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April 2000

EDITORIAL

THE ESVD BULLETIN HAS TWO MAIN FUNCTIONS. As a source of information it continues to serve the membership well. This edition has details of future courses, reports of past courses and a full itinerary of dermatology meetings in Europe and beyond. As a forum for the members it is serving less well, as the paucity of letters in this issue testifies. There are 600 or so ESVD members, so even if 1% were to put pen to paper, there would be 6 items per bulletin. The ESVD Bulletin is YOUR Bulletin. Use it.

Abstract Watch

For some time Thierry Olivry kept us well informed of topical items and abstracts in the dermatology literature. It is with regret that Thierry can no longer keep up the abstract watch for the bulletin. This has been a very useful feature of the bulletin, and it would be a pity if it were to be lost. Fame and fortune (?) awaits the volunteer who gets in touch with the editor...

Annual General Meeting of the ESVD

As the fourth World Congress in Veterinary Dermatology takes place in San Francisco this year, there will be no ESVD congress. However, the ESVD constitution stipulates an AGM must be held in Europe each year. The AGM will therefore take place at the autumn meeting of the British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group in Harrogate, England over 7th-8th October (see details elsewhere in this bulletin).

Fourth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology

As everyone must know by now WCVD4 will take place in the beautiful and historic city of San Francisco from 30th August to 2nd September 2000. The organisers promise to make this congress even better than its predecessors, with something of interest for the clinical specialist, the interested general practitioner, the dermatopathologist, skin biologists and pharmacologists and an unrivalled social programme. The four days of intensive dermatology include state of the art addresses by renowned speakers, supporting reviews and original studies, and informal workshops on a wide range of topics. There are also clinicopathological conferences, free communication and poster sessions, and the commercial exhibition.

Please visit their web-site at <http://www.meetingmakers.com/wcvd/> for further information and to register online. On line registration is encouraged as it ensures first pick of the Workshops, which will be limited to 40 people each (there are currently 20 workshops planned). Attendance at the other scientific programs will be unlimited.

The International Society for Veterinary Dermatopathology meeting and Residents' Forum (see notices in this bulletin) will be held on Wednesday 30th August.

This will be a truly unique experience, but the year is not all that bleak for those remaining nearer home. This bulletin carries details of a number of meetings and courses to keep you up to date and informed.

Final Thought - Allergies and Modern Lifestyles

There is no doubt that allergies are the disease of the moment. Up to 30% of children in Western societies suffer from allergic diseases. Human allergists are now recognised as a distinct specialists. Atopic dermatitis is one of the most common diseases in veterinary practice and can account for nearly 50% of all dermatology referrals. Have modern lifestyles contributed to this situation? In human medicine interest has focused on how high indoor temperatures and humidity have increased exposure to house dust mite allergen. Dogs are now predominantly indoor companions, sharing our environment and dust mites. A recent BBC news item discussed how allergies might be related to defective maturation of the immune system. There is a growing consensus that lack of exposure to pathogenic and non-pathogenic microbes inhibits development of the immune system, allowing it to deviate in a pro-allergenic direction. Just like ourselves, dogs are fed sterile processed diets, are heavily vaccinated, receive routine antibiotics and blanket worming and live in clean environments. The radio item raised the possibility of exposing children to microbes via 'live' foods or a concentrated cocktail of micro-organisms. In the 21st century we may go beyond the old adage of 'a little bit of dirt never did anyone any harm' to believing it might actually do some good.

Visit the ESVD homepage! - http://www.rvc.ac.uk/guest_li/esvd/esvd1.htm

Report From the ESVD Publications and Grants Officer

by *Chiara Noli* (Milano, Italy)

THE ESVD RESEARCH AWARDS were established in 1996. Since then five Grants have been awarded.

In 1996 the grant was jointly awarded to Tim Nuttall and Cathy Curtis from the UK. Tim Nuttall presented the results of his research on serum specific IgG and IgE responses to *Malassezia* in normal and atopic dogs at the ESVD Congresses in Pisa (1997) and Maastricht (1998), and has just submitted an article to *Veterinary Dermatology*. Cathy Curtis has presented the results of her investigation on staphylococcal autogenous vaccines at the ESVD Congress in Helsinki (1999) and is presently writing up her results for publication.

In 1997 the Grant was awarded to Julie Yager in Canada. She will present the results of her research on the pathogenesis of and immune response in canine demodicosis at the Fourth

World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology in San Francisco and is currently preparing a paper for publication.

Fabia Scarampella from Italy was awarded the ESVD Grant in 1998. She presented the results of her research on the efficacy and tolerance of Palmidrol as a therapy for eosinophilic granuloma and eosinophilic plaques in cats at the ESVD Congress in Helsinki (1999). Her paper was accepted for publication in *Veterinary Dermatology* in December 1999.

In 1999 Hilary Jackson from the United States won the Grant with her proposal entitled 'Ulcerative Dermatitis and Dermatomyositis in the Shetland Sheepdog and Collie: an immunopathological and immunohistochemical comparison'. Her research is ongoing and she plans to present her results at the ESVD Congress 2001 in Copenhagen.

ESVD and Royal Canin Sponsor Young Dermatologists

Royal Canin was founded by a veterinarian. Nutritionally associated skin diseases were a common problem in his practice and his main goal was to provide dogs and cats with complete and balanced diets that would ensure a healthy coat.



Royal Canin still recognises the impact nutrition has on the hair and skin of companion animals but we realize that much still needs to be learned in veterinary dermatology. This is why Royal Canin, in collaboration with the European Society of Veterinary Dermatology, will help ten young veterinarians who have demonstrated a strong interest in dermatology to participate at the Fourth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology in San Francisco, 30th August - 2nd September 2000. Those selected will be contacted individually.

N.B. - *The editor is one of the invited dermatologists. However, the article was accepted before the invitation was made and does not imply preferential endorsement by the ESVD Bulletin.*

Message from the Organisers of WCVD4

by *Wayne S. Rosenkrantz, DVM, ACVD*

Chairperson, Funding Committee

Fourth World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors

THE UPCOMING FOURTH WORLD CONGRESS OF VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY would not be possible if it were not for the generous sponsorship of the following companies. Many of these companies are not only contributing to the Congress by way of financial donations, but also through aiding the social events.

Our sponsorship has been divided into four different levels. Listed are the different sponsorship levels with a company's additional contributions. The entire dermatology community greatly appreciates this support and in turn I encourage all of you to support these companies' products and services. Thank you.

Principal Sponsors

- DVM Pharmaceuticals
- Allerderm
- Pfizer
- Merial
- Novartis
- Purina
- Iams

The following companies will be sponsoring additional Congress events:

DVM Pharmaceuticals (Streets of San Francisco - Ghirardelli Square and Congress Tote Bags); *Pfizer Animal Health* (Company Symposium, the Scientific Proceedings - Abstracts, and an Otitis Externa Workshop); *Merial* (Company Symposium, Streets of San Francisco - Fisherman's Wharf, and a Flea Control Workshop); *Novartis* (Company Symposium, the Opening Ceremony, and two Workshops); *Purina* (Company Symposium, and a Genetics Workshop); *Iams* (Company Symposium).

Major Sponsors

- Bayer
- Waltham
- Hills
- Heska
- Innovative Veterinary Diets
- Pharmacia and Upjohn

The following companies will be sponsoring additional Congress events: *Bayer* (Co-Sponsor Streets of San Francisco - Chinatown); *Waltham* (Congress Portfolios, Fatty Acid Workshop); *Hills* (Clinical Proceedings, Co-Sponsor Streets of San Francisco - Chinatown, Two Workshops); *Heska* (Housedust Mite Workshop).

Supporting Sponsors

- Janssen Animal Health
- Alpharma

Alpharma will also be sponsoring a Dermatophytosis Workshop.

Sponsors

- Greer Laboratories
- Veterinary Allergy Reference Labs
- Evsco
- DermaPet

The following companies will be sponsoring additional Congress events: *Veterinary Allergy Reference Labs* (Allergy Workshop); *Evsco* (Topical Anti-pruritic Workshop); *DermaPet* (Co-Sponsor with Rosenblum Cellars for wine at Streets of San Francisco evening).

Editor's note - the views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the ESVD or the ESVD Bulletin

ESVD Workshop on Dermatological Therapy – A Perspective from the Floor

by *Silvia Auxilia* (Crema, Italy)

THE ESVD WORKSHOP on dermatological therapy was held in the medieval town of Cremona (east of Milan, Italy) from the 28th to the 31st of October 1999. It took place in the Palazzo Trecchi, a 15th century building typical of a town full of medieval and renaissance monuments. The atmosphere was reinforced by the renaissance scenes and colours covering the walls and ceiling of the hall where the workshop took place.

