



The Intensive Connection

Minutes of INF section meeting, Zoom call Tuesday 8th December (During eLIVES 2020)

Chair: Pedro Pova (PP)

Deputy Chair: Andrew Conway Morris (ACM)

PP welcomed the participants and remarked on the extraordinary year 2020 had been, with COVID-19 providing a massive workload for intensive care professionals, and which had severely impacted on continuing professional development activities. The cancellation of the ISICEM meeting in March had led to the cancellation of the last INF section meeting. An update on the INF section was due to be circulated in August 2020 but did not appear to have been, PP apologised for this and explained that the contents would be covered in this meeting.

2019 LIVES report

PP updated the section on the 2019 LIVES sessions that had been held in Berlin in October 2019. The aims of the congress committee, including increase in faculty diversity and inclusion of younger faculty were reviewed.

The INF section contributed 5 section sessions, and 8 sessions jointly with other sections. A master class on infection and sepsis was delivered by INF and SIS section members. INF section participation and feedback were good with several sessions in the top 20 attended sessions and good number of submitted abstracts.

2020 Lives

PP outlined the challenges that 2020 had provoked in arranging the LIVES congress with several changes in plans culminating in an on-line only congress. Again INF section participation had good, with 7 section sessions and 7 joint sessions with other sections. Feedback on session participation will be available at our next meeting.

ESICM Lives forum

The planned INF/SIS Septic Shock:from bugs to organ failure meeting being run by Ignacio Martin-Loeches in Dublin has been postponed to 2021

Section endorsed surveys and research projects

PP reviewed the surveys endorsed by the section

Current Practice of infectious disease management in the ICU – International survey (PRACT-INF-ICU) -led by Ashraf Roshdy (UK), 470 complete responses received, analysis is ongoing and will be complete soon.

Respiratory virus-associated severe lower respiratory tract infections in critically ill adult patients: a survey of knowledge and practice patterns among European intensivists led by Guillaume Voiriot (France) Quentin Philippot (France) . The findings from this survey were published in 2020, *Ann Intensive Care* 2020 Apr 28;10(1):50



The Intensive Connection

International survey of the structure and organisation of Intensive Care Units (Isorea)

led by Armand Mekontso Dessap (France). Data has been collected and is under analysis.

IPAFLU survey: Invasive Aspergillosis among Patients with Severe Influenza in Intensive

Care Units led by Joost Wauters and Michelle Holtappels (Belgium) Frank Van de Veerdonk and Paul Verweij (Netherlands). The findings from this survey were published in 2020, *Crit Care*. 2020 Mar 11;24(1):84

A-TEAM-ICU study group, led by Hendrik Bracht and Christian Lanckohr (Germany) with

collaborators Jeroen Schouten, D.W. de Lange, Menno Prins (Netherlands), Jan de Waele (Belgium). Data collection has been completed, analysis is close to completion with intention to submit for publication in Q1 2021.

Personal Protective Equipment and healthcare worker Safety in the COVID-19 Era (The

PPE-SAFE survey) led by Alexis Tabah (Australia). Published in 2020 - *Journal of Critical Care* 59 (2020) 70–75

COVIDHGE: COVID Human Genetic Effort led by Jean-Laurent Casanova, and Laurent Abel

(France). Ongoing recruitment

The EUROPEAN SOCIETY OF INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE COVID-19 Project (UNITE-COVID)

led by Jan de Waele (Belgium). Data collection complete, analysis ongoing

Determinants of Antimicrobial use and de-escalation in critical care (DIANA). Led by Jan

de Waele and Lisbet de Bus (Belgium). Published in 2020 – *Intensive Care Med* 2020;46(7):1404-1417

EUROpean study on Encephalitis in intensive Care (EURECA). Led by R Sonnevile and JF

Timsit (France). Recruitment is over 500 with a target of over 650, recruitment stopped in France to prevent over-representation, further year of recruitment in other participating nations.

BLING3 A phase III randomised controlled trial of continuous beta-lactam infusion

compared with intermittent beta-lactam dosing in critically ill patients, Led by Jeff Lipman (Australia) and Jan de Waele (Belgium). Ongoing recruitment with over 3000 patients in Europe, planned to continue recruitment until 2022.

Eurobact 2 Epidemiology and determinants of outcomes of Hospital Acquired Blood

Stream Infections in the Intensive Care. Led by JF Timsit (France) and Alexis Tabah (Australia). Over 2200 patients from 282 centres in 46 countries included to date, study due to complete in early 2021.

AURORA project: Annual Survey of Antimicrobial Resistance in intensive care. Led by Jan

de Waele (Ghent) Mateo Bassetti and Gennaro de Pascale (Italy)



The Intensive Connection

This study remains in the planning stages and is currently on hold.

Courses

The Masterclass in sepsis and severe infections was delivered at the 2019 Lives meeting Berlin and January 2020 at the Brussels office. From 2021 a new eMasterclass will be delivered.

Research Committee

ACM updated on RC activity, COVID-19 has had a significant impact on RC activity however the grants program continued with reduced submissions compared to previous years (134 preliminary applications, 67 full applications, awards to be announced at eLIVES 2020).

The research skills course was placed on hold due to COVID, development will restart in early 2021.

Jan De Waele, chair of RC, is keen to support applications for EU funding for projects occurring across European countries. Please let him know if such applications are planned to allow the ESICM to support them.

Guideline development

Antibiotic de-escalation (led by Alexis Tabah (Australia) and Jose Garnacho-Montero (Spain), with ESICM, ESCMID and ESGCIP endorsement) -published in 2020 *Intensive Care Med.* 2020 Feb;46(2):245-265

Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (led by Jason Roberts (Australia), endorsement of ESICM, ESCMID, IATDMCT, ISC). Published in 2020 *Intensive Care Med.* 2020 Jun;46(6):1127-1153

Working group on antibiotics

Hendrick Bracht, WG chair, updated the section. A-Team-ICU has been completed as noted in surveys and research section above. Plans are being made for a TDM masterclass in the new eMC format favoured by ESICM.

Working group on pneumonia

Despoina Koulenti, former chair, updated the section. Chair Maria Deja Pneumo-inspire study of nosocomial pneumonia in ICU continues, with over 1600 patients included. Antibiotic levels in lungs (ALL-ICU) study, funding has been secured for aim 2, which should start in 2020, aim 1 is underway. Hap² study, of host-targeted approaches to preventing pneumonia is due to start in 2020, having been funded as part of the EU Horizon 2020 program. Severe CAP project, ongoing. Non-pharmacological VAP prevention guidelines, ongoing project. Online survey on VAP management, ongoing project. Contributions to the journal club are invited, as are suggestions for further projects.

Education

Academy section editor, Saad Nseir.



The Intensive Connection

ACE courses include antimicrobials (completed) and pyrexia and infection prevention and control (development continues). The Master class is noted above. C-19 Space, an online education package for COVID-19 has had involvement from several INF members.

LIVES 2021 -Copenhagen. PP invited proposals for sessions in 2021

AOB

Fredrik Sjøvall (Sweden) reported results from a survey of antimicrobial use in ICUs across Sweden showing wide variation in practice, and invited participation from centres in other countries to allow for international comparison. Interested centres should contact Fredrick.

Antoni Artigas (Spain) reported that a European pneumonia project was being run by the European Respiratory Society and suggested that INF section may be able to assist with this.

Please notify any requested amendments to the minutes to Andrew Conway Morris (mozza@doctors.org.uk) which will be agreed at our next meeting.