

**ESPGHAN**European Society for Paediatric
Gastroenterology, Hepatology and NutritionRue De-Candolle 16
1205 Genève, Switzerland
www.espghan.org**Working Group - Report for Gastroenterology Committee Strategy Day****Working Group Title: Basic Science and Translational Research**

(date 15/08/2021; Authors Marco Gasparetto, Caterina Strisciuglio)

Working Group Members and Mandates

Name	Date of entry	1 st Term	Positions held within WG (e.g. Secretary treasurer etc.)	Dates held of these positions	
Marco Gasparetto	2014			Chair Co-Chair Member	2020-present 2018-2020 2014-2018
Caterina Strisciuglio	2015			Co-Chair Member	2020-present 2015
Andreas Jenke	2013			Chair Co-Chair Member	2018-2020 2015-2018 2013-2015
Matthias Zilbauer	2013			Chair Founding Member	2013-2018 2013
Balint Tel	2018			Member	2018
Federica Giachero	2018			Member	2018
Jan Nowak	2018			Member	2018
Philip Robinson	2020			Member	2020
Kostantinos Gerasmidis	2020			Member	2020
Amit Assa	2020			GIC Representative and Member	2020 ESPGHAN Annual Congress

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Summary of Activities in 2021

A. WG meetings (date and any main points/activities)

Meeting	Core Group Meeting re: realization of a Societal Paper by the SIG Members
Location	Virtual (Zoom)
Date	29/09/2020
Main Points / Activities	To produce a Societal Paper on the current situation and the possible future development of basic science and translational research in ESPGHAN.
Outcome of the core group meeting:	Introduction of group Members, 3 new Members joined in 2020; Delineation of the paper focus and aims; Identification of similar papers published previously; Preparation of an Application Form for an ESPGHAN Position Paper; Paper outline and allocation of chapters / paragraphs to group members; Organization of a follow-up meeting to assess the progress made by end of December 2020

Meeting	Core Group Meeting re: realization of a Societal Paper by the SIG Members
Location	Virtual (Zoom)
Date	10/12/2020
Main Points / Activities	To produce a Societal Paper on the current situation and the possible future development of basic science and translational research in ESPGHAN.
Outcome of the core group meeting:	Paper draft and figures shared with all Members Application for an ESPGHAN Societal Paper sent to ESPGHAN Office – response awaited

Meeting	Annual Special Interest Group Meeting pre World Congress of PGHAN 2021
Location	Virtual (Zoom)
Date	01/06/2021
Main Points / Activities	Summary of the main activities planned in 2021 and discussion of new projects for 2022
Outcome of the core group meeting:	Societal Paper: post first round of reviewers – awaiting outcome after re-submission; Summer School for Basic and Translational Research (BART) – Kassel – Germany: organised by A. Jenke for July 2021, to be postponed to October 2021 due to Covid restrictions; To expand the group by welcoming 1-2 new members with a special interest in basic and translational research within the area of PGHAN; To commence a new writing project as a group – Members will send brainstorming / bullet point ideas to chair / co-chair. Follow-up meeting to be held in the summer 2021 to agree on the final topic and split the work. Young ESPGHAN Research Initiative: our SIG will support the recently formed ESPGHAN Research Committee in the realisation of this project involving Young ESPGHAN Members once travel restrictions are lifted. Caterina Strisciuglio will be the link Member between the two groups.



	<p>Discussion of a new project aimed to support ESPGHAN members who are interested in learning complex data analysis, bioinformatics and statistics. Philip Robinson will prepare a survey that will be circulated within the ESPGHAN network to confirm the members' interest and participation.</p> <p>Discussion of two research projects undertaken by group members: 1. Disease-associated DNA methylation signatures in oesophageal biopsies of children diagnosed with EoE (Caterina Strisciuglio); 2. Micro MRNAs in infant formula and NEC (Federica Giachero).</p>
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Meeting	Core Group Meeting re: realization of a Societal Paper by the SIG Members
Location	Virtual (Zoom)
Date	27/07/2021
Main Points / Activities	To produce a Societal Paper on precision medicine in nutritional management of paediatric IBD – a collaboration with the IBD Porto WG
Outcome of the core group meeting:	<p>Our first position paper is now published in JPGN.</p> <p>We aim to start a second writing project as a group. Multiple ideas submitted in June-July 2021 by group members including artificial intelligence and precision medicine. The group discussion identified precision medicine in nutritional management of IBD as a topic requiring further investigation and benefiting from a review and discussion. Kostantinos Gerasimidis will lead the work. The aim is to contact the Porto IBD Working Group and offer a collaboration.</p> <p>BTR Summer School in Kassel, originally rescheduled for October 2021, has been cancelled due to ongoing Covid-related limitations.</p>



B. Educational activities

(i) Educational Events

(one table per event – please just copy and paste the tables as often as needed)

SIG core Members had planned to actively participate (as Faculty) in the ESPGHAN Summer School on Basic and Translational research organized by Andreas Jenke. A face-to-face meeting would also have been held on that occasion.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-related restrictions, the event was first postponed to October 2021 and eventually cancelled.



