

Newsletter



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Dear colleagues,

We hope you have enjoyed reading our first newsletter. This second edition of our newsletter contains the following subjects: the upcoming Eurotransplant meeting in Leiden, the introduction of patient based cases to the EPT scheme and the procedure for reporting errors in donor HLA typing. Finally, a recent publication on the milestone of 25 years Eurotransplant Acceptable Mismatch program will be highlighted.

Eurotransplant Meeting 2015, Leiden

This year's Eurotransplant Meeting will take place on Thursday 15th of and Friday 16th of October at the Holiday Inn in Leiden. This year, the tissue typers meeting will be on Friday. Yvonne Zoet and Sebastiaan Heidt from the ETRL will inform you about EPT matters (result overview of this year, the EPT website, the introduction of patient based exercises). Preliminary results on the EUROSTAM project will be presented by Frans Claas, and Stefan Schaub from Basel, Switzerland will discuss the detection and clinical relevance of donor specific antibodies. You can find a more detailed program and register on the Eurotransplant annual meeting website.



Patient based exercises

In June this year, all EPT participants received a patient based exercise which included patient and donor information. We asked the question whether this specific donor kidney was suitable for this patient. The ETRL received a wide variety of answers and useful comments on this pilot. The many different answers highlight the necessity to discuss the different policies within Eurotransplant. This EPT pilot will be briefly discussed during the upcoming Eurotransplant meeting and addressed in detail at the next extra mural meeting in Maastricht.

Coming September, the ETRL will send a second pilot for a patient based exercise, this time a sample-based exercise in which we will ask you to use your locally generated screening and typing and cross match information from the regular EPT. One blood sample used for typing and cross matching will serve as potential organ donor, and will have to be considered

as possible donor for three patients. These patients are represented by three serum samples you tested in the screening this year and in cross match in September. The deadline for this exercise is two weeks after receiving the form. This pilot is recommended for all Eurotransplant affiliated centres. All other centres are welcome to send their answers. While this is still a pilot, from 2016 on the patient based cases will be mandatory for all Eurotransplant affiliated centres. Centers who already participated this year will receive a certificate of participation.

Importantly, we would like to use real-life examples for the paper-based only exercises, so that we have the possibility to include post-transplant results. In case you have an interesting patient case which could be the basis of a patient based EPT (complicated or rather simple), please send it to us. The form for submitting an (anonymous) patient case can be found on the ETRL website.

Reporting errors in donor typing

It can occur that a donor typing which has been submitted to Eurotransplant cannot be reproduced. In case an erroneous donor typing is detected, this should be submitted to Eurotransplant as a serious adverse event (SAE) through the standard SAE procedure, which is available on the Eurotransplant membersite.

25 years Acceptable Mismatch program

In 2014, the Eurotransplant Acceptable Mismatch (AM) program celebrated its 25th anniversary. With almost 2000 patients included and well over a 1000 transplants performed, the AM program has been proven extremely successful. An historic overview of the AM program with the addition of a look into the future has just been published as editorial in Transplant Immunology and can be found on the Transplant Immunology website.