RECOOP Annual Project Review Meeting - 4th RECOOP TriNet Meeting

Arrival on October 10 (Thursday evening)

4th RECOOP TriNet Meeting

On October 11 (Friday), 2013 from 8:30 to 13:30 in the conference room
On October 12 (Saturday), 2013 from 9:00 to 18:00 in the conference room

Departure on October 13 (Sunday), 2013

Location of the meeting, accommodation and meals:

HOTEL DUJAM *** & YOUTH HOSTEL, Velebitska 27, 21000 Split – Croatia, Tel: + 385 (0) 21/273-080, fax: + 385 (0) 21/273-081, e-mail: info@hoteldujam.com, web: www.hoteldujam.com.

Arrival on October 10, 2013

You have to take care of your airport transfer and local transportation!

20:00 - 22:00 TriNet Kick off Dinner

On October 11 (Friday), 2013 - 4th RECOOP TriNet Meeting – Day 1

Conference room

8:30 – 9:00 Welcome and RECOOP Review
Sandor G. Vari
Director, International Research and Innovation Management Program, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center & President of the RECOOP HST Association
9:00 – 9:15  Impact of Obesity and Stress on Cardiovascular Function  
Marta Balog  
Laboratory of neurobiology, Department of Medical Biology, School of Medicine Osijek, Croatia

Martin Gajdoš and Patrícia Kramárová  
Faculty of Medicine, Slovak Medical University in Bratislava; Slovakia

9:40 -10:05  Effects of high fat diet, ovariectomy and exercise on obesity (OB) receptor expression in rat perirenal fat tissue and brain  
Senka Blažetić  
Department of Biology, University of Osijek, Osijek, Croatia

10:05 -10:20  SSAO/VAP-1 activity in the aorta and adipose tissues – the role of gender, obesity and stress  
Tamas Tábi  
Department of Pharmacodynamics, Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary

10:20 -10:35  Impact of ovariectomy, high fat diet, physical activity and antioxidant rich cookies on oxidative/antioxidative status in rat liver  
Rosemary Vuković  
Department of Biology, University J. J. Strossmayer of Osijek, Osijek, Croatia

10:35 – 10:50  Investigation of the possible role of stress and female hormones in the development of cardiomyocyte dysfunction  
Attila Borbely  
Institute of Cardiology, Division of Clinical Physiology, Medical and Health Science Center, University of Debrecen, Hungary

10:50 – 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 11:30  Smooth muscle electromyography: an old-new method for myometrial and gastrointestinal investigations in vivo  
Robert Gaspar  
Department of Pharmacodynamics and Biopharmacy, University of Szeged, Hungary

11:30 – 11:45  The effects of prenatal stress on the early neurobehavioral development of rat pups  
Tímea Kvárik  
Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medical School, University of Pécs, Pécs, Hungary
11:45 – 12:00 The effects of intraganglionic injection of calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II inhibitors on pain-related behavior in diabetic neuropathy
Antonia Jelicic Kadic
Laboratory for Pain Research, University of Split School of Medicine, Split, Croatia

12:00 – 12:15 Intrathecal inhibition of calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II in diabetic neuropathy adversely affects pain-related behavior
Matija Boric
Laboratory for Pain Research, University of Split School of Medicine

12:15 – 12:30 Central regulation of food intake in stress and obesity
Katarina Sebekova
Institute of Molecular BioMedicine, Medical Faculty, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia

12:30 – 12:40 FelxiForm 2.0 Electronic Data Entry Form
Gyula Markovics
Praxinfo, Miskolc, Hungary

12:40 – 13:00 Stress, Obesity, Bone Density, Metabolic and Cardiovascular Diseases Panel discussion
Sandor G. Vari

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 19:00 Bland into Split and mingle with RECOOP Scientists

19:00 – 21:00 Dinner

**On October 12 (Saturday), 2013 - 4th RECOOP TriNet Meeting – Day 2**

Conference room

9:00 – 9:15 Review the Progress
Sandor G. Vari

9:15 – 9:30 Collaboration in 2013 of the Institute of Cell Biology (Ukraine) with other institutions of the RECOOP-HST Association
Rostyslav S. Stoika
Institute of Cell Biology (ICB) Lviv, National academy of Sciences of Ukraine
9:30 – 9:45  Combining Stem Cells and Biomaterials for Brain Repair – Unlocking the Potential of the Existing Brain Research through Innovative In Vivo Molecular Imaging
Marija Lovrić
Senior Scientist on GlowBrain project, University of Zagreb, School of Medicine, Croatia

