

# **E<sup>ESGE</sup> VISION**

Newsletter of the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy

**ISSUE 3 – DECEMBER 2019**

## **INSIDE**

**Facts, Views and Vision:  
Journal of the European Society  
for Gynaecological Endoscopy has  
been launched**



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## Message from the Editor



The second part of 2019 has been very busy for the ESGE. It has seen the launch of its scientific publication Facts, Views and Vision: Journal of the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy and the 28th Annual Congress in Thessaloniki. The journal is an open access journal and is available both online and in print. The first issue included a detailed document entitled 'Evidence Based Guideline on Laparoscopy in Pregnancy' which was prepared by a working group of the British Society of Gynaecological Endoscopy using the methodology defined by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. The need for laparoscopy in pregnancy is relatively rare, hence we face this challenge infrequently in our daily practice. I expect the clinicians will find the guidelines useful when they are looking after a pregnant woman who needs an abdominal surgical intervention.

The second issue of the journal includes an ESGE document on 'Surgical steps of total laparoscopic hysterectomy'. This was prepared by an ESGE working group and is supported by a number of video clips that demonstrate the surgical steps. I am sure young gynaecologists who are developing their skills in laparoscopic hysterectomy would benefit from the document and the videos.

The Annual ESGE Congress in Thessaloniki was attended by approximately 1700 delegates. In this issue of ESGE VISION you will find highlights of the congress and an interview with one of the keynote lecturers Professor Denis Querleu. Professor Querleu is one of the pioneers of laparoscopic surgery in gynaecological endoscopy and you will find his account of past and present of endoscopic treatment of gynaecological cancers.

Professor Diethelm Wallwiener and Dr Rudi Campo have spent their professional careers promoting gynaecological endoscopy and they have both led the ESGE as its president in the past. They were honoured at the 28th Annual Congress with Honorary Membership of the Society and their account of their contribution is included in this issue.

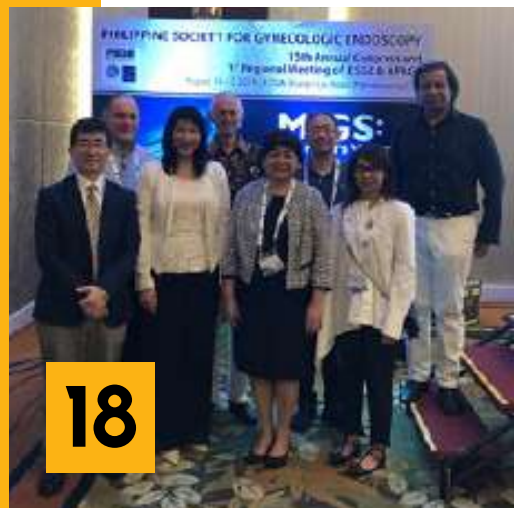
The ESGE VISION also brings news from ESGE regional meetings, special interest groups, future meetings and much more. I have no doubt you will enjoy reading its contents.

With my best wishes for the approaching 2020!

**Ertan Sarıdoğan**  
Editor, ESGE-VISION

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# ESGE President's Message

## Strengthening the European and Global perspective of ESGE

I am very proud that the 28th ESGE Annual Meeting of ESGE in Thessaloniki was a major success and broke several records.

Almost 700 submitted abstracts, highest number of attendants, excellent social programme allowing participant networking and fun, friendly environment and a well organized exhibition area where the participants were exposed to all the new advances in endoscopic technology. Apart from that, in the congress, for the first time, the posters were successfully presented electronically (e-posters area) and, in the exhibition, the "Forum" hosted technological innovations and scientific events in a public exposition. Furthermore, the new ESGE official journal, "Facts Views and Vision in ObGyn" and the GESEA MIGS diploma were launched.

In this issue of ESGEVISION, I would like to share with the ESGE community some very important news of the European and Global relationships of ESGE that took place this year. After a fruitful dialogue, we successfully managed to further enhance our historical relationships with the British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (BSGE). We renewed and further developed our cooperation with the German (AGE) and the Italian (SEGI) Societies by signing new contracts. A dialogue was also started with the French Society of Pelvic Surgeons, hoping that we will succeed for the first time to reach a mutual co-operation. To deepen our relationships, ESGE has decided to include the **Presidents of the Corporate Societies as co-opted members of the Executive Board** starting from the Thessaloniki Congress. I would like to cordially thank **BSGE President Sanjay Vyas, AGE President Bernd Holthaus and SEGI President Massimo Candiani** for these achievements, as well as the **FSPS President Herve Fernandez** for all his efforts.

In addition to our historical relationship with the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), this year we started formal scientific collaboration with the European Society of Gynaecological Oncology (ESGO) while the already established cooperation with the European Board College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG) runs in an outstanding way .

