

REPORT OF THE PAEDIATRIC CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY SECTION 2011-2012

15.4.2012

The Executive Committee of the Paediatric Section for the term 2010-2014: *Kalle Hoppu* (Finland, chairman), *Gregory L. Kearns* (USA, Vice-Chairman/chairman-elect), *Facundo Garcia-Bournissen* (Argentina/Canada, Secretary), *Madlen Gazarian* (Australia, treasurer), *Gabriel Anabwani* (Botswana), *Saskia N. de Wildt* (the Netherlands), *Hidefumi Nakamura* (Japan), and *Shalini Sri Ranganathan* (Sri Lanka).

The Executive Committee held an informal lunch meeting on 16 June 2011 during the ESDP Congress in Oslo, Norway with 6/8 of the members present. In addition the Committee has communicated actively via e-mails around the activities listed below.

1) GRIP - Global Research in Paediatrics

During the reporting period the IUPHAR Paediatric Section has with the very important support of the IUPHAR Officers succeeded in securing a Third Party status in relation to the Global Research in Paediatrics (GRIP) International consortium¹. GRIP is funded by the EU 7th Framework program from 1.1.2011 for 5 years with a 10 Million Euro Network of Excellence grant. The Third Party agreement makes available for IUPHAR 140 000 Euro (of which 40 000 Euro is for IUPHAR Member Society ESDP) for provision of work to support the aims of GRIP, particularly those of Work Package 1 (WP 1) to develop a joint paediatric clinical pharmacology international training program. IUPHAR Secretary-General Sam Enna and President Patrick du Souich signed the Third Party contract in June 2011 on behalf of IUPHAR.

The involvement of IUPHAR in GRIP activities up till April 2011:

- *Facundo Garcia-Bournissen* (Argentina, Secretary of the Paediatric Section) has participated as the representative of IUPHAR Paediatric Section in the Ad-hoc group, which has the task to develop an international “GRIP curriculum for the Fellowship program in Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology”. The curriculum will be available by the end of June 2012.
- GRIP has provided support for the IUPHAR Latin American Pediatric Clinical Pharmacology Workshop (see below).

2) Other activities

- The first IUPHAR Latin American Pediatric Clinical Pharmacology Workshop was organized by F Garcia-Bournissen in Buenos Aires, Argentina on 28 October 2011. Funding from IUPHAR Clinical Division supported the Workshop. A report on the workshop will be published in June 2012 issue of *Pharmacology International*.
- The IUPHAR Paediatric Section Executive Committee member have together written a review article on the current status of the paediatric initiatives that was published in January 2012. (Hoppu K, Anabwani G, Garcia-Bournissen F, Gazarian M, Kearns GL, Nakamura H, et al. The status of paediatric medicines initiatives around the world - what has happened and what has not? *Eur J Clin Pharmacol*. 2012 Jan.;68(1):1–10).
- The IUPHAR Paediatric Section submitted a proposal for a Focused conference on Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology to the organisers of 17th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2014) in February 2012.

¹ IUPHAR Paediatric Section Executive Board members K. Hoppu and H. Nakamura are GRIP Consortium Members, K. Hoppu is GRIP WP1 Leader and a member of GRIP Executive Board, and G. Kearns is a member of GRIP Educational Board.

3) WHO related activities during the reporting period:

- K Hoppu and G Kearns were invited as members to the 18th WHO Expert Committee On The Selection And Use Of Essential Medicines which held its meeting in Accra, Ghana, 21-25 March 2011.
- K Hoppu participated in the IUPHAR-WHO Liaison Group Meeting organized by Folke Sjöqvist in Stockholm 27-29 May 2011.
- K. Hoppu was invited as a member to the peer-review group for the WHO Guidelines On Management Of Cryptococcal Infections in October 2011 to review the paediatric clinical pharmacological aspects of the Guideline.
- 3rd WHO Partners Meeting on Better Medicines for Children (K. Hoppu representing IUPHAR), 21-22 November 2011 Geneva, Switzerland.
- F Garcia-Bournissen participated as pediatric clinical pharmacologist the DNDi (Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative) Partners' Meeting in Rio in December 2011) to discuss availability of pediatric drugs for Chagas disease, and future clinical trials.

Planned activities of IUPHAR Paediatric Section for 2012-2013:

It is expected that the main focus of the Paediatric Section will be in supporting GRIP work to develop a joint paediatric clinical pharmacology international training program. It is planned that this will include joint work with WHO (a GRIP Partner), and ESDP. IUPHAR Paediatric Section will continue to make available experts in paediatric clinical pharmacology to WHO as requested.

Kalle Hoppu
Chairman of the Section of Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology