

AGM REPORT

www.escp.eu.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President: Prof Per J Nilsson

President Elect: Prof Willem Bemelman

President in Waiting: Prof Evangelos Xynos

Immediate Past President: Prof Ethem Gecim

Secretary: Prof Gabriela Möslein

Treasurer: Prof Filippo La Torre

Assistant Treasurer: Dr Miguel Pera

Journal Representative: Mr Baljit Singh

UEMS Representative: Dr David Zimmerman

Programme Committee Chair: Prof Des Winter

Education Committee Chair: Prof Dieter Hahnloser

Research Committee Chair: Prof Charles Knowles

Membership Committee Chair: Dr Mikael Machado

Assistant Membership Committee Chair: Dr Roland Scherer

Communications Committee Chair: Prof Peter Christensen

Assistant Communications Chair: Mr Richard Brady

Guidelines Committee Chair: Miss Carolynne Vaizey

Young ESCP Working Group Chair: Dr Matteo Frasson

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee: Dieter Hahnloser (Chair), Baljit Singh, Cristian Blajut (Y-ESCP), Danilo Miskovic, David Zimmerman, Edgar Furnée, Eloy Espin Basany (ex officio), Filippo La Torre (ex officio/ESCP Treasurer), Gabriela Möslein (ex officio/ESCP Secretary), Harald Rosen, Jasper Stijns (Y-ESCP), Klaus Matzel, Marcos Gomez Ruiz, Marek Zawadzki, Mark Potter, Mostafa Shalaby (Y-ESCP), Muhammad Imran Aslam, Pascal Doornebosch, Richard Brady, Roel Hompes, Samson Tou, Tina van Loon (Y-ESCP)

The aims of the Education Committee are:

To deliver high-quality, contemporary education for surgeons in training and practice, and for other allied healthcare professionals.

To educate, disseminate and accredit to the highest standard in Coloproctology across Europe.

As the leading European Society in Coloproctology, the Education Committee of the ESCP pursued the following efforts in 2018/2019:

"EDUCATION STREAM" AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN VIENNA 2019

In addition to activities targeted towards knowledge, technical skills, decision making and clinical judgment (offered in sessions such as the ultrasound workshop, trainee video session, best publications of the year, interactive trainee workshop, and the expert round table session) pre-congress "hands-

on" workshop are offered: TAMIS, Parastomal Hernia, Anal Fistula, AIN and HRA and new for 2019 VAC-assisted management of the open abdomen & anastomotic leaks and a Robotic workshop. Like previous years these courses offer advanced hands-on experience, interactive discussions, and a good teacher-attendee ratio. Symposia on optimising care, on how to get surgical information in 2020, and on how to develop guidelines (together with the Guidelines committee) are organised; not to forget the big debate on CME: open vs. laparoscopic surgery.

A new delegate feedback form will be used in Vienna and will help the education committee to better meet the demands and expectations of the attendees.

ESCP FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The new application process is well established and works well. Fellows and centers gave very positive feedback.

ESCP now offers:

1 x six-month Robotic surgery fellowship

4 x three-month fellowships (including 2x pelvic floor fellowships)

20 x two-weeks observerships

10 x pre-congress-placements

Korean Society of Coloproctology (KSCP) exchange fellowship

Japanese Society of Coloproctology (JSCP) exchange fellowship

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT ON THE ESCP WEBSITE, ESCP RESOURCE LIBRARY AND CREST®

The educational part of the website of the ESCP contains a complete and clear overview of all activities of the Educational Committee. For all ESCP members the 2nd edition of the European manual of Coloproctology is freely available. The resource library containing all video-recorded presentations of the past ESCP meetings is a great resource for training and continuous education. It will be structured according to the manual and linked to relevant article published in Colorectal Disease. This is currently work in progress.

The ColoRectal Educational Systems Template, commonly known as CREST®, the educational platform of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) is now available to all ESCP members. ESCP and ASCRS will work together to develop CREST® into the premier educational portal for colorectal surgery. This is the first time two major colorectal societies have joined together to share their educational resources to develop a globally-accessible and leading colorectal educational platform.

ESCP offers all educational events to successfully pass the European Board of Surgery Qualification (EBSQ) examination in Coloproctology. One of the two annual examinations is always run at the end of the ESCP meeting. For more information check the website of the UEMS <https://uemssurg.org/divisions/coloproctology>

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Members of the education committee have successfully collaborated with the research committee on the anastomosis research project combining research and education to improve patient care.

REGIONAL EVENTS, MASTERCLASSES

The Regional Event Working Group (REWG) has successfully organised two masterclasses per year, in Rome last November on “Complex Anal Fistula” and in spring 2019 in Antalya on “Re-Operative Colorectal Surgery”. Further events in Cardiff (1.11.2019) and in Amsterdam (Spring 2020) are planned. In addition, the Masterclasses go global in 2020 introducing the “Global Reach” (G-R) Masterclasses with applications from Egypt, South Africa and China. For further details please look at the REWG Report Section.

EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF COLOPROCTOLOGY (ESC)

The European School of Coloproctology now offers a year around platform and a variety of educational activities. The first workshop on Pouch surgery “IPAA and continent ileostomy (Kock pouch and modifications)” was very successful and will be repeated on 14-15 November 2019 in Hamburg. A structured modular training program on laparoscopic complete mesocolic excision (LapCME) was launched in autumn 2019 with its second edition on 5-6 June 2019. This training program consist of courses, hand-on trainings and proctoring sessions at the trainee’s hospital. A similar training curriculum for robotic surgery will start soon. The “Berlin days” will take place on the 10-11 December 2019 in Berlin offering four hands-on courses over two days: AIN/HRA, TAMIS, Parastomal Hernia, Anal Fistula and a preparation course for the EBSQ (European Board of Surgery Qualification) in Coloproctology examination. Further information and details on application can be found on the ESCP website.

