
ESVCP & ECVCP NEWSLETTER

European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology

European College of Veterinary Clinical Pathologists



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Note from the Editor

Dear colleagues:

With this December newsletter, I hope to bring us all up to date with a few events of the year: notably, a successful congress was held in partnership with ECVIM this September in beautiful Budapest, and minutes of the AGM's are included. 2008 will see us in beautiful Barcelona, Spain, jointly with ISACCP & AECCP. The program is well underway. The year 2007 was a hallmark year for the College, with full recognition by the EBVS, but there is also some homework in store for early Diplomates as the recertification process begins: details enclosed at the end of the newsletter. Please read attentively. Wishing you all a happy holiday season,

Anne Lanevschi-Pietersma, anne.lanevschi-pietersma@astrazeneca.com

MESSAGE FROM THE ESVCP PRESIDENT

Greetings!

Firstly I would like to give my thanks to Joy Archer and the Executive Committee of the ECVCP for proposing me for this position. I will try to do all my best in order to serve the needs of all the ESVCP members and contribute to the recognition and scientific growth of the Society. Regarding this, your ideas and suggestions for improvement of this Society would be more than welcome.

One of our major goals for the next year is the organization of our annual meeting that is planned for Sept 30-Oct 3, 2008 in Barcelona. This meeting will be held jointly with ISACCP (International Society of Comparative Clinical Pathology) and AECCP (Association of the European Comparative Clinical Pathology).

We are planning the Congress with Josep Pastor, the local organiser, in partnership with organisers from ISACCP, AECCP, and the Acute Phase Protein group. This Congress will be held at the Cosmocaixa museum of Barcelona within easy reach of the city center. The abstract deadline will be June 1st, 2008, and the registration deadline end of August 2008. The webpage for the congress is expected to be ready by February (with a link planned from the esvcp.org website). We hope to offer an interesting programme for everybody covering topics such as reference values, diagnosis of infectious diseases, advanced interpretation of blood cell analyzers, haemostasis and acute phase proteins.

In the meantime I would like to send you my best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. See you in Barcelona!

Kind regards,

Jose Ceron

Background on ESVCP

The European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ESVCP, <http://www.esvcp.org>) was formed in Sept 1998 for the promotion of this discipline, and out of the need for well-educated clinical pathologists with certified experience for leading positions in commercial laboratories, industry, and veterinary schools. The Society is open to everybody, veterinarians and non-veterinarians alike, interested in one of the many areas of interest of Veterinary Clinical Pathology.

ESVCP Website: For information on constitution, membership, past and coming meetings, or to consult documents submitted to EBVS concerning application for specialty status and more, please visit <http://www.esvcp.org>, which will be the permanent domain name.

Interested in accessing a veterinary clinical pathology discussion forum?

This LISTSERV mailing list provides ASVCP and ESVCP members with access to over 500 colleagues interested in discussing and finding information on topics involving veterinary clinical pathology. To join the list, interested persons must request to be subscribed by writing an e-mail to John Hofmann jhofmann@asvcp.org ; please include full name, e-mail address, and organization in the body of the message.

**10th annual ESVCP Congress
Barcelona, Spain, Sept 30-Oct 3, 2008**

Joint ISACB/ESVCP/AECCP meeting

Planning for the upcoming annual congress in Barcelona, Spain is well underway. The meeting is planned for Sept 30-Oct 3, 2008 and will be held at the Cosmocaixa museum of Barcelona within easy reach of the city center. This meeting will be held jointly with ISACCP (International Society of Comparative Clinical Pathology) and AECCP (Association of the European Comparative Clinical Pathology). Josep Pastor, the local organiser, is planning the congress together with Jose Ceron, chair of the Scientific committee, in partnership with organisers from ISACCP and AECCP.

The abstract deadline will be June 1st, 2008, and the registration deadline end of August 2008. The webpage for the congress will be ready during February. The main topics covered at the meeting will be reference values, diagnosis of infectious diseases, advanced interpretation of blood cell analyzers, haemostasis and acute phase proteins research.

