Dear Colleague

The very first meeting with European eye bankers was held in Aarhus in January 1989, more than 25 years ago. At this time, organ culture had become popular during the 1980ies and it was felt by Professor Niels Ehlers, that exchange of knowledge and technical skills could further promote the eye banking technique.

Just less than 20 eye bankers participated in the first meeting in Aarhus, but since then a structured European Eye Bank Association has been formed and now more than 200 corneal surgeons, researchers and technicians participate in the annual meeting which still is held in the month of January.

Every annual EEBA meeting has until now been the best. And we will try to continue on this path!

In 2016, we will go "Back to the Future". Although Advanced Medical Therapies related to cultivating and expanding stem cells may be the future, it will take some time to reach this goal. The meeting will focus on present eye banking techniques and we will try to promote exchange of present knowledge between eye bankers, technicians as well as scientists, and will have focus on the future to optimise our skills. We are also happy to present three workshops focusing on European donation practice, donor evaluation and selection, and the NOTIFY project.

Aarhus is a young and lively city with almost 50,000 students out of a population of 325,000. The meeting will be held at a very central location, Radisson Blu Scandinavia Hotel Aarhus.

Thank you for participating in EEBA 2016!

Professor Jesper Hjortdal MD, PhD
The Danish Cornea Bank, Department of Ophthalmology
Aarhus University Hospital
Programme overview

**Friday, January 22**

**Technician Workshop**

09:00 – 10:30  Evaluation of the corneal endothelium and beyond
10:30 – 11:00  Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:10  ISBT 128 and the Single European Code (Introduction)
11:10 – 11:20  The NOTIFY Project (Introduction)
11:20 – 12:00/12:30  Industry Presentations

09:00 – 12:30  **EEBA Committee Meeting (closed meeting)**
12:00 – 13:00  Lunch Break
13:00 – 13:15  Welcome (Jesper Hjortdal)

**1st Afternoon session (Details & abstracts: Page 9)**

13:15 – 14:00  NOTIFY Workshop with case presentations (Aurora Navarro Cantullera)
14:00 – 14:45  Donation practice & selection (Hermel & Zorzi)
14:45 – 15:00  Company presentations
15:00 – 15:30  Coffee Break

**2nd Afternoon session (Details & abstracts: Page 15)**

15:30 – 16:00  Storage & tissue culture media (Parekh & van der Wees)
16:00 – 17:15  Stem cells (Figueiredo & Thuret)
18:00  **ARoS & Gala Dinner**

**Saturday, January 23**

08:30 – 09:30  **EEBA Business Meeting**

**1st Morning session (Details & abstracts: Page 25)**

09:30 – 11:10  Global eye banking (Pollock & Dahl)
11:10 – 11:30  Coffee Break & Poster session I (Details & abstracts: Page 54)

**2nd Morning session (Details & abstracts: Page 33)**

11:30 – 12:20  Microbiology & safety (Maier & Lauterbach)
12:20 – 13:00  Donor selection Workshop (Beele & Trias)
13:00 – 14:00  Lunch Break

**1st Afternoon session (Details & abstracts: Page 45)**

14:00 – 14:50  Tissue preparation in the eye bank (Groeneveld-van Beek & Ivarsen)
14:50 – 15:30  European models for good donation practice (Hjortdal & Trias)
15:30 – 16:00  Coffee & Poster session II (Details & abstracts: Page 54)

**2nd Afternoon session**

16:00 – 17:30  Clinical results (Bachmann & Armitage)
17:30 – 17:45  Farewell
17:45 – 18:30  Drink & Snacks at Radisson Blu by Visit Aarhus
Friday, January 22

1st Afternoon session

13:15 – 14:00  NOTIFY Workshop with case presentations (Aurora Navarro Cantullera)

14:00 – 14:45  Donation practice & selection (Hermel & Zorzi)

14:00 – 14:10  B. Wulff, Hamburg: Cornea donation in a forensic institute: the Hamburg model.


