EHA-SWG Diagnosis in hematological diseases: morphology and flow cytometry Annual Report 2017

MAIN SECTIONS (NOTE: sections 1-4 will be used for publication on EHA website)

1. Name of the SWG: Diagnosis in hematological diseases: morphology and flow cytometry

2. Focus and mission of the SWG (this section will be published also as SWG short presentation on the EHA website)

This SWG works in parallel with ELN's WP10 and is active in disseminating knowledge about diagnosis methods. There is no specific membership nor formally organized board or council, but any laboratory person interested in morphology and flow cytometry can contact us or propose activities under the umbrella of the SWG.

As of 2018, the SWG will extend its span to any hematological disorder involving morphological and/or flow cytometry analyses, instead of being restricted to the realm of leukemias, as is WP10 in the European LeukemiaNet. This broadened field will allow the SWG to provide more opportunities for teaching and continuing education.

This SWG is mostly involved in educational activities in the form of participation to conferences and courses, organizing the annual SWG session at the EHA congress and, in 2015 and 2018, providing an SWG Workshop in Barcelona.

3. SWG highlights of past calendar year

Gina Zini leads a Faculty for morphological analysis of digitalized blood and bone marrow cells. In May she organized, chaired and gave a talk at National and International congresses focused on Morphology based diagnosis.

Starting from November 2017 she regularly attends the WHO meetings in Geneve as WHO Liason Officer for the ICSH (International Council for Standardization in Hematology).

In 2017 we had the annual session of the SWG during the EHA meeting in Madrid, on minimal residual disease (MRD) in acute leukemia with a talk on morphological distinction between blasts and hematogones by Andre Tichelli and two presentations on MRD by flow cytometry by Giuseppe Basso for ALL and Gerrit Schuurhuis for AML.

The SWG was invited to write an editorial for Haematologica according to the theme of the year "research". We also had the privilege to present talks in Cairo at the HOPE meeting.

A large part of the year was devoted to prepare the 2,5 days workshop that took place early in February 2018 in Barcelona.
Both the chair and co-chair participated to several meetings during the year, including the flow cytometry school of Iuri Marinov in Prague in May. Finally, together with Anna Prowit (Lund, Sweden), MC Béné completed a book "multiparameter flow cytometry in the diagnosis of hematological malignancies.

4. Chair and affiliations: Chair: Pr. MC Béné, University Hospital Nantes, Co-chair: Pr. G Zini, Università Cattolica del S. Cuore – Roma

5. Board members and terms:

6. Conflicts of interest of the board: none

7. Membership list with names and email addresses: open free membership to participate to the SWG activities. Recent speakers at SWG sessions can be considered members

8. List of scientific activities


Invited lectures:
- Microfluidics A new technology, ISLH congress, Honolulu May 2017
- Minimal residual disease in hematological malignancies, HOPE EHA, Cairo September 2017
- Application of a new analysis strategy including recent multidimensional software to hematological multiparametric flow cytometry data. ESCCA, Thessaloniki October 2017
- Microfluidics A new technology, BSAC, Antwerpen October 2017
- Maladie résiduelle leucémique, AFC, Reims November 2017
- Interactive workshop on PB and BM smears. 6th National Course of Interactive Hematology, Catania February 2017
- Thrombotic Microangiopathy. Educational Workshop at the annual ISLH Conference, Honolulu, May 2017
- Morphology in MDS. Annual congress of Sipmel (Italian Society of Clinical pathology), Riva del Garda, October 2017
- Predictivity of morphology in reactive and clonal monocytosis. Congress of the Italian Society of Hematology (SIE), October 2017
Poster
- New Concepts of Flow Cytometry Analysis in Oncohematology: Application to Diagnosis and Follow Up (Minimal Residual Disease) in AML, ALL and MDS, ASH, Atlanta December 2017

Collaborative work
Participation to the international working party on Flow in Myelodysplasia chaired by Arjan van de Loosdrecht, meeting in Lund in November 2017
Participation to the ELN working group on minimal residual disease in acute myeloblastic leukemia chaired by Gerrit Schuurhuis, meetings in Mannheim, Amsterdam and Atlanta in 2017
Participation to the ICSH Working Group on Guidelines for digital morphology chaired by A. Kratz, meeting in Kobe in November 2017
Participation to the scientific activities of the FISM (Italian federation of Myelodisplastic Syndromes) chaired by V. Santini: three meetings in Bologna, Naples and Florence on May, June and November respectively.

9. List of publications from or related to the SWG

Relevant publications in 2017: