

## EDINBURGH WORLD CONGRESS OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY 1996

On crisp, clear September days, delegates gathered in Edinburgh to receive the latest wisdom from the gurus of dermatology. The weather had been on order for three years and the City looked magnificent. "It was worth coming just for the view from the Castle," commented one Dane.

Were they disappointed in the science? Emphatically not — despite a feeling that it may be déjà vu from the more senior dermatologists? The plenary sessions by veterinary dermatologists were a feast of state of the art dermatology. Bob Dunstan's starter on light and the skin was one such session with perfect balance of the familiar and new, impeccably delivered with humour and style. Plenary sessions from the "visitors" were similar - let down by one who thought a World Congress of Dermatology only deserved the "final year student" lecture.

There were plenty of sessions as starters or refreshers for the general practitioner (delegates included plenty of general practitioners from more than one continent, all keen to improve their skills). The free communications and posters provided food for thought for the devotee. What a good idea to provide reprints with the posters! Sadly, some of the best of the free communications were not well attended. My favourites included the world introduction to feline Langerhans cells and an epidemiological study on ringworm in dogs in India by Dr Pal. Most useful was the paper to show the clinician that sulphonamide drugs induce iatrogenic hypothyroidism — a timely reminder of the well-documented toxicology of these drugs.

Every World Congress has a "new" disease and Julie Yager introduced us to the feline sarcoid. The pathologists' workshop brought the sparkling atmosphere associated with the group but lost its way as the session became another presentation of "brown dots".

Were there niggling criticisms? Inevitably. Lack of drinks, poor chairing with misplaced microphones (did the chairmen learn any physiology?) and the low-light of the Congress, a paper of unacceptable ethical standard. As the Canadian pathologist sitting next to me said, that dog should have been euthanased months ago. The sniggers of clinicians at the pictures of this wretched animal were worse than the ignorance of the presenter.

High costs are a long-standing complaint about Congresses. At this one, there were no discounts for ESVD/ECVD members because the World Congress is organised by a separate legal entity. £120.00 per night is not a reasonable fee for a room in Edinburgh. There are many reasonably small hotels within walking distance. Why do Congress organisers treat us as a school party of children to be herded into a hotel chain of international anonymity?

The social programme went with a Highland fling. The organisers should be proud of the quiet efficiency of all the arrangements. "The best informal event I have ever been to" said a congress-frequenting USA speaker about the Scottish evening. The candlelit dinner, like all the catering, was of the highest standard. The dancing (traditional and modern) was FUN. Many thanks to the home Scottish contingent for swirling those kilts round the floor and whirling the rest of us with them. We may have mucked up the formations — but we did enjoy it!

Definitely, the Third World Congress deserves bouquets (of flowers) not brickbats (stones). Well done, lets look forward to Pisa and help, please, with those "allergic" cats!

By Dr Joan Rest, Pathologist ■

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# NEW BOARD ELECTED

## AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

At the Annual General Meeting of ESVD, held during the Edinburgh congress, two winners of the 1996 ESVD Research Award were announced, both were from the UK. The original award was to have been of 5,000 Ecu to a single winner, but, the judges being unable to decide between two "excellent proposals", Cathy Curtis and Tim Nuttal were each awarded the same sum, 5,000 ecu.

Later, the treasurer, Dominique Heripret, reported a healthy situation with the Society's funds, and the membership secretary, Margreet Vroom, reported that membership was at its highest ever, with over 400 members.

Pauline McNeil reported on a survey conducted to discover members wishes for future meetings. From a disappointing response (62 from 400 members) it was clear that many (50) felt a need for further training in immunology, whilst second on the wish-list was a course covering dermatology of the small mammals. The results, said Pauline, will be taken into consideration in the planning.

In an uncontested election **Richard Harvey** became President of the society. The Board members for the coming year are:

Vice President;  
**Ian Mason (UK),**

Treasurer;  
**Dominique Heripret (France),**

Secretary;  
**Helene Raue (Sweden),**

Membership Secretary;  
**Margreet Vroom (Netherlands),**

Further Education Secretary;  
**Zeineb Alhaidari (France).**



### ESVD NEW FULL MEMBERS

*Newly admitted full members of the ESVD*

#### Australia

Pascoe Reg.