Josep Pastor, local organiser

Letter from the ECVCP President

Dear Colleagues,

This has been a year of accomplishments and changes for the college. First, we owe thanks to all the many friends and founding members of the College for their ideas and fortitude during the founding of the college. Then we owe great thanks to our first president Peter (OB) and his executive board Corinne (FF) Anne (PB) Kathy (F) JP (Braun) and JA for six years of hard work culminating in the achievement of full recognition of the college by EBVS earlier this year.

In Budapest at the AGM there was a hand over to our new board, and many changes in committees and chairs and we welcome new members to various committees.

Many thanks to all committee chairs and members for their hard work over the past year.

We regretfully accept Harold (T) 's stepping down from the exam committee and we thank him for his hard work over the years. We also are very happy that he will continue to run the case presentations and master-mind the CD for this increasingly popular session of the science committee and ESVCP at the annual congress. Please welcome our new board Saverio (P), Anne (LP) Natalie(B) Kathy (F), Josep (P), with Peter (OB) as Past-President.

We also extend a warm welcome to Mike Herritage (president ECVIM, and Dean of Cambridge's veterinary school) as a new honorary member of the college. He has always been one of our strongest supporters and advisors.

The watchword of the new board is *communication*, and the board and its committees have already had several telephone conferences. In the spring we plan to have a weekend face-to-face meeting of the board and committee chairs in Vienna to ensure strong communication between the groups and streamline activities.

Some new things that are *already happening*, are the updating of the website (new committee Ernst (L), Peter (OB) and Saverio (P) are masterminding this. The education committee led by Jean-Pierre (B) have produced a new document for recertification which has to be completed in 2008 by all founding members and co-opted first defacto diplomates. We have a Registrar Ilse (S) who will be the person for new residents and potential examinees to contact with questions and problems. Kathy (F) has taken on the arduous task of trying to formulate and coordinate distance learning for trainees. We invite all of you to contribute ideas and thoughts to help us keep the college strong and moving forward

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and merry New Year

Joy (Archer)

ESVCP- Membership Dues Notice
Membership Year: January 1- December 31, 2008

All members of the Society and the College who have not done so, are requested to NOW pay their 2008 Dues. *Deadline for payment: Feb 29, 2008. If payment is delayed, there is the risk you will not receive issues of the Journal. Please take a moment to renew your membership.*

All members of the ECVCP should also renew their membership of the Society in addition to paying the Dues for membership of the College. It is a requirement of the Constitution that ECVCP members are also members of ESVCP.

Renewing your membership requires two steps:

1. Email your up to date contact information to **Peter Graham**, pgraham@nwlabs.co.uk . Indicate whether you're a REGULAR member (including journal subscription), and if you pay the reduced fee, indicate whether you are TRAINEE/STUDENT (to still be sent the journal) or ASVCP member. This will ensure that copies of Veterinary Clinical Pathology are sent to the correct address.
2. The payment method this year is by check or wire transfer. *Paypal* has resulted in some problems last year so this is no longer an option. Payments will be processed by Joy Archer, interim treasurer. For queries, her email is: Ja331@cam.ac.uk . See below for payment details.

ESVCP Membership Fees 2008 (Note this is the same fee for 2007 dues)

- **100 Euros for regular members.** This includes Veterinary Clinical Pathology journal subscription (4 issues per year).
- **80 Euros for ASVCP members and students/ trainees.** Journal subscription is not included for ASVCP members as this is paid for through ASVCP Dues.

Please note that when using this method of payment it is essential that the member's name is given in the payment details. A number of payments using this method have been received which cannot be traced because the member's name is not given on the transfer document. Please state this first in the payment details field of the form. STATE ALSO WHETHER YOU'RE A **TRAINEE/STUDENT OR ASVCP MEMBER**. [Students/trainees must send a supporting letter to Joy Archer from their supervisor to be entitled to the reduced fee.](#)

1. Cheque in EURO to ESVCP.
2. Cheque in GBP to ESVCP. Check <http://www.xe.cm> for the latest exchange rate.
3. Direct bank transfer in EURO to ESVCP EURO account

At: European Society of Veterinary Clinical Pathology
Lloyds TSB Harrogate U.K.
Account number: 86248059
Sort code: 30 -93-91
BIC: LOYDGB21214
IBAN: GB97 LOYD 3093 9186 2480 59

Please send cheques and for trainees/students, supporting letter, to:

Joy Archer ESVCP
50 Fox Road, Balsham
CAMBS CB21 4EZ
United Kingdom

ECVCP- Call for Diplomate Fees for 2007 and 2008
Membership Year: January 1- December 31, 2007 (2008)

There are still some ECVCP members who have not paid for 2006 and 2007 or even longer. These members will get a written “reminder” during the next days.

