



**EBCOG**  
**European Board and College of**  
**Obstetrics and Gynaecology**



# **Third EBCOG Annual Report**



**2017**

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## 1. Foreword

Welcome to EBCOG's Third Annual Report!

In this report, I hope to provide you with an overview of EBCOG's, activities and work during 2016.

It has been another challenging but very productive year which has seen EBCOG launch its EFOG-EBCOG Examination for specialists across Europe and the globe. This was all possible due to the huge efforts of the Examination Standing Committee. We had 52 candidates from all over the world and of these, 26 finally graduated as "European Fellows in



OB/GYN after passing both parts of the examination. We are justly proud of this new standard setting examination in Europe.

We had to re-locate the European Congress to Torino because of the UN Summit in Istanbul and I am very grateful to Professor Chiara Benedetto for her full commitment and support for EBCOG in delivering this successful congress.

During this year, the EBCOG-UNFPA Scholarship was launched and we also launched the Russian versions of the Standards of Care at the EBCOG Congress in Torino. It is so reassuring to see

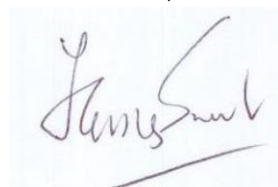
that our working group is continuing to develop the PACT curriculum project and the progress so far has been very encouraging.

We have also developed closer and very positive relationships with the EU, WHO and UNFPA which have led to some very exciting new projects described in this report.

I would like to thank my fellow Officers, Chairs and members of our standing committees and working Groups, members of the Executive committee, Council and ENTOG for their hard work and total commitment to EBCOG. All these achievements have only been possible because of their dedication, loyalty and commitment beyond the call of duty and I am very grateful to them. I am also very grateful to our EBCOG friends and colleagues from our European subspecialist and special interest societies, serving on the Executive, Standing Committees and Working Groups for their continuing support for the work we are doing for the benefit and wellbeing of women and their babies, in Europe and beyond. More information about all of the activities covered in this Report is available on our web site:

[www.ebcog.org](http://www.ebcog.org)

Best wishes,



*Dr Tahir Mahmood CBE*

*MD, FRCPI, MBA, FACOG, FRCPE, FRCOG*

*President, European Board & College of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (EBCOG)*

## 2. WHO's WHO IN EBCOG?

Council is the decision-making body of EBCOG and is made up of two national delegates from each of our 36 member countries. National delegates are members of both EBCOG and the UEMS Section of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Councils and Council meetings are joint meetings of the EBCOG and Section Councils.

EBCOG has four Officers, (President, President-Elect, Secretary-General and Treasurer) and an Executive Committee. Subscription fees are payable annually and are calculated according to the UEMS 'key', which has recently changed and will be implemented by EBCOG for the first time in 2016.

There are now 37 countries represented on our Council:

Albania (Observer member), Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, FYROM, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo (Observer Member), Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom.

### **EBCOG Officers: November 30<sup>th</sup> 2014 - November 2017**

- President: Dr Tahir Mahmood (UK)
- President-Elect: Prof Jacky Nizard (France)
- Secretary-General: Dr Rolf Kirschner (Norway)
- Treasurer: Prof Peter Hornnes (Denmark)

### **EBCOG Executive as at 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017**

EBCOG has five elected Executive members:

- Prof Johannes Bitzer (Switzerland)
- Prof Ioannis Messinis (Greece)
- Prof Vlad Tica (Romania)
- Prof Petr Velebil (Czech Republic)
- Prof Diethelm Wallwiener (Germany)

Representatives of the four subspecialist societies also sit on the Executive as do the Chairs of our Standing Committees and Working Parties, the Webmaster and the President of ENTOG.

### **Chair Standing Committee on Training and Assessment**

Dr Angelique Goverde (Netherlands)

### **Chair Standing Committee on Training Recognition & Training the Visitors Working Group**

Prof Juriy Wladimiroff (UK)

**Chair EBCOG Examination Standing Committee**

Dr Rolf Kirschner (Norway)

**Director of Examinations**

Prof Ioannis E Messinis (Greece)

**Coordinator for EBCOG Position Statements**

Prof Allan Templeton (UK)

**Course Leader the Training the Trainers**

Prof Ziva Novak Antolic (Slovenia)

**EU Funding Lead**

Prof André Van Assche (Belgium)

**European Uro-Gynaecology Association (EUGA)**

Prof Stefano Salvatore (Italy)

**European Association of Perinatal Medicine (EAPM)**

Prof Diogo Ayres de Campos (Portugal)

**European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO)**

Dr Frédéric Goffin (Belgium)

**European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE)**

Prof Anis Feki (Switzerland)

**President of the Antalya Congress Scientific Committee**

Dr Rudi Campo (Belgium)

**Webmaster**

Dr Markus Wallwiener (Germany)

**European Network of Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ENTOG)**

Dr Anna Aabakke (Denmark)

**EBCOG Chief Administrator**

Charlotte Mercer (UK)

## **EBCOG COUNCIL Members as at 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2016**

### **Albania**

Dr Rubena Moisiu

### **Austria**

Prof Wolfgang Umek Prof  
Uwe Lang

### **Belgium**

Dr. Willem Ombelet Prof  
Sophie Alexander

### **Bulgaria**

Prof Milko Sirakov  
Prof Blagovest Pehlivanov

### **Croatia**

Prof. Ivan Kuvacic

### **Cyprus**

Dr. Marios Liassides  
Dr. Patroklos A Patroclou

### **Czech Republic**

Prof. Jaroslav Feyereisl Prof.  
Vladimir Dvorak

### **Denmark**

Prof Charlotte Hasselholt Søgaard Dr  
Alexander Laschke

### **Estonia**

Prof Helle Karro

### **Finland**

Prof Seija Grenman Prof.  
Juha Räsänen

### **France**

Prof Bernard Hédon  
Prof Israël Nisand

### **FYROM**

Dr Slavejko Sapunov

### **Germany**

Dr Klaus König  
Prof Frank Louwen

### **Greece**

Dr Nicolas Linardos  
Professor Basil Tarlatzis

### **Hungary**

Professor József Bódis  
Prof Nandor Acs

### **Iceland**

Prof Ragnheidur I. Bjarnadottir

### **Ireland**

Dr Michael Robson

### **Italy**

Prof Domenico Arduini  
Prof Yoram Jacob Meir

### **Kosovo**

Dr Albert Lila  
Prof Shefqet Lulaj

### **Latvia**

Prof. Dace Rezeberga

### **Lithuania**

Prof Ruta Nadisauskiene  
Prof Daiva Vaitkiene

### **Malta**

Prof Mark Brincat  
Mr Mark Formosa

**The Netherlands**

Prof Fedde Scheele

**Norway**

Prof Knut Hordnes  
Prof Arild Kloster-Jensen

**Poland**

Prof Piotr Sieroszewski

**Portugal**

Prof. Diogo Ayres-de-Campos Dr Maria  
Fernanda Águas

**Slovenia**

Prof Ksenija  
Geršak Prof Adolf  
Lukanovic

**Spain**

(Currently no  
national delegate)

**Sweden**

Prof Pia Teleman  
Prof Lars Ladfors

**Switzerland**

Prof Johannes Bitzer  
Prof. Viola  
Heinzelmann

**Turkey**

Prof Cansun  
Demir

**United Kingdom**

Prof Fionnuala  
McAuliffe

**Ukraine**

Dr Andrew Tkachenko  
Prof Valerii  
Zaporozhan

**Russia**

Prof Gennady Sukhikh Dr  
Ekaterina Yarotskaya

**Romania**

Prof Mircea Onofriescu  
Prof Radu Vladareanu

**Serbia**

Prof Snezana Rakic

**Slovak Republic**

Prof Jan  
Danko Prof Pavol Zubor

# STANDING COMMITTEE AND WORKING PARTY REPORTS

## 3-Standing Committee on Training and Assessment (SCTA)

### Chair: Dr Angelique Goverde

The main interest of the SCTA at the moment is the review of the current specialty post-graduate curriculum and the refurbishment of the Logbook as a basis for education in obstetrics and gynaecology.

Thanks to a successful grant of €400,000 from the Erasmus programme in 2015, we are in the process of developing an updated and future-proof specialist training curriculum. This project, *the EBCOG Project for Achieving Consensus in Training (PACT) Project*, began officially in September 2015 and will run until August 2018. As we know within Europe, there is considerable diversity of clinical practices. Each country within Europe therefore has its own training programme and specialists in Obstetrics & Gynaecology from different countries acquire variable levels of skills. The implementation of a pan European curriculum will create a workforce with comparable skills and training to ensure patient safety. It will also allow the free movement of specialists across Europe whose training has been quality assured. Developing this Curriculum is fully in line with EBCOG's focus on Standards of Care, as it intended to improve and harmonise the level of training across Europe.

The new Curriculum will help to improve and harmonise the level of training across Europe. The challenge will lie in encouraging countries to implement the curriculum for the benefit of their trainees and we are relying on the full support of all of EBCOG's 36 National Societies to help us achieve maximum impact.

Creating a new, fully up to date and future proof curriculum for postgraduate training in Obstetrics & Gynaecology involves far more than a complete revision of the existing EBCOG Curriculum. Society and medicine are changing rapidly. Expectations of what doctors can and should be able to do are shifting, knowledge is progressing fast, and doctors need to have different skills in order to respond to new demands.

Over the last year, the SCTA has been trying to define the medical content of the core curriculum and of the elective curriculum. The project is aiming to define the core and elective content and looking at how to define competence and deal with numbers.

The project hopes to have the core and elective modules defined by May 2017 and the simulation and the soft skills and elements relating to psychosocial and human rights should be completed by November 2017. A SWOT analysis will be carried out in 2017- 2018 to produce policy recommendations and the SCTA will produce a handbook for other specialties based on the SCTA/PACT experience.



The final curriculum will also act as the basis of the EBCOG Examination and all the issues covered in the exam will be drawn from the curriculum. This will be an invaluable tool for all candidates. In addition, it will have a tremendous impact on how EBCOG conducts visits, and the hospital auditing process should also be able to monitor the implementation of this programme.



***Members of the PACT Project Board***

The EBCOG-PACT Project is led by Professor Fedde Scheele and Dr Angelique Goverde, with Dr Jessica van der Aa as project manager, and I would like to wish the whole team every success in this very important work.

### **3.1 4-Standing Committee on Training Recognition (SCTR) Chair: Prof Juriy Wladimiroff**

2016 was another year of many activities related to the process of quality assurance of training programmes across the EU.

In total, 19 visits were conducted during 2016 and +/- 10 on site visits are planned for 2017. The system of paper visits will also start during 2017.

The SCTR has also discussed the idea of having a regular meeting for visitors to ensure consistency and quality control, which could be held at the time of the Congress to reduce the cost and increase attendance. We are keen that a future role of EBCOG should be the quality assessment of basic training programmes in obstetrics and gynaecology in Europe.



***EBCOG SCTR***

All Flemish Belgian university and non-university training units have now been audited and we are now waiting for Wallonia to follow suit.

We are continuing with the process of joint ventures with Ob/Gyn Societies and organisations responsible for medical specialist training at national level, a good example of which is Italy.

Following three successful hospital visits in Poland last year, the I and the Chair of the SCTR visited Warsaw at the end of June to meet the President of the Polish Society for Medical specialist training together with the President of the Polish Ob/Gyn Society, Prof Wielgos to explore as to how to move forward in Poland.



Following this successful mission, the Polish Society of OB/GYN has committed itself to set out plans for all the academic units to be accredited. Professor Wladimiroff and I visited three more university departments in December, 2016 - Poznan, Szczecin and Kielce. The Polish Society is already setting out plans for the remaining departments to be accredited in 2017. All credit goes to Professor Wieglos and the Executive for making it happen.



The Chair of the SCTR was also invited to a meeting of Heads of Department in Switzerland to discuss hospital visiting in Switzerland.

The Czech Republic and Slovakia have now taken over the responsibility of arranging hospital visits in these two countries with EBCOG remaining responsible for the accreditation process and a visit took place in Prague, in April. In addition, the SCTR is also planning to expand its hospital visiting programme in the Balkan countries for which action is being undertaken.

Audits continue to take place in ESGO, ESHRE and EUGA and we hope that EAPM will rejoin the process.

I know that the SCTR is looking forward to the developments in the SCTA with regard to the new European Training curriculum, which will undoubtedly have an important impact on the hospital visiting process.

