



## EDITORIAL

Welcome to what is a special edition of the Bulletin. Great changes are afoot in the ESVD and, in place of my usual ramblings, I am pleased to hand over this editorial space to past ESVD president Chiara Noli to explain what has been and will be happening to the ESVD. So please, read on...

Peter

### A fresh new wind is blowing through the ESVD?

Could you be involved...?

The ESVD has just celebrated 25 years of history, and this was an excellent occasion to look back on all that was achieved. In this quarter of a century a lot has been achieved as can be seen in the 25th Anniversary Booklet edited by David Lloyd. However, this also prompts us to turn around by 180° and look at the future: what are our projects for the next 25 years?

New thoughts started to develop when I had the occasion to read the ESVD Annual Reports from 1984 to 1999, in order to write my contribution to the 25th Anniversary Booklet. I was amazed by the amount of varied activities that were organized in the early years. New ideas, new projects, a lot of motivated persons were working for a common dream, an ideal. I guess this is normal for a newly formed Society which is trying to understand what its position, aims and activities should be. However, I noticed that after 1998, the year of the last important constitutional changes, that the activities of the ESVD and its services to the members did not change much. I started to feel uneasy: I had the impression that the ESVD had become a boring, static, self-perpetuating society, where innovation was really lacking.

Please do not misunderstand me. I am not saying that the ESVD hasn't done anything in the last 10 years: it has worked a great deal behind the scenes, in order to secure its finances, legal status and societary stability. Since the economic problems of Copenhagen (2001) this has been the greatest task of the Board, culminating in the foundation of a charity and trading company. But now that our financial basis is secure, it is time to address our energy back to our members, it is time for innovation. Many areas for development have become available in recent years, such as the Eastern European Countries and the World Wide Web, where the ESVD could be an effective presence.

I shared my feelings with the Board and some of the Founder Members, and my point was well taken. In order to identify new areas for development and strategies, including better ways of serving our members, a brainstorming session about the aims and the future of the ESVD was organized in Paris on January 15th 2010 (over page). Participants were the current Board members, Aiden Foster (President), Christine Löwenstein (Secretary), Ian Mason (Treasurer), Luc Beco (Education Officer), Claude Favrot (Publication and Grant Officer) and myself (Past-President), together with different representatives from the veterinary dermatology world, including (in alphabetical order), Didier Carlotti (France), Tina Kotnik (Slovenia), Thierry Olivry (USA), Lucia Panakova (Czech Republic), Yvette Schlotter (the Netherlands). The meeting was chaired and guided by the professional brainstorming coordinator Geoff Little (who also happens to be a veterinarian!) following the "Metaplan® method". With this method comments and ideas of every





Up to 76% of dogs improved in just 4 weeks<sup>1</sup>  
 d/d™ and z/d™ – Your complete nutritional line for skin disorders

**Hill's™ Prescription Diet™ d/d™ is clinically proven<sup>1</sup> to:**

- Support skin recovery and help limit skin reaction
- Provide nutritional support for pruritic skin conditions

**Hill's™ Prescription Diet™ z/d™ is clinically proven in multiple studies<sup>2,3,4</sup>:**

- Uniquely formulated with peptides of maximum molecular weight of 3000 daltons
- The first choice for elimination diets for pruritic skin conditions



Get to know what Hill's can do for your patients.  
 Contact your Hill's territory manager  
 for more information or visit [www.hillsvet.com](http://www.hillsvet.com)

**References:**

1. Allen TA, Fritsch D. A multi-center clinical study of therapeutic foods in dogs with chronic nonseasonal pruritic dermatitis due to atopy and/or adverse reactions to food. Unpublished data, Hill's Pet Nutrition Inc, Topeka, Kansas, 2005.
2. Cave NJ, Guilford WG, Roudelush P. In vivo assessment of antigenicity of a protein hydrolysate and characterisation of a major antigen in chicken (abstract). J Vet Intern Med. 2000; 14: 354.
3. Loeffler A, Lloyd DH, Bond R, et al. Dietary trials with a commercial chicken hydrolysate diet in 63 pruritic dogs. Vet Rec 2004; 154: 519-522.
4. Loeffler A, Soares-Magalhaes R, Bond R, et al. A retrospective analysis of case series using home prepared and chicken hydrolysate diets in the diagnosis of adverse food reactions in 181 pruritic dogs. Vet Dermatol 2006; 17: 273-279.