- **Please keep in mind, that payment of ECVCP dues is essential to keep your diplomate status.**

Please remember that you must also be a member of the Society in order to retain your diplomate status. **If you have not paid 2006 dues, please pay both 2006 and 2007 dues. If you do not recall whether you have paid 2006/2007 dues, please contact Natali Bauer at Natalie.bauer@vetmed.uni-giessen.de or ecvcp_treasurer@gmx.de.**

- **Changes in 2008**

Diplomate fees are due between January 1st and February 15th. In January, ECVCP members will get an email from the treasurer including the payment options listed below as a reminder.

- **Please take a moment and renew your membership NOW.**

Renewing your membership requires three steps:

1. Complete and email the Excel spreadsheet below giving your up to date contact information. This will ensure that any communications are sent to the correct address.
2. Select your payment method and amount.
3. Make your payment.

1. Membership Details update

Please complete the attached Excel spreadsheet and email it to Natalie.bauer@vetmed.uni-giessen.de

2. Diplomate Fee and Payment Methods

- **ECVCP Diplomate Fee 2007 (2008)**

- 100 Euros

- **Payment Options**

Paypal

See information above in ECVCP Membership notice.

International Funds Transfer

For members in countries where Paypal payment is not possible, payment can be made using International Funds Transfer. The information required to make these transfers is given on the website and is copied below. This system does not however generate automatic receipts and is more expensive for the Society. Frequently members will have to pay transfer fees to their bank in addition to the Dues.

UK members

Cheques in UK pounds can be accepted (posted to the address below) or funds transfer from any UK bank (the UK equivalent of 100 Euros will be considered to be £68.00)

Bank details for Funds Transfer:

Account name: European Society for Veterinary Clinical Pathology

Bank: Lloyds TSB

Address: Aberfeldy Branch, Bank Street, Aberfeldy, Scotland, United Kingdom

Account No: 0511748

Sort code: 30 25 87

Swiftbank code (Bank Identification Code): TSBSGB21280

IBAN code: GB97TSBS30258700511748

******Congratulations go to...******

A new Diplomat, *Vanessa Turinelli*, for successfully passing the ECVCP board exam in September 2007 !

ESVCP annual general meeting minutes

Novotel, Budapest, Hungary

Friday, 14 September 2007

Meeting Convened at 5:50pm

Forty-three members of the society were present and the meeting was conducted according to the following agenda:

Matters arising for the last AGM

No matters from the minutes of the previous AGM (circulated by Newsletter) were raised

Introduction of the New ESVCP Board

Joy Archer (outgoing president) introduced the ECVCP appointed members of the board:

President	Jose Ceron
Councillor 1	Stefano Comazzi
Councillor 2	To be appointed by ECVCP AGM 15 th September 2007

President's report

Joy highlighted the likely success of the CPD day run at this ECVIM meeting in Budapest. More delegates than expected were registered and the event went very well. Joy Archer thanked Tibor for his efforts in organising a successful meeting.

Ilse Schwendenwein has volunteered to act as a "registrar" for ECVCP candidates to assist them with their enquiries with regard to the mechanisms examination and preparation.

Joy asked for comments on the possibility of ESCVP running a day (4 speakers and 6 abstracts) at Ghent in 2008 in collaboration with ECVIM. No negative comments were received so ESVCP will attend and Joy will make the appropriate arrangements.

Treasurer's Report

A letter of resignation was received from the Society Treasurer in the weeks preceding this AGM.

Therefore, no formal treasurer's report was made available.

It is not yet clear how much work needs to be taken to sort out the society finance records and membership records for 2007.