All our own ESCP and ESC educational events as well as events supported or endorsed by ESCP are now ESCP badged into four groups. ESCP organises, promotes such events and endorses hereby educational activities in Coloproctology all around Europe. For further details and application process for ESCP endorsement of a meeting, see ESCP website and contact the ESCP secretariat office.

I would like to thank the entire committee for their excellent work over this past year.

Dieter Hahnloser
Education Committee Chair – September 2019

REGIONAL EVENTS WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Committee: Paul-Antoine Lehur (Chair), Anna Martling, Dieter Hahnloser, Dursun Bugra, Gabriela Möslein (ex officio/ESCP Secretary), Klaus Matzel, Mikael Machado, Per Nilsson, Søren Laurberg

The REWG has been active all year to keep up with on-going projects. Three teleconferences were held with all or part of the group, one call including the Cardiff Regional Event local organiser.

We report here first on REWG business including the composition and renewal of members, financial update and proposed re-structure of Regional Events; introducing the NEW “Global Reach” (G-R) Masterclasses (MCs); secondly detailed reports from the two MCs held during the past year (Rome, 18 November 2018 and Antalya, 13 April 2019); and on the future timeline of MCs both “classic” EU Regional Events and the Global Reach events currently in early planning stages.

1. REWG BUSINESS

a) Composition and renewal of the REWG

There is a current discussion on the composition of the Regional Events Working Group. Several members are stepping down after a four-year term of office. They are deeply thanked for their active contribution in the development and success of ESCP’s Regional Events. The REWG is comprised with members from other Committees; there are no formal rules due to this

being a working group. New members have been invited to join to replace members stepping down.

Chair: Paul-Antoine Lehur

Members: Antonino Spinelli (ex officio/ESCP Ass. Secretary), Audrius Dulskas (Research Representative), Des Winter (Programme Representative) Dieter Hahnloser (Education Representative), Gabriela Möslein (ex officio/ESCP Secretary), Klaus Matzel (EU School Representative), Mikael Machado (Membership Representative), Willem Bemelman (President)

The chair will be maintained for continuity and a position of assistant-chair will be created for a replacement in two-years’ time.

2. FINANCIAL UPDATE

The Winter Masterclass in Rome made a loss of €8086.12, primarily due to a lack of sponsorship, however the overall loss was mitigated due to the Spring Masterclass in Antalya making a profit of €7370.56, leaving a small deficit of €715.56. The society tries to ensure that all Masterclasses break even. Rules set by the REWG have been followed and no honorarium has been paid to speakers for these most recent events.

a) Renewed structure of Regional Events as per 2019 (for submission and approval to the Executive Committee)

With the confirmed and continued success of the ESCP Masterclasses organised by the Regional Events Working Group (REWG) on behalf of the ESCP Education Committee, and with the logistical support of Integrity, increasing numbers of applications from non-European countries have been received. The REWG are forced to reconsider the overall concept and structure of these global events versus the European Masterclasses, due to limitations affecting financial, managerial and time capacities of the society.

The REWG has reconsidered the general organisation of its events and it has been proposed to maintain the successful format of the European Masterclasses which was implemented in 2015; therefore, we have redefined the format and requisites from what has been named the “ESCP Global Reach” (G-R) Masterclasses dedicated to non-European countries. For 2019, the REWG will continue with the well-established template for processing European Masterclasses and will maintain two annual events, Spring and Winter, for the foreseeable future. In order to sustainably avoid any financial losses for ESCP, an elaborated template secures the covering of finances, speakers and advertising six months ahead of the event, or the Masterclass will be called off. However, this template cannot be maintained for distant events, taking place in an entirely different environment and with other pre-requisites. Also, in the light of this, our secretariat will be unable to deal with the communication and organisational issues involved.

Nevertheless, ESCP strongly endorses and encourages requests for G-R Masterclasses for many and obvious reasons: the increasing worldwide recognition of the format will contribute to create and develop interesting relationships with Societies of Coloproctology around the world and expand the influence of our Society. Aiding to the ESCP mission of fostering better evidence-based quality of patient care, this project is recognised as an interesting and important way of pursuing this goal and increasing the global footprint. In order to secure the function of this new format, some implementations are suggested for G-R MCs:

1. The timing of G-R MCs is optimal when in conjunction with a National meeting. It is recommended to check if the selected dates do not clash with ESCP main events, especially the Annual and General Meeting (AGM) set each year at the end of Sept.
2. G-R MCs must be organized logistically and financially by the hosting foreign Society / local organizer. The financial responsibility lies with the host. However, any profit will benefit solely the host.
3. Host countries/societies fill up a formal application (template on the website) at least 12 months prior to the suggested G-R MC date.
4. The scientific and educational contribution to the MCs would remain under the control of the REWG and Educ. Comm. as an ESCP G-R MC, however the elaboration of this is in close conjunction with a well-identified hosting organizer

5. The topic of the G-R MCs would be suggested by the host at the time of the application and further discussed between the hosting organiser and ESCP
6. The host suggests the program in the application process. REWG appoints an ESCP member expert in the field suggested. He or she would draft a programme together with the host, that should get approval from the REWG and Education Committee. In order to be badged at a defined level by the ESCP.
7. The above-described process would be clearly presented to the Applicants to a G-R MC and a careful step by step assessment of the progress to the event would be insured by the REWG.
8. The organisational workload and the financial requirements are to be handled by the host, since Integrity will not be involved in this process. This includes the travel costs for ESCP speakers, that will support the meeting with lectures and a defined speakers fee of approximately € 1.500 - depending on the degree of active involvement and time in addition to an ESCP overhead.
9. A universal template for timing of the organisational requirements, adapted to the European MC will be implemented (in form of an agreement signed by both parties). If the requirements are not fulfilled 6 months ahead of the G-R MC, ESCP will refrain from any commitment.

b) Reports on past and future Masterclasses

Past Masterclass reports for the time period Winter 2018 – Spring 2019

There have been two equally successful Masterclasses during the time period and detailed reports have been posted on the website.

