituitary tumours, the role of adipose tissue as an endocrine organ, growth factors in thyroid cancer, ghrelin and vitamin D action provided insights into advances in molecular and cellular endocrinology. Controversies relating to thyroid screening in pregnancy, the management of carcinoid syndrome and thyroid microcarcinoma were reviewed, as was evidence-based practice in the management of hyperprolactinaemia, male infertility and male hypogonadism. The need for multipharmacological therapy of diabetes mellitus and the use of novel therapeutic agents in achieving glycaemic control were also analysed.

The course participants also had the opportunity to meet and discuss specific cases and problems with leading experts. The topics covered during the six workshops included Graves' ophthalmopathy, endocrine hypertension, hyperandrogenisation, hypopituitarism, acromegaly and adrenal insufficiency.

The stimulating academic and social programme provided a unique opportunity for everyone to network with the aim of promoting the study of endocrinology and diabetes with the ultimate objective of ensuring patient-centred quality healthcare.

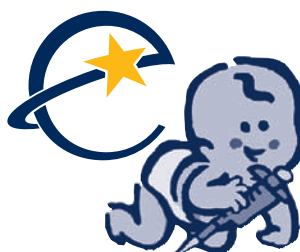
The guests were impressed by the rich history and beauty of Malta. The statues of the prehistoric "fat ladies" found in archaeological excavations at the world heritage Neolithic temples were reminiscent of present-day metabolic syndrome and obesity. The historic backdrop provided by the buildings and fortifications dating back to the times of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem and the balmy, sunny winter weather conditions on the island made the course a memorable experience for delegates and faculty alike.

PROFESSOR JOSANNE VASSALLO, UNIVERSITY OF MALTA



ESE and Young Active Research

► The educational activities of ESE are very important and one of the ways this is achieved is by supporting young endocrinologists. In 2008, ESE sponsored ten travel grants for young endocrinologists to attend the 10th Annual Meeting of Young Active Research held in Cologne, Germany and ESE will continue to sponsor ten travel grants for the 2009 meeting. Dominik Schulte and Jens Mittag explain about Young Active Research.



What is Young Active Research?

The initiative "Young Active Research" (YAR) was founded by young endocrinologists during the annual meeting of the German Endocrine Society in 1999 and its goal is to increase the mutual exchange between young scientists in the initial stages of their career, aiming at improved communication and collaboration. Currently we have more than 150 participants, which reflects a high involvement of young endocrine researchers.

What does Young Active Research offer?

YAR organises an annual meeting exclusively for young scientists to present their work in progress, to improve their presentation skills and to establish a scientific network in the area of endocrinology. The YAR website, especially the new forum, facilitates the exchange of knowledge between participants, advertises new job opportunities and offers the possibility to get answers to scientific and technical questions.

What does the membership cost?

YAR is a non-profit organisation working in close collaboration with the German Society for Endocrinology (DGE) and ESE. Participation in YAR is free of charge; only the use of the forum requires registration. Accommodation at the annual meeting will be provided; however, travel costs need to be covered by the participants. Travel grants, sponsored by ESE, are available.

YAR goes Europe!

It is the nature of science to break national borders as only international exchange opens up the avenues to successful future research. In an attempt to link young endocrinologists all over Europe, YAR would like to invite all interested young researchers to take part in this project. For further information and registration, please visit www.young-active-research.eu. The next YAR annual meeting will be held in Munich, Germany, 2–4 October 2009.

What happens at the annual meetings?

REPORT FROM COLOGNE, 12–14 SEPTEMBER 2008...

