

Annual Report 2008-2009

Part 1: Identification

Working Group on: Coronary Pathophysiology and Microcirculation

Nucleus composition (name):

Raffaele Bugiardini
Cor De Wit
Maria Dorubanto
Juan Carlos Kaski
Akos Koller
Gaetano A Lanza
Viola Vaccarino
Axel Radlach Pries

Excused:

Lina Badimon
Roberto Corti
Mario Marzilli

The nucleus meeting was opened by the report of the chairman of the Working Group, Prof. Raffaele Bugiardini. First, he explained the new rules and regulations by the ESC pertaining to the tenure of Nucleus members. The ESC has stipulated that the duration of nucleus membership is limited to 4 years and generally no more than two delegates should come from the same country.

Nucleus elections:

In complying with these rules, the tenure of Prof. Schächinger and Prof. Lanza would run out. The secretary had written to both members of the nucleus, informing them about the development and expressed the gratitude of the WG and Nucleus for their support and enthusiasm. In the preparation for the switch in the nucleus composition, two new WG members have been proposed for the positions to become vacant, and approved by the WG membership. Prof. Raffaele Bugiardini did welcome Prof. Maria Dorubanto, Prof. Viola Vaccarino and Prof Roberto Corti , who could not attend the meeting, to the Nucleus and gave some information on their scientific interests and achievements.

ESC Conference:

Prof. Bugiardini referred to the preparation of the ESC Conference in Barcelona and the participation of the Working Group. He informed the Nucleus that three high quality proposals by the WG made it into the final programme. For the ESC conference 2010 in Stockholm, the deadline to enter the proposals for the pre-arranged programme into the SCOPE process would be the 30th of September. All nucleus and WG members were asked to send their input to the chairman of the WG, using the official format for the respective category (e.g. symposium, debate, clinical seminar). Prof. Bugiardini would then enter the proposals to the respective ESC website.

In the following, the Nucleus members did discuss the young investigator award (YIA) 'Coronary pathophysiology and microcirculation'. This award, installed by the past chairman of the WG, Michael Weiß, highlights a good mixture of clinical and basic studies and promotes the scientific aims of the Working Group. However, it was mentioned that the WG and its Nucleus were not involved enough in the jury and award ceremony. Raffaele Bugiardini and Cor de Wit would contact the chairman of the congress programme committee, Prof. Pinto, to find out possibilities to improve this situation and to increase the visibility of the Working Group.

Working Group meetings:

Prof. Bugiardini did report on the two successful meetings of the Nucleus in 2008, held in September in London (Organizer Juan-Carlos Kaski) and in December in Rome (Organizer Raffaele Bugiardini). The presentations London meeting was represented in the internet by recordings of the respective presentations. The nucleus did thank Prof. Kaski for this initiative and considered options to use this starting point for an improvement of the web representation of the WG.

Registry:

Prof. Dorubantu gave a short overview on the observational registry, she did set up in Rumania and which is currently expanded to 9 countries

The registry of Acute Coronary Syndrome in Transitional Countries will be of pivotal importance to explore pathophysiologic as well clinical decision making issues.

Raffaele Bugiardini did explain the benefit of this initiative and opportunities for studies performed by members of the WG and its nucleus. In the following, possible schemes for the involvement of the WG as well as financial, structural and logistical aspects were discussed. It was decided to adopt this initiative as a WG/Nucleus effort if possible and to explore respective possibilities. To prepare this move, Maria Dorubantu would prepare a short information and policy document, describing the current stage of development and the necessary next steps.

Position papers:

Raffaele Bugiardini informed the Nucleus members about the new initiative of the ESC board to foster the generation of position papers by Working Groups. This initiative also includes a financial support. He then listed 4 potential titles for position papers by the Working Group:

- 1) Role of microcirculation in post PCI
- 2) Atherothrombosis and plaque morphology: different mechanisms disease
- 3) Reducing the burden of peripheral and coronary artery disease
- 4) Pathophysiology of CAD in women

Prof. Kaski mentioned the need to include a focus on 'diagnostic algorithms' in the planned publications. Prof. Bugiardini would develop the respective plans for a more in depth discussion at the next Nucleus meeting in Palermo. In addition, a publication dealing with more basic aspects of the pathophysiology of coronary microvascular disease may be initiated by the chair-elect of the Nucleus, Cor de Wit with other members of the Nucleus.

Finally, Prof. Bugiardini informed the Nucleus, that discussions were held with the Company Astra Zeneca regarding an educational grant for the WG. He would inform the Nucleus about the progress to prepare respective decisions. At 4 PM, he adjourned the meeting and expressed the expectation, to see all Nucleus members at the upcoming Nucleus meeting in Palermo in October.

Raffaele Bugiardini, Chairman

Axel R Pries, Secretary