Local organisers have to be congratulated for their involvement in these educational events. The REWG thanks various members of the Society that have accepted to spend time and effort to make these events the success they were in the course of these two Masterclasses.

6th ESCP (Winter) Regional Masterclass – Rome “Complex Anal Fistula”.

Local Organiser: Filippo La Torre - 19 November 2018 in conjunction with 7th SICCR Educational Colorectal Meeting.

Speakers: Christoph Isbert, David Zimmerman, Dieter Hahnloser, Francesco Selvaggi, Giovanni Militto, Kevin Gottgens, Marco La Torre, Phil Tozer, Reinhard Ruppert, Sezai Leventoglu

7th ESCP (Spring) Regional Masterclass – Antalya “Re-Operative Colorectal Surgery”.

Local Organiser: Ugur Sungurtekin - 13 April 2019 in conjunction with the national XVIIth Turkish Colon & Rectal Surgery Meeting.

Speakers: Ayhan Kuzu, Bulent Mentis, David Zimmerman, Ethem Gecim, Frederic Ris, Gabriela Möslein, Muhammad Imran Aslam, Paolo Giamundo, Jean-Jacques Tuech, Sumer Yamaner, Thomas Golda

This Masterclass was supported by an Educational Grant from Johnson and Johnson.

FUTURE MASTERCLASSES

8th ESCP Regional Masterclass

1 November 2019 at the Cardiff Hilton Hotel, Kingsway, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF10 3HH, UK in conjunction with the Welsh Surgical Society Autumn Meeting.

Topic: “Colorectal Surgery – Tomorrow’s World”

Local Organiser: Jared Torkington

A very exciting programme has been prepared and it is EMT compliant, registration is open and further details can be found on the website. Sponsorship update will follow, we expect this Masterclass to be a great success.

PROPOSED MASTERCLASSES 2020 AND BEYOND:

9th ESCP Regional (Spring) Masterclass, Amsterdam

in conjunction with the First WCP national meeting (Dutch working group for Coloproctology)

Location: Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Date: 20 June 2020

Topic: New insights into prevention and management of pelvic sepsis

Local Organiser: Roel Hompes

10th ESCP Regional (Winter) Masterclass, Lisbon

in conjunction with the XXX Annual Meeting of Portuguese Society of Coloproctology

Location: Lisbon, Portugal

Date: 21 November 2020

Topic: Complex decisions in Coloproctology

Local Organiser: Nuno Rama

For the two proposed 2020 Masterclasses applications have been received and will be discussed at the REWG meeting in Vienna. Local organisers have been invited to present, where discussions, recommendations and a final decision will be made. Applications for 2021 and 2022 are welcome and contact with the Membership representative is required for suggestions.

PROPOSED GLOBAL REACH MASTERCLASSES 2020

Three applications for 2020 have been received and initial contact has been made ahead of the REWG meeting in Vienna. The elaborated format and recommendations of the REWG has been sent to local organisers. Face-to-face meetings to come will allow for adjustment and preparation. The applications are listed in chronological order:

1st Global Reach Egyptian ESCP Masterclass in Cairo

in conjunction with the Egyptian Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons

Location: Cairo, Egypt

Date: August 2020

Topic: Modern management of colon cancer

Local Organiser: Mostafa Shalaby

2nd Global Reach South African ESCP MC in Cape Town

in conjunction with SASES 2020 meeting

Location: Cape Town, South Africa

Date: 03 September 2020

Topic: The management of functional bowel disorders

Local Organiser: Eugenio Panieri

3rd Global Reach Chinese ESCP Masterclass in Shanghai

in conjunction with the 14th Chinese Congress of Colorectal Surgery

Location: Shanghai, China

Date: 22 October 2020

Topic: TaTME implementation

Local Organiser: Hongwei Yao

In summary, through this year:

Quality of the MCs has been maintained for the two-yearly events, i.e. in Italy and Turkey

Timeline applications according to the template implemented last year for the coming MCs is carefully followed up by the Group and Integrity.

EU 2020 Masterclasses are on their way (The Netherlands and Portugal) and will be confirmed at the REWG meeting in Vienna.

Global Reach Masterclasses (at least 3 projects) are promising. Contact and confirmation will be done during the REWG meeting in Vienna.

Next REWG meeting:

Vienna; 25th September at 14:00 – Austria Center Room 1.86 – 1st level)

Paul-Antoine Lehur

Regional Events Working Group Chair – September 2019

THE EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF COLOPROCTOLOGY UPDATE

The European School of Coloproctology (ESC) of ESCP continues to offer a year-round platform for educational opportunities and is increasing its activities.

The ESC offers education and training in Coloproctology for colorectal surgery at different stages of their professional career and aims to promote current knowledge and practice. Different formats of training activities will be presented. The activities are supported by educational grants from various industry partners. ESC/ESCP is responsible for designing the objectives and educational contents of these events and its execution.

