

Dear hyperthermia friends,

At the last ESHO board meeting in Munich it was decided to re-introduce the ESHO newsletter as a communication platform between ESHO members. In the small world of hyperthermia, mutual cooperation and stimulation through communication are prerequisites for the promotion of clinical hyperthermia.

“Biological, clinical and technical results are currently with us, but PR is against us”. Therefore, this newsletter will try to stimulate the mutual communication. In addition, we hope that the topics presented in the newsletter will stimulate you to respond and write small contributions to the newsletter.

The newsletter will be brief and restricted to potentially relevant news about developments in hyperthermia. Each newsletter will provide the latest news on the activities of the ESHO board and if available of the committees (clinical, biological and technology). Other topics will depend on contributions provided by the members. All ESHO members can easily contribute by sending their contribution per email to the PR-committee.

The newsletter will not appear regularly, but will be dependent on available news that needs to be disseminated. We anticipate that it will be possible to publish about three newsletters a year.

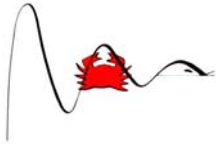
The newsletter will be edited by the PR committee of the ESHO board: Gail ter Haar (gail.terHaar@icr.ac.uk) and Maarten Hulshof (m.c.hulshof@amc.nl)

Messages from the ESHO-board

The ESHO-board hopes that all participants of the ESHO Hyperthermia-school and the 10th International Conference on Hyperthermia in Oncology returned home with a positive and reinforced feeling on the future of hyperthermia. This is certainly the case with all ESHO board members. We would like to share with our members a few of our positive observations:

- Both the ESHO school and the 10th ICHO were very well attended. All places in the school were occupied (40+ persons) and over 300 people attended the conference.
- Moreover, industrial exhibition counted 15 companies who generously supported our conference with their presence and showing their products. A number we have not seen for many years. A special word of gratitude goes to all these companies.
- The number of ESHO members has increased to above 160 paying members. The secretary is very happy to inform you that spontaneous membership applications are received from countries where memberships had dropped to a worrisome level. Still more members are needed, so please promote your society.
- It was also encouraging to note that the number of students and young scientists at the meeting was remarkable higher than at the previous meetings. Many new faces could be seen.
- Industry reported increasing requests for information and more importantly also increasing sales of hyperthermia equipment.

So all together the ESHO board members left Munich with a feeling that a growing interest in the application of hyperthermia can be noticed both in the medical community as well as in industry.



Clinical

Atzelsberg meeting

The Atzelsberg Circle is a German Scientific Study Group for Hyperthermia in Radiation Oncology and Medical Oncology, which promotes the clinical application of hyperthermia. Because of its fruitful developments, a few hyperthermia institutes outside Germany joined this meeting (Verona, Rotterdam and Amsterdam). The language was German so far. Five clinical study proposals were discussed at the Atzelsberg meeting:

- Adjuvant radiation therapy combined with hyperthermia +/- hormonal therapy in patients with prostate cancer after radical resection. A multi-institutional phase II randomized study. Principal investigators: S. Maluta: Sergio.maluta@azosp.vr.it, M. Shaffer: moshe.schaffer@med.uni-muenchen.de, O. Ott: oliver.ott@strahlen.imed.uni-erlangen.de).
- Randomized trial of radiochemotherapy in anal carcinoma with and without deep regional hyperthermia (writing committee: GG Grabenbauer and J. van der Zee: j.vanderzee@erasmusmc.nl)
- Hyperthermia European Adjuvant Trial, an ESHO trial. A randomised three-armed open study on the adjuvant therapy in patients with R0/R1 resected pancreas carcinoma with Gemcitabine (Gem) vs. Gem/Cisplatin (Cis) vs. Gem/Cis in combination with regional hyperthermia (RHT) (coordinator. Prof R Issels). Contact address: mail@esho.info
- Neoadjuvant chemoradiation with 5-FU and oxaliplatin combined with deep regional hyperthermia in locally recurrent rectal cancer (HyRec Trial). A phase I/II study (Ott: oliver.ott@strahlen.imed.uni-erlangen.de, Schaffer, Kapp).
- Chemotherapy + Hyperthermia for Peritoneal carcinomatosis of ovarian cancer. A phase II study (Gellerman: Johanna.gellermann@charite.de, Wust, Rigamonti, Rauthe).

Technical

A newly formed committee of hyperthermia physicists will develop standard technical and dosimetrical quality guidelines for hyperthermia applications which may be incorporated into forthcoming multi-institutional clinical studies. Chair: G van Rhoon, Rotterdam.

Meetings:

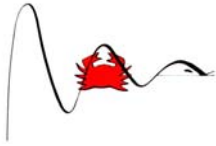
The ESHO 2009 meeting will be held in Verona, 11-13 June (chair: S. Maluta)

The next Atzelberg meeting will be held in Erlangen, 16 October (chair: R. Sauer)

Some pictures of the ESHO school.



Hands-on training in Semcad-X



Hands-on training in Sigma-Hyperplan



Clinical teaching: discussion during a treatment of deep hyperthermia using the BSD2000 system



Lunch time! A well deserved break.

Miscellaneous

The ESHO board will develop a new ESHO website. A drop-box for information and discussion will be added to this website.

The PR committee would like to encourage broad and active participation from ESHO members for developing the content of this newsletter and invites you to send in news that you would like to share in the field of hyperthermia. Send your contribution to:

m.c.hulshof@amc.nl

This newsletter is sent to everyone with an interest in Hyperthermia. If you are not a member yet and you will like to become one after reading this newsletter you can find the necessary forms at www.esho.info or send an e-mail to s.vandersluis@erasmusmc.nl for more information.

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