

Report of the activities of the ESPN DIALYSIS WG in 2016

(as at December 14, 2016)

Meeting of the Group: Athens, 24th of June 2016, 5.30-7.00 pm.

Educational activities: Dialysis Master Class, Athens 24th of June 2016. The program is posted in the ESPN website.

A Dialysis Master Class has been recently outlined and proposed by R. Shroff for the ESPN Dialysis WG to the Scientific Committee of the 50th Anniversary Congress of the ESPN to be held in Glasgow in 2017.

A course on Basics of pediatric dialysis treatment has been approved and is to be held in Helsinki with T. Hollta as organising person in June 2017.

Research activities: 1. With the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry:

- Topic accepted by the Registry: Time of initiation of dialysis and outcome in children in Europe (S. Bakkaloglu, C.Stefanidis): the first data were presented by dr E. Preka on behalf of the the Registry during the Athens Group meeting.
- Topics discussed with the Registry representative (M.Bonthuis) in Brussels, Sept 2015:
 - European survey on standards of pediatric dialysis care: (A.Edefonti, M.Bonthuis): the importance of such data for research and political purposes is recognized and the hypothesis of a common European form to be distributed to national registries will be considered.
 - European survey on vascular access: the Registry is already working on this (trainee from Vienna). Dr C. Aufricht reported in Athens that data from 19 European countries differ from that of U.S.

2. Other research activities:

- European survey on vaccination policies in pediatric dialysis units (S. Bakkaloglu): Data from 17 countries from the EPDWG and ESPN Dialysis WG centers were presented in the Athens group meeting. Two posters were accepted for presentation in the IPNA congress in Iguacu.
- Preliminary questionnaire on extra-corporeal modalities of desensitization of hyperimmunised children waiting for renal transplantation (F. Paglialonga, C. Schmitt): forms submitted to the ESPN DWG and EPDWG centers, waiting for all centers completing the answers.

- European survey on dialysis treatment modalities of children with Congenital Nephrotic Syndrome (R.Shroff, T.Holtta): the ESPN Dialysis WG and EPDWG centers collaborated in data collection. One oral and one poster presentations at IPNA with award for best abstract presentation for junior doctors (Dr S. Dufek)
- European survey on hospitalization in pediatric dialysis units (S. Bakkaloglu): waiting for the modified version of the protocol after the group discussion in Brussels.
- 3H Study: 28 centers in 10 European countries contributed to data collection and the number of patients needed for the study has been reached; patients are in the first year of follow-up.
- An European survey on the choice of dialysis in severely mentally disabled children was conducted by the Leuven group in 2015, with the collaboration of ESPN Dialysis WG members, and the results were presented at the ESPN congress in Brussels. The article with the main results of the study has been very recently sent for publication.
- A study of “Assessing calcium balance in children with CKD to optimize treatment strategies”, proposed by R. Shroff, has been sponsored by an ESPN grant and is going on in five European units.

Guidelines

- Two Guidelines, one on native, one on active Vitamin D use in CKD and dialysis (in collaboration with the ESPN CKD-MBD group) were completed (R. Shroff and C. Schmitt with the collaboration of a writing committee) and circulated among the ESPN Dialysis WG members and a group of experts. Final approval obtained. The two manuscripts have been submitted for publication to NDT.
- The first draft of a Guideline on rhGH treatment in CKD and dialysis was recently discussed in Heidelberg, with members of the ESPN CKD-MBD and Dialysis WGs participating. The proposal was then extended to the members of the ESPN Transplantation group.
- The update of the EPDWG guidelines/recommendations posted in the ESPN website is seen as one of the aims of the group and will be done with the aid of an expert trained in the Cochrane Library and with the collaboration of the European Best Practice Guidelines Group. Due to the present engagement with the CKD-MBD Group in preparing the Vitamin D guidelines, the first guideline will be chosen and revised in 2017.
- Other guidelines:
 - Clinical practice guidelines on vascular access for hemodialysis. An outline of the guideline has been developed (C. Stefanidis and R Shroff) and a guideline working group appointed.

Synergies

1. Synergy between the ESPN Dialysis WG and the European Pediatric Dialysis Working Group (EPDWG): three collaborative studies are in progress: the survey on vaccination policies, that on dialysis treatment of Congenital Nephrotic Syndrome and that on extra-corporeal modalities of desensitization of hyperimmunised children waiting for renal transplantation.
2. Collaboration between the ESPN Dialysis WG and the ESPN/ERA-EDTA Registry: one topic is being developed among those proposed so far to the Registry: "Time to initiation of dialysis and outcome". C. Stefanidis (in the Board of the Scientific Committee of the Registry and of the ESPN Dialysis WG) and E. Verrina (in the Board of the ESPN Dialysis WG) received the mandate to interact with M. Bonthuis for the future projects.
3. Synergy between the ESPN Dialysis WG and the ESPN CKD-MBD WG has produced two guidelines on Vitamin D treatment, that with the ESPN Transplantation WG was started in November 2016, beginning with rhGH treatment in CKD, due to the many common data regarding the same ESRD patients.

Financial Report

The two years budget of 2000 Euros has been spent to cover the expenses of a UK survey-monkey on CNS treatment (302 Euros), of the planning meeting of Vit D guidelines in Heidelberg, with the representatives of the ESPN Dialysis WG and CKD-MBD WG (500 Euros), and of the Dialysis Master Class and the following ESPN Dialysis WG Meeting in Athens (1200 Euros). Part of the budget of 1000 Euros for 2017 has been anticipated by the ESPN Treasurer to pay the expenses of the first meeting on rhGH treatment Guidelines in November 2016.

ESPN Regulations

Replacement of one member of the Board of the Dialysis WG will take place between the end of 2016 and the beginning of 2017 and will be done by voting, according to the ESPN Council instructions.