SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT
3rd MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN CYSTICERCOSIS WORKING GROUP
16-17 APRIL 2012, ANTWERP, BELGIUM

Organised by the Unit of Veterinary Helminthology of the Department of Biomedical Sciences, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium

Theme

*Taenia solium* taeniosis/cysticercosis is a neglected tropical disease (NTD) affecting mostly developing countries. One of the biggest problems is the poor availability of good quality data for global burden of disease estimates, which are urgently needed to advocate for more funding both for research as for control and prevention. To provide these data, research covering many different disciplines such as diagnosis, transmission dynamics, clinic, socio-economic impact assessment and control is needed.

To ensure a concerted European approach in research on cysticercosis/taeniosis the inaugural meeting of the Cysticercosis Working Group in Europe (EUCWG) was held in 2008 in Portugal. The aim was to bring together European groups and institutions involved in cysticercosis and to link up with the Cysticercosis Working Group of Eastern and Southern Africa (CWGES). The second meeting of the European *T. solium* Taeniosis/Cysticercosis Working Group was organised by the WHO/FAO Collaborating Centre in Denmark in 2010 (27 participants from 11 countries, see annex).

This third meeting has been called to follow up on and to confirm the Europeans commitment to the global partnership and campaign for combating cysticercosis.

Objectives

The overall objective of the meeting is to create an opportunity for representatives from various European institutes and organisations as well as specialists from endemic areas to meet and discuss aspects relating to *T. solium* research. The specific objectives are:

1. To update research group members of specific past, current and future initiatives within the field of *T. solium* taeniosis and cysticercosis research within Europe and endemic areas.

2. To further strengthen the scientific collaboration and coordination of research between institutes and organisations within and outside Europe (via links with CWGES and the Cysticercosis Working Group in Peru).

3. To discuss an application for a European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action project and preparation of a first draft for the Open Call (Preliminary Proposal).
4. To set up a website of the EUCWG

5. To facilitate concerted action in future research initiatives.

**Confirmed international keynote speakers**

**Prof. Dr. H. Garcia;** Department of Microbiology and Director, Center for Global Health – Tumbes, Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Lima, Peru.

**Dr. F. Meslin;** Team Leader - Zoonotic Diseases (Neglected) (NZD), Department of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD), WHO Headquarters, Geneva Switzerland.

**Dr. P. Wilkins;** Immunology Branch, Division of Parasitic Diseases, National Center for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, US

**Dr. M. Van Johansson;** Institute for Veterinary Disease Biology, PSU - Parasitology, Health and Development, Frederiksberg C, Denmark

**Dr. A. Winkler;** Department of Neurology, Technical University Munich, Germany

**Confirmed Belgian keynote speakers:**

**Prof. Dr. S. Muyldermans;** Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Laboratory of Cellular and Molecular immunology. The research group of Serge Muyldermans developed a strategy to clone antigen-specific nanobodies (Nbs) and is still considered as the leading group on Nbs world wide.

**Dr. N. Praet;** Dept of Biomedical Sciences, Section Parasitology, Unit of Veterinary Helminthology.

**Topics**
Session 1: Diagnostic tools
Session 2: Clinical aspects
Session 3: Epidemiology and Socio-economic aspects
Presentation of COST Action Preliminary Proposal requirements
Introduction of EUCWG Website proposal: discussion
The way forward: an open discussion between all research groups on:
  o Research priorities: “which gaps to fill first?”
  o Future collaborations
  o How to join forces of the European research groups to raise new funding for future research on *T. solium?*

**Call for abstracts**
The call for abstracts is now OPEN! Abstracts will be considered for oral presentation in one of the above-mentioned sessions (“Diagnostic tools”, “Clinical aspects”, “Epidemiology and Socio-economic aspects”). Abstracts of maximum 250 words may be submitted by email to Ms. N. Ehlinger: nlehinger@itg.be. (Deadline for receipt of abstracts: 16 March 2012).

