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MISSION

Through worldwide collaboration, CROES seeks to assess, using evidence based scientific methodology, the various aspects of clinical endourology.

VISION

By applying rigorous scientific evaluation to the field of clinical endourology, CROES will enable all urologic surgeons to bring to their patients the most effective and efficient care possible.

PROJECTS

- Global PCNL study
- Global URS study
- Global Greenlight Laser study
- Global Renal Mass study
- Global NBI study

CONTACT

For more information please contact Sonja van Rees Vellinga (info@croesoffice.org).



NEWS FROM CROES: TIME FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Jean de la Rosette and Stavros Gravas

When the concept of CROES was envisaged and introduced, we could only speculate and share with our colleagues our expectations regarding the feasibility of global studies. The Global PCNL study was the first project launched by CROES and was concluded on December 31, 2009. In total, 5,803 patients were treated in 96 centers and were enrolled in the PCNL database that provides significant insight on academic and community practice and covers the entire spectrum from high to more restricted volume centers. It is obvious that these figures convincingly prove that creation of a global network of endocenters is realistic and can serve as the basis for promoting international clinical research and conduct of multicenter large-scale clinical studies.

Now, it is time to bring into light all those who make this achievement feasible. As it was stated before,¹ participating centers are granted with a certificate signed by the chairman of CROES, the secretary general, and the president of the Endourological Society at the end of each study (Fig. 1). Therefore, all eligible centers that contributed to the PCNL study have received this certificate that verifies the valuable participation of each department in the project and recognizes its altruistic contribution to clinical research in the field of endourology and emerging technologies.

The CROES Council feels the need to further acknowledge all those who were actively involved in the Global PCNL project. These 96 centers were the first to believe in this effort (more followed and joined ongoing projects) and represent the backbone of the CROES global network for future studies. See Table 1 for a list of these centers and names of the principal investigators involved. A complete list of the contributing centers, along with photos of the principal investigators, is also available on the CROES website: www.croesoffice.org

In addition, the first manuscript on PCNL entitled “The CROES PCNL Study—Indications and Outcomes in 5,803 Cases” (authors: Jean de la Rosette, Dean Assimos, Mahesh Desai, Jorge Gu-

tierrez, James Lingeman, Roberto Scarpa and Ahmet Tefekli) has been submitted to *Journal of Endourology* for publication. At the end of this descriptive article, an appendix of all the involved endocenters has been attached. Four more articles are in preparation and/or are ready for submission; the Publication Office coordinates the entire process in order to secure the unobstructed and timely flow of data publication and to guard the guidelines of publications set forth by CROES.

CROES is you; therefore, send us your feedback or suggestions to further improve this common effort. The time is now—with CROES, the ability is yours.²

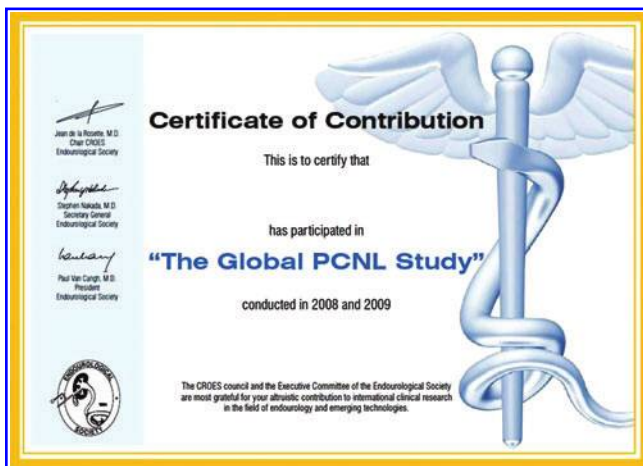


FIG. 1. Example of CROES certificate.

