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May 2004

EDITORIAL

Tenerife proved to be a great congress but after some of the feedback I feel moved to apologise on behalf of the British nation. The resort itself was a like a cross between Blackpool and Las Vegas (for those who know them). The contrast with the rest of the island was striking. I wonder what life was like before the hordes of pale Brits descended and transformed it forever. Add to this the lack of local Spanish or Canarys' cuisine and the ubiquitous British food, the 'British' pubs, Union Jack shorts, sunburnt beer bellies, witless, foul-mouthed 'comedians' and loutish behaviour, and it's not surprising that many delegates were left with a jaundiced view. I suddenly realised, with some shock and horror, that many (if not most) British people do not want to go abroad and sample the delights of another culture at all; they just want some sun and if that comes with familiar scenery, so much the better. So, sorry, sorry, sorry!

WCVD5

5th World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology; 25th-28th August 2004, Vienna, Austria

The world's biggest event in Veterinary Dermatology is almost here.

The following companies are sponsors of the Fifth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology:

Principal Sponsors: Virbac, Royal Canin, Bayer, Novartis

Major Sponsors: Vetoquinol, Hill's, Merial, Schering-Plough, Janssen Animal Health,

ICF Prodotti Veterinari and Intervet

Supporting Sponsors: DVM, Heska and Iams

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The congress will be held in the magnificent splendour of Vienna's Hofburg Conference Centre (if you don't believe me have a look at the photos on the website - www.vetdermvienna.com).

The congress will have five main scientific themes:

Immunology with a focus on atopic dermatitis;

Therapy: immunomodulatory drugs

Infectious and parasitic diseases, especially mycobacteria

Skin biology and wound healing;

Nutrition: antioxidants and free radicals.

Workshops:

Leishmania

Malassezia

Equine allergic dermatoses

Parasitic dermatoses

Genodermatoses and genetic causes of alopecia

Cutaneous neoplasia and paraneoplastic syndromes

Therapy for fungal diseases

Adverse food reactions,

New forms of therapy for atopic dermatitis

Therapy for recurrent pyoderma

Topical therapy

Hypothyroidism

Dermatopathological diagnosis

Otitis: *Pseudomonas*

Rodents and rabbits

There will also be a continuing education programme on two levels; an advanced level for veterinarians with special interest in dermatology and comprehensive level for general practitioners. Topics will include diagnosis and therapy of dermatological conditions as well as special wound healing and dermatopathology sessions.

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A full day dermato-histopathology pre-congress day will be organised by the International Society of Veterinary Dermatopathology with clinicopathological presentations and an interactive session involving leading clinicians and pathologists (see notice in this bulletin).

There will be a special Japanese programme with full translation, a full programme for veterinary nurses, a special programme for equine veterinarians as well as wetlabs, free communication and poster sessions. These attracted a large number of very high quality submissions. This emphasises how active veterinary dermatologists are and will supplement the scientific and CE sessions with cutting edge findings.

Last but not least there is an extensive and very special social programme and traditional Viennese hospitality; bring yourself up-to-date and take time to relax and enjoy one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.

The rumour that the Marriott hotel will be closed during the congress is not true. Part of the Marriott, where some of the Pre-congress Meetings were to take place, will be closed for renovation. The Hotel is otherwise open and will be working normally. Part of the Pre-congress Day (August 25th) will now take place at the SAS Radisson Hotel, which is adjacent to the Marriott. Full details will be on the website and in the Final Programme.

The registration fee for nurses for WCVD5 has been changed to the following:

Early registration: €150

Late registration: €200

This includes entrance to the nurses programme on the 28th August 2004, coffee, lunch and public transport tickets. The nurses parasitology wetlab on the 27th August can be booked in addition for €75. All social events can be booked separately; to go to all the events please register as an accompanying person; for single events contact Austropa Interconvention for individual arrangements.

Online registration has been adapted, as the published price (€225/€275) was wrong due to an error in the preliminary programme. Please take every possible effort to distribute this new information about registration fees to nurses.

Childcare at WCVD5

For babysitting/childcare please contact your hotel in Vienna directly:

Please book one week prior to desired date.