## **Network of Accredited Clinical Skills Centres in Europe (NASCE)**

NASCE is a Multi-Disciplinary Joint Committee formed within the UEMS with a mission to enhance the standards of clinical skills Centres throughout Europe and promote collaboration between centres. This is achieved by defining the standards expected and then assessing conformance with the standards. The process of the assessment of performance involves a formal visit to the site for verification of information in the application. The body responsible for this is the Accreditation Review Board (ARB).

## **5-Standing Committee on Examination**

**Chair: Dr Rolf Kirschner**

2016 saw the launch of the EFOG EBCOG Examination. The purpose of the examination is to assess the level of competency of candidates regarding their knowledge and judgement, although skills and attitude are also evaluated. The main objective of the examination is to streamline the assessment of post graduate trainees and quality assure their skills. This approach will support the free movement of quality assured specialists across borders within Europe. Candidates who pass the exams will become EBCOG Fellows in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (**EFOG-EBCOG**) and will be given a certificate of Fellowship.

The Examination Standing Committee of EBCOG is responsible for the organisation of the Examination process. The Examination Standing Committee is Chaired by the Secretary-General of EBCOG, Dr Rolf Kirschner, and the Committee has worked very hard throughout 2015-2016 to ensure that, in addition to the practical and organisational aspects, an examination question bank has been established and that all the questions have been fully quality assured. The Committee, together with the Director of Examinations, Prof Ioannis Messinis, have also produced full guidelines for candidates on all aspects of the application and examination process. These Guidelines are available on the website: <http://www.ebcog.org/exam>

The Examination has two parts. Part 1 is a knowledge-based assessment (KBA), written examination, while Part 2 is an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE). Part 1 of the Examination took place for the first time in Torino on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and Part 2 took place on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2016 in Norwich, UK.



Information regarding Part 1 eligibility criteria and instructions for the candidates can be found on the EBCOG website. The application process for Part 1 is now open for 2017.

For the KBA written exams, there are two papers, one is the Obstetrics paper and the other is the Gynaecology paper. Each paper comprises three types of questions, i.e. Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ), Single Best Answer (SBA) and Extended Matching Questions (EMQ). The duration of each paper is 180 minutes. EBCOG is now setting up a

one-day training course for people willing to write questions. People who wrote questions which were accepted will receive a certificate, which can be used for CPD purposes.

The exam was very successful and 45 candidates out of 52 passed Part 1. Of those, 41 applied for the OSCE but 5 did not get visas or did not turn up so finally 36 candidates took the Part 2 examination and, of these, 26 candidates passed. These new fellows will be formally admitted as Fellows at the opening ceremony of Antalya Congress in May 2017.



At its meeting in November 2016, Council ratified the results and the candidates were then formally informed. There will be a graduation ceremony during the Congress in Antalya to formally admit them as European Fellows.

**I am delighted to announce that the following candidates are the 2016 EFOG-EBCOG Fellows:**

<b>Dr Mignonne</b>	<b>Vella</b>
<b>Dr Marina</b>	<b>Dimitraki</b>
<b>Dr Emídio</b>	<b>Vale Fernandes</b>
<b>Dr Zuzana</b>	<b>Bakova</b>
<b>Dr Annalisa</b>	<b>Tancredi</b>
<b>Dr Matthew</b>	<b>Mifsud</b>
<b>Dr Mikel</b>	<b>Donazar Ezcurra</b>
<b>Dr Saima</b>	<b>Mushtaq</b>
<b>Dr Cihan</b>	<b>Kaya</b>
<b>Dr Jure</b>	<b>Knez</b>
<b>Dr Christine</b>	<b>Azer</b>
<b>Dr Ahmed</b>	<b>Eissa</b>
<b>Dr Eman</b>	<b>Alrefai</b>
<b>Dr Nicholas</b>	<b>Felice</b>
<b>Dr Mohamed</b>	<b>Mahmoud</b>
<b>Dr Hassyam</b>	<b>Tohme</b>
<b>Dr Ahmad</b>	<b>Abdelaal</b>
<b>Dr Soha</b>	<b>Albeitawi</b>
<b>Dr Rajeev</b>	<b>Singh</b>
<b>Dr Mamdouh</b>	<b>Alzibak</b>
<b>Dr Manuela</b>	<b>Moya del Corral</b>
<b>Dr Nagi</b>	<b>Rostom</b>



<b>Dr Sawsan</b>	<b>Alkweiter</b>
<b>Dr Martina</b>	<b>Schembri</b>
<b>Dr Afshan</b>	<b>Qazi</b>
<b>Dr Tushar</b>	<b>Utekar</b>

A **Pre-Exam KBA course** for the candidates was organised in Brussels in January 2016. . I am grateful to Dr Karen Rose and Professor Jacky Nizard for running this course very efficiently as we received a lot of positive comments from the candidates.

A **Pre-Exam OSCE Course** was held in London in September 2016 and was organised by Professor Diogo Ayres de Campos and Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay. This course required a lot of planning and was delivered without a hitch because of the good organisational skills of these two individuals.



***EBCOG Examination Standing Committee***

A second Pre-Exam KBA course is planned for January 2017, followed by a Pre-OSCE course in September 2017.

These courses are intended to give the opportunity to those who attend to familiarise themselves with the examination process. Only candidates who will pass Part 1 can sit the Part 2 examination. A set of Guidelines for candidates is available on the website

and the Webmaster produced FAQs for the website which has reduced the number of e-mail enquiries. I am extremely grateful to Mr Stefan Hallin, the CEO of Orzone, for providing a high level of support to deliver this project. During the inception of the project, Dr Mourad Seif FRCOG played an active role and I am grateful to him for his contribution

EBCOG also attended two UEMS CESMA meetings, and is now a full member. CESMA is the Council for European Specialists Medical Assessment. It is an advisory body of UEMS created in 2007 with the aim of providing recommendations and advice on the organisation of European examinations for medical specialists at the European level.



*Exam QAC Committee Meeting, London February 2017*

## **EBCOG ESHRE Joint Examination**

Following a proposal from ESHRE, EBCOG and ESHRE are looking to set up a joint examination. ESHRE is proposing joint certification to enhance interaction between EBCOG ESHRE and increase the number of both basic and subspecialist trained individuals.

The initial aim is to set up a joint EBCOG ESHRE Standing Committee, to develop a joint final curriculum and have the first examination in 2018. The exam will be planned in close collaboration with PACT and the SCTA.

## **6- Training the Trainers (TTT) Course** **Co-ordinator: Prof Ziva Novak Antolic**

The TTT working group was formed in November 26, 2011. To date, 37 TTT/ professionalism events have taken place, and 9 of these were in 2015 in Estonia, Malta, Slovenia and Ukraine.

In Slovenia, Prof Ziva Novak has started having workshops on *Professionalism* for professors and students. She has begun giving lectures on *Burnout in physicians* and plans to do workshops and other activities regarding burnout/abuse.

## **7. CME/CPD**

The CME/CPD activities in 2016 were mostly related to EACCME and EBCOG was represented at two EACCME meetings during the year by the CME Lead and Secretary-General, Dr Rolf Kirschner and by the EU Funding Lead, Prof André Van Assche. Both are also responsible for assessing applications for CME accreditation.

I am pleased to report that Prof André Van Assche has recently agreed to represent EBCOG on the UEMS Governance Board on CME-CPD.

## 8. Standards of Care Chair: Dr Tahir Mahmood

As part of our focus on quality assurance and patient safety, EBCOG has produced two sets of Standards of Care for Women's Health; one for Obstetric and Neonatal Services and One for Gynaecology Services. These documents were officially launched in the European Parliament in November 2014.

In February 2015, EBCOG met with the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Dr Vytenis Andriukaitis. Commissioner Andriukaitis said that he and his Cabinet would be delighted to engage with EBCOG and to explore how the Commission and EBCOG could support each other to achieve our mutual vision of equitable, safe, efficient and sustainable healthcare systems in the EU.

At the request of WHO, EBCOG also agreed to discuss sexual and reproductive health (SRH), maternal mortality and child health with the European Commission with regard to prioritising them as part of EU policy.

The UNFPA gave us a grant to translate the **EBCOG Standards of Care for Women's Health** into Russian. These documents were translated by the UNFPA and the Russian Society of Ob/Gyn, which is a member of EBCOG, with the help of the Chair of the SCTR, Prof Yuriy Wladimiroff. The Russian Version of the Standards of Care were officially launched during the European Congress in Torino.



The Russian version of the Standards of Care for Women's Health in Europe was also presented at the Russian Forum "Mother and Child", Moscow, September 27-30, 2016. This Forum is the major annual national event in obstetrics, gynecology and perinatology organised and held under the leadership of the Russian Society of Obstetricians-Gynaecologists. The Forum attracted over 4,200 participants from 331 cities and 81 regions of the Russian Federation and from 28 countries of the world and the Standards of Care for Women's Health in Europe were presented by Dr. Ekaterina Yarotskaya, the RSOG Board Member, responsible for translation on behalf of the RSOG, at the special plenary session of the RSOG "Continuous medical education. Uniform Clinical Protocols. Enhancement of medical care quality: problems and perspectives" chaired by the RSOG President, Prof. Vladimir Serov, and at the meeting of

the head obstetricians-gynaecologists of the regional Ministries of Healthcare of Russia.

Dr Yarotskaya gave a brief overview of the Standards and highlighted the important focus of this document on the issues of training, communication between health providers and patients, and audit. She has stressed that the Russian version of the document was highly appreciated by the State Ministry of Health and that they recommended implementing it as a useful supplement to the regulatory documents used in Russia. A thousand of printed copies of the Russian Journal "Obstetrics and Gynecology. News. Opinions. Education", in which the Russian versions of the Standards were published, were circulated during the Forum and picked up by the participants.

I was asked to deliver a keynote lecture on provision of SRH/abortion services at the UNFPA Regional Ministerial SRH Meeting in Bucharest (November 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>) on access to modern contraception. The Russian translation of our standards of care was well received at the congress and I am delighted to report that three countries in central Asia have now adopted our standards of care.

**During 2016, I participated in the following meetings to promote our standards of care.**

- Congress of European Association of Perinatal Medicine in Maastricht (14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June, 2016) and delivered two lectures: EBCOG Standards of Care for obese pregnant women and EBCOG policy on GDM Screening
- 10<sup>th</sup> Athens Congress on Women's Health and Disease on 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> September and delivered a lecture at the FIGO/EBCOG Session on "Abortion in Europe". In this presentation, I argued that if there are adequate resources made available for the provision of contraceptive methods in each country, then the rate of abortion will decline significantly.
- The Annual Congress of the Association of Ukrainian Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in Kiev (21st-23<sup>rd</sup> Sep) and delivered two lectures on Delivering High Quality Care in Ukraine and New Developments for the management of Fibroids



The 61<sup>th</sup> DGGG Congress in Stuttgart (19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October) where there was a joint EBCOG DGGG Session on Future Aspects of European Co-operation in Gynaecology and Obstetrics. I also delivered a lecture on various initiatives set up by EBCOG to deliver high



quality care in Europe at the International session. It was rather a humbling experience to be admitted as an Honorary Fellow of the DGGG and I am very grateful to my colleagues in German Society for bestowing this great honour on me.

## **9. The Burden of Non Communicable Diseases and EBCOG**

### **9.1 Advocacy for Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) Screening**

EBCOG took the initiative to work on this together with the European Diabetic Pregnancy Study Group (DPSG) in order to have a common approach on GDM screening in Europe.

A similar initiative was undertaken by FIGO and EBCOG collaborated in this project and with the DPSG.

This collaboration resulted in the mutual presence at scientific meetings of the both organisations. Furthermore, an EBCOG position paper was published in DIABETOLOGIA on the problems of GDM screening in Europe with proposals for further progress.

As a consequence, an inventory was performed on the actual practice of GDM screening in Europe. The questionnaire was completed by more than 80 % of the EU countries, with the most important conclusions being that the majority of these countries use the 2013 WHO criteria for GDM, but only one third of the countries provide universal screening.

A mini-symposium on “Obesity and Pregnancy” was commissioned by the European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EJOG) and EBCOG team was able to deliver it within a very short time.

The first article in the mini-symposium is: “Survey by the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on “Screening for GDM in Europe”; by Katrien Benhalima, Chantal Mathieu, Andre Van Assche, Peter Damm, Roland Devlieger, Tahir Mahmood and Fidelma Dunne.

The second article in the mini-symposium is a review paper: “Screening for gestational diabetes in Europe. Where do we stand and how to move forward? - a Scientific Paper commissioned by EBCOG”; by Katrien Benhalima, Peter Damm, Andre Van Assche, Chantal Mathieu, Roland Devlieger, Tahir Mahmood, Fidelma Dunne.