Once the membership position is clearer, members will be notified by e-mail with regard to whether they need still to pay 2007 membership fees.

The "defective" PayPal mechanism will be repaired and members notified.

Joy Archer has volunteered to act as treasurer in the interim and to sort out the financial records. There will be a further call for nominations and election for a replacement treasurer in 2008.

Anne Lanevski proposed that Joy be approved by the society as acting treasurer; Elisabeth Villiers seconded this proposal. A vote was conducted: 42 in favour, 1 against. The proposal was passed by majority.

Communication

Ernst Leidinger spoke to update the position with regard to the Society Website. He proposes a “Contact Management System” which should make it easier for authorized users to update the information on the site. It is proposed that there will be enhancements such as “Members only” area, residents forums, committee forums and a clear division in identity of ESVCP and ECVCP. He has received offers from companies to assist in this process and is currently evaluating which will bring the best value for the society.

Future Meetings

Josep Pastor introduced the next scientific meeting, which will be held jointly with ISACP in Barcelona Spain (30th September to 3rd October). The abstract submission deadline will be 1st June.

Journal

Mary Christopher updated the members on the Journal.

From the first issue in 2008, Wiley-Blackwell will be the publishing company although the Societies will retain ownership. This change should bring enhanced on-line visibility and access and will also improve the on-line tools available to authors, reviewers and editors. It is expected that this change should reduce production costs.

There were 2 editorial personnel changes reported: Jean-Pierre Braun will chair the clinical chemistry section and Karen Young will become Co-Editor in Chief with Mary Christopher. Asger Jensen was thanked for his excellent contribution to the Journal.

AOB

Gad Baneth introduced the topic of a Special Interest Group (SIG) within ESVCP and asked for comment from the members. JP Braun expressed support for the concept only if the group focused on the *diagnosis* of infectious diseases. Gad confirmed that this was his intention. No other objections or suggestion were raised and Joy proposed that the discussion and any other arrangement be conducted by e-mail in the coming months.

Tibor Gaal expressed his concerns about the roles and responsibilities of the Vice president. In particular, since a major responsibility is the organization of the scientific meetings, he thought it would be useful to have an annual rotating vice-presidency dictated in part by the host nation of the scientific meetings. Such a change could not be made without an alteration to the constitution and because this proposition had not been appropriately circulated to the membership, a decision could not be taken at this AGM. It is recommended that this and any other proposed constitutional changes be brought to the attention of the Secretary for appropriate circulation prior to next year's AGM.

Joy Archer thanked Tibor Gaal and Peter Vadjovich for the hard work and effort in making this meeting in Budapest a great success.

Submitted by Peter Graham

ECVCP annual general meeting minutes

Sept 15, 2007

Novotel, Budapest, Hungary

w Peter O'Brien, the ECVCP representative for the EBVS reported back from EBVS:

- 04th July 2007, the full recognition of the ECVCP was achieved.
- The EBVS recommended some minor changes in the ECVCP constitution.

à Harold Tvedten asked to considerer that we should be careful about changing the constitution and that specific wording is necessary.

à It was decided by the attending ECVCP members that the changes recommended by the ECVCP should be made, however, precise wording and the careful consideration how it appears in the constitution are necessary.

Thus, the proposed changes are going to be circulated among the ECVCP members.

w Peter O'Brien showed some essential contents of the Report for the Veterinary Clinical Pathology Journal from the Committees of the ECVCP.

w Professor Michael Herritage, Dean of the Veterinary University College Cambridge who had a strong impact in the EBVS and the College of Veterinary Clinical Pathology was nominated as an honorary member of ECVCP.

w Criteria for recertification after 5 years being a diplomate ECVCP are required by the EBVS. Documents are available from the ECVIM-CA which could be modified according to the needs of ECVCP.

w Sending in questions for the ECVCP board exam will contribute towards recertification.

The ECVCP board exam 2007 will take place at IDEXX labs at the end of September.

w Treasurer's report:

- the actual balance in June 2007 is £ 11,516.74
- £ 3000.00 were donated from Pfizer
- Reimbursements approximately €2,700
- There will be changes in future regarding the payment:

§ dues are going to be paid always at January-February

§ payment can be performed by bank transfer, pay pal, and credit card (via pay pal, which can be performed without having a pay pal account). Payment of dues for the upcoming year by registration for the ECVCP is going to be facilitated.

