



Dear Colleagues,

every year after the EBVS AGM and before the summer holidays, Council would like to take the opportunity to provide you with all relevant news and information.

Welcome to our new members

Our annual certifying examination was held in February 2020 in Gent, Belgium. A total of 18 candidates successfully passed the exam. **Congratulations!** We warmly invite you to join us to welcome our new diplomates during our **virtual Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 17 September 2020 from 17:00-19:00 CET**. We will hopefully be able to meet most of them in person in Turin in 2021 so that they may receive the deserved applause.

ECVP 25th anniversary

It seems just like yesterday when everything started. The European College of Veterinary Pathologists (ECVP) was established in 1995 to advance veterinary pathology and promote high standards within the specialty in Europe. In 1994, during the meeting in Mondovì (Italy), the ESVP Board formally proposed the creation of the ECVP. Consequently, the ECVP was founded at the meeting in Edinburgh (UK) in 1995. It seems very appropriate that we will celebrate our 25th anniversary in Italy, where it all began. Unfortunately a year later, in 2021, but nonetheless we will party!

ESTP/ESVP/ECVP: the 4th Cutting Edge Pathology Congress has been postponed...

The European Society of Toxicologic Pathology (ESTP), jointly with the European Society of Veterinary Pathology (ESVP) and the European College of Veterinary Pathologists (ECVP), had to postpone to 2021 the 4th Cutting Edge Pathology Congress, which will be held at Campus Luigi Einaudi in Turin (Italy).



Campus Luigi Einaudi in Turin

Exam 2021 – IMPORTANT !

We know that many residents and supervisors are concerned regarding the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the exam 2021.

After careful consideration by the Examination Committee and the ECVP Council, considering the difficulties in exam preparation and resident training due to the COVID-19 pandemic, withdrawal from the 2021 examination **at any time up to the examination date** will not be considered as an attempt or failure to sit all or any section(s) of the exam, and will not count as one of the years for which repeat candidates are eligible to pass any previously failed section(s). In case of withdrawal, the ECVP will, at the candidates' direction, either refund or transfer all 2021 registration fees to the 2022 examination.

So far, the preparation of the next exam is running as usual and measures to increase social distance between candidates have been already planned. The Council and the Examination Committee are strictly monitoring the situation and will keep everyone informed on any decision that may be needed.

Towards a digital ECVP Exam

Moving to a digital exam has been on the ECVP's radar for a long time. The EBVS has recently launched an initiative to make the software platform ExamSoft® available to all colleges wishing to digitize their exams.



Among the questions we need to answer are:

- How do we train candidates to use the platform;
- What are the IT system requirements and where can the exam physically take place;
- When can we expect to run a part (eg: veterinary pathology and general pathology) digitized exam;
- When can we expect to have the all parts digitized;
- What will be the impact on the Exam Committee regards exam preparation and correction;
- When can we realistically implement ?



.....Towards a digital ECVP Exam

A **task force** composed of current and past Exam Committee members has been formed to address these and other questions and make the ECVP digital exam become a reality.

Task force members are Richard Blundell (current EC member), James Baily (past EC member), Koen Chiers (past EC Chair, Exam local organizer), and Alexandre Bidaut (past EC Chair, task force lead).

Specific training web-based opportunities for residents

In April 2020, a survey was sent out to training centres to determine the impact the corona virus pandemic had on resident training. The restrictions on our daily lives appeared to be very different between countries across Europe. While in some countries, routine necropsy and biopsy services could be maintained, in others, residents were confined to their homes and not allowed to enter the institutions. However, almost all training centres could maintain remote contact with their residents on a regular basis. In April 2020, in out of 32 answering training centres, residents were still involved in necropsies (in 13 institutions) and in biopsies (12 places). In the majority of training places, at least some residents had a microscope at home and access to histology training sets. In 20 out of 32 training centres, residents still received supervised online training sessions. While some residents had more time for studying or preparing publications, for others personal circumstances like lack of child care made training and studying very difficult. Many supervisors had to focus on the complete reorganisation of their work, like the organisation and coordination of undergraduate teaching and could not dedicate much time for residency training. Taken together, for most of us, the work load during the different European lockdown scenarios was not reduced but changed and in many ways became more challenging.

Since the majority of educational events for our residents and in particular the Summer School had to be cancelled, we started in June with a regular series of online training events dedicated to residents with the aim to offer one session every other week. We aim to offer a mixture of topics covering different exam parts. Many programme directors offered to open up their training session to a wider audience of residents, and we would like to thank them warmly for their helpfulness and support.

....Specific training web-based opportunities for residents

We started with an online training session in June, using Zoom and given by Christiane Krudewig from Zürich, Switzerland. Residents were asked to describe 4 histology cases in advance and to hand in their answers prior to the session. Almost 50 residents attended and could ask questions via the chat function. A second training session covering aspects of General Pathology was delivered by Kerstin Baiker and included an interactive quiz.

