European Academy of Andrology Newsletter

Edition: July 2024



Note from the President

Dear EAA Members,

As we are nearing the summer holidays, I would like to give you a short update on our activities in the first half of 2024. We continued promoting education in andrology, and started the early spring with the 5th edition of the Budapest School, combined with the EAA Clinical Andrologist exam. Congratulations to the newly certified andrologists!

The spring ended with a successful annual meeting of the International Network of Young Researchers in Andrology (NYRA) in Brussels. The NYRA, now a young arm of the EAA, is very active and has launched a new series of webinars especially designed for young researchers.

The biggest andrology event of this year – the European Congress of Andrology (ECA2024) – is still ahead of us. The programme is shaping to be excellent, in a large part because of the record breaking number of submitted abstracts, many of outstanding quality. I hope that all members will attend the Congress. Note that the registration fee will increase soon, so do not hesitate any longer. I hope to see you all in Stockholm!

With my best wishes for a great summer season,

Hermann M. Behre

In this issue:

- **Update on the ECA2024 in Stockholm**
- **NYRA webinars and EAA Schools**
- **Clinical Andrologists certification in Budapest**
- **Reports from EAA-endorsed meetings**
- **News from *Andrology***
- **Awards for EAA members**
- **New EAA members**
- **Event Calendar**

Update on the ECA2024



The ECA2024 will take place on **4-6 September 2024 in Stockholm, Sweden.** In addition to the packed Congress programme, comprising 7 plenary sessions, 15 sessions in 3 parallel tracks (including the NYRA session for basic scientists), two poster sessions and 1 Merck-sponsored symposium, there are several satellite or accompanying events of interest for EAA members:

- **Meeting of the EAA Training Centre Directors, 3 Sept. 2024 (17:00)** at Hotel Hilton Stockholm Slussen *(by invitation only)*.

- ***"Andrology Day 2024",* 4 Sept. 2024 (8:00-12:30)**, at the Karolinska Institute (Aula Medica), organised by the Swedish Society of Andrology. The event is open for everybody, free of charge and without registration. Information: https://news.ki.se/calendar/andrology-day-2024
- **The ANDRONET-EAA Course for Andrologists: "*What should the andrologist know in 2024"*, 4 Sept. 2024 (12:45-15:45)** will be held at the main venue of the ECA *(Münchenbryggeriet)* before the start of the Congress. The Course contains 8 talks by the POC members, covering clinical and basic areas of andrology, and is obligatory for the Andronet members who applied for the COST travel reimbursement.
- **The EAA General Assembly**, **5 Sept.** (17:45-19:10), all EAA members ought to attend to hear more about the Academy activities, and exert their influence by participating in the discussion and voting.

If you have not yet registered to the ECA2024 – hurry up – the registration rate will increase on July 16!
Registration and information is available on the ECA's website: eca2024.com

New webinar initiative of NYRA

AndroConnect WEBINAR SERIES

We are pleased to announce the new educational initiative of NYRA, which is tailored for the young scientists in training in andrology / reproductive biology, and focuses on the reality behind diverse career pathways in the field of andrology: **The AndroConnect webinar series.** Two first webinars have already occurred and were met with great interest:

- *"Basic research to product development – the CatFlux sperm function test from Truion GmbH"* (18 April 2014) - **Vincent Lucas Fischer** and **Samuel Young** summarised the successful story of the development of a diagnostic test based on the CatSper defects discovered at the Centre for Reproductive Medicine & Andrology in Münster, which is also an EAA-training centre.
- *"The future is in your hand - building Jack Fertility, a male fertility health-tech start-up"* (20 June 2024) - **Lilly Elsner** presented an inspiring story of a start-up that has developed a mail-in semen analysis kit.

Further webinars will take place bimonthly after the summer break and will be announced soon. We encourage all young scientists, especially PhD students, to register with the Network and take advantage of the special **EAA-NYRA membership** that grants access to all Academy benefits for a small fee of 25€ (https://nyra-youngresearch.eu/).