™/Trademarks owned by Hill's Pet Nutrition, Inc. ©2010

participant are taken into consideration and collated on large boards, with the aim of defining the objectives of the meeting, focusing the problems and identifying possible solutions, as well as guidelines for their implementation. Although a bit awkward in the beginning, in the end this method generated useful results and was fun: we all worked hard for many hours without feeling bored or tired! And here are the results:

1. We need to expand our membership, identify their needs and possible new markets. For example, we need to address Eastern European Countries, undergraduates, recent graduates, countries in which our members are still very few.
2. We need to improve our provision of further education, at congresses, at courses, with publications. For example, should we add a third room to the annual congress, organize events in Eastern European countries, offer continuing education through the web site or develop a new clinical journal for practitioners.
3. Now that we have the financial resources, we need to support research more, for example by cooperating with the ECVD in funding larger and smaller research grants, PhD programs, and externships for young members in research facilities.
4. Most importantly we need a completely new, interactive and attractive web page, useful for its members. Many things could be put on a brand new web page: put commented abstracts of articles on a regular basis, a "what's new in dermatology" section, a forum between members, a photo gallery of events (congresses or workshops), a photo collection of clinical pictures, congress proceedings, abstracts, lectures on line for those who could not attend. Also we could develop and publish "Standard of Care Guidelines" for important diseases, or information brochures on selected dermatological diseases to be downloaded by vets and distributed to clients.
5. And much more, other suggestions might include: production and sale of books, gadgets, large scale selling of medical supplies dedicated to dermatology, discount rates for special dermatological supplies for ESVD members, on line specialist dermatology/dermatopathology consulting service, collection of data regarding multiresistant bacterial strains, drug reactions and breed predisposition for different diseases, organized home-exchanges' service for members who go on vacation, organized children-hosting/exchanges service among members during vacation time, a time bank (e.g. for translations and corrections of documents and lectures)... if you have more ideas you are welcome to share them with us!

In order to start this new development the Board approved major changes for the near future, including the appointment of an external professional secretariat and the formation of several sub-committees of motivated people who would like to work for specific tasks. These will include:

- A web page subcommittee, which will develop a completely new ESVD site. (Computer geeks are welcome!!)
- A research subcommittee, hopefully in conjunction with the ECVD
- An annual congress subcommittee
- A workshop and seminar subcommittee
- A subcommittee dedicated to the Eastern European Countries and other countries in which the ESVD is not currently well represented.
- A subcommittee dedicated to younger members, including undergraduates and recently graduate vets.

Anybody willing to be part of this process and work for one of these subcommittee should contact the ESVD President, Aiden Foster ([president@esvd.org](mailto:president@esvd.org)). These are exciting times for ESVD and we're sure that there are plenty of enthusiastic members who would wish to be involved. The work-loads and commitment won't be onerous and will be shared with willing and enthusiastic friends and colleagues. Now is your chance to influence the future of your society. Young members: do not be shy! We need your input! Old members: do not be lazy: we need your experience!



vets' no.1 choice™

The process of innovation has started and we don't want it to be stopped. If everything goes well, the next few years will be very exciting and constructive for the ESVD and its members. Please continue to help us with your support, comment and feedback. We will be working for you!

Dr Chiara Noli  
ESVD Past President  
February 2010



Current and founder members of the ESVD participate in the brainstorming session Paris January 2010

## Future ESVD Meetings and Workshops

### 24th Annual Congress of the ESVD – ECVD

**Venue:** Firenze – Italy; Congress center, Firenze Fiera [www.firenzefiera.it](http://www.firenzefiera.it)

**Dates:** September 23-25th 2010

[www.esvd-ecvd2010.com](http://www.esvd-ecvd2010.com)

We would like to invite you to join us for the 24th Congress of the European Society and College of Veterinary Dermatology in the ancient and history-rich city of Florence. The program and the venue are unique.

The main theme of the Congress will be infectious diseases (leishmaniosis, tick-borne transmitted diseases and atypical skin infections), genetic (hereditary dermatological conditions and the latest on canine genoma), otitis, dermatophytosis, oncology (cutaneous lymphoma and melanoma), and a review of dermatological diseases of exotic animals.

The ESVD would like to thank our Long term Partners (ICF Italia, Merial and Royal Canin) and all the other sponsors for their great support..

The professional organizer for this event will be the AIM Group [www.aimgroup.eu](http://www.aimgroup.eu)

The registration is now open: please visit [www.esvd-ecvd2010.com](http://www.esvd-ecvd2010.com)



### 25th Annual Congress of the ESVD –ECVD

**Venue:** Brussels – Belgium; Congress center, Square Brussels Meeting Center [www.Square-brussels.com](http://www.Square-brussels.com)

**Dates:** September 7-10th 2011

### ESVD Workshops 2010-2011

You will find details concerning our future workshops on [www.esvd.org](http://www.esvd.org)

Please, pay attention to the “new” dates. Some workshops are reorganized and delayed.

Please do not forget to register early. Places are allocated with priority given to early registrants and ESVD members. Workshops are organised for small groups of delegates (max. 50) and so if you try to register late then you might not get a place.

From skin biology to cutaneous diseases: epidermis and dermis (without follicles and adnexae)

**Location:** Spa – Belgium  
**Dates:** June 17-19th 2010  
**Speakers:** Thierry Olivry and Keith Linder  
**Local Organizer:** Luc BECO

#### Objectives:

This course is aimed at educating dermatology residents and veterinarians with an interest in dermatology on the latest developments in epidermal and dermal pathology. Each lecture will follow a similar pattern with the initial presentation of the structure and function of selected cutaneous components followed by the explanation of pathologic mechanisms leading to animal skin diseases uniquely associated with these components.