#### Austria

Luckinger Gabrielle, Stiel Robert,

#### Czech

Kaspar Radek,

#### Finland

Arimaa Hanna, Kuisma-Parwar Outi,  
Saijonmaa-Koulumies Leena,

#### France

Ansay Louis,

#### Germany

Beck Juergen, Eckert Terril, Kiessling Dagmar,  
Loewenstein Christine, Osthold Wolfgang,  
Peters Stephanie, Ristic Zorana,  
Stechmann Karin, Werhahn Patricia,

#### India

Umesh Kalliahalli Ganesh,

#### Italy

Cerundolo Rosario, Colombo Sylvia,  
Comegliani Loisa, Schiavi Silvi,  
Trefiletti Davide,

#### Luxembourg

Junio Liz,

#### Netherlands

Roosje Petra,

#### Spain

Salo Mur Eduardo,

#### Switzerland

Ballinari-Schroff Anja, Nagel Catherine,  
Scheerer Verena,

#### United Kingdom

Jackson Hilary,

#### USA

Marsella Rosanna,

**Erratum** - The following member details were omitted from the Annual Report, 1996:

**Mrs Marjorie Polden**  
2, Boyds Brook Cottages  
Golden Valley Lane  
Bitton, BRISTOL  
BS15 6NY  
United Kingdom

**Dr Hans Kraus**  
Koolmeeshaag 53  
NL - 3993 AN HOUTEN  
Netherlands



## Programme

### General

- Canine recurrent pyoderma: predisposing factors, diagnosis and therapy
- What's new in dermatophytosis
- Role of Malassezia in skin disease
- Update on leishmaniasis
- Update on demodicosis
- Feline allergy
- Otitis externa
- Canine nasal depigmentation
- Perianal diseases in the dog
- Canine non-endocrine alopecias
- Congenital and acquired alopecias in dogs
- Panniculitis
- Actinic dermatoses
- Cytology of nodular lesions
- How to take a good skin biopsy
- What's new in dermatological therapy
- Antibiotics in feline dermatology
- Antipruritic drugs in the cat

### Specialized

- Cancer development and metastasis
- Markers in cutaneous pathology
- Histiocytosis
- Lymphoma and pseudolymphoma
- Pre- and paraneoplastic diseases
- Cutaneous ecosystem
- Pathogenesis of staphylococcal infection
- Pharmacokinetics of antibiotics
- Immunotherapy in chronic pyoderma
- Structure and function of collagen
- Congenital and acquired collagen degeneration
- Pathogenesis of vasculitis

### Clinicopathological conference

- Lichenoid dermatosis
- Follicular atrophy and dystrophy

### Breakfast roundtables

- Drug eruptions
- German shepherd pyoderma
- Cutaneous leishmaniasis
- Malassezia dermatitis

### Free communications and posters

### Speakers

- V. Affolter (USA)
- Z. Alhaidari (F)
- R. Bond (UK)
- R. Cerundolo (I)
- D. DeBoer (USA)
- F. Fabbrini (I)
- L. Ferrer (E)
- A. Fondani (I)
- R. Garrone (F)
- D. Heripret (F)
- M. Kietzmann (D)
- K. Mason (Aust)
- L. Meccoli (I)
- C. Noli (I)
- T. Olivry (USA)
- C. Tieghi (I)
- C. von Tscharner (CH)
- A. Vercelli (I)

I am interested in receiving  
more information about the  
14th Annual Congress ESVD-ECVD  
Pisa - Italy, 5-7 September 1997

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Zip code: .....

Town .....

Country .....

Tel. .... / .....

Fax ..... / .....

I am interested in submitting a  
free communication and/or a  
poster

Please note: deadline for  
submission of free communications  
is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1997

**Language**

The congress language is English. A simultaneous translation into Italian will be provided for the general programme.

**Registration**

Please fill in the cut off sheet attached and send it back to:

**NEW TEAM**  
Via C. Ghiretti, 2  
I-43100 Parma  
ITALY

**NEW TEAM**  
Via C. Ghiretti, 2  
I - 43100 Parma  
ITALY

**5-7 September 1997**  
**PISA - ITALY**  
**First announcement**



**virbac**



**LITERATURE ABSTRACTS FOR THE ESVD BULLETIN  
NOVEMBER 1996**

**1. SYMMETRICAL LUPOID ONYCHODYSTROPHY versus LUPOID ONYCHIA**

Scott, D.W., Rousselle, S., Miller, W.H. Symmetrical lupoid onychodystrophy in dogs: a retrospective analysis of 18 cases (1989-1993). *J Amer Anim Hosp Assn* 1995; 31: 194-201.

Eighteen dogs with exclusive claw disease were reviewed. Onychomadesis and onychodystrophy were observed on every claw. Histopathological examination revealed predominantly lymphocytic lichenoid interface dermatitis affecting primarily the nail matrix. Antinuclear antibody test was negative in 10 out of 12 dogs. Treatment with fatty acids, prednisone or vitamin E appeared successful in most cases.

