Summary of the 5th Annual Meeting
Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease (D&CVD) EASD Study Group
15-17 November 2012, Paris, France

The Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease (D&CVD) EASD Study Group aims at promoting advancement of knowledge on all aspects of cardiovascular disease and diabetes. The Study Group also focuses on bringing researchers together, establishing collaborations in this field and on organizing annual meetings to promote the scientific exchange.

The 5th Annual Meeting of the Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease EASD Study Group was held in Paris, France, 15 – 17 November 2012. The meeting was organized in conjunction with Paris Nord University and the Centre de Recherche en Nutrition Humaine d’Ile de France (CRNH-IdF).

The 170 participants came from 24 countries: 15 European countries, 2 Asian countries, USA and Canada, 2 North African countries and 3 Middle East countries.

The success of the meeting was highlighted by the fact that 50 abstracts were submitted prior to the meeting. 13 were selected for oral presentations and 31 were selected for poster presentations.

The educational structure of the meeting was characterized by a mixture of invited state-of-the-art lectures on latest topics of diabetes and CVD and oral presentations focusing on up-to-date experimental and clinical research data. All the invited speakers also produced an abstract (27 in total).

The accepted posters were grouped into four poster sessions, which were individually chaired. Each poster was presented by the first author and was discussed.

The abstracts of the meeting were published in a supplemental issue to Diabetes & Metabolism.

The opening symposium included an update analysis of DPP-4 inhibitors and cardiovascular disease with two invited lectures: one on the non glycemic effects of DPP-4 inhibitors and the other one on the potential role of DPP-4 inhibitors in myocardial graft and diabetes.

This symposium was followed by a symposium on sleep apnea syndrome and cardio-metabolic risk with two invited lectures: the markers of CVD and the metabolic disorders in the sleep apnea syndrome.
A symposium focused on diabetes and coronary artery disease with invited lectures on silent myocardial ischemia in diabetic patients, care of the hyperglycemic/diabetic patient during and in the immediate follow-up of acute coronary syndrome, targeting normoglycemia in dysglycemia patients at high CV risks: benefits and risks. This symposium was followed by oral presentations on risk predictors of cardio- and cerebrovascular hospital mortality in diabetic patients (the Munich Registries) and the presence of albuminuria as a criterion to screen patients with diabetes mellitus for coronary artery disease.

The evaluation of cardiovascular risk was the topic of a symposium, which included invited lectures on mechanistic considerations about visceral versus femoral adipose tissues, a model based on the ADVANCE study and what is behind the cardiovascular residual risk. In this symposium oxidized LDL as residual lipid marker in type 2 diabetes, fibulin-1 as a novel marker of arterial matrix alterations in diabetes, and further insights from a predefined CV meta-analysis of linagliptin in type 2 diabetes were presented in oral communications.

The role of dietary factors in cardiovascular complications was addressed in another symposium which included invited lectures on the role of postprandial hyperglycemia and glycemic variability, advanced glycation endproducts in food and medicine, and exercise, sympatho-vagal balance and postprandial glucose profile, and an oral presentation on the role of vascular wall and perivascular adipose tissue oxidative stress in endothelium-independent vascular reactivity in high-fat diet-fed rats.

The various features of vascular impairment in diabetes were addressed in a symposium, which included invited lectures on the role of AGE in functional and morphological changes in the arterial wall in diabetes and during aging, endothelial dysfunction in diabetes, microvascular rarefaction in diabetes and hypertension, and artery stiffness and remodelling in diabetes and renal failure, and oral presentations on the induction GLP-1R resistance by chronic hyperglycemia in terms of antioxidant and ER stress response in HuVEC cells, and on the induction of endothelial cell dysfunction by p.R482W lamin-A in familial partial lipodystrophy of the Dunnigan type.

Coronary revascularization and cerebrovascular disease was the title of another symposium with invited lectures which addressed the following points: impaired glucose tolerance and cardiovascular risk, should we still revascularize -which coronary patients and how ?, which antiaggregant strategy in diabetic patients with coronary artery disease?, metabolic determinants of cerebrovascular disease in type 2 diabetes.

A symposium was dedicated to antiplatelet and antithrombotic therapy in diabetes, with two invited lectures: one on aspirin efficacy in diabetes and the other one on the new oral anticoagulants.
The last symposium focused on myocardial dysfunction in diabetes and the aberrations of myocardial metabolism. This symposium included three invited lectures: early left ventricular dysfunction in diabetes, how molecular imaging may guide personalized cardiovascular risk assessment and care, the efficiency of omega 3 PUFA on cardiovascular risk factors in experimental metabolic syndrome, and oral presentations on the metabolic and vascular determinants of increased left ventricular torsion and the association between retinopathy and early echographic markers of cardiomyopathy in patients with type 2 diabetes.

In the poster sessions, studies on atherosclerosis, peripheral and cerebrovascular disease, oxidative stress and endothelium dysfunction, coronary artery disease and heart dysfunction, new pathways, new treatments and new strategies were presented.

In summary, the 5th Annual Meeting of the D & CVD EASD Study Group were characterized by highly stimulating lectures and presentations, a fruitful scientific exchange and the creation of a platform which should be the basis for a network for future collaborations. The D & CVD EASD Study Group feels that the target of creating a reference congress for diabetes and CVD has been successfully achieved with the 5th Annual Meeting of the D & CVD EASD Study Group. Future Annual Meetings of the D & CVD EASD Study Group will go on in this way to effectively achieve this goal.

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