



ETCO News

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ETCO News is published by the European Transplant Coordinators Organization. The editor welcomes articles and announcements pertaining to organ donation and transplant coordination related matters or matters concerning ETCO. Send Word document by e-mail to: secretariat@etco.org

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Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues and Friends

2010 is an exciting year for ETCO filled with new initiatives and alliances. One of the largest and most significant projects is nearing completion: the Certification of European Transplant Coordination examinations will be held at the Cardiff Congress in September. The Transplant Coordination Board has been formed, has met, elected an Executive Committee and together with the ETCO Certification Committee is now compiling a database of examination questions and will accredit the Transplant Coordination courses currently offered in Europe. The ETCO Certification Committee has drawn up the curriculums and the reading materials. The Evaluation Committee, also elected at the first meeting of the BTC, will evaluate the eligibility of candidates.

ETCO's prominence and status is growing in the international transplantation arena and we have been invited to participate in:

- **WHO Global Consultation on Organ Donation and Transplantation**, held in Madrid and organized by the World Health Organization, The Transplantation Society and the Spanish National Transplant Organization (ONT), with the support of the European Commission. This event had 140 participants from 68 countries all over the world.
- **Global Alliance for Transplantation (GAT)** in Vancouver, during the TTS Congress
- A consortium coordinated by TPM – IL3-UB in conjunction with: Organización Nacional de Trasplantes (ONT), Spain; Centro Nazionale Trapianti (CNT), Italy; l'Agence de la Biomédecine (ABM), France; Autoridade para Serviços de Sangue e de Transplantação (ASST), Portugal to apply for the European Commission **Call for Tender - Training transplant donor coordinators trainers**. ETCO was invited as a scientific society and as the organization, together with the UEMS, responsible for CETC certification.

Participation in these international future-shaping events gives ETCO the status of a global stakeholder.

ETCO has officially **endorsed the Declaration of Istanbul about Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism**.

As a professional organization ETCO will comply with the goals identified by their Task Forces:

- Professional Organizations require speakers at scientific and educational meetings on clinical organ transplantation to disclose whether the clinical and research activities being reported have complied with the Principles of the Declaration of Istanbul.
- Professional Organizations have an established mechanism for determining the appropriateness of accepting presentations on clinical organ transplantation based on the disclosure of their compliance with the Principles of the Declaration of Istanbul.
- Organizations that endorse the Declaration of Istanbul establish mechanisms to promote, implement and uphold the Declaration (for example, through their ethics committees, awards and membership criteria).

The ETCO Scientific Committee will be responsible for determining the appropriateness of articles presented at ETCO congresses as well as the awards and grants given. ETCO will recommend to the BTC that the CETC not be awarded to persons violating this code of ethics, and that *Organs, Tissues & Cells* Journal also complies as a medical journal. The declaration will be available on the ETCO website.

ETCO continues its commitment to provide educational opportunities for transplant coordinators. We work hard to improve the services we offer our members. Our annual congresses are becoming focal points for transplant coordinators.

- The quality of the scientific programme is first class: cutting edge research; leading speakers, experts in their fields; a broad spectrum of topics covering the wide range of fields transplant coordinators work in; international participation and the possibility for younger members to present their work alongside the experts.
- Pre-congress workshops are designed to provide up-to-date training in areas we believe are useful for TCs to keep at the forefront of advances in the field: Machine preservation wetlab to give practical, hands-on experience in the latest methods of organ preservation. Brain death diagnosis and donor treatment taught by heads of intensive care units; Research opportunities and communication skills, important for TCs to present and publish their research for colleagues and also to promote donation to the public and the press; and Quality Assurance which explains the necessary process of detecting when and why a potential donor has been lost and of identifying areas that need improving. Continuous internal and external

evaluation is necessary to optimise procurement rates and minimize wastage.

- Certification of European Transplant Coordination examinations will be offered again at ETCO congresses and run under the auspices of the UEMS, the same association that incorporates the EACCME which accredits the congress for CME credits.
- We are organizing joint sessions in the scientific programme with other associations: ESICM and ETCO have had joint sessions at each other's congresses for several years now, this will be the 5th joint session in Cardiff. In addition, the European Shock Association, Paediatric Intensive Care Society (PICS) and ELPAT all have joint sessions in Cardiff, allowing for deeper levels of discussion and understanding and future cooperation.

We have been invited again to have a joint session with ESICM at their 23rd Congress in Barcelona 9-13 October, 2010.

These joint sessions reflect the multidisciplinary nature of transplant coordination and our efforts to strengthen collaboration between societies with overlapping disciplines. We are restarting collaboration with ESOT, directly, through ELPAT, and working together in the Division of Transplantation of the UEMS.

