Update European Congress of Neuropathology (ECNP2016)

The French Society of Neuropathology and Euro-CNS are very pleased to offer the congress delegates an exciting program that covers many aspects of neuropathology and interacts with other areas of neuroscience. Leading neuropathologists and neuroscientists will present the plenary lectures. Symposia and workshops will provide key updates and debate on recent progress in diagnostic neuropathological practice and in other interactive scientific approaches. Among the poster presenters (2-day exhibit), many have been invited to present their work on platform as well. The program includes a 2-hour interactive slide seminar on the last day. All abstracts are published in this issue of Clinical Neuropathology and are freely available online as well. As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, close to the famous vineyards and the Atlantic Ocean, Bordeaux offers superb touristic opportunities. The meeting will be held in the Cité Mondiale Convention Center conveniently located on the left bank of the Garonne River in the historic heart of the wine-making hub. We hope to welcome many of you to the congress in Bordeaux, so that you can also enjoy the full of light and utterly bewitching capital of wine!

European Examination in Neuropathology

Two candidates were accepted to participate in the European Examination in Diagnostic Neuropathology that will be held in Bordeaux on the July 4 and 5, 2016, right before the 11th European Congress of Neuropathology. The exam will be held at the Pathology Department of the Hôpital Pellegrin, Place Amélie Raba-Léon, Bordeaux, France. The next exam will probably be held in the fall of 2017, and updates will be posted on the Euro-CNS website.

Tumors of the Central Nervous System

The Euro-CNS (CME) Training Course “Tumors of the Central Nervous System” will be held in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, from October 12 to 14, 2016. In 3 days this course and workshop covers the 2016 update of the WHO classification (typing and grading) of CNS tumors, supplemented by lectures on clinical and neuroradiological aspects as well as molecular diagnostics relevant for daily clinical practice. Histological slides of the whole spectrum of CNS tumors are available, and multiple time slots are planned for personal practical exercise as well as for interaction with the experts. We have a few open seats still available.

Muscle and Peripheral Nerve Pathology

The Euro-CNS (CME) Training Course “Muscle and Peripheral Nerve Pathology”, will be held in Aachen, Germany, from March 22 to 24, 2017. This 3-day course and workshop will provide practising (neuro)pathologists, clinicians, and researchers with up-to-date reviews of the classification and the diagnostic problems in muscle and peripheral nerve pathology. The course consists of alternate lectures and slide sessions. The course language is English. Participants will receive a richly illustrated work manual of the histopathology of the most common muscular disorders. Topics include: general muscle pathology; histochemistry; immunohistochemistry; enzyme histochemistry; muscular dystrophies; mitochondrial myopathies; congenital myopathies; inflammatory myopathies; toxic and metabolic neuropathies; demyelinating neuropathies; hereditary neuropathies; inflammatory neuropathies. For details please visit our website.

Dear Readers,

As it will probably be apparent from the content of this issue of Clinical Neuropathology, our focus has been on the European Congress of Neuropathology that will be held in Bordeaux, France, from July 6 – 9, 2016. We look forward to a well-organized, state-of-the-art program, many interactive sessions, and a wonderful social program in a beautiful city. A few months after the congress, Euro-CNS organizes a CME course on Tumors of the Central Nervous System in Amsterdam in October 2016. We would also like to announce the Euro-CNS course on Muscle and Peripheral Nerve Pathology in Aachen in March 2017. A summary of the 117th meeting of the British Neuropathological Society, March 2 – 4, 2016, in London is provided by Dr. Ashirwad Merve, Chair of the BNS Trainees’ Committee. Last but certainly not least, the 2016 update of the 4th edition of the WHO classification of tumors of the central nervous system (WHO CNS4+) is now available as new blue book and we think it should find its place on the bookshelf of each neuropathologist actively engaged in brain tumor diagnostics.

We hope you enjoy our News.

With kind regards,

The Euro-CNS News Editorial team
News from the Irish Society of Neuropathology

Dr. Alan Beausang was appointed Consultant Neuropathologist in Beaumont Hospital in April 2016. In Dublin now there are Dr. Francesca Brett and Dr. Jane Cryan. In Cork we have Dr. Niamh Bermingham and Dr. Michael Jansen, appointed last November. The Society is in process of developing a Neuropathology/Molecular Pathology fellowship to commence July 2017.

