



Dear Colleagues;

Welcome to the third edition of ESCVS newsletter in 2013.

From 24th to 27th April 2014 in Nice (France) the 63 ESCVS International Congress will take place.

Here the welcome address from the organizers:

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends and Guests, It is a great honour to host the 63rd International Congress of the European Society for Cardiovascular and Endovascular Surgery (ESCVS)

in France, the birthplace of vascular surgery.

ESCVS is the oldest European Society devoted to cardiac and vascular surgery, with origins dating back to 1950. Our congress centers on cardiovascular surgical practice and is at the frontier of cardiac and severe vascular disease.

Endovascular procedures are becoming more and more popular and the ESCVS Congress is the only meeting that provides training for participants in both cardiac and endovascular medicine.

The members of our scientific program committee are internationally renowned leaders in the field and each brings a different perspective, as seen in our speaker faculty and the variety of topics addressed at the meeting. This diversity is also a meaningful reflection of treatment procedures of cardiovascular patients, not only across Europe, but also from around the world, particularly in emerging countries.

Our next edition takes place in Nice, 24-27 April 2014. At the crossroads between France and Italy, Nice features spectacular natural surroundings and a mild Mediterranean climate. It is very easy to get to, with the second busiest airport in France and direct flights to 90 destinations in more than 40 countries. We invite you to read through our congress themes and mark your agendas now for ESCVS 2014.

See you in Nice next April!

On Behalf of

Prof. Domenico Palombo,
President, ESCVS

Prof. Thierry Folliguet,
Organizer

Prof. Marc Laskar,
Organizer

ESCVS Summer School



From 26-28 July 2013 has been held in Izmir, Turkey the first edition of ESCVS summer school.

Driven by the enthusiasm of the first successful winter experience, of Curmayeur, another great event has been repeated under the supervision and the scientific organization of Professor Oztekin Oto (Turkey). 11 privileged "students" coming from all over the world (India, Russia, USA, Malaysia, Greece, Poland, Italy...) were selected from the many CV arrived at the scientific committee. They were hosted at the Bolcova Thermal Resort of Izmir and had the opportunity to be guided in the preparation of a scientific paper under the tutoring of internationally renowned scientists.

Among the tutors, professor Marcus Turina (Switzerland) explained the criteria on which abstracts are accepted for international congresses and pointed on the importance to insert numbers and percentage to justify the results.

Professor Alfred Hager (DE), a big friend of ESCVS and already a very active tutor in the winter edition, gave the guideline on how to plan a scientific paper and many of his own "practical but effective" advices such as: "Start when you are full of energy and motivation - Put your ideas in English also if not complete sentences - Write quickly and dirty- Last but not least: go to bed and read it again tomorrow and show the paper to a colleague". Professors Stephan Shueler (UK) and Marcus Flather (UK) pointed on how to review a manuscript underlining that the reviewing process could take many successive reviews, and suggesting to be always very precise and meticulous in every part of the manuscript including table, figures and legends, not being shine on contacting a statistician for an appropriate data evaluation, always courteous to the authors and never late. After the first part of the course in which the tutors held their lectures the students were divided into separate groups of work and had the opportunity to put into practice what they have learned.

The goal was to practice in writing scientific papers and in the last day each group exhibited to the audience the manuscript prepared, with the opportunity to discuss it both with the other students and with the tutors.

The purpose of teaching, given the scientific relevance of the speakers and the quality of the students' works has certainly been achieved but the other important goal that was realized was the strong aggregation of promising young surgeons, coming from different parts of the world, that shared this learning experience speaking the same language: the scientific language of medicine. ESCVS has proven once again to be faithful in one of its most important mission: the education and growth of young doctors. Thanks to these bi-annual events an international network of new young members is growing very actively, promoting the exchange of professional, clinical and scientific experiences under the patronage of the oldest European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery.

Mirko Menegolo, MD, PhD.

ESCVS Summer School, Izmir (TK) July 2013



Welcome addresses by professor Oto and Mustafa Toprak, Governor of Izmir, (above on the left) to the whole group (above, on the right)



During the course small groups of student wrote a scientific paper based on an unknown database. In a friendly atmosphere there was a productive exchange of teaching and learning between tutors and students.





NEWS from PRESS

First Patient Enrolled in Gore® SCAFFOLD Clinical Study for Carotid Stenting

From GORE press releases.

