

ECVP/ESVP Summer School in Veterinary Pathology

**EUROPEAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY PATHOLOGISTS
EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF VETERINARY PATHOLOGY
The Education Committee of the ECVP/ESVP**

Résumé

**18th Summer School 2021, Zagreb, Croatia and online
July 12th-23rd, 2021**

The 18th ECVP/ESVP Summer School took place in Zagreb, Croatia. Due to the pandemic situation the Summer School in 2020 was cancelled. However, the Summer School in 2021 was successfully delivered in a hybrid form as travelling between European countries was complicated or even impossible. The logistics were complex, but the local organizers were highly flexible and did a great job with changing schedules in order to meet the needs of on-site and online attendees.

FACILITIES

The event took place from July 12th to July 23rd 2021 at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Zagreb. The faculty was founded in 1919 and is the only higher education institution in the field of veterinary medicine that ensures the formation of highly skilled veterinary professionals in Croatia. The faculty has achieved the recognition as an ECVP training center in February 2016.

Our local organizers in Zagreb did a tremendous job by being wonderful hosts for attendants in Zagreb and at the same time managing the Zoom sessions for remote participants. Altogether 5320 minutes, almost 90 hours, were hosted. The local organizers were Andrea Gudan Kurilj, Marko Hohšteter, Ivan-Conrado Šoštarić-Zuckermann, Lidija Medven Zagradišnik, Ivana Mihoković Buhin and Dunja Vlahović. Thank you so much!!



Altogether 87 young pathologists attended the Summer School. Thanks to the online solution, we had participants from Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom. 28 trainees were able to attend the event on-site, in particular to participate in the mock exam during the second week.

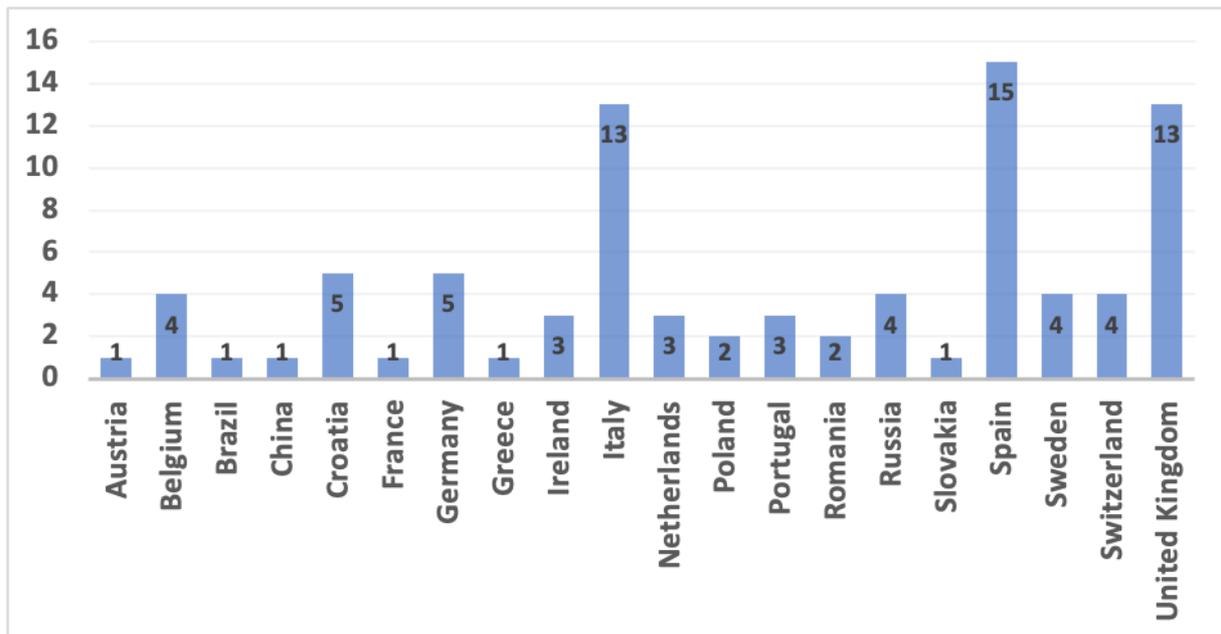


Figure 1: Country of origin of participants of the ECV/ESVP Summer School 2021

The majority of on-site participants (92%) came from academic/university background and the rest from the private sector (8%) (Figure 2a)

