

## **The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of IAD took place from November 22 to 23 2019 in Weimar**

The IAD is an Interdisciplinary Working Group about Vascular Access for dialysis. Symposium was combined with an international Educational Program. All participations were part of a very interesting event.

The program started with two workshops about ultrasound cannulation of AVF/AVG for beginners and experts. The beginner-group talked about experiences with difficult cannulation of VA and how to deal with. After that they had a theoretical education about the function of different ultrasound devices. All participants were able to practice the ultrasound-guided cannulation on self-made models and gain initial experience. The workshop was a great success.

Second workshop included the exchange between several professions due to further experience in working with ultrasound and identify additional structures, become familiar with modifications of the shunt vein. We saw videos about complications related to cannulation and how they were able to reverse the process after a short time. The participants concluded that not all events surrounding a failed puncture are understood and that research is urgently needed.

Prof Dr Hollenbeck, President of IAD, warmly welcomed all participants in the name of the executive board to the annual meeting.

Personalities like Teun Wilming, Vascular surgeon from Birmingham, has reported his results of exemplary cooperation with nurses and nephrology. Jeffrey Lawson, vascular surgeon at Duke University of North Carolina and "inventor" from Humocyte® provides us with the results of its highly innovative, humane and bioreactor cultured vascular prostheses for shunt surgery.

Further topics were: What happens in the shunt vein during dialysis? Unexpected results from ultrasound examinations – Dr Morgenstern/Dr Kurp from Koblenz, relevance of stenosis - Prof Dr Kroenung, identification of stenosis based on arterial and venous pressures of the dialysis machine – Mr Kopperschmidt.

The evening session includes themes like: regional anaesthesia in shunt surgery, VA and thrombophlebia, inguinal access as an alternative to HeRo, prophylactic antimicrobial creams for exit care with CVC – is that necessary? News about certification of shunt centres.

Next day started with general meeting, early 8 am. Afterwards the annual conference was continued with interesting topics: literature update – vascular surgeon – intervention – nephrology and nursing. Future of dialysis, reimbursement of outpatient shunt operations, the role of the doctor in informing the patients about shunt operation, home haemodialysis, interactive case discussion, first cannulation for minimally invasive created AV fistulas and much more.

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The annual meeting ends with the invitation for December 2020 in Weimar.

I hope I will see you next year in Weimar. Stay healthy.

Angela Drähne, BA Germany

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