

Report of the second ESO ESMINT ESNR stroke winter school

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The 2nd ESO ESMINT ESNR stroke winter school was held in Bern, Switzerland from the 3rd to 6th of February 2015. The local organizing committee were Prof. Jan Gralla, Prof. Heinrich Mattle, PD Dr. Pasquale Mordasini and Prof. Urs Fischer. They were actively supported by Katharina Wenger, Martin Zbinden, Daniela Miescher and Helena Gerber.

The first difficult task was to select 44 participants from many more applicants, but eventually 44 enthusiastic young doctors – 20 pairs of rising neurologists and neuroradiologists - arrived in Bern from 19 different countries: UK, Serbia, Germany, France, Lithuania, Slovakia, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Belgium, Portugal, Finland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Ireland, India, South Africa, Ukraine and Switzerland.

The primary aim of the second ESO ESMINT ESNR stroke winter school was bringing together young European stroke physicians and neuroradiologists in order to enhance interdisciplinary management of patients with acute ischaemic stroke.

The stroke winter school started on the 3rd of February 2015 with the welcome of the president elect of the European Stroke Organisation (ESO), **Prof. Valeria Caso**, the president of the European Society of Minimal Invasive Neurological Therapy (ESMINT), **Prof. Istvan Szikora**, and the committee member of the Interventional Neuroradiology Section of the European Society of Neuroradiology (ESNR), **Prof. Jan Gralla** on behalf of Prof. Olav Jansen.

The 32 speakers (12 from EU, 20 from Switzerland) including neurologists, interventional and non-interventional neuroradiologists, neurosurgeons, internal medicine specialists, and rehabilitation specialists led challenging discussions. The teaching program included 32 lectures and 8 tutorials. The main focus of the lectures was interdisciplinary treatment of acute stroke. There were sessions on acute stroke imaging, acute treatment strategies including endovascular approaches, stroke treatment in difficult circumstances and needs to set up an interdisciplinary stroke center. In the afternoon tutorials were given separately for neuroradiologists and neurologists. Neuroradiologists had the opportunity for structured hands-on teaching in small groups on endovascular procedures with animal models and management of complications of endovascular treatment. Neurologists could learn neuroangiography on a model and were taught CT and MRI interpretations by neuroradiologists. Both groups visited the stroke unit and had interdisciplinary case discussion.

A special highlight for the interventional neuroradiologists were the hands-on teaching sessions with the animal model. Small groups of 5 participants were given the opportunity to perform diagnostic angiography and endovascular treatment procedures such as thrombectomy with multiple devices.

During the stroke winter school a faculty meeting was held with members of the ESO, ESMINT and ESNR in order to discuss future common strategies to enhance the quality of stroke management. Topics were guideline papers, studies, potential joint conferences and workshops.

During the stroke winter school participants and faculty had three joint dinners to favour socialization.

The following sponsors contributed to the realization of the stroke winter school: Covidien, Stryker, MicroVention, Penumbra, Daichii-Sankyo, Johnson&Johnson/Codman, Siemens Neuravi, Boehringer Ingelheim and 1a medical ag.

The local organizing committee thanks all the invited speakers for giving time and efforts to the winter school, for coming to Bern, and for delivering high quality lectures. Their interest and passion to teach the upcoming generation of neurologists and neuroradiologists was clearly visible.

After the success of the first and second ESO ESMINT ESNR stroke winter school there will be a 3rd ESO ESMINT ESNR stroke winter school from the 9th to 12th of February 2016 in Bern!



Faculty and participants of the 2nd ESO ESMINT ESNR Stroke Winter School in Bern



Neuro-Interventionalists training in the animal lab



Prof. Gralla teaching neuro-interventionalists in the animal lab



Neuro-Interventionalists training in the animal lab



Neuro-Interventionalists training with the simulator



Neuro-Interventionalists training with the simulator