We have signed a new fraternal agreement with the European Shock Society and are renewing the agreement with ITNS, negotiating the possibility of combining their European symposium with our annual congress.

Regarding National Workshops, this year we are giving support to Georgia, the 3rd Workshop of Caucasian Transplant Coordinators. The event will be run alongside the European Organ Donation Day in Tbilisi, 22- 23 October, 2010.

We continue to improve the website and aim to make it an important reference site and forum for our members and those associated with the field. All the information for the CETC examinations including the curriculums and reading material is available on the home site www.etc.org, and the congress information with abstract submission and registration is available on the congress website www.etc2010.org.

Finally, *Organs, Tissues & Cells* aims to be indexed in the near future and welcomes your research articles in all fields related to organ donation and transplantation. Members have access to all articles free of charge online and receive the printed version three times a year.

I strongly recommend our members to participate in the congress, send in abstracts and share the work you are involved in, take advantage of the training workshops and

give us feedback on how they could be improved and what other workshops you would like offered, do the CETC and encourage other TCs to do, this will increase its recognition and your professional profile and, finally, encourage others to join ETCO. The more we are the stronger we will be and the more we will be able to offer you.

Joining ETCO is one of the best decisions TCs can make to enhance their professional development. The benefits of membership are many: for more information go to www.etc.org

This has been a memorable year for ETCO. With the continued support and participation of our members, our accomplishments will pave the way for further achievements next year.

I look forward to seeing you in Cardiff,

Rui Maio
ETCO President

2010 European Organ Donation Congress, ETCO 22nd, Cardiff 24-26 September

Four Workshops, Cardiff 23 September, 2010

Four workshops will be offered the day before the congress, 23 September. The registration fee is 75 euros for the Organ Preservation Wet Lab and 50 euros for the other three. Places on the workshops are limited and will be given in order of registration.

Workshop 1, Preservation Workshop: Practical Demonstrations in a Wet Lab

Sponsored by Organ Recovery Systems and Transmedics. X-VIVO and Igelösa Transplantation Science to be confirmed.

The last 15 years have been characterized as a period of exponentially increasing recipient waiting times and relatively static organ donation rates. Consequently, increasing efficiencies of organ utilization have become a primary strategy for improving access to transplantable organs. In the field of renal transplantation, current organ perfusion modalities have contributed to these efficiencies. In addition, investigations into the role of novel pharmacologic agents, gene expression, apoptosis and reperfusion injury in the setting of organ perfusion have provided models to increase utilization of kidneys deemed unsuitable for transplant by conventional criteria. The expansion of organ perfusion from kidneys to other solid organs like the liver, lung and heart is now a reality. The early success of organ

perfusion promises to mark the next stage in the science and technology of organ preservation.

ETCO is happy to be offering its second annual Organ Perfusion Workshop for preservationists and procurement professionals in conjunction with the 2010 European Organ Donation Congress in Cardiff, Wales, UK. The Organ Preservation Workshop is scheduled for 23 September and will feature teaching by experts in the field as well as hands-on organ preservation training. **The program will include:** • Review of organ perfusion in kidneys, hearts and lungs • Overview of results of the Machine Preservation Trial comparing machine preservation to cold storage in kidney transplantation in collaboration with Eurotransplant • The group will divide into thorax and abdomen wet labs for practical sessions on LifePort Kidney Transporter (abdomen) and OCS for hearts, and OCS for lungs (thorax) • In groups of max. six, machine preservation devices will be explained and demonstrated by company representatives. Topics to include set-up, operation and trouble shooting in a wet lab environment. The final symposium program will be available on the congress website www.etc2010.org.

Workshop 2, Brain Death Diagnosis and Donor Treatment

Organ transplant programs are frequently based on organs coming from patients in brain death. The number of organs recovered from patients in brain death is directly related to the number of organs transplanted. Moreover, the special care given to organs during the brain death period is essential for clinical success after transplantation. This workshop will approach brain death diagnosis from a clinical point of view, and the advantages of using instrumental tests in the diagnosis analyzed. Clinical examination for the diagnosis of brain death and the usefulness of cerebral blood flow tests and neurophysiological tests will be analyzed from a theoretical and practical point of view. Practical simulations of clinical examination of brain death and analysis of registers of instrumental tests will be part of the workshop.

The second part of the workshop will include presentations on the negative influence of brain death on organs causing inflammation of kidneys, liver, lungs and heart in brain-dead donors. An important topic of this workshop will be the changes in brain-dead therapeutics; the old paradigm of "clinical maintenance or "clinical management" is changing to clinical treatment of organs during the brain death period before retrieval. The usefulness of different therapeutic elements: T3, T4, steroids, vasopressin, dopamine etc. will be analyzed. Discussion of clinical cases will be

included in the workshop, evaluating problematic situations of brain death diagnosis and controversial treatment of donors in a clinical setting.