Moving from a European perspective to a global one, ESGE further improved the historical relationships with China, co-organizing ESGE regional meetings in Shanghai and Guangzhou and establishing GESEA as the training and certification programme for residents, thanks to the efforts of **Prof Jinghe Lang and Shuzhong Yao**. Last but not least, we started a scientific collaboration with the local Societies in South East Asia and South Africa participating in their Congresses.

**The strengthening of the European and Global perspective of our Society** did not come by chance. It was the result of hard work behind the scenes of all **members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board**; they invested time and effort in these very important achievements which further increased the European and Global reputation of our Society. These have resulted in the recognition of ESGE as the leading Society in the field of gynaecological endoscopy in Europe. I would like to cordially thank each one of them for their support.

**Prof Grigoris F. Grimbizis**  
President of ESGE



# ESGE 28th Annual Congress took place in Thessaloniki

## Primum non nocere: Maintain safety while pushing the boundaries

In the spirit of this slogan by Hippocrates, 1.700 participants joined this year's ESGE 28th Annual Congress in Thessaloniki, Greece. Not far from the White Tower, the city's landmark, the ESGE President Professor Grigoris Grimbizis and the Congress President Professor George Pados whole-heartedly welcomed experts from 80 countries at the Ioannis Vellidis Congress Centre.

For the duration of four days, the ESGE Annual Congress provided a unique platform for scientific exchange, the introduction of a broad range of innovative new technologies and the possibility to network with colleagues from all around the world.

The congress started on Sunday with six Pre-Congress Courses, which for the first time also included a live cadaveric dissection demonstration transmission from the university anatomy lab in Thessaloniki. Another highlight of the day was the Winners Day that later was concluded by the World Championship of

Laparoscopic Suturing. The Pre-Congress Programme also hosted the 6th Panhellenic Congress of Gynaecological Endoscopy, the leading meeting of Greek specialists in the field.

The scientific programme carefully organised and meticulously managed by its chairs Professor Ertan Saridogan, Professor Attilio Di Spiezio Sardo and Professor Athanasios Protopapas consisted of 406 lectures dealing with the latest developments and achievements in gynaecological endoscopy. These were presented in Best Selected Abstract and Video Sessions, Free Communication Sessions and Plenary Sessions. Two captivating keynote lectures by Professor Denis Querleu and Professor Stefano Bettocchi completed the scientific programme. The very popular Hysteroscopic and Laparoscopic Skills Workshops and the universally recognised GESEA educational programme received very high attendance rates in two separate rooms parallel to the scientific congress programme.



For the first time, more than 300 posters and 80 video posters were presented in an ePoster Exhibition. The 40 Best Selected ePosters were discussed with the judges during the Best Selected ePoster Session on Monday.



The plenary hall was filled to capacity on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning during the live surgeries sponsored by the Institutional Sponsors of ESGE. Transmitted in real time via satellite from Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli (Rome, Italy) and 'Papageorgiou' General Hospital (Thessaloniki/Greece), Medtronic and Olympus as well as KARL STORZ respectively, presented cutting-edge insights into the latest technological advancements in gynaecological endoscopy.



Another special and very well attended session was the one-hour live surgical tutorial on "LASH with in-bag morcellation" by Dr. Rajesh Devassy transmitted from Dubai on Tuesday evening.





The industry exhibition hosted 39 stands in which industry partners presented their latest products and research. In addition, six lunch symposia were held in the framework of the industry exhibition on Monday and Tuesday.



One innovation, which proved to be extremely popular with all participants, was the FORUM. Located in the heart of the industry exhibition this platform offered an open setting for debate and exchange.



In the Opening & Awards Ceremony on Monday evening after the Welcoming Addresses, Dr. Stephan Gordts and Professor Arnaud Wattiez held laudations and awarded Honorary Memberships to Dr. Rudi Campo and Professor Diethelm Wallwiener. ESGE invited the Belgian artist Koen Vanmechelen, who is also the artistic reviewer of the FACTS, VIEWS & VISION Journal, to hold a keynote lecture with the title 'Art as a Human Right'. The six awards for best abstracts and for the best PhD article plus the

awards for the winners of the World Championship in Laparoscopic Suturing were presented at the end of the Ceremony.



Lastly, one very memorable highlight of the ESGE 28th Annual Congress was certainly the 'gig' by THE PRESIDENTS during the congress party, featuring Congress President Professor George Pados as percussionist.



