

Summit and workshop 5-6 October 2015, Copenhagen

Summary

Day 1 (5 October 2015)

AM session - Introduction: The chair briefly recalled achievements of the second grant year and enumerated activities, which already have taken place during the 3rd grant year. This includes the training school in Erlangen on patch testing (20-24 July 2015) and the early career investigator's half-day poster session, followed by a half-day seminar during the 4th International Summer Academy (29 July 2015) in Munich (Annex 1). He mentioned that Slovakia and Turkey have joined the Action, which makes a total of 30 parties now included in StanDerm. Concerning the objectives of the present meeting: mainly enhance exchange among the five working groups and help identify (further) interlinkages between the groups in order to tap into expertise of each other to bring forward the objectives of StanDerm in accordance with the MoU. All working groups shall in addition undertake a „mid-term review“: Where do we stand? What needs to be done? What is needed to achieve the set goals? The afternoon of day 1 will then be devoted to specific research findings related to key research fields in OSD. A platform for early career investigators to present current research is being made available during the morning session of day 2.

Knowledge dissemination: What's up?: In reply to the question “Where do we stand” with regard to knowledge dissemination, Britta Wulfhorst, chair of WG 5, first drew attention to important accomplishments of WG 5, which progressively are paving the way to a comprehensive StanDerm knowledge dissemination strategy. In this context, the World Café (Oct. 2014) with input of all participants and the workshop held in Dresden (March 2015) with representatives of all WGs have been two crucial milestones to identify a list of priorities for action towards knowledge dissemination inside and outside StanDerm. A further milestone is the impact analysis survey, first carried out at the workshop in Dresden with 12 persons and now to be extended to all StanDerm members. The survey is most useful as it helps identify interdependencies for knowledge dissemination within and outside StanDerm. Participants were thus requested to fill out the questionnaire during the session. Participants were then asked to determine in small buzz groups the top 4 priorities (out of 8) for action in the remaining 2 years of StanDerm (see Annex 2).

The ranking resulted in priorities 2, 4, 5, 6, namely:

- Each WG to provide plain language summary of WG results for non-scientists and multipliers, to be posted on StanDerm's website and other institutions' homepages.
- Dissemination strategy to publicize StanDerm outcomes (newsletter, website). Information should reach not only experts but also policy-makers (national level) and end users. Identify appropriate channels of communication.
- Identification of good practice knowledge dissemination models and inventory for further use of StanDerm experts in their own country.

- Identify useful tools for experts, workers and teachers and inventory for further use of StanDerm experts and others.

Out of these four, each WG had then the task to identify in its ensuing meetings two priorities which will be addressed by the WG.

The rest of the morning was devoted to separate working group meetings.

PM session

Skin barrier biomarkers, Sanja Kezic: This lecture provided a research update on biomarkers and their usability in research and occupational settings. Examples of biomarker studies were demonstrated. The importance of biomarkers for disease prognosis and response to treatment, also in terms of targeted prevention measures, was highlighted.

In vivo Raman Confocal Microscopy of the skin: Gerwin Puppels from RiverD explained the Raman Spectroscopy technique, which is based on scattering of light by molecules. Meanwhile, a second generation skin composition analyzer has been developed, namely the gen2 – SCA, which he introduced. It is a full re-design of RiverD's successful Model 3510 SCA (introduced in 2004) and has been rigorously optimized for simple and rapid in vivo analysis of the molecular composition of the skin (specifically NMF) with high spatial resolution. The advantages but also challenges were highlighted during the presentation.

Make underreporting an issue: the Eastern European experience: Horatiu Moldovan, Romania, carried out a survey with 15 Eastern European countries to find out the underlying causes of the enormous underreporting of OSD in these countries. The survey revealed that this is *inter alia* often due to the notification system in the respective country, a lack of enforcement of OSH legislation and the poor knowledge on the causality between work and disease. To conclude, he proposed to develop an action plan in order to tackle these challenges in a systematic manner, possibly with the support of ICOH, ILO, WHO and StanDerm.

UV skin cancer as an occupational disease - a European survey: Intermediate results of two surveys currently being carried out by the WG 3 subgroup on UV skin cancer were presented by Carmen Salavastru. The first survey collects data across Europe on the incidence and prevalence of recognized (occupational) skin cancer, on responsibilities of diagnosis and treatment of occupational skin cancer and on any existing prevention measures implemented in the surveyed countries. The second questionnaire covers Sentinel Centres for measuring Occupational Skin Cancer Incidence and Prevalence in Europe. **So far, only 8 countries have replied to the surveys. In order to be more representative it was proposed to send the survey online to all management committee members.** The Secretariat will take care of this by mid' October.