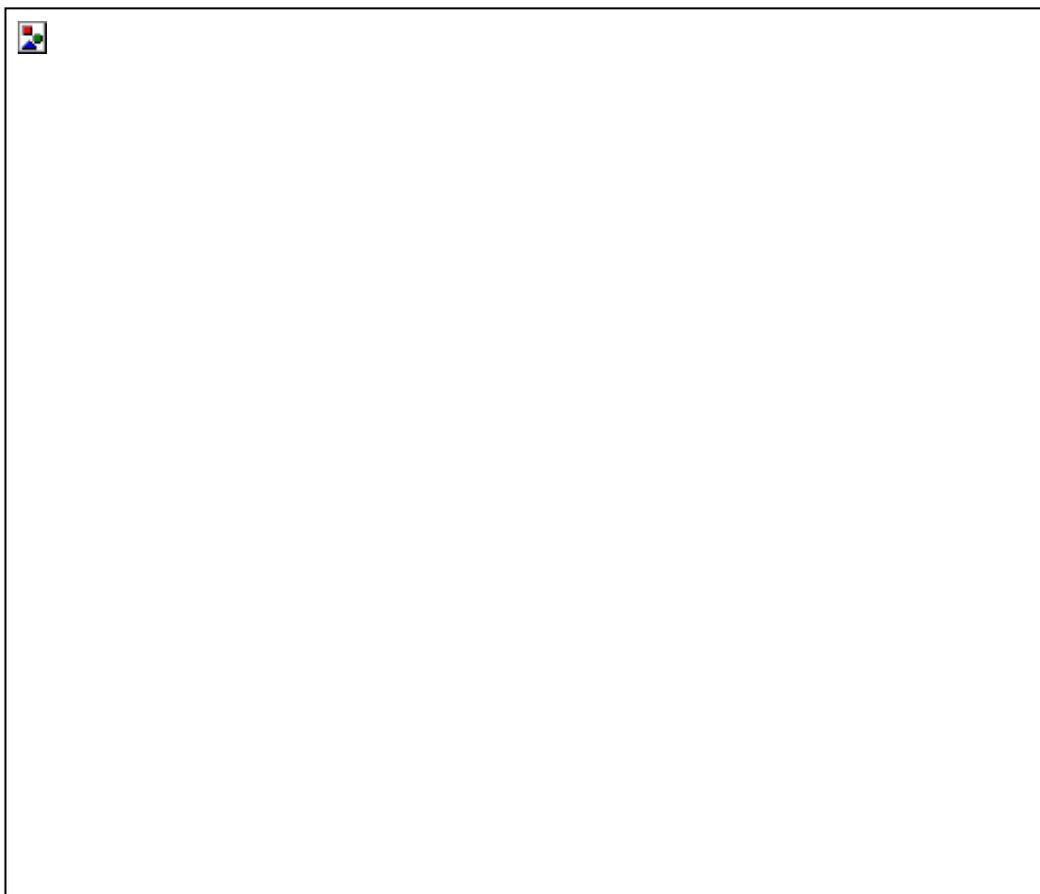


Figure 2a: Employment of participants on-site of the ECV/ESVP Summer School 2021

Also, the majority of online participants (58%) came from academic/university background and the rest from the private sector (27%) or government (6%) and others (9%) (Figure 2b)