The speakers were Dr. Craig Griffin, Dr. Mark Papich and Dr. Alessandra Fondati. Each approach was different, yet complementary and each gave uniformly excellent presentations. The workshop started with a preliminary section on the principles of drug action, interaction and reaction and on the principles of systemic and topical dermatological therapy. The following sections included therapy of bacterial and fungal infections, inflammatory diseases and pruritus, described first from a pharmacological viewpoint and then from a clinical angle. For example, in antibacterial therapy, strategies for effective use, such as evaluation of penetration to the site of infection, bacterial susceptibility, optimal dosing using pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies and selection of appropriate drugs were initially considered. Subsequently treatment of pyoderma, including recognition of underlying diseases, pathological changes, client education and treatment options were discussed.

The workshop also looked at the use of retinoids and vitamin A, demodicosis and leishmaniasis, immune-mediated and autoimmune diseases, behavioural modifying drugs, otitis and non-inflammatory alopecias.

Recently described treatments as well as traditional therapies were discussed. It was interesting that many treatment protocols are not based on pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic studies in dogs and cats. More commonly protocols are taken from the human literature and adapted to animals.

The atmosphere throughout was pleasant and relaxed. The 50 participants from all over Europe all brought clinical experience and a desire to share it. Throughout the workshop, discussion would spread through the group, and different experiences compared.

Violins were invented in Cremona, and a tradition in 'liuteria' (production of violins) continues to this day. We were fortunate enough to visit the townhall and violin museum, and listening to music played on the 'Stradivari' (made in 1715) was especially memorable.

The organisers (Chiara Noli and Antonella Vercelli) should be congratulated for finding three excellent speakers, finding a wonderful venue and in developing a friendly and co-operative atmosphere. It was a great learning experience for all of us.

Veterinary Wound Management - The Way Ahead

THE VETERINARY WOUND HEALING ASSOCIATION was founded in 1997 by a diverse group of clinicians, pharmacists and scientists in response to the need for better wound management strategies in animals. The association provides a forum for discussion on all aspects of wound management and promotes research into the biology of wounds and their management. It organises national and international meetings and training courses, with at least one scientific meeting annually. The association also has a website at <http://www.cf.ac.uk/wuc/VWHA>.

The next meeting will be held at the Smith & Nephew Research Centre, York, England on 10th May 2000.

For further details please contact the secretary:

Mrs S.M.E. Cockbill
VWHA Secretary,
Surgical Dressings Research Unit,
Welsh School of Pharmacy,
UWC Redwood Building,
Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF1 3XF, Wales, UK.
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Residents day at the Fourth World Veterinary Dermatology Congress in San Francisco

OUR ANNUAL RESIDENTS' PRE-CONGRESS DAY will not take place this year, as there will be no ESVD/ECVD Congress. Instead, this year, European residents will be joining the North Americans at the Residents' Forum, on **Wednesday August 30th** prior to the Fourth World Veterinary Dermatology Congress in San Francisco. ACVD and ECVD residents will present abstracts in the morning and a structure and function review session will be held in the afternoon. This Resident's Forum, as the European Pre-Congress Day, presents an excellent opportunity for residents to prepare and deliver a free communication. All those studying for diploma level examinations are welcome to attend. As usual a fine dinner will be held after the

meeting. The organisers are grateful to Allerderm, Bayer, Iams, the AAVD and ESVD for their continued support of these study days.

For further details please contact:

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International Society of Veterinary Dermatopathology Annual Meeting

THE INAUGURAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING of the International Society of Veterinary Dermatopathology will take place on Wednesday 30th August 2000. Veterinary dermatopathology has long been a vital complementary science to clinical veterinary dermatology and interest in dermatopathology has continued to grow among dermatologists and pathologists alike. This year, the ISVD has assembled a world-class panel of speakers. Highlights of the meeting include:

- Dr. Ann Avery
Colorado State University
Molecular Markers of Malignancy
- Dr. John Wojcieszyn
IHC Services
The Role of Immunohistochemistry in the Diagnosis of Cutaneous Neoplasms
- The A. A. Stannard Session
Controversies in Dermatopathology
- Difficult Diagnoses
A Kodachrome slide presentation, with glass slides available for review for study prior to the session
- Short Communications in Dermatopathology

All full registrants for WCVD4 are welcome to attend all sessions of the ISVD meeting. Pathologists interested in registering only for this one-day meeting should contact Dr. Emily Walder on ++1 310 574 3327 information and registration fees.