The third article in the mini-symposium is: “Maternal Obesity in Europe. Where do we stand and how to move forward? A Scientific Paper commissioned by EBCOG”; by Roland Devlieger, Katrien Benhalima, Peter Damm, Andre Van Assche, Chantal Mathieu, Tahir Mahmood, Fidelma Dunne, Annick Bogaerts. These three articles will be published as a mini symposium in the EJOG.

The DPSG had a meeting at the EU in December 2015. EBCOG was invited and was represented by the President-Elect. In the informal discussion it was clear that EBCOG and the DPSG should organise a consensus meeting, involving both DPSG and EBCOG members, in order to achieve a common strategy on GDM screening in Europe. screening for GDM is important because GDM is increasing. EBCOG and DPSG were looking at setting up this

meeting, possibly at the Paris Congress in 2018.

During our recent Council meeting in November 2016, I invited the President of EAPM and Chair of the FIGO Group on Hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy, Professor Moshe Hod to make a presentation about the work FIGO is doing to develop a declaration on screening of Hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy, especially since EBCOG had contributed to the FIGO position statement on obesity and pregnancy and the paper on Screening for GDM.

The Declaration is a regional call to action to address the link between maternal health and diabetes as a public health priority. It also highlights FIGO's recommendations on HIP and advocates for their implementation.

Prof Hod told us that FIGO adopts and supports the IADPSG/WHO/IDF position that **all** pregnant women should be tested for hyperglycaemia during pregnancy using a one-step procedure and that FIGO encourages all countries to ensure the universal testing of all pregnant women for hyperglycaemia.

We fully support the Barcelona Declaration and are very pleased to join forces with FIGO to get a consensus meeting in 2018.

## **9.2 Medicines in Pregnancy**

Ms Hildrun Sundseth, President of The European Institute of Women's Health (EIWH), asked EBCOG to investigate and make proposals on The Use of Medicines in Pregnancy. Dr Ksenja Gersak (Slovenia) and Dr Van Calsteren (Belgium) led the project to produce a scientific paper which was approved by the EBCOG Council. It is now being published in the EJOG.

Dr Gersak has also developed a questionnaire to collect information about the attitude of different EU countries on the problem of the use of medicines in pregnancy.

**9.3** The President of the European Institute of Women's Health, who is also a member of the Patient and Consumer WP of the European Medicines Agency (EMA), suggested that EBCOG become a member of EMA and Prof Kristel Van Calsteren and Prof Ksenja Gersak kindly agreed to represent EBCOG within the EMA.

## **10. Position Statements Coordinator: Prof Allan Templeton**

EBCOG's Position Statements are published on our web site and in the **European Journal of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology** which is now the official Journal of EBCOG. These are intended to be used as formal statements on issues of public health in Europe.

*Seven position statements have now been produced on:*

IVF Treatment and Single Embryo Transfer;  
The Public Health Importance of Antenatal Care;  
Obesity and Women's Health

Alcohol and Pregnancy  
Medical Abortion  
The Public Health importance of Sex Education in Schools  
Violence Against Women

*More Statements are currently being developed on:*

FGM  
Diet and Exercise in Pregnancy  
Travel in Pregnancy  
Vaccination in Pregnancy  
Fertility Control  
Caesarean Section in Europe

These are really important documents which all European specialists in ob/gyn should be aware of. They are intended to be used as authoritative statements on issues of public health in Europe and we hope that each national delegate on EBCOG's Council will use them in their respective countries.

## 11.Engagement with Other Organisations

### European Union

In February 2015, we met with the European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, Dr Vytenis Andriukaitis. Commissioner Andriukaitis said that he and his Cabinet would be delighted to engage with EBCOG and to explore how the Commission and EBCOG could support each other to achieve our mutual vision of equitable, safe, efficient and sustainable



healthcare systems in the EU. The President subsequently met Ms Isabel de la Mata, Principal Adviser Principal Advisor with a Special Interest in Health and Food Safety at the European Commission's DG Santé. It was a very productive meeting and avenues for further collaboration were explored.

***With Commissioner Andriukaitis***

The Commission also asked EBCOG to take a position on Violence against Women and Children and asked us to prepare a paper on FGM for the WHO discussion which took place in January 2016. Ms de la Mata also agreed to explore the possibility of having our Standards of Care documents on the Commission's website as examples of "Good Practice".

The Position Paper on Violence against Women has been written, approved and sent to the EJOG and the paper on FGM is currently under peer review.

### European Reference Networks (ERNs)

A European Reference Network (ERN) of rare diseases is a networking system of knowledge and expertise between centres of expertise and healthcare providers organised across

borders of European countries. The development of ERNs is supported by an EU Directive on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare (2011). An ERN is expected to facilitate the accessibility of medical doctors to knowledge and expertise regarding rare diseases and to provide added value to the existing health services at the national level. The ERNs should also serve as research centres. Details regarding the criteria and conditions that the ERNs and healthcare providers must fulfil as well as the criteria for the implementation and evaluation of ERNs are given in relevant EU decisions.

The role of EBCOG in this initiative is to support the efforts for the establishment of an ERN relating to rare obstetrical and gynaecological diseases. Especially, EBCOG's role is to identify national or regional centres of expertise and encourage their participation in ERNs, to encourage Member States to facilitate the development of ERNs and to support the application for the development of certain ERNs. In the context of this collaboration, EBCOG is expected to be involved in the Board of an ERN. A particular ERN with which EBCOG has already established collaboration is the ERN on rare and complex urogenital diseases, Gestational trophoblastic disease, and fetal surgery.

I have been delighted to learn that the application to form a European Reference Network (ERN) for rare and complex urogenital diseases and conditions (eUROGEN) has now received a positive evaluation from the Independent Assessment Body appointed by the European Commission.

## **Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes (UEMS)**

EBCOG is the Board of the Section of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of UEMS. The Officers of EBCOG are the Officers of the UEMS Section and we are represented on various UEMS Multi-Disciplinary Joint Committees such as those for Sexual Medicine and Breast Care. We assess applications to UEMS for CME accreditation in our specialty and are also represented on the Network of Accredited Clinical Skills Centres in Europe.