PROGRAMME	
9.00-9.15	INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP
9.15-9.30	BRAIN DEATH CONCEPTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Different concepts of brain death in the world</i> • <i>Whole brain death</i> • <i>Brain stem death</i> • <i>Neocortical death</i>
9.30-10.00	BRAIN DEATH DIAGNOSIS WORLDWIDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Different legislations about brain death</i> • <i>Controversial aspects: legal versus medical diagnosis</i> • <i>Others</i>
10.00-10.30	CLINICAL EXAMINATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Clinical examination</i> • <i>Pitfalls in the clinical examination</i> • <i>Clinical examination for different concepts of brain death</i>
10.30-11.00	CLINICAL CASES
11.00-11.30	INSTRUMENTAL TEST IN THE DIAGNOSIS OF BRAIN DEATH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cerebral blood flow tests</i> • <i>Cerebral angiography</i> • <i>Transcranial Doppler</i> • <i>EEG, evoked potentials</i>
11.30-12.00	CLINICAL CASES
12.00-13.00	BREAK
13.00-13.15	INTRODUCTION TO DONOR MANAGEMENT
13.15-13.30	RELEVANCE OF DONOR MANAGEMENT IN TRANSPLANT PROGRAMS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brief history of management of donors</i> • <i>New /old concepts: Maintenance versus management versus treatment</i> • <i>Quality of organs: Influence of wrong management on results of transplantation</i> • <i>Differences in the management/treatment according to organs to retrieve</i>
13.30-14.00	PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF BRAIN DEATH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The control of the body by the brain</i> • <i>Electrolyte disturbances after brain death</i> • <i>Hemodynamic disturbances after brain death</i> • <i>Temperature disturbances after brain death</i> • <i>Others</i>
14.00-14.30	INFLUENCE OF BRAIN DEATH ON ORGANS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Inflammatory response after brain death</i> • <i>Influence of brain death on kidneys</i>

- *Influence of brain death on heart and liver*
- *Influence of brain death on lung*
- *Dysfunction of organs due to brain death*

14.30-15.15 **MONITORING OF DONORS IN BRAIN DEATH**

- *Hemodynamic monitoring*
- *Electrolyte monitoring*
- *Temperature monitoring*
- *Coagulation monitoring*
- *Others*

15.15-15.30 **BREAK**

15.30-16.00 **THERAPEUTICS OF BRAIN-DEAD DONORS**

- *Treatment of kidneys in brain death*
- *Treatment of liver in brain death*
- *Treatment of heart in brain death*
- *Treatment of lung in brain death*
- *Endocrine dysfunction and treatment*
- *Temperature treatment*
- *Global Treatment*

16.00-16.45 **CLINICAL CASES**

- *Clinical case 1.*
- *Clinical case 2*
- *Clinical case 3*

16.45-17.00 **FINAL REMARKS**

Faculty: Dr JM Domínguez-Roldán, Clinical Director of Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Hospital Virgen del Rocío, Sevilla, Spain

Dr F Procaccio, Director of the Neuro Intensive Care Unit, University & City Hospital, Verona, Italy

Dr Julien Charpentier, Specialist in Intensive Care Medicine, Transplant Coordinator, Medical ICU, Cochin Hospital, Paris, France

Workshop 3, Research Opportunities and Communication Skills for Transplant Coordinators

Introduction: In today's transplant culture, the Transplant Coordinator is the gatekeeper to the world of organ donation and transplantation. Research plays an important role in learning and sharing knowledge as well as improving professional development opportunities. The Transplant Coordinator is the first point of contact as a communicator to effectively persuade both health professionals and the community of the benefits of donation and transplantation. This involves not only presenting health education to medical peers, but interacting effectively with the community and the media. The skills necessary to present factual and persuasive arguments and information are developed by using effective communication techniques.

Learning Objectives: The participants will be able to:

- Organize and facilitate collaborative research projects
- Gain an understanding on how to write and illustrate abstracts and scientific papers.
- Enhance PowerPoint presentation skills
- Build skills to work effectively with the media and conduct interviews for television, radio and newspapers
- Practice their skills for media interviews

Target Audience: This workshop is designed for international Transplant Coordinators, Tissue Banking Coordinators and health officials working in donation and transplantation hospitals/facilities, dealing with communication activities, professional education, promotion and research as part of their role who would like to reinforce their communication skills to facilitate positive outcomes. Places are limited to 20 people.