These free of charge training sessions are open to all ECVP registered residents. Some of the sessions are only open to a limited number of participants to encourage interactivity, but may be repeated if demand is higher than number of places.

We will send the programme regularly to all programme directors, supervisors and ECVP registered residents. If you have not received it, please check your spam folder and get in touch with Irini at admin@ecvpath.org.

You can also find info in the protected area of the website (psw: ECVP2020) <https://www.ecvpath.org/online-training-resources/>

If one supervisor of each of our training centres may contribute with one session per year, all residents may have the fantastic opportunity to take advantage of different fields of expertise and backgrounds.

Hereby, we would like to invite all interested diplomates to think about if they are able to contribute with their expertise. Each delivered webinar will count for CPD points. If you are willing to contribute with a session or have any suggestions or feedback, can contact us:

Annabelle-Heier@idexx.com and Kerstin.Baiker@nottingham.ac.uk.

Webinars

We will start with a series of webinars with topics of interest in autumn in order to allow continuous education for all of us.

If you are willing to contribute with a session or have any suggestions or feedback, can contact us: Annabelle-Heier@idexx.com and Kerstin.Baiker@nottingham.ac.uk

Online training resources

CL Davis offers a series of virtual seminars, please visit <http://www.cldavis.org/courses/upcoming.html>. Some may also be found on Youtube. Internet search for “Youtube CL Davis” takes you to a series of gross pathology tutorials and a couple of highly interesting webinars. The webinars stay on Youtube for a very short time period only – take the opportunity to watch them as soon as you can!

Interested in nonhuman primate pathology? The Primate Pathology Image Database

Dr. Anne Lewis, Diplomate ACVP sends brief monthly communications regarding the Primate Pathology Image Database (PPID), a product of the Nonhuman Primate Research Center Consortium, Oregon, US to subscribers (no costs) by e-mail. The newsletters are intended to provide updates on the PPID, highlight specific content, and solicit occasional input from users.

If you are interested in receiving these well-presented and educative cases, please send a request to lewisann@ohsu.edu

CPD points

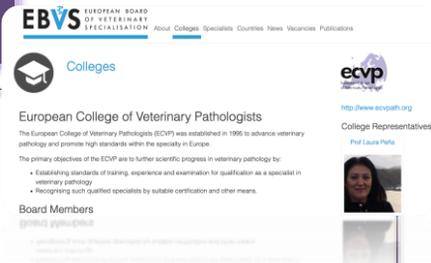
The CPD form has been revised. Online training and webinars have been included (area 3). Also credits for involvement in College activities have been adapted. Further, frequently asked questions around the reference letters have been addressed. Please find the updated form here:

<https://www.ecvpath.org/re-registration-and-cpd-requirements/>

Committees

If you would like to join one of our Committees, please let us know. This is a good way to get involved and also accounts for CPD points. In addition to the Examination Committee, there are the Nominating, Applications, CPD and Education Committees contributing to the functioning of the College. If you are interested, please send an email to admin@ecvpath.org

Give your contribution to EBVS ECVP area!



This is a call for all diplomates !!! We need to include a nice picture into our College's area on the EBVS website (<https://ebvs.eu/colleges/ECVP>).

It should be “esthetically pleasing” and representing our profession. Please participate and send your suggestion to Irini (admin@ecvpath.org) and it might be selected by the ECVP Council - **Deadline 10 September 2020.**

Also, it is **very important** that you remember to check the EBVS website for your personal affiliations and update them! <https://ebvs.eu/specialists>

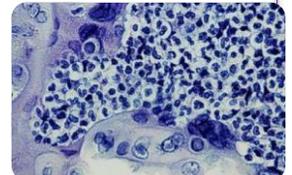
Website update and task forces



To make our college more active and updated and to involve more diplomates in the college activities, **new specific task forces** have been created to reach specific aims. Feel free to contact us to be involved (credits - 4pts/year - will be rewarded)! A **web site task force** is already working on the web site update, the «picture of the month» section (have a look!) and the histology database.

Histology database <https://www.ecvpath.org/histology-slide-database/>

On our website more than 900 histologic slides, which have been presented during the Summer School courses, are electronically available. To ensure board-style description, a task force (Christiane Krudewig and Koen Chiers) is contacting training centers to contribute. Anyone else who would like to engage can contact admin@ecvpath.org (CPD points awarded).



Innovation and New Technology task force

ECVP Council realized that there is fast development of techniques used by some of our colleagues and that some of these techniques most likely will be part of our daily work in the future. A group of interested colleagues, following an e-mail sent to the membership, started to discuss issues around these technologies in relation to our profession. These range from the use of digital pathology, new technologies or methods to artificial learning and their limitations.

