

Working Group on Peripheral Circulation

Summary of Nucleus Meeting on September 2, 2007

Meeting starts at 15:30

The Chairman Prof. Balbarini reads his annual report to the Nucleus Members attending the meeting (Lekakis, Cosentino, Gallino, Roffi, Ciccone, Kownator, Pilger, Novo, Vlachopoulos).

Text of his report should be added here...

Prof. Poredos underlines that our WG 16 suffers for a minority status in its cluster underlining that we have to make any possible effort to become more representative within the ESC and hence increase our visibility in the Scientific Programme of next year Congress in Munich.

Prof. Lekakis inquires to the Chairman about the starting date for the Councils. According to Prof. Balbarini Councils will start their activity next year.

Prof. Gallino suggests to put any possible effort in preparing very good proposals for Symposia to be submitted to the Congress Programme Committee for ESC Congress 2008.

To this aim Prof. Cosentino indicates that the creation of 3 task forces (Pathophysiology, Preclinical and Systemic Atherosclerosis, Intervention) with nucleus members is the best way to formulate excellent proposals for next year. All the other members approve his suggestion. From the discussion, the following composition of task forces is emerged: Pathophysiology (Cosentino, Lekakis, Vlachopoulos); Preclinical and Systemic Atherosclerosis (Poredos, Ciccone, Kownator, Novo); Intervention (Roffi, Gallino, Balbarini). It is decided that by September 20 each task force will send 2-3 proposals to the Chairman who will forward on behalf of WG to the Congress Programme Committee.

Prof. Vlachopoulos as treasurer of our WG inform the members that ESC has allocated 10.000 euros/WG/year for 1-day meetings of nucleus members, suggesting that we should take this opportunity to implement a better strategy to increase our representation within the Society.

Prof. Balbarini proposes the preparation of Guidelines on the Management of PAD which should be realized under the patronage of our WG. Prof. Lekakis points out that it is

necessary to write to the Chairman of Guideline Committee, Prof Alec Vahanian to enquire whether such challenging task is approved and eventually sponsored.

Several other members (Kownator, Roffi, Vlachopoulos, Cosentino) agrees with Lekakis. Prof. Novo reminds that some years ago he have forwarded to the ESC Guideline Committee the willingness of our WG to organize a task force for the preparation of Guidelines on the Management of PAD. However, the reply received was negative because of lack of financial support from ESC with the suggestion to find a sponsor among pharmaceutical companies. Prof. Balbarini says that Prof De Caterina from the Guideline Committee suggested him to start with the preparation of a WG position statement paper on this topic.

Several nucleus members (Gallino, Lekakis, Cosentino, Kownator, Roffi) fell that it is more feasible the realization of Consensus Documents on IMT, FMD and ABI. Indeed, Vlachopoulos underlines that it is easier to get the ESC approval for a Consensus Document and raises the need of organizing the structure of this document in advance (index, list of coauthors, first and corresponding authors, enrollment of senior and junior members in the task force).

After a common discussion on the documents already present in the literature for the 3 selected topics, Prof. Kownator suggests that today the most novel and appealing issue for a consensus document is ankle-brachial index. Other members support this choice. It is decided and approved that we should start with the preparation of a document on ABI, then, in 6 months, with FMD and IMT.

The meeting ends at 16:30.

Francesco Cosentino, M.D., Ph.D.

Secretary of WG16

General Assembly

Vlachoupoulos: Number of members and abstracts submitted and accepted by members.

How improve our budget?

Ciccone: our topic (peripheral circulation) has problem to get visibility in ESC first-line journals. Collaboration with other WG.

Lekakis: our 2 meetings in Portroz and Athens could be a good opportunity for a meeting of nucleus. Application to the Council in the next 2 months. The best 2 Symposia should be accepted from each WGs.

Poredos: to increase number of members it would be good to send a letter to national societies with informations how to apply to the WG.