MARRIOTT HOTEL

phone: +43-1-515 18-0

fax: +43-1-515 18-6736

e-mail: mhres.vjeat.concierge@marriott-hotels.com

Price per hour €13 (after 11 p.m. an additional fee

of €11 for taxi/cab will be charged)

RADISSON SAS PALAIS HOTEL

phone: +43-1-515 17-0

fax: +43-1-512 22 16

e-mail: cindy.jaeger@radissonsas.com

Price per hour €15 (after midnight an additional fee

for taxi/cab will be charged)

For further information and services at other hotels please contact our secretary: wcvd5@vetderm.at

For further details about WCVD5 see the website at www.vetdermvienna.com

20th ESVD-ECVD Congress 2005 – Chalkidiki, Greece, 8th - 10th September 2005.

The scientific programme will concentrate on *Staphylococcus intermedius*, canine allergies and aeroallergens, feline autoimmune alopecias, follicular diseases, keratinisation disorders, leishmaniosis, cutaneous inflammation and feline eosinophilic dermatoses. World respected lecturers will provide the continuing education programme with updates on exotic animal dermatology, diagnostic dilemmas in canine hypothyroidism, elimination diets, otitis externa, cytology, histopathology and other clinically important topics.

Abstracts for free communications and posters are welcomed.

The submission deadline is the 1st March 2005; further details will be made available soon.

Delegates can also enjoy sun bathing, swimming and all aspects of Greek hospitality at the Cassandra and Athes Palace-Pallini hotel complex. The ancient city of Thessaloniki with its Macedonian remains and other sites is just 60km away. The nearby Agio Oros (Holy Mountain) is covered in Byzantine monasteries and other buildings. For further information contact the congress secretariat:

20th ESVD-ECVD Congress 2005 *continued*

Epsilon, Papapanayotou-Vourazeris Unlimited,
4 Papadiamantopoulou Str.,
GR-11528, Athens, Greece.

Tel. - +30 21 0 725 4360 Fax. - +30 21 0 725 4363
Email: epsilon@hol.gr

Future congresses

21st ESVD-ECVD Congress 2006 - Lisboa, Portugal

22nd ESVD-ECVD Congress 2007 - Prague, Czech Republic

ESVD Board Elections

Only full members are entitled to vote. They will receive a mailing from the membership secretary by the 25th May 2004 at the latest. This will contain:

- One large envelope pre-addressed to the ESVD secretary.
- A paper with name, address and country of the voting member that should be signed and placed in the large envelope.
- A voting form with the list of the names of the eligible members and short CV, voting is secret, so the form should be placed into a second smaller plain envelope.

Completed voting slips should be returned to the ESVD secretary by the 15th July 2004 and the results of the vote will be announced at the ESVD AGM at the WCVD in Vienna (25th August 2004).

All correspondence should be addressed to the ESVD Secretary:

Dr Aiden P. Foster MRCVS,
ESVD Secretary,
Department of Clinical Veterinary Science,
University of Bristol,
Langford House, Langford, Somerset,
BS40 5DU, United Kingdom.

ESVD Bulletin in electronic format

This bulletin should become available on the website as a PDF file. I will let members know when it's available through the Vetderm listserv. Sending the Bulletin as a PDF file by email would save substantial postage costs. Disadvantages of this approach, however, include out-of-date email addresses, ISP file size restrictions and download time, firewalls etc. We would like to hear your views on this before proceeding any further (I haven't had any views one way or the other so far!).

I have included an 'opinionated' review by Joan Rest in this bulletin. I am always happy to receive material for publication. This can be news, views, comments, reports and announcements. I am particularly keen to hear about national dermatology society meetings and news. Articles can be sent to me at the address above. The deadline for the autumn bulletin is 30th August 2004. The Autumn Bulletin should be published in October. Please contact the membership secretariat if you do not receive it - treasurer@esvd.org

ECVD corner

Starting with this bulletin, the ECVD will have a regular page to highlight examination requirements and deadlines, education in veterinary dermatology and news from the ECVD board. This should improve communication between the ECVD board and ESVD members. Please remember, however, that the ESVD and ECVD are separate organisations; any enquiries should be sent to the appropriate ECVD board member.