The 2008 annual meeting of Young Active Research was also a reason to celebrate, as it was the 10th meeting of YAR after its foundation in 1999. Except for Martin Fassnacht, who was sadly unable to attend, the "founding fathers" were present to open the meeting with a celebration lecture. Bruno Allolio gave an historical overview of over ten successful years of YAR, followed by presentations about the adrenal gland by Felix Beuschlein and Wiebke Arlt. Afterwards, Jens Bruening held the celebration lecture about the role of insulin signalling in POMC neurons, underlining the theme of the meeting: "Between human will and nature's forces". The Friday evening ended with a first test of the local beer, "Kölsch", in the nearby pub. The Saturday morning sessions were presented by speakers from five different countries, reflecting the international atmosphere of the conference. Before lunch Markus Schubert gave a lecture on the role of insulin receptor signalling in neurodegenerative diseases and the afternoon featured sessions on "Diabetes and Energy Homeostasis" and "Hormone Therapy". Following a guided tour through the inner city of Cologne, visitors enjoyed a typically German dinner in the "Brauhaus Sion". The meeting concluded on Sunday morning with the last two sessions. The meeting was well organised by the LOC, headed by Dominik Schulte, and was a great opportunity for all participants to present their work to a friendly but still critical audience. The ten travel grants sponsored by ESE created a great international environment and thus the basis for many new friendships and collaborations. We hope that this European trend can be promoted even further in the next meeting in Munich.

JENS MITTAG AND DOMINIK SCHULTE,
YOUNG ACTIVE RESEARCH
WWW.YOUNG-ACTIVE-RESEARCH.EU

1st ESE Basic Postgraduate Course in Basic Endocrinology: Endocrinology Meets Science

24–25 SEPTEMBER 2009, TURIN, ITALY

► This course aims to be a high-level course of basic research with deep discussions, where both speakers and delegates participate.

The course is aimed at all researchers interested in deepening their knowledge in basic research referred not only to endocrinology (hypothalamic control of appetite, new therapies in diabetes, cell and organ imaging, mouse models of metabolic disease, genome-wide chromatin studies, thyroid transporters and thyroid cancer), but also to other fields like biology and biotechnology (asymmetric cell division and stem cells, miRNA in cardiac physiology, neurogenesis and neuronal survival, epigenetics, kinase pathways implicated in cancer and metastasis). The link and promotion of the cooperation between different groups of research in basic endocrinology throughout Europe is also a major goal.

Invited speakers are outstanding members of the international scientific community selected for their known competencies, the quality of their publications, their excellent oratorical abilities and extensive knowledge of their field. They will focus on the technical and most innovative aspects of their studies, reporting the problems and difficulties they have found during their research and the challenges they will face in the future.

Please let your colleagues – basic scientists and clinicians with translational oriented profiles – know about this course. Further information, including the programme and registration details, can be found at http://www.fobiotech.org/attivita_2009/endocrinology_2009.html.

CLARA V ALVAREZ, POC & ESE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Impact Factors

We are pleased to announce the new higher impact factors for our journals.

The European Journal of Endocrinology is now at 3.791. This is a significant increase on last year's and consolidates the journal's strong position in the field. *The Journal of Endocrinology* is now at 2.791; *the Journal of Molecular Endocrinology* is now at 3.225, and *Endocrine-Related Cancer* is now at 5.236.

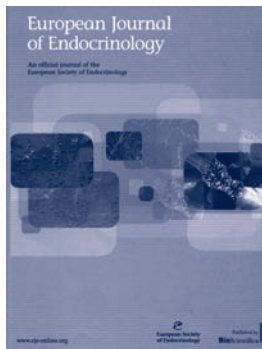
What's hot in EJE?

Clomiphene treatment of persistent hypogonadism in males with prolactinomas

ROGERIO SILICANI RIBEIRO AND JULIO ABUCHAM

European Journal of Endocrinology
2009 161 165-171

DOI: 10.1530/EJE-09-0084



Persistent hypogonadism is a common problem in males with prolactinomas being treated with dopamine agonists and conventional therapy with testosterone has undesirable side effects. This study by Ribeiro & Abucham evaluated the use of clomiphene, a selective oestrogen receptor modulator, in such patients. Fourteen adult hypogonadal males with prolactinomas were given 50 mg of clomiphene orally daily for 12 weeks. Testosterone, oestradiol, LH, FSH and prolactin were assayed before and 10 days, 4, 8 and 12 weeks after treatment with clomiphene. Ten patients responded to clomiphene, with nearly half reaching normal testosterone levels by 10 days of treatment, and at 4 weeks all responders had reached normal stable levels.