Faculty: Ms Tina Coco, Manager, DonateLife Queensland (Organ and Tissue Donation Agency) Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Ms Maria Stadler, Director for Research & Development, OneLegacy – a donate life organisation, Los Angeles, California, USA

Workshop 4, The Quality Assurance Programme of the Donation Process in Spain: Key Factors to Improve

Introduction: An organisation responsible for organ procurement must know whether a potential donor has been lost due to lack of evaluation, lack of referral, or if a potential donor family has not been approached. The organ donation and transplantation process is long and complex and needs periodical evaluation. This is done in order to detect when and why donors are lost so as to identify areas that require new solutions. The objective of a quality programme is to improve the process continuously. After seven years working in “The Quality Assurance Programme of the Donation Process”, we are prepared to share our experience and our results.

Objectives: 1. General description of the Spanish Quality Assurance Programme.

2. Analysis of the structure of the two phases of the programme: the internal evaluation and the external audit.

PROGRAMME

9:00 - 9:15	Presentation of the course contents
9:15 - 9:30	General Description of the Spanish “Quality Assurance Programme of the Donation Process”: objectives and phases
9:30 - 10:00	The internal evaluation phase: objectives, methodology, tools and database

10:00 - 10:30 The internal evaluation phase: results and interpretation

10:30 - 11:00 Practical work: the internal evaluation annual report

11:00 - 11:30 Break

11:30 - 12:00 The external audit phase: objectives, methodology, tools and database

12:00 - 12:30 The external audit phase: results and interpretation

12:30 - 13:00 Practical work: the external audit visit

13:00 - 13:30 Criteria to analyze the loss of potential donors

13:30 - 14:00 Practical work: the external audit report and the web application

Methodology: This course is focused on a limited number of participants (20 maximum) to allow for discussion and practical work.

Faculty: Gloria de la Rosa, PhD, MD, Specialist in Epidemiology and Public Health, Spanish Transplant Organization, Madrid, Spain

Nuria Masnou, MD, Specialist in Intensive Care Medicine, Transplant Coordinator, Vall d’Hebron Hospital, Barcelona, Spain

Teresa Pont, MD, PhD, Specialist in Intensive Care Medicine, Transplant Coordinator, Vall d’Hebron Hospital, Barcelona, Spain

Javier Martínez, MD, Specialist in Intensive Care Medicine, Transplant Coordinator, Vega Baja Hospital, Alicante, Spain

Description of the Programme: The significant development of transplant programmes in Spain has been determined by the efforts in donor detection, maintenance and organ harvesting made by healthcare professionals and basically by the transplant coordinators at Spanish hospitals. Due to the complexity of the donation process, an ongoing and exhaustive evaluation is needed of each of the steps in order to detect possible shortcomings and correct them. Therefore, collaboration among all the professionals involved in the donation and transplantation process is essential. In addition, since the main limitation for further development of the transplant programs is the shortage of organs, any factors that can be analyzed and improved in the donation process will increase the number of transplants.

In 1996, the Spanish National Transplant Organization fostered the development of a Donation Process Quality Assurance Programme to respond to the following main objectives:

1. To define the theoretical donation capacity for organs according to hospital type.

2. To detect avoidable losses of potential organ donors during the donation process and analyze their causes, as a tool for identifying possible areas of improvement.

3. To describe hospital factors with an impact on the donation process.

The donation process is evaluated in two stages. The first consists of an Internal Evaluation performed by the hospital transplant coordination teams, and the second is an External Evaluation carried out by experienced professionals in hospital transplant coordination who work in a different region from the hospitals they evaluate.

THE INTERNAL EVALUATION STAGE. This consists of a retrospective analysis of the medical records of every death that occurred in the critical care units in order to discover how many resulted from brain death. Each case of brain death is analyzed to verify whether the transplant coordination team was informed and, if not, the reasons why this case was not detected. The reasons why detected brain deaths did not become organ donors are also examined.

THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION STAGE. This is conducted by two or three evaluators with experience in transplant coordination activities. It is based on the review of the medical records of the deaths registered in one year in all ICUs to check the number of brain deaths and, if organ collection did not take place, the reasons why. Therefore, the external evaluation is useful in identifying possible mistakes and correcting them as well as establishing changes to optimize the process. In addition it is a good opportunity to exchange experiences and knowledge between evaluators and coordinators.

Currently, 124 hospitals of all the Spanish autonomous regions are included in this Quality Program, where more than 90% of national donors are registered. Indicators are obtained to respond to the main objectives of the programme: theoretical capacity for organ donation, global effectiveness of the process and causes of loss of potential donors.