The ECVP/ESVP Summer School



Summer School 2019 in Valencia, Spain

July 15th-26th, 2019

The venue of the Summer Schools 2018/19

The 17th ECVP/ESVP Summer School of 2019 took place for a second time in Alfara del Patriarca near Valencia, Spain, at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (University CEU Cardenal Herrera). The event took place from July 15th to July 26th 2019.

The organization by the local organizing team, led by Juan Manuel Corpa Arenas, and assisted by Joaquín Ortega Porcel, Agustín Barragán, Jorge Rosell, Ester Parraga, Jaume Alomar-Huguet, Laura Selva-Martínez and Estefanía Montero, was once again perfect!

Altogether, **56 full time participants and 2 part time attendees** from 15 different EU countries and Russia attended and enjoyed the educational programme in this multicultural environment at this nice venue.

The 2019 Summer School programme started with a 1-day session of Gross Pathology with Jérôme Abadie and Frédérique Nguyen from Nantes Vet School, France. It was followed by one day of Histopathology with Paola Roccabianca and Barbara Banco from the University of Milan, Italy, and two days on liver pathology with John Cullen from the College of Veterinary Pathology, North Carolina, US. Chiara Giudice from the University of Milan, Italy, and Emma Scurrall from Cytopath, Ledbury, England, ended the first week of lectures with a one-day session on Eye Pathology. Saturday was free to explore Valencia and to network. The second week started with a day on Clinical Pathology with Saverio Paltrinieri and Alessia Giordano from the University of Milan, Italy, followed by a one-day lecture on Pig Pathology by Joaquim Segales, from the University of Barcelona, Spain. Stina Ekman (Uppsala, Sweden) and Cathy Carlson (College of Veterinary Medicine, St. Paul, Minnesota, US) taught musculo-skeletal pathology for 1.5 days followed by a lecture on Animal models of human diseases by Giovanni Pellegrini from AstraZeneca, Sweden. Giovanni also gave an evening session on Careers in Toxicologic Pathology, sponsored by ESTP. The last days were on Primate Pathology (one day) with Ronnie Chamanza (Johnson and Johnson, Belgium) and Forensic Pathology (one day) with Lorenzo Ressel (University of Liverpool, UK).

We are very grateful to the local organizers who did a tremendous job and made everyone comfortable and at ease; all lecturers who put enormous effort in the preparation of the event and gave excellent lectures; ESVP for providing bursaries; all our financial sponsors; Chiara Brachelente and Monika Hilbe for organizing this event, Irini from the ECVP Office for her support, and last but not least the highly motivated attendants who made this event so successful.

Summer School in Zagreb, Croatia 12 – 24 July 2021



The Summer School 2020 was scheduled to take place in Zagreb. A nice educational programme was put together by Monika Hilbe, inscriptions had started and then came the corona pandemic... All presenters expressed their willingness to give their lectures in 2021, and we are all hoping to be able to hold the Summer School between **12-24 July 2021 in Zagreb, Croatia**. The following Summer Schools events will be in Zagreb in 2022 and Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 2023 and 2024.

As one of the strengths of this event is the opportunity for young pathologists to network and to get to know each other during 2 weeks, we decided not to replace it by an online Summer School. Also, an online mock exam cannot by far simulate the stress of an exam situation, sitting with candidates in the same room. Instead, we aim to offer regular online training sessions for residents, given by pathologists of different backgrounds and with different specialties.



Certificate in Forensic Veterinary Pathology

The Certificate in Forensic Veterinary Pathology (CFVP), the first Certificate initiative of the ECVP, which was launched in March 2019, received the first round of applicants with a total of 5 eligible candidates. During the past months cases have been submitted by the candidates and discussed by members of the steering group (Udo Hetzel, Randal Munro, Orlando Paciello, Andrea Gröne, Henrik Elvang Jensen, Lorenzo Ressel). Following a feedback process on anonymised reports, all the 5 candidates have been progressed to the round table stage, where candidates will be able to discuss a selected case in person. This represents the final stage of the Certificate. Due to Covid-19 regulations, the round table will take place virtually in September 2020.

The EBVS AGM was held online in April with the attendance of the ECVF president as College representative. Several points were approved including the Ethics Statement and the Strategic Plan 2020-2025 with 4 major objectives: to achieve recognition, stimulate growth, to promote the impact and influence of veterinary specialists, to assure quality of training and support for residents and developing a “credentialing system”.

COVID-19 pandemic

The ECVF Council members would like to express their sincerest condolences for all lost lives around the world during this pandemic. Their memories will live on in our hearts and we will remember them always.

AGM – reserve the date

Please join us at our **virtual AGM** which will take place on **Thursday, 17 September 2020 from 17:00-19:00 Central European Time**. Access details will follow in a separate invitation.

Sincerely, the ECVF Council

