

Report 2005-2006

Working Group on valvular heart disease (WG 14)

The Working Group on valvular heart disease of the ESC is constituted by the nucleus and the members. The Working Group aims to promote exchanges between cardiologists as well as other physicians and surgeons who are taking part in the management of patients with valvular heart disease. For this purpose, the Working Group on valvular heart disease organises sessions at the annual Congress of the ESC, ETP courses, and participates to the organisation of meetings with other Scientific Societies. Education tasks are also achieved through the elaboration of specific guidelines in the field of heart valve diseases.

The Working Group on valvular heart disease counts 186 members on 16 August 2006. The WG 14 is part of the Cluster 6, which comprises also the heart failure Association (former WG19) and the Working Groups on myocardial function (WG4) and on pulmonary circulation and right ventricular function (WG12).

Nucleus

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Activities in 2005-2006

1. Organising valve disease sessions for the ESC conference in Barcelona in September 2006
2. Publication of recommendations on patient management after heart valve surgery, under the coordination of Eric G Butchart.

The executive summary was published in the November 2005 issue of the European Heart Journal (Butchart EG, Gohlke-Bärwolf C, Antunes MJ, Tornos P, De Caterina R, Cormier B, Prendergast B, Lung B, Bjornstad H, Leport C, Hall RJC, Vahanian A. Recommendations for the management of patients after heart valve surgery. Eur Heart J 2005; 26: 2463-2471)

The full text was published in a book in 2006 (Butchart EG, Gohlke-Bärwolf B, Antunes MJ, Hall RJC. Heart Valve Disease. A guide to patient management after surgery. Informa Healthcare, Oxon, 2006: 29-35)

3. Elaboration of official ESC Guidelines on the management of valvular heart disease. The first meeting of the Task Force held on 6 September 2005 in Stockholm under the chairmanship of Alec Vahanian. Roger JC Hall, Eric G Butchart and Bernard Lung from the nucleus participate to the writing committee. The second meeting of the Task Force held in on 1-2 April 2006. The first finalised draft was reviewed by the Task Force members and sent to ESC reviewers in July 2006. The third meeting will analyse reviewers' comments in Barcelona on 2 September 2006.

4. Collaborating with the American Heart Association in a project to review the ACC/AHA recommendations for prophylaxis of endocarditis

5. Meetings

Participation of the Working Group on valvular heart disease to joint meetings

- Euro Echo 9, Florence, Italy 7-10 December 2005.
- Annual European Meeting of the French Society of Cardiology. Paris, France, 18-21 January 2006.
- Annual Congress of the German Cardiac Society. Mannheim, Germany, ??

Planned Activities for 2006-2007

1. Organisation of an ETP course at the Heart House the 6-7 October 2006 on the "Management of asymptomatic patients with valvular disease" (Roger JC Hall, Alec Vahanian, co-directors)

2. Finalisation and publication of the ESC Guidelines of the management on valvular heart disease

3. Setting up a survey of Heart disease in Pregnancy in conjunction with the Adult Congenital Heart Disease WG and also the Heart Failure Association.

The aim is to set up a registry in Europe to collect data on as many pregnancies as possible involving patients with heart disease, given the shortage of data relating to pregnancy occurring in women with serious heart disease.

Negotiations are going ahead with the ESC to include this within the Euro Heart Survey programme.

4. Future Meetings

- Joint sessions at EuroEcho 10, 6-9 December 2006, Prague, Czech Republic, with the ESC association of Echocardiography
- Organising valve disease sessions for the ESC conference in Vienna in September 2007