Gloves and allergic contact dermatitis, Kristiina Aalto-Korte: The presentation pinpointed to the fact that protective gloves may often also be the direct cause for contact dermatitis since they irritate the skin and thus cause either immediate or delayed contact allergy, e.g. contact urticarial/protein contact dermatitis and allergic contact dermatitis. Contact allergy to gloves is therefore a significant problem in occupational dermatology and needs to be taken into account for diagnosis and treatment of a skin disease.

Review of OSD patient management pathways in Europe: One and a half years ago, WG 4 launched a broad survey on pathways to occupational skin disease prevention/diagnosis/treatment/rehabilitation in Europe. The aim was to have a clear picture on the current status and to make the commonalities and differences visible. The results of this vast survey were presented by Vera Mahler.

Common European standards on occupational skin diseases: Ana Gimenez-Arnau presented the current status of this crucial piece of work (one main output) of StanDerm. The idea is to develop a paper on minimum requirements on diagnosis, treatment and prevention of work-related dermatoses with a view to harmonizing these at European level. After elaborating on the development of the paper, Ana drew attention to the internal WG discussion on whether the paper should be named “consensus paper” or “opinion”. This will need to be addressed by the Action members when the document has been finalized in 2016.

Results of elevator pitch in plenary: As a follow-up to the identified priorities during the morning session, the working groups had an opportunity to exchange and discuss their “offers” and “demands” during the extended coffee break.

WG 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with other WGs will be expanded, in particular with WG 3: a joint meeting will be planned in 2016 • Write an article on „skin barrier markers and their putative role in dermatitis“ to illustrate the inter-linkages between biomarkers and diagnostics and treatment in dermatology
WG 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments and input from all Action members will be sought during the final stage of the document (see above PM session) • Sharing of protocols, development of basic tools and other material needs to be created and disseminated with the support of WG 5
WG 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans joint meeting with WG 1 in 2016 • Will work together with WG 4 to find out what are the most high risk situations workers can be exposed to • Seeks support from WG 5 to post inventory of tools for intervention studies on website
WG 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop recommendation on rubber additives • Ongoing collection of patch test (allergy test) results in the context of the ESSCA network. Currently results from 2009-2012 have been/are going to be published, and 2013/14 results are being collected for future pooling, analysis and publication
WG 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of priority 4 and priority 5 • Provide support to WG 1 - 4 for dissemination of results • Write paper on outcome of impact analysis survey • Develop dissemination concept

Day 2 (6 October 2015)

Day 2 started with a keynote presentation from the UK, done by Vaughan Parsons on behalf of Ira Madan, on a current cluster randomized controlled intervention study (SCIN) in nurses in NHS hospitals (student nurses and ICU nurses), followed by four presentations from early career investigators Jacob Schwensen (DK), Marcella Mauro (IT), Maryam Soltanipoor (NL), Sanne Skovvang Steengaard (DK)) on their on-going research studies.

Miet Verhamme, Coordinator European policy and European projects from Coiffure Org (Belgian hairdressers association) presented results of an 18-month transnational project “close shave” to identify in an initial phase good practice examples relating to safety and health in the hairdressing sector in Europe. The second stage of the project focused on the development of practical tools particularly for training of apprentices (Annex 3).

Overview Calendar 3rd grant year: activities, deadlines, and perspectives with regard to 4th (and last) grant year

WG 1	22 February 2016	Hamburg
WG 2	3 March 2016	Barcelona
WG 3 + Subgroup UV skin cancer	18-19 February 2016	Bucharest
WG 4	22 February 2016	Ljubljana
WG 5	14 March	Skopje

Planning 4th grant year (to be discussed and approved by the MC in the following session):

- *Training school* on occupational skin cancer from 31 August to 3 September 2016 in Modena (Italy)
- (possibly) *workshop on OSC* within Dermato-Venereology Congress in Bosnia Herzegovina (8-11 September 2016)
- *StanDerm workshop* 12-14 October 2016 in Krakow (Poland), during which 1 full-day for WG meetings
- *Final StanDerm Conference* from 18-19 May in Berlin (Germany) with key stakeholder representatives to showcase Action results.

Important: After October 2016, no further meetings of the working groups are planned. Therefore, WG should strive for finalizing as much work as possible until October 2016.

StanDerm Website: It was proposed to post:

- Existing recommendations for proper disinfection of hands (instead of hand washing)
- List on ingredients in industrial products.

This will be followed-up by the Secretariat in cooperation with WG 5.

The chair then thanked all members for their active involvement and looks forward to the continuing work of the Action.