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Nurses and dermatology

It's good to see the nursing programme back with WCVD5. Feedback from nurses interested in dermatology has been very good and I know a number were disappointed not to see nursing CE in recent meetings. There are dedicated and competent nurses out there with a genuine interest in veterinary dermatology. Sue Patterson recently reviewed her experiences and was a powerful advocate for their role in *Veterinary Times*. Their potential in client communication, practical demonstrations (ear cleaning, bathing etc.), group support sessions (e.g. reinforcing management of atopic dermatitis etc.), taking lifestyle and background history, and procedures such as skin scrapes, tape-strips, cytology, allergen management, IDATs, ASIT vaccines, biopsy etc. is enormous. We've been left behind, at least in the UK, by the medical and surgical nursing diplomas but a dermatology course is now available. The British Veterinary Nursing Association and Leo Animal Health have been instrumental in setting this up but uptake has been disappointing. It would be great for more of us to support this course and take our nurses and their education more seriously.

Our websites:

ESVD website - www.esvd.org

ECVD website - www.ecvd.org

Veterinary dermatology - www.blackwell-science.com/vde

9th European Veterinary Dermatology Resident's Pre-Congress Day

The Residents Pre-congress Day 2003 was held in Tenerife, Spain, on September 3rd., Playa De Las Americas - you will love it or hate it! Two things were guaranteed: with English menus dominating, Spanish food was difficult to find and the weather, unlike that of United Kingdom, was perfect!

The Residents' day was very well attended by registered ECVD residents, those following the alternative route and colleagues with a strong interest in dermatology. Ersilia Pappalardo, the program organiser, was able to attract Dr. Claudia von Tscharner, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bern, Switzerland, and Dr. Peter Hill, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Science, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom. Both are well-known, enthusiastic speakers. Claudia von Tscharner started the programme with 'controversies and difficult diagnoses in dermatopathology'. She told the group how to avoid the use of 'lichenoid' and how to deal with difficult diagnoses, for example distinguishing between cyclic flank alopecia and endocrine alopecia. Her session ended with interactive cases that were much enjoyed by the audience and raised a lot of questions for discussion.

Peter Hill continued after the buffet lunch. His presentation covered how to give a good talk. Small exercises, included describing a picture showing five bananas for 2 minutes, gave an introduction into spontaneous speaking. These exercises taught us how important it is to have sufficient knowledge of the subject area and be accurate with your descriptions. Time flew by too rapidly with lots of practical training and laughing! I am sure every delegate found themselves mentally criticising and praising the different speakers over the next few days.

The organisers Ersilia Pappalardo, Silvia Colombo and Mar Bardagi, and the speakers must be congratulated. These subjects covered provided lots of information that can be used 'in practice' and will help with the requirements and exams for the ECVD Diploma. A big thank also you to our sponsors Iams and Bayer as without their support the Residents' Precongress Day would not be possible. The day finished with a nice dinner at La Sartièn del Sur, supposedly the best restaurant in town, and kindly sponsored by Iams and Bayer.

Peri Lau
Animal Health Trust, Newmarket, United Kingdom.

Tenerife Congress Report

The 19th Annual Congress of ESVD-ECVD was held in Tenerife from the 4th - 6th September 2003. This popular tropical holiday location was a departure from the more sober or sophisticated cities chosen for past congresses. However, sunshine was guaranteed and delegates adapted by dressing for the hot weather. The resourceful organisers even produced a congress satchel that doubled as a beach bag! Many delegates came on package holidays, opting to enjoy the island's beaches and volcanic interior for a week or two. However, one drawback was that there was a shortage of scheduled flights, especially from northern Europe, with some delegates having to change two or three times.

The continuing education programme included sessions on ear and nail diseases, with a comparative component on human nail disease. Practising dermatologists were encouraged by the discussion on new trends in pruritus management. A range of topical and systemic drugs with significant potential have emerged as alternatives to existing regimes. There was an update on newly recognised skin diseases while a review of camelid and ruminant dermatology added much interest to a varied programme. The highlight of the scientific programme was a consideration of chronic infection as the consequence of a more complex interaction than the current distinction between infection, immune mediated and neoplastic diseases allows; as much a philosophical challenge to current understanding as a scientific one! Other sessions brought us up to date on the immunopathogenesis of atopic dermatitis and new techniques in dermatopathology utilising immunohistochemistry.