#### Provisional programme:

##### Day 1: Epidermis

9:00 - 10:30	Keratins, keratinization: <i>Keith Linder</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Epidermal cornification and desquamation; epidermal lipids <i>Keith Linder</i>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	Desmosomes <i>Thierry Olivry</i>
15:00 - 15:30	Break
15:30 - 17:00	Melanocytes and melanogenesis <i>Thierry Olivry</i>

##### Day 2: Epidermal Basement Membrane

9:00 - 10:30	Structure of the epidermal basement membrane <i>Thierry Olivry</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Epidermal basement membrane pathology <i>Thierry Olivry</i>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 18:00	Free – social activity: Welcome in the “Thermes de Spa”

[www.thermesdespa.com](http://www.thermesdespa.com)

##### Day 3: Dermis

9:00 - 10:30	Vascularization <i>Keith Linder</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Collagens, Elastin <i>Keith Linder</i>
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:00	Dermal ground substance <i>Thierry Olivry</i>
15:00 - 15:30	Break
15:30 - 17:00	Merkel cells, innervation <i>Keith Linder</i>

This course is fully booked! There will be a reserve list and delegates who drop out will be replaced by reserves.

Where clinical signs and histopathology don't match: clinicopathological controversies

**Location:** Agria, Volos, Greece; Valis Resort Hotel  
**Dates:** May 12-14th 2011  
**Speakers:** M. Welle, L. Ferrer, C. Noli, A. Koutinas  
**Local Organizer:** Alexander Koutinas

Travel information: Volos is approximately in the middle of Greece, between Athens (300 km) and Thessaloniki (200 km) from where it can be reached by car, bus or train. From the beginning of 2010, there will be direct charter flights from Europe to the new Volos (Achialos) airport. Agria village is located on the outskirts of the city of Volos (6km from downtown).

## Workshop on cutaneous immunology

Date: October 2011

Location: Germany

Local Organizer: Monika Linek

ESVD workshops are provided to help ESVD members and residents in dermatology to improve their understanding and knowledge. We welcome suggestions for future topics and possible venues.

For more information and to see the provisional calendar of events, go to <http://www.esvd.org> (education)

## Forthcoming Dermatology Meetings

### Seventh World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology

Venue: Vancouver, Canada

Dates: July 24-28 2012



The World Association for Veterinary Dermatology (WAVD) invites you with anticipation and excitement to participate in world class veterinary dermatology in the vibrant international city of Vancouver, Canada from July 24-28th, 2012! The natural scenic beauty of the snow capped mountains provides the perfect backdrop for the cosmopolitan city and the ideal location for the 7th World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology. During the day you will be challenged by a program that will deliver state of the art science, research and clinical advances in the field of veterinary dermatology. In the balmy summer

evenings stroll down the cobbled streets of Gastown and explore the historic buildings, courtyards and mews. Enjoy the superbly fresh food, world class music and theatre venues and a nightlife of exquisite cuisine and culture. Take some time after the Congress to enjoy the sheer glory of this tranquil location, from hiking to kayaking, rock climbing to fishing in the breathtaking mountain scenery, the surrounding area of Vancouver is an outdoor lover's delight. Whether your interests include a tour of the local vineyards, trekking through rainforest trails, discovering the mysterious secrets of Granville island or a whale watching excursion, Vancouver certainly has something to offer for everyone. WCVD7 will provide you with a once in a life time experience. You can't miss it...

For more information and for the latest updates please visit [www.vetdermvancouver.com](http://www.vetdermvancouver.com)

### Annual Congress of the German Society for Veterinary Dermatology (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Veterinärdermatologie DGVD)

Dermatologic therapy – Where and how can we improve?

Venue: Berlin

Dates: May 27-29 2011

For the first time this congress will be held in Berlin in the Park Inn – Hotel direct at the Alexanderplatz in the historical centre of the capital and only a few minutes from the Brandenburg gate

There will be information about therapeutic options for many skin diseases, not only for the dog and cat, but also for small mammals and reptiles. Three concurrent half day seminars will be offered prior to the congress. One seminar for beginners will teach the basics in veterinary dermatology, one seminar will cover skin diseases and nutrition, particularly of course food adverse reactions and elimination diets. And lastly, a seminar will be dedicated to cytologic and mycologic laboratory tests. More information can be found under [www.dgvd.org](http://www.dgvd.org).

Dr. Volker Wienrich

Tagungspräsident der DGVD 2011

### Diagnosis and management of ear disease in the dog and cat

Venue: Trondheim, Norway

Dates: 11-12 June 2010

Lecturers: Susan Paterson, UK; Babette Taugboel, Norway

Meeting organiser: Dechra

#### Program

<b>Friday 11.06.</b>	<b>Diagnostic methods, underlying factors</b>
08.30-09.00	Registration
09.00- 9.30:	Anatomy of the ear canal
9.30 – 10.00	Diagnostic techniques of the ear pinna and canal
	Cytology
	Otology, video-otoscopy
10.00-10.30:	Primary factors for ear disease
10.30-10.50:	Break
10.50-12.00:	More primary factor for ear disease
12.00-13.00:	Lunch
13.00-14.00:	Predisposing factors for ear disease
	Perpetuating factors (1)
	Bacteria
	Yeasts
14.00-14.15.	Pause
14.15-15.00:	Perpetuating factors (2)
	Hyperkeratosis, hyperplasia, oedema, fibrosis, stenosis
15.00-16.00	Otitis media
16.00-16.15	Pause
16.15-17.00	Case discussions
19.00	Dinner
<b>Saturday 12.06.</b>	<b>Treatment of otitis</b>
09.00-09.45:	Principals of effective ear cleaning
09.45-10.30:	Gram positive infection
	Malassezia infection