Clomiphene also improved sperm motility in most patients, making it a potential treatment for patients desiring to have children.

ECE 2010 12th European Congress of Endocrinology

Following another extremely successful Congress in 2009, the 12th European Congress of Endocrinology will take place in Prague from 24 to 28 April 2010.



News from the Programme Organising Committee

The Programme Organising Committee for ECE 2010 is made up of 19 esteemed and respected scientists, chaired by Professor Maria Alevizaki from Greece. The POC will be working very closely, as ever, with a Local Organising Committee (LOC) in Prague, chaired by Professor Josef Marek, co-chaired by Professor Michal Krsek.

The POC had their first meeting in Prague in February 2009 in which the programme structure and abstract categories and deadline were decided. The POC have agreed an abstract deadline of 8 January 2010 to ensure the latest data and 'Hot Topics' can be included at the congress. Speakers from across the world have been invited to make up a faculty of over one hundred and thirty members covering a variety of Plenary Lectures, Symposia, Debates and Meet-the-Expert sessions.

Further information about the congress can be found at www.ece2010.com along with abstract submission and online registration (available in due course).

The ECE 2010 promises to continue the reputation of ECE congresses as the leading European meeting for endocrinologists and you are cordially invited to take part.

We look forward to welcoming you in Prague next Spring!
Email: ece2010@euro-endo.org

ESE would like to thank their Corporate Members for their continued support: **DuoCort AB, Eli Lilly, Ipsen, Merck Serono, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche**

ESE News

This document is available on the ESE website at www.euro-endo.org/news/news.htm.

The address lists used to mail this issue of *ESE News* were supplied by the member societies of ESE and are stored on BioScientifica's computer for future use.

If you do not wish to receive further mailings, please advise editorial@endocrinology.org

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ICE/ECE 2012

15th International Congress of Endocrinology jointly with the 14th European Congress of Endocrinology
Florence, Italy, 5-9 May 2012

ECE 2013

Copenhagen, Denmark, 27 April-1 May 2013

Save the Dates!

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND COURSES

<http://www.euro-endo.org/meetings>

ESE Courses

1st ESE Basic Postgraduate Course
Turin, Italy, 24-26 September 2009

8th ESE Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology
Dubrovnik, Croatia, 8-10 Oct 2009

34th Annual Meeting of the
European Thyroid Association - ETA 2009
Lisbon, Portugal, 5-9 September 2009

Email: geral@deiasaquadro.com
Web: <http://www.eta09.com/>

8th Joint ESPE/LWPES Meeting
New York, USA, 9-12 September 2009

Email: espe@eurospe.org
Web: <http://www.lwpes-espe2009.org/>

45th Annual meeting of the
European Association for the Study of Diabetes
Vienna, Austria, 29 September to 2 October 2009

Email: secretariat@easd.org Web: <http://www.easd.org/>

Young Active Research 11th Annual Meeting
Munich, Germany, 2-4 October 2009

Email: urs.lichtenauer@med.uni-muenchen.de
Web: <http://www.young-active-research.eu>

6th International Congress on
Glucocorticoid Induced Osteoporosis
Siena, Italy, 8-10 October 2009

Email: info@symposium.it
Web: <http://www.symposium.it/gio2009/indexgio09.html>

International Symposium on Graves' Orbitopathy
Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 29-30 October 2009

Email: c.m.vanderpoel@amc.uva.nl

European Neuroendocrine Tumour Society
7th Annual Conference

Berlin, Germany, 11-13 March 2010

Email: enets.office@charite.de
Web: http://www.neuroendocrine.net/upcoming_conferences.html