One problem that became apparent is that rapid advances in immunology have widened the 'knowledge gap' between practising dermatologists and those involved in scientific research. One hopes that the inclusion of a two level continuing education programme for the WCVD to be held in Vienna in August 2004 will help address this imbalance.

Future ESVD workshops

2005 - Dermatopathology; Cremona, Italy

Claudia von Tscharner, Julie Yager and Verena Affolter.

Local organiser - Fabia Scarampella: fabia.scarampella@dermvet.fastwebnet.it

2005 (November/December) - Immunology; Edinburgh, UK.

Peter Hill and Michael Day.

Local organiser - Tim Nuttall: timn@liv.ac.uk

Day 1 (Half day)

Review of the skin immune system
Cells of the immune system Antibodies
CD markers and adhesion molecules
Cytokines and chemokines
Immunodeficiency
Recognised syndromes

Day 2

Pathogenesis of atopic dermatitis
Role of T-cells, cytokines and chemokines
Immunotherapy and tolerance
Biological activity of environmental allergens
New therapeutic options
Adverse food reactions GIT immune system
Oral tolerance Hydrolysed diets
IDAT and serology to food antigens
Immunity to cutaneous microorganisms
Hypersensitivity to staphylococci and *Malassezia*
Hygiene hypothesis and development
of the immune system
Superantigens

Day 3

Immune-mediated diseases
Mechanisms of drug reactions
Pemphigus complex
Vasculitis and vasculopathies
(including DLE, SLE, dermatomyositis)
Immune-mediated blistering diseases
Erythema multiforme complex
Diseases of the hair follicle
Lymphocytic proliferative diseases
Histiocytic proliferative diseases

Day 4 (Half day)

Immunodiagnostics
Assessing immune function
Serology (ANA, RF, cold agglutinins etc.)
Coombs tests
Immunoblotting
Immunohistochemistry
Therapeutics
New immunomodulating and
immunosuppressive agents

2006 - Endocrinology, June; Spa, Belgium

Local organisers - Luc Beco and Dominique Héripret: luc.beco@skynet.be and dheripret@fregis.com

2006 - Canine Dermatology; Germany

Local organiser - Ralf Mueller: Ralf.Mueller@med.vetmed.uni-muenchen.de

10th Residents Pre-Congress Day; WCVD5 Vienna 2004

Wednesday, August 25th 2004, SAS Radison Hotel, Parkring 16, Vienna

Preliminary Programme

- 8.30 Welcome address from Bayer and Iams
9.00 Pharmacological basis of dermatological therapy (mechanisms of drug action) Prof. Manfred Kietzmann
10.30 Coffee break
11.00 Pharmacological basis of dermatological therapy (mechanisms of drug action) cont. Prof. Manfred Kietzmann
12.30 Lunch
13.30 How to design a study.
How to evaluate a study paper following the principles of evidence-based medicine. Dr. Ralf Mueller
15.30 Case presentations given by residents
If you would like to present a case please submit the abstract by June 30th 2004 via email to a.neuber@ed.ac.uk.
20.30 Dinner; venue to be announced

If you would like to attend please let us know asap to make it easier to plan things.
Just email to: a.neuber@ed.ac.uk Thanks!

Sponsored by IAMS and BAYER

ISVD Meeting in Vienna August 25th 2004

Programme

- 08.00 - 09.00 Registration
09.00 - 10.30 **Key note lecture: Cutaneous dendritic cells - derivation, features and functions.**
Georg Stingl, University of Vienna, Medical School
10.30 - 11.00 Coffee Break
11.00 - 12.30 **Lies of lesions (chairperson: Monika Welle)**
Feline calicivirus infection versus feline herpesvirus infection (David Shearer)
Sweet's Syndrome versus Schnitzler Syndrome (sterile pustulocrythroderma)
(Thelma Lee Gross)
Balloon cell sweat gland carcinoma versus balloon cell melanoma (Marianne Heimann)
Equine Alopecia Areata versus dermatophytosis in the horse (Ted Clark)
12.30 - 14.00 Lunch
14.00 - 15.30 **Stannard - Controversies in Dermatopathology (chairperson: Julie Yager)**
Noninflammatory follicular diseases (Emily Walder, Joan Rest, Lars Mecklenburg)
15.30 - 16.30 **Brief communications with emphasis on newly emerging diseases**
(chairperson: Joanne Mansell)
Chytridiomycosis - a new and emerging infectious disease of amphibians (Anur Oeceremann)
Characterization of cutaneous angiomatosis in dogs and cats
(V.K. Affolter, T.L. Gross, E.J. Walder)
Deep cutaneous ulceration secondary to atherosclerosis in a hypothyroid dog
(L. Beco, M. Heimann)
Canine leproid granuloma in Northeastern United States
(E.A. Mauldin, M.H. Goldschmidt, S.C. Rankin)

