

ESGE-ESGENA Workshop on Advanced Endoscopy

3-4 May 2007 in Tallin, Estonia

International Workshops on Advanced Endoscopy with live demonstrations have been organised under the auspices of the ESGE and ESGENA in conjunction with national medical and nursing societies. The aims of these workshops have been:

- the promotion of teaching and practice of gastrointestinal endoscopy
- the enhancement of quality control of endoscopic procedures
- the demonstration and discussion of the newest developments in diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy

Since 1999 ESGENA has participated in these workshops in order to:

- stimulate and promote endoscopy nursing in the host countries
- emphasize the importance of team work between nurses and doctors
- advance the education of endoscopy nurses in the host countries
- stimulate and promote the foundation of endoscopy nursing societies and/or cooperation with national nursing organisation
- promote cooperation with other professional groups that have similar goals

The workshop took place on 3-4 May 2007 at the Radisson SAS conference centre Tallinn. The live sessions were performed in the North Estonian Regional Hospital Foundation.

Directors of this workshop were Profs. Mart Eisen (Estonia) and John Morris (UK).

The ESGE delegates were:

- Lars Aabakken (Norway)
- Guido Costamagna (Italy)
- István RÁCZ (Hungary)
- Björn Rembacken (UK).

The ESGENA delegates were:

- Sylvia Lahey (The Netherlands)
- Christiane Neumann (UK)
- Michael Ortmann (Switzerland)
- Theo Pordon (The Netherlands).

For the entire faculty it was memorable that it was Christiane's last workshop!

The Tallinn hospital where the endoscopic procedures were performed was well equipped for the conference. We had the disposition of three OR's, a director's room and fortunately a comfortable coffee-room.

From the first moment we were struck by the professionalism of the local nurses, especially Siiri Maasen and Kristi Rooseleht, who were indispensable during the entire workshop.

The day before the workshop the faculty prepared themselves by discussing the cases, visiting the operation suite and check the equipment.

About 250 participants were registered among them about 70 nurses.

Performed procedures were:

- EMR/ESD
- EUS staging
- EUS FNA
- Oesophageal stenting
- Oesophageal dilatation
- Achalasia ballonnage
- Colonic stenting
- Multiband ligation
- Capsule endoscopy
- ERCP stone removal

- ERCP Klatskin treatment
- Polypectomy
- NBI and staining techniques
- PEG placement

Christiane Neumann moderated in the Conference Centre while Sylvia Lahey, Michael Ortmann and me assisted in the operation theatre. The local nurses were responsible for patient routing, scope disinfection and assistance, together with the ESGENA nurses. It was a big advantage that they spoke English. The cooperation with the faculty was outstanding. We had an overloaded programme because two additional patients were scheduled. The major part of the procedures was successful. Fortunately we hardly had complications.

Several nurses' lectures were included in the programme. It was difficult to organise, because we had to assist during the live demos and the transfer from the hospital to the conference centre took about 25 minutes; but after some shifting we succeeded in performing our presentations:

- Introduction to ESGENA -aims and educational activities (Christiane Neumann)
- Health + Safety (Christiane Neumann)
- Sedation Monitoring (Michael Ortmann)
- European Cleaning and Disinfection (Sylvia Lahey)
- Infection Risks (Christiane Neumann)
- Professional training of endoscopy nurses and assistants (Theo Pordon).
- Open session with question & answers (Christiane Neumann)

The open session went particularly well as there were many questions regarding items not covered in any of the lectures.

Finally I conclude that we had a good workshop because we were successful in treating the patients (our first concern). With the support from Boston Scientific, Olympus, the hospital direction, local doctors, nurses and assistants it turned out to be very fruitful.

We were very grateful that, the day after the conference, Siiri Maassen (one of the local nurses), guided us round the old city of Tallinn.

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