§ payment with cash, however, is not possible any more

§ the treasurer will send out “reminders” at the beginning of the year

and to all those, who have not paid yet containing information about the payment options.

Approximately 2/3 of the members hat not paid there dues in 2006 and there are 2-3 “chronic non-payers since 2003)

w The examination committee reported that some improvements are planned for the future such as:

- the call for questions
- the electronic archive of questions
- the reimbursement (actually there are fixed reimbursement fees and it would be of advantage to have a flexible reimbursement within an annual “sub-budget”).
- Collaboration with other committees should be increased. There should be a flow chart of duties for committees.
- Information on training sites/programmes should be available on the website
- Question writing courses may improve the willingness to submit questions for the board exam

w New members of the board exam were announced.

w Report of the laboratory standards committee: There have been no applications in 2007

w Ilse Schwendenwein will be the new registrar, a person whom any resident can contact for help

w Residents will nominate a representative

w The exam 2008 will be held at the end of September 2008. The location is not decided. (Wetherby or Barcelona)

w Jose Ceron is the new chair of the Science committee and president of ther ESVCP.

w The joint ECVCP/ISABC meeting September 30th to October 3rd in Barcelona.

w The deadline for abstracts will be June 1st 2008

Submitted by Natali Bauer

European College of Veterinary Clinical pathology Re-certification procedure

The « Policies and Procedures of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation », April 2000, § II.A.12.a. states that a College must « establish a standard procedure by which the prerequisites for membership of the diplomates of the College are re-evaluated every five years. The College is responsible for this re-evaluation. After re-evaluation the diplomates are registered for another five years in the EBVS Directory Listing. » In its addendum B « Re-registration », it adds : « As is stated in the Policies IIA art 12A of the EBVS, a standard procedure has to be established in which the prerequisites for re-evaluation of the Diplomates for membership of the College are described. This re-evaluation has to be done under the responsibility of the College.

This standard procedure will be performed according to a credit point system. In this credit point system the following items can be included:

- publications
- presentations at national congresses or Continuing Education
- presentations at international congresses
- attendance at national or international congresses
- preparing exam questions
- supervision of residents
- membership of Board or examination committee

For each item a maximum number of points can be given. A total minimum amount of points have to be collected during a five year period, Each College has its own responsibility in creating such a credit point system, but it has to be sent to and approved by the EBVS. »

These provisions are confirmed in the Constitution of the ECVCP :

« 3.8 All diplomates are required to maintain activity in veterinary clinical pathology, maintain certification by continuing education in a form determined by the Education Committee, and maintain activity in the affairs of the College, particularly by regular attendance at meetings.

3.9 In order to evaluate the requirements laid down in section 5 and 8 of this article the diplomats are required to send in each 5 years a summary of their professional activities in which evidence of fulfilling these requirements and evidence of continuous education must be included. The format of this summary has to be approved by the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation and will be evaluated by members of the Credentials Committee. »

Re-certification procedure for ECVCP

To maintain Active Diplomate status, all Diplomates of the ECVCP will have to fulfill recertification requirements after their 5 years of initial Board certification, then each fifth year. Failure to comply would render a Diplomate « non active ». non-active Diplomates cannot use the title of European specialist, are not allowed to supervise ECVCP training programmes, cannot be nominated as members of ECVCP Committees.

Re-certification must be achieved five years after initial certification or five years after acceptance of the re-certification protocol by the EBVS.

Documents for re-certification must be sent to the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee at least 6 month before expiry of initial certification. Procedures for submission are in Annex I According to EBVS rules, the procedure is based on a credit point system. Recertification will be obtained after obtaining 100 credit points (cp) :

This can be achieved by completion of condition 1 **AND** 2 below :

1/ compulsory preparation of accepted ECVCP Examination questions. These can be for any of the four areas of the examination : general pathophysiology, biochemistry, haematology, or cytology (These to include glass slide sets or computer images) . Failure to submit at least 5 questions per year over 4 of the 5 years recertification period would lead to rejection of the application.