In contrast to other initiatives being run with a similar methodology, the Spanish Quality Assurance Programme is developed by the national authority in charge of overseeing donation and transplantation activities as a tool to provide better comprehension of the process and a basis for the development of political and technical strategies.

The Spanish Quality Assurance Programme has become a very useful tool to identify areas in the donation process that can be improved. However, the interpretation of the results of a single hospital must always take into account the presence of a neurosurgical unit (that has been identified as the crucial factor to consider) and other aspects such the variety of the ICUs and their admission criteria.

In order to guarantee data security and protection, in 2006 we designed a web application that is used for data collection of characteristics of brain death cases, ICU activity and hospital characteristics. This application includes a module that allows the preparation of reports containing several quality indicators and gives the option of consulting regional and national data, either overall or broken down by hospital type. We have also developed a new module that makes the external evaluation easier and faster, giving the external evaluators access to the internal evaluation information of the hospital to audit in the web application. During the audit visit, the auditors record the information they check and with these data the application makes a quantitative report and allows the users to examine the main results of the audit visit and include their recommendations to solve or reduce the detected problems and to improve the donation process. Some weeks later, an opinion survey is sent to the transplant coordinator of the evaluated hospital in order to complete the process.

Over the past few years we have shared our results not only with all the participating centers but also with the remaining hospitals in Spain and other countries which could be interested in our methodology. To this end, we are collaborating with several countries in the diffusion, adaptation and training of this methodology. The heads of these programs agree on the usefulness of this methodology to analyze all the phases of the donation process and to implement several measures to improve the donation process.

Initiatives like this ETCO Workshop allow the sharing of knowledge and experience with the mid-term purpose of comparison of international results and their evolution over time.

Gloria de la Rosa, MD, PhD

Quality Assurance Programme in Organ Donation
Spanish National Transplant Organization

Scientific Programme

Please check the congress website www.etc2010.org for updates

	Thursday 23 September	Friday 24 September	Saturday 25 September	Sunday 26 September	
8.00-8.15		NKM MEETING	Parallel Session 6 Donation after Cardiac Death		
8.15-8.30			Parallel Session 7 Tissue Donation and Transplantation		
8.30-8.45				Plenary Session 3 Safety Issues in Transplantation	
8.45-9.00					
9.00-9.15	Workshop 1 - Preservation Workshop Practical demonstrations in a wet lab with Organ Recovery Systems, Transmedics, X-VIVO Workshop 2 - Brain Death Diagnosis and Donor Treatment Workshop 3 - Communication and Research Skills for Transplant Coordinators Workshop 4 - Quality Assurance Programme in the Deceased Donation Process	Plenary Session 1 Facing the Organ Shortage			
9.15-9.30					
9.30-9.45					
9.45-10.00				Coffee Break	
10.00-10.15					Coffee Break
10.15-10.30					
10.30-10.45					
10.45-11.00			Coffee Break		
11.00-11.15				Parallel Session 7 Donor Optimization	
11.15-11.30			Opening Ceremony	Parallel Session 8 Paediatric Organ Donation	Plenary Session 4 European Perspectives on Donation, Transplantation and Certification
11.30-11.45					
11.45-12.00					
12.00-12.15					Closing Ceremony and Awards
12.15-12.30					
12.30-12.45			Lunch	Lunch & Exhibition Special Conference: Running out of hearts - finding solutions	
12.45-13.00					
13.00-13.15					
13.15-13.30					
13.30-13.45					
13.45-14.00					
14.00-14.15					
14.15-14.30					
14.30-14.45					
14.45-15.00					
15.00-15.15		Parallel Session 1 NHSBT HALF DAY CONFERENCE			
15.15-15.30					
15.30-15.45					
15.45-16.00					
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20.30-20.45					
20.45-21.00					

Joint Sessions in the Cardiff Scientific Programme

Joint sessions with other associations with overlapping disciplines are of great professional interest to broaden perspectives and examine common aspects in depth.

