



December 2014

Newsletter

European-African HepatoPancreato-Biliary Association



Dear EAHPBA members!

The Christmas Season is coming and my first need is to wish you all and your families my personal Merry Christmas and Happy 2015 together with all the Council of our Association!

Our Association's life is focused on our upcoming meeting in Manchester, next April 2015, which will be jointly held with the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland (ASGBI).

I wish to thank Ajith Siriwardena, his dedicated team, Christos Dervenis, our Scientific Programme Committee and the ASGBI's Steering and Scientific Committee for planning such a complete and interesting program. We look forward to meeting you all in Manchester and hearing in particular from the scientific contributions of our young scientists, trainees and co-workers.

A great deal of thanks goes to the IHPBA President Dr. Jagannath and the E-AHPBA President Elect Martin Smith for the work they have done to create and develop an international framework for the HPB family. As a result of their efforts, we now have developed strong Middle-Eastern and North-African components of our Associations.

General Secretary

Our 12th Bi-Annual Congress in Manchester next April is fast approaching. Keep an eye on the website for important dates.

Membership

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

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 Manchester Congress to gather ideas on how to advance and promote the development of National Chapters within the framework of the E-AHPBA. This is a very important development for us as an Association.

Looking forward to seeing you in Manchester, once again my best for the Christmas Season and the New Year!

Claudio Bassi



Bi-Annual Congress 2019

Final Call for Bids

The E-AHPBA Council would welcome bids from members for hosting our 2019 Bi-Annual Congress which is due to be held between April – June 2019.

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

Completed documentation will be required to be submitted to the Secretariat by March 31st, 2015. 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

We are coming to the end of another busy year and looking forward to the New Year with some anticipation. Considerable work has been done by the Professor Dervenis and his colleagues on the Scientific Programme Committee, working closely with Professor Siriwardena and the LOC to assemble a really stimulating programme for us to enjoy in Manchester at our Bi-Annual Congress. The scientific and social programmes can be viewed on the website (www.eahpba.net). There is no doubt that this meeting will be the major HPB surgical event of 2015. Early bird registration will close on the 27th of January, 2015 and the abstract deadline has been extended to the 26th of January, 2015. I would encourage all members to make a special effort to travel to Manchester in April, bring your colleagues and particularly your trainees.

This will be an important meeting which will help determine the future shape, direction and role of the E-AHPBA. The Council will have a strategy session before the Congress to discuss the function of the Association and its relationship with the IHPBA and the National Chapters. While it is acknowledged that much has been done in recent years to professionalize the E-AHPBA, there is a desire to make the association more relevant to its members, expand the number of practicing HPB surgeons and trainees who are members and revitalize the Council and various sub-committees to ensure a more transparent, dynamic and relevant organization for all members. It is hoped that a vibrant dialog will occur in Manchester and that proposals will be discussed at the General Assembly.

The UEMS division of HPB Surgery held a very successful examination in Guilford, UK in November. The examinations were facilitated by the Pancreas Society of Great Britain & Ireland at their Annual Meeting and we are very grateful for the consideration shown by the President of the PSGB&I, Mary Philips and her committee. Eight surgeons were successful. We are looking forward to the next UEMS examination that will be held in Manchester during the Bi-Annual Congress. Further details are available from the UEMS website or the E-AHPBA website.

We will also be deciding on the venue for our 2019 Bi-Annual Congress. Bid details are on the website. I would encourage members to consider hosting the E-AHPBA family. If anyone would like some more information please do not hesitate to give me a call or drop me an e-mail.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and peaceful holiday.

Looking forward to seeing you in 2015!

Best wishes,

Kevin Conlon





We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to the **11th International congress of the European-African Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association (E-AHPBA)**. The Congress will be held in **Manchester** at the **Manchester Central** Congress venue. We are co-locating our congress with the annual meeting of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland to form **Manchester Surgical week**. In recognition of our shared professional drive, the theme of this year's conference is "**Patient-centred care**". The co-location of our two conferences offers an extra-ordinary range of talks and symposia in one of Europe's largest surgical meetings.

Manchester in the twenty-first century is a thriving, dynamic, multicultural metropolis typical of modern-day Britain. Manchester University is one of the UK's largest higher education institutions and boasts the recent Nobel Prize winner in Physics (Andre Geim – for his discovery of graphene). Inner city Manchester is modern, safe with excellent shopping and leisure facilities with most hotels being only a short walk from the congress venue. Manchester in the springtime has typically mild weather and though often rainy has a beautiful temperate climate.