9:45 – 10:00  Recent progress in light emitting inorganic nanocrystals growth, their functionalization and potential use in biomedicine
Artur Podhorodecki,
Institute of Physics, Wroclaw University of Technology, Wroclaw, Poland

10:00 – 10:15  Native and synthesized magnetic nanoparticles and their excitotoxic potential
Tatiana Borisova
Department of Neurochemistry, Palladin Institute of Biochemistry (Kiev)
National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine

10:15 – 10:30  In vivo monitoring of transport of poly(L-lysine)-modified iron oxide nanoparticle-labeled macrophages in a rat
Daniel Horák
Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

10:30 – 10:45  MRI and Bioluminescent Imager for in vivo detection of nanoparticles
Marija Lovrić
Senior Scientist on GlowBrain project, University of Zagreb, School of Medicine, Croatia

10:45 – 11:00  Detection of nanoparticles in Blood – Brain and Human Placenta Barrier
Sandor G. Vari
Director, International Research and Innovation Management Program, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center & President of the RECOOP HST Association

11:00 – 11:15  Coffee Break

11:15 -11:45  Nanomedicine Panel Discussion
Sandor G. Vari

11:45 – 12:00  Dry throat swab sampling for enterovirus PCR diagnosis
Shubhada Bopegamage
Enterovirus Laboratory, Slovak Medical University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

12:00 – 12:15  The importance of estimating the correct gestational age and monitoring the pregnancy in preterm birth
Cristian Poalelungi
“Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania
12:15 – 12:30 Murine cytomegalovirus defective in myeloid-cell dissemination functions exhibit decrease CNS invasiveness in newborn animals.
William Britt
Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama, USA

12:30 – 12:45 Evaluation of IL-6 in cervical fluid in late PPROM pregnancies jeopardized by early onset sepsis
Marian Kacerovsky
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University Hospital in Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic

12:45 – 13:00 Mother and Child Health Panel Discussion
Sandor G. Vari

13:00 -14:00 Lunch Break

14:00 – 14:15 Impact of adipose tissue and related inflammatory mechanisms on the atherosclerosis
Králová Anna
Laboratory for Atherosclerosis Research, Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine (IKEM), Prague, Czech Republic

14:15 – 14:30 Testing the Timing Hypothesis of Atherosclerosis Prevention in Women
Jan Pitha
Laboratory for Atherosclerosis Research, Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine (IKEM), Prague, Czech Republic

14:30 – 14:45 Risk factors and gender differences at all sites in the RECOOP WH and CVD Retro Study
Dražen Mlinarević
Emergency Cardiology, Clinical Hospital Osijek and Department of Medical Biology, School of Medicine Osijek,

14:45 – 15:15 Women’s Health and CVD Panel Discussion
Lifestyle Intervention in Women with Different Reproductive, food Intake, Stress and Smoking Status on Cardiovascular Health
Jan Pitha

15:15 – 16:00 RECOOP Project Review
Sandor G. Vari

CEE Public Health Awareness Program
CEE NIH Visiting Fellow program
Capacity building for science communication and grant writing
16:00 – 16:30  Coffee Break  
Consultation - FelxiForm 2.0 Electronic Data Entry Form  
Gyula Markovics

16:30 – 17:30  All About Health Care Data  
Linn Defensor  
Office of Research Compliance and Quality Improvement, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA and RECOOP HST Consortium CTSMN Project Leader

17:30 – 18:30  Team and Project Building in the RECOOP Research Networks

Mother and Child Health  
Moderator: Chander P. Arora, Research Project Adviser, International Research and Innovation Management Program, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA

RETRO Manuscript  
Relativity of risk factors  
Prospective Studies:  
Cytomegalovirus Screening in Mothers and Newborns  
Coxsackievirus B (CVB) Study in Mothers and Newborns  
IL-6 in cervical fluid in late PPROM pregnancies

Women’s Health &CVD  
Moderator: Zoltan Papp, Institute of Cardiology, Clinical Physiology Department  
University of Debrecen, Hungary

