

NEWSLETTER No. 10, April, 2016

Dear readers,

In this newsletter you can read about:

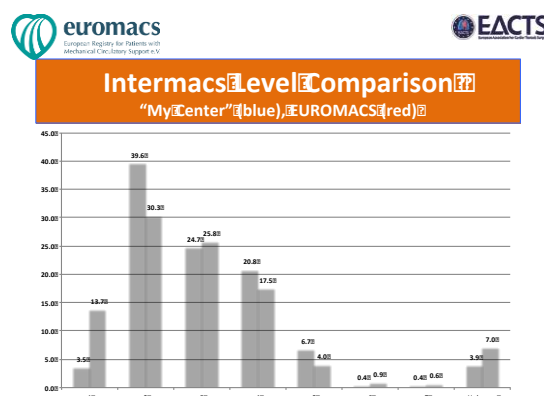
- Data availability for participating hospitals
- Upcoming MCS symposia and courses
- Members meeting, election
- Incorporation of International Microbiology ID variables
- EUROMACS dashboard extension

1. Statistics and data availability for EUROMACS members

Since the objective of EUROMACS is the promotion of science and research, its data should be made available to improve care for patients with MCS systems. From the start of the registry, individual centers can download the data from their own patients into an Excel worksheet with which they can run statistical analyses. Studies for which the anonymous data of the entire registry are requested, can be obtained by sending such a request, with a description of the study, to EUROMACS. The board will grant such requests and provide data for any adequate scientific study proposal, and will offer an agreement in which the purpose of the study and the conditions under which the anonymized data will be provided are laid down.

With nearly 2,500 registered MCS implantations, and almost 10,000 follow-up records, EUROMACS is able to provide substantial numbers, on which analyses can be executed.

Such data enable EUROMACS to offer comparative data and statistics to its participants. These statistics consist of comparisons between data of the individual participating center and the data of the entire registry.



Example comparison of Intermacs levels

Base line data with respect to patient morbidity, as well as outcomes such as occurrence of adverse events and survival curves are provided.

More possibilities will be offered later this spring. In § 5 the readers are informed about the upcoming dashboard extension.

EUROMACS General members meeting Washington DC, 27 April 2016

The next meeting of the committee, the board, and members will be on 27 April 2016 during the ISHLT Meeting in Washington D.C. The meeting will take place in the Marriot Hotel from 6-7 pm. EUROMACS members have received an agenda.



2. ETS Symposium, 24-25 June Bern, Switzerland

Organizing Committee: Paul Mohacsi, Bern;
Jan Gummert, Bad Oeynhausen; Thierry Carrel, Bern

The European Training Symposium (ETS) is a bi-annual symposium for junior heart failure cardiologists and junior cardiac surgeons on end-stage heart failure and on heart replacement therapies.

In the absence of a dedicated and officially accepted training program, the symposium aims to offer a training program in which cardiology aspects as well as cardiac surgical issues will be elaborated. Since the management of MCS patients belongs to both specialties, speakers at the ETS Symposium will focus on treatment of end-stage heart failure patients and management of the devices.



2nd EACTS VAD Coordinators' Course: Deutsches Herzzentrum Berlin, 16-18 June 2016

Following the success of the first multi-disciplinary VAD Coordinators' Hands-on Training Course, it has been decided to organize a 2nd course under the auspices of the EACTS.

Course information is available now at
<http://www.eacts.org/academy/courses/vad/>

3. 11th EUMS, European Mechanical Support Summit

3-5 November 2016

Berlin, Germany

Organizing Committee: Volkmar Falk, Berlin;
Pascal Leprince, Paris; Jan Gummert, Bad Oeynhausen