The **E-AHPBA congress** starts on Tuesday the 1st April 2015 with an all-day postgraduate course featuring lectures on core HPB topics, videos demonstrating standard HPB operative techniques and summaries of current research areas in liver and pancreas surgery.

The main conference runs for three days from **Wednesday the 22nd April 2015 to Friday the 24th April 2015**. There will be state of the art talks on important aspects of liver and pancreas surgery, shared symposia with ASGBI on topics of broader interest such as the management of acute pancreatitis and biliary complications after laparoscopic cholecystectomy. A feature of the 2015 congress is a series of debates on key topics such as vascular resection during pancreatic surgery and whether laparoscopic cholecystectomy should remain a General Surgical procedure or be undertaken only by HPB surgeons.

We will have the first update in Europe from the recent **2nd laparoscopic liver surgery consensus conference**. There will be free paper sessions for clinicians and researchers to share their work together with e-poster sessions. The popular master video sessions will once again feature prominently.

Novel features of the congress include a shared session with our colleagues from the **Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract (SSAT)** in the United States. This session on the 24th April 2015 features important talks from key speakers on clinical problems in HPB disease common to both sides of the Atlantic. Finally, we close the meeting with a true highlight: Professor Dr Marcus Buechler from Heidelberg will speak on his plans to address one of the greatest oncological challenges of the early twenty-first century, namely that of finding effective treatments for pancreatic cancer.

We truly hope you can join us for what promises to be a memorable and highly successful meeting.

Early bird registration closes on the 27th January 2015

Abstract submission extended to 26th January 2015

Membership News

E-AHPBA is a young and vibrant Association. Our membership has continued to grow and we now have 360 members. Council has recently approved several new initiatives to increase our membership, which is the backbone of E-AHPBA. We have now moved forward with two new categories of membership: Allied Health Professionals with a subscription cost of € 25 or € 65 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.

In addition, we are working towards incorporating National Chapters more formally into E-AHPBA and we will be using the Manchester 2015 Congress to promote this. Unfortunately, not all our members are fully paid up and this is a concern, so please support E-AHPBA by ensuring your subscription is up to date. Also, we have 297 IHPBA members in our region who have not yet joined E-AHPBA so we are working hard to incorporate these members as E-AHPBA would then number more than 650. This is an important step as this will ensure that we have a sound financial footing for the future. Please remind your colleagues that to be eligible for reduced registration fees for Manchester 2015 they need to be E-AHPBA or E-AHPBA-IHPBA combine members as membership of IHPBA alone (which costs about the same) does not carry this benefit.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish E-AHPBA members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Professor Peter Lodge

Chair, Membership
Committee

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 Examination

Manchester, UK April 24th, 2015

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

Scientific Committee News

The E-AHPBA council has decided to redefine the Scientific committee and Research committee of the E-AHPBA under the leadership of Professor Thomas van Gulik. The Scientific Committee previously was in charge of the program of the forthcoming E-AHPBA congress, whereas the Research Committee was proposed to facilitate research activities within the E-AHPBA membership. While the Program committee will now take care of the program of the forthcoming E-AHPBA congresses, both the Scientific and Research committees have merged into a new Scientific committee.

The goal of the new Scientific committee is:

- to promote collaboration between research groups in the E-AHPBA
- to provide a forum through which members of the E-AHPBA are informed of various research activities within the HPB community.

We are pleased to introduce to you the members of this new Scientific Committee: Thomas van Gulik (chair), Jorg Kleeff, Raj Prasad, Marc Besselink and Roberto Salvia. We have a corner in the E-AHPBA website with news and information concerning research projects, ongoing trials, meetings and surveys (see Scientific Committee and Projects). Members are encouraged to announce their clinical trials with links to specific trial sites and study descriptions. On the agenda so far are, an international expert meeting on ALPPS on February 27/28 2015, in Hamburg (www.ALPPS.co); a survey on management of CBD stones (Sergeant, Lesurtel) and an invitation to join the Pacyfic study dealing with pancreatic cysts (www.pacyfic.net).

The new Scientific Committee will be launched with a symposium during the E-AHPBA meeting in Manchester in February next year.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any enquires regarding our Association or if you would like anything to be added to future newsletters.

Best wishes,



Kevin Conlon, General Secretary, E-AHPBA

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