EAA Schools planned in 2024

Take a note that two newest EAA Schools will return in the fall of 2024:

- **3rd ANDRONET-EAA School in Basic Semen Examination,** hosted at ANOVA, Karolinska University Hospital, Stockholm, Sweden. **Dates: 30 Sept. – 4 Oct. 2024**. The main organizer: **Lars Björndahl, MD, PhD** (lars.bjorndahl@ki.se). The number of participants is limited to six. Applications can be obtained from the organizers.
- **2nd EAA School in Microsurgery**, hosted at the EAA-Training Centre at the Urology Department of the Semmelweis University, in Budapest, Hungary. **Dates: 14-18 Oct. 2024**. The main organizer: **Zsolt Kopa MD, PhD**. The programme will include microsurgery in in vitro models, live surgeries and video sessions, and will be available on the EAA website. The number of participants is limited to 8. The Course is fully booked for 2024, but you can sign up for the waiting list at office@andrologyacademy.net.

Reports from EAA and NYRA events

5th EAA Budapest School and Clinical Andrologist examination



The 5th edition of the EAA Budapest School of basic clinical andrology was co-organised by Zsolt Kopa (EAA Training Centre in Budapest), Csilla Krausz (EAA Past President) and the EAA Office, with support from the EAA and ANDRONET. The faculty was composed of the members of the EAA Executive Council (Csilla Krausz, Zsolt Kopa, Davor Ježek, Francesco Lombardo, Ewa Rajpert-De Meyts, Hermann Behre *online*) and invited experts in andrology and sexual medicine: Giovanni Corona, Andrea M. Isidori, and Y. 'Cobi' Reisman. The School was a success, with a capacity attendance of 41 participants from 16 countries, who gave high marks for the quality of lectures. After the school, on 7-8 March 2024, the written and oral examinations for the certificate of EAA Clinical Andrologist were held, with the faculty reinforced by Eduard Ruiz-Castané and Francesco Lotti. The candidates from Egypt passed the exam online, under direction of Professors Osvaldo Rajmil and Gerhard Haidl.



Newly certified Clinical Andrologists and the examiners at the Budapest School (8 March 2024)

The successful recipients of the EAA certificates are Doctors: Emad **Awny Fawzi** (Egypt), Hassan A. **Beltran-Del Rio** (Mexico), Alessandro **Ciarloni** (Italy), Ramzy Raafat M.M. **Elnabarawy** (Egypt), Alejandro Silva **Garretón** (Argentina/Spain), Jorge **Gonzales-Moncayo** (Mexico), Abdel Ahmed **Hakeem Hasan** (Egypt), Paweł **Jędrzejczyk** (Poland), Iurii **Kastrikin** (Rusia), Maciej **Luba** (Poland), José Antonio de Jesus **Martinez-Garcia** (Mexico), Santiago **Martinez Mores** (Spain), Marta **Mazur** (Poland), Jens **Rosellen** (Germany), Gianmaria **Salvio** (Italy), Franz **Sesti** (Italy), Sharaf F. **Shereen** (Egypt), Piotr **Sokol** (Spain), Luca **Spagnolo** (Italy), Emad **Tawadros** (Egypt), Daniele **Tienforti** (Italy). The top score winner, **Dr Marta Mazur,** was awarded a complimentary ECA2024 registration. Congratulations!

16th NYRA Meeting, Brussels

The 16th NYRA Meeting was held on 27-29 March 2024 in Brussels, Belgium. The Organising Committee was led by **Emily Delgouffe**, PhD student at Brussels IVF (part of the Free University of Brussels and the EAA Training Centre), and **Juan Manuel Paturlanne**, postdoc at the Centre of Reproductive Medicine and Andrology (CeRA, also an EAA Training Centre) in Münster. The successful meeting gathered 41 delegates from 12 different countries and was a perfect forum for learning and networking. Scientific lectures were presented by internationally renowned experts (Ellen Goossens, Sarah Martins da Silva, Nina Neuhaus, Hermann Tournaye, Eoghan Cunnane, and Callista Mulder). The



NYRA Board members at the Brussels meeting

scientific programme comprised also oral and poster presentations delivered by the young attendees. **Jillis van Maaren** and **Annachiara Scalzone** received awards for the best talk and best poster, respectively. Complementary to the andrology-focused content, Aurore Roland expertly delved into the principles of achieving good-quality rest in her workshop entitled "Optimize Your Sleep: The Science Behind Good Sleep". Travel grants were generously provided by the EAA and Reproduction MS (Münster University).