Letters

Part One Diploma Examinations

I, AND OTHERS, have a question about the part 1 ECVD diploma examinations - why were the results of both recent (1998 and 1999) part 1 examinations not published? Are the results felt unimportant by the ESVD or is there another reason?

Erik Jan Tjalsma
The Netherlands

Sorry Erik, I don't know. Perhaps someone from the ECVD or ESVD board would like to comment on this in the next bulletin - Editor.

Epidemiological Survey of Dermatophytosis in Dogs and Cats

AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SURVEY of dermatophytosis in dogs and cats in Europe has recently been announced in the European Confederation of Medical Mycology Newsletter (2/99).

I encourage you to participate in this survey to facilitate participation of colleagues throughout Europe interested in animal mycoses, whether or not they belong to the ECM.

I hope that this study may lead to the foundation of a working group dedicated to animal mycoses.

F. Javier Cabañes Saenz
Departament de Patologia i de Producció Animals,
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

Future ESVD Workshops

May 2001 *Dermatopathology (with wetlab); London, England*

- Speakers: Verena Affolter - Claudia von Tscharnner - Julie Yager
- Local organiser: David Lloyd
- Maximum 30 participants

June or July 2001 *Feline Dermatology (with practicals); Amsterdam, Netherlands*

- Speakers: To be confirmed
- Local organisers: Ton Willemse - Mieke Leistra - Jacqueline Sinke
- Maximum 30 participants

2002 *Clinical Pathology (with wetlab); Nantes, France*

- Speakers: To be confirmed
- Local organisers: Patrick Bourdeau -

Dominique Heripret

- Maximum 30 participants

2002 *Exotic Dermatology; Utrecht, The Netherlands*

- Speakers: To be confirmed
- Local organisers: Nico Schoemaker - Jacqueline Sinke
- Maximum 30 participants

2003 *Skin Biology (with wet lab); Reichnau, Switzerland*

- Speakers: To be confirmed
- Local organiser: Claudia von Tscharnner
- Maximum 30 participants

2003 *Canine Dermatology; Copenhagen, Denmark*

- Speakers: To be confirmed
- Local organiser: Flemming Kristensen
- Maximum 30 participants

Dermatology around Europe - National Dermatology Group Meetings

3rd-4th June

GEDAC (French Veterinary Dermatology Group) meeting - Marseille, France

18th-29th September

European School for Advanced Veterinary Studies Course Dermatology I; Luxembourg
Further information - ESAVS Office,
Am Kirchplatz 2, D-55765 Birkenfeld, Germany.
Fax - ++49 6782-4314

email - info@esavs.net

WWW - <http://www.esavs.net>

17th September

SIDEV (Italian Veterinary Dermatology Society) meeting on Leishmaniasis - Cremona, Italy

5th-7th December

SIDEV meeting on The Dermatology of Exotic Animals - Cremona, Italy

The Swedish Veterinary Dermatology Study Group

by *Helene Raue, Ulla Petersson and Elisabeth Hernblad*

THE SWEDISH VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY STUDY GROUP (SVDSG) had an informal start in 1984 when eight veterinarians with special interest in dermatology, Britta Öhlen, Helene Raue, Birgit Holm, Ulla Petersson, Lennart Pihl, Göran Pålsson, Jan Wissler and Lage Bellström came together in Skåne after a meeting a Copenhagen and SVDSG, or as the group is called in Sweden, Skinnklubben, was founded.

In May 1991 the group gained official status with a board.

Today's board members are Kerstin Bergvall, Ann Edman, Inger Karlsson, Christna Dreimanis and Marianne Mellgren. Most of the founders are still active in the group.

During the years several meetings have been arranged with speakers like Richard Halliwell, Keith Thoday, Ton Willemse, Peter Ihrke, Thelma Lee Gross-Ihrke, Claudia von Tscherner, Didier Carlotti, Luis Ferrer and many others.

