Training Workshop on Andrology
Hammamet, Tunisia, Thursday October 9, 2008

Organised by SALF (Société d’Andrologie de Langue Française) in collaboration with ISA (International Society of Andrology) and EAA (European Academy of Andrology)

Pursuing its “andrological” scientific policy towards French-speaking emerging countries, SALF organised and held a training workshop on andrology as a preliminary session before its national congress at Hammamet, Tunisia, on Thursday October 9, 2008.

Under the scientific direction of SALF, the workshop (see announcement and program below) was organised with SGOT, the Tunisian Society for Gynecology and Obstetrics, and sponsored by ISA and EAA. An information campaign (posters, e-mails) on the workshop had been organised by SGOT in order to identify young clinicians, biologists and researchers in Tunisia and in neighbouring countries. A modest fee (to cover costs) was fixed so that participation would be financially accessible. The four workshops were led by eight French-speaking scientists (French and Belgian) all competent and experienced in their respective fields. The detailed programme of the four workshops is attached.

The event was a technical and scientific success with over 140 participants in an appropriate venue (two conference rooms with suitable audiovisual equipment). The four workshops included numerous clinical and laboratory cases that enabled the participants to compare their own practice with the latest international knowledge, and this led to particularly fruitful debates and exchanges. Each workshop had also prepared documents and summaries which were given to each participant.

A final evaluation enabled us to make sure that the educational content had fulfilled the participants’ expectations and to identify specific requirements. In particular, participants expressed the wish to repeat such workshops over a longer period (3 to 5 days) to enable them to acquire in greater depth the knowledge of andrology required in their practice. It was agreed that SALF, in partnership with its counterparts in the Maghreb and also with ISA and EAA, will reflect on the possibility of proposing other, longer training sessions on specific andrological themes corresponding to the expectations of our colleagues in the Maghreb.
With regard to funding, the contributions of ISA and EAA and the voluntary, unpaid participation of the eight workshop leaders enabled us to keep to a minimum the deficit of this type of training workshop in andrology. In the future, and if longer courses are planned (3 to 5 days), it will be necessary to set up dedicated budgets with local and regional partners and also with international andrological and/or institutional organisations (ISA, EAA, WHO).

In conclusion, this training workshop on andrology held in Tunisia was a success much appreciated by our colleagues in the Maghreb. It should be repeated or extended in order to develop knowledge of problems relating to andrology in the emerging countries of the Mediterranean.

*Patrick Thonneau*

*President, SALF*
Andrology, through its multidisciplinary approach, lies at the crossroads of numerous specialties: histology, embryology, urology, sexology, biology, hormonology, endocrinology and genetics. Andrology is an essential discipline of crucial importance in the management of male reproductive problems, disorders and sexual dysfunction.

This year SALF, the Société d’Andrologie de Langue Française, dedicated to promoting and developing andrology in French-speaking developing countries, is proposing a training workshop in andrology. This workshop is also held under the patronage of ISA (International Society of Andrology) and EAA (European Academy of Andrology). It is aimed at young clinicians and researchers in Tunisia and neighbouring North African countries and will take place on Thursday October 9, 2008, in Hammamet, Tunisia. This training workshop in andrology will precede the XXVth national SALF congress (October 10-11, 2008) and those enrolled in the workshop will then be able to attend the congress at a discounted rate.

This workshop aims to offer our Tunisian and North African colleagues an initiation to different aspects of andrology through four thematic sessions: « Clinical approach to male infertility », « The role of the biology laboratory in investigating male infertility », « Male sexual dysfunction », and « Andrological aspects of MAP ». Each topic will be presented by two French-speaking moderators with recognised experience in their specialty and teaching ability. The programme will include a rapid overview of current knowledge on the subject, acquisition of the principal rules of good practice and analysis of real-life biological and/or clinical cases.

This workshop will be run on participative lines, using written material and audiovisual tools which will be provided and given to the participants at the end of each workshop. At completion, participants will be asked to give their own assessment of the content and the presentation of this training workshop.

The target audience is young clinicians, biologists and researchers from Tunisia and neighbouring North African countries (Algeria, Morocco) who have an interest in andrology and/or who are already involved in the management of men with infertility or sexuality disorders.

In practice, the workshop will comprise four working sessions on the above topics, two in the morning and two in the afternoon, so each participant may enrol in the two sessions of his choice. To encourage active participation, registration is limited to 30 persons for each workshop. The registration fee for this one-day training programme will be particularly attractive (50 Tunisian dinars, or about 30 euros, covering only the cost of meals and the material supplied to the participants).

This andrology workshop will be widely publicised locally through the STGO (Société Tunisienne de Gynécologie Obstétrique) as well as by the various networks present in Tunisia and in Algeria and Morocco.
Workshop N° 1 (morning session, Thursday October 9)

« Clinical approach to male infertility »

Moderators:
Roger MIEUSSET, andrologist, lecturer of the University Hospitals of Toulouse, France
Jean-Marc RIGOT, urologist, andrologist, hospital physician, Lille University Hospital, France

Target audience: andrologists, gynaecologists, urologists, reproductive biologists

Objective: Clinical and complementary work-up of a man with infertility. The investigations which should be requested to diagnose the cause and decide on management.