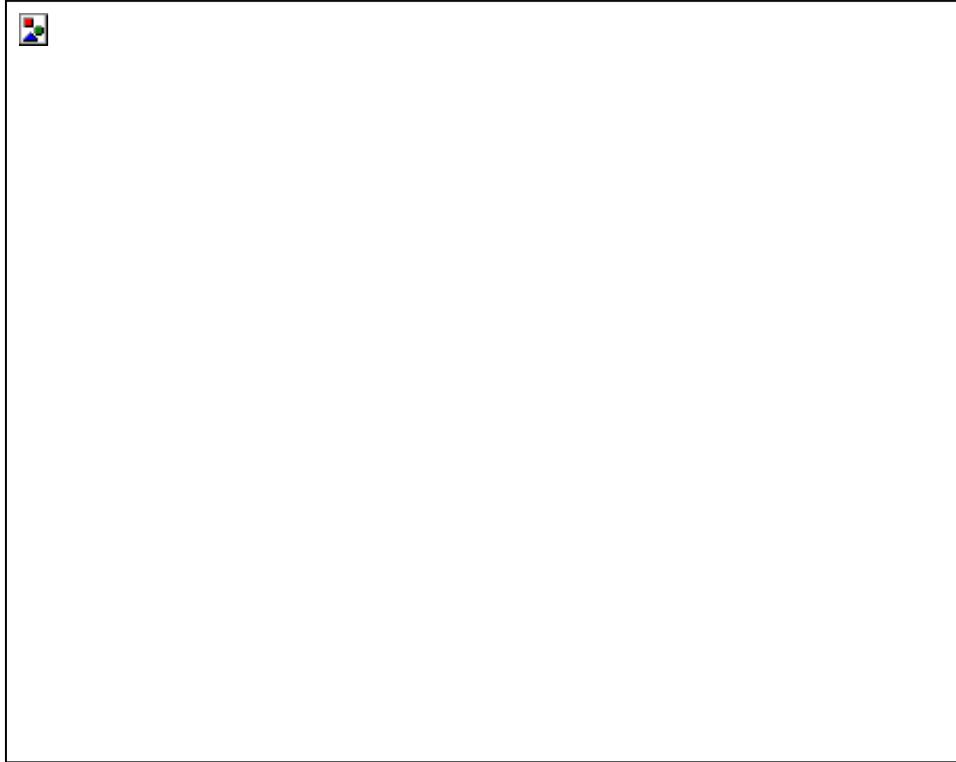


Figure 2b: Employment of Zoom participants of the ECVP/ESVP Summer School

ACCOMODATION

Due to the Covid pandemic this year's Summer School on-site attendees (n=28) arranged their own accommodation.

FEEDBACK

A survey was sent to all participants after the Summer School. Overall evaluation form was completed by 28 attendees.

7 participants aim to sit the ECVP exam in 2022, 13 in 2023, 10 in 2024 and 4 in 2025.

Participants received support from their employer either financially or by receiving time off to attend the Summer School (Figures 3a and b).

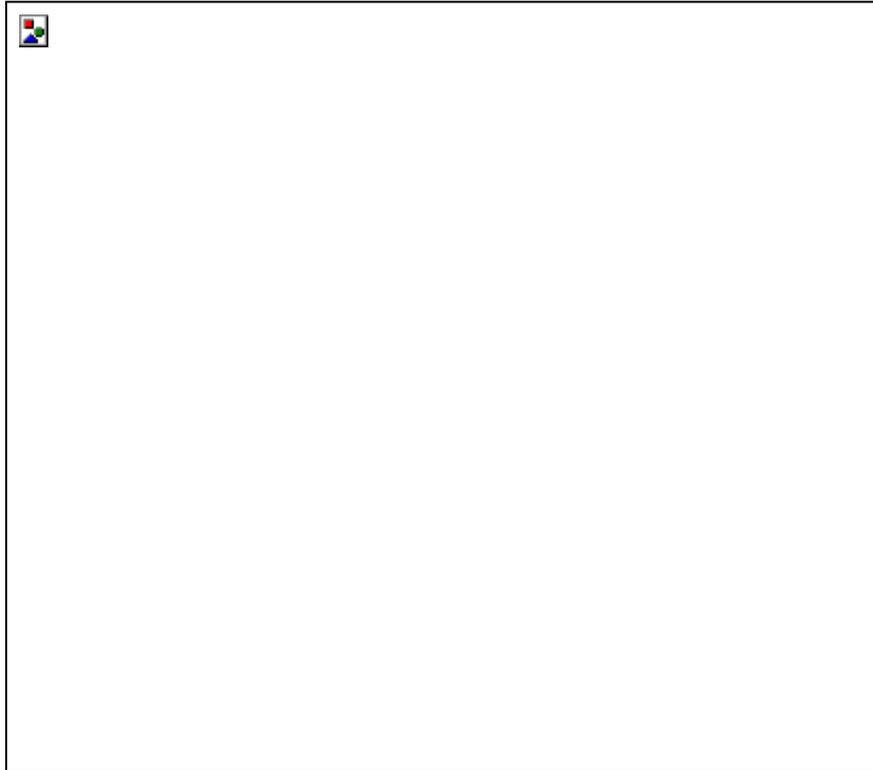


Figure 3a: Support by department/employer of the on-site participants in the Summer School 2021

