ESGENA
MEMBERSHIP PAGES

September 2008

E.S.G.E.N.A.
European Society of Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Nurses and Associates
ESGENA Activities

Ulrike Beilenhoff and Sylvia Lahey

ESGENA Board Meetings

The ESGENA Governing Board met on 12–13 January 2008 in Vienna. Preparatory work for the ESGENA conference in Vienna 2008 was carried out. Gerlinde Weilguny, Herta Pomper and Editha Pölzlbauer from the Austrian society (IVEPA) attended the meeting. ESGENA activities for 2008 were coordinated. The next board meeting will be held during the ESGENA conference in Vienna in October 2008.

Representing ESGENA

Jadranka Brljak was invited by the Italian Nurses Association (Associazione Nazionale Operatori Tecniche Endoscopiche, ANOTE) to attend the 14th National Conference on Digestive Diseases (XIV Congresso Nazionale delle Mallattie Digestive) in Rimini on 8–10 March 2008. She attended the Italian conference as the official representative of ESGENA, chaired sessions there and gave a presentation about ESGENA and its activities.

Preparation of the GI Nurses 2009

ESGENA/SIGNEA Meeting in London

In conjunction with the Gastro 2009 conference, ESGENA and the Society of International Gastroenterological Nurses and Endoscopy Associates (SIGNEA) will be organizing a joint meeting, hosted by the Endoscopy Associates Group of the British Society of Gastroenterology (BSG-EAG). It will be a combined European and international meeting. In principle, the conference will have the same format as the ESGENA’s European conferences, including workshops, state-of-the-art lectures, and free paper and poster sessions. The deadline for submitting abstracts will be 31 May 2008.

On 11 March 2008, representatives of the BSG-EAG, SIGNEA and ESGENA met during the British Conference of Gastroenterology in Birmingham. The representatives were:

- For ESGENA: Christiane Neumann and Michael Ortmann
- For the BSG-EAG: Pauline Hutson and Irene Dunkley
- For SIGNEA: Norah Connelly and Gail de Costa

Official collaboration work was prepared, responsibilities were clarified, and the structure of the three conference days was agreed on.

Reprocessing

In 2007/2008, the current ESGE–ESGENA Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfection in GI Endoscopy – Updated 1999 and the ESGE–ESGENA Technical Note on Cleaning and Disinfection (2003) were reviewed and combined to form one updated comprehensive guideline covering all issues involved in reprocessing endoscopic equipment. Ulrike Beilenhoff was responsible for coordinating the project. A small working group met on:

- 23 February 2007 in Stuttgart
- 20 August 2007 in Düsseldorf
- 18 December 2007 in Hamburg
- 14 February 2007 in Hamburg
- 25 March 2008 in Hamburg

The final draft has been approved by the ESGE–ESGENA Guideline Committee and the governing boards of ESGE and ESGENA, and the new guideline will be published in Endoscopy at the end of the year.

Capsule endoscopy

In February 2008, the guideline committee decided to develop a core curriculum for capsule endoscopy reading. Christiane Neumann is coordinating a small working group of doctors, nurses, and representatives who will develop a first draft of the core curriculum by the time of the European conference. The group met first on 2 June 2008 in Hamburg.

The numbers of capsule endoscopies being carried out are increasing, as are the numbers of training courses available. There are no guidelines available on what needs to be included in the training, or even stating that formal training is required. This is why this project was initiated. The curriculum will be based on competencies rather than on different professions or target groups. This will enable each country to establish courses for doctors and/or nurses depending on the national regulations.

Staffing in endoscopy

It has been brought to our attention that at a time of financial crisis in the health services of many European countries, endoscopy departments have often been deprived of adequate staff, both with regard to numbers and training. The ESGE–ESGENA Guideline Committee has therefore decided to address this issue with a statement on 'Staffing in Endoscopy' that can be used by national societies and individual endoscopy teams:

- In professional discussions
- In negotiations with hospital management, health-care providers, and national health services
- In discussions at the political level
The statement provides guidance on:

- Identifying deficiencies in staffing levels in a department
- Identifying possible areas for improvement in patient care, assistance and hygiene/infection control in endoscopy through appropriate staffing levels
- Improving the education and training of endoscopy staff

The statement has been approved by the ESGENA Governing Board and the ESGENA Education Working Group (EEWG). At the moment, approval by the ESGE is in progress. It is planned that the statement will be published in Endoscopy.

**Electrosurgical units.** The ESGE–ESGENA Guideline Committee is to develop a guideline on electrosurgical units in endoscopy, covering the following issues:

- How to use electrosurgical units in endoscopy
- Security aspects that have to be taken into account with regard to application and energy
- Protection measures that need to be followed to protect patients and staff

**ESGE–ESGENA Workshops on Advanced Endoscopy in 2008**

ESGENA delegates took part in the ESGE–ESGENA Workshop on Advanced Endoscopy in Izmir (Turkey) on 3–4 May 2008. The delegates were:

- Sylvia Lahey (Netherlands; ESGENA coordinator)
- Herta Pomper (Austria)
- Marjon de Pater (Netherlands)

A report about the workshop is included in ESGENA News No. 21 (September 2008).

The next ESGE–ESGENA Workshop on Advanced Endoscopy will be held in Sofia (Bulgaria) on 21–23 November 2008. The ESGENA delegates will be:

- Michael Ortmann (Switzerland)
- Jayne Tillett (UK)
- Wendy Wagenes (Denmark)
- Anne Elsborg (Denmark)

Further information about this workshop is available on the ESGENA web site (www.esgena.org) and the ESGE web site (www.esge.com).

