

# Working Group on Thrombosis of the European Society of Cardiology

## MINUTES

**Nucleus meeting, Friday/Saturday, February 8/9, 2008, Maria-Theresia Hotel, Vienna, Austria.**

**The meeting started with a get-together working dinner, where the most important points for discussions of the following day were pre-discussed (February 8, 20:30 to 22:30 h). Participants were: KH, FA, KF, DG, LB, GS, HA.**

**On Saturday, February 9, the meeting started at 9:00 and ended at 16:00. There was 1 coffee break in the morning (10.30-10.45), 1 coffee break in the afternoon (14:30-14:45), and 1 lunch break (12:15-13:00), respectively. Participants were: KH, FA, KF, DG, LB, GS, HA, RDC, and FV. KF (12:00) and GS (15:15) had to leave early, HA left at the end of the meeting (16:00).**

**SDK was excused; he could not take part in the meeting.**

Abbreviations: KH (K. Huber), FA (F. Andreotti), KF (K. Fox), DG (D. Gulba), LB (L. Badimon Maestro), GS (G. Steg), HA (H. Arnesen), RDC (R. De Caterina), FV (F. Verheugt), SDK (S.D. Kristensen)

## Topics, Discussions and Outcomes

- 1) **Welcome (KH)**
- 2) **Activities since the last nucleus meeting (Sept 2, 2007; ESC Vienna)**
  - a. **This nucleus meeting received extra support from the ESC (10,000 €)**

As discussed by the treasurer (KF), the money has been promised but has not been transferred to the WG account so far.

- b. **Minutes WG Meeting September 2, 2007 (KH)**

The participants were informed about the minutes of the last nucleus meeting, which are defacto similar to the annual report of the WG 2006/2007. They received a copy of the annual report.

- c. **Report EuroThrombosis Summit, Nijmegen, NL, October 2007 (FV)**

FV reported that 196 persons participated in the meeting. All participants, who at the same time were also members of the WG were invited for free to visit the meeting (participation fee, travel refunds, hotel accommodation). This is exceptional and was only possible due to the generous sponsoring by the industry. The rating of the meeting was EXCELLENT.

- d. **Report ACC meeting, Rome, I, October 2007 (FA)**

The WG (FA, KH) was invited in this Italian meeting by giving lectures and chairing sessions. The meeting was a success and further cooperations will be planned with the organization committee (M. Tubaro).

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*WG on THROMBOSIS (WG18)  
NUCLEUS MEMBERS 2006-2008*

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**e. Proposals for ESC Munich 2008, D (KH, RDC)**

It was discussed that about 10 proposals (50% of total) made their way into the final elections of the congress program for Munich 2008. At this time it was not clear how many proposals and with which changes have been accepted by the program committee. Within the next days more information can be expected due to the fact that chairpersons and speakers will be invited per email shortly.

**f. Coronary Reperfusion Meeting, Oberlech, A, April 2008, organization status (KH)**

KH presented the final program of the meeting, which again is coorganized by the WG. 15 members of the WG are active participants in this meeting (60% of all faculty members). ASTRAZENECA-Sweden has given a direct sponsorship of 25,000 US\$ (about 17500 €) to the congress organization for travel costs and hotel accommodation of these WG members, a sum which is able to cover about 50% of these respective costs.

**g. ACC meeting, Versailles, F, October 2008, organization status (FA)**

The meeting has been thought to be organized between October 11-14, 2008. This is what the nucleus members know, who are also active participants of the meeting. Unfortunately, the ESC website announces the time of the meeting for October 25-28, 2008. This discrepancy will be shortly clarified. FA and KH will contact M. Tubaro with this respect. Meanwhile KH has received the information that indeed the meeting time has changed without direct information of our group which is involved in the organization. FA, as our responsible contact person, should be better informed in the future about such important changes. I shall discuss this also with M. Tubaro.

**h. Eurothrombosis Science Meeting, Barcelona 2008, organization status, funding (Sanofi-Aventis) (LB)**

The meeting dates are December 11-13, 2008, Barcelona, Spain. With the aim to lower the total expenses the meeting will take place in the institution of LB. A preliminary version of the program was given in copy to the nucleus members and some changes in the wording of the prespecified oral presentations were performed. A total of 60-80 participants are expected and this number of participants can be easily accepted and hosted with respect to space. It was discussed that not only the program should attract young investigators in the field of basic thrombosis research but also by a call for abstracts. A presently not defined number of qualified abstracts will be accepted and presented as posters; a few selected high-quality abstracts could make it as oral presentations into the program. For young investigators with accepted abstracts a travel fund will be given by the WG, which should in total cover 25,000€(see later). LB needs more input into the program (proposals, especially in the field of „adipokines“ are warranted). She plans to present a preliminary program (including the pre-specified lectures) within a few weeks. ASTRAZENECA-Sweden provided 25,000 US\$ to the congress organization for travel and accommodation costs of nucleus members and active WG participants.

