

Minutes of FWG business meeting
46th Annual Meeting of the AEPC, Istanbul 2012

Thursday 24th May 2012

32 members of the FWG and all members of council were present

- 1) **The minutes** from the last meeting in Granada 2011 were agreed as accurate and accepted with no matters arising from them. Thanks to Helena Gardiner.

- 2) **FWG members.** With the recent ballots the problem of who actually is a FWG member was once again highlighted. The list is not accurate and contact with members is thus a problem. Important also is that many 'members' have as yet not paid their yearly dues.

A suggestion was made to ask for a mailing list of all AEPC members and to send a mail to all members asking them if they are members of the FWG or interested in this working group and then they can be included in the FWG mailing list. Presently it has approximately 100 members.

The FWG would like to have contact with all AEPC members who are interested in fetal cardiology. Members are reminded that it is possible to be a member of two working groups concurrently.

- 3) **Composition of council.**

The composition of the FWG council in 2011 was; Chairman- José Areias (2011-2014), Secretary- Helena Gardiner (2007-2012), Treasurer- Joanna Dangel (2008-2013), Council members- Ulrike Herberg (2011-2014) and Sally-Ann Clur (2010-2013) and Yvan Mivelaz as the junior member (2011-2013).

Several changes in new council members and positions were announced. Sally-Ann Clur takes over the position of secretary from Helena Gardiner. The meeting thanked Helena for her hard work for the past years.

An email ballot for a new council member was held. There were two candidates Joaquim Bartons from Spain and John Simpson from the UK. John Simpson received the most votes and was welcomed as the new council member.

A call was made for additional council members in view of all the work expected for next year (World Congress in February in Cape Town and AEPC in May in London).

This proposal was accepted (23 for, 0 against) and thus Joaquim Bartons was also welcomed as a council member.

- 4) **The report from the treasurer** was given by Joanna Dangel. The first FWG fetal junior teaching course held in Poland in November 2011. This was a great success despite

the closure of the Warsaw airport. A second course is being planned, possibly in 2013/4. The financial situation of the FWG is good, there are about 5000 francs on the account plus the addition of the funds for the pre-course teaching course of 2012 "Update in Fetal Cardiology" that have as yet not been added.

- 5) The **Complete Heart Block** paper has been published in circulation; Circulation 2011 Nov 1;124(18)1919-26
- 6) **Research Fellowships:** there is money for this and it can be used for international studies. Expenses bursary, travel and free attendance at the AEPC meeting.
- 7) **Status of the FWG aortic stenosis study.**

The retrospective arm of this study is almost complete. Alexander Kovacevic presented the methodological aspects and preliminary data of the retrospective case /data collection up until May this year. 219 cases have been included, 57 underwent fetal cardiac intervention (80% technical success, 51% biventricular correction. 78% are still alive, 141 without an intervention).

The next step is to compare the treated and untreated cases to see which are suitable for intervention. The first paper should be ready shortly.

Anika Ohman presented the prospective part. Ethical issues relating to the study were discussed and there was a suggestion that one ethics committee should take the lead. There followed much discussion about how the data would be entered. There were suggestions to setup a registry/ website. Website construction should be possible but there are expense and privacy concerns. Suggestions for websites came from Joanna Dangel and Mats Mellander for a Polish company, Magnum (providers of the cardio-surgical database), for 7000 euros and a Swedish company for 11000 euros, respectively. Using the AEPC website of Klaus Moldenhauer of the University of Kiel was also proposed. A suggestion that no website is required was also made. The question was raised at the AEPC business meeting and council did not approve the use of FWG funds to set up a web-site data entry system.

- 8) **Proposals for further studies and collaboration.**

The FMG has been requested to support several studies. Unfortunately the FWG can only offer financial support to a limited number of studies and is currently supporting the AS study. However the FWG is prepared to promote scientific collaboration in studies where no financial support can be given, the following study proposals were mentioned.;

Annabelle Azancot asked the FWG for financial support for a study on discordance of CHD in twin pregnancies. People interested in collaborating can contact her directly.

Indomethecin therapy study for severe tricuspid dysplasia was also discussed. The contact here is Jim Huhta

Randomized control trial: RCT fetal arrhythmia study or “FAST”. The proposed study was presented by Edgar Jaeggi@sickkids.ca. There was a call for centers to collaborate with this study. No financial support was requested from the FWG.

- 9) There were no other matters arising and the **meeting was closed.**