24 - 28 August 2015
Educational Center
Charles University Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové

24 - 28 August 2015, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
19th ESO Stroke Summer School 2015

Many Thanks to our Sponsors
The 19th ESO Stroke Summer School was held in Hradec Králové, Czech Republic between August 24 and 28, 2015. The local organizing committee members were Prof. Roman Herzig, Prof. David Školoudík and Assoc. Prof. Daniel Šaňák. The event was held in the Educational Center of the Charles University Faculty of Medicine, representing an up-to-date teaching facilities localized within the University Hospital compound (and within a walking distance from the city center, where participants were accommodated). The aim was to bring together young stroke physicians (mainly from Europe) with experienced stroke specialists, to provide young physicians with the recent information in the field of stroke and to enable them a close interaction with the faculty members.
Participants

Out of the 90 obtained applications, 44 candidates (the original target number of participants was 40) have been selected by a panel of two assessors. Only applicants, who have not previously participated in a stroke summer school, were selected. As we aimed to accommodate participants from the majority of European countries, we have firstly selected just one participant from every European country, from which an application has been received. Afterwards, we have selected one more candidate (two more in the case of the United Kingdom) from only some European countries – this selection of additional participants was based (similarly as in the first round) on the evaluation of their CVs (considering current professional status, publications and career intentions) and of motivation and recommendation letters. Thus, in total three candidates (with high quality CVs) were selected from the UK and in total two candidates from Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Switzerland. Other countries, each represented by one participant, were Albania, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Georgia, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Ukraine. We have selected also three best candidates from non-European countries – from Argentina, Brazzaville-Congo and Israel. As four of the selected candidates (from Croatia, Greece, Kosovo and Uzbekistan) have apologized themselves and were not able to attend the summer school, the final number of participants was 40 (coming from 25 European and 3 non-European countries). The organizers were impressed by the knowledge and enthusiasm of some of the participants.
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Faculty members

We would like to thank again all speakers who have supported the summer school, presented their lectures and shared their profound knowledge and experience with participants. International faculty consisted of 18 European stroke experts (including four consecutive presidents of the ESO – Prof. Didier Leys, Prof. Michael Brainin, Prof. Kennedy Lees and, Prof. Valeria Caso) and of 5 stroke specialists from the Czech Republic.
Program

Scientific program started at 9 a.m. every morning and consisted of 39 lectures (lasting 30 minutes and followed by an electronic selection of the answers to the questions and by a lively discussion) with the topics covering comprehensively all aspects of stroke care, e.g. stroke etiology and risk factors, primary and secondary prevention, diagnosis (neuroimaging and neurosonology), therapy (acute treatment – intravenous thrombolysis and mechanical thrombectomy and, carotid interventions), intracerebral and subarachnoid hemorrhage and vascular malformations, prehospital stroke management, organization of acute stroke care, stroke units, telestroke and stroke awareness, but also such topics as for example cervical artery dissection, pharmacogenetics, post-stroke cognitive impairment, posterior circulation stroke, small vessel disease, stroke in women or transient ischemic attack. Thus, the whole scientific program was focused interdisciplinary, including the insight into stroke not only from the position of neurologists, but also from that of interventional and non-interventional neuroradiologists and neurosurgeons. Besides that, the program included also presentation of interesting cases by participants and three workshops, focused on the thrombectomy using Solitaire stents and Penumbra and on neurosonology. The majority of participants also took the opportunity of the visit of the Department of Neurology (including the intensive care unit and stroke unit) in the afternoon hours.
Evaluation

We received back 35 evaluation forms. The whole event received a positive evaluation by the participants (using the scoring system of 1 to 5 with 5 representing “excellent”): scientific program 4.4, case presentations by participants 3.8, interaction with speakers 4.1, catering 4.3, accommodation 3.5, visit to the department of neurology 3.9 and overall organization 4.2.
Report of the 19th ESO Stroke Summer School

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Acknowledgement

We would like to thank all the speakers, who presented their lectures enthusiastically and free of charge, Charles University Faculty of Medicine and University Hospital Hradec Králové for their logistical support and also our industry sponsors for their generous support – their contributions enabled us to organize this successful event and to spread the recent stroke knowledge within (not only) Europe. Namely we thank the following companies: Daiichi-Sankyo, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Covidien, Medtronic, Penumbra and Everpharma. Beside their financial support, Covidien and Penumbra also organized hands-on workshops, enabling the participants to get acquainted with the practical use of thrombectomy devices. We also thank the members of the ESO Executive Committee and the ESO Education Committee and also the ESO secretariat for their active support.
Comment from the organizers

We feel honoured to be able to host such as important event as the 19th ESO Stroke Summer School in Hradec Králové, bringing together stroke experts and young physicians from many European countries and enabling not only the dissemination of the knowledge, but also the increase of stroke awareness. A detailed information about the event is available at the 19th ESO Stroke Summer School website [http://mhconsulting.cz/en-kongres-kongres_obecne-87.html](http://mhconsulting.cz/en-kongres-kongres_obecne-87.html) and recorded selected lectures are available at the ESO website.