**ESGENA Workshops**

Michael Ortmann has initiated a new project involving 1–3-day workshops in ESGENA membership countries. These workshops combine hands-on training on dummies with lectures focused on the same subject. The first workshop was held on 27–29 May 2008 in Reykjavik, with 30 Icelandic nurses attending. The ESGENA experts were Michael Ortmann and Björn Fehrke from Basle, Switzerland. They were supported by a number of Icelandic nurse tutors.

Further information about the structure of these workshops and a report about the first workshop in Iceland is available in ESGENA News no. 21 and on the ESGENA web site (www.esgena.org).

**ESGENA Education Working Group (EEWG)**

The ESGENA Education Working Group (EEWG) met on 30 May–1 June 2008 in Hamburg, Germany. The following national delegates attended:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Delegate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Willy de Vriese, Bruges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Jadranka Brijak, Zagreb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Dana Kuchynskova, Prague</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Eeva-Riitta Ylinen, Kuopio</td>
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<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Jean Marc Dugast, Paris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Ulrike Beilenhoff, Ulm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Melinda Kiss, Paulovicsera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Patricia Burga, Padua</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Lilishor Poporana, Amman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Lorenz Rudkin, Luxembourg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Marjon de Pater, Amsterdam</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Anita Joergensen, Skien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Rafael Luis dos Santos Oliveira, Lisbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Stanka Popovic, Ljubljana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Pilar Perez-Rojo, Pamplona</td>
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<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Michael Ortmann, Basle</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Irene Dunkley, Huntingdon</td>
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<td>Invited education specialists:</td>
<td>Diane Campbell, Torquay, UK</td>
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<td>Christiane Neumann, Birmingham</td>
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The next EEWG meeting will be held during the ESGENA conference in Vienna on 20 October 2008.

The Core Curriculum group had two meetings in 2008:

- 10 March in Birmingham
- 26 July in Birmingham

The Core Curriculum group has been entrusted with preparing the EEWG meetings. The current project being carried out by the EEWG is the development of a handbook on how to organize workshops. The handbook will provide general statements on how to organize, prepare, and conduct workshops. Special sections will be included for different types of workshop, such as:

- Equipment skills workshops
- Hands-on workshops on biomedical simulators
- Workshops with live demonstrations

— as each type of workshop requires specific preparation, organization and performance. The target group for this handbook are individual nurses, departments, teams, and endoscopy nursing societies that organize workshops and courses for endoscopy nurses. Publication of the handbook is planned for autumn 2009.
ESGENA Web Site (www.esgena.org)

The general part of the ESGENA web site offers information available to everyone. Information for members only is available in the restricted membership area. The current password for the restricted area is: Europe. This password should not be announced in national journals, but only in membership communications. As a special service for members, the following information is published in the restricted membership area:

- All issues of ESGENA News and ESGENA Membership Pages as PDF files.
- Current information about ESGENA activities, such as the minutes of the Annual General Assembly and information about the next Board election.
- In addition, all of the electronic newsletters will also be available on the ESGENA web site as PDF files.

Publications and Deadlines

ESGENA members are invited to report about their national activities on the ESGENA website, in the ESGENA NEWS and in the ESGENA electronic Newsletter. Please find the different publication dates and deadlines for submitting announcements, articles and reports in the enclosed table:

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Publication date</th>
<th>Deadline for submitting articles, reports and announcements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESGENA e-News no. 4</td>
<td>October 2008</td>
<td>September 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESGENA News no. 23</td>
<td>February 2009</td>
<td>December 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESGENA Membership Pages no. 11</td>
<td>February 2009</td>
<td>December 2008</td>
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Please send the information to the ESGENA secretariat:

- Molly Donohue, Medconnect, Bruensteinstr. 10, 81541 Munich, Germany. Tel. 0049-89-4141 9241, fax 0049-89-4141 9245, e-mail: molly.donohue@medc.de

ESGENA Education Grants

ESGENA European education grants are being offered to fully trained European nurses who wish to undertake further clinical training in specialized endoscopic or gastroenterological nursing at an officially recognized ESGENA host centre. Hands-on training may not be possible in many countries due to legal restrictions. Only members of ESGENA (with either individual membership or group membership through their national group) are eligible to receive ESGENA grants. Each grant covers a maximum training period of 4 weeks.

Successful applicants will be asked to report back concerning the quality of their training period. It should be noted that a high degree of proficiency in the language of the preferred host country is essential and that the candidate should be able to provide a report written in English following the visit. Experience has shown that most nurses are able to travel with a standard holiday visa, which should be arranged by the applicant before departure. The selection of candidates for the grants will be made by the ESGENA Board.

Applications for 2009 should be sent to Ulrike Beilenhoff (UK-Beilenhoff@t-online.de).

ESGENA will cover travel and accommodation expenses up to a certain amount. Detailed guidelines, application forms and a contract for the scholarship holder are available on the ESGENA web site (www.esgena.org).

Invitation to the Next ESGENA Annual General Assembly

The ESGENA Governing Board invites members to attend the next annual General Assembly, which will be held on:

- Date: Sunday 19 October 2008
- Time: 17.15–18.15
- Venue: 12th ESGENA Meeting, Austria Center Vienna, Bruno-Kreisky-Platz 1, 1220 Vienna, Austria; Hall G on level U2

The agenda for the ESGENA General Assembly includes the following items:

- Welcome and introduction
- Board election
- General report of the Governing Board
- Financial report
- Editor’s report
- ESGENA web site
- ESGENA membership update
- ESGENA activities
- Update about forthcoming conferences
- Any other business

Information about the forthcoming ESGENA Board election and the candidates is available in the restricted membership area on the ESGENA web site. The ESGENA Board would very much appreciate it if all members attending the Vienna conference would also attend the General Assembly.

Ulrike Beilenhoff (ESGENA President)
Sylvia Lahey (General Secretary)