Summary of the 117th Meeting of the British Neuropathological Society, March 2 – 4, 2016, London

Symposium, March 2, 2016, Tau Pathobiology and Tau Disorders:

To begin with, this year’s annual BNS meeting was special as for the first time it was held at The Royal College of Physicians, London, UK. It would not do justice without mentioning that the venue added a fantastic “icing on the cake” to this highly educational and academic meeting. The RCP undoubtedly enhanced the professional aura of the meeting with its great history, excellent audio-visual facility, central location, and hospitality it offered. Furthermore, it was apparent that there were a record number of delegates attending the meeting this year with a full house auditorium.

The meeting as always started with the symposium, with this year’s focus on tauopathies. The symposium took place in the afternoon of Wednesday March 2 and kept up to its title, covering clinical, neuropathological, and biological/research aspects of tau disorders. It is of no surprise that the level of enthusiasm and audience participation was high as this is currently a very topical subject. With tau spectrum of diseases, in particular, Alzheimer’s disease and dementia having such an impact on people’s health and public health care, gaining media attention and with several relevant publications appearing in the recent literature, the choice of this year’s symposium seemed aptly timed.

The symposium was chaired by Prof. Johannes Attems (University of Newcastle, UK) and Prof. Steve Gentleman (Imperial College, London, UK). Following a brief and succinct introduction by Prof. Attems, the symposium was opened by an enigmatic and energetic talk by Dr. Amritpal Mudher (University of Southampton, UK, Figure 1), highlighting their group’s research on “mechanisms of tau-toxicity in tauopathies”.

The much anticipated second lecture on “prion like propagation of tau” was supposed to be delivered by Prof. Luc Buee (University of Lille, France). But unfortunately Prof. Buee could not make it, so the highlights of the talk were projected for an open discussion which nevertheless received a fantastic participation. Following this, Prof. Gabor Kovacs (Medical University of Vienna, Austria) spoke very diligently on the spectrum of tau pathology in neurodegenerative disease and aging – an update’. I distinctly remember his approach to the classification of tauopathies which has stayed in my mind. As I had to leave after this, the information on the next three talks is based on information from my colleagues. After the tea break, the fourth lecture was on “neuroimaging of tau in vivo” by Prof. Nick Fox (UCL Institute of Neurology, London, UK). Then, Prof. Hemrol Zetterberg (University of Goteborg, Sweden) spoke about “tau in biofluids – relation to pathology, imaging and clinical features”. As per the tradition, every second year BNS holds the Dorothy Russell Memorial Lecture. This year’s memorial lecture was given by Prof. Claude M. Wischik (University of Aberdeen, UK) who spoke on “pharmaceutical implications of the paradigm shift in understanding and treatment of late life neurodegenerative disorders”. Needless to say all talks were of very high quality, very pertinent, and attracted active discussions.

Main BNS Meeting, March 3 – 4, 2016:

As always, this year’s main meeting program was filled with very interesting presentations by several research groups with updates on various neuropathological topics. The full schedule of the program including the abstracts of the presentations could be accessed in Neuropathology and Applied Neurobiology, Volume 42, Supplement 1, March 2016 – Proceedings of the meeting. Open access Link - http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/nan.2016.42.issue-S1/issuetoc

To briefly summarize, there were a total of six scientific sessions split
between the two days, each session comprising five to seven 15-minute presentations. On Thursday March 3 the sessions included 1) Neurodegenerative diseases I: Synucleopathies and Tauopathies, chaired by Prof. Gabor Kovacs and Dr. Tammaryn Lashley; 2) Neurodegenerative diseases II: Alzheimer’s Disease, chaired by Prof. Seth Love and Dr. Delphine Boche; 3) Tumors of the Central Nervous System, chaired by Prof. Silvia Marino and Dr. Kathreena Kurian. I was glad that my research was selected to be presented in this session which I very much enjoyed! On Friday 4th March the sessions were 4) Vascular diseases and ageing, chaired by Prof. Raj Kalaria and Dr. Roxana Carare; 5) Peripheral nerve, muscle and motor neuron disease, chaired by Prof. Caroline Sewry and Dr. Robin Highley; 6) Miscellaneous topics which included topics such as prion disease, viral encephalitis and mapping of synapses and others. This last session was chaired by Prof. Paul Ince (current President of the BNS) and Prof. Colin Smith.