**Registration:**
Please fill in the registration form and send it to Ms. N. Ehlinger: nlehinger@itg.be, before the 16th of March 2012.
There is no registration fee.
# Preliminary Meeting Agenda

**16/04/2012**

- **08h30**: Arrival of participants  
- General introduction  
- Introduction of participants

**Session 4: Control and Prevention**

- Oral communications from European research groups working on prevention and control of NCC: ongoing control studies (vaccination, treatment, sanitation and the way forward)  
- Discussion

**Presentation of COST Action**: Preliminary Proposal requirements & discussion

**Introduction of EUCWG Website proposal**

**The way forward**: an open discussion between all research groups on:

- Research priorities: “which gaps to fill first?”  
- Future collaborations  
- How to join forces of the European research groups to raise new funding for future research on *T. solium*?

**17/04/2012**

- **08h30**: Arrival of participants  
- General introduction  
- Introduction of participants

**Session 1: Diagnostic tools**

- **Keynote speaker 1**: Dr. P. Wilkins (CDC Atlanta, USA): “Advances in diagnostic tools for taeniosis/cysticercosis”

- **Keynote speaker 2**: Prof. S. Muyldermans (VUB, Belgium): “Nanobodies for diagnosis and therapy”

- Oral communications from European research groups working on development and validation of taeniosis/cysticercosis diagnostic tools  
- Discussion

**Session 2: Clinical aspects**

- **Keynote speaker 1**: Prof. Dr. H. Garcia (Center for Global Health, Lima, Peru): “Clinical management of neurocysticercosis (NCC)”

- **Keynote speaker 2**: Dr. A. Winkler (Technical University Munich, Germany): “NCC treatment in resource poor settings”

- Oral communications from European research groups working on clinical aspects of NCC  
- Discussion

**Session 3: Epidemiology and Socio-economic aspects**

- **Keynote speaker 1**: Dr. M. Van Johansson (Institute for Veterinary Disease Biology, Copenhagen, Denmark): “KAP surveys”

- **Keynote speaker 2**: Dr. N. Praet (ITM): “*T. solium* transmission dynamics and the burden of NCC”.

- Oral communications from European research groups working on socio-economic aspects, anthropology, epidemiology, and burden of disease of NCC  
- Discussion

- **Dinner**

**17h00**: Closing of the meeting
ITM organising committee:
Dept of Biomedical Sciences, Group Parasitology, Unit of Veterinary Helminthology
- Prof. Dr. P. Dorny: pdorny@itg.be
- Dr. S. Gabriël: sgabriel@itg.be
- Dr. N. Praet: npraet@itg.be
- Dr. L. Claes: lclaes@itg.be
- Ms. N. Ehlinger: nehlinger@itg.be; secretariat

Coffee, Lunch and dinner
Coffee and lunch will be served in the meeting room. We are pleased to invite you for dinner in a restaurant situated in Antwerp city center on Monday 16/04/2012.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The meeting will be held in the Institute of Tropical Medicine of Antwerp (ITM), room Broden.

Address:
Instituut voor Tropische Geneeskunde/Institute of Tropical Medicine
Nationalestraat 155
2000 Antwerpen/Antwerp
Belgium

How to reach the Institute?
Airports:
Antwerp Airport: http://www.antwerp-airport.be/

International trains:
Information on international (High-speed) trains to Brussels and/or Antwerp Central Stations
From Brussels National Airport (Zaventem):
Airport Express bus to Antwerp Central Station

Brussels-Antwerp: every hour first bus at 5 a.m. (Sundays at 7 a.m) last bus at 12 p.m.
Antwerp-Brussels: every hour first bus at 4 a.m. (Central Station/Astridplein) and 4:10 a.m. (hotel Crowne Plaza) (Sundays 6 and 6:10) last bus at 11 p.m. and 11:10 p.m. Price : €10,00 (driver sells the tickets)

Train to Antwerp Central Station

Public transportation in Antwerp
From Antwerp Airport (Deurne): Bus n° 14 - stop Central Station
From Antwerp Central Station: Subway n° 2 or 15 - stop Groenplaats - take exit Nationalestraat - follow Nationalestraat for 1 km
From Berchem Station: Tram n° 8 (direction: Bolivarplaats) - stop Volkstraat - institute is 50 m further