RETRO Manuscript  
Prospective Study: Lifestyle Intervention in Women in Different Reproductive Stage with Different Risk Factors  
Shared decision making in CVD lifestyle intervention with primary care physicians and patients  
Translational Research:  
Obesity  
Stress  
Central regulation of food intake in stress and obesity  
Mitochondrial Apoptosis and dysfunction in obesity, diabetes and CVD

NanoBioTechnology  
Moderator: Rostyslav Stoika

Investigating use of nanocrystals in biomedicine (melanoma, brain and breast tumor)  
Modified iron oxide nanoparticle in MRI imaging  
Femtonics two-photon (2P) microscope for test
MRI and Bioluminescent Imager for in vivo detection of nanoparticles in Blood – Brain and Human Placenta Barrier
Drug delivery via nanoparticles

18:30 – 19:15  Summary of the Team and Project Building in the RECOOP Research Networks
(15 minutes/network)

Mother and Child Health
Chander P. Arora

Women’s Health &CVD
Zoltan Papp

NanoBioTechnology
Moderator: Rostyslav Stoika

19:15 – 19:30  RECOOP HST Association Research Plan 2013/14
Sandor G. Vari

20:00 – 22:00 Dinner

October 13 (Sunday), 2013 - Departure
CEE Public Health Awareness Program

RECOOP’s research activities could be reviewed in the Biopolymers and Cell Journal (www.biopolymers.org.ua); 2010 -13 Vol. 26., 27., 28., 29., N2 supplementary. RECOOP and the Brain Sneezing Group – BSG (http://cartooneast.com/category/index/item_id/2) built a creative platform for cartoonists and medical professionals could bring some fresh ideas into the way of thinking of scientists, physicians and cartoonists. In 2013 implemented the CEE Public Health Awareness Program and will organize the “Brain Sneezing Day” (BSD) as part of the Dana Foundation’s worldwide Brain Awareness Week - BAW (bawinfo@dana.org). Following that every year RECOOP and BSD will organize Public Health Awareness Days for prevention of cardiovascular diseases (Heart Beat Together), obesity (Beat the Drum and Loose the Fat), diabetes (Eat Less to Prevent Diabetes), preterm birth (Healthy Mother - Happy Child) and cancer (Together we Prevent to be a Ghost). We would like to involve the Clinton Foundation.

CEE NIH Visiting Fellow program

RECOOP HST Association would like to build a joint venture with the Clinton Foundation to establish a Central and Eastern European (CEE) NIH Visiting Fellow program for young physicians and post docs. The NIH training program has two phases. Phase I., is postdoctoral research training has to be completed at NIH Institutes. The pre-selection will be made by RECOOP will guaranty young scientists have secured research projects at home (Croatia, Czech, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia &Ukraine). NIH already partners with several countries/regions are partially funding Phase I. https://www.training.nih.gov/international_career_transition_awards. The annual cost of one fellow is 70K. RECOOP shall secure 50% partially fund of annual cost of the CEE NIH Visiting Fellows. RECOOP is creating a CEE NIH Visiting Fellow Fund to provide support for 10 young scientists from CEE (35K/young scientists/year total 350K/year). In Phase II seventeen Cedars–RECOOP Research Centers will host and provide re-entry grants with home country co-funding.

Capacity building for science communication and grant writing

RECOOP HST Association and NIH/NCI would like to increase the number of young scientists capable of writing good quality peer - review articles and competitive grants. In May 2014 Split, Croatia a two days workshop, in August 2014 (Prague, Czech Republic) and in July 2015 Lviv, Ukraine five days Summer Schools are proposed by the RECOOP HST Association with the Center for Global Health of the U.S. National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health to discuss the most important aspects of writing a research article, specifically the different sections and the language that can be used to accomplish one’s goals in those sections of an article. A considerable amount of time will be spent on how authors can analyze texts to understand language choices and see how writing is much more than having the right general organization and achieving technical accuracy. The same method will be used for grant writing. The participating young scientists with the help and supervision of the tutors will convert their Young Scientist Research Award Phase I application prior sent to the tutors into Phase II.
Welcome to Split

You have to take care of your airport transfer and local transportation!