10.30-10.50:	Break
10.50-12.00:	Gram negative infection including Pseudomonas
12.00-13.00:	Lunch
13.00-14.00:	Surgery
14.00-14.15:	Break
14.15-15.00	Case presentations

### British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group Autumn Meeting

Venue: Radisson SAS Hotel, Manchester Airport

[www.manchester.radissonsas.co.uk](http://www.manchester.radissonsas.co.uk)

Dates: 6-7th November 2010

The program is yet to be finalised and the topic for the meeting is cutaneous oncology,

Please check the website [www.bvdsg.org.uk](http://www.bvdsg.org.uk) for further updates.

### Australian College of Veterinary Scientists' Annual Science Weekly Meeting

Venue: Gold Coast International Hotel, Surfers Paradise, Queensland, Australia

Dates: Scientific Meeting: 1st, 2nd, 3rd July 2010

Dermatology Chapter Presentations: 2nd &amp; 3rd July 2010

#### Dermatology Program

The Dermatology Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists meeting is scheduled over two days as part of Science Week. Science Week is the annual meeting of all veterinary specialist groups in Australia and provides delegates with cutting edge information in a broad range of subjects in a relaxed environment. The dermatology stream will have a broad theme of immune-mediated skin diseases this year, and once again promises a very stimulating program. There will be an exciting mix of medical and veterinary expert speakers, including internationally renowned veterinary dermatologists, small animal internists, and input from a busy Sydney clinical and teaching medical dermatology service where there is a strong focus on immune-mediated diseases.

The first day focuses on pemphigus and basement membrane diseases. We are very lucky to have Toshi Iwasaki as guest speaker from Japan, who will share with us some of his teams' research updates on disease pathogenesis as one of the worlds' leaders in this field. We are also privileged to have Peter Hill now working in Australia, who will discuss the clinical signs and diagnosis of pemphigus in dogs and cats. Comparison will then be made to these diseases in humans, before moving onto the afternoon sessions on therapeutics. The use of glucocorticoids and azathioprine will be discussed in detail, covering pharmacology and indications, and comparing and contrasting views from an internal medicine specialist and a team of veterinary dermatologists. This is sure to be a wonderfully stimulating day, bringing together an array of experts from different fields to expand our knowledge and stimulate new ideas.

The second day continues on the same immune-mediated disease theme, moving onto the erythema multiforme complex of diseases, with a major focus once again on therapeutics. Again Toshi and Peter will cover pathogenesis and clinical disease respectively, supported by veterinary and medical dermatology speakers who will cover disease presentations in animals and people. Alternative treatment options to glucocorticoids and azathioprine will be discussed at length, once again with input from the medical

field, and with another open-forum discussion group. These sessions shouldn't be missed, with in-depth discussions on a range of drugs less frequently used to manage immune-mediated diseases in animals promising lots of new and exciting information. The day will finish with a session on current research projects and case reports, to end what is sure to be another stimulating day.

#### Other attractions:

The Queensland Gold Coast is ideal location for holidaying: lots of sunshine, world renowned beaches, great restaurants, and theme parks, wildlife and national parks amongst the many attractions. It's a great location for a concurrent holiday, with or without the family.

For further information contact the Secretary of the Dermatology Chapter Mandy Burrows on [a.burrows@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:a.burrows@murdoch.edu.au) or visit the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists' website [www.acvs.org.au](http://www.acvs.org.au)

## ESVD news and information

### Minutes of the 26th Annual General Meeting

Friday 25th September 2009 at 13-30 at Golf Hotel, Bled, Slovenia

#### President's Address

Aiden Foster opened the meeting and thanked the founder members for their work and contributions to the 25th Anniversary of the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology.

Application for full membership was successful for Pablo del Maestre, Ana Mafalda Laurenço Martins, Stanislav Pocta, Vanessa Schmidt and Yvette Schlotter.

David Lloyd presented the Ulli Runge Harms award for an outstanding contribution as a part of a residency programme to Dr. Susanne Ahmann for her work entitled "Cutaneous carriage of *Malassezia* species in healthy and seborrhoeic Sphinx cats and a comparison to carriage in Devon Rex cats".

#### Treasurer's Report

Ian Mason gave a summary of the 2008 budget which has already been presented in the Annual Report. ESVD has charitable status since 1st July 2009 and the assets of the ESVD society have been transferred to the new bank account but there is still a lot to do. Following advice from ESVD accountants and lawyers, in order to limit the financial liability of the ESVD Officers and because of tax advantages, a trading subsidiary will be established in the near future.

In reviewing the financial report as explanation he commented that the Congress figures relate to 2007. Using a professional congress organiser incurs expense but they are indispensable. The journal experienced lower than expected revenue from advertising. Two ESVD awards in 2008 and one from 2007 were paid out. Registration of the charity has incurred increased professional fees. On-line subscriptions are under ongoing investigation and may be ready next year. Various software management systems have to be checked for security, costs and compatibility with the ESVD web site.