In addition, there were poster discussions held after lunch on each day. There were 35 posters displayed which received an immense interest by the delegates who crowded the poster stalls in both sessions. The presenters were enthusiastic and put up a very professional presentation. Three poster prizes were given out at the end of the meeting.

The Society Business meeting took place on Thursday after the scientific session following which the Society Dinner was held at the RCP. The guest speaker at the Dinner was Professor Carole Brayne, of the University of Cambridge, reflecting on research in aging and dementia. The dinner was very enjoyable (Figure 2). Congratulations to the BNS for such a successful meeting this year, in particular to Dr. Rina Bandopadhyay, program secretary, and to the rest of the office bearers whose efforts have been clearly evident.

Pre-meeting Trainees
Sessions March 1 – 2, 2016:

Finally, as a trainee neuropathologist, I would like to add – that just prior to the BNS meeting every year, we have, in addition – trainee’s teaching days (one and a half days, sponsored by BNS) held usually at Queen Square, London. This year’s topic was on “CNS infections” and practical microscopy on “myopathies” which were taught by eminent neuropathologists, histopathologists, and neuroradiologists. This teaching was mainly organized by Dr. Nitika Rathi, Registrar at the Walton Centre, along with some assistance by me. It was well attended by current trainees and prospective trainees and received an excellent feedback. We welcome any prospective trainees who might be interested to attend this teaching session in the future.

Submitted by
Dr. Ashirwad Merve,
Chair of the
BNS Trainees’ Committee

2016 update WHO classification of tumors of the CNS

The 2016 update of the 4th edition of the WHO classification of tumors of the central nervous system (WHO CNS4+) is now available as new blue book. 122 authors from 19 countries have contributed in a 2-years process to WHO CNS4+. The result of this endeavour is a completely revised classification system for brain tumors which integrates for the first time histological and molecular features for definition of tumor types.

The authors anticipate that integrated brain tumor diagnostics will allow more precise brain tumor prognosis and optimized choice of adequate therapies.

Undoubtedly, WHO CNS4+ will become an indispensable reference for contemporary typing of brain tumors, and should find its place on the bookshelf of each neuropathologist actively engaged in brain tumor diagnostics.

WHO CNS4+ is available at: WHO Press, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, Tel.: +41 22 791 32 64, Fax: +41 22 791 48 57, Email: bookorders@who.int
Meeting Calendar

August 31 – September 2, 2016, Munich, Germany
10th International Conference on Frontotemporal Dementias (ICFTD 2016).
http://www.icftd2016.de/

September 22 – 24, 2016, Hamburg, Germany
Joint meeting of the German Society of Neuropathology and Neuroanatomy (DGNN) and the Scandinavian Neuropathological Society (SNS).
http://www.dgnn-conference.de/

September 28 – October 1, 2016, Niagara on the Lake, London/Ontario, Canada
Meeting of the Canadian Association of Neuropathologists.
http://www.canp.ca/annual-meetings

October 6 – 9, 2016, Erlangen, Germany
International Summer School for Neuropathology and Epilepsy Surgery.
http://www.neuropathologie.uk-erlangen.de/

October 6 – 9, 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia
11th International Congress on Non-Motor Dysfunctions in Parkinson’s disease and Related Disorders (NMDPD 2016).
http://nmdpd2016.kenes.com/

October 12 – 14, 2016, Amsterdam
Euro-CNS Neuropathology Course “Tumors of the Central Nervous System”,
www.euro-cns.org

March 22 – 24, 2017, Aachen, Germany
CME Training Course “Muscle and Peripheral Nerve Pathology”.
www.euro-cns.org

March 29 – April 2, 2017, Vienna, Austria
The 13th International Conference on Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Diseases and related neurological disorders.
http://adpd2017.kenes.com/

September 23 – 27, 2018, Tokyo, Japan
19th International Congress of Neuropathology, Tokyo, Japan.

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