2/ activities in at least 2 of the 4 following categories of activities related to Veterinary Clinical Pathology :

- Publications
- Presentations
- Attendance at meetings
- Activities within ECVCP

Annex I ECVCP Application for re-certification

<i>Name / first name</i>	
--------------------------	--

Qualifications	
Current position	
<i>Address</i> <div style="text-align: center;"> Street City Post Code Country </div>	
Phone number	
Fax number	
e-mail	

Date of initial certification	
Period of evaluation	

I undersigned, hereby certify that I have continuously practised in the Speciality of Veterinary Clinical Pathology for at least 60 % of the time (• 24 hours per week) during the past five years, and that all information in this application is exact.

Date	
<i>Signature</i>	

0. Compulsory item

At least 5 question in 4 different years

0 Examination questions submitted to the Examination Committee of the ECVCP

	<i>Number of questions</i>	
	Year(s)	

** the majority of the questions must be deemed of examination quality by the Examination Committee*

1. Publications

List the publications in Veterinary Clinical pathology in peer-reviewed journals on which you are author or co-author during the past five years (only articles indexed in Medline or CAB will be considered ; abstracts of congress presentations are not acceptable). Provide a copy of each paper. Separate clearly original studies and reviews

1.1 Original studies

A/	<i>Authors (in the order of appearance)</i>	
	Title	
	Reference	
B/		

1.2 Short communications, case reports

A/	<i>Authors (in the order of appearance)</i>	
	Title	
	Reference	
B/		

1.3 Reviews

A/	<i>Authors (in the order of appearance)</i>	
	Title	
	Reference	
B/		

2. Presentations

List the presentations (oral or posters) of Veterinary Clinical Pathology of which you are author or co-author during the past five years. Clearly separate presentations for which you were an invited lecturer, presenter or co-author. Provide a copy of the programme or of page(s) of proceedings.

2.1 Invited plenary lectures

A/	<i>Authors</i>	
	Title	
	Meeting, date	
B/		

2.2 Oral presentations

A/	<i>Authors (underline presenter)</i>	
	Title	
	Meeting, date	
B/		

2.3 Posters

A/	<i>Authors (underline presenter)</i>	
	Title	
	Meeting, date	
B/		

3. Attendance at Veterinary Clinical Pathology meetings

List the national and international meetings of Veterinary Clinical Pathology (or with sessions of VCP) in which you have participated during the past five years. Provide proof of attendance.

A/	<i>Meeting</i>	
	Location	
	Date, duration	
B/		

4. Activities related to the European College of Veterinary Clinical Pathology

List all activities related to the ECVCP in which you participated during the past five years .

4.1 Supervision of residents

A/	<i>Name of resident</i>	
	Year(s)	
	Type of training programme	
B/		

4.2 Accepted questions for examination

	<i>Number of questions</i>	
	Year(s)	

4.3 Membership of Committee of the ECVCP or Board responsibility

A/		
B/		

4.4 Other activities related to ECVCP

A/		
B/		

Annex II ECVCP Credit points

	cp	max
Section 1 : Publications		50
1.1. <i>Original studies</i>	<i>First author</i>	10 7 ¹
1.2 Short communications, case reports	First author	5 3
1.3. Reviews/book chapters		5
Section 2 : Presentations		50
2.1. Invited plenary/continuing education lectures		10
2.2. Oral presentations		5 ¹
2.3. Posters as first author		3 ² 9 per meeting
Section 3 : Attendance		
3.1. A/ECVCP Continuing education session (• 1 day)	5	20
3.2. International congresses of Clinical Pathology	5	20
3.3. National meetings of Clinical pathology	2	10
Section 4 : ECVCP		
4.1.1. Supervision of resident per year		10
4.1.2. Supervision of resident in alternate programme (per month)		1
4.2. Preparation of accepted ECVCP Examination questions (per q.)	3	21
4.3. Membership of Committee or Board (per year)	10	30
4.4. Others		

¹ + 50% at ECVCP/ACVCP meetings