**i. New members 9/2007-02/2008 (KH)**

Since the last nucleus meeting at the ESC in Vienna the following persons have been accepted as new members of the WG, all of them by e-mail application and acceptance (in the sequence of acceptance):

Thomas WEISS, Vienna, Austria / (Ms) Rosanna ABATE, Florence, Italy / Rudolf JARAI, Vienna, Austria / Leonard BAUR, Heerlen, The Netherlands / Pasquale PIGNATELLI, Rome, Italy / Michael SHECHTER, Tel Hashomer, Israel / Dirk SIBBING, Munich, Germany / Francesco VIOLI, Rome, Italy / Nicolas VON BECKERATH, Munich, Germany / Martin MALY, Prague, Czech Republic / Christian HAMM, Bad Nauheim, Germany / Wouter VAN WERKUM, Utrecht, The Netherlands / Marijan BOSEVSKI, Skopje, Macedonia / Eugenio GRECO, Fuscaldo, Italy / (Ms) Ana PENA RUIZ, Burgos, Spain / David NEWBY, Edinburgh, United Kingdom. In total the WG has 240 members per 8.2.2008.

**j. Task Force “Bleeding” and manuscript, status report, sponsorship (GS)**

GS reported about the status of the position paper. He has meanwhile received all manuscripts for the different parts of the paper, most of them already in a corrected and improved version. The next step is to unify writing, tables, figures, and references, which is done by a professional writing agency. Afterwards, GS will make final corrections. Two further meetings are planned to discuss then still open questions face-to-face:

Sunday, March 30, 2008, 14:00-16:00 h, Park Hyatt Hotel, 800 North Michigan Ave, Chicago, USA (during the ACC meeting for those nucleus members who attend), and

Sunday, April 6, 2008, 13:00-15:00 h, Burghotel, Oberlech, Austria (during the international meeting Coronary Reperfusion and Secondary Prevention)

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Moreover, GS reported that The Medicine Company, USA, offered to provide insight into the data base of the published bivalirudin trials (REPLACE-2, ACUITY, HORIZONS). This would give the opportunity to evaluate still existing bleeding classifications but also newly created bleeding classifications (based on our position paper) for their clinical usefulness.

- k. SDK and RDC were announced candidates for vice-president by the WG (KH)
- l. Michel KOMAJDA was announced candidate for president elect by the WG (KH)
- m. Felicita Andreotti was announced as expert of the WG for the ESC guidelines for diagnosis and treatment of pulmonary embolism (KH)
- n. Kurt Huber was announced to cooperate in the Task Force for "Biomarkers in Cardiology" (WG on Acute Cardiac Care) (KH)
- o. Freek Verheugt was announced to cooperate with the ESC guidelines for Heart Failure (KH)

### 3) **Current and Future Fields of Interest** (presentation, discussion, decision)

#### a. **Finances (KF)**

KF reported that the WG account has at moment about 80,000 € but expenses during the last month, (e.g. created by the last WG nucleus meeting) are not included so far. Also the promised 10,000 € support for the current nucleus meeting has not been transferred to the WG's account until now. Paying for expenses of the current nucleus meeting, however, will completely use this. From the Educational Course in the Heart House (June 2007) about 30,000 € plus can be expected, thus increasing the total amount of money to about 110,000 €. Based on discussions on the 2 prior nucleus meetings, this is now a financial basis, where the WG is capable of funding important educational and scientific activities, whereby young investigators and basic research will be the main goals. The following grants have been discussed and will be announced in short time from now:

- a) Travel grants for the EuroThrombosis Summit and Science meetings.
- b) an ESC Travel Grant (1,000 € each) for 10 young investigators with accepted basic science abstracts. The grant should be offered already for Munich 2008.
- c) the GREAT Grant (Grant for Research and scientific Exchange in Athero-Thrombosis). This grant should be given to investigators who plan to visit scientific sites in other countries between 1 and 6 months for purposes of learning new techniques and special scientific exchange. A total of 2,000 € month (1,500 for the investigator's expenses and 500 € for the hosting scientific institution) have been preliminary discussed. The GREAT grant should become available for the first time in 2009.

Both grants will be announced in the website of the ESC. GS accepted to set up a preliminary version of the respective grant announcements for the website and other media, which has to be seen and proven by the nucleus members.