**We thank all the participants!**

# ESGE 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress

11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 · Lisbon · Portugal

*See you in  
Lisbon 2020!*



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

**Endoscopic Surgery:  
Looking Beyond the Curtain**



[www.esgecongress.eu](http://www.esgecongress.eu)



# Thessaloniki welcomed ESGE!

## Congress President Professor George Pados gives his account of the congress

This year ESGE Annual Congress took place in the historic city of Thessaloniki, Greece at "Ioannis Velidis" Helexpo Centre, from 6 to 9 October and proved to be a phenomenal success. The theme of this Congress, Primum non nocere: Maintain safety while pushing the boundaries, although described in the 4th century B.C. by Hippocrates, still remains timely and has been the driving force for ESGE scientific activities and our patient-centred approach.

Together with the ESGE President Professor Grigoris Grimbizis, the Congress President Professor George Pados welcomed 1,700 participants from 80 countries to his home city. The top 6 countries were United Kingdom (171 delegates), Greece (158), Netherlands (106), China (99), Italy (86) and Germany with 77 delegates.

The scientific programme, managed by the three Scientific Chairs, Prof. Ertan Saridogan, Prof. Attilio Di Spiezio Sardo and Prof. Athanasios Protopapas, had been streamlined to offer participants high-quality, evidence-based topics from contemporary developments in various disciplines of Gynaecological Endoscopy that the ESGE Annual Congress has long been known for. During the four days of the Congress 647 presentations and 37 Round Table Discussions with 206 invited speakers encompassed the vast majority of contemporary scientific issues in the field, enriched with the keynote lectures of Professor Stefano Bettocchi and Professor Denis Querleu. Furthermore, 5 Pre-Congress Courses and an extraordinary one on cadaveric dissection transmitted in real time via satellite, the Winners Day with the theme "beyond surgical skills", the universally recognized GESEA Diploma Programme with theoretical examinations and hands-on training sessions and the joint Congress of the Hellenic Endoscopic Society completed the scientific programme.

The true innovation of this Congress was the presentation of posters in the form of E-Posters, which brings our Society one step ahead in the incorporation of new technology and the "Forum" session, in which ESGE guidelines, recommendations and various topics on technical issues-instruments were presented. Added to this, the live surgeries on Monday from the "Gemeli" University Hospital (Rome, Italy) and on Tuesday from "Papageorgiou" University Hospital (Thessaloniki, Greece) transmitted in real time via satellite and one live surgical tutorial presented cutting-edge insights in gynaecological endoscopy, while the interactive dialogue among surgeons, moderators and audience was lively. The industry exhibition with 37 stands presented the latest products in the field, while 6 industry initiated lunch symposia, were very well attended.

The ESGE Congress party has always been a legendary event and the added flavour of the other social activities of our Society and this was the case this year. The University band "The Presidents" led by the Congress President Professor George Pados gave an extraordinary live in the Club "The Shark" on Tuesday keeping delegates in the stage dancing until midnight.

It is hard to believe that the ESGE 28th Annual congress has come and gone and always very sad to reach the end. We are confident that this year's Annual Congress gave the scientific community the opportunity to expose research and scientific work, but at the same time to develop friendship bonds with our international friends. The organizers and the Society would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all participants for attending the Congress and we now look forward to the next ESGE Annual Congress in Lisbon, Portugal in 2020.



# On the occasion of the ESGE Honorary Membership Award to Prof. Dr. Diethelm Wallwiener



Since its foundation in 1994, the European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE) aimed to encourage the exchange of clinical experience, scientific thought and investigation among European gynaecological endoscopists and practitioners in related techniques. As in previous years, the ESGE nominates leading clinicians for the Honorary Membership.

This year, the ESGE has bestowed its Honorary Membership Award to an outstanding physician – professor and medical director of the University Gynaecological Hospital Tuebingen, Germany – Diethelm Wallwiener.

As a founding committee member, Professor Wallwiener significantly enhanced the development of the ESGE, and in his role as the President, he continuously proved his loyalty and dedication to the Society. Establishing ties between the ESGE and other associations, building networks, motivating people, connecting the Society with industrial companies - these are just a few of his contributions to a strong and forward-looking association.

As a basis for a sustainable cooperation between the ESGE and the German Association of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, a special platform serves for instance, called The Four Countries Meeting, was initiated by Diethelm Wallwiener. It helps physicians to meet and discuss scientific changes within the biggest four European countries - the UK, France, the Netherlands and Germany - and to get together and socialise on a personal level. These meetings became a very special character, not comparable with any scientific congresses, and have gained enormous popularity.

A further essential contribution of Diethelm Wallwiener recognized by the ESGE is the innovative development of operative gynaecology and senology and the optimization of surgical procedures. The live surgery sessions, initiated by Professor Wallwiener, are very much enjoyed and resonate in Germany and the world-wide community.

His “Atlas of Gynaecological Surgery” is considered an excellent clinical reference, indispensable for gynaecologic surgeons or residents who want to refine, refresh or fine-tune their skills when preparing for surgery. The atlas - now in its eighth edition – has been translated into several languages and is enjoying great popularity.

