

Minutes of the meeting of the OG Steering Committee

Istanbul, Turkey on April 14, 2011

Following members attended the meeting

- Secretary General : Prof OGASH Dr. Sanjay Gupte
- Chairman of the Steering Committee : Prof.Alex Vidaeff
- President OG : 2010-2011 Prof. Ayse Kafkasli, Istanbul
- President OG : 2011-12 Prof Wibowo, Indonesia
- Other members of the Steering Committee
- Prof Asim Kurjak, Croatia
- Prof Alexander Papitashvili, Tbilisi,Georgia
- Prof. Girija Wagh, Pune, India

Professor Kafkasli conducted the meeting and invited the Secretary General to chair the meeting. The meeting started with respects and regards to the memory of Professor E.T.Rippmann. Absence of Prince Chkheidze was regretted and the meeting wished for his fast recovery.

Professor Alex Vidaeff gave a brief introduction including the purpose of the meeting. The website needed updating with urgent effect for which it is essential to know the logistics etc regards the website. He mentioned that we need to enthuse new blood and induce a new dose of energy. He sought advice from Prof Kurjak.

Prof Asim Kurjak was invited to express his views being experienced and associated with the organization Gestosis for a long time.

Professor Kurjak expressed that with the new concept of angiogenesis as the basic pathology of the disease the term “preeclampsia” was acceptable. The term ‘Gestosis’ does encompass the multi organic and multi systemic and the multifactorial etiopathogenesis of the disease. The term preeclampsia is more accepted in the scientific and social communications. We need to take forward the organization in a big way. He remembered the organization for its excellent history as an active organization dedicated to Gestosis. Over a period of time it was a little difficult to maintain the same tempo due to persistence of the nomenclature which actually should not be given a lot of importance. If one looks at the various causes of the morbidity or mortality in pregnancy preeclampsia has a higher (6 %) contribution than genetic disorders (2%). It is observed that perinatology societies are doing extremely well and share a stiff competition. Also there has to be a stress on popularizing risk assessment, screening and proper evolution of management protocols and documentation in cases of preeclampsia.

Preeclampsia is an important contributor to abnormal obstetric outcome and therefore needs attention, a dedicated society, journal and research work which will help giving newer insights. And all efforts need to be taken for the same. Since preeclampsia is an acceptable terminology in all the scientific communications one can use it. Gradually once the organization is stabilized one can then start using Gestosis with newly defined aspects. We cannot continue the previous classification and the terms as they don't hold true anymore. They need to be defined in the current concept and Gestosis organization always had such a scientific thinking regards this issue of defining the terminologies on scientific basis. One can therefore start calling it as an "Organization Gestosis: an organization for preeclampsia'.

We need to understand that Gestosis is history now. It has been a strong organization with a very strong academic and research foundation with many international members and this has to be taken forwards with a more enthusiastic spirit. The same level of thinking will not lead us anywhere. We need to concentrate also on the basic and the clinical context of the disease to be able to attract more membership. We need to design the aims and the objectives with the newer context keeping with the needs of the time.

The meeting decided to rename the names of the officials of the Steering committee. Also a copy of the constitution drafted for discussion was circulated for perusal for all for suggestions. Dr. Sanjay Gupte was unanimously confirmed as the Secretary General and Dr.Alex Vidaeff as the Chairman of the OG Steering Committee.

Dr. Gupte mentioned that he had met Professor Rippman personally and was in regular communication with him regarding the Gestosis organization. He mentioned that he always wanted the research and the academics towards the disease promoted with the highest standards. Also he wanted to promote the journal of the organization. We need to organize the working and streamline these aspects with better planning. Everyone decided that we should at this point of time decide to have an online journal than the printed one to save money. The journal will show up our presence and help us showcase the activities of the organization. We must stress on publication related to new advances, epidemiology, diagnostic methods and various treatment modalities.

For the working of the organization we should have national branches of the organization. The membership should be a direct membership. Branches exist in Indonesia and India. The rest of the countries should be explored and communicated to. The basic foundation should not only be research in the field of preeclampsia but also pertinent everyday problems for a basic clinician which will increase the acceptability of the organization.

The conduct of the annual meeting should include round table expert meetings, free communications and 4-5 experts to deliver talks and to attract good attendance. Professor Wibowo mentioned that the OG will be held in Indonesia and he hopes for a big meeting for the same. He requested for clarity on funds and related issues and it was found that currently no such facility existed.

The OG website was thoroughly studied by all the members present and Professor Alexander Papitashvili was requested to find out who actually maintained it and how, in order to initiate the necessary updating process.

Professor Gupte expressed the fact that we should continue the name Gestosis and it wasn't logical to scrap it completely as it is a prestigious name and sets the organization apart from the rest and also it has to it its glorious history. This will also help in building up the OG at a faster pace. All the basic ideologies of education, accreditation and research should be preserved. Whatever we already have should be stored as archives for the remembrance of the illustrious history of the OG.

Professor Ayse Kafkasli mentioned that we should work towards building up the organization and invite and involve more members. We also should have a large Steering Committee. For funding we should initiate training courses under the OG organization. The members will continue to remain on the SC as long as they decide to be there was suggested by Professor Alex Vidaeff.

Professor Girija Wagh suggested that we should first find out the functioning of the website and should also communicate with the next OG president from Athens Greece.

Professor Ayse Kafkasli handed over the baton of the next OG to Professor Noroyono Wibowo from Indonesia. He was requested to communicate with the steering Committee the dates of the 2012 OG at the earliest.

The meeting ended with the following conclusions

1. Revive the OG to its previous glory and beyond
2. Update the website
3. Widen the membership
4. Communications to as many countries and members as possible
5. Accreditation of various institutions to conduct training and fellowships
6. Electronic journal
7. Formation of the new constitution
8. Seek input communication from Prince Avtandil Chkheidze.