14:35 – 14:45  I. Zorzi, Venice: Good practice in the carrying out of a comprehensive anamnesis by interview with the General Practitioner in relation to the selection of ocular tissue donors.
Friday, January 22

2nd Afternoon session

15:30 – 16:00  Storage & tissue culture media (Ruzza & van der Wees)
15:30 – 15:40  A. Ruzza, Venice:
              Synthetic media for corneal preservation system replacing the conventional organ culture system
15:40 – 15:50  J. van der Wees, Rotterdam:
              Graft storage time and donor age in Descemet Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty (DMEK)
15:50 – 16:00  A. Sajet, Rotterdam:
              Dehydration of anterior corneal donor tissue with polyethylene glycol (PEG)-enriched media

16:00 – 17:15  Stem cells (Figueiredo & Thuret)
16:00 – 16:20  D. Ardigo, Chiesi:
              Regulatory and development history of HOLOCLAR
16:20 – 16:35  J. Behaegel, Antwerp:
              Standardized, non-xenogenic, cultivated limbal stem cell transplantation: short- and long-term results from a phase I clinical trial and preliminary results from a phase II multicenter trial
16:35 – 16:45  Z. Lužnik, Ljubljana:
              The fate of Limbal Niche during serial ex vivo limbal explant culturing on amniotic membrane (first results of ex vivo culturing in Slovenia)
16:45 – 16:55  F. Figueiredo:
              Molecular analysis of inflammation in corneal pannus tissue from patients with total limbal stem cell deficiency by quantitative real time PCR
16:55 – 17:15  G. Thuret, St-Etienne:
              Endothelial transplant perspectives: Will Eye Banks be out of business in 20 years?
Saturday, January 23

1st Morning session

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 – 11:10</td>
<td>Global eye banking (Pollock &amp; Dahl)</td>
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<td>09:50 – 10:05</td>
<td>G. Pollock, Melbourne: The Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand (EBAANZ) Bioethical Framework</td>
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<td>10:05 – 10:25</td>
<td>M. Cox, Copenhagen: Exchange of tissue for ocular surgery within the EU and globally: What do competent authorities require?</td>
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<td>10:40 – 10:50</td>
<td>Y. Urbanova, Prague: Joint Contribution And Partnership To Address Global Corneal Blindness</td>
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<td>10:50 – 11:00</td>
<td>C. Wong: The Road to Developing Quality Eye Banking in Hong Kong</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:10</td>
<td>M. Rahman: Cornea transplantation in Bangladesh: who do the eye banks serve?</td>
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Saturday, January 23

2nd Morning session

11:30 – 12:20  Microbiology & safety (Maier & Lauterbach)
11:30 – 11:40  T. Sorgenfrei, Hildesheim:
Relationship between conjunctival swabs and contamination in organ
culture of corneas
11:40 – 11:50  Z. Skenderi, Berlin:
A New Approach for Sterility Testing of Corneal Organ Culture Medium
11:50 – 12:00  I. Wilkemeyer, Berlin:
Validation of Sterility Testing for Cornea Organ Culture Medium
Containing Antibiotics using Blood Culture Bottles with Penicillinase as
Additive
12:00 – 12:10  D’Amato Tóthová, Monza:
Development of a cold storage medium with lyophilized antimycotic
12:10 – 12:20  E. Martinez-Conesa, Barcelona:
Five years analysis of microbiological contamination in organ-cultured
corneas in Barcelona Tissue Bank

12:20 – 13:00  Donor selection Workshop (Beele & Trias)
Saturday, January 23

1st Afternoon session

14:00 – 14:50  Tissue preparation in the eye bank (Groeneveld-van Beek & Ivarsen)

14:00 – 14:10  A. Ruzza, Venice:
Preloaded donor corneal lenticules in a new validated 3D printed i-Glide system for DSAEK

14:10 – 14:20  E. Schachermayr, Linz:
Endothelial cell density after pre-cut DMEK graft preparation