#### b. **Website – what is still missing (FA)**

FA reported about repeated lack of feed-back when contacting Celine Serio (CS), who is responsible for the website activities of all WGs and therefore possibly under permanent work overload. She also reported that several concrete proposals for changes in the website have been made by her or other WG nucleus members in the past weeks and months but have never been performed. RDC promised to discuss this in detail with CS at the next occasion. The current status of the website was seen and the following changes have been discussed and will be ordered by FA and KH:

- a) LB needs to send her information for the „History Section“ of the website URGENTLY!
- b) Dietrich has sent a nice photograph and FA will forward it with related affiliation to CS.
- c) The button AIMS & ACTIVITIES should be reduced to the word „AIMS“ only!
- d) Within the section „MEETINGS“ we need 2 subsections (buttons)
  - a. PAST MEETINGS
    - i. Should contain also EuroThrombosis Summit 2007 (Nijmegen) – FV promised to send an electronic version (.pdf) of the program to KH.
    - ii. Should contain also the Oberlech 2007 meeting. KH will care for the respective .pdf version of the program
    - iii. Should contain also the program of the Antithrombotic Therapy Update 2007. RDC or SDK should send the – pdf version of the program to KH.
  - b. FUTURE MEETINGS
    - i. Oberlech 2008 (KH will care for the .pdf version)
    - ii. EuroThrombosis Science 2008 Barcelona (LB should send the preliminary program (.pdf version) to KH as soon as it is ready)
    - iii. EuroThrombosis Summit Oslo 2009. We should show meanwhile the title (front) page of the program with time and place of the meeting (KH will care for this)

#### e) **JOURNALS & PUBLICATIONS**

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- a. Several important publications of the WG are missing. E.g. antiplatelet therapy (RDC should send the exact citation to KH), pre-hospital treatment position paper (exact citation given by KH), antithrombotic therapy position paper (RDC should send the exact citation to KH)
- b. Because Thrombosis and Haemostasis is our main publication organ we should have a direct link to this journal
- c. The manuscripts patronized by the WG in this journal should be cited
- f) **REPORTS & DOCUMENTS:** we should rename this section „ANNUAL REPORTS, LETTERS and DOCUMENTS“
  - a. **ANNUAL REPORTS:** the annual report 2006/2007 is missing
  - b. **REPORTS OF NUCLEUS MEETINGS:** these reports are useless because they contain only outdated letters to members or summaries of nucleus meetings of the past. I propose to skip these informations completely. Instead we should have the freedom to create a button „LETTERS & DOCUMENTS“. Here we would show what we think is important for the members of the WG, e.g. the agenda of the last 2 nucleus meetings, eventually a short version of the minutes of the last nucleus meetings or other important informations to members
- g) We should create a new section named „AWARDS & GRANTS“ including informations for awards and grants given by the WG. e.g.
  - a. Young Investigator Award
  - b. ESC Travel Grant
  - c. GREAT Grant
- h) We should create a new section named „ACTUAL INFORMATIONS“: this section should include really new and important informations, which should at the same time when they are seen in the website be distributed to all members of the WG, e.g. information about grants, award winners, deadlines, meetings of interest etc.

### c. Task Force „Perioperative Strategies“ (FA)

This topic is extremely important and needs active participation and co-organization of members of our WG. FA has been announced already during our last nucleus meeting in Vienna to care for this project. KH should support her. Due to an unclear situation (e.g. also SDK is/has been involved in a similar task force) FA was not active until now. We decided that the project should be renamed into „**Perioperative Management of Chronic Antithrombotic Therapy**“. Besides members of the WG on Thrombosis, other specialists and experts should be additionally invited including haemostaseologists, anesthesiologists and surgeons (cardiac and non-cardiac). The following persons were discussed as potential candidates for cooperation: J. Conard, Paris, F (haemostaseology) – GS will contact her / H. Metzler, Graz, A (anesthesiology) – KH will contact him. This task force is open for further candidates (please send suggestions).

### d. Thrombosis and Haemostasis – future activities (KH)

This topic has not been discussed due to time restrictions. We should have an email-bound discussion later.

### e. APART registry – status quo (DG)

DG reported that about 220,000 € will be sponsored by BIOTRONIK (50,000) and SANOFI-AVENTIS (170,000). Changes in the electronic forms were discussed. Further suggestion for changes should be sent to DG within 2-3 weeks. The registry should be renamed „**LASER**“-Registry (GS will send the exact wording to DG). The following problems were discussed:

- a) the need for a positive Ethics Committee vote in certain European countries (has to be checked by the respective persons within the nucleus)
- b) DG will provide a short version of the registry (DIN A4 page) for potential participating centers
- c) All nucleus members should define at least 5-10 participating centers in their countries (within 2-3 weeks)
- d) FA, GS and FV made the proposal also to include a control group, which would make a future manuscript much more acceptable for highly rated journals
- e) Per patient and respective control individual included (with 3 check ups each over 1 year) 50 € are paid to the participating center

### f. EuroThrombosis Summit 2009 Oslo (HA)

HA reported about the meeting location and organization. All nucleus members will be part of the organizing committee. A total amount of at least 150,000 € has to be generated. The main sponsors of the last EuroThrombosis Summit in Nijmegen should be asked for sponsorship again. It is at moment not clear whether the organization will be able again to invite all WG members for free.