LAPAROSCOPIC CME PROGRAMME

The program, which was launched by ESC in December 2018 continues in 2019/2020. The **Laparoscopic CME Programme** consists of a two day workshop with hands-on experience followed by a proctoring phase providing operative support in the participants home institutions. For details please see: <https://www.escp.eu.com/education/european-school-of-coloproctology/laparoscopic-cme-programme>

IPAA AND CONTINENT ILEOSTOMY WORKSHOP

A stand-alone workshop on pouch surgery, **IPAA and continent ileostomy** (Kock pouch and modifications) first offered in November 2018, will again take place on 14-15 November 2019 in Hamburg. Applications are now open: <https://www.escp.eu.com/education/european-school-of-coloproctology/ipaa-and-continent-ileostomy>

“BERLIN DAYS”: COMPREHENSIVE WORKSHOPS ON PREVENTION OF PARASTOMAL HERNIA, PROCTOLOGY, TAMIS AND A CORE SUBJECT/EBSQ PREPARATION COURSE

A new initiative will start on 10-11 December 2019 in Berlin. During the ‘Berlin Days’ workshops offering hands-on experience and a variety of courses will take place over a two-day period (Prevention of Parastomal Hernia, Proctology, TAMIS, EBSQ Preparation Course). By running these courses over a two-day period will allow participants to join more than one course and make the most of their time in Berlin. Applications are now open: <https://www.escp.eu.com/berlin-days-2019>

Further activities of the ESC include the buildup of a Robotic Training Pathway. We hope to be able to launch the programme and start to include the first trainees in early 2020. These are exciting times for those interested to learn and to teach!

Professor Klaus Matzel / European School of Coloproctology Chair - September 2019

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee: Mikael Machado (chair), Roland Scherer (Assistant Chair) + regional representatives.

Western region: Donald Claeys (Incoming), Jared Torkington, Niels Wijffels (Outgoing).

Central region: Aldo Infantino (Outgoing), Frederic Ris (Incoming), Martina Lemmerer (Incoming), Roland Scherer (Outgoing).

Eastern region: Goran Barisic, Alexey Moskalev.

Membership numbers: The number of ESCP members reached 1800 at the end of 2018 which is a substantial increase compared to the previous year (1384). In the beginning of July this year, membership was up by 200 and hopefully this is a trend that will be reflected in the final numbers for 2019.

National representatives: National representatives have been very active in promoting ESCP and related activities throughout the year. Communication through a dedicated WhatsApp group has been successful in the Eastern region. National and regional representatives have been heavily involved in the recent successful ESCP Regional Turkish masterclass and the upcoming ESCP Regional Masterclass on 1st November in Cardiff – Theme – Colorectal Surgery Tomorrow’s World.

New national representatives have been chosen through elections coordinated by the ESCP Secretariat, for:

Country	National Representatives	Incoming 2019
Austria	Irmgard Kronberger	
Azerbaijan	Aynur Safiyeva	
Belgium	Donald Claeys	Albert Wolthuis
Bulgaria	Mihail Slavchev	
Czech Republic	Ondrej Ryska	Matej Skrovina
Denmark	Ole Thorlacius-Ussing	
Egypt	Waleed Thabet	
Finland	Monika Carpelan Holmstrom	
France	Quentin Denost	
Germany	Reinhard Ruppert	Felix Aigner
Greece	Georgios Pechlivanides	Ioannis Papaconstantinou
Hungary	Tamas Mersich	
Iceland	Helgi Kjartan Sigurdsson	
Ireland	Jürgen Mulsow	
Israel	Ada Rosen	Alon Pikarsky
Italy	Giovanni Milito	Giuseppe Sica
Latvia	Darija Soldatenkova	
Lithuania	Saulius Švagždys	
Norway	Johannes Schultz	
Poland	Tomasz Banasiewicz	Lukasz Dziki
Portugal	Nuno Rama	
Romania	Victor Tomulescu	Ciprian Duta
Russia	Aleksei Petrov	
Serbia	Ivan Dimitrijevic	
Slovenia	Gregor Norcic	
Spain	Rosa M. Jimenez Rodriguez	
Sweden	Marcel Sadeghi	
Switzerland	Frederic Ris	Michel Adamina
The Netherlands	Jeroen Leijntens	
Turkey	Ugur Sungurtekin	
UK	Justin Davies	
Ukraine	Volodymyr Andriiets	

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES 2018/2019

- Five teleconferences including a planned TC in September
- Support the secretariat in membership matters
- Implementation of the electronic National Representative feedback form
- Promotion regional events and the annual September meeting
- Feedback to National Representatives regarding the number of abstracts accepted for the annual September meeting
- National Representatives elections
- Effort to recruit Young ESCP members to join regular ESCP membership
- Planning Regional meetings and National Representative dinner Vienna

Mikael Machado
Membership Committee Chair – September 2019

GUIDELINES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee: Carolynne Vaizey (Chair), Klaus Matzel, Mark Katory, Stéphanie Breukink, Willem Bemelman, Yasuko Maeda.

Y-ESCP: Emre Sivrikoz, Ionut Negoj, Luis Sanchez-Guillen, Rosa Jimenez Rodriguez.

GUIDELINE FOR HAEMORRHOIDAL DISEASE

The Haemorrhoidal guideline is submitted to Colorectal Disease and we are currently waiting for their reply. The complete guideline is published on the ESCP website.

Stéphanie Breukink

JOINT EUROPEAN CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE FOR FAECAL INCONTINENCE – A UEG/ESCP/ESNM/ESPCG GUIDELINE

We can report that we have successfully passed the selection process of the UEG Activity Grant programme.

UEG herewith financially supports this project with a total amount of €30,000. The UEG Quality of Care Task Force appreciates your application, and recognises the importance of the topic. However, due to the many applications received, decided that only €30,000 can be given to this project. ESCP member in the UEG Quality of Care Task Force, Carolynne Vaizey, informed us that ESCP will be able to cover up to €10,000 to complete the funding of the whole project as necessary. The first meeting for this initiative will be in Barcelona on the 21st of October during the UEG week.

Stéphanie Breukink

MESH IN PELVIS

The guidance is 90% written, pending on completion of Q3 and Q6 which the team and myself are currently working on. In order to minimise further delay, we will take following measures to speed things up:

1. I have asked Ronan and Carolynne to start proof reading what I currently have.
2. The guidance will be put to public consultation and for you to have your say at the same time.