#### Membership Secretary's Report

At the end of 2008 there were 384 Associate members (2007: 357), 164 Full members (2007: 169) and 6 Honorary members (2007: 6). The total number of members increased from 532 in 2007 to 554 in 2008.

#### Research Secretary's Report and the Nomination of the ESVD Research Grant

As in 2008 the ESVD Research Grant will fund one or two projects up to 15,000 Euros each. The committee consisting of Dr Heinmann, Dr Saridomichelakis and Dr Fontaine evaluated the proposals in regard to relevance, originality, clarity of the design, feasibility, budget and ability of the applicant to carry out the project. The maximum number of marks was 300 points.

There were 8 proposals (versus 12 in 2007 and 5 in 2006) for the ESVD 2009 Research Grant. The evaluation ranged from 170-270 points. Only one proposal was evaluated with less than 200 points.

A grant of 12,000 Euros was awarded to Ralf Mueller, University of Munich, Germany for his work "Immunostimulatory effects of CpG oligonucleotides delivered by gelatine nanoparticles in the treatment of canine atopic dermatitis". Monika Welle, University of Berne, Switzerland received 14,300 Euros for her study "The canine hair follicle cycle: Assessment of morphological and immunohistochemical criteria in endocrine disorders".

**Previous Grants were:**

2007: Dr Linek “Development of a structured educational program for the management of canine atopic dermatitis”,

2008: Dr Santoro “Investigation on antimicrobial peptides in the skin of normal dogs and in sensitized high IgE atopic beagle” and Dr Marsella “The in vitro and in vivo evaluation of filaggrin expression in keratinocytes harvested from dogs with and without atopic dermatitis”.

**Publication Secretary's Report**

In 2008 187 articles (2007:131) were received for publication in Veterinary Dermatology, 45% were accepted. The average number of days between reception and first decision was 56 days. The impact factor of Veterinary Dermatology is now 1.38. Claude Favrot thanked authors, reviewers and editors for their work.

In 2009 our society published two bulletins, one annual report and one membership directory. Claude Favrot thanked Hill's for their financial support and P. Forsythe for his work.

**Further Education Secretary's Report**

Luc Beco thanked the Local Organizing Committee (A. Rostaher, T. Kotnik, M. Celigoj), the Scientific Organizing Committee (ECVD) and the Professional Congress Organisation ZIN and the Long Term Partners Royal Canin, Janssen Animal Health and Bayer Health Care as well as all sponsors and exhibitors for their support. Future long term partners will be ICF, Merial and Royal Canin.

The 23rd Annual Congress of the ESVD – ECVD in Bled had approximately 440 participants from 44 different countries.

Luc Beco invited everybody to the 24th Annual Congress of the ESVD-ECVD in Firenze, Italy, September 23-25th 2010 ([www.esvd-ecvd2010.com](http://www.esvd-ecvd2010.com)) and 25th Annual Congress of the ESVD-ECVD in Brussels, Belgium, September 8-10th 2011.

([www.esvd-ecvd2011.com](http://www.esvd-ecvd2011.com)).

**Any Other Business**

Verena Affolter, Claudia von Tscherner and Julie Yager affirmed the need for further association of ESVD-ECVD and ISVD. Aiden Foster supported this collaboration and expressed his readiness to find an appropriate structure.

**Date and Time of the next AGM**

The 27th ESVD AGM will be held on 24th September 2010 at lunchtime in Firenze, Italy.

**Closing Remarks by the ESVD President**

The meeting was closed by Aiden Foster who offered thanks to the board members and the members who attended the AGM.

Christine Löwenstein

ESVD Secretary

**ESVD research and publications**

Owing to the financial situation and the climate change issues, the ESVD board has decided that, in the future, Bulletins and Annual Reports will be exclusively published on-line. On a practical point of view, the 2010 Annual Report (and membership directory) as well as the 2010 Autumn Bulletin will be the last printed (and posted).

Regarding research grants, the ECVD and ESVD have decided to collaborate in the future and fund together veterinary dermatology projects. Details will be discussed in Firenze. The ESVD research Grant (see below) in its present form is consequently probably the last one!

**ESVD Grant:**

ESVD wishes to encourage high standards in all aspects of veterinary dermatology and to promote the development of related research. Therefore, an annual research grant of 15,000 Euros is awarded by the ESVD for basic or clinical research in veterinary dermatology. Ordinarily projects are expected to be of one to two years duration. Applicants are expected to propose a project of scientific merit that is applicable to veterinary dermatology. Grants are evaluated on scientific merit, feasibility and usefulness. Guidelines for preparation of the grant application are printed below and available at [www.esvd.org](http://www.esvd.org) (follow the research link) or from the ESVD Grant Secretary.

The deadline is the 1st April 2010

**Guidelines for Preparation of ESVD Grant Applications:**

Applications not adhering to these guidelines may be excluded from consideration. Number of pages listed are maximum numbers. Shorter proposals are acceptable and welcomed.