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**g. Educational/scientific grants (KH)**

See „Finances“.

**h. Honoraria for participation at the Course on Antithrombotic Therapy 2007 (RDC)**

Honoraria for speakers at the meeting were meanwhile accepted by the ESC with 1000 €(1 presentation), 1500 €(2 presentations), and 2000 €(3 presentations), respectively. FA gave 2 presentations (not 1 as seen from the list).

**i. Names for voting delegates (deadline March 20, 2008) (KH)**

KH, FA and KF were announced to become voting delegates for the WG for the next elections (2008-2010). KH will report the names to the nominating committee.

**j. EURO-ECHO (Lyon, F, Dec. 2008) joint session (KH)**

No cooperation is planned due to missing topics.

**k. Proposals for ESC lectures (Munich 2008) (KH)**

KH reported 3 suggestions, which were brought up by nucleus members during an email-campaign, and 2 other proposals were made during the nucleus session:

Peter J Schwarz for the Clinical Science Lecture

"Understanding sudden cardiac death: from the surface ECG to ion channels"

proposal by RDC

Carlo Patrono for a Basic Science Lecture

"Aspirin: understanding the mechanism of action as a guide to clinical application"

proposal by the WG

Des Fitzgerald for a Basic Science Lecture

„Anti-thrombotic therapy in vascular disease,,

proposal by KF

William Wijns for an Interventional Cardiology Lecture

“Thrombosis in interventional cardiology”

proposal by the group

Lars Ryden for a Population Science Lecture

“The burden of diabetes”

proposal by FA

**l. WG nucleus turnover (KH)**

The active time within the nucleus depends on the positions that are held: in our hands (this is slightly different from the official proposal by the ESC) 4 years for nucleus member only, a 6 year continuous activity as Treasurer/Secretary followed by Vice-chair followed by chair position, and 4 years as past president. Then the nucleus member has to step down but can be re-elected as nucleus member without longing for “higher” positions again (another 4 years). The total number of nucleus members should not exceed 10 persons. Despite these rules we want to be sure that a continuous work within the nucleus is guaranteed, which makes it necessary in certain situations to prolong these times for a specific individual. Accordingly, not more than 2 new members should be elected into the nucleus at one time. Based on other activities RDC and possibly SDK will step down after the next nucleus meeting in Munich. If e.g. SDK does not reach the wanted position, he would stay for two more years in the nucleus: In this case, FV or LB would step down. Two new members will be elected during the next months based on the new election rules of the ESC. KH will manage this.

**m. Spring meeting, March 6, 2008, 12.30-14.30 (FA, KH)**

FA and KH will participate.

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**n. Next nucleus meeting (Munich ESC) (KH)**

The nucleus meeting will be organized again on Sunday morning, 7:30-8:30 (August 31, 2008).

The general assembly of the WG will be organized on Monday afternoon (September 1, 2008). Exact time will follow.

The WG dinner should be organized on Tuesday evening (September 2, 2008, starting at 20:30). It was discussed to organize this meeting in the Spaten Bräu. KH will care for reservation. About 25-30 participants are expected. Besides the nucleus members we should invite new WG members as well as selected persons.

**o. Advertising our WG, opportunities (KH)**

The group discussed the opportunities that are given by the ESC to make the WG more visible. Pre-specified questions were answered as follows:

- a) 3 highlighted messages
  - a. DEDICATED TO RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THROMBOSIS
  - b. BRIDGING BASIC SCIENCE AND CLINICAL PRACTICE
  - c. SUPPORTING YOUNG BASIC SCIENTISTS AND CLINICIANS
- b) slogan of the WG
  - a. FIGHTING HEART ATTACK AND STROKE
- c) keywords for online promotion
  - a. ATHEROTHROMBOSIS
  - b. ANTITHROMBOTIC THERAPY
  - c. PLATELETS
  - d. COAGULATION
  - e. THROMBOEMBOLISM
- d) ESC journals
  - a. EUR HEART J
  - b. CARDIOVASCULAR RES
  - c. J CARDIOVASC PREV REHAB
  - d. J HEART FAILURE
- e) Selection of issues
  - a. MARCH                      J Cardiovasc Prev Rehab
  - b. JUNE                        Eur Heart J
  - c. SEPTEMBER                Cardiovasc Res
  - d. DECEMBER                J Heart Failure

Vienna, February 28, 2008



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Chairman, WG on Thrombosis

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