The following is the latest proposed timeline:

May: completion of Q3 and Q6 (Ionut and Yasuko), proofreading of guidance without Q3 and Q6 (Carolynne and Ronan)

End of May: Jos to complete check of GRADE of Q3 and Q6

Beginning of June: Final proofreading of Q3 and Q6 (Carolynne and Ronan)

Mid-June to mid-July (1 month): Public consultation and feedback from members

End of July: final feedback from the guidance members and final amendments

I am hoping that we will publish this within the next 3 months on ESCP website and submit a condensed version to Colorectal Disease shortly afterwards.

Yasuko Maeda

UPDATE GENE AND GENDER GUIDELINES FOR LYNCH SYNDROME (EHTG - ESCP)

Since the last update in early 2019 we have made slow but very good progress. There was a requirement to solve formal problems with the second Delphi round that had been identified with the support of Jos Kleijnen, a dedicated revision and amendment of both the generated evidence and professional guidance was then elaborated. After this we requested his feedback later than anticipated (on 03 June 2019). We were then able to revise and finalise the questions for the final Delphi 3 round. The designated and balanced, interdisciplinary faculty of experts invited to participate in the final Delphi round was established and an explanatory mail with the link for survey monkey together with the evidence summary was issued on 25 June. Unfortunately, responses were slow, reminders were sent, we closed the survey after receiving our minimum number of faculty responses on 14 August. The manuscript is now being finalized by the two first authors Toni Seppälä, Andy Latchford and myself. We plan to submit the manuscript to Colorectal Disease

as soon as possible. Simultaneous publication on the ESCP and EHTG website are also intended. We pursue the concept of “Dynamic Guidance” and the lead group has in this first version focused on the relevance of Lynch Syndrome and surgical and gastroenterological (and gynecological) clinical management. The exciting field of Immunology, pathology, targeted therapy among others have not been addressed. We plan a next GGGLS meeting at the EHTG annual meeting in Barcelona and will discuss the timeline for the next update on these topics, but since this is a fast-evolving field, we will already address the update for surgery and gastroenterology. After this meeting a final report will be issued and possibly a proposal for continuing collaboration on the maintenance and further development of the guidelines.

Gabriela Möslein

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

The social media Guideline is currently under development. A plan has been designed in which this Guideline will cover three essential aspects of the Social Media implications in Colorectal Surgery, these are: social media as resources in colorectal surgery, the relationship between professionals and privacy and patient information protection and confidentiality. We will come up with recommendations. Each of these branches will be led by one senior and one Y-ESCP member;

Senior Leaders: Des Winter, Julio Mayol and Richard Brady.

Y-ESCP members: Gianluca Pellino, Luis Sánchez Guillén and Rosa Jiménez-Rodríguez.

Many other people can be involved during the process and are welcome to join the team. All of these members have already accepted and committed to this Guideline. The developmental process has been sent to Jos Kleijnen for his comments and we are currently working on his suggestions.

Rosa Jimenez-Rodriguez

DIVERTICULITIS GUIDELINES

The second voting round inviting all national representatives has been concluded. Statements and supporting text has been edited and decisions regarding issues of disagreement on statements will be handled at the ESCP meeting in Vienna. Publication of guidelines should be possible in the beginning of 2020.

Eva Angenete

TATME GUIDELINES

The TaTME guidance group is near completion of the guidance statement and are currently preparing a manuscript for publication. They are currently working on the 4th version of the manuscript and the aim is to present the paper to all members of the working group prior to the meeting in Vienna. Once approved by all participants, the paper will be submitted for publication in the Journal of Colorectal Disease. After the Vienna meeting and publication of the paper, Danilo Miskovic will step down as co-chair and a new working group will be established to work on the future amendments and coordination of European research in the area of TaTME.

Danilo Miskovic

GUIDELINE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PERIANAL FISTULA

After invitation by the European Society of Coloproctology (ESCP), David Zimmerman and Phil Tozer of the guideline development group (GDG) were asked to establish an international guideline for the Treatment of Perianal Fistulas. ESCP will function as stakeholder with an interest in the guideline topic. Other stakeholders, such as national societies will be considered. Currently, scope of the guideline is being formulated and National representatives have been invited to propose members of the Guideline Development group. Healthcare professionals with an in-depth understanding of outcomes relevant for treatment of perianal fistulas and experience with the development of a perianal fistulas will be invited. By September (ESCP meeting) this group will be in place and the first face-to-face meeting will be conducted. The current aim is to finish the guideline by December 2020.

David Zimmerman

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Committee: Peter Christensen (Chair), Richard Brady (Assistant Chair), Antonio Sampaio Soares, Aldo Infantino, Baljit Singh, Edgar Furnée, Erman Aytac, Gabriela Möslein (ex officio/ESCP Secretary), Gianluca Pellino (Y-ESCP), Julius Orhalmi, Mark Katory.

ESCP COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE STRATEGY

The ESCP Communication Committee strategy is to demonstrate society values to existing members, potential members, other societies and specialists. Key benefits of ESCP membership should be communicated to support the growth of the society and retention of members, and to support regional/national networks. The Comm Comm vision is to grow ESCP’s influence and public profile by communication with new audiences and partnerships, government engagement and public/patient networks. In line with the overall strategy of global growth of ESCP as the professional organisation worldwide for the prevention, treatment, education and research into colorectal disease, the continued efforts of the Comm Comm aim to develop ESCP’s reputation by showcasing our work (conference and committee developments) at the ESCP website, through regular emailed newsletters to members and to show persistent presence on social media.