Note: in some dogs, we have observed that only a few claws may be affected and that the disease may present with onychomadesis without onychodystrophy. Therefore we propose the name "lupoid onychia" as opposed to "symmetrical lupoid onychodystrophy". This disease bears some resemblance with "nailbed lichen planus" in humans.

**2. KERATINOCYTES CAN RELEASE HISTAMINE FOLLOWING EXPOSURE TO UV LIGHT**

Malaviya, R., Morrison, A.R., Pentland, A.P. Histamine in human epidermal cells is induced by ultraviolet light injury. *J Invest Dermatology* 1996; 106: 785-9.

This study was undertaken to test the hypothesis that the epidermis itself could generate histamine and participate to the allergic inflammation. It was demonstrated that, following exposure to UVB light, human epidermal keratinocytes release histamine in quantities comparable to that of mast cells. In 40 % of individuals, keratinocytes exhibit increased quantities of histamine basally. This epidermal histamine secretion may be involved in the mediation of cutaneous inflammation.

**3. CAT ALLERGENS IN HOMES WITHOUT CATS**

Bollinger, R.E., Eggleston, P.A., Flanagan, E., Wood, R.A. Cat antigen in homes with and without cats may induce allergic symptoms. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 1996; 97: 907-14.

The purpose of this study was to compare the level of the Fel d I allergen in airborne and settled dust from various homes with and without cats. It was demonstrated that, even in the absence of cats in the household, levels of the cat allergen in the airborne and settled dusts were increased and in the range capable of causing upper and lower respiratory symptoms in subjects allergic to cats. This suggests that we could include the cat allergen in immunotherapy preparations of animals hypersensitive to cats, even though the dogs may not be in contact with cats.



#### 4. DEFECTIVE GUT MUCOSAL ALLERGEN TRANSFER IN CHILDREN WITH ATOPIC DERMATITIS

Majamaa, H., Isolauri, E. Evaluation of the gut mucosal barrier: evidence for increased antigen transfer in children with atopic eczema. *J Allergy Clin Immunol* 1996; 97: 985-90.

This study was designed to test the theory that the increased prevalence of food allergies in atopic children was due to a defect in the intestinal absorption of food allergens. The results confirmed that the absorption rates of both intact and degraded forms of a large protein were increased in atopic children compared to normal individuals. This suggests a primarily altered antigen transfer in patients with atopic dermatitis which may result in increased immune responses to common food or environmental allergens

#### 5. DOGS AND HUMANS WITH ATOPIC DERMATITIS DO NOT RECOGNIZE THE SAME HOUSE DUST MITE ALLERGENS

Noli, C., Bernardina, W.E., Willemsse, T. The significance of reactions to purified fractions of *Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus* and *Dermatophagoides farinae* in canine atopic dermatitis. *Vet Immunol Immunopathol* 1996; 52: 147-157.

This elegant study confirms, via skin testing, ELISA and immunoblotting, that mite-allergic dogs do not exhibit significant reactions to Der p I, Der p II, Der f I and Der f II, the major house-dust mite allergens in humans. However, dogs with atopic dermatitis exhibit circulating IgGd to a 90 kDa *D. farinae* protein not recognized by normal dogs.

\*\* Note: In collaboration with Greer's laboratory, we have now purified a similar 90 kDa protein that exhibits the major canine *D. farinae* epitopes. We have confirmed that >95% of mite-allergic dogs exhibit IgE antibodies and skin reactivity to this unique p90 protein. Normal dogs are apparently not sensitized to this protein. Identification and sequencing of the p90 protein is in progress.

#### 6. THE NEW INSECT GROWTH REGULATOR, PYRIPROXYFEN, MAY KILL ADULT FLEAS

Meola, R., Pullen, S., Meola, S. Toxicity and histopathology of the growth-regulator pyriproxyfen to adults and eggs of the cat flea (*Siphonaptera, Pulicidae*). *J Med Entomol* 1996; 33: 670-9.

Adult fleas exposed continuously to pyriproxyfen die within 10 days. Microscopic examination of the fleas revealed lesions in the fat body, various internal organs as well as maturing oocytes. This suggests that exposure of fleas to pyriproxyfen on a host animal could result in the death of the fleas and the deposition of non-viable eggs. Therefore, this new growth regulator may help control all stages of the fleas.

#### 7. CHRONIC URTICARIA IN HUMANS AND *TOXOCARA CANIS* INFECTION

Wolfrom, E., Chene, G., LeJoly-Boisseau, H., Beylot, C., Geniaux, M., Taieb, A. Chronic urticaria and *Toxocara canis* infection: a case-study. *Ann Dermatol Venereol* 1996; 123: 240-6.

