ESICM INF Section meeting  
ESICM office, Ruse Belliard 19,  
Brussels 20/3/19

Attendees: Pedro Povoa (Chair), Andrew Conway Morris (Deputy Chair), Stijn Blot, Adem Mikstacki, Jakub Smeiechowiz, Babara Tamowioz, Jean-Francois Timsit

Apologies: Jan De Waele, Saad Nseir, Jeroen Shouten, Alexis Tabah, Hendrik Bracht, Despoina Kolenti

2019 LIVES Berlin
Dr Povoa updated the section on the plan for 2019 LIVES meeting in Berlin. This will be, for financial and venue reasons, smaller than 2018 meeting (faculty <250-270). Have been challenged to increase diversity (aim 30-40% women this year) and encourage more young presenters. There will be more joint section sessions (e.g. INF and SIS) and themes of big data/AI. The congress committee are also keen to explore alternative session formats beyond didactic lectures.
INF will have 2 thematic sessions and 1 clinical challenge, and joint section sessions.

Thematic Sessions will be on:  
- management of Gram negative infections  
- management of severe CAP

Clinical challenge – who should manage de-escalation of antibiotics, (pro-con) and how to safely deescalate antibiotics

2 debates on antibiotic stewardship and de-escalation and a TS on Emerging infections in Europe

Joint sessions with Data, SIS, and ARF-AKI sections.

Masterclasses
Masterclasses to move mostly to ESICM office rather than be attached to the congress. INF section masterclasses are changing, a joint INF-SIS masterclass on sepsis and severe infection will replace our previous INF masterclass on pneumonia and septic shock management (by adapting existing program we will retain the 11 CME points from EACCME).

The Antibiotic PK/PD course is intended to evolve into a masterclass on Antibiotic Stewardship, including sessions on PK/PD. This masterclass will be developed with input from Melania Istrate, the ESICM’s educationalist.
Survey endorsements
Surveys endorsed by INF section -5 in past 6 months
Management of infection in ICU -Ashraf Rosdy (UK)
Management of respiratory viral infections in ICU -Guillaume Voiriot and Quentin Philpott (FR)
Survey of ICU structure across multiple countries -Armand Mekontso Dessap (FR)
IPAFLU survey of aspergillus after influenza -Joost Wauters, Michelle Holtapples (BE) and Frank Van de Veerdonk and Paul Verweij (NL)
A-TEAM survey of antibiotic stewardship in ICU _Hendrik Bracht (DE)

Ongoing studies
DIANA (antibiotic de-escalation) - Jan de Waele (BE), data collection complete and aim to present data in Berlin 2019
EURECA (encephalitis)-update from JF Timsit (FR) -enrolment of 400 cases, dominated (80%) by French units. Aim to prolong study to June 2019, aim to bring more countries on-board (Brazil, Portugal), further countries are sought and if further countries come on board study may be possible to prolong further.
BLING 3 (continuous vs intermitted beta-lactams) – Jeff Lippman (AUS) – study ongoing, due to complete in 2022

Forthcoming studies
EUROBACT II – update from JF Timsit (FR) – 50 countries identified, with 200 centres recruited so far. Aim to start June 2019, but for countries with slower approval later start is possible. Proposals for suggested analyses are invited, database will be open.
AURORA – Jan de Waele (BE) annual survey of antibiotic resistant organisms, intended recruitment starting late 2019.

Courses
New format and teaching approaches in 2018 supported by ESICM, awarded CME accreditation.
This year will see combined SIS and INF section on septic shock and severe pneumonia (combining two previously separate courses), will run in May 2019.
The previous successful antibiotic PK/PD course will evolve into a masterclass on antibiotic stewardship (including PK/PD) – course requires completion but target for LIVES 2019.

SRG
Two proposals went to SRG – 1 on source control and 1 on aerosolised antibiotics in severe pneumonia. We await results of these applications.

Research Committee update - Andy Conway Morris provided an update
1) Awards close for preliminary application on 25/3/19 – they will be reviewed by RC before inviting full applications from proposals which are judged to be scientifically valid and feasible.

2) RC continues to look for reviewers, reviewers should have publication track-record and/or funding/grant receipt track record.

3) Trials group awards are not being made this year. Proposal is to shift funding to trials support, expanding the ESICM office to include a statistician and trial support staff – aim to pump-prime for larger grants rather than directly fund projects by ESICM, leveraging the ESICM network of units.

4) RC will form sub-groups/business units covering awards, surveys, education and patient/family involvement.

5) RC meeting will be held 21/3/19

Guidelines:
Antibiotic de-escalation (Joint ESICM and ESCMID lead by Alexis Tabah (Aus) and Jose Garnacho-Montero (Spain) is nearing publication.

In preparation are:
Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (joint ESICM, ESCMID, IATDMCT and IAT led by Jason Roberts)
Pneumonia (Despoina Koulenti)
MDR infections (with ESCMID)
Severe CAP (with ERS)

WG on Antibiotics – (Chair: Hendrik Bracht)
Work on Antibiotic Stewardship masterclass.
Major work on A-TEAM study, which is ongoing

WG on Pneumonia – (Chair: Despoina Koulenti)
Pneumoinspire study – 1500 patients recruited, aim to end recruitment in June 2019

ALL-ICU study of lung antibiotic levels (joint project with WG on antibiotics) - funding secured for sample analysis as part of an NHMRC (AUS) grant.

HAP² Study (lead by Antoine Roquilly (FR)) – past first stage H2020 application, awaiting results of second stage application. If successful projected start date January 2020.

Project proposals are invited- please email deskogr@yahoo.gr


Online survey of VAP management – in planning stages
Contribution to Journal Club - further contributions are invited

Collaboration with external bodies – ECDC (Alaine Lepape)
HAI-net (EU funded survey of Hospital acquired infection)
Survey of influenza-aspergillus secondary infection.

Education – (Saad Nesir (FR)
Webinars - finetuning antibiotics - delivered October 2018
2 eLearning modules are completed (Pyrexia, Infection control) and third under revision (antibiotics)

AOB
Stijn Blot (BE) updated us on ABSES study. Initial data presented at LIVES 2018, 2600 patients went into analysis after cleaning – initial publications in drafting stages. Key message: novel classification system by site, source of acquisition, anatomical disruption and severity of illness strongly associates with outcomes.

Next meeting: ESICM LIVES meeting Berlin 2019.