ESCMID Postgraduate Education Course

Update on Invasive Fungal Infections

Nijmegen
The Netherlands
5 – 7 November 2008

Contacts

Course Coordinators
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Course Secretariat
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Accommodation
Single rooms will be available at the course venue.

Target Audience
Medical doctors, scientists or clinical microbiologists or pharmacists, involved in diagnosis, prophylaxis and treatment of IFI. Junior staff members are strongly encouraged to apply.

Course Faculty
• J. Peter Donnelly, Nijmegen, NL
• Paul E. Verweij, Nijmegen, NL
• Ben E. de Pauw, Nijmegen, NL
• Cornelia Lass-Floerl, Innsbruck, AT
• Johan Maertens, Leuven, BE
• Juan Luis Rodriguez-Tudela, Majadahonda, ES
• Technicians: Ton Rijs and Hein van der Lee, Nijmegen, NL

Image of Aspergillus hyphae from bronchoalveolar lavage fluid of a patient with invasive aspergillosis. Courtesy of Paul Verweij, Nijmegen, NL.
Update on Invasive Fungal Infections:
Epidemiology, Therapy, Diagnosis and Antifungal Susceptibility Testing

Organizers
ESCMID, EFISG (ESCMID Fungal Infection Study Group), AFST-EUCAST (Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee of the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing), and the Department of Medical Microbiology, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Center, the Netherlands.

Course Objectives
- Review of the present status of several diagnostic and clinical aspects of invasive fungal infections (IFI)
- Awareness of recent trends in epidemiology of opportunistic fungi
- Knowledge of traditional and new methods for diagnosis of IFI
- appreciation of appropriate methods for in vitro susceptibility testing
- Understanding of the interpretation of MICs and determination of breakpoints
- Knowledge of strategies for management of IFI in high risk groups
- Application of above mentioned topics and skills through interactive case presentations

Scientific Programme

Wednesday, 5 November 2008, 14:00 – 17:00
Epidemiology of IFI and emerging threats. J.P. Donnelly
14:00 Introduction
15:00 Literature study of epidemiology of IFI and preparation of report

Thursday, 6 November 2008, 08:00 – 18:00
08:00 Presentations and discussion of epidemiology. J.P. Donnelly

Diagnosis of IFI: conventional and new tools. P.E. Verweij
09:00 Introduction
10:00 Hands-on experience with diagnostic tests: microscopy, culture, biological markers and PCR: working in small groups
12:00 Interactive summary: when to use which assays.

Susceptibility testing, resistance determination and setting up breakpoints. J.L. Rodriguez-Tudela
14:00 Introduction
15:00 Hands-on experience of reference and commercial methods for in vitro susceptibility testing of yeasts and moulds: working in small groups
17:00 Interactive summary

Friday, 7 November 2008, 08:00 – 17:00
08:00 Interactive quiz: identification of fungi

Prevention and treatment of IFI. B.E. de Pauw
09:00 Learning from a master

Integration and interpretation of diagnostic information. J. Moertens
14:00 Interactive case presentations with expert panel B.E. de Pauw, C. Lass-Floerl, J.L. Rodriguez-Tudela, P.E. Verweij, and J.P. Donnelly

Parts of the programme will involve working in small groups of 3 to 4 persons. Access to the internet will be available for literature research.

Organization

Course Venue
Sudiecentrum Soeterbeeck, Elleboogstraat 2, 5371 LL Ravenstein, the Netherlands.
www.ru.nl/soeterbeeck

Registration
All applicants should send the registration form by 1 September 2008 by email to the Course Secretariat with the following enclosures:
- Short application letter explaining your reason for attending the course.
- ESCMID number if applicant is a member of the Society.

Tuition Fee
EUR 500. It includes accommodation [two nights], meals, social programme, venue expenses but not travel.

ESCMID Attendance Grants
ESCMID provides a number of attendance grants for young attendees [born in 1968 or later] covering the registration fee, but not travel costs. Applicants should send the registration form, a short CV with a cover letter indicating their motivation for attending the event and their ESCMID membership number [if applicable] before 1 September 2008 to the administrative secretariat. If there are more applicants than available grants, preference will be given to ESCMID members.

Confirmation
Applicants will be informed about the outcome of their application (included attendance grants) by email by 15 September 2008. Registered participants will be required to remit the tuition fee by bank transfer by 30 September 2008. Detailed information will be given in the confirmation letter. Registration will be considered complete only upon receipt of the tuition fee.