

To the president  
Prof. Dr. Bernd Stregmayr, MD, PhD  
ESFH via  
Prof. Margarete Grimus, Vienna

7.9.2008

## **SURVEY OF THE HAEMAPHERETIC ACTIVITIES (ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT)**

**DISTRICT:** EAST EUROPE

**PERIOD:** 2007 - 2008

### **GENERAL SITUATION:**

The basic situation remains similar to the last period. Our district remains a region of a rather slow development in all health care conditions than in the West Europe. However some countries develop quickly. Hemapheresis is a technically and economically demanding component of health care and reflects the development of the national economies and their changes. However some working groups are active. It is the result of our common extreme effort and some successful actions that we organized successfully. A better situation remains to be in Czech Republic; more problems have our colleagues in countries to the East from this region.

The basic situation is not much better if we compare it to the year 2007. The situation in Slovakia promises the better and quicker progress in this year.

### **SUCCESSFUL CHANGES:**

- ✚ The Czech postgraduate and research national meeting “Nové postupy v dárcovských a terapeutických hemaferézách” (New methods in donor and therapeutic aphereses) become to be a regular scientific action and an opportunity for both the postgraduate education and presentation of the best research papers. It is organised regularly every second year. Last meeting was organized in Prague, 22.11, 2007. It is planned ahead to the year 2009. This scientific meeting happened to be a surprisingly successful action that has shown both a great interest and excellent results of Czech researchers in haemapheresis, too. The number of participants was unexpectedly high. The results have shown the possibilities of further development. The meeting was organized by Ass.Prof. Gašová, ESHF president elected, and some her co-workers.
- ✚ Haemapheretic sections became a regular part not only of international, but also of national or even regional congresses in this year too. The presentations are more accomplished and the groups of patients are growing. It raises the possibility and quantity of colleagues that take part in international congresses.
- ✚ We agitated for ESHF membership. The last possibility was the XV. Czech-Slovak Hematological Congress with great international participation in Spindle-Mühle, 6.-9.9.2008. Prof. Rainer Moog accomplished an excellent agitation during the Congress and captured

also the attendance of many hematologists with his excellent lecture on the field of hemapheresis. He invited all attendees to come to the ESFH Congress in Düsseldorf. One new member was enrolled. One group (institutional membership) with 6 members continues to be active ESFH members.

- ✚ The agitation for the next ESFH meeting in September 2008 in Düsseldorf was successful. The Czech group of attendants consist from 4 members (4 of them prepared active presentations). The announcements were handed over to further colleagues and interested people and all were stimulated to contribute actively with scientific abstracts. The announcement and a short communication were published in Czech national haematological journal.
- ✚ The second haemapheretic register was based and continues his work in Czech Republic, region Hradec Králové, after the beginning of collaboration with prof. Stegmayr and with his help.
- ✚ Some workplaces follow to use the most modern procedures (photopheresis, immunoapheresis, haemorheopheretic methods etc). The full and complex program in hemapheresis continues in the Czech Republic.
- ✚ Some countries began to organize the specialized hemapheretic workshops or conferences - this activity has been running already regularly in Czech Republic. An example was the Czech-German transfusion workshop in Prague in this year.

## **PROBLEMS**

Necessary to solve in the future remain practically without changes also for this year:

- To win more ESFH members
- Further development of the most modern methods in further centres (to improve both the quality and the quantity of the haemapheretic sortiment)
- To expand haemapheretic registers to more countries
- To win more information about the situation in Russia, Ukraine and other East countries about the haemapheretic activities, because the knowledge is not sufficient in spite of all our actions. To direct and stimulate better the development of haemapheresis on the basis of these facts, in the most interested centres – in accordance with new ESFH board efforts and strategies.

District Director

Prof.Milan BLAHA, MD, PhD