

ENTOG newsletter 11
June 2007

Dear ENTOG friends,

How are you all doing? A few months have passed without any news from ENTOG. What can I tell from the ENTOG point of view?

Quite a few things actually. I'll try and run through them one by one.

Austria

First of all, the registration for our upcoming exchange and meeting in Vienna will start shortly! The Austrian team is very active to try and make it an even greater success than last year (if possible). The arrangements for a good exchange program are being made and also the program for the meeting looks very promising. We hope for a very active audience as we think this year's topic is in the core of our training! We've therefore included a debate as you can see in the attached program.

Last year people suggested in the evaluations that a social program would be very interesting. We think our Austrian colleagues have found a very interesting program! There will be a medical tour through Vienna, a guided tour with special interest for all the historical figures that have walked the Viennese streets (just think Wertheim, Freud).

Please look at our website to get more information and find the link to the Austrian trainees: <http://www.jungegyn.at> (all information also accessible from our site)

Portugal

As you all know, in 2008 we will have our exchange and meeting together with the European congress. It will be just over 3 months after the Vienna meeting so make sure to jot down the dates in your agenda!

The preliminary program for the entire congress will be released shortly. Our ENTOG session on the Wednesday morning has a broad topic to cover, working conditions across Europe. We try to make it a very balanced session which will be interesting for non trainees as much as for ourselves.

Also, in continuation of the Torino congress, we will have an ENTOG poster prize again, for the best poster with a trainee as a first author!

We hope you all will join the entire congress, which has special fees for trainees. The program looks very exciting with hands on sessions and interesting sessions and lunch symposia. Look also on our website, or directly at

<http://www.mundiconvenius.pt/2008/ebcog>

Training problems

Recently we became aware of the fact that in Germany, in some parts, there is little training in endocrinology/ reproductive medicine. Together with the EBCOG we try to address this as we feel this is not in harmony with the EBCOG standards of training, not with what we regard as an ideal training program. We will therefore send a letter to the German government together to express our concerns both at a national German and of course at a European level. We'll keep you posted regarding the outcome.

We hope that, in this way, we will be able to support more member-countries in future.

Endoscopy ‘platforms’

ESGE, the European Society Gynaecological Endoscopy, is trying to make a model for endoscopic skills evaluation at three different levels to harmonise this at an European level. It was concluded within the standing committee of training and assessment (SCTA) within EBCOG that the basic and intermediate levels of skills training should become part of the specialist training programme and that level three should be dealt with by the representatives of each subspecialty. For the second level ENTOG was asked to give support in order to establish the contents of this level. We’re very happy that David Rodriguez, current ENTOG executive member, and Pietro Gambadauro, who joined the executive only a few years ago and is a young consultant right now will be in this committee. We feel that it is very important that trainees are involved in these processes in which the aims of training are being defined. We’re very happy with these two excellent representatives. If other people are very interested in this topic, please do contact us.

Website

Regarding our website things are moving, slowly but steadily. As you all know we hope to join the EBCOG website with our own ENTOG section. On the EBCOG website there is already room for us but the page still poorly filled. Our own website has been updated and you can find information regarding the upcoming two meetings and the European congress. When we move everything into the EBCOG site we hope to include the forum and the database with information about the training in the various countries.

Quite a few countries have sent back the information we requested a few months ago. We appreciate the effort as we realise it’s a lot of work to do this well. We hope the other members have it on top of their pile and will go ahead with it when they find the time! We look forward to your answers and make them visible for all!

Hospital visitations

ENTOG has been invited to join EBCOG on visitations for the basic training on three different occasions this year. We joined EBCOG to Prague, Dusseldorf and Budapest. On all these occasions it was felt that the presence of trainees was useful and even more an ENTOG members presence, as we were able to draw comparisons with other countries and being able to put things in another perspective. Our voice is being heard in the discussion afterwards with regards to the preliminary (oral) report and we have input in the final (written) report too. This is a great achievement and we are very much supported by EBCOG in this opinion. We hope that our contribution to the visitations will only grow with the number of visitations we join. And of course for ourselves, as ENTOG, it is incredibly useful to have these opportunities for this really broadens our scope even more considering the training conditions in the various member countries. We therefore look forward to tell you about more occasions in a next newsletter.

On behalf of ENTOG

Erica Werner, ENTOG president

Ferenc Macsali, treasurer

Ilinca Gussi, secretary general

David Rodriguez, member

Panagiotis Christopoulos, member