ESCP COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE AND GRAYLING

Since 2017 the ESCP Comm Comm has worked with the communication agency, Grayling. Together we have identified areas of information within ESCP to be communicated and how we can increase new content to be produced and disseminated. The pathways to inform Grayling on news from the society, and for Grayling to pursue news, have been established, and the ESCP platforms to distribute the news have been strengthened. The Committee have identified 5 main KPI’s that they would like Grayling to focus on and work towards and including Vienna activities. The Committee acknowledges that these were very ambitious figures, but achievable with strong committee engagement and Grayling proactivity. Activity have been reported monthly to the Committee. Integrity have had regular catch ups with Grayling (once per month) and the committee chair has ad hoc made ‘check-in’ with them as well.

KPI’s presented with goals and achievements by 31 December 2018 were:

	Goals	Achievements
ESCP App Downloads –	1,500	1,469 (1500 in sept.)
Website Visitors –	70,000	79,958
Website Page Views –	600,000	428,057
Twitter Engagement Levels –	30,000	32,936
Twitter Followers –	4,200	4,778

Although website page views increased dramatically during 2018, we did not meet the goal for 2018. How to drive more traffic to the ESCP website and keep visitors engaged is an ongoing task for the Comm Comm and the committee representatives. See below.

A new set of KPI’s for 31 December 2019 was agreed at the ESCP Comm Comm face-to-face meeting in London, May 2019, with interim status at 31 July 2019.

KPI	Target total	Delivered Jan-Jul 2019	Gap to 2019 total	Predicted total (Jan-Jul 2019 + Aug-Dec 2018)
App downloads	2,000	54	490	249
Twitter followers	8,000	1,163	2,059	2,016
Twitter engagement	50,000	21,243	28,757	39,246
Web page views	555,000	272,460	282,540	470,803
Web visitors	112,000	51,767	60,233	89,337

We see a continuous and sustained growth in all KPI except ESCP app downloads. However, the interim status at 31 July 2019 and conservative projection of the metrics of the total metrics for 2019 show that we will come out short, although close to goals, for all KPI. Together with Grayling, Comm Comm have therefore set up specific actions for all KPI towards the end of the year to boost numbers.

As a recognition of Graylings great work with ESCP they were awarded the prestigious DARE AWARD (Scotland), July 2019 for their ESCP Membership Engagement Drive by their own PRCA (Public Relations and Communications Association). Further, Grayling has been nominated for two upcoming awards PRCA GRAND PRIX Awards (UK-wide) - 01 October 2019, in Manchester; UK and CIPR PRIDE Awards (Scotland) - 03 October 2019, Glasgow, Scotland. Huge congratulations to Grayling, and the ESCP Comm Comm is proud to be a part of these achievements.

Indeed, communication from the Society has improved tremendously with their help. Therefore, Comm Comm and Integrity strongly recommend the continuous use of Grayling as external support to the Society Communication strategy.

ESCP SOCIAL MEDIA

ESCP’s social media channels are our main channels of communication. @ESCP_tweets has gathered more than 6000 followers on Twitter (+59%, 1778 new followers in 2018, and still increasing), Twitter engagement level at 39,000 has exploded (510% increase in 2018). Other ESCP twitter accounts are also increasing: @ESCP_studies at 938, @youESCP at 1517 followers. The LinkedIn network is catching up with 1572 followers.

With great efforts from each committee it has been possible to create specific social media campaigns to inform members on the committee activity and achievements. The different ESCP committees produced loads of news every month suitable to be communicate on social media before, during and after the activity, and the society sit on a gold mine of content within the ESCP resource library just there to be communicated. Grayling and Comm Comm strongly recommend continuing down this route, since a solid communication strategy needs quality content to be communicated. However, Comm Comm and Grayling emphasize that information regarding ESCP committee activities often are receive late, which make promotion very difficult.

ESCP WEBSITE

Continued focus during 2019 has been on updates of contents with the responsibility placed in each committee. A graphical refreshment has been made by the website supplier and a short instruction has been made how to refresh website text in order to minimize text and increase the user experience.

The long-term project of transferring all the old conference content on to Vimeo. Further, the resource library is about to get multi tagging options which will increase which will increase the value of the ESCP resource library for the members.

Grayling has performed a thorough review of the website and website traffic statistics to look for ways to improve the Web Site rating and presence in broader Google Search. However, improvement to the website to attract visitors outside the Colorectal surgery community would need unbalanced efforts and cost, and the Comm Comm have decided to focus on communicating with members or potential members.

Although web site traffic has increased dramatically, the increase is based on very low background activity. There is still potential to use the website more actively by each committee for communicating activities and content to members, and for members to use the ESCP resources. Different actions have been taken in order to achieve the ambitious KPI’s for the website traffic.

ESCP SOCIETY/CONFERENCE APP

The ESCP app serve as the ESCP conference app and as an all-around-the-year society app. Members can use the app to access the resource library (including the ESCP Manual), to follow the news releases as well as access all ESCP website content. ESCP app download activities seems to be restricted

to members or conference attendees, since new downloads is very low outside the conference season. However, the app is open for download to all although some material is 'member only' and require login. An ongoing campaign at Twitter aim to increase the number of downloads with 500, aiming at 2000 downloads by the end of the year.

In early spring 2019, Comm Comm conducted a membership survey to get feedback to improve the ESCP app. During 2019, the ESCP app will undertake a refresh in design and functions making it more intuitive and user friendly. As an example, touch id log-in will be implemented. Awareness of the app functionalities as ready resource within the pocket of each ESCP member will drive further download through 2019. The process is unfortunately on hold due to lack of capacity with the app provider.

The possibilities of generating income through sponsorship as year-round sponsor banners, hosted sponsor content etc. need to be explored further and needs to be coordinated with the policy of the Executive.

SPONSORSHIP

The Comm Comm is very much aware of the potential to increase Sponsorship to the society by offering advertising space at both the website and within the ESCP app. Our web stats are now much stronger and still increasing, so these should be more appealing to sponsors; our ESCP app is also ready to include sponsor banners. Comm Comm have present a strategy for sponsorships for the platforms for the Executive/FWG in February 2019 but this needs to be aligned and coordinate by the Executive. The Comm Comm has had sponsorships a key priority for our 2019 strategy and will seek to cover any app and website expenditure, through sponsorship in the region of €20,000 for 2019. Together with ESCP Education, Comm Comm has ongoing negotiations with a major industrial partner to sponsor educational content delivered through the ESCP platforms.