In his acceptance speech, Diethelm Wallwiener took the opportunity to thank his colleagues and friends, and last but not least, the “invisible soldiers” - his team at the University Gynecological Hospital Tuebingen, who have supported him over the years.



Since 1998 he acts as the Executive Medical Director of the University Gynecological Hospital Tuebingen. In the last 20 years, he has developed and expanded the gynecological hospital into one of the most important centers of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Germany.

The Honorary Membership of the ESGE 2019 is an award for Diethelm Wallwiener’s achievements and abilities as an outstanding researcher, physician and personality.

# On the occasion of the ESGE Honorary Membership Award to Dr. Rudi Campo



The European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE) is the largest international scientific association of gynaecological endoscopists with more than 6,000 members. At his "28th annual meeting" in Thessaloniki, Dr. Rudi Campo was honored as an honorary member, a reward for his immense commitment and work during the last 25 years. Dr. Campo has unquestionably given this association a boost as chairman since 2014. The laudatio was given by Dr. Stephan Gordts (Leuven).

The ESGE Honorary Membership is one of the highest honours that the society can bestow on an individual. This year, the ESGE awarded the title of Honorary Member to Dr. Rudi Campo in recognition of his exceptional service to the society, as well as his seminal contribution to the field of gynaecological endoscopy.

Rudi Campo has played a significant role in the development of the ESGE. In 1994, he started his involvement in the ESGE as an Officer. He further climbed the ladder to become its President in 2013 and today he serves as the Chair of Board of Directors.

From the very beginning, he was committed and involved in the 3 pillars of the ESGE:

- The Annual ESGE congress
- The GESEA programme
- The Journal

As one of the founders of the Academy, Dr Campo created a vehicle by which to expand the further development of training and educational programmes in endoscopy and he succeeded in finalizing the validation of the programme for psychomotor skills: LASTT, SUTT and HYSTT, now known throughout the world as the GESEA Programme.

He understood that for a society to grow, it was necessary to centralize the general organisation, and he was a key player in establishing this process, which remains in place today. With his ability to build bridges, he brought together not only many professional colleagues, but also created a group of hard-working associates.

He developed strong relationships with industry and also built bridges between several societies. Today, ESGE is spreading its wings all over the world, including the Asian continent, in large part due to the efforts of Dr. Rudi Campo.

Training has become a major activity with the continued support of hardworking staff and young ambitious endoscopists, and has attracted worldwide interest.





He also actively worked on the ESGE journal, previously Gynecological Surgery. He was actively involved in the acquisition of the new ESGE Journal, Facts, Views & Vision earlier this year.

In the meantime, professionally Rudi has become a world expert in hysteroscopy and is in great demand by many societies, organisations and clinics to show and teach his expertise in this field.

For this and so much more, the ESGE society thanks Dr. Campo for his continued drive and passion, for his contribution to the improvement of education of young doctors and for sharing his enthusiasm in the field of hysteroscopy.

# ESGEVISION speaks to Professor Denis Querleu



**Professor Denis Querleu gave one of the keynote lectures in Thessaloniki. Dr Liliana Mereu interviewed him for ESGEVISION.**

*The LACC study sent a message; be careful, always meet the oncological gold standards and evaluate your results, just to go back and analyze what you have done to the patients*

**LM:** Prof Querleu, you are one of the major experts in gynecological oncology, who has contributed significantly to the evolution of surgery. Looking back, how did you imagine the future?

**DQ:** Actually what makes me proud is not exactly the evolution of surgery, but the fact that endoscopic surgery is now one of the ways of performing surgery amongst a long list of different approaches. I think that the future cannot be planned without considering the full picture of what has been done in the past. Actually all our techniques are imitations of what others already did and we only adapt the means by which to do them. The future is simply continuing to work to do things more precisely, correctly, with low risk of complications and accidents, using all available tools; open surgery, robotic surgery, laparoscopy or whatever, just adapting to each individual patient.

**LM:** Nowadays surgery is strictly correlated to technology. Do you think that the application of new technologies in medicine is always an improvement?

**DQ:** Obviously not all innovations have been suitable for patients in the past, we know in history that some so called new techniques and magic bullets disappeared quite soon after having been developed. We should assess new technology in the most objective way possible. I believe that creating proper RCTs about new techniques and new devices is difficult, we always have to consider the human factor for the development of surgical skills. This makes RCTs to compare new and old techniques extremely difficult. A new technique should be introduced by expert surgeons gradually. I do not believe in revolution, because revolution means a possible patient exposure to the risk of new technology. Anyway as we recently observed for cervical cancer, at some point we always need an RCT to affirm that a new technique is at least not worse than the old one.

**LM:** During these last decades, we observed a gradual evolution of abdominal surgery towards minimal invasiveness. After the recent results of the LACC trial, the scientific community paused and began

reflecting on MIS in oncology. Do you think that the problems are more related to MIS itself or to an incorrect use of MIS?

**DQ:** My feeling after the outcomes of the LACC trial is that we have to take into account that something is wrong in MIS and cervical cancer but we do not know what is wrong. We have to continue to investigate. It could be cancer cells contamination, the use of manipulators or the use of MIS in big tumours with the flow of cancer cells.

It is clear that the LACC trial sent a message: pay attention to contamination!

But looking back to the past, this issue is not new. There have been a lot of complications related to poor management of ovarian masses and even of large endometrial cancers.

The LACC study only sent a message; be careful, always meet the oncological gold standards and evaluate your results, just go back and analyze what you have done to the patients.

**LM:** Prof Querleu, you did a great job in standardizing procedures such as radical hysterectomy, lumbosacral lymphadenectomy, etc. Could you tell us your vision and your thoughts on teaching surgery?

**DQ:** To teach surgery we first need teachers. We can also use virtual reality and simulation but I think that when clinical application is a concern, the role of the teacher is absolutely crucial. So what is really important is to develop teachers who do not have to show that they are skilled, but are able to help young people grow gradually, starting with simple things, with only parts of operations, highlighting errors and not only criticising. Transmitting knowledge, we still need this.

What has been lacking in the past was a certain number of academic professors who were able to start a technique as learners. This is extremely important because by teaching we learn and teaching helps to standardize techniques. Teaching is a duty but it must also be a passion.

# News from the SIG Endometriosis Professor Jörg Keckstein



## Recommendation: Deep endometriosis

The SIG Endometriosis has been preparing recommendations for the surgical treatment of deep endometriosis in collaboration with ESHRE and WES. It is the second part of these recommendations, which were developed through a very intensive scientific exchange in the last few years by a working group.

Members: Christian M. Becker, Michel Canis, Anis Feki, Grigoris F. Grimbizis, Lone Hummelshoj, Joerg Keckstein, Michelle Nisolle, Horace Roman, Ertan Saridogan, Vasilios Tanos, Carla Tomassetti, Uwe A. Ulrich, Nathalie Vermeulen, Rudy Leon De Wilde.

These experts from the ESGE, ESHRE, and WES have collaborated to analyze various aspects of operative therapy of DE. Their work produced a very detailed publication that was then forwarded to 38 internationally recognized colleagues as well as 5 societies for stakeholder review. This resulted in 227 returns. All, interesting and helpful, comments or critiques were scrutinized and included in the publication wherever possible. The finished paper is currently being prepared for a simultaneous publication by Human Reproduction Open and Facts, Views and Vision in ObGyn, the new Journal of our society. The article contains many pictures, and in the online version, video clips will demonstrate different techniques to make them more interesting for the reader.

## Annual meeting:

During the annual congress in Thessaloniki, which was a great success, it became clear that the subject of endometriosis is of great interest. A good deal of time was devoted to this topic in the programme. In a number of plenary and free communication sessions all aspects of endometriosis were covered and live surgery by experts demonstrated the tremendous progress in the field of surgical treatment of deep endometriosis.

Another important part of the annual meeting was the Pre-congress Course on Endometriosis, a very well attended course on the developments in the field of diagnosis and surgical therapy of endometriosis.

Overall, the endometriosis sessions and courses were very well received and positively rated by the participants.

## Survey

The SIG Endometriosis is currently working on an important survey on the diagnosis and treatment of deep infiltrating endometriosis, as well as the current state of training in the field of endometriosis.

- Data will be collected that address very specific issues, such as diagnostics, classification, medical treatment, operative concepts, and training programmes.
- Special attention will be paid to the surgeons' expertise and possible developmental concepts to improve patient care.
- The contents and results of the survey will then be used to develop new, possibly interdisciplinary concepts, possibly also in cooperation with other societies.
- In addition, the survey can then focus on other specific questions that can be dealt with in more depth in further investigations

The following colleagues have already actively participated in the working group or have agreed to cooperate: E. Saridogan, E. Zupi, C. Exacoustos, H. Krentel, H. Roman, A. Forman, M. Hirsch, D. Prekop, A. Daniilidis, J. Keckstein

We would be happy to welcome further members to the group.

<https://esge.org/associations/special-interest-groups/endometriosis/>



# News from the SIG Oncology Liliana Mereu

The main aim of the ONCOLOGY group is to establish connections with other European Societies to share oncological knowledge and to build joint projects on minimally invasive surgery and gynaecologic oncology.