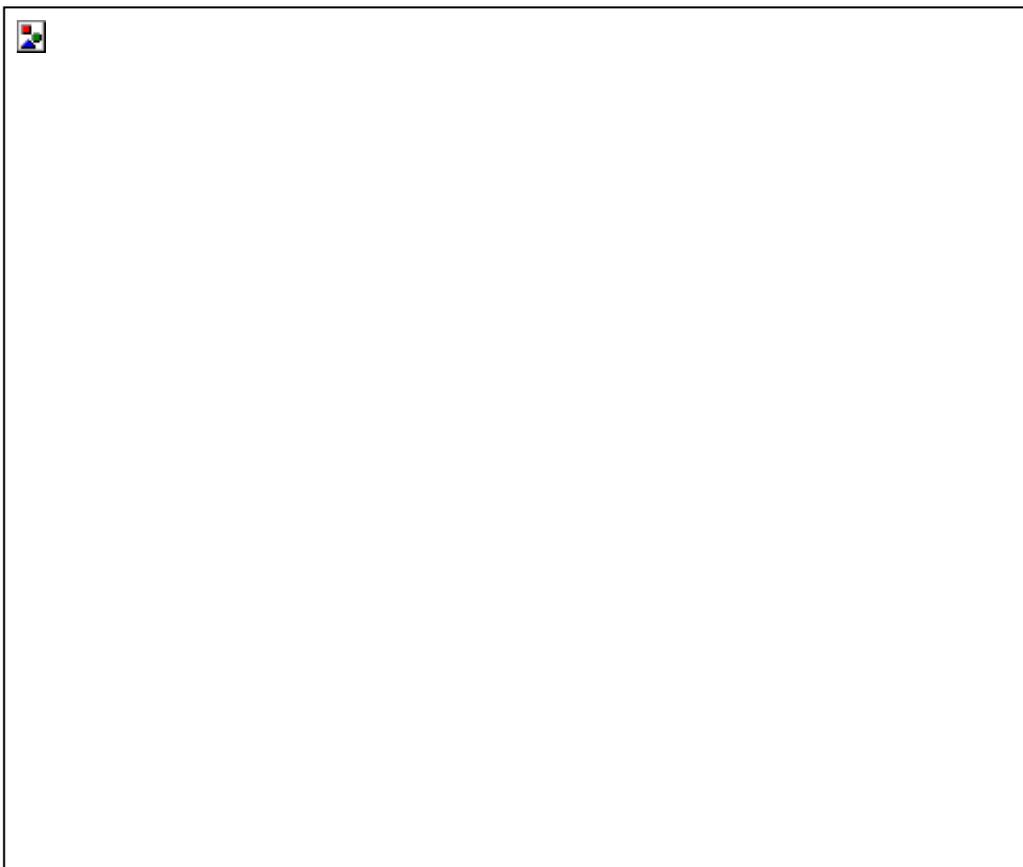


Figure 3b: Support by department/employer of the Zoom participants in the Summer School 2021

The overall evaluation of the Summer School 2021 by on-site and Zoom participants showed that the event was considered as good to excellent. The catering for on-site participants was also considered as good to excellent.

The team in Zagreb was considered extremely friendly and helpful. The Zoom participants were very grateful for the special effort to cope with the pandemic situation and the possibility attend online.

The digital access proved to be challenging for some but it worked well in the end.

Some participants were disappointed that there was no possibility to take the mock exam online. The mock exam requires a “real life” exam situation and was used to test the new exam software.

In comparison to on-site Summer Schools, flexibility for the lecturers and for the local organizers was restricted and a strict schedule was necessary in order to address everyone’s needs, eg. planning coffee breaks and time-keeping.