• European Shock Society (ESS)

ETCO and ESS have signed a fraternal agreement to strengthen cooperation

Parallel Session 3: ETCO-European Shock Society

Modifying Ischemia Reperfusion Injury for Graft Survival

Chairs: Rutger Ploeg, Albert Groenewoud

Opportunities to enhance organ viability, Rui Maio, Lisbon (ETCO President)

Strategies to reduce I/R injury, Salvatore Cuzzocrea, Messina (ESS President)

Tissue-protective EPO-analogues and I/R injury, Nimesh Patel, London

• Ethical, Legal, and Psychosocial Aspects of Organ Transplantation (ELPAT)

ETCO has invited ELPAT to sign a fraternal agreement

Parallel Session 4: ETCO-ELPAT Joint Session

Chairs: Willem Weimar, Rui Maio

Psychological aspects of living kidney donation, Keith Rigg, London TBC

Psychological aspects of altruistic donation to a stranger, Emma Massey, Rotterdam

Psychological aspects of living liver donation, Christina Papachristou, Berlin

• Paediatric Intensive Care Society (PICS)

Parallel Session 9: ETCO-PICS Joint Session: Paediatric Donation and Transplantation

Chairs: Conrad Müller, Emma Thirlwall

Paediatric donor optimisation, Thomas Nakagawa, Winston-Salem

Establishing a successful paediatric donor programme, Joe Brierley, London

Paediatric liver and bowel transplantation, Darius Mirza, Birmingham

• European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM)

ETCO and ESICM have a fraternal agreement since 2007 and this is our 5th joint session

Plenary Session 2: ETCO-ESICM Joint Session: Organ Donation as Part of End-of-Life Care

Chairs: Rui Moreno and Rui Maio

Challenges to defining death, Francis Delmonico, Boston

Potential of deceased organ donation, Francesco Procaccio, Verona

Admission of potential donors in ICU, is it good practice? Rui Moreno, Lisbon (ESICM President)

The role of ICU staff in organ donation, Andrew Rhodes, London (ESICM President elect)

WHO Meeting Madrid, 23-25 March, 2010

by Beatriz Dominguez-Gil

The Third WHO Global Consultation on organ donation and transplantation was held in Madrid (Spain) from the 23rd to 25th of March 2010. The Consultation was organized by the **World Health Organization, The Transplantation Society and the Spanish National Transplant Organization (ONT)**, with the support of the **European Commission. The Madrid Resolution** was the product of this event, bringing together 140 participants from 68 countries all over the world, and with a diverse professional background. ETCO was a participating organization.

The **Madrid Resolution** requests for a national responsibility in covering the transplantation needs of a population by using resources within that given population (self-sufficiency), which does not preclude international cooperation, when needed. The main features of this national accountability on organ donation and transplantation are the following:

- **Action should begin locally**
- Strategies should be targeted both to **decrease the transplantation needs** of a population and **increase organ availability**. This should be done by **enhancing cooperation between stakeholders involved**.
- The pursuit of self-sufficiency is an ethical imperative and a societal responsibility, based on solidarity, voluntary donation and non commercialization (**WHO Guiding Principles on Transplantation, Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism**). It implies engagement with public health programmes and education, and promotion of social cohesion and values, in contrast to divisive measures such as a market in organs which will inevitably lead to the creation of a distinct vendor population, associated with exploitation and inequity.
- **Strategies should be tailored to the local realities and progress with the improvement of health systems**. Features and strategies working in a context might not be valid in other context.

The Third WHO Global Consultation addressed the concept of **national responsibility in meeting the transplanta-**

tion needs of patients in a comprehensive and holistic way, from eight different perspectives in the form of different working groups, each focusing on one specific feature of self-sufficiency:

- Assessing needs for transplantation
- System Requirements in the pursuit of self-sufficiency
- Meeting needs through donation
- Monitoring outcomes in organ donation and transplantation
- Fostering emergency and intensive care department professional ownership
- The role of public health and society
- Ethics
- Overview of progress towards self-sufficiency

The **Madrid Resolution** will provide the first comprehensive examination on the pursuit of self-sufficiency in transplantation from a global perspective, based on a body of evidence collected by participants in the consultation and particular experiences. The Madrid Resolution recognizes that donation and transplantation are more than a good gesture and a medical service. For self-sufficiency to achieve its goal, it has to involve all citizens and residents. From a public perspective, the pursuit of self-sufficiency relies on a communal appreciation of the value of organ donation. The concept of donating human body parts to save the life of another as a civic gesture is one that should be taught at school as part of health education along with promotion of healthy life style. The organizational requirements and allocation of resources necessary to maximize donation from deceased donors and ensure equitable access to transplantation services, as well as the implementation of preventive interventions to alleviate needs for transplants, mandate the active commitment of Government. The benefits to be gained extend way beyond the successful transplantation of patients. The pursuit of self-sufficiency in organs for transplantation has the capacity to strengthen the public health and community values of reciprocity and solidarity, while it is the only safeguard against the temptation of yielding to trade in human organs.

News from Board of Transplant Coordination, Division of Transplantation, UEMS

The Board of Transplant Coordination is made up of transplant coordinators elected by national transplant organizations of participating countries. The board met for the first time in London on January 25 and elected an executive committee and an evaluation committee. Together with the ETCO Certification Committee they are organizing the examinations of the CETC to be held at the 2010 European

Organ Donation Congress, 22nd ETCO, Cardiff, Wales, UK, 24-26 September.