SPECIFIC NEWS CAMPAIGN

ESCP Comm Comm continued the successful 'Topic of the month' highlighting specific topics and engaging an ESCP expert to on the different topic to collect relevant material. Content has been video presentations, surgical videos, link to most current literature, tweets and even chat tweets. 'Paper of the month' by the ESCP Research Committee, is promoted by ESCP social media channels and commented on the ESCP web site and following tweets. Cohort study audit results have been covered alongside other research activities. New Executive Committee members have been portrayed as a continuation of 'Meet the Executive'. ESCP program committee has profited for another Conference Video, and several speaker interviews leading towards ESCP Vienna 2018 are in preparation. The collaboration with ASCRS on the CREST education platform has been promoted, and the European School of Coloproctology from ESCP Education has promoted the EBQS exams, the ESCP fellowship program, and the ESCP Masterclass and pre-conference courses have achieved substantial promotion. Output from the ESCP Guideline Committee such as ongoing projects and published guidelines are also well promoted. A new initiative for 2019 will be Webinars in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson. All news stories have been added to the ESCP web page and then promoted through the newsletter and tweets.

ENGAGING THE ESCP COMMITTEES IN COMMUNICATION

It is of continuous importance that each ESCP committee increase focus on what is to be communicated from their committee. Each committee project can be broken down by time with different parts communicated separately (announcement, full program, registration ready, shortly coming, ongoing, wrap-up or protocol ready, launch of study, first patient in, interim reports, closure, first presentation, publication). A project can also be highlighted with different tools (tweets, visual abstracts, video, short articles).

ENGAGING YOUNG ESCP

To facilitate the committee engagement each committee has appointed 2-3 young ESCP members to assist with the communication of content and activities from the committees. Grayling can then pursue news and be proactive in promoting the news. These appointments also strengthen the presence of @ESCP_tweets and @YouESCP on social media and specially to promote new ideas on how and what to tweet. The engagement has up till now been very successful.

AIS COLLABORATION

At the ESCP Executive Meeting in Munich, 2th February 2018, the Comm Comm was handed the task to explore the potential for a possible collaboration between AIS Channel Open Classroom and ESCP. Such a collaboration could have mutual benefit. From the ESCP viewpoint, the AIS Channel has an attractive global reach to our target audience with impressive stats. Further, AIS Channel have the knowhow on how to communication via social media. The ESCP can offer scientific and academic credibility to AIS Channel by sharing ESCP conference, workshop presentations and educational content. Pitfalls from the ESCP view point are, that ESCP give AIS all our academic credibility with the result that AIS attracts all the website and social media traffic to the AIS platform thereby undermining the ESCP platforms and brand.

To explore the potential collaboration, a limited project with joint promotion of 10 selected presentations from ESCP Nice 2018 has been agree upon between ESCP and AIS. This was carried out during December 2018-January 2019. All metrics on the traffic to AIS and the directed traffic to the ESCP platforms was monitored and presented to the Executive meeting in Munich, February 2019. Unfortunately, ESCP could not to see clear benefits to ESCP and the formal collaboration was discontinued.

CHANGING SEAT WITH IN ESCP COMM COMM

ESCP Comm Comm was very fortunate to be able to appoint Richard Brady as assistant chair in January 2019. Richard Brady has a long-standing commitment to ESCP through his work within the ESCP Education committee and ESCP Comm Comm. He has been deeply involved with the ESCP app and the ESCP web site developments for years. Furthermore, Richard is one of the most influential colorectal surgeons on social media and has in depth knowledge in strategical use of this platform. At ESCP Vienna, Peter Christensen will step down as ESCP Comm Comm chair and hand over the task to Richard, who has been heavily involved in strategic discussions with all of ESCP's comms related suppliers. Peter will continue to serve on Comm Comm.

Peter Christensen

Communications Committee Chair – September 2019

RESEARCH/COHORT STUDIES COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Committee: Charles Knowles (Chair), Thomas Pinkney (Vice Chair), Audrius Dulskas, Carolynne Vaizey, Christianne Buskens, Dion Morton, Erman Aytac, Gabriela Möslein (ex officio/Secretary), Jérémie Lefevre, Matteo Frasson (Y-ESCP Chair), Muhammad Imran Aslam (Education Representative), Nikolaos Gouvas, Oded Zmora, Pierpaolo Sileri, Quentin Denost, Søren Laurberg, Steven Brown, Willem Bemelman, Y-ESCP: António Sampaio Soares.

The ESCP research portfolio moves from strength to strength and I am honoured to have taken over its Chairmanship from Professor Dion Morton at the start of this year. I would like to start by thanking Dion for his vision, direction and hard work in getting research within the ESCP to where it is today. In my view, we are now the predominant surgical society in the world in directly funding and facilitating research with a global reach (in perhaps any specialty).

Engagement with ESCP's research activities continues to thrive thanks to the active participation of our membership and the support of colleagues from Europe and across the globe. On behalf of the Research Committee we would like to thank everyone who has participated in getting us to this point. On the committee itself, I would like to welcome the new committee members in 2019: Audrius Dulskas (Lithuania), Nikoloas Gouvas (Greece), Pierpaolo Sileri (Italy), and Erman Aytac (Turkey). At the same time, I must thank those who have demitted office for their valuable service: Soren Laurberg, Willem Bemelman and Jérémie Lefevre.