14:20 – 14:30  E. Groeneveld-van Beek, Rotterdam:
Multiple grafts from one donor button: organisation, traceability and preparation methods

14:30 – 14:40  M. Kanavi, Teheran:
Profile and Thickness Measurements of Donor Endothelial Keratoplasty Lenticules Prepared from Fresh Donated Whole Globes with Visante Optical Coherence Tomography

14:40 – 14:50  W. Vermeulen, Beverwijk:
Start up pre-stripped DMEK in the corneabank

14:50 – 15:30  European models for good donation practice (Hjortdal & Trias)
Saturday, January 23

2nd Afternoon session

16:00 – 17:30  Clinical results (Bachmann & Armitage)

16:00 – 16:10  M. Dichman, Maastricht: Changing Practice Patterns and Long Term Outcomes of Corneal Transplantation: A Prospective Multicenter Registry Study

16:10 – 16:20  B. Bachmann, Cologne: Single-center experience from over 1000 DMEK surgeries and implications for eye banking

16:20 – 16:30  P. Studeny, Prague: Long-term results after endothelial transplantation using DMEK-S technique

16:30 – 16:40  J. Armitage, Bristol: HLA matching in the age of lamellar keratoplasty

16:40 – 16:50  S. Heinzelmann, Freiburg: DMEK following penetrating keratoplasty: clinical results

16:50 – 17:00  P. Maier, Freiburg: Correlation of the intraocular pressure and the rebubbling rate following DMEK

17:00 – 17:10  I. Dekaris, Zagreb: Cataract after penetrating keratoplasty - a real complication or not?

17:10 – 17:30  K. Jirsova: Eduard Konrad Zirm: The first successful transplantation of a human cornea and his bridge to the future.
Posters I

P. Sauvageot, Barcelona:
Novel application of femtosecond laser for Boston keratoprosthesis donor cornea double trephination

D. Wille, Hannover:
Microbiological testing of corneal organ-culture-medium - potential and limitations

M Rončević, Zagreb:
Eye bank activity at University Hospital Centre Zagreb

M. Rahman, Chittagon:
Prospects of Grief Counseling in Bangladesh

M. Rahman, Chittagon:
Challenges and Progress of Eye Banking in Bangladesh

M. Rahman, Chittagon:
Legal issues concerning eye donation in Bangladesh

M. Kanavi, Teheran:
Single Pass Technique Using 400_m versus 350_m Microkeratome Head for Preparation of Donor Endothelial Keratoplasty Lenticules from Fresh Whole Globes

M. Nasić, Zagreb:
Attitudes of coming mothers to donate the placenta in the medical, research and commercial purposes

M. Bischoff-Jung, Homburg/Saar:
Impact of the distance to the umbilical cord on growth factor and interleukin concentrations in amniotic membrane suspension (AMS)
Posters II

I Grabksa-Liberek, Warsaw:
Twenty years of Warsaw Eye Bank activity – our experience and standards on tissue preparation.

A Pašalić, Zagreb:
Anti-VEGF treatment in repeated penetrating keratoplasty

K. Deli, Prague:
Evaluation of factors influencing big bubble creation in donor corneas

B. Rymgaylo-Jankowska, Lublin:
Reasons of disqualifying donor corneas for transplantation over the 21 years of the Lublin Eye Bank activity, Poland

P. Gain, St-Etienne:
Upgrading wide field contact specular microscopy

M. Parekh, Venice:
Pre-loaded tissues for Descemet's Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty

F. Schaub, Cologne:
High accuracy single-pass Ultrathin DSAEK (UT-DSAEK) with the SLc Expert Microkeratome

J. Cabrerizo, Copenhagen:
DMEK preparation with specific instrument; learning curve at The Basque Transfusion and Human Tissue Centre

Lei Liu, Aalborg:
Optimization of cultured limbal stem cell subpopulations flow cytometric sorting for deep RNA sequencing

Suxia Li, Qingdao
Focus on the clinical application of the first artificial bioengineering cornea in China