I am also happy to report that Prof André Van Assche has kindly agreed to be the EBCOG representative member on the UEMS Governance Board on CME-CPD following the UEMS EACCME Advisory Council meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

## **WHO**

In August 2015, the Officers group met with representatives of WHO-Europe in Copenhagen. As a result of the meeting, FIGO kindly agreed that EBCOG should act as a representative for obstetrics and gynaecology in relation to the WHO Regional Office for Europe. As such, EBCOG took part in the Regional Consultation on the development of the European Action Plan for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) 2017–2021, in Copenhagen, and was represented by the EBCOG Treasurer, Prof Peter Hornnes.

The action plan's vision is that all people are enabled and supported in achieving their full potential for SRH and well-being; their sexual and reproductive rights (SRHR) are respected, protected and fulfilled; and which countries, individually and jointly, work towards reducing inequities in SRHR.

This is a challenging agenda because of diverging policies within member countries: few

countries in WHO-Europe believed that the inclusion of sexual and reproductive rights in the action plan was inappropriate, although the issue of rights is a fundamental construct of WHO. Some countries suggested that the draft as it currently stands requires a better gender balance and needs to more explicitly include lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people and emphasise gender equality. A few countries even stated that efforts to increase access to abortion services threatened to break their constitutional laws.

*EBCOG made the following points:*

- EBCOG is supportive of the draft and we find the document very useful.
- EBCOG agrees that sexual health is vital for health in general.
- For obstetricians/gynaecologists, patients' rights are essential. Therefore reproductive rights are natural and non-controversial.
- Access to termination of pregnancy is a key factor in SRH and rights.
- The role of men should be more prominent in the draft.
- The issue of gender equity is vital.
- EBCOG supports a life course approach which includes menopause and ageing.
- Infertility diagnosis and treatment should be prominent.
- Goals and indicators should be positively vectored whenever possible.
- LGBTI SRH and rights should be clearly stated.
- The role of health care professionals should be emphasised.
- Quality of care is vital and should be stressed in the paper.

One of the initiatives we also discussed at our meeting with WHO was that of producing **joint WHO/EBCOG Position Papers** and we explored the possibility of producing papers on: Tobacco and SRH; Drug Misuse during Pregnancy; Ageing and Sexual Health; Promoting Breastfeeding; Mental Health during Pregnancy and Adolescent Women's Health.

EBCOG has now produced the following joint position papers for publication in *Entre Nous* WHO:

1. An **EBCOG/EMAS** Position Paper on "Ageing and Sexual Health";
2. An **EBCOG/PICUM** Position Paper on "Addressing Barriers to Access to Health Care for Migrant Women with Irregular Status".
3. An **EBCOG/ISPOG** paper on "Perinatal mental health: bridging the gaps in policy and practice".

We have also engaged with EMA to produce a paper on breastfeeding.

These papers are all important policy documents which we hope will also promote EBCOG and our standards of care.

I was also invited to join the Editorial Board of '**Entre Nous**', the WHO publication on SRH. A joint UNFPA and EBCOG paper on "*Improving Standards of Care in Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare in the EECA Region*" was published in "*Entre Nous*".

## FIGO

As mentioned earlier, FIGO kindly agreed that EBCOG should act as a representative for obstetrics and gynaecology in relation to the WHO Regional Office for Europe. EBCOG also had a session at the FIGO World Congress in Vancouver in 2015. The session focused on **“New Developments in European Obstetrical and Gynaecological Practice”**. It was Chaired by Dr Mahmood and Prof Hornnes who also spoke respectively on “Standards of care to improve Outcomes in Clinical Practice” and “Non invasive Prenatal Testing”, whilst Dr Kirschner spoke on “Twenty years of Long Acting Contraception in Europe”, Prof Nizard spoke on “Ultra-sound scanning during Labour” and Prof Benedetto spoke on “Reducing Risk in Laparoscopic Surgery”.

EBCOG was invited to contribute on the FIGO Working Party to develop unified GDM Screening strategies. This WP was ably chaired by Professor Moshe Hod and EBCOG was represented by me and Professor André Van Assche. We are very supportive of this initiative. I also contributed to the FIGO Pre-congress symposium on “Hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy”



The President of EBCOG will now serve on the “FIGO Working Group of Hyperglycaemia in Pregnancy” as a representative of EBCOG.

There was a Presidential session during the European Congress in Torino in 2016 and the FIGO President, Prof CN Purandare, kindly agreed to join us for this important discussion on the “Global Challenges of Women’s Health and our Response”.

***Presidential Session: L-R Dr Tahir Mahmood, Prof Chiara Benedetto, Prof Lord Naren Patel, Dr Tamar Khomasuridze, Prof C N Purandare***

The Session involved EBCOG, FIGO, WHO, and UNFPA and was Chaired by Prof Lord Naren Patel, Prof Chiara Benedetto and the President of EBCOG.

The purpose of the session was to discuss how our different organisations can work together to achieve MDG 4 and 5 to improve the health of women and the newborn.



The FIGO Executive Board meeting in Washington, USA (May 2016)

## UNFPA

Our collaboration with UNFPA is flourishing and the first successful EBCOG UNFPA Scholar completed her placement in Edinburgh. Dr Lela Shengelia is from Georgia and her scholarship has already proved fruitful as she has been asked by the Georgian Government to act as a Policy Adviser on her return to Georgia. The second scholarship was awarded to Prof Andrii Tkachenko, from Ukraine, and undertook his placement at St George's Hospital in London in August 2016.

The third successful EBCOG Scholar, Dr Natalia Silina, also from Ukraine, is expected to carry out her placement in Belgium in 2017.

This award is the result of collaboration between UNFPA-Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (EECARO) and EBCOG and through it we are offering two annual Awards, each of € 4,000, as a contribution towards the expenses of the successful candidate visiting a specialised centre which offers knowledge and skills to advance quality improvement in sexual and reproductive health.

EBCOG and UNFPA East Europe and Central Asian Region have also signed an MOU to develop an educational package in sexual and reproductive service provision in that region to reduce the burden of untimed pregnancies and of maternal morbidity and mortality. At the request of UNFPA-EECA Region, Prof Johannes Bitzer and I have now developed Bachelor and Master Class Programmes on SRH. These training programmes will be delivered on a regional basis to not only train health care providers but also to educate healthcare policy makers on best models of care.

The intention is to set up the course in Georgia, in English, and then to develop a parallel course in Russian. Rolling out these programmes is expected to take 3-5 years.

