



Transplant Immunology

Dr David Turner, PhD,
FRCPath,
Secretary, European Board of Transplant
Immunology (EBTI)

History

- 2010: the European Federation for Immunogenetics (EFI) Education Committee started to look at developing a training scheme and examination for 'senior' H&I scientists/medics
 - Looked at existing training in a number of countries
 - Suggested that the training scheme/qualification could be placed within the UEMS
- 2012: Within UEMS a European Board of Transplant Immunology (EBTI) was created
- 2015: a MoU was signed between EFI and UEMS to highlight areas of collaboration and dispersion of fees



EBTI Executive Committee

(Elected by the Assembly Members)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Chair: | Marco Andreani (IT) | - May 2021 |
| Co-Chair: | Tony Slavcev (CZ) | - May 2021 |
| Senior Secretary: | David Turner (UK) | - May 2021 |
| Junior Secretary: | Eduard Palou (SP) | - May 2021 |
| Treasurer: | Valérie Dubois (FR) | - May 2021 |
| EFI Board Representative: | Valeria Miotti (IT) | - May 2021 |

An EBTI Assembly (open to representatives from all European countries) is held at the annual EFI Conference each year



ESHI Diploma Overview

- The ESHI (European Specialisation in H&I) Diploma is an in-service training plan for medically or scientifically qualified individuals working in H&I. It is aimed at Directors/Co-Directors/Heads of labs and those who wish to progress to this level
- A Syllabus/logbook and Statutes are available on UEMS website
- Training must take place in clinical EFi accredited H&I laboratories supporting the modules being applied for (or as agreed by EBTI)
- Practical experience at the bench and experience in clinical liaison must be gained in all areas being applied for
- **The ESHI Diploma is obtained on Passing Part I (Eligibility) and Part II (Oral Examination)**



Honorary Diploma (2013-2015)

276 Applicants, from 32 countries: 249 awarded

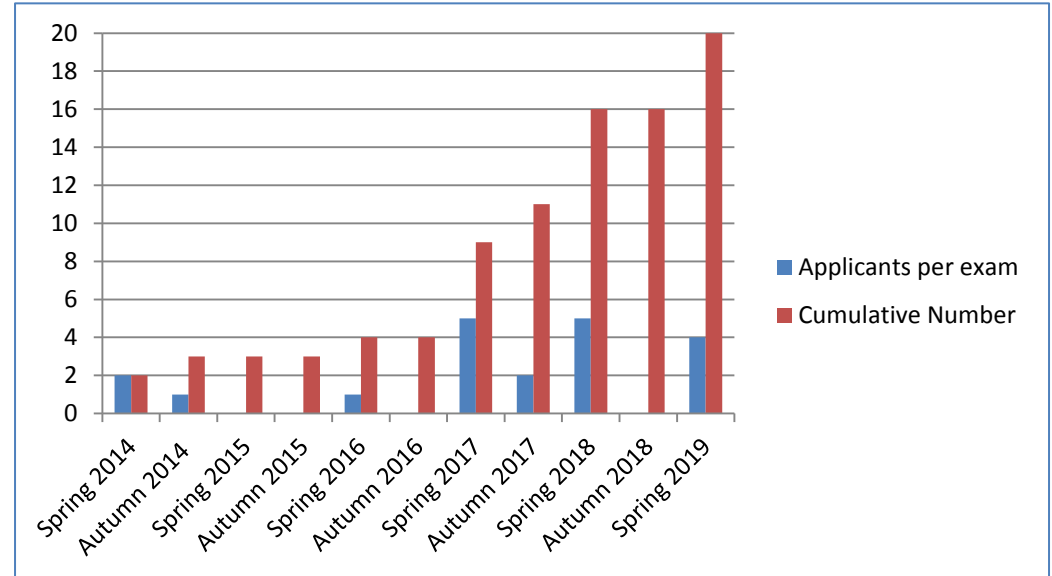
- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| - 1 (1) x Albania | - 1 (1) x Armenia | - 4 (4) x Austria |
| - 7 (6) x Belgium | - 1 (1) x Bulgaria | - 3 (2) x Croatia |
| - 4 (3) x Cyprus | - 6 (6) x Czech Republic | - 2 (2) x Denmark |
| - 1 (1) x Estonia | - 2 (2) x Finland | - 53 (51) x France |
| - 38 (36) x Germany | - 15 (15) x Greece | - 1 (1) x Ireland |
| - 1 (0) x India | - 2 (2) x Israel | - 57 (49) x Italy |
| - 1 (1) x Lithuania | - 1 (1) x Luxembourg | - 3 (3) x Poland |
| - 6 (3) x Portugal | - 1 (1) x Romania | - 1 (1) x Serbia |
| - 1 (1) x Saudi Arabia | - 1 (1) x Slovenia | - 30 (26) x Spain |
| - 3 (3) x Sweden | - 9 (7) x Switzerland | - 1 (0) x Syria |
| - 13 (12) x The Netherlands | - 6 (6) x United Kingdom | |



ESHI Exam – Current Status

- **20 Applicants** (from 13 countries): 1 re-sit

- 1 x Armenia
- 2 x France
- 1 x Germany
- 2 x India
- 1 x Portugal
- 1 x Saudi Arabia
- 3 x Sweden
- 2 x Denmark
- 1 x Netherlands
- 1 x Belgium
- 3 x Italy
- 1 x Kuwait
- 1 x Iceland



- **18 eligible to take exam** (4 to be held in May 2019)