More information on trams and buses: De Lijn
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Walking Distance from ITM</th>
<th>Rate charge (breakfast included)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Rubenshof*</td>
<td>Amerikalei 115-117, 2000 Antwerp</td>
<td>+32 (0)3 237 07 89</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hotel@rubenshof.be">hotel@rubenshof.be</a></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>single: 33 € (shower &amp; toilet in the corridor) or 55 € double: 52 € (shower &amp; toilet in the corridor) or 76 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Scheldezicht</td>
<td>Sint Jansvliet 10-12, 2000 Antwerp</td>
<td>+32 (0)3 231 66 02</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@hotelscheldezicht.be">info@hotelscheldezicht.be</a></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>single: 50 € (toilet in the corridor) or 65 € double: 70 € (toilet in the corridor) or 80 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Big Sleep B&amp;B (2 rooms)</td>
<td>Kromme Elleboogstraat 4, 2000 Antwerp</td>
<td>+32 (0) 474 84 95 65</td>
<td><a href="mailto:els.hubert@skynet.be">els.hubert@skynet.be</a></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>single: 55 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marnix B&amp;B (3 rooms)</td>
<td>Welvaartstraat 16, 2000 Antwerpen</td>
<td>+32(0)3 238 79 91</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@bmbarnix.be">info@bmbarnix.be</a></td>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>single: 60 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel Ibis***</td>
<td>Meistraat 39, 2000 Antwerp</td>
<td>+32 (0)3 231 88 30</td>
<td><a href="mailto:H1453@accor.com">H1453@accor.com</a></td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>single: 88,5 € (special price for ITM visitors)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(if you book via [www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com), you sometimes can get a better price)
**Hotel Cammerpoorte** *(completely renovated on ± 16/2/2012)*
Nationalestraat 38-40, 2000 Antwerp
Tel.: +32 (0)3 231 97 36, e-mail: info@hotelcammerpoorte.be
www.hotelcammerpoorte.be
Walking distance from ITM: 5 minutes
Rate charge (breakfast included): single: 90 € (week rate) or 109 € (weekend rate)
double: 99 € (week rate) or 109 € (weekend rate)
*(special price will be negotiated when hotel is finished)*

**Theater Hotel****
Arenbergstraat 30, 2000 Antwerp
Tel.: +32 (0)3 203 54 10
http://www.vhv-hotels.be/hotel/4
Walking distance from ITM: 10 minutes
Rate charge (breakfast included): single: ±119 € (week rate) or ±99 € (weekend rate)
double: ±139 € (week rate) or ±119 € (weekend rate)

---

## BUDGET HOTELS/YOUTH HOSTELS IN ANTWERP
*(very easily to reach with public transport)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth hostel Pulcinella Antwerp</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bogaardestraat 1, 2000 Antwerp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.: +32(0)3 234 03 14, e-mail: <a href="mailto:antwerpen@vjh.be">antwerpen@vjh.be</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.vjh.be/">http://www.vjh.be/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking distance from ITM: 10 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate charge (breakfast included): single: 33,50 € (-26 years) € or 37 € (+26 years) double: 48,60 € (-26 years) € or 53,60 € (+26 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(prices valid for members; the ITM has a membership card for all ITM visitors)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alias youth hostel Antwerp*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provinciestraat 256, 2018 Antwerp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.: +32 (0)3 230 05 22, e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@youthhotel.be">info@youthhotel.be</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.wix.com/aliasyouthhostel/home">http://www.wix.com/aliasyouthhostel/home</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking distance from ITM: 30 minutes (subway 2 or 15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate charge (breakfast included): single: 34 € (shower &amp; toilet in the corridor) or 50 € double: 49 € (shower &amp; toilet in the corridor) or 61 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internationaal Zeemanshuis Antwerp*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Falconrui 21, 2000 Antwerp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.: +32 (0)3 227 54 33, e-mail: <a href="mailto:receptie@zeemanshuis.be">receptie@zeemanshuis.be</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.zeemanshuis.be/">http://www.zeemanshuis.be/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking distance from ITM: 30 minutes (bus 30 or tram 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rate charge (breakfast included): single: 47,50 € double: 72 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Etap hotel Antwerp city centre*
Lange Kievitstraat 145, 2018 Antwerp
Tel.: +32 (0)3 393 90 01
Walking distance from ITM: 25 minutes (subway 2 or 15)
Rate charge (breakfast included):
  single: ±57,50 € (week rate) or ±67,50 € (weekend rate)
  double: ±57,50 € (week rate) or ±67,50 € (weekend rate)