The treatment of end-stage heart failure by mechanical circulatory support systems was initiated in Berlin in 1987 by Prof. Roland Hetzer. Since then researchers and clinicians of the German Heart Center Berlin (DHZB) have continuously pioneered the advancement of mechanical circulatory support (MCS) devices and the DHZB has evolved into one of the leading institutions in this field. This experience has been presented and discussed at the bi-annual-international MCS Symposia in Berlin since 1995. In 2014 the Berlin team joined the European Mechanical Circulatory Support Summit (EUMS), which has run in parallel and was organized by the teams from Bad Oeynhausen and Paris. In November 2016 the EUMS meeting will, for the first time, be held in Berlin. The joint efforts of three of the most experienced teams in Europe – the Heart and Diabetes Centre in Bad Oeynhausen, the University Hospital La Pitié-Salpêtrière and the DHZB make the coming EUMS Congress one of the most exciting events in the field of mechanical circulatory support worldwide. For the first time EUMS will also be held under the auspices of the European Association of Cardiothoracic Surgery (EACTS) and be part



of the EACTS Academy program. The Berlin EUMS congress will reflect the growing role of cardiologists in the MCS field, including the increasing use of short-term support. Current heart failure guidelines will be discussed in the light of the indications and timing of VAD therapy. Traditionally, EUMS presents new surgical techniques and these will be explained by leading experts using video presentations. Current problems of long-term MCS and possible solutions, challenges in pediatric MCS and news in the area of myocardial recovery will also be discussed. The organizers are also delighted to announce the honorary lecture to be given by the famous cardiologist Eugene Braunwald.

4. French centers (FRANCEMACS) to join EUROMACS.

In Newsletter No 9, we announced that French centers were enthusiastic to join Euromacs. In order to safeguard the integrity of data, and to make it available to members of the SFCTCV (French Society for Cardio-Thoracic and Vascular Surgery) in addition to the EUROMACS registry, a concise plan was agreed. The plan foresees a period of informing the French participants as well as the preparation of the software whereby the French centers will gain access to EUROMACS. The agreement will enable the SFCTCV to provide data to the French health authorities to fulfill their legal obligations. The name of the French national registry, connected to EUROMACS, will be FRANCEMACS. FRANCEMACS will offer the same features as EUROMACS: Secure on-line registration possibilities, direct access to a dashboard, providing statistics, immediate download of data and the right

to propose scientific studies using the data from the entire FRANCEMACS or EUROMACS registries.

In order to support the implementation and facilitate good co-ordination between the two registries, the SFCTCV and EUROMACS has agreed to propose Prof. André Vincentelli as a candidate for election to the EUROMACS extended board. André Vincentelli is the executive secretary of the SFCTCV board. He is the Director of the Heart Transplant and



Prof. André Vincentinelli

Mechanical Circulatory Support Program and Head of the Cardio-vascular Surgical and Interventional Cardiology technical platform of the Centre Hospitalier Régionale Universitaire in Lille, France. The EUROMACS members will be asked to elect André Vincentelli in the members' meeting of 27 April in Washington.



5. EUROMACS to incorporate International Microbiology ID variables

From: Margaret Hannan,



Dr. Margaret Hannan

- Infection remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality in patients with mechanical circulatory support. The IMACS database, with which EUROMACS registry is connected, contains a unique set of infectious disease variables that categorise these infections as they occur for the duration of the MCS device implant. The aim of this dataset is to categorise the risk factors for infection pre-implant, peri-implant and post-implant in this population. The dataset captures antibiotic prophylaxis used during surgery and all infection that occurs post implant including surgical site infection. The ISHLT definitions published in the JHLT in 2011 are used to define infection and are divided in VAD specific, VAD related and non VAD related.

- The aim of this project is to standardize the diagnosis and recording of

infection in MCS and so allow meaningful interpretation of data collected across multinational centers. VAD-specific infections include infections that are specific to patients with VADs, are related to the device hardware and do not occur in non VAD patients; e.g. pump and cannula infections, pocket infections and percutaneous driveline infection. VAD-related infections refer to those that can also occur in patients who do not have VADs, however in patients with VADs there may be unique considerations with respect to making the correct diagnosis or determining the cause-effect relationship e.g. mediastinitis and infective endocarditis. Non VAD infections are essentially not affected by the presence of the VAD, are unlikely related to the VAD presence but are included to encourage comprehensive and comparable data recording of all infections in this patient population to facilitate multi center review.