In 2019, the group's first project was to establish a collaboration with both the ESGO and SERGS to critically analyze the results of the recent LACC study and to produce a joint statement on MIS radical hysterectomy. A joint ESGE-SERGS statement has now been published online and publishing the work in its entirety will be the next step for 2020.

The ESGE SIG Oncology, in cooperation with ESGO, has set up a group for the development of issues related to MIS gynaecological oncology. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ESGO for a duration of 3 years was signed in 2019. The purpose of this MoU is to formalize the mutual commitment of the individual parties to work together to enhance collaboration and scientific exchange in the field of minimally invasive surgery in gynaecologic oncology and to expand the partnership between the two organizations.

## In 2019 we finalized:

- The ESGO-ESGE Advanced Course: Endoscopy in Gynecological Oncology 20-22 May 2019, at Policlinico A Gemelli Foundation, Catholic University of Sacred Heart, Rome. Italy
- A joint session at the ESGE Annual Congress 2019, Thessaloniki, Greece.
- Creation of a group to define surgical steps in gynaecological oncology, mainly the steps related to MIS. The objective is to clearly lay out the surgical steps needed to achieve a successful surgical result. This will facilitate the learning process related to these procedures and shorten the learning curve.

## The goals for 2020 will be:

ESGO-ESGE Advanced Course: Endoscopy in Gynecological Oncology, Hamburg, Germany, 11-13 May 2020

- Joint session at ESGE Annual Congress 2020 in Lisbon
- Definition of surgical steps in gynaecological oncology
- Guidelines on fertility sparing in onco gyn ( ESGO-ESGE-ESHRE intergroup)

Members : L. Mereu, G. Scambia, R. Rovira Negre, A. El Balat, N. Habib, V. Chiantera, R. Devassy, G. Centini



## SIG Adhesions

The peritoneal and intrauterine cavities are lined by fragile membranes with a high-wound healing capacity, e.g. repairing the endometrium in its cyclical "injury and scar-free repair process" during menstruation. However, peritoneal and intrauterine fibrosis and adhesions can develop after surgical trauma through activation of molecular, immune and genetic mechanisms.

During procedures with a high-risk of adhesions, the use of new peritoneal and intrauterine conditions in combination with anti-adhesion substances are promising measures to preserve peritoneal and endometrial function and avoid the most common complication of gynaecological surgery. The definition of a universal intrauterine adhesions classification scheme as well as a prognostic scoring system to identify women at high risk of postoperative adhesions are necessary for advising those who could benefit the most of the use of antiadhesion barriers.

### Read more:

A. Torres-de la Roche, R. Campo, R. Devassy, A. Di Spiezio Sardo, A. Hooker, B. Hurman, P. Koninckx, M. Wallwiener, R.L. De Wilde. Adhesions and Anti-Adhesion Systems Highlights. Facts, Views & Vision in ObGyn 2019;11(1):137-49.

## ESGE - SIG Adhesion Research

The Adhesion working group has been very active in publishing (2018- 2019)

- 1.S. Quinn, M. Bongers, M. Mueller, R. L. De Wilde. Clinical outcomes of the OPEN clinical trial: evaluation of uterine patency following sonography-guided transcervical radiofrequency ablation of fibroids with the Sonata® system. JMIG. 2018;25:16-17. DOI: 10.1016/j.jmig.2018.09.048.
- 2.R. L. De Wilde, L. Leicher, L. A. Torres-de la Roche, C. Cezar, A. Bader. Adhäsionen durch Fehlprogrammierung von Stammzellen? GebFra. 2018; 78: 225. DOI: 10.1055/a-0575-1387.
- 3.R. L. De Wilde. Regarding evaluation of a spray-type novel dextrin hydrogel adhesion barrier under laparoscopic conditions in a porcine uterine horn adhesion model. JMIG. 2018;25;1311. DOI: 10.1016/j.jmig.2018.05.018.
- 4.R. Devassy, S. Hanif, H. Krentel, H. Verhoeven, L. Torres-de la Roche, R. L. De Wilde. Laparoscopic ultrasonic dissectors: technology update. Medical Devices: Evidence and Research. 2018;11:1-7. DOI: 10.2147/MDER.S113262
- 5.L.A. Torres-de la Roche, R. Campo, R. Devassy, A. Di Spiezio Sardo, A. Hooker, B. Hurman, P. Koninckx, M. Wallwiener, R.L. De Wilde. Adhesions and Anti-Adhesion Systems Highlights. Facts, Views & Vision in ObGyn 2019;11(1):137-49.