- 9/14 passed all modules applied for
- 2/14 passed some modules
- 3/14 failed



Sections in the Syllabus/LogBook

- Legislation and Regulations (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Quality Management (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Laboratory Management (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Innate and adaptive immunity (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Transplant immunology (Mandatory for all applicants)
- The Major Histocompatibility Complex (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Relevant techniques in H&I Services (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Genetics and Molecular Genetics (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Biostatistics and Bioinformatics (Mandatory for all applicants)
- Clinical Relevance of H&I in solid organ transplant (Core Module1)
- Clinical Relevance of H&I in HSCT (Core Module 2)
- Clinical Relevance of H&I in disease, cancer and pharmacogenetic testing (Module 3)
- Clinical Relevance of H&I in transfusion (Module 4)
- Organ allocation and enhancing donation rates (Required if applying for core Module 1 (H&I in solid organ transplantation))
- Research and Development (Mandatory for all applicants)



Syllabus For Training Towards the ESHI Diploma

- Evidence should be documented for each area **to show how learning has been achieved**. Such evidence may **include courses** which have been attended, **lab and/or clinical training** that was successfully completed, etc
- The name, signature and designation of the trainer must be documented directly on the syllabus document or on a separate sheet which must be attached to support the summarised evidence given on the syllabus









Example of logbook

11. Clinical Relevance of H&I in haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (Required, unless only applying for core Module 1: H&I in solid organ transplantation)

Is experienced with the following aspects of H&I and can provide interpretive advice on the following:

- a. Selection of appropriate donors for transplantation
- b. Searching for donors on local and international registries/cord banks
- c. Factors influencing transplant outcome
- d. Post-transplant monitoring
- e. Biological variation in requirement for HLA matching when using different sources of donors for transplantation

| Evidence | Date | Trainee Signature | Trainer Name, Signature and Designation |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 - Development and delivery of laboratory services in support of haematopoietic stem cell transplantation and disease association at Policlinic of Tor Vergata, Rome | Since June 2013 up to date |  | Marco Andreani,  Laboratory Director |
| 2 - Participate in the Histocompatibility Laboratory to the selection of the appropriate donors for transplantation | Since January 2014 up to date |  | Marco Andreani,  Laboratory Director |
| 3 - Responsible for evaluation of monitoring engraftment after HSCT | Since June 2014 up to date |  | Marco Andreani,  Laboratory Director |

Assessment of Eligibility

- The completed Portfolio/logbook and application form are submitted via the UEMS website
 - <http://www.uemssurg.org/divisions/transplantation/transplant-immunology2/ebsq-examination>
- The application is assessed by a sub-committee of the EBTI
- The applicant is informed by e-mail on the acceptance or rejection of the application no later than 6 weeks from the date the application was received by the EBTI
- If the applicant is successful they will be provided with information regarding the date/ time/ venue of the exam.



Oral Examination

- Oral examination lasting 60-90mins
- 3-4 examiners
- One hour prior to exam the candidate receives two case studies and a recent paper
- Questions on case studies/paper and from all relevant areas of the syllabus
- Candidates will not know identity of examiners prior to exam
- Exams held twice a year; annual EFI meeting and Autumn EFI committee meetings
- If a candidate fails they may re-submit the following year
- If the candidate fails twice they will be asked to undertake a period of at least 2 years extra training before re-application



EFI Committees

Accreditation Committee

Education Committee

[EFI CME/CPD scheme](#)

EPT Committee

Executive Committee

Scientific Committee

Standards Committee

[Home](#) | [EFI Committees](#) | [Education Committee](#) | [EFI CME/CPD scheme](#)

EFI Continued Medical Education (CME) / Continued Professional Development (CPD)

A pilot scheme for 2018

Recently the EFI Education Committee (EDC) has discussed establishing an EFI CME-CPD scheme to allow members to record professional activities which help them to retain their knowledge and skills in the field of H&I. In some countries such schemes already exist, but the new EFI scheme is aimed at members who have no other formal mechanism for recording CME/CPD events. For those members who hold the European Specialisation in H&I (ESHI) Diploma (either Honorary or by examination) providing evidence of ongoing CME/CPD, either from a local recognised scheme or via this new EFI scheme, will be a mandatory requirement in the future to remain qualified. Also, the recording of training and development events in this EFI scheme will be accepted for EFI Accreditation purposes.

The EFI Executive Committee has authorised the EDC to establish a pilot EFI CME-CPD scheme for 2018. We are therefore looking for volunteers from the EFI membership to undertake the CME-CPD scheme for calendar year 2018. At the end of this period the EDC will review the scheme, its ease of use and how many members have participated and hopefully launch a full scheme in 2019. At the moment participation on the EFI CME-CPD scheme will be free to EFI members, although in the future a small fee may be required for the re-issue of updated ESHI Diploma certificates.

Anyone wishing to undertake the pilot scheme must download the spreadsheet and send a completed copy of the 'front page' worksheet to Sandra van Hensbergen at the EFI Office (ajvanhensbergen@lumc.nl) to register.

[Click here](#) to download the spreadsheet for recording CME-CPD activity. Please note the EFI CME/CPD registration number will be provided to you by the EFI Office after receipt of the completed first page of the spreadsheet.



EBTI account situation 31/12/18

| | Price |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Amount 31/12/17 | +16889,82 € |
| - Credit year 2018 | +2870,29 € |
| - Debit year 2018 | -4876,73 € |
| | |
| Total | + 14883,38 € |



Summary

- EBTI is relatively new group
- Training syllabus and oral examination for European Specialisation in H&I (ESHI) Diploma
- Many colleagues undertook Honorary Diploma applications
- 20 applicants for exam; average ~2 candidates per exam
- Hope to introduce mandated CME/CPD participation to maintain Diploma
- Funding for training events etc limited