**Section 1** (one page maximum)

Title page should include the project title, the name and title of the investigator, the institute at which the research will be performed, and the dates of the proposed project period.

**Section 2** (one page maximum)

- i) Provide a brief abstract with clearly stated objectives and the importance of the research, the experimental design and the methods used for achieving the stated objectives.
- ii) Specific aim(s): State in general terms the long term objective(s) and the hypothesis to be tested.

**Section 3** (two pages maximum)

Background and significance: In this section, briefly review the background for the present proposal, and the gaps in knowledge that the proposed project will fill.

**Section 4** (two pages maximum)

Preliminary studies: If there are preliminary data to support the hypothesis or to demonstrate that the investigator is familiar with the proposed methods, they should be included. If there are no preliminary results, then this section can be omitted.

**Section 5** (four pages maximum)

- i) Experimental design and methods: This section should contain a concise discussion of the experimental design and the procedures to be used to accomplish the specific aims listed above. This section should be sufficiently detailed so that feasibility may be judged. This section should list a brief description of resources available to investigators. It is important to discuss the means by which the data will be collected, analysed and interpreted, and the controls that will be required to allow a proper analysis. The type of statistical evaluation to be used for data analysis should be briefly detailed. Investigators should justify the sizes of experimental groups.

- ii) Animal use: Projects must fulfil the requirements of legislation in force in the country in which the work is to be performed. A statement to this effect should be included in the application. Any project proposal involving animals must be evaluated by the applicant's institution animal use committee and a statement to that effect should also be included in the proposal. If pets are to be used in the project, a permission form for the owners to complete should be appended to the proposal. Unless animal care and use has been carefully addressed, a proposal can not be considered for funding.

#### Section 6 (one page maximum)

A one page detailed budget should be included. The ESVD will not subsidise professional veterinary fees incurred by clients in the investigation of animals involved in clinical projects.

#### Section 7 (one page maximum)

References should be provided for Section 3 (background information) and section 4 (methods).

### ESVD website to be revitalised

One of the major decisions made at the recent 'brain-storming' meeting (see article on page x) was to review and revise our website to better serve the needs of our members. By the time of publication of this issue of the ESVD Bulletin we will have put together a team of enthusiastic volunteers to develop the website. The following is a brief list of some of the features that we would like to see in the new web-site and we will continue to work on this project over the next year or so:

- E-commerce - annual subscriptions, workshop registration, purchase of publications; all on-line
- Seamless Vet Derm Journal access
- Advertisements - commercial and 'classifieds'
- CPD pod-casts
- Access to meeting abstracts, proceedings
- CPD articles
- Archive of annual reports, bulletins etc.
- A public area with information on, say, parasite control, atopy; fact sheets

But the important question is what do our members want? We would be delighted to hear from members with suggestions for ways in which we can improve our website. Please put together any ideas you have on this and send them to [treasurer@esvd.com](mailto:treasurer@esvd.com)

### Message from the President

In the ECVD-ESVD congress held in Bled in September 2009 presentations were made to five of the six founder members of the ESVD. We also arranged for a plaque to go to Dr Pierre Fourrier who was the sixth founder member. He has written to the Society and the following is taken from his letter:

"It was a great honour for me to receive the commemorative plaque of the 25th anniversary of the ESVD foundation.

I was very happy to know that the recent congress was a real success.

I want to thank you personally, Mr President, the members of the board and all the ESVD membership for receiving this beautiful distinction."

Aiden P Foster



Founder members of the ESVD receive awards in recognition of their contribution to the ESVD.  
From left: Ton Willemse, Claudia von Tarschner, Didier Carlotti, Hans Koch, David Lloyd.

## ESVD workshop report

### Impressions from St Helens

#### ESVD Otitis Workshop February 2010

The ESVD Otitis Workshop was held in St Helens, an historic centre for glass production, in the industrial North West of England from 4-6 June 2010. More than 30 delegates from France, Italy, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, United States, Austria, Belgium, United Kingdom and Denmark attended the workshop which was held in the Glass museum and also at Dr Sue Paterson's practice, the Rutland House Veterinary Referral Centre. The main speakers were Dr. Sue Paterson, who also organized the workshop, and Dr. Craig Griffin (San Diego, USA). In addition, colleagues from other disciplines including neurology, diagnostic imaging, and surgery also contributed their expertise to the meeting.

The first two days of lectures were at the beautiful Glass Museum. On the first day Craig gave an informative and fascinating introductory lecture on the anatomy and physiology of the healthy canine and feline ear that set the scene for the remainder of the days' lectures. Sue covered the general approach to otitis externa and Dr's Ulrike Michal Altay and Virginia de Bussscher gave thorough overviews of neurological involvement in ear disease and diagnostic imaging of the ear respectively. The afternoon's lectures included diseases of the ear pinnae and causes of otitis externa.

On the first day evening, we were treated to an impressive demonstration of glass blowing and a film in the Glass museum where we also had a marvelous dinner in the "Kaleidosope" museum restaurant.

