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**Dear Colleagues,**  
**Members of Thymic and Mediastinal Working Group of**  
**ESP**

Minutes from **Thymic and Mediastinum Working Group Business**  
**Meeting,**  
**2021-02-26**

**Attendees:** *Philipp Ströbel, Alexander Marx, Anja Roden, Stefan Porubsky, Helmut Popper, Mirella Marino, Luka Brcic, Izidor Kern, Malgorzata Szolkowska + one unidentified person*

**The 32nd Congress of the ESP and XXXIII International Congress  
of the IAP, December 2020**

**Summary of Thymic and Mediastinal WG session: „Update on  
thymic pathology”:**

- Program of a session included:
  - The upcoming WHO classification 2020/2021,  
*Alexander Marx, Germany*
  - A role model: activities of the French RYTHMIC  
network, *Thierry Molina, France*
  - What's new in thymic neuroendocrine tumours, *Philipp*

*Ströbel, Germany*

- Diagnosis of thymic lesions including biopsies and resection specimens in an international digital microscopy panel,

*Janina Wolf, Netherlands*

- Paraganglioma and neuronal lesions of the mediastinum, *Jan Von Der Thüsen, Netherlands*

- Salivary gland like tumours of the thymus, *Annikka*

*Weissferdt, United States*

- Live Q&A.
- TMWG session was attended by 160 participants.
- The recordings were available until the beginning of March.

Currently the link <https://www.esp-congress.org> leads to the upcoming **33<sup>rd</sup> ECP** and recordings are presumably no longer available.

### **Summary of a report of the Education Committee of the ESP:**

- Most of the ESP activities were suspended in 2020 due to the pandemic, some of them, e.g. Giordano Fellowship, will be resumed in mid-2021 (depending on the pandemic situation).

- However, the **Progress Test** achieved a great success - over 900 participants;

- WG support is needed in updating the question database.

- All WG were encouraged to organise:

- **webinars**: 1-1.5 hour long, with 2-3 speakers and live Q&A

- or **virtual courses** (e.g. the course on prostate carcinoma is available for ESP members after login: <https://www.esp-pathology.org/educational-portal/virtual-educational-series.html>)

### Upcoming conferences:

**33<sup>rd</sup> European Congress of Pathology** will be held on **August 29-31, 2021**. It will be a virtual event. Main schedule and organising structure will be the same as of 32<sup>nd</sup> ECP.

- For **TMWG** a 2-hour slot has been established:

**Tuesday, August 31, 2021, 14:45-16:45**. The session will have a form of symposium entitled: „**Immunohistochemical and genetic tests in the diagnostics of mediastinal tumors**”. Half an hour should be dedicated to Q&A. The topics of talks should be proposed as soon as possible.

- ESP recommended joint sessions as a good opportunity for small WG to get more attendees.

- TMWG members proposed for the next ECP (34<sup>th</sup>) the joint session together with haematopathologists or Soft Tissue and Bone Pathology WG. We will continue this idea.

**11<sup>th</sup> International Thymic Malignancy Interest Group Annual Meeting (ITMIG 2021)** has been scheduled for **October 16-17, 2021** as virtual conference. More information will be available soon: <https://itmig.org/event/virtual-itmig-2021-annual-meeting/>. In person conference in Warsaw has been postponed to 2022. The 2-day workshop for pathologists encompassing the neoplastic and non-neoplastic pathology of the thymic and mediastinal lesions is still included into the program of this conference. This workshop is endorsed by ESP.

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ESP and ITMIG**

was proposed by Margaret and willingly approved by TMWG members. Such a MoU may help in further cooperation between TMWG members and ITMIG, enabling, e.g., organisation of common educational or scientific events (webinars, courses), leading common projects or bilateral promotion of the societies. The talks with the ESP office have been initiated (just after TMWG meeting). We were asked to point out the benefits for ESP of such a MoU. We will continue this process and will contact members of TMWG to get their opinion in this matter.

### **New chairs of TMWG were elected**

**Prof. Philipp Ströbel** decided to step down due to other very important and time-consuming commitments;

**Małgorzata Szolkowska** (Margaret), from National Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases Research Institute (Warsaw, Poland) and **Jan von der Thüsen** from Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam (Rotterdam, The Netherlands) have been elected as a new chair and co-chair of the WG, respectively.

***Dear Philipp,***

*Thank you for your time, knowledge and all that you've done on behalf of the development of our Working Group!*

*Personally, thank you for your friendship and support.*

***Dear Thymic and Mediastinal Working Group Members,***

*It is our honour to become chairs of Thymic and Mediastinal  
Working Group.*

*We will do our best to continue the group development and to  
increase its visibility in the society. In our activity we are going  
to keep the balance between basic education and sophisticated  
science.*

*Margaret and Jan*

*Yours truly,*

*Małgorzata Szotkowska and Jan von der Thüsen*