Fifty-one patients with chronic urticaria were matched to control individuals. The presence of circulating antibodies to *Toxocara canis* was determined by ELISA and immunoblotting. The frequency of *T. canis* antibodies was significantly higher in patients with urticaria (64.7 %) than in controls (21 %). Patients with urticaria were more frequently in contact with pets. Half of the patients with *T. canis* antibodies were treated with thiabendazole or ivermectin. Sixty five percent of these patients were cured or improved with antiparasitic therapy. This study suggests that an infection with *T. canis* may be associated with chronic urticaria in some human patients.

## 8. CYTOMEGALOVIRUS AND HUMAN VITILIGO

Grimes, P., Sevall, J.S., Vojdani, A., Schuab, A. Qu, Z. Demonstration of cytomegalovirus (CMV) DNA and CMV antibody responses in the peripheral blood of vitiligo patients and matched controls. *J Invest Dermatol* 1996; 106: 912 [Abstract].

Previous studies have demonstrated the presence of CMV-DNA in the involved and uninvolved skin of human patients suffering from vitiligo, suggesting that the virus may be involved immunologic response directed against cutaneous melanocytes. This study extends the previous results with the demonstration that peripheral blood leukocytes of 62% of affected human individuals are infected with CMV, whereas only 25% of matched controls are similarly infected.

## 9. PEMPHIGUS AND GARLIC

Ruocco, V., Brenner, S., Lombardi, M.L. A case of diet related pemphigus. *Dermatology* 1996; 192: 373-4.

Previous studies have reported that a specific group of plants of the *Allium* family (onion, leek, garlic) contain various compounds with disulfide and thiol groups that were prime candidates for causing keratinocyte acantholysis. A subsequent investigation confirmed the earlier hypothesis that three compounds of garlic (allylmercaptan, allylmethylsulfide, allylsulfide) could indeed cause epidermal acantholysis *in vitro*. The present report presents the clinical application of these laboratory results and describe a case of human pemphigus foliaceus putatively associated with garlic ingestion. While on a garlic and onion-free diet, the patient did not show any new lesions for several month. New lesions erupted within days of a spicy meal. Further exacerbation of the disease was prevented with strict adherence to the spice free diet. Even though the association of pemphigus worsening and the spicy diet lies entirely on circumstantial evidence, this anecdote deserves attention. We should also consider the possibility that medications or dietary factors may be triggering pemphigus. Isn't garlic used commonly as a "natural" flea preventative? In a recent study from California, wasn't pemphigus foliaceus presumably associated significantly with flea infestation and flea allergy dermatitis? Who will confirm the first case(s) of garlic-triggered pemphigus in the dog?

Thierry Olivry, Dr. Vet.  
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Department of Companion Animal and Special Species Medicine  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
North Carolina State University  
Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.A.

# DERMATOLOGY RESIDENTS' SEMINAR

## *Anita Patel describes the work and the fun in Edinburgh*

The pre-congress residents' meeting took place on Wednesday 11 September at the University Veterinary School in Edinburgh, one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the UK. This, the third meeting, was well attended by residents from all over the world ranging from Australia through Europe to North America.

In the morning we had an enlightening experience travelling down a hair follicle, with Bob Dunstan. This excellent lecture clarified many aspects of hair follicle anatomy and physiology and raised questions of our understanding of some of the well documented diseases, for instance: is follicular dysplasia in red and black Dobermanns really a dystrophy? Prof. Dunstan showed us slides on the hair follicles of porcupines and hedgehogs and on some rare congenital defects, eg toothpaste hair in deer and rhino-skin in mice.

The afternoon session started with Ian Mason giving the residents a Talk on how to give a Talk, or in more scientific terms, a free communication. He told us about the do's and don'ts, how the adrenaline level rises and how not to let it fall until question time is over! Apropos of questions and questioners, Dr Mason suggested that there were four reasons why people asked questions:

- 1) to draw attention to themselves,
  - 2) to let you know how clever they are,
  - 3) to let you know how clever you aren't,
- and
- 4) because (very rarely) they want to know the answer.



I am sure that this presentation will help many of us structure the free communications that we may wish to give in the future. The seminar concluded with case presentations from the residents themselves who did very well, especially considering that for many of them English is not their first language.

The residents' meeting lived up to its reputation for liveliness and was followed by cocktails at the Third World Congress and an even more lively dinner in Leith. For this we thank our sponsors, Bayer and Iams, for making it possible, and the speakers on their excellent presentations, and lastly, Chiara Noli, Cathy Curtis, Tim Nuttal and Sophie Gilbert for the hard work in organising it.