On the second day, we started with diagnosis and therapy of allergic and Malassezia otitis externa, Gram+ and Pseudomonas infections and heard more about diagnosis and treatment of otitis media. The lectures included several video-otoscopic video clips which greatly helped to illustrate the points being made. These lectures were both informative and interactive and stimulated passionate discussion and debate.

The evening of the second day we were treated to a coach trip to Liverpool. We had been advised by Sue not to forget our incontinence pads (!) because we were booked on a "Ghost Tour" that turned out to be led by two strange English guides fully attired in clothes from the eighteenth century. The language used by the guides was also from the eighteenth century and somewhat incomprehensible for many of the delegates. Nevertheless we understood enough and it was truly a scary experience trip with lots of screaming (and laughing) but all ended well and nobody died. All the excitement worked up a healthy

appetite for a fabulous dinner at the world famous version of the TATE Gallery at the Albert Dock in Liverpool (Who ever said that English food is bad?). (You just need to know where to find the good stuff - Ed).

The third and last day passed at the Rutland house with lectures on ear surgery (Dr. Ivan Doran, MRCVS) and a superb video-otoscopy practical session using cadavers. The video-otoscopy part was supervised by Sue and Craig with a brief introduction from a STORZ representative. On four tables, small groups of us were given instruction on visualising the ear canal, performing ear flushes and myringotomy. It was very helpful, especially for colleagues that do not perform videotoscopy routinely, and we all profited from the enormous clinical experience of Sue and Craig and their willingness to teach.

Overall it was a very well organized and knowledge-rich workshop which we wouldn't have missed. Special thanks to Sue for her organisation and to Emma Cook, one of Sue's nurses; a wonderful person who quietly worked away ensuring the smooth running of the entire workshop and was unfailingly friendly and helpful.

Lastly, we need to make a mention of the really friendly atmosphere in the group!

Astrid Thelen (Germany)

Ryoko Kawauchi (Germany)

## Abstract Watch

### Papillomavirus-Associated Cutaneous Neoplasia in Mammals.

Vet Pathol. 2010 Jan 22. [Epub ahead of print]

Munday JS, Kiupel M.

Massey University.

For humans, strong evidence indicates that some mucosal papillomavirus (PV) types cause genital and oral neoplasia, and weaker evidence suggests that some cutaneous PVs may cause cutaneous squamous cell carcinomas (SCC). For nonhuman species, strong evidence supports a causal role of PVs in the development of feline and equine sarcoids. Likewise, PVs are believed to cause cutaneous SCCs in rabbits, western barred bandicoots, and some rodents. Furthermore, some evidence suggests that PVs may influence the development of both feline and canine cutaneous SCCs. This review discusses the evidence that PVs cause human cutaneous SCCs and the proposed mechanisms for this action. It then reviews preneoplastic and neoplastic skin diseases that are associated with PV infection in nonhuman mammals.

### Enzymes involved in the conversion of arachidonic acid to eicosanoids in the skin of atopic dogs.

Exp Dermatol. 2010 Feb 25. [Epub ahead of print]

Schlotter YM, Riemers FM, Rutten VP, Knol EF, Willemsse T.

Department of Clinical Sciences of Companion Animals, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, The Netherlands.

Canine atopic dermatitis (AD), a chronic inflammatory skin disease, shares characteristics with its human counterpart. To get insight into the role of enzymes involved in production of prostaglandin E(2) (PGE2) and leukotriene B(4) (LTB(4)), potent inflammatory mediators originating from membrane-derived arachidonic acid (AA), expression of genes encoding these enzymes and receptors was quantified by qPCR in non-lesional and lesional skin from atopic dogs and in healthy skin. Significantly higher mRNA expression of the key enzymes 5-lipoxygenase (5-LO), 5-LO activating protein (FLAP), leukotriene A(4) hydrolase (LTA(4)H) and prostaglandin E synthase 1 (mPGES-1) and their receptors (PGE receptors 2 and 3) were observed. Being responsible for elevated levels of metabolites of the 3-series prostaglandins and the 5-series leukotrienes these enzymes may be interesting targets for therapy that should result in amelioration of clinical signs in canine atopic dermatitis.



Delegates at the ESVD Workshop on otitis; St Helens February 2010

### An unexpected advantage of whiteness in horses: the most horsefly-proof horse has a depolarizing white coat.

Proc Biol Sci. 2010 Feb 3. [Epub ahead of print]

Horváth G, Blahó M, Kriska G, Hegedüs R, Gerics B, Farkas R, Akesson S.

Environmental Optics Laboratory, Department of Biological Physics, Physical Institute, Eötvös University, 1117 Budapest, Pázmány sétány 1, Hungary.

White horses frequently suffer from malign skin cancer and visual deficiencies owing to their high sensitivity to the ultraviolet solar radiation. Furthermore, in the wild, white horses suffer a larger predation risk than dark individuals because they can more easily be detected. In spite of their greater vulnerability, white horses have been highly appreciated for centuries owing to their natural rarity. Here, we show that blood-sucking tabanid flies, known to transmit disease agents to mammals, are less attracted to white than dark horses. We also demonstrate that tabanids use reflected polarized light from the coat as a signal to find a host. The attraction of tabanids to mainly black and brown fur coats is explained by positive polarotaxis. As the host's colour determines its attractiveness to tabanids, this parameter has a strong influence on the parasite load of the host. Although we have studied only the tabanid-horse interaction, our results can probably be extrapolated to other host animals of polarotactic tabanids, as the reflection-polarization characteristics of the host's body surface are physically the same, and thus not species-dependent.