On March 26, a representative from the BTC was invited to present the Board to the Division of Transplantation. Below you will find the members of the BTC, a letter from the BTC chairman Franz Immer and a letter from the chairman of the Division of Transplantation, Vasilios Papalois.

COUNTRY	BTC MEMBER	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Belgium	1. Leen Coene 2. Ilse Kerremans	
Croatia	1. Nikola Zgrablic 2. Mirela Busic	
Cyprus	1. Chrystalla Despoti 2. Loucia Mavromati	
Czech Republic	1. Pavel Březovský 2. Premysl Fryda /Eva Pokorna	
Denmark, Finland, Norway	1. Kathe Meyer	Treasurer
Estonia	1. Hele Nurme	
Finland	same as Denmark	
Georgia	1. Gia Tomadze 2. Archil Chkhotua	
Germany	1. Detlef Bösebeck	
Greece	1. Athina Gompou 2. Mrs Iniotaki	
Hungary	1. Sandor Mihaly 2. Orsolya Deme	1 st Secretary
Italy	1. Francesco Procaccio 2. Lucia Rizzato / Alessandro Nanni Costa	
Latvia	1. Svetlana Bezrucko	
Norway	same as Denmark	
Poland	1. Jaroslaw Czerwiński 2. Krzysztof Pabisiak	
Portugal	1. Ana França 2. Maria Joao Aguiar	2 nd Secretary
Romania	1. Rosana Turcu 2. Dan Luscalov	
Slovakia	1. Luboslav Bena 2. Daniel Kuba	
Slovenia	1. Danica Avsec	
Spain	1. Eduardo Martín Escobar 2. Miguel Frutos	Vice Chairman
Sweden	1. Charlotte Loven 2. Ann-Christin Croon	
Switzerland	1. Franz Immer 2. Dagmar Vernet	Chairman
Turkey	1. Altay Köken	
UK	1. Dominique Cook	
ETCO	José Teixeira, Ex-President of ETCO and ETCO representative	Member
ETCO	José Maria Domínguez Roldán, Chairman, ETCO Cert. Com.	Advisory Member
Division of Transplantation	Vasilios Papalois	Member

ETCO CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Spain	José Maria Domínguez Roldán	Chairman
Croatia	Mirela Busic	Member
Italy	Lorenza Ridolfi	Member
Spain	David Paredes Zapata	Member
UK	Jen McDermott	Member

• Introduction of the Board of Transplant Coordination to the Division of Transplantation, UEMS

A representative of the new Board of Transplant Coordination was invited to attend the Division of Transplantation's meeting in Rome on March 26 as it is now a section of that division which will work independently but in close collaboration. Julius Weiss from Swisstransplant gave the presentation in representation for the Chairman, Franz Immer, who was unfortunately unable to attend.

The presentation first gave a brief account of the structure of the Board of Transplant Coordination and its main objective, namely to guarantee the best standard of care in organ and tissue donation and transplant coordination in Europe by establishing uniform standards of practice. Then it provided some information on the Certificate of European Transplant Coordination which accredits the knowledge, training and experience of transplant coordinators on an internationally standardized level. The certification can be obtained for five different modules: Basic Transplant Coordination, Donation after Cardiac Death (DCD) Coordination, Living Donor Coordination, Recipient Transplant Coordination, and Tissue Donation Coordination. The examinations for the Certification of European Transplant Coordination will be held annually at the ETCO congress. Transplant coordinators who wish to sit the examination during the 2010 European Organ Donation Congress, 22nd ETCO, Cardiff, September 24–26 may apply until May 31.

After the presentation, there was a highly constructive discussion where the endeavor to standardize the transplant coordinators' qualifications was strongly supported. The chairman of the Division of Transplantation, Professor Vassilios Papalois, was then elected to be the Division of Transplantation's representative on the Board of Transplant Coordination, since he had been prominently engaged in setting up the Board of Transplant Coordination from the beginning.

At present, the Executive Committee of the Board of Transplant Coordination, in close collaboration with the ETCO Certification Committee, composed of Jose-Maria Dominguez Roldan, chairman, Mirela Busic, Jen McDermott, David Paredes, and Lorenza Ridolfi, are preparing

the questions for the examinations, as well as recommended learning resources which will be provided to the eligible candidates. We look forward to an unprecedented opportunity to define, standardize, and give recognition to the role of Transplant Coordinators throughout Europe, and, by example, to the rest of the world.