W. L. Gore & Associates (Gore) today announced it has enrolled the first patient in its GORE® Carotid Stent Clinical Study for the treatment of carotid Artery stenosis in patients at increased risk For adverse events From Carotid endArterectomy (SCAFFOLD). The patient was successfully treated by Claudio Schönholz, MD, and his team at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

“The first procedure using the GORE® Carotid Stent was successful and the patient is doing well, having left the hospital the next day. Studies like this will further our understanding of optimal patient outcomes in carotid artery stenosis,” Dr. Schönholz said. “The new Gore device is designed to be flexible, offer plaque retention and stabilization benefits, and along with bound heparin may provide advantages for improved patient outcomes.”

The Gore® SCAFFOLD Clinical Study is a multicenter, single-arm, prospective study comparing the GORE® Carotid Stent to a performance goal developed from carotid endarterectomy (CEA) outcomes. The investigational study will include up to 50 sites in the US and will enroll approximately 312 patients. Co-principal investigators are Peter Schneider, MD, Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, Honolulu; and William Gray, MD, Columbia University Medical Center.

“In times of uncertainty regarding optimal treatment for patients with high surgical risks, it is important to evaluate unique treatment options,” said Dr. Schneider.

Leveraging more than 35 years of clinical experience with expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE), the GORE® Carotid Stent is a next-generation device designed to integrate innovative material to trap arterial plaque against the vessel wall, while yielding maximized flexibility of the stent in order to conform to the often tortuous anatomy of carotid vasculature.

The new Gore device combines the flexible properties of a traditional open-cell, nitinol stent design with a 500 micron pore size ePTFE lattice which offers the plaque retention and stabilization benefits traditionally seen in a closed cell stent design. Additionally, the permanently bound heparin may offer a local advantage seen with other Gore devices that utilize bound heparin.

CIRSE 2013: no benefit for primary bare metal stenting over angioplasty below the knee in EXPAND trial.

Ralf Langhoff, Vascular Center Berlin, Ev. Hospital Konigin, Elisabeth Herzberge, Berlin, Germany presented the results showing no statistically improvement in outcome for stenting (Astron Pulsar and Astron 18 from Biotronik) compared to angioplasty alone.

The EXPAND trial is the first randomised controlled trial to show direct comparison of self-expanding stents vs. angioplasty in treating infrapopliteal lesions in patients with symptomatic critical limb ischaemia or severe intermittent claudication.

The investigators randomised 92 patients (71% men, mean age 73 ± 9 years (51–89) between June 2009 and December 2011 at 11 sites.

Forty seven of these were allocated to receive primary stenting and 45 to receive angioplasty all in Rutherford 3- 4 and 5, At twelve-months there was greater improvement in Rutherford stage classification (74.3% vs. 68.6%), greater freedom from target lesion revascularisation (75.6% vs. 78.6%), and reduced index limb amputation rates (9.8% vs. 14.3%) observed in the stent group vs. the angioplasty group but none of these differences achieved statistical significance.

Three-year data from SYMPPLICITY HTN-1 show significant and sustained blood pressure drop after renal denervation

From Vascular News

Final clinical outcomes from the first renal denervation clinical study with the Medtronic renal denervation system Symplicity accepted for publication in The Lancet.

88 treatment - resistant hypertensive patients were evaluated for 36-month after treatment with the Symplicity renal denervation system.

These 88 patients demonstrated sustained reductions in blood pressure year-over-year with an average reduction of $-32/-14$ mmHg [$p < 0.01$].

SYMPPLICITY HTN-1 is a series of pilot studies at 19 centres in Australia, Europe and the United States. The open-label studies enrolled 153 patients with treatment-resistant hypertension, defined as having a systolic blood pressure ≥ 160 mmHg while taking 3 antihypertensive drugs at optimal dosages, including a diuretic.

Patients treated with renal denervation experienced consistent reductions in blood pressure regardless of advanced age, the presence of diabetes or impaired baseline renal function. Safety follow-up between 24 and 36 months demonstrated continued stable renal function.

Two orthostatic hypotension events in one subject resolved with medication changes, and one renal artery stenosis at 24 months, was possibly related to the renal denervation procedure. Adverse events due to co-morbid diseases such as infection and non-renal surgical complications were also reported.

ESCVS



NEWS

2013 Congresses and Meetings

- XXIII MLAVS (3-5 October 2013)
 - XII SICVE Italian National Congress (6-8 October 2013)
 - VIVA—Vascular Interventional Advances (8–11 Oct 2013)
 - 2013 Endovascularology (10-13 October 2013)
 - Surgery of the Thoracic Aorta (11-12 November 2013)
 - VEITH symposium (19-23 November 2013)
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