PROGRAMME

This Summer School covered the topics: Skin Pathology by Monika Welle (University of Bern, Switzerland) and Dominique Wiener (Texas A&M University, USA), Cytology by Paula Grest and Christiane Krudewig (University of Zürich, Switzerland), Female Reproductive Pathology by Rob Foster (University of Guelph, Canada), Avian Pathology by Natàlia Majó and Toni Ramis (University of Barcelona, Spain), Cancer Biology by Achim Gruber and Robert Klopffleisch (University of Berlin, Germany), Ultrastructural Pathology by Richard Ducatelle and Koen Chiers (University of Ghent, Belgium) and a mock exam by Andrea Gröne (Utrecht University, The Netherlands) and Luca Bacciarini (Bellinzona, Switzerland). The General Pathology Section of the mock exam was delivered in a digital format, using ExamSoft, and evaluated by Edouard Reyes-Gomez (National Veterinary School of Alfort, France).

Additional evening sessions were also included with a presentation about career opportunities in toxicologic pathology by Giovanni Pellegrini (on behalf of the ESTP) and an informal virtual get-together session.

Table 1: Programme of the Summer School 2021

Day	Topic	Lecturers
Sunday, 11.07.21	ARRIVAL OF PARTICIPANTS (for on-site attendants)	
Monday, 12.07.21 - all day Evening session	Skin Virtual get-together for networking	Monika Welle, Dominique Wiener (online) All participants (online)
Tuesday, 13.07.21 - all day	Skin	Monika Welle, Dominique Wiener (online)
Wednesday, 14.07.21 - all day	Cytology	Paula Grest, Christiane Krudewig (online)
Thursday, 15.07.21 AM	Cytology Female	Paula Grest, Christiane Krudewig (online) Robert Foster (online)

Day	Topic	Lecturers
PM*		
Friday, 16.07.21 11-12 AM - all day* 13:00	Presentation of ExamSoft Female	Alexandre Bidaut (online) Robert Foster (online)
Saturday, 17.07.21	- FREE -	
Sunday, 18.07.21 - all day	Avian	Natalia Majo, Antonio Ramis (online)
Monday, 19.07.21	Avian	Natalia Majo, Antonio Ramis (online)
Tuesday, 20.07.21 - all day**	Mock exam	Andrea Gröne and team (on-site only)
Wednesday, 21.07.21 AM** PM Evening session	Mock exam Background /theories of cancer biology Career opportunities in Toxicologic Pathology	Andrea Gröne and team (on-site only) Achim Gruber (online) Giovanni Pellegrini on behalf of the European Society of Toxicologic Pathology (online)
Thursday, 22.07.21 AM PM	Background /theories of cancer biology EM	Robert Klopfleisch (online) Koen Chiers, Richard Ducatelle (online)
Friday, 23.07.21 AM PM	EM Mock exam: discussion	Koen Chiers, Richard Ducatelle (online) Andrea Gröne and team (on-site only)

We are very grateful to all our speakers who put enormous efforts in presenting their topics and did their best to vary the theoretical parts with wake-up-calls, polls, short breaks for stretching, switching between power point slides and microscope camera, virtual histology slides, gross and histology quizzes.





As in previous years, reading Lists were provided for the different modules and forwarded to the participants for their preparation. In addition, handouts were provided to participants in an online format in advance to the Summer School. For several topics, glass slide sets were made available by the lecturers to the ECVP Office. These slides will be available to the participants, upon request, for their individual revision after the event. Slides are kept by the Education Committee and can be ordered by residents for their private study. In addition, digital slides have been provided and will be made available in our Histology Slide Database as online training material.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Education Committee wishes to thank all those involved with the successful running of the ECVP/ESVP Summer School in Veterinary Pathology 2021.

We are particularly grateful to:

- the local organizers for their flexibility and their great effort to have a hybrid Summer School,
- the Secretary of the ECVP Office Irimi Thanou and Bernadeta Kieromin, for their support and invaluable contribution

- the lecturers who put enormous effort in the preparation of the event and gave excellent lectures
- invaluable support by Franco Guscelli from the University of Zürich, Switzerland, in helping to provide access to digital slides all over the world
- and last, but not least, all the participants who were, as usual, a highly motivated and enthusiastic audience.

Thanks to all for the great effort to make this Summer School 2021 a success!

ECVP/ESVP Education Committee

Monika Hilbe (Chairperson of the Summer School)

Andrea Gudan (local organizer)

Gail Leeming (ESVP Secretary)

Annabelle Heier (ECVP Secretary)

Koen Chiers (ECVP Treasurer)