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## EUROPEAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY

### *Residency Programmes*

The European College of Veterinary Dermatology (ECVD) has developed guidelines to enable it to approve residency programmes. Such programmes will provide in depth training in veterinary dermatology, related basic and applied sciences and areas of medical dermatology to allow graduate veterinarians to develop comprehensive knowledge of the dermatological conditions of domestic animals, to add to that body of knowledge and to meet the dermatological training requirements of the ECVD Credentials Committee for entry to the ECVD Diploma examination.

Residency programmes may be conducted at veterinary schools/colleges or other institutions (including approved private dermatology clinics). All residency programmes must be under the direct supervision of a Diplomate of the ECVD or, in exceptional circumstances, an individual with approved equivalent training, experience and qualifications.

Additionally, institutions (including private dermatology clinics) may apply retrospectively for approval of residency programmes begun before

1 June 1996 to allow residents who started in such a position before that date to have their training approved. The content of the training programme for which retrospective approval is sought must closely approximate to the published ECVD Residency Programme guidelines. Approval of all residency programmes beginning after 1 June 1996 must be sought prospectively. Applications must be made by the director of the training programme. Applications from residents themselves will not be accepted.

Directors who are interested in gaining either prospective or retrospective ECVD approval for their programmes are invited to apply for more detailed information, stating which type of approval is required, to the current Chairperson of the ECVD Education Committee:

**Dr Margreet Vroom**  
Boxtelsebaan 6  
NL - 5061 VD Oisterwijk  
The Netherlands



## HAVE YOU A PROJECT NEEDING FUNDS?

### ESVD Research support

ESVD wishes to encourage high standards in all aspects of veterinary dermatology and to promote the development of related research. Applications are invited for a grant of 5,000 Ecu to support a research project related to veterinary dermatology.

Preference will be given to novel proposals including the development of pilot studies but applications for support of some identifiable component of on-going research work will be considered. It is not the intention to provide funds for single items of capital expenditure. All applications will be subject to peer review and must include background information, project aims and objectives, project design and specific methods and budget together with a summary including an explanation of the relevance of the proposed work to veterinary dermatology. The description of the project excluding references and budget shall not exceed 5 pages. Successful applicants will be expected to submit their results for publication in **Veterinary Dermatology** and to present their findings to ESVD members at the annual congress. Any use of experimental animals must conform to animal welfare regulations. **Completed applications to be received before 31st March 1997**

**Helen Raue**, Secretary ESVD,  
Oxie Smadjursklinik, Oxietorpsvagen 1  
S-23030 OXIE, Sweden.

## CALL FOR FREE COMMUNICATIONS:

### ESVD/ECVD Congress, 1997

Congress is the place for exciting ideas, new research, the place for residents to practise their presentation skills.

All those who wish to present a free communication, or a poster should apply for the necessary form from the Further Education Secretary Zeineb Alhaidari

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### Disclaimer

Views expressed in this Bulletin are those of individual authors, not necessarily those of ESVD, and ESVD can accept no responsibility for comments made herein.

## DIARY DATES

### 1997

ESVD/ECVD Congress,  
Pisa: Italy, **September 5-7**

Clinical Pathology, Nantes, France, **June 1997**

### 1998

Cutaneous Dermatology, Germany.

ESVD/ECVD Congress,  
Maastricht, **September 1998**

## DIPLOMA EXAMINATION E.C.V.D.

The European College of Veterinary Dermatology held its first Diploma Examination last July. For examiners and candidates it was a stressful, but finally rewarding period. The examination had five different parts: multiple choice questions, essay questions, dermatohistopathology (including cytology), with a written report of two cases: a horse with alopecia areata and a cat suspected of hyperadrenocorticism. Not only physical examination, but also a detailed diagnostic plan was required. For the other parts, all kinds of questions were asked, ranging from basic sciences to clinical dermatology and various species, like cats, dogs, horses, goats, sheep, exotics and fish were involved. Obviously the preparation of this examination was very intensive for all members of the examination committee (Dr David Lloyd, Dr Luis Ferrer,

Dr Richard Harvey, Dr Ton Willemse), but even more energy-consuming was the preparation of the candidates. The entire examination took two full days and was financially supported by Waltham. The facilities of the Utrecht Faculty of Veterinary Medicine were a nice environment to hold this event. At the end it was a pleasure and relief to conclude that both candidates passed and became the first who obtained the Diplomate status along the official route.

***Congratulations to Cbiara Noll  
and Petra Roosje!***

**Dr Ton Willemse**  
Chairman ECVD Examination Committee