



July 2016, Issue 10

ECAT Foundation

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Editor in Chief:

P. ter Hark

Editorial

Today we are pleased to send you the first digital Newsletter. With this Newsletter we aim to provide you with some important ECAT information, relevant articles, case reports and reviews on publications in the fields of quality control and/ or laboratory diagnosis in thrombosis & haemostasis.

Enjoy reading them, Petra ter Hark

Accreditation

In April 2012 the external quality assessment programme of the ECAT Foundation was for the first time accredited according to the ISO/IEC standard 17043:2010. We are happy to announce that recently the accreditation status of the ECAT Foundation was extended till 1 May 2020. On the ECAT website (www.ecat.nl) you can find a new copy of our accreditation certificate as well as the most recent version of the scope of our accreditation.

ECAT Symposium

On Thursday 10 and Friday 11 November 2016 the 10th ECAT symposium will be held in the Holiday Inn Hotel in Leiden, The Netherlands. An attractive programme for this symposium has been put together. In conjunction with the ECAT symposium also two courses will be given on Wednesday 9 November. Details on both the courses and the symposium are available at the ECAT website (www.ecat.nl). Select the option Meeting. **Please keep the dates free.**

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Focus Article: Can we achieve better between-laboratory variation for Factor VIII inhibitor testing?

For more than 10 years the ECAT Foundation has been working on improving the Factor VIII (FVIII) inhibitor test. The reason for starting this initiative was its high between-laboratory coefficient of variation (CVb) around 30% to 70% without any improvement over time. It has been shown that the FVIII inhibitor test can be standardised, resulting in a CVb of 10 – 20%. Although these results have been published and discussed several times at the ECAT symposia many of the laboratories participating in the ECAT external quality assessment programme have not changed their methods to recommended method. Therefore a project was started with the department of Behavioural Psychology of the Nijmegen Radboud University.

[Read more](#)

Case Report: Isolated acquired factor VII deficiency. Report of Two Cases and Review of the Literature

Two patients diagnosed with an isolated acquired factor (F) VII deficiency, without inhibitor are described. What is currently known about the pathogenesis, clinical features, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of acquired FVII deficiency is reported. After a literature search 22 individual cases are found reported in the literature (between 1980 and Juli 2014). Besides, Toor et al. identified eight patients with acquired FVII deficiency within two weeks following hematopoietic stem cell transplantation and Biron et al. reported eleven cases of acquired FVII deficiency associated with severe systemic sepsis.

[Read more](#)

Literature Review: A computer-based model to access costs associated with the use of factor VIII and factor IX one-stage and chromogenic activity assay

(S. Kitchen *et al.* *J Thromb Haemost.* 2016; 14: 757 – 764)

The measurement of coagulation factor VIII (FVIII) and factor IX (FIX) plays an important role in both the diagnosis and monitoring of treatment of respectively haemophilia A and B patients. For the measurement of FVIII and FIX an assay based on a one-stage clotting assay is the most widely used. With the new long-acting modified FVIII and FIX products, which are now appearing on the market, interferences in the one-stage clotting assay measurement have been shown depending on the type of APTT reagent. Therefore for this purpose the use of chromogenic methods is recommended. One of the barriers for a common introduction of the use of chromogenic methods may be the perception of the high cost of these tests.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events

2nd International Factor XIII workshop

28 September – 2 October 2016, Hévíz, Hungary

[website](#)

European Congress on Thrombosis and Haemostasis

28 – 30 September 2016, The Hague, The Netherlands

[website](#)

Coagulation Testing Quality Conference and Workshop

5 – 7 October 2016, Minneapolis, United States

[website](#)

For more events, please have a look into our [Calendar](#).



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