

Welcome to our new e-newsletter which will keep you up to date with EuroGentest activities. Midway through our 5-year project, the results of our various members' hard work are becoming increasingly evident in form of guidelines, recommendations, databases and other activities.

New website

The new EuroGentest website is being uploaded. As the project has evolved so has the website's audience. From being primarily member-orientated we are now reaching out to the wider genetics community and other stakeholders. The new homepage reflects this –



EuroGentest at ESHG



In line with our growing profile, EuroGentest will have its own booth at ESHG in Nice. We are also organizing a record number of workshops and seminars.

[Full program here](#)

EuroGentest
Harmonizing genetic
testing across Europe

The future

A consortium of NoEs including EuroGentest is contacting the EU commissioner to ask for a solution to the problems of achieving sustainability in the short time for which the NoEs are funded.

Lab quality database

Our new database listing all EQA scheme providers in Europe and Best Practice Guidelines for all disciplines is being released.

EuroGentest launches CAPABILITY

Part of EuroGentest's remit is to share expertise with countries outside the EU. This 3-year model project is being developed jointly by units 3 (Clinical Genetics, Community Genetics and Public Health) and 6 (Education) and leading experts from Argentina, Egypt and South Africa to help integrate genetic services in primary care and prevention in those countries. [Read more](#)

OECD Guidelines ready

In 2004, OECD Member countries agreed to develop guidelines setting out principles and best practices for quality assurance in molecular genetic testing for clinical purposes in consultation with experts and interested parties. This work led to the Recommendation on Quality Assurance in Molecular Genetic Testing adopted by the OECD Council on 10 May 2007. Many EuroGentest members were involved in this work and we now plan to have a series of roadshows to explain their implications, starting in Poland in September.

[Click here for the guidelines](#)

Draft guidelines on counselling

EuroGentest has collected and analyzed international and European non-national guidelines and policies related to genetic counselling, as well as some relevant national recommendations and other documents. Also, legislation related to genetic counselling in EU countries has been collected and two workshops of experts on genetic counselling have been organized. Following comments from European clinical geneticists and genetic counsellors, draft guidelines have now been issued.

[Read more](#)

Patient information leaflets

A series of 11 patient information leaflets on genetics and genetic testing have been compiled with the help of patients and families from across Europe. Freely available through genetic clinics, patient groups, they can be viewed [here](#)



CONCURRENT SYMPOSIA

Sunday, June 17, 2007

08.45 - 10.15 hrs The future of Genetic Counselling and of the genetic services Room Apollon
CHAIR: *J.-J. Cassiman – H. Kääriäinen*
The increasing impact of internet on genetic services
S. Aymé

Tuesday, June 19, 2007

8.45 - 10.15 hrs New metabolic disease Room Athéna
Glycosylation defects
G. Matthijs

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Tuesday, June 19, 2007

10.45 - 12.15 hrs Cytogenetics Room Thalie + Erato
External Quality Assessment (EQA) in Europe
B. Quellhorst-Pawley, R. T. Howell, K. Held, C. Ramos, M. Rodriguez de Alba, B. H. Faas, G. Florida, O. Bartsch, K. Simola, M. Doco-Fenzy, N. Dastugue, F. Sole, Z. Zemanova, R. Hastings

WORKSHOPS

Sunday, June 17, 2007

13.15 - 14.45 hrs **Community genetics** Room Méditerranée
M. Cornel, U. Kristoffersson, L. ten Kate
Quality control Room Hermès
E. Dequeker, M. Morris
Preimplantation genetic diagnosis Room Thalie + Erato
M. Macek Jr., A. Corveleyn

Monday, June 18, 2007

13.15 - 14.45 hrs **Genetics education** Room Hermès
D. Coviello, L. ten Kate
Non invasive prenatal diagnosis Room Apollon
M. Hulten, L. Chitty

SATELLITE MEETINGS

Sunday, June 17, 2007

10.15 to 12.30 hrs **"Innovative Techniques in Genome Diagnostics"** Room Cléo
N. Van der Stoep, B. Bakker

Monday, June 18, 2007

15.00 to 16.30 hrs **EuroGentest and CanGènetest** Room Eutherpe
Chair: *J.-J. Cassiman*
Closed meeting

ROUND TABLE SESSIONS

Sunday, June 17

Monday, June 18, 2007

12.00 to 13.00 hrs **Case studies on quality assurance and quality control issues in genetic testing laboratories** Room Gallieni 2
Chair: *E. Dequeker, M. Morris*
Closed meeting

POSTERS

Po08. Genomics, technology, bioinformatics

(P1129) Evaluation and introduction of new techniques in the genetic testing service
N. van der Stoep – Unit 5

(P1279) Multiplex Ligation-dependent Probe Amplification (MLPA) – an interlaboratory collaborative validation study
T. Janssens - Unit 5

(P1285) Measuring the quality of computer tools used in diagnostic genetic testing
A. Devereau - Unit 1

Po09. Genetic counselling, education, genetic services, and public policy

(P1305) EuroGentest Survey and Database of Quality Assurance in European genetic laboratories
N. Nagels – Unit 1

(P1345) Definitions of Genetic Testing vary widely among international institutions and professional and other organizations
J. Sequeiros – Unit 3

(P1347) Information on genetic testing in Europe: successes and difficulties
C. Gaudebout – Unit 2

(P1374) Provision and quality assurance of preimplantation genetic diagnosis in Europe
A. Corveleyn – Unit 1

(P1378) Synthetic quality controls for Cystic Fibrosis testing, are they useful for a diagnostic laboratory?
S. Berwouts – Unit 1

(P1379) Quality Management and accreditation of genetic testing services
R. J. Hastings - Unit 1

(P1380) Improving the quality system in our laboratories by sharing experiences
E. Dequeker – Unit 1

(P1383) EuroGentest: Reference Systems for Genetic Testing
D. Barton - Unit 1

C13. Cytogenetics

(C78) External Quality Assessment (EQA) in Europe
B. Quellhorst-Pawley – Unit 1

C14. Genetic counselling and public understanding of genetics

(C79) Regulations and practices of genetic counselling in 38 European countries
E. Rantanen - Unit 3