Other EAA-endorsed events

Meeting of the Italian Society of Andrology & Sexual Medicine (SIAMS)

The 15th SIAMS meeting took place in Rome, 18-20 January 2024. The programme contained the **EAA-SIAMS Symposium**: ***Testosterone replacement therapy (TRT) in the difficult settings***. The Symposium was chaired by Academicians Csilla Krausz and Manuela Simoni, and comprised three invited lectures delivered by Giulia Rastrelli, Sandro Francavilla and Nicola Napoli, as well two oral presentations selected from the submitted abstracts (Giulia Rastrelli, Davide Ferrari). The EAA provided financial support for the Symposium.

European Congress of Endocrinology, Stockholm 2024

The EAA has a collaboration with the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) and presents andrology-related courses or sessions at the annual ECE congress (ECE). At the latest ECE-2024 held in Stockholm (11-14 May 2024) Csilla Krausz, our EAA-ESE liaison, organised the biennial **Andrology Course for Endocrinologists**. The speakers: Csilla Krausz, Aleksander Giwercman, Hermann Behre (online) and Martin Blomberg Jensen, covered several aspects of clinical and basic andrology of special interest for endocrinologists.

ANDROLOGY

News from the Journal

At the beginning of 2024, **Aleksander Giwercman** (EAA) replaced Marie-Claude Hofmann as the new Editor-in-Chief of *Andrology*, and **Wei Yan** (Los Angeles, California), became the new Deputy Editor appointed by the American Society of Andrology. Both Editors started working together right away and have proposed several new initiatives focusing on how to make the journal more attractive to young scientists and visible on social media.



The Clarivate **impact factor (IF)** of *Andrology* for 2023 was released in late June 2024 – and it has decreased to **3.2**, similarly to falling IFs across the publishing industry. Importantly, *Andrology* remains in the top quartile (**Q1**) in the subject category.

In June 2024, *Andrology* released a **thematic issue** of high scientific quality: ***The Clinic and Biology of the Epididymis*****,** guest-edited by A. Meinhardt, T. Berger and Ralf Middendorff.

There are other special issues in the pipeline. If human androgenetics or animal genetic models are your fields of interest, consider submitting your latest work to the upcoming special issue on ***Genetics of Male Infertility,*** guest editors: Maris Laan, Donald F. Conrad & Kenneth I. Aston.

Awards for the EAA members



Ilpo Huhtaniemi (right) with the ESE President J. Bertherat (photo ESE)

At the recent ESE Congress in Stockholm (11-14 May 2024), **Ilpo Huhtaniemi**, an Honorary Member of the EAA, was awarded an **Honorary Membership of the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE)** in recognition of his service to the Society, promotion of basic science and his outstanding contribution to the field of endocrinology, especially in the area of reproduction.



Leen Antonio

The Endocrine Society (USA) Early Investigation Award 2024. We were delighted to see the announcement that A/Prof. **Leen Antonio,** from the EAA-Training Center in Leuven (Belgium), was among the five early career endocrinologists who received the Early Investigation Awards.



Kristian Almstrup & Maris Laan

A/Prof. **Kristian Almstrup**, from the EAA-Training Centre in Copenhagen, (Denmark), delivered the **EAA Lecture** *"Molecular evolution of spermatogenesis and its possible implications for human semen quality"* at the ASA Annual Conference & the North American Testis Workshop held 29 April-5 May 2024 in Denver, Colorado (USA).

Congratulations to all awardees!

