FINAL REPORT

The TALLER EDUCACIONAL INTERNACIONAL DE LABORATORIO DE HEMOSTASIA Y TROMBOSIS took place in San Salvador - Republic of El Salvador, on October 23-24, 2014. The course was held at the auditorium FUSAL (Fundación Salvadoreña para la Salud y el Desarrollo Humano), where a laboratory area was set up.

The course was organized by Ana Gladis Mencia de Reyes from the Republic of El Salvador, 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 Mclintock (New Zealand) and Yukio Ozaki (Japan) as ISTH Advisory Members.
Faculty: Alicia Blanco (Argentina), Marion Echenagucia (Venezuela). The Laboratory course was coordinated by Alicia Blanco (Argentina) and Marion Echenagucia (Venezuela), with the local technical support of Mercedes Duarte de Flores (Republic of El Salvador).

The workshop was run at FUSAL auditorium where a laboratory area was set up, in which two automatic coagulometers and thermostatic baths were placed. There was a total of 38 attendees, most of them (66%) had a degree on clinical laboratory; the rest were biochemists (6%) or technicians (28%). Only 12% worked specifically in the field (6% haemostasis and 6% haematology); the rest worked in general laboratories where they perform coagulation tests. Most participants (86%) live in San Salvador and the rest in other cities (14%) of the Republic of El Salvador. Mean age of participants was 39.6 years.

The workshop allowed interaction and discussion between attendees and faculty on theoretical and practical aspects of evaluating patients showing different types of either thrombotic or bleeding disorders. Cases were presented and discussed on two different sessions.

The 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.

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.

As usual in these courses, participants were asked to fill in a questionnaire in order to provide feedback about the course; the results are summarised below.

**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 table below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>Mean (range)</td>
<td>4.8 (4-5)</td>
<td>4.8 (4-5)</td>
<td>4.9 (4-5)</td>
<td>5 (5)</td>
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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: 2.2 (range: 1-5)

Usefulness (1=non useful; 5=very useful)
Mean: 4.97 (range: 4-5)

What did the course add to your knowledge? (1=nothing; 5=a lot)
Mean: 4.94 (range: 4-5)

General quality of the presentations (1=very low; 5=very high)
Mean: 4.97 (range: 4-5)

Comments and suggestions made by participants
- Lot of attendants would like to have a more extended course, with more time to review different subjects.
- Please organize more courses.
- Excellent workshop, useful to standardize laboratory criteria and procedures.
- Very clear explanations.
- Excellent course, but difficult to follow the presentations.
- Very useful workshop, we have learnt a lot. Faculty have introduced new concepts and advances in the field.
- Very useful course, great opportunity to share experiences and to discuss with colleagues about practical aspects and problems.
- Congratulations and recognition to faculty. Thank you for sharing knowledge.