## European Journal of Obstetrics Gynaecology and Reproductive Biology (EJOG)

EBCOG and EJOG have developed an excellent working relationship and EJOG is the official Journal of EBCOG. EJOG is now publishing our position statements and EBCOG has identified key opinion leaders within or outside Europe to write a commentary on the subjects covered by



the Position Statements. EJOG has also published the abstracts from the Torino Congress freely on-line: <http://www.ejog.org/current?page=0>

A mini-symposium on Infertility and Assisted Reproduction in Europe, produced by Prof Ioannis Messinis, a member of our Executive Committee, was commissioned by EJOG and three articles were published in December 2016 (Regulatory Arrangements, Infertility Standards and Infertility Services).

Currently the European Society of Contraception and the European Society of Adolescent and Paediatric Gynaecology are working on their mini-symposia.

EJOG has also been very supportive in offering a significant subscription discount to our new EFOGs and we are very grateful.

## **EBCOG and EuroPeristat**

EBCOG was invited to join the Board of the Euro-Peristat Scientific Committee (A European Union initiative). The objective of the Euro-Peristat Network is to establish a high quality, innovative, internationally recognised and sustainable European perinatal health information system. The goal is to produce robust data and analysis on a regular basis for use by national, European and international stakeholders to inform decisions about the health care of pregnant women and newborns. I was kindly invited to address the Euro-Peristat board meeting in April 2016 in Paris to ensure that the quality standards developed by EBCOG are absorbed into the main menu of Euro-Peristat. Prof Jennifer Zeitlin, who Chairs the EuroPeristat Project, attended our recent Council meeting in November 2016, during which we invited her to have a session on EuroPeristat at the 2018 European Congress in Paris.

## **12. ENTOG (European Network of Trainees in Ob/Gyn)**

EBCOG and ENTOG collaborate closely and EBCOG supports ENTOG's work and development. After all, the future of our specialty lies in ENTOG's hands.

ENTOG is represented on every EBCOG Standing Committee and Working Party and an ENTOG representative is always a member of the Visiting Team for specialist visits. ENTOG organises an annual Trainees' Meeting and Exchange Programme. ENTOG's held its annual



***The ENTOG Executive Committee***

exchange programme and meeting in Torino in May 2016.

At that meeting, Dr Laurids Bune and Dr Ziga Jan came to the ends of their terms of office and two new Executive members were elected: Dr Laura Spinnnewijn as Treasurer and Dr Jure Klanjšček as an Executive member.

The ENTOG meeting and exchange in 2017 will be in Ljubljana on 29<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 with a scientific session and Council meeting on Friday and the topic of the meeting will be



“Instrumental Vaginal Delivery”, “Training in preventing Burnout” and “Dealing with a difficult Colleague”.

In collaboration with the Turkish Society in Obstetrics and Gynaecology (TSOG), ENTOG is. In collaboration with the Turkish Society of Ob/Gyn, ENTOG is also awarding 10 short term Fellowships to Antalya from 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

The purpose of the fellowship is for 10 trainees in ObGyn from 10 different European countries to experience the training programme in Turkey. The objective of the exchange is to facilitate networking between trainees from across Europe with the aim of harmonising and improving the quality of training across Europe

I am delighted that ENTOG very much supports the PACT project as this is so important for the future of training in our specialty. Of the 18 people who attended the last PACT meeting, 5 were trainees.



### **13. The 24<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Ob/Gyn, Torino 2016**

The 24<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Ob/Gyn was due to take place in Istanbul in 2016. Unfortunately, an unexpected UN summit at the time of the Congress means that the area around the Congress Centre will have to be closed and we

***Prof Chiara Benedetto***

therefore had to take the difficult decision to move the Congress out of Istanbul.

The Past President of EBCOG very kindly stepped in and agreed to host the Congress in Torino, with the kind support of the prestigious University of Torino. EBCOG is indebted to Prof Chiara Benedetto and the University of Torino for their help and support. We would also like to thank the Mayor of Torino for hosting a Welcome Cocktail and actively supporting the Congress. I would also like to give my sincere thanks to the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Dr Rudi Campo, the Scientific Committee, the Local Organising Committee and the PCO, MAF Servizi GL Events in Torino.

Delivering this Congress within 6 months was a huge challenge and the big contribution made by Prof Benedetto played an important part in making the Congress successful.

At the European Congress in Torino, five outstanding people were admitted as Honorary Fellows of EBCOG, which is the highest honour EBCOG can bestow:



***L-R: Prof Jacky Nizard, Prof Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumuran, Prof Peter Hornnes, Dr Tahir Mahmood, Prof Ziva Novak Antolic, Prof Chiara Benedetto, Prof Gamal Serour, Dr Rolf Kirschner***

**Prof Chiara Benedetto as Past-President of EBCOG, Dr Rolf Kirschner and Prof Ziva Novak Antolic were recognised for their long standing** significant contribution to the work of EBCOG and two immediate Past Presidents of FIGO, **Prof Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumuran and Prof Gamal Serour for their huge contributions on the global arena to promote women's rights.**

## **EBCOG TSOG Congress, Antalya 2017**

We all shared the disappointment of the Turkish Society of Ob/Gyn at the circumstances which compelled us to move the Congress and I thank them for their ongoing support for the Congress in Torino. As a gesture of thanks, the TSOG and EBCOG will instead be running a joint regional Congress in Antalya on 18-21st May, 2017. The event will be organised and managed by the TSOG with the full support of EBCOG. The Programme is being finalised and is an excellent scientific smorgasboard. Details of the programme and registration information are available on the Congress web site: [www.ebcog2017.org](http://www.ebcog2017.org)

## **European Congress, Paris, 2018**

In 2018 the European Congress will take place in the beautiful city of Paris at the Palais des Congrès on 7-10 March 2018. The incoming President, Prof Jacky Nizard will chair the Congress Management Committee for Paris and the Scientific Committee will be Chaired by Dr Nuno Martins. The Scientific and Management Committees are keen to try a new model for the congress and are thinking of running breakfast sessions to bring people in before the Keynote Lectures. They would like to encourage free communications and to encourage people to present their work actively and there will be a strong focus on using new technology. I wish them every success in their planning.

## **14. EBCOG Website**

Our Webmaster Dr Nuno Martins has done a fantastic job which has seen his workload increase substantially, due to the examination in particular. As he is also Chairing the Paris Scientific Committee, he is scaling down his work on the web site and will be succeeded by Dr Markus Wallwiener, who I would like to welcome to EBCOG.

