



Dear colleagues,

We hope you had a nice summer! In this autumn issue of the newsletter we present the 2018 external proficiency testing scheme dates for shipping and data entry deadlines. We also set a date for the upcoming extra mural meeting, which coming year will be held in Cologne. Finally, we present information on a recent ETRL publication on the AM program, and the availability of the ETRL HLA reference database.

ET Annual Meeting

At this year's ET annual symposium, which was a festive 50th anniversary meeting, the Tissue Typer's Session was aimed at current and future practices in the HLA laboratory. Malte Ziemann presented his data on pretransplant Luminex HLA antibodies, which interestingly showed different results with regard to the role of pretransplant DSA in living versus deceased donor transplantation than the Dutch multi-center PROCARE study presented earlier at the meeting. Maarten Naesens introduced the ambitious Flemish Epitope Mismatch project, which comprises a big cohort of Belgian kidney transplant recipients with a very detailed clinical follow-up. Finally, Gottfried Fisher presented a well-balanced overview on the possibilities of high-resolution donor HLA typing in the (near) future. In a separate plenary session moderated by Frans Claas, Sebastiaan Heidt and Eric Spierings discussed the role of B cell- and T cell epitopes for future HLA epitope matching.

Extra Mural Meeting Cologne

A date is set for the Extra Mural Meeting in 2018. The center in Cologne will welcome us Friday 23rd of March. Details about location and program will follow. Dinner on Thursday evening will be organized for those arriving early. If you have suggestions for topics to be discussed during the meeting, please send them by e-mail to etrl@eurotransplant.org.

Patient based EPT dates

Information/form sent	Deadline
27-02-2018	13-03-2018
29-05-2018	12-06-2018
11-09-2018	25-09-2018

Paper on AM program results online

We would like to bring to your attention a recent ETRL publication on the beneficial effect of allocating organs to highly immunized kidney transplant patients through the Acceptable Mismatch Program. A link to the paper can be found here: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28947279>.

ETRL HLA reference database

For the calculation of the chance of receiving an organ and the vPRA, the ETRL has developed an HLA reference database. These calculators can be found on the ETRL website and are used for the definition of the vPRA and the chance on a donor, which values can be found on the ET immunological overview. For those who want to implement the database into their own laboratory system, please contact the ETRL through email.

EPT shipment dates 2018

In case one of these dates interferes with some special events, please inform us as soon as possible.

Shipping date	Typing dispatch (n)	Deadline typing/xm report	screening dispatch (n)	Crossmatch	Deadline screening report
27-02-2018	3	13-03-2018	12	EPT screening A, B, C	03-07-2018
17-04-2018	3	01-05-2018		EPT screening D, E, F	
29-05-2018	3	12-06-2018		EPT screening G, H, I	
11-09-2018	3	25-09-2018		EPT screening J, K, L	