New EAA Members



We acknowledge newly promoted Academicians and warmly welcome our new members, who have joined the EAA since 1 January until the end of June 2024:

Academician: Trine **Haugen** (Oslo, Norway)

Regular and NYRA-EAA Members:

Chiara **Abrardo** (Florence, Italy), Nicolo Francesco **D' Addario** (Rome, Italy), Hisham **AlAhwany** (Birmingham, UK), Edouard **Amar** (Paris, France), Bianca-Astrid **Andone-Rotaru** (Cluj Napoca, Romania), Evangelia **Andreou** (Greece), Mattia **Anfosso** (Münster, Germany), Mustafa Emre **Bakircioglu** (Istanbul, Türkiye), Viola **Bonini** (Florence, Italy), George **Bou Kheir** (Ghent, Belgium /Liban), Barbora **Bryndová** (Vestec, Czech Republic), Saviana-Adriana **Buhlea** (Bucharest, Romania), Matuš **Chocholaty** (Trencin, Slovakia), Isabel **Dighero** (London, UK), Davide **Ferrari** (Rome, Italy), Ágnes **Ficzere** (Szeged, Hungary), Jose Antonio de Jesus **Martinez Garcia** (Querétaro, Mexico), Nasrin G. **Gashti** (Limerick, Ireland), Radoslav P. **Gergov** (Sofia, Bulgaria), Andrea **Graziani** (Padova, Italy), Radosław **Grebowski** (Lodz, Poland), Erzsébet **Hajdú-Tóth** (Kiskunhalas, Hungary), Isadora **Kesejl** (Novi Sad, Serbia), Pauline Wanjiku **Kibui** (Münster, Germany /Kenia), Nencho **Kondov** (Sofia, Bulgaria), Sandra **Laurentino** (Münster, Germany), Marina **Leiva Benítez** (Barcelona, Spain), Jin-Chuan **Liu** (Shenzen, China), Daniel **Marcu** (Norwich, UK), Gina Esther **Merges** (Bonn, Germany), András **Molnár** (Szeged, Hungary), Steven **Morris** (Sydney, Australia), Lionel W. **Moungala** (Johannesburg, South Africa), Nick **Narinx** (Leuven, Belgium), Tien Dung **Nguyen** (Hanoi, Vietnam), Jennifer Afrakoma **Nyamaah** (Leuven, Belgium), Michele **Perrone** (Ancona, Italy), Katarzyna **Pelewicz** (Warsaw, Poland), Paweł **Pudełko** (Warsaw, Poland), Jens **Rosellen** (Gießen, Germany), Jessica **Rührup** (St. Gallen, Switzerland), Ondřej **Šanovec** (Prague - Vestec, Czechia), Annachiara **Scalzone** (Naples, Italy), Alejandro **Silva Garretón** (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain), Piotr **Sokol** (Barcelona, Spain), Mentor **Spahiu** (Prishtina, Kosovo), Matteo **Spaziani** (Rome, Italy), Luca **Spagnolo** (l'Aquila, Italy), Johanna **Steingröver** (Münster, Germany), Anett **Szabó** (Budapest, Hungary), Raluca-Elena **Tabrea** (Cluj-Napoca, Romania), Andrej **Trusila** (Warsaw, Poland/Belarus), Gertjan **Vereecke** (Kortrijk, Belgium), Sara **Vinco** (Verona, Italy), Fei **Wang** (Beijing, China), Hui **Zhang** (Guangzhou, China).

Event Calendar

21–26 July 2024

Mammalian Reproduction Gordon Research Seminar & Conference:
"Diverse Strategies to Advance Reproductive Science and Health"
Castelldefels (Barcelona), Spain

https://www.grc.org/mammalian-reproduction-conference/2024/

4-6 September 2024
13th European Congress of Andrology, Stockholm, Sweden
Note: Standard Registration expires 15 July 2024
Information: www.eca2024.com

30 September - 4 October 2024
3rd ANDRONET-EAA School in Basic Semen Examination
Stockholm, Sweden
Information: Lars.Bjorndahl@ki.se

9-11 October 2024
10th European Testicular Tumor Workshop (ETTW)
Prague, Czech Republic, https://www.ettw.eu/homepage
Note: EAA travel grants available



14-18 October 2024
2nd EAA School in Microsurgery
Budapest, Hungary
Information: Zsolt Kopa & EAA Office

92nd Harden Conference: Germ Cell Cancer Genes
Solihull (Birmingham), UK
https://www.eventsforce.net/biochemsoc/205/home

Save the dates:
29 March –1 April 2025
Joint 50th ASA Annual Meeting & 13th ISA Congress
Washington, DC, USA
https://andrologysociety.org/annual-meeting/

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