

Minutes from the Fetal Working Group Business Meeting in Basel 2006

Thursday May 25, 2006

Approximately 50 members attended this business meeting. Please see agenda for details and attachments sent to all members one month before meeting.

1. The minutes from the last business meeting in Copenhagen 2005 were approved.
2. There will be no replacement of councillors this year. Since the terms of three officers of the council ends in 2007 (Gerald Tulzer, Mats Mellander and Helena Gardiner) members were urged to propose replacements.
3. The treasurer reported that the balance was 8120.65 CHF on May 1st 2006. The balance one year earlier was 13670.35 CHF. Since then there was bank charges (177.20 CHF) and expenses covering speakers in Copenhagen (5372.50 CHF).
4. The draft European Training recommendations in Fetal Cardiology were discussed and it was argued that they should contain only two levels of training instead of three. It was also proposed that the FWG should organize an accreditation test in Fetal Cardiology. The decision was to first send the recommendations as they are to ISUOG with an invitation to consider them and to propose changes and then to further discuss these issues within the council before sending off for publication on the FWG web page and in CITY.
5. A proposed FWG Basic Teaching Course was discussed against the background of already available courses in Fetal Cardiology in English (London). It was decided that the council should first approach the various course organizers in London (Julene

Carvalho, Gurleen Sharland, Helena Gardiner, and the Fetal Medicine Foundation (Lindsey Allan, Ian Huggon, Andrew Cook) and ask whether they would be willing to announce their courses as supported and recommended by AEPC in order to attract younger AEPC members at a reduced course fee (possibly sponsored by AEPC). Depending on the result of this the council will later decide whether a special FWG course needs to be organized.

6. The draft Fetal Cardiology Database was approved as a useful standard platform that can be used by fetal cardiologists when constructing their own databases. It was decided it should be published on the FWG web page and also be sent for publication in CITY as such, but that it needs some work on details before that. It was also agreed that a group of people invited by the council (Rodney Franklin, Vlasta Fesslova, and Jan Marek) should approach Astraia and Viewpoint to try to convince them to adjust their commercially available fetal cardiology databases according to this proposal.
7. The proposed Database for Fetal Interventions on an Intention to Treat Basis was accepted but it was proposed that all cases of aortic or pulmonary valve stenosis should be entered irrespective of whether they are judged suitable for fetal intervention or not. The database will be published for use on the FWG web page. The council will appoint a person with the main responsibility for running the database.
8. The FWG Web Page setup was presented and finally approved. The council will have it published on the internet, as a link from the main AEPC web page.
9. The status of the Retrospective Collection of Cases of Isolated Fetal Complete Heart Block was presented and discussed. This study will be pursued by Hakan Eliasson in Stockholm with economic support from the FWG. It was decided that it should be written up as a report from the FWG and sent to for example CITY for publication. Authors will be those providing cases to the study and participating actively in producing the final report, other case providers will be mentioned in

acknowledgements. The next step will be to send out a new official invitation from FWG to all members to participate in the study.

10. Members were asked to send proposals for a fetal symposium for the AEPC meeting in Warsaw next year to the FWG council not later than November.

Gothenburg 2006-08-27

Mats Mellander

Secretary FWG/AEPC