Information about all of our activities is easily accessible there, including a list of accredited

departments to act as an incentive for departments which have not so far been accredited to apply, and for those whose accreditation has expired to re-apply: [www.ebcog.org](http://www.ebcog.org)

## **Glossary of Acronyms in alphabetical order**

- CME- Continuing Medical Education
- CPD – Continuing Professional Development
- DME – Domus Medica Europea
- DPSG – Diabetic Pregnancy Study Group
- EACCME - European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education
- EAGS – European Academy of Gynaecological Surgery
- EAPM – European Association of Perinatal Medicine
- EFC – European Federation for Colposcopy
- ENTOG – European Network of Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- ESC – European Society of Contraception
- ESGE – European Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy
- ESGO – European Society of Gynaecological Oncology
- ESSM – European Society of Sexual Medicine
- ESHRE – European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology
- EUGA – European Urogynaecology Association
- EURAPAG – European Association of Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology
- FIGO – International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics
- HOTs – Hands on Training Courses
- KBA - Knowledge Based Assessment
- ISPOG – International Society of Psychosomatics in Obstetrics and Gynaecology
- MEPs – Members of the European Parliament
- MoU – Memorandum of Understanding
- OSCE- Objective Structured Clinical Examinations
- RCOG – Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
- SCTA – Standing Committee on Training and Assessment
- SCTR – Standing Committee on Training Recognition
- SRH – Sexual and reproductive Health
- TTT – Training the Trainers
- TTV – Training the Visitors
- UEMS – Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes/European Union of Medical Specialists
- UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund
- WHO – World Health Organisation

## **Appendix**

### **1. Standing Committee on Training and Assessment (SCTA)**

**Chair: Dr Angelique Goverde**

**Members:**

Dr Anna Aabakke  
Prof Anis Feki  
Dr Frederic Goffin  
Prof Jan Hořejší  
Prof Carlos Damonte Khoury  
Mr Joe Jordan  
Mr Simon Leeson  
Dr Tahir Mahmood  
Prof Pekka Neiminen  
Prof Ziva Novak Antolic  
Prof Jacky Nizard  
Prof Stefano Salvatore  
Prof Fedde Scheele  
Prof Milko Sirakov  
Prof Basil Tarlatzis  
Prof André Van Assche  
Dr Yves Van Belle  
Prof Gerard Visser  
Dr Paul Wood

#### **PACT Project Board**

Dr Angelique J. Goverde, Chair EBCOG Project Advisory Board  
Dr Tahir Mahmood CBE, President of EBCOG  
Prof Fedde Scheele, Project Leader  
Drs Jessica van der Aa, Project Manager  
Professor Peter Hornnes  
Professor Jacky Nizard

### **2. Standing Committee on Training Recognition (SCTR)**

**Chair: Prof Juriy Wladimiroff**

**Members:**

Dr Anna Aabakke  
Prof Jaroslav Feyereisl  
Prof Pantaleo Greco

Dr Rolf Kirschner  
Dr Tahir Mahmood  
Prof Ioannis Messinis  
Dr Nuno Martins  
Dr Karen Rose

### **3. Training the Trainers (TTT)**

**Coordinator: Prof Ziva Novak Antolic**

**Members:**

Dr Tahir Mahmood  
Prof Chiara Benedetto  
Dr Angelique Goverde  
Dr Nuno Martins  
Prof Jacky Nizard  
Dr Karen Rose  
Prof Fedde Scheele

### **4. Examination Standing Committee and Subcommittees**

**Chair Examination Standing Committee: Dr Rolf Kirschner**  
**Director of Examinations: Prof Ioannis E. Messinis**

**Members:**

Prof Johannes Bitzer  
Dr Rudi Campo  
Prof Diogo Ayres de Campos  
Prof Peter Hornnes  
Dr Nuno Martins  
Dr Tahir Mahmood  
Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay  
Prof Jacky Nizard  
Prof Charles Savona-Ventura  
Dr Karen Rose  
Dr Maud Van de Venne

### **5. Sub-Committees**

Chair Extended Matching Questions (EMQ) Sub-Committee: Prof Ioannis E. Messinis  
Chair Knowledge Based Assessment (KBA) Committee and Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) Sub-Committee: Prof Johannes Bitzer  
Chair Single Best Answer (SBA) Sub-Committee: Prof Charles Savona Ventura

Chair Objective Structured Clinical Evaluation (OSCE) Committee: Prof Diogo Ayres de Campos

**OSCE Examination Co-ordinators In**

**Norwich:** Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay

Dr Medha Sule

**Pre-Examination Course KBA Leads:**

Dr Karen Rose

Professor Jacky Nizard

Dr Nuno Martins

**Pre-Examination OSCE Course Leads:**

Prof Diogo Ayres de Campos

Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay

**Quality Assurance Sub-Committee**

Dr Tahir Mahmood

Dr Rolf Kirschner

Prof Ioannis Messinis

Dr Sambit Mukhopadhyay

Prof Johannes Bitzer

Prof Charles Savona Ventura

## **6. Antalya Congress Scientific Committee**

**President: Dr Tahir Mahmood**

**Local Congress President: Prof Cansun Demir**

**Chair of the Scientific Committee: Dr Rudi Campo**

**Members:**

Dr Tahir Mahmood

Dr Rudi Campo

Dr Rolf Kirschner

Prof Peter Jacob Hornnes

Prof Jacky Nizard

Prof Chiara Benedetto

Dr Anna Aabakke

Dr Nuno Martins

Prof Cansun Demir

## **7. Paris Scientific Committee**

**EBCOG Paris Congress President: Prof Jacky Nizard**

**Chair: Dr Nuno Martins**

Dr Anna Aabakke

Prof Diogo Ayres de Campos

Prof Johannes Bitzer

Prof Xavier Deffieux  
Prof Makrigiannakis  
Dr Karen Rose  
Prof Fedde Scheele  
Ms Agnès Simon  
Prof Andrii Tkachenko

## **8. ENTOG Executive**

President: Dr Anna Aabakke  
Secretary General: Dr Alexandra Kristufkova  
Treasurer: Dr Laura Spinnnewijn  
Executive Members:  
Dr Agnieszka Lemańska  
Dr Jure Klanjšček