### Advances in allergic skin disease, anaphylaxis, and hypersensitivity reactions to foods, drugs, and insects in 2009.

J Allergy Clin Immunol 2010 125: 85-97

Sicherer SH, Leung DY.

Elliot and Roslyn Jaffe Food Allergy Institute, Division of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Pediatrics, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY, USA. scott.sicherer@mssm.edu

This review highlights some of the research advances in anaphylaxis and hypersensitivity reactions to foods, drugs, and insects, as well as advances in allergic skin disease that were reported in the Journal in 2009. Among key epidemiologic observations, several westernized countries report that more than 1% of children have peanut allergy, and there is some evidence that environmental exposure to peanut is a risk factor. The role of regulatory T cells, complement, platelet-activating factor, and effector cells in the development and expression of food allergy were explored in several murine models and human studies. Delayed anaphylaxis to mammalian meats appears to be related to IgE binding to the carbohydrate moiety galactose-alpha-1,3-galactose, which also has implications for hypersensitivity to murine mAb therapeutics containing this oligosaccharide. Oral immunotherapy studies continue to show promise for the treatment of food allergy, but determining whether the treatment causes tolerance (cure) or temporary desensitization remains to be explored. Increased baseline serum tryptase levels might inform the risk of venom anaphylaxis and might indicate a risk for mast cell disorders in persons who have experienced such episodes. Reduced structural and immune barrier function contribute to local and systemic allergen sensitization in patients with atopic dermatitis, as well as increased propensity of skin infections in these patients. The use of increased doses of non-sedating antihistamines and potential usefulness of omalizumab for chronic urticaria was highlighted. These exciting advances reported in the Journal can improve patient care today and provide insights on how we can improve the diagnosis and treatment of these allergic diseases in the future.



## What is the ECVD?

The European College of Veterinary Dermatology was established in 1991 with the objectives of advancing veterinary dermatology in Europe and increasing the competence of those who practice in this field by:

1. establishing guidelines for post-graduate education and experience prerequisite to becoming a specialist in the discipline of veterinary dermatology;
2. examining and certifying veterinarians as specialists in veterinary dermatology to serve the public by providing expert care for animals with dermatological disease;
3. encouraging research and other contributions to knowledge relating to the pathogenesis, diagnosis, therapy, prevention, and the control of diseases directly or indirectly affecting the skin of animals, and promoting communication and dissemination of this knowledge.

The ECVD and ESVD are co-sponsors and co-organisers of an annual congress.

How does one become member of the ECVD?

The constitution of the ECVD has established the following requirements for active membership. The applicant should:

1. be registered / licensed to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in the European Community.
2. have a satisfactory moral and ethical standing in the profession.
3. have devoted at least 3 years to general veterinary education, training, and practice and to special education, training, and practice of veterinary dermatology after the date of graduation from veterinary school. The following sequence of training is to be used.
  - a. A first period of at least 1 year must be a rotating internship, or equivalent experience in practice, as defined by the ECVD Credentials Committee.
  - b. A standard or alternative residency in dermatology of at least 2 years in total on a continuous or part time basis under supervision of a diplomate or diplomates of the ECVD, or its equivalent, as defined by the ECVD Credentials Committee.
4. have successfully passed the examination by the College and certification by the Executive Committee of the College.

### What types of residencies are available?

Two types of standard residency programmes are available: formalised and individualised.

1. **Formalised Programmes** are those offered by an institution on a routine and regular basis without modifications for particular applicants. Such programmes are designed and approved for a specific number of residents at any one time
2. **Individualised Programmes** are those offered periodically or on a part-time basis by an institution.

The list of current residency programmes and open positions can be found on the Colleges's website ([www.ecvd.org](http://www.ecvd.org)).

An **'alternate route'** to the ECVD diploma examination has been designed to allow individuals who cannot enroll in a standard residency programme. Further details can be found on the ECVD website ([www.ecvd.org](http://www.ecvd.org)).

For any questions regarding residency programmes and the credentialing process, please contact the chairman of the Education & Credentials Committee (Currently: Richard Harvey (e-mail: richardGHarvey@dsl.pipex.com))

**Note on Title Abuse**

We must remind all persons who have successfully passed the Alternate Route Part I exam of the ECVD (now termed the “Alternate Route Qualifying Examination”), that the College does not allow the use of any title in relation to this examination whatsoever.

The use, in any way, of titles such as "ECVD Certificate Holder", "ECVD Part I Diploma Holder", "ECVD Alternate Route Qualifying Examination Holder" or similar is therefore absolutely forbidden by the College.

**Current Officers of the ECVD (2010-2011),**

Emmanuel Bensignor, President

Thierry Olivry, Past-President

Dominique Héripret, Vice-President

Richard Harvey, Treasurer

Monica Linek, Secretary

Jacques Fontaine, Member-at-Large

Alexander Koutinas, Member-at-Large