16.30 - 17.00 **AGM**

Workshop Dermatopathology, Saturday 28th August 2003

- 08.30 - 12.15 **ISVD histopathology workshop for clinicians (Monika Welle)**
13.30 - 17.15 **ISVD mystery slide workshop for pathologists (Joanne Mansell)**

Abstract watch

Tejedor MT, Martín JL, Navia M, Freixes J, Vila J. Mechanisms of fluoroquinolone resistance in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* isolates from canine infections. *Veterinary Microbiology* 2003; 94: 295-301.

This article evaluates the role of mutation in the *gyrA* gene and the increased activity of an efflux pump in the ciprofloxacin, enrofloxacin, marbofloxacin and danofloxacin resistance of *Pseudomonas* strains isolated from dogs with chronic otitis externa. It gives a nice summary about these mechanisms.

Terachi R, Sato H, Hasegawa T, Yamaguchi T, Aizawa C, Maehara N. Isolation of exfoliative toxin from *Staphylococcus intermedius* and its local toxicity in dogs. *Veterinary Microbiology* 2003; 94: 19-29.

We all know about the exfoliative toxins involved in staphylococcal-scalded skin syndrome in humans and exudative epidermitis in pigs. This article describes the existence and purification of a 30kD exfoliative toxin-like toxin from the strain D-52 of *S. intermedius* isolated from canine bacterial pyoderma, that caused exfoliation in young chicken and hamsters as well. It would be interesting to see if the toxin is produced either exclusively or in higher quantities in dogs with superficial spreading pyoderma or impetigo compared to dogs with folliculitis, as the authors did not describe in any detail the clinical presentation of the dogs and any possible correlation with production of this toxin. The same group cloned the gene and expressed it in *E. coli* as described in another publication in the same issue (pp. 31-38), for those interested in gene sequences.

Hsu M, Hsu T, Wu WJ. Distribution of cat fleas (Siphonaptera: Pulicidae) on the cat. *Journal of Medical Entomology* 2002; 39: 685-688.

In this article the authors trapped and anaesthetised stray cats, and counted fleas from six randomly chosen areas (head, neck, dorsum, extremities, cranial and caudal ventrum). They found the highest numbers on the neck, followed by the ventrum and conclude that the high numbers on the neck may be due to the inability of the cat to groom this area as well as others.

Leung DYM, Bieber T. Atopic dermatitis. *The Lancet* 2003; 361: 151-160.

If you looked for a concise and up-to-date summary of human atopic dermatitis, here it is. The authors, world-leading in research on human atopic dermatitis, summarise the current findings in epidemiology, diagnosis, pathophysiology, genetics and immunology as well as the management. An article worth reading for those who want to get a quick look into the human counterpart of one of the most common problems in veterinary dermatology.

Akira S. Mammalian toll-like receptors. *Current Opinion in Immunology* 2003; 15: 5-11.

Toll-like receptors are essential in host defence against microbial pathogens, recognise distinct structural components of pathogens and evoke specific inflammatory responses. This article summarises the known toll-like receptors and their ligands as well as what is currently known about the molecular base of the signalling pathways and the results of cell activation via these receptors which seems to be a strong and preferential activation of a cell mediated response.

Leung DYM, Bloom JW. Update on glucocorticoid action and resistance. *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* 2003; 11: 3-22.

We all use glucocorticoids daily in clinical practice, but most of us do not know the mechanism of action beyond binding of the drug to a specific cytoplasmic receptor, and transcriptional activation after the hormone-receptor complex enters the cell nucleus. This article goes into great detail about the cellular and molecular mechanisms of action of as well as resistance to glucocorticoids. It is interesting mainly for researchers and residents in need of this information to pass various board examinations.