TABLE 1. CENTERS AND PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS PARTICIPATING IN CROES' FIRST PROJECT—GLOBAL PCNL STUDY

ARGENTINA

Francisco Pedro Juan Daels, Centro de Litiasis Hospital Italiano, Buenos Aires
Gaston Labate, Urosalud, Buenos Aires

AUSTRALIA

Damien Bolton, University of Melbourne, Austin Hospital, Heidelberg Vic

AUSTRIA

Christoph Klingler, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna

BELGIUM

Ben van Cleynenbreugel, UZ Gasthuisberg, Leuven

CANADA

Hassan Razvi, The University of Western Ontario, London
Konrad M. Szymanski, Royal Victoria Hospital, McGill University Health Centre, Montreal

CHILE

Benjamin Silva Barroilhet, Hospital San Borja Arriaran, Santiago

CHINA

Lei Shi, Yantai Yu Huang Ding Hospital, Yantai
Yinghao Sun, Changhai Hospital, Shanghai
Wei Xue, Renji Hospital, Shanghai Jiaotong University Medical School, Shanghai
Xiaochun Zhang, Peking University First Hospital, Beijing

CZECH REPUBLIC

Dalibor Pacik, University Hospital Brno, Brno

DENMARK

Palle Osther, Fredericia Hospital, Fredericia
Michael Luke, Herlev Hospital, Herlev

FRANCE

Christian Saussine, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg
András Hoznek, Service d'Urologie CHU Henri Mondor, Créteil-cedex

GERMANY

Peter Alken, University Hospital Mannheim, Mannheim
Andreas J. Gross, Asklepios Hospital Barmbek, Hamburg
Peter J. Olbert, Universitätsklinikum Gießen und Marburg GmbH, Marburg
Jens Rassweiler, SLK-Klinikum am Gesundbrunnen, Heilbron
Jens-Uwe Stolzenburg, University of Leipzig, Leipzig

GREECE

Evangelos N. Liatsikos, University of Patras, Patras
Michael D. Melekos, University Hospital of Larissa, Larissa
Andreas Skolarikos, Sismanoglio Hospital, Athens

INDIA

Mahesh Desai, Muljibhai Patel Urological Hospital, Nadiad
Ganesh Gopalakrishnan, Vedanayagam Hospital, RS Puram
Narmada P. Gupta, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
S.V. Kandasami, Vedanayagam Hospital and postgraduate Institute, Tamilnadu
Arup K Mandal, Postgraduate Institute of Medical education & Research, Chandigarh
Pranjali Modi, Institute of Kidney Diseases and Research Centre, Gujarat
S.K. PAL, Lions Kidney Hospital and Urology Research Institute New Friends Colony, New-Delhi
Hemendra N. Shah, R. G. Stone Urology & Laparoscopy Hospital, Mumbai
Rakesh Kapoor, Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute, Lucknow

ISRAEL

Mordechai Duvdevani, Hadassah Hebrew University Hospital (Ein-Karem), Jerusalem
Mario Sofer, Tel-Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Tel-Aviv

(Continued)

TABLE 1. (CONTINUED)

ITALY

Giampaolo Bianchi, University of Modena & Reggio Emilia, Modena
Furio Cauda, Koelliker Hospital, Torino
Antonio Celia, San Bassiano Hospital, Bassano del Grappa
Luigi Cormio, University of Foggia, Foggia
Alfonso Crisci, Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria Careggi, Firenze
Alessandro D'Addessi, Catholic University School of Medicine, Rome
Antonello De Lisa, Urological Clinic, University of Cagliari, Cagliari
Marco De Sio, Second University of Naples, Naples
Antonio Frattini, Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria di Parma, Parma,
Marco Garofalo, Policlinic Hospital S.Orsola Malpighi, University of Bologna, Bologna,
Guido Giusti, Istituto Clinico Humanitas, IRCCS, Rozzano (Milan)
Emanuele Montanari, University of Milan, San Paolo Hospital, Milan
Pietro Saba, Moriggia Pelascini Hospital, Gravedono
Roberto Scarpa, Università di Torino, Turin
Augusto Rippa

JAPAN

Akito Yamaguchi, Harasanshin Hospital, Fukuoka
Kikuo Nutahara, Kyorin University School of Medicine, Tokyo

MEXICO

Jorge Gutierrez, Instituto de Endourologia, Centro Medico Puerta de Hierro and Nuevo Hospital Civil,
 Universidad de Guadalajara, Guadalajara

THE NETHERLANDS

Willem P.A. Boellaard, Erasmus MC, Rotterdam
Jean de la Rosette, AMC University Hospital, Amsterdam
Ad Hendriks, Catharina Ziekenhuis, Eindhoven
Jan Kums, Isala Klinieken, Zwolle
Willem E.M. Stribos, Atrium Medisch Centrum, Heerlen
Peter L.M. Vijverberg, St. Antonius Ziekenhuis, Nieuwegein

PORTUGAL

Tomé Manuel Lopes, Hospital St. Maria, Lisbon

ROMANIA

Viorel Bucuras, Timisoara Clinical Emergency Hospital, Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara
Petrisor Geavlete, Saint John Emergency Clinical Hospital, Bucharest
Mihail Radu Boja, University of Tirgu-Mures Medical School, Targu Mures
Mircea Botoca, Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Timisoara

SPAIN

José H. Amón Sesmero, Hospital Universitario Rio Hortega, Valladolid
Gonzalo Bueno Chomón, Hospital General Universitario Gregorio Marañón, Madrid
Gaspar Ibarlucea Gonzalez, Hospital Galdakao-Usansolo, Bizkaia
Juan Antonio López García, Complejo Hospitalario Donostia, San Sebastian-Guipuzcoa
Jorge Rioja, Hospital Miguel Servet, Zaragoza
Alvaro Serrano Pascual, University Hospital Guadalajara, Guadalajara
Jose Gabriel Valdivia-Uría, Clinical University Hospital Lozano Blesa, Zaragoza

SWEDEN

Magnus Grabe, Skåne University Hospital, University of Lund, Malmö
Helena Walfridsson, University Hospital, Orebro

THAILAND

Kittinut Kijvikai, Ramathibodi Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok

TURKEY

Ali Riza Kural, Istanbul Bilim University and Group Florence Nightingale Hospital, Istanbul
Bulent Onal, Istanbul University, Cerrahpasa School of Medicine, Istanbul
Ahmet Tefekli, Haseki Teaching and Research Hospital, Istanbul
Burak Turna, Ege University School of Medicine, Izmir
Tibet Erdogru, Akdeniz University Hospital, Antalya

(Continued)

TABLE 1. (CONTINUED)

UNITED KINGDOM

Niels-Peter Noor Buchholz, Barts & The London NHS Trust, London

David Tolley, The Scottish Lithotripter Centre, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, Scotland

Anthony Timoney, North Bristol NHS Trust, Bristol

UNITED STATES

Timothy D. Averch, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburg

Alberto Breda, University of California, Los Angeles

James Lingeman, Methodist Hospital Institute for Kidney Stone Disease, Indianapolis

Michael Louie, University of California, Irvine

Robert Nadler, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago

Margaret Pearle, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas

Glenn Preminger, Duke University Medical Center, Durham

Arthur Smith, Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park

J. Stuart Wolf, University of Michigan Medical Center, Ann Arbor

Carson Wong, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City

Michael Grasso, Lenox Hill Hospital, New York

Stephen Nakada, UW School of Medicine and Public Health, Wisconsin

Ramakrishna Venkatesh, University of Kentucky, Lexington

References

1. de la Rosette J, Gravas S. Quality and transparency in CROES research projects. *J Endourol* 2010;24:317–319.
2. de la Rosette J. A platform for global endourological research. *J Endourol* 2009;23:1551–1553.

- Ongoing projects are: the Global Greenlight Laser observational study, the Global Ureteroscopy study, and the Global Renal Mass study. The randomized study on Narrow Band Imaging versus White Light Imaging was launched on August 1, 2010.
 - For further information please visit: www.croesoffice.org or contact the Office Manager of CROES, Mrs. Sonja van Rees Vellinga (info@croesoffice.org).