### In Press:

- 1.A. Hermann, L.A. Torres-de la Roche, H. Krentel, C. Cezar, M. S. de Wilde, R. Devassy, R. L. De Wilde. Adhesions after laparoscopic myomectomy: incidence, risk factors, complications, and prevention. Gynecol Minimally Invasive Therapy. 2019. In press.
- 2.L. A. Torres-de la Roche, L. Leicher, R. L. De Wilde. Adhesions after laparoscopic and hysteroscopic surgery, prevention and treatment. MIS in Gynaecological Practice. De Gruyter. 2019. In press







## News from Central Office

ESGE Central Office is busy following up on all the meetings which took place during the Annual Congress where many new ideas were discussed.

The new MIGS Level 2 Diploma has been launched and all details can be found on the ESGE website <https://esge.org/education/migs-diploma/>. This Diploma now holds a much stronger academic value and the response to date has been extremely positive.

The ESGE Journal, Facts, Views & Vision was also launched during congress to great acclaim. The open access journal is online and ESGE members can order 4 printed copies per year together with their ESGE membership subscription <https://esge.covr.be/cmGateway/MEMBER/NW/index.html?module=membership>

The Young Endoscopic Platform (YEP) session was very well attended during Congress and interest has grown in joining this group. If you are interested in joining or would like further information, you can find more details here: <https://esge.org/associations/young-endoscopist-platform/>

During the Executive and Advisory Board meetings which took place the day before the Annual Congress, the ESGE Special Interest Groups and Working Groups provided updates on the many projects they are working on, some of which will be described in this newsletter or on the ESGE website: <https://esge.org/associations/special-interest-groups/>

And finally, we have already begun preparations for the ESGE 29th Annual Congress which will take place from 11-14 October, 2020 in Lisbon, Portugal, so remember to Save the Date !

ESGE Central Office would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

# ESGE – APAGE MIGS meeting Manila 2019: when EAST MEETS WEST!

The PSGE, celebrating its 15th anniversary, hosted the first European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE) and Asia-Pacific Association for Gynaecological Endoscopy (APAGE) Congress in South East Asia with the theme MIGS: EAST MEETS WEST!



The aim of this meeting was to provide a platform where endoscopy enthusiasts can meet and exchange ideas. The aspiration from the outset is to bring together the whole endoscopy team to discuss advances within the field, contributing to continued education and sharing the latest updates. During the meeting, renowned experts gathered for a state-of-the-art meeting, bringing together live demonstration, pre-congress courses, lectures, hands-on training, specialized thematic sessions and discussions.



- Offering some of the most advanced standardised training programmes (GESEA), national societies in many non-European countries have established close partnerships with ESGE to help improve surgical teaching in their respective countries.
- With surgical teaching involving laparoscopic techniques and technology becoming an ever-more critical problem for our global community of gynaecological surgeons, joint meetings between the ESGE and national and regional societies across the world have become a tradition.
- These meetings also help the ESGE to better understand the global needs of our colleagues from different cultures, working within different health systems, creating friendships and collaborations. The meeting was a great success with many participants.

It opened with two full day pre-congress courses on August 14 and 15 on Hysteroscopy and Laparoscopy (GESEA Level 1 programme for the local delegates), and a Hysteroscopy Workshop for the regional delegates on August 17, all at the EDSA Shangri-La, Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila. The conference served as a promotional platform for the ESGE educational GESEA-programme, which has been consistently growing throughout Asia. An exciting clinical and scientific exchange of information took place, with the ESGE delegation of 12 members (Prof. Rudy Leon De Wilde, Dr Rudi Campo, Prof. Sven Becker, Dr Giuseppe Bigatti, Prof. Attilio Di Spiezio Sardo, Dr. Rajesh Devassy, Dr. Hugo Verhoeven, Prof. Vasilios Tanos, Dr Ursula Catena, Dr Federica Campolo, Dr Vasileios Vrentas) participating as representatives of our European Society, performing live surgeries, delivering expert lectures and participating in discussions. Special thanks go to Rhona O'Flaherty for putting together the ESGE group and for all the efforts.



*This Congress was an excellent opportunity for us to learn and share our experiences with our colleagues from the East and West and signals a new and exciting chapter of collaboration with Asia-Pacific Association for Gynecologic endoscopy.*



# Upcoming meetings

## EndoDubai

27th-29th February 2020  
Dubai

<https://endo-dubai.ae/>

## Royal Congress of Obstetrician and Gynaecologists World Congress 2020

25th-28th March 2020  
Muscat, Oman

<https://www.rcog.org.uk/en/courses-exams-events/rcog-world-congress/oman-congress-2020/>