First part: Theory. Based on international recommendations, review of the history-taking and clinical examination of an infertile man, followed by the elements required to diagnose the cause of azoospermia, oligospermia, necrospermia and asthenospermia. The necessary documentation, including the international recommendations, will be distributed to each participant.

Second part: Practice. Four real-life case studies will each be presented in successive stages (with questions to be answered by the participants at each stage) in order to illustrate the various points mentioned previously: 1) collation of the information obtained from the history and from clinical examination, and organization of this information in order to 2) suggest the most appropriate supplementary tests to make an etiological diagnosis; discussion and justification of the proposals made; the results of these tests are then provided in order to 3) establish the most likely cause. 4) The various treatments and management possibilities are then considered. For each clinical case, each participant is provided with the findings of the history and the clinical examination. Full documentation on each case is distributed at the end of the presentation.
Workshop N° 2 (morning session, Thursday October 9)

« The role of the biology laboratory in investigating male infertility »

Moderators:
Ethel SZERMAN, reproductive biologist, Caen University Hospital, France
Valérie MITCHELL, biologist specializing in male infertility, Lille University Hospital, France

Target audience: Biologists

Objective: To review the various stages of biological examination of sperm and to illustrate them by means of clinicobiological case studies; to provide practical training in analyzing spermatozoa morphology in order to recognise specific abnormalities.

The first part will consist of redefining the usual parameters with reference to recent data (the new WHO manual is to be published early in 2008). From this starting point, we will examine characteristic abnormalities of the spermogram and their impact on fertility.

1. Low sperm volume or hypospermia (causes, consequences and management)
2. Decreased viability or necrospermia (evaluation techniques, functional tests, causes, consequences and management)
3. Antispermatozoa antibodies (initial signs, evaluation techniques, consequences and management)
4. Morphological analysis (comparison of the Kruger and David classifications, performing a spermocytogram using David’s classification).

The second part will be illustrated by clinical cases presented as video projections with a questionnaire. Documentation on the same clinical cases will previously have been distributed to the participants so that they can respond directly and individually.

For morphological analysis of spermatozoa, digital images of various abnormalities will be projected at different magnifications. An evaluation grid will be distributed so that each participant can carry out morphological examination within a given time under laboratory conditions. The results will then be compared.
**Workshop N° 3** (afternoon session, Thursday October 9)

« Male sexual dysfunction »

**Moderators:**
Dominique DELAVIERRE, urologist, andrologist, former president of SALF, Orléans Regional Hospital Centre, Orléans, France
Marie CHEVRET-MEASON, psychiatrist, sexologist, couple therapist, course director and lecturer in clinical sexology, University Lyon 1, France

**Target audience:** andrologists, urologists, sexologists.

**Objective:** Acquisition of skills in the detection, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of male sexual dysfunction (erectile dysfunction, disturbances of libido, ejaculation and orgasm).

**Programme content:** Preliminary evaluation test; review of basic points (definition, classification, epidemiology, risk factors, etc.); work in subgroups on clinical cases followed by interactive discussions; approach to certain practical issues (how and to whom should PDE5 inhibitors or intracavernous injections be prescribed? what should be done in certain situations?); reminder of key points; post-evaluation test; delivery of full documentation.
Workshop N° 4 (Thursday October 9, afternoon session)

« Andrological aspects of MAP »

Moderators:
Marc BAILLY, gynaecologist, andrologist, MAP specialist, Poissy University Hospital, France.
Annick DELVIGNE, gynaecologist, andrologist, MAP specialist, University of Liège, Belgium.

Target audience: andrologists, gynaecologists.

Objective: This workshop specifically addresses certain andrological aspects often encountered in couples undergoing MAP. Bearing these aspects in mind and rather than reviewing this very extensive and complex field in its entirety, the workshop will focus on illustrating certain basic situations in andrology by means of documented clinical cases. This will enable participants to establish diagnostic and therapeutic approaches which are appropriate and in conformity with the rules of good practice (WHO recommendations).

Programme content:
Firstly, the participants’ profile and their degree of involvement in MAP will be rapidly assessed.
Secondly, about ten real-life clinical cases will be presented on which the participants will work in subgroups, followed by discussions leading to appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic rules.

Based on these clinical cases, the following topics will be addressed: the pitfalls of simple stimulation, clinical examination and history-taking of the male partner, the male-female interface, Hühner’s test, sperm immunology, what to do if antispermatozoa antibodies are present, sperm infection and MAP, excretory azosperma, management with and without MAP, the contribution of endocrinology illustrated by a case of treated hypogonadotropic hypogonadism, the contribution of genetics (CFTR and microdeletions), idiopathic subfertility, practical organization of diagnostic management and treatment schedule.

At completion of the workshop, each participant will receive a handbook recapitulating and illustrating the principal clinical examples studied.