In terms of specific activity, our portfolio now encompasses several studies of increasing complexity and potential impact. These include snapshot audits, prospective cohort and randomised controlled studies:

1. **Management of Acute Severe Colitis (MASC):** An audit including our gastroenterology colleagues at each site to capture information on management of all patients admitted with acute colitis, including their medical therapy, rescue treatments, progression to subtotal colectomy and outcomes of this surgery. This started in autumn 2018 and is ongoing.
2. **Robotics:** Over the next two years, we will run 2 snapshot audits alongside planned prospective cohort studies (RESET & MIRCAST) being run in expert centres across Europe over a similar timeframe. These audits will seek amongst other things to address the important issue of selection bias.
3. **Prospective cohort study of outcomes after parastomal hernia repair (PROPHER):** with directly patient-reported outcomes from across the world on the medium and long-term outcomes after both surgical intervention and conservative treatment strategies for parastomal hernia, marrying surgeon-reported technical factors with patient-level outcome data and delivered via a novel multi-language online system.
4. **Quality improvement intervention for right hemicolectomy anastomosis (EAGLE):** this hugely exciting global study (333 hospitals, 4,500 patients) will use a novel experimental design (phased dog-leg) to introduce and measure the effect of multifaceted intervention to reduce anastomotic leak rate. The study is due to start Autumn 2019.

These studies have been made possible by the sterling work of the expanding cohort committee led by the hard work of Tom Pinkney (also now research committee Vice Chair) and Birmingham team as well as financial support from our global sponsors (Ethicon, Intuitive surgical). Further details on all of these projects will be given in Vienna and can be accessed on the website.

The committee itself has made some changes to reflect our increasing ambition including the introduction of a new 'global lead' position on the committee (conveniently taken by Dion) and also a website lead (Nikolaos Gouvas). Several positions have been supported strongly by the efforts and engagement of our young ESCP members (Matteo Frasson & Antonio Sampaio Soares).

Thank you again for your support and we all look forward to meeting and discussing the research plans with you in Vienna.

Charles Knowles / Research Committee Chair – September 2019

COLORECTAL DISEASE REPORT

Introduction: The journal is officially recognised by Index Medicus and is listed on Medline. The Journal's Impact Factor stands at 2.778 2017/18, an increase on the previous year which was highlighted in various marketing campaigns.

Revenue: Total revenues for 2018 were £311,558. The journal has not been as badly impacted as one might have predicted by the reversal of the 'boost' in last year's revenues caused by the extremely weak GBP at the time that the 2017 renewals were sent out. However, the increase in Open Access revenue by approx. £14,000 is an anomaly as it has been caused by the practice of publishing supplement articles and position statements as Open Access rather than free to read. The decision has been made that such items should be published as free to read in the first instance unless Open Access is specifically requested, and one would expect this revenue line to decrease and stabilise in future lines to some extent. That said, there is a changing Open Access landscape and so, for different reasons, we may expect to see an increase in Open Access revenues moving forward. Open Access variances aside, the journal continues to have a broadly stable income base with no other significant variances. Total costs were £163,950, slightly lower than in 2017 with closer monitoring of the editorial travel budget having contributed to this. We would expect to realise greater savings in 2019 following the move to online-only from 1 January 2019. 11 After deducting the ACPGBI member revenues and publisher's overheads, the profit to be shared was £100,294 of which ACPGBI is due 50% i.e. £50,147.

ESCP AND COLORECTAL DISEASE

There were further discussions with ESCP and BJS Society about shared ownership or investment. At present the journal is financially viable. The decision has been made for ACPGBI to continue to work in partnership with ESCP without relinquishing ownership of the Journal. The Journal will move to become online only from 2019. This will reduce production costs but may have a negative impact on advertising revenue. However, this may, in part, be mitigated by sponsored issue alerts.

Subscriptions: ESCP pays €35,000 annually for a block member subscription. Invoices for 2017 and 2018 have previously been raised and will now be settled. However, with the journal moving to online it would seem reasonable to see this reduction in costs being reflected in the amount charged to ESCP.

Editorial office: The volume of submission in 2019 was reduced compared to 2018. The number of submissions being 501 compared to 895 in 2018. The acceptance rate was similar to previous years at 27%. Most submissions had been received from China, followed in order of size by the UK and USA. Time to first decision for all article types was a median of 32 (4-101) days. Time to acceptance was a median of 89 (28-154) days. Following recent interviews, a new Editor in Chief will be appointed from September 2019.

Baljit Singh / Journal Representative – September 2019

ESCP AGM AGENDA VIENNA

Wednesday 25 September 2019: Hall M – 12:45 – 13:25 at the Austria Centre

1	President's Welcome and Report
2	Minutes of the AGM in Nice on 27 September 2018
3	Secretary's Report Membership update Honorary member update
4	Committees reports Written reports for Education Committee, European School of Coloproctology, Communications Committee, Journal, Research Committee, Guidelines Committee, Membership Committee, Regional Events Working Group
5	Election of Officers and Ordinary Members of Council Executive Officers: including new appointments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President: Willem Bemelman • President Elect: Evangelos Xynos • President in Waiting: Klaus Matzel • Past President: Per Nilsson • Assistant Secretary: Antonino Spinelli • Treasurer: Miguel Pera • Communications Chair: Richard Brady • Membership Chair: Roland Scherer • Research Chair: Charles Knowles Executive Officers: Demitting Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Past President: Ethem Gecim • Treasurer: Filippo La Torre • Communications Chair: Peter Christensen • Membership Chair: Mikael Machado • Research Chair: Dion Morton Council Officers: Regional Representatives (outgoing, incoming) National Representatives (outgoing, incoming)
6	Treasurer's Report
7	Trustee's Report a. Re-election of all Trustees b. Election of Auditors
8	Inauguration of new President
9	SPECIAL CEREMONY: ESCP & Chinese Society "Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding"
10	Close of meeting and Vilnius 2020 Promotion