Franz Immer

Chairman Board of Transplant Coordination,
Division of Transplantation, UEMS

• Division of Transplantation, Section of Surgery, UEMS-EBS

The Division of Transplantation of the Section of Surgery of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) and the European Board of Surgery (EBS) started as a working group in 2005 and it was formally recognized as a Division in 2007. The Division operates in close collaboration with the European Society of Organ Transplantation (ESOT).

The Division of Transplantation has three years of very productive and progressive life within the UEMS and has developed the following very successful projects:

- The annual examination for awarding the European Diploma in Transplantation Surgery. The examination is of the highest standards and has very robust internal and external quality control mechanisms. The examination is the flagship project of the Division and has been highly praised by examiners and examinees.
- The award of an Honorary European Diploma in Transplantation Surgery for well respected surgeons who have vast experience and contribution in the field of Transplantation Surgery.
- The annual preparatory course for the examination which aims to help applicants to "channel" their knowledge according to the format of the examination.
- The process of accreditation for training in transplantation surgery of European transplant centres with a well established mechanism for application, review, visit of the centre and accreditation.

One of the proudest achievements of the Division was the establishment in collaboration with the European Transplant Coordinators Organization (ETCO) of the Board of Transplant Coordination (BTC) which operates under the auspices of the Division of Transplantation and the Section of Surgery of the UEMS. Following very productive discussions, the UEMS happily endorsed the idea to welcome the Transplant Coordinators, create the BTC and organize a world class examination for offering accreditation in Transplant Coordination. The progress that the BTC of the UEMS has made over the last year has been absolutely remarkable. The organization of the administrative work

of the BTC and the preparation of the first examination that will take place in Cardiff in September of 2010 guarantees an examination process of the highest quality and standards. I am looking forward to the inaugural examination in Cardiff and to the further successful work of the BTC.

Mr Vassilios E. Papalois KGSJ, MD, PhD, FICS, FRCS,
FEBS

Consultant Transplant and General Surgeon
Chairman, Division of Transplantation UEMS-EBS

News from the National Key Members

by Tina Coco

Dear ETCO Members

I am very proud to be writing to you and telling you about our NKMs and the work they have been doing to promote the field of transplantation. Did you see that 11 of our NKMs are representatives on the new Board of Transplant Coordination in the Division of Transplantation of the UEMS which is organising the CETC with ETCO? That means that they are the Transplant Coordinators representing their country for these examination. This is an exciting time for the profession of transplant coordination, to form part of the UEMS, actively take part in defining our role and accrediting our work, experience and knowledge.

As for our website, in the monthly statistics we receive, the two pages with the greatest increase in visitors were the CETC which I just mentioned above, and the NKMs profiles. We are seeing more and more people visit the countries profile too. Slowly but surely, each NKM is endeavouring to update information about their country and I ask those NKMs who have not done so yet to update their information along with their personal details so that they are accessible to their colleagues.

As NKMs, our role is to promote ETCO and attract more colleagues to become members so that we can continue to share knowledge and expertise. We also need to advise our colleagues and members about the opportunity to sit the CETC examination which are available at the conference this year in Cardiff, the deadline for registration is 31 May. The deadline for the call for abstracts for the congress is 1 June. At the congress this year for the first time, a session has been dedicated to allow the NKMs to present a session of their choice. I hope we will all contribute to putting together a research paper of high scientific standard and interest to our colleagues. I look forward to seeing you all at the congress in Cardiff.

Calendar of Events

June 18-19, 2010

ITNS European Symposium 2010

Transplant nursing: Improving patient outcomes

Langenbeck Virchow Haus, Berlin, Germany

Information: www.itns.org

August 1-4, 2010

NATCO 35th Annual Meeting

Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa, Hollywood, FL, USA

Information: www.natco1.org

August 15-19, 2010

XXIII International Congress

of The Transplantation Society (TTS 2010)

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Information: www.transplantation2010.org

September 24-26, 2010

European Organ Donation Congress,

“Transforming Lives, A Time of Change for Organ Donation and Transplantation” 22nd ETCO

Cardiff, Wales, UK

Information: www.etc2010.org

October 9-13, 2010

ESICM 23rd Annual Congress

Barcelona, Spain. With joint session with ETCO

Information: www.esicm.org

October 18-21 2010

12th Congress of the Middle Eastern Society for Organ Transplantation (MESOT)

Karthago le Palace Hotel (Gammarth), Les Côtes de Carthage. La Marsa, Tunisia

information: www.mesot2010-tunis.org.tn

October 23, 2010

12th European and 3rd National Day of Organ Donation and Transplantation

Tblisi, Georgia

With the support of ETCO

Information: www.transplantation.ge