Kalliomäki M, Salminen S, Pouso T, Arvilommi H, Isolauri E. Probiotics and prevention of atopic disease: 4 year follow-up of a randomised placebo-controlled trial. *The Lancet* 2003, 361: 1869-1871.

Probiotics were mentioned in a previous edition of the abstract watch. This article describes the newest results of a long term study, where mothers were randomly assigned to either receive placebo or *Lactobacillus* supplementation daily for 1 month prior to expected delivery and 6 months post delivery. The children were followed for 4 years and 14 of 53 children in the treatment group had developed atopic disease versus 25 of 54 children in the placebo group. Future double-blinded, placebo-controlled prospective studies may confirm and detail the benefits of this approach in humans and other species.

The abstract watch is kindly provided by Ralf Mueller of Ludwig-Maximilians-Universitaet, Muenchen, Germany.

Pathologists, dermatologists and a sea view...

The Kings of Sweden and Denmark had castles facing each other across the sea. The King of Sweden said that the only thing he admired about the King of Denmark was his view. Like these Kings, clinicians and pathologists view each other across cases, occasionally sniping at each other and even indulging in open warfare.

Many pathologists have done some clinical work so clinicians are sure that pathologists chose their discipline because it is easier. The clinician therefore treats the pathologist as a subordinate not as a team member with the task of interpreting the pathology.

Pathologists claim moral superiority because they are 'always right'. They love their God-like power with diagnoses of malignancy and prognoses to match. However, this clinical audit, sometimes highlighting errors and bearing unpleasant news, creates antipathy in the clinician. Some academic pathologists make the relationship worse by giving the clinician a long descriptive report but failing to summarise and interpret. The pathologist then complains that he or she is not appreciated.

There is competition for grant and sponsorship money so credit is not willingly given to another discipline. Clinicians defend 'their' clinical case. Plagiarism of pathology is rife. No scientific publication should include pathology critical for diagnosis or identifiable as contributed by the pathologist unless the pathologist has given permission. Young pathologists need publications for advancement or their careers and mature ones for promotion within an organisation, maintenance of specialist status and for commercial advertisement.

The good news is that the rift between dermatologists and dermatopathologists is less marked. Clinicians attend pathology lectures and vice versa. Publications tend to give due credit to different authors (but maybe a little way to go here!). On the other hand, clinicians still hate the clinical audit which makes them give up favoured diagnoses. For example hypothyroidism which pathologists' work indicates is a rare cause of alopecia.

Both the surgeon clinician and oncological pathologist deal in certainty. These certainties encourage people with certain psychological profiles to work in the disciplines. In contrast, dermatology is a discipline of uncertainty. One definition of maturity is the ability to live with uncertainty. Perhaps we have mature people in a mature discipline and, unlike the old Scandinavian Kings, we know that co-operation is better than war.

Joan Rest

ECVD Corner

TITLE ABUSE The President of the European College of Veterinary Dermatology would like to remind all persons who have successfully passed the Alternate Route Part I exam of the ECVD, that the College does not allow the use of any title in relation to this examination. The use, in any way, of titles such as 'ECVD Certificate Holder' or 'ECVD Part I Diploma Holder' etc. is therefore absolutely forbidden by the College. *K.L. Thoday, President ECVD*

COURSE/SEMINAR ACCREDITATION The ECVD wish to remind that the only courses recognised and approved so far are the: ESVD seminars/workshops, ESAVS courses, CES courses

R. Cerundolo, Chair of the Education/Credentials Committee

ECVD DIPLOMA EXAM Colleagues who have passed the Alternate route - Part I exam and who are currently studying toward the ECVD Diploma exam and who intend to sit in the next three years should contact Dr. Rosario Cerundolo, Chair of the Education and Credentials Committee. E-mail: cerundol@vet.upenn.edu

DERMATOLOGY RESIDENCIES The following dermatology residency positions will be available:

UK:
The Royal Veterinary College - London
1st September 2004 - 31st August 2007
For information: Dr. Ross Bond
E-mail: rbond@rvc.ac.uk

Italy:
Studio Dermatologico Veterinario - Milano
1st September 2004 - 30th June 2007
For information: Drs Fabia Scarampella & Laura Ordeix.
E-mail: fabia.scarampella@dermvvet.fastwebnet.it