INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL COURSE ON HAEMOSTASIS AND THROMBOSIS
CURSO EDUCACIONAL INTERNACIONAL DE HEMOSTASIA Y TROMBOSIS

Financial and Academic Support
Education and Outreach Committee-International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH)

Organized by
Education and Outreach Committee-International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH)
Latin-American Cooperative Group on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (CLAHT)
Hospital Roosevelt, Guatemala City, Guatemala

Venues
Hotel Barceló, Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala
Hospital Roosevelt, Ciudad de Guatemala, Guatemala

Guatemala City, Guatemala.
October 16-18, 2014

Final Report

The CURSO EDUCACIONAL INTERNACIONAL DE HEMOSTASIA Y TROMBOSIS took place in Guatemala City - Guatemala, on October 16-18, 2014. The course was held at an auditorium at Hotel Barceló and in the laboratories at Hospital Roosevelt. The course was organized by a Local Committee: Marta López-Ruano and Viviana Torselli from Guatemala, and by the ISTH Organizing Committee: Alicia Blanco (Argentina), Diego Mezzano (Chile), Suely Rezende (Brazil), and Raúl Altman (Argentina) as advisory member. The course was sponsored by the International Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH) and had Claire Mcintosh (New Zealand) and Yukio Ozaki (Japan) as ISTH Advisory Members.

Faculty: Alicia Blanco (Argentina), Marion Echenagucia (Venezuela), Diego Mezzano (Chile), Suely Rezende (Brazil) and Susana Meschengieser (Argentina). The Laboratory course was coordinated by Alicia Blanco (Argentina) and Marion Echenagucia (Venezuela), with the local support of Luzbeth Valdez (Guatemala).

There was a total of 104 attendees; there was not registration fee for the course. Most attendees (75%) were physicians; they were mainly haematologists, pathologists, GPs, paediatricians or obstetricians/gynaecologists; there were also cardiologists, surgeons, anaesthesiologists, neurologist and others. The rest of the attendees were professionals
working in laboratories (21%) (chemists, biochemists, pharmacists and technicians) and there was a small proportion of nurses (2%) and students (2%). Most attendees (87%) live in the Guatemala City region, the rest were either from other cities in Guatemala (9%) or from other countries (Cuba, Honduras) (4%). Mean age of participants was 36.3 years. The course allowed interaction and discussion between attendees and faculty about theoretical and practical aspects of thrombosis and bleeding disorders. Moreover, cases presented by either the attendees or faculty were discussed at different sessions. There was a theoretical course including medical matters, laboratory aspects and a “meet the expert” session. The laboratory workshop was divided into two parts: Dry-lab that included aspects related to the utility and interpretation of different tests and Wet-Lab that included analysis of blind samples, followed by interpretation and discussion of the results. As usual in these courses, participants were asked to fill in a questionnaire in order to offer feedback about the course; the results are summarised below.

**Theoretical Course**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Quality of the course</th>
<th>Quality of the presentations</th>
<th>New information received</th>
<th>Relevance and applicability to their work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean (range)</strong></td>
<td>4.7 (3-5)</td>
<td>4.8 (3-5)</td>
<td>4.7 (3-5)</td>
<td>4.7 (2-5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Would you recommend the course?**

All participants would recommend it

**Global evaluation of the course**

**Level of difficulty of the course** (1=very easy; 5=very difficult)

Mean: 3.4 (range 1-5)

**Usefulness** (1=non useful; 5=very useful)

Mean: 4.8 (range 3-5)

**What did the course add to your knowledge?** (1=nothing; 5=a lot)

Mean: 4.4 (range 3-5)

**General quality of the presentations** (1=very low; 5=very high)

Mean: 4.8 (range 3-5)

**Comments and suggestions made by attendees**
- The course was very useful, interesting and very well organised.
- It was relevant to different areas (teaching, clinical practice, general knowledge).
- Thank you for the opportunity of attending the course.
- Thank you because people from other areas of the country were able to attend.
- Congratulations for the initiative of organizing the course and for its organization.
- Very interesting multidisciplinary course.

**Laboratory Workshop**

It was run in laboratories and classrooms at Hospital Roosevelt. The objective was for participants to be able to obtain and compare results in different clinical circumstances (anticoagulation control, blood coagulation deficiencies and acquired inhibitors such as lupus anticoagulant). Several coagulation (PT, APTT, dRVVT screen/confirm, TT, Fg, FVIII, FIX) tests were performed on blind samples from clinical cases, followed by interpretation and discussion of the results.

The number of participants was 10 (attendees: 2 technicians, 3 biochemists, 3 chemists, 2 physicians); some of attendees work specifically on blood coagulation.

**Evaluation**

Positive feedback was received; attendees rated the workshop as excellent (5) in terms of the quality of the course and the presentations, new information received and relevance and applicability to their work (see the table below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Quality of the course</th>
<th>Quality of the presentations</th>
<th>New information received</th>
<th>Relevance and applicability to their work</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean (range)</strong></td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Would you recommend the course?**

All would recommend it

**Global evaluation of the course**

**Level of difficulty of the course** (1=very easy; 5=very difficult)

Mean: 3 (range 3)

**Usefulness** (1=non useful; 5=very useful)

Mean: 5 (range 5)

**What did the course add to your knowledge?** (1=nothing; 5=a lot)
Mean: 5 (range 5)

**General quality of the presentations** (1=very low; 5=very high)
Mean: 5 (range 5)

**Comments and suggestions made by participants**
- Very specialized course; high academic quality.
- The course increased knowledge and also promoted the development of the haemostasis and thrombosis field.
- Very useful for the country due to the implementation of new tests and technology