- EUROMACS is on track to incorporate this same set of infectious disease variables in June 2016. This will allow meaningful comparison between Asian, European and US infection data and international collaboration in infection disease reporting with a view to understanding the best strategy for prevention of infection in these patients long-term.

Dr. Margaret Hannan is
 Consultant Clinical Microbiologist at
 Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
 Dublin, Ireland.



6. Dashboard expansion

Since the number of registered MCS implantations is growing, and the follow-up data of participating centers increases accordingly, more information and statistics can be generated. Those who have a username and password for the EUROMACS database presently have access to a dashboard. This dashboard gives a real time overview of the development of the enrolment of cases in the registry. It also provides simple graphics of the Intermacs levels of the patients in the database, and the distribution of LVADs, RVA LVADs, RVADs, BiVADs and TAHs. In order to improve the service to the participating hospitals, new functionalities are being

developed, so that each hospital can benchmark itself with the anonymous data of all other implantation centers that provide data to EUROMACS.

When available, later this spring, EUROMACS participants will be able to create statistics with ALL their base line as well as follow-up data. This will open up a large variety of possibilities to analyse such data and to create longitudinal outcomes graphs. The new dashboard functionalities are now in a test phase. Once the testing period has been successfully finalized, the members will be informed.

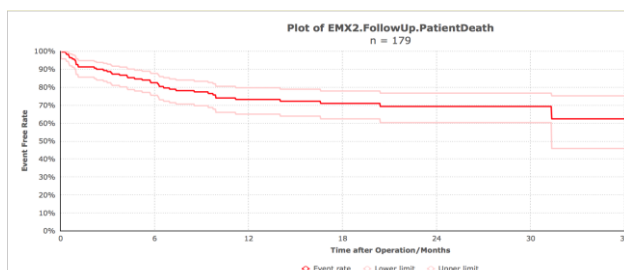


Figure: Example survival curve, created for one of the EUROMACS participating centers

7. Board/committee Composition as of 1 January 2016.

As of 1 January 2016 the board of EUROMACS, functioning as a Committee of the EACTS, consists of the following persons:

Executive Board Members: Jan Gummert (Chairman), Paul Mohacsi (Vice-Chairman), Ivan Netuka (Treasurer), Luigi Martinelli and Bart Meyns.

In addition, Kadir Caliskan, Evaristo Castedo, Finn Gustafsson, Pascal Leprince and Thomas Krabatsch are extended board members.

Prof. Dr. Roland Hetzer is honorary chairman of the association.

Theo de By is Managing Director



Forthcoming events

ISHLT - International Society for Heart & Lung Transplantation

36th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions.

15-18 April 2016

Washington DC, USA

Further information: www.isHLT.org/meetings/annualMeeting.asp



3rd European Training Symposium (ETS)

For Junior Heart Failure Cardiologists and Cardiac Surgeons: End Stage Heart Failure & Heart Replacement Therapies

24-25 June 2016

University Hospital Bern, Switzerland

Registration Deadline: 13 June 2016

Further information:

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2nd Ventricular Assist Device Co-ordinators Training Course

16-18 June 2016

Deutsches Herzzentrum Berlin, Germany

Further information: www.eacts.org/academy/courses/vad/ or email Theo.Deby@Eacts.co.uk

24th Conference of the International Society for Rotary Blood Pumps (ISRBP)

Hotel Lake View Mito, Japan

20-22 September 2016



30th EACTS Annual Meeting

1-5 October 2016

Barcelona, Spain,

Further information: www.eacts.org/annual-meeting.aspx

30th EACTS
Annual Meeting
Barcelona, Spain
1 - 5 October 2016



Abstract deadline 30 April 2016

Raising Standards through Education and Training

11th EUMS, European Mechanical Support Summit

3-5 November 2016

Berlin, Germany

Further information: <http://www.eacts.org/academy/2016-programme/>

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