## BSGE Annual Scientific Meeting 2020

22nd-24th April 2020  
Manchester, UK

<https://www.bsge.org.uk/asm20/>

## 14th World Congress on Endometriosis

8th-11th May 2020  
Shanghai, China

<https://endometriosis.ca/world-congress/wce2020/>

## Endometriosis 2020

26th-29th April 2020  
Rome, Italy

<http://endometriosis2020.com/>

## International Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy Meeting

28th-31st May 2020  
Split, Croatia

<https://www.isge.org/global-events/welcome-to-back-to-basics-in-migs/>

## 7th Asia Pacific Gynaecology and Obstetrics Congress

11-12th June 2020  
Singapore

<https://gynecology-obstetrics.conferenceseries.com/>

## ESGO 2020

17th-19th June 2020  
Copenhagen, Denmark

<https://soaconference.esgo.org/>

## ESGE 29th Annual Congress

11th-14th October 2020  
Lisbon, Portugal

<https://www.esgecongress.eu/home.html>



# ELACC



## 3<sup>rd</sup> EUROPEAN LAPAROSCOPIC ANATOMY COURSE ON CADAVERS 14 & 15 May 2020 University of Liege, Belgium

### ADVANCED LAPAROSCOPY CADAVERIC COURSE HANDS-ON

#### Practical Individually - tailored Course on Female Cadavers

**Course directors:** Pr P. Bonnet, Pr M. Nisolle, Pr B. Rabischong

**Faculty:** F. Closon, L. de Landsheere, E. Faller, S. Karempelas,  
P. Nervo, L. Tebache

#### **Thursday 14 May 2020**

08:00 - 08:30: Welcome Suturing course  
08:30 - 08:45: Course introduction *M. Nisolle*  
08:45 - 10:00: Suturing theoretical course *E. Faller and L. Tebache*  
10:00 - 12:30: Suturing practical course  
12.30 - 13.15: Lunch and Welcome Cadaver course  
13:15 - 13:30: Course introduction *M. Nisolle*  
13.30 - 14.30: Anatomy of female pelvis *P. Bonnet*  
14.30 - 15.30: Laparoscopic pelvis anatomy *B. Rabischong*  
15.30 - 16.00: Coffee break  
16.00 - 17.30: Laparoscopy Anatomy Demonstration on Cadaver  
*B. Rabischong and P. Nervo*

19.30: Social diner

#### **Friday 15 May 2020**

08.00 - 08.30: Welcome  
08.30 - 12.30: Cadaver Hands-on  
12.30 - 13.30: Lunch  
13:30 - 17:00: Cadaver Hands-on

**Course venue:** CHU of Liege - Human Pathology Department B23 -1  
Avenue Hippocrate, 13 B-4000 Liège Belgium

*Visa Mdeon: à demander.*



# Important Publications

Ball E, Waters N, Cooper N, Talati C, Mallick R, Rabas S, Mukherjee A, Sri Ranjan Y, Thaha M, Doodia R, Keedwell R, Madhra M, Kuruba N, Malhas R, Gaughan E, Tompsett K, Gibson H, Wright H, Gnanachandran C, Hookaway T, Baker C, Murali K, Jurkovic D, Amso N, Clark J, Thangaratinam S, Chalhoub T, Kaloo P, Saridogan E. Evidence-Based Guideline on Laparoscopy in Pregnancy: Commissioned by the British Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (BSGE) Endorsed by the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (RCOG). *Facts Views Vis Obgyn.* 2019 Mar;11(1):5-25.

G. Pados , S. Becker , R. Rovira Negre , B. Rabischong , H. Ferreira , C. Rossitto. Surgical steps of total laparoscopic hysterectomy. *Facts Views Vis Obgyn.* 2019 Jun;11(2):103-110.

Di Spiezio Sardo A, Campo R, Zizolfi B, Santangelo F, Meier Furst R, Di Cesare C, Bettocchi S, Vitagliano A, Ombelet W. Long-Term Reproductive Outcomes after Hysteroscopic Treatment of Dysmorphic Uteri in Women with Reproductive Failure: An European Multicenter Study. *J Minim Invasive Gynecol.* 2019 May 27. pii: S1553-4650(19)30225-0

Torres-de la Roche LA, Leicher L, Steljes I, Eidswick J, Larionov O, de Wilde MS, Campo R, Tanos V, De Wilde RL. Training and qualification in gynecological minimal access surgery: A systematic review. *Best Pract Res Clin Obstet Gynaecol.* 2019 Aug;59:2-11

Koninckx PR, Ussia A, Adamyan L, Wattiez A, Gomel V, Martin DC. Heterogeneity of endometriosis lesions requires individualisation of diagnosis and treatment and a different approach to research and evidence based medicine. *Facts Views Vis Obgyn.* 2019 Mar;11(1):57-61

Koninckx, P. R., et al. (2019). "Regarding: "The LACC Trial and Minimally Invasive Surgery in Cervical Cancer"." *J Minim Invasive Gynecol.* 2019 Oct 21. pii: S1553-4650(19)31260-9

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Based on the current best scientific knowledge



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