C. WG Publications / Guidelines / Position Papers

(i) Completed/near completion

Publication ID <i>(to be filled in by Office)</i>	DOI: 10.1097/MPG0000000000000003250; PMID 34310437.
Full Publication Title	Making Research Flourish through ESPGHAN: A Position Paper from the ESPGHAN Special Interest Group for Basic and Translational Research.
Authors	Gasparetto M, Strisciuglio C, Assa A, Gerasimidis K, Giachero F, Nowak J, Robinson P, Tél B, Zilbauer M, Jenke A.
Publication Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Societal Paper.
Journal, Year, Volume, Page Numbers	J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr 2021.
More information if available	

Add tables if necessary

(ii) future topics considered in 2021/22

We aim to produce a second Societal Paper on precision medicine in nutritional management of paediatric IBD. We will offer the IBD Porto WG to collaborate with us on this project.

Young ESPGHAN Research Initiative. We aim to collaborate with the ESPGHAN Research Committee and offer Young ESPGHAN Members mentorship for the development of basic science and translational research projects. Main steps will include primary application and selection, mentorship and development of research project, educational event with training and future improvement, realization of the proposed research project.

Our SIG would like to offer young ESPGHAN Members opportunities to learn data analysis, biostatistics and bioinformatics.

A survey has been circulated within the ESPGHAN Network in 2021 in order to glean the Members' interest in opportunities to gain skills on data analysis, biostatistics and bioinformatics. If positive feedback is received, the aim would be to offer small grants for Members to attend online courses as well as face-to-face training in data science and coding in centres that provide bioinformatics facilities and skills.



D. Financial Report / Budget for 2021: Will be added by EPGHAN Office

The amount of 5,000 euros requested for 2021 was unspent in view of Covid-related travel restrictions and the subsequent cancellation of the Summer School for Basic Science and Translational Research.



Outlook on Planned Activity for 2021/22

A. Working Group meetings (date and any main points/activities)

Meeting	Annual SIG Meeting during the ESPGHAN Meeting in 2022
Location	Copenhagen
Date	22-25 June
Main Points / Activities	Discussion of present and future activities/projects within the group We aim for a face-to-face / hybrid meeting

Meeting	Core Group Meeting re: realization of a Societal Paper by the SIG Members
Location	Virtual (Zoom)
Date	1 meeting in 2021 and 1 meeting in 2022 (aiming for 1 virtual and 1 face-to-face)
Main Points / Activities	To produce a Societal Paper on precision medicine in nutritional management of paediatric IBD – a collaboration with the IBD Porto WG
Outcome of the core group meeting:	These meetings will be held to make further progress with and finalize our second position paper as a SIG.

Proposed Educational activities

(i) E-Learning

Project	Young ESPGHAN Research Initiative
Project Timeline	2022
Project Leader	M Zilbauer, C Strisciuglio
Location	Face-to-face Educational event – Location TBC
Date	TBC – once travelling restrictions lifted
Main Points	Collaboration with the ESPGHAN Research Committee aimed to offer Young ESPGHAN Members mentorship for the development of basic science and translational research projects. Main steps will include primary application and selection, mentorship and development of research project, educational event with training and future improvement, realization of the proposed research project.

Project	ESPGHAN activities on data analysis, biostatistics and bioinformatics
Location	Both virtual and face-to-face opportunities
Project Timeline	2022
Project Leader	P Robinson
Main Points	A survey has been circulated within the ESPGHAN Network in 2021 in order to glean the Members' interest in opportunities to gain skills on data analysis, biostatistics and bioinformatics. If positive feedback is received, the aim will be to offer small grants for Members to attend online courses as well as face-to-face training in data science and coding in centres that provide bioinformatics facilities and skills.



B. Proposed Publications

We aim to produce a Societal Paper on precision medicine in nutritional management of paediatric IBD. We will propose a collaboration with the IBD Porto WG

C. Financial Report / Budget for 2022:

- **Kindly attach or copy paste your submitted budget request for 2022**

Additional comments on financial report:

- Similarly to last year, we would like to apply for £ 6,000, which would allow ten group members to participate in a face-to-face SIG meeting (Covid-19 permitting) in addition to the one held at the Annual Meeting. This activity is important, alongside other virtual meetings, to organize activities and to achieve further progress within our working group.

- *Breakdown of requested support (travel and accommodation for max 8 working group members):*

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-	Travel:	350 Euros x 10	3500 Euros
-	Accommodation:	150 Euros x 10	1500 Euros
-	Venue hire + catering:		1000 Euros
-			=====
-	Total		6000 Euros

- **Additional comments on financial report:**

We also hope that any unspent-unused part of the budget available from the current year or previous years, can be used to support activities offered by the group, e.g. the Young ESPGHAN Research Initiative and the activities we plan to offer to implement skills on data analysis, biostatistics and bioinformatics (please see further details above).