Our largest event took place in 1990 when the ESVD congress took place just outside Stockholm. Two meetings have been held on

Gran Canaria - a much warmer place than Sweden!

Many of the participants took the chance to take their families and this informal way of working was very much appreciated.

In March 19-20 this year SVDSG arranged a course in immunology with Thierry Olivry as a brilliant speaker.

SVDSG aims to arrange two meetings a year, one with case discussions and one with an invited speaker. Today there are approximately 160 members who receive every one to two months mailings from SVDSG containing information about dermatology meetings around the world, reports from these meetings and suggested reading.

Meetings planned for 2000 include:

- Cytology with wet lab in January
 - Erik Teske (English)
 - (limited number of participants)
- Endocrinology in Stockholm in March
 - Ad Rijnberk (English)

The Flemish Veterinary Dermatology Study Group

by *Jan Declercq, President of the Flemish Veterinary Dermatology Study Group*

THE FLEMISH VETERINARY DERMATOLOGY STUDY GROUP was founded in 1992. The aim of the group was to bring together colleagues in Belgium with a basic knowledge and interest in dermatology.

To avoid becoming a large group with non-active members there are strict criteria for membership.

At present, there are 17 members who meet every two months for case presentations, discussions,

and to set up problem orientated approaches.

Although in the past we have organised meetings and workshops, as there is now an overwhelming range of exciting meetings elsewhere, we don't feel the need to organise further of these ourselves.

Each year we participate in national meetings, as we feel it is important to give our members the opportunity and experience of speaking and presenting to a larger audience.

Autumn Meeting of the British Veterinary Dermatology Study Group

October 7/8th 2000: The Crown Hotel, Harrogate, England

Structure and Function: Keratinocytes, Hair Follicles and Pigmentation

Speakers:

- Dr. Kelly Credille
Keratinocyte structure and differentiation.
Keratinisation and ichthyosis.
Epidermal and sebaceous lipids
- pathogenesis of greasy skin.
Hair follicle material - follicle cycling in telogen species and in hypothyroid dogs, and the bulge hypothesis.
- Dr. Desmond Tobin
The basic biology of pigmentation.

- The basic biology of hair follicle cycling.
- Zeineb Alhaidari
Diseases of skin pigmentation.
- Chiara Noli
Hair follicles and trichograms
- clinical relevance.

There will also be a pathologists forum with Kelly Credille, Malcolm Shipstone, and David Shearer, Joan Rest and Trevor Whitbread.

For further details please contact Karen Bates at Class Events, 20 Magnus Drive, Hatch Warren, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG22 4TX, UK.

Tel - +44 (0)1256 325464,

Fax - +44 (0) 1256 346975,

email - classevents@msn.com.

Please note that the ESVD AGM will take place during this meeting.

Dermatology Images on the Web

THE ADVENT OF THE WORLD WIDE WEB has revolutionised the storage and distribution of clinical images. A central database can now hold an almost unlimited archive of images that can be accessed from any computer. New images from around the world can be archived to expand the pool of diseases covered and high quality images may also be downloaded for information, teaching and research. Subscribers to the Vetderm listserv will already know how informative having digital images to peruse alongside textual information can be.

The Dermatological Online Atlas, or DOIA (Diepgen T.L. & Eysenbach G. [1998] Digital images in dermatology and the Dermatology Online Atlas on the World Wide Web. *Journal of Dermatology* 25, 782-7.), is a data base available on the internet at <http://www.dermis.net> which aims to provide an image collection and entry point into dermatological resources on the World Wide Web. The image archive contains about

3,000 clinical images covering more than 600 dermatological diagnoses, and further submissions are welcomed. Parallel sites in English and German also provide links to other sites of dermatological interest and academic material on human dermatology.

Marcelo de Campos Pereira from the Department of Parasitology at the University of São Paulo, Brazil has put together a large collection of high quality images of parasites of veterinary importance

(<http://parasitology.icb2.usp.br/marcelocp/>).

The images can be freely down-loaded for educational use. The various bugs are listed etymologically, and the site also contains useful summaries of the lifecycles and importance of each parasite.

If any reader is aware of other good quality internet sites, please feel free to submit the location and any comments to the editor for inclusion in further issues of the ESVD Bulletin.