Information package

1. Getting to Split
2. Getting to your hotel from the airport
3. Getting to your hotel from the train and bus station in the city port
4. Walking from hotel Dujam/Art to the city center
5. What to see and do in Split
6. Public transport in Split
7. Taxis
8. Practical tips

1. Getting to Split
Split is served by airport located in the city of Kaštela (about 25 km outside of Split), ferry and bus transport (last station of both train and long-haul buses is located in the city center, at the port). You can also comfortably arrive by car; Croatia has built an excellent network of highways in recent years.
Alternatively, there is an airport in Zadar (http://www.zadar-airport.hr/en/), which is served by Germanwings, Ryanair and Danube wings. If you decide to fly to Zadar, you can take airport bus to get to the bus station for long-distance buses in Zadar, and take another bus from there to Split – drive from Zadar to Split is about 2 hrs long.

2. Getting to your hotel from the airport

By airport bus: There is official airport bus, located immediately at the front of the airport building. When you exit the airport, turn to the right. Bus schedule: http://www.plesoprijevoz.hr/split.html (departures from Split airport). You can buy ticket at the driver. One-way bus ticket costs 30 HRK (about 4 Eur). The driver does not accept Euros so you should change currency at the airport. This bus does not have any stops before Split, and it takes about 30 min to get to Split. Ask the driver to stop for you on the bus station in front of the Atrium hotel in Split. From that bus station, it is a short walk to hotel Dujam (Map 1) and hotel Art (Map 2).

By local intercity bus: The official airport bus has limited departures. If it happens that the bus is not leaving for Split around your arrival time, you can take local bus #37 that drives from Trogir to Split. The local bus stop is just 100 m below the airport, on the road. When you cross the airport parking, cross the road and the station will be right there. You can buy ticket at the driver (you should enter the front door). The bus ticket costs about 20 HRK (around 3 Eur). The driver does not accept Euros so you should change currency at the airport. This bus has numerous stops along the way, and it will take about 50-60 min to get to Split. Ask the driver, or fellow passengers on the bus, to warn you when the bus will stop in front of the Atrium hotel in Split.

By taxi: Multiple taxis are available in front of the airport. It costs at least 200 HRK (about 30 Eur). Please check the price before entering the taxi. The drive will take about 30 min to get to the meeting venue.

3. Getting to hotel Dujam from the train and bus station in the city port

To get to the hotel Dujam from the central train/bus station in the city centre: after exiting the railway/bus station, one needs to turn left, and walk for about 200 m to get to the station of the local bus #9. Take the bus #9 and exit the 6th station (you can also ask the driver to warn you about the station of the Dujam hotel). Bus ticket can be bought inside the bus from the driver, and it costs 12 kn (about 1.5 Eur). The driver does not accept Euros so you should change currency at the station. One can also walk from the railway station to the hotel Dujam – the walk is 1.8 km long and it could take 25-30 min (Map 3).

4. Walking from hotel Dujam/Art to the city center

The hotels are located about 20 min of slow walk from the city center. If you would like to take the local bus, you can take bus #9 near the hotels. Please refer to Maps 1 and 2 to see how to get to the nearest local bus station.

5. What to see and do in Split

Split is a historical city, 1700 years old. There are plenty of things to see and do. Diocletian’s palace was built by Roman emperor in the 4th century AD, and the city grew around the palace. The palace is the very center of the city, so do not expect to visit some isolated and empty palace. Many people live in the palace, and it is full of shops and restaurants.
Cathedral and Bell Tower of St. Domnious are right in the center of Diocletian’s palace. You can walk all the way to the top of the bell tower and the entrance ticket is 30 kn (about 4 Eur). Not recommended for people afraid of heights and open spaces, as the bell tower is quite ‘airy’. 

Riva is a promenade at a seaside front of the Diocletian’s palace, facing the city. Riva is the living room of Split. We go there to see and been seen. Take a stroll through Marmont street and along Riva, and then have a coffee at one of numerous cafés.

West coast is a recently renovated and expanded part of the promenade that goes from the end of Riva to the Sustipan. Very nice and relaxing walk, highly recommended. There are several cafés and one restaurant right in the middle of the West coast.

Coffee culture is very strong in Split and you will see numerous people sitting in cafes. People from abroad always ask us is anyone working at Split, when there are so many people in cafés. Considering our high unemployment rates in Croatia, the most accurate answer is – very few people actually work. The price of beverage in cafes is the same if you sit or if you drink at the bar. To give you a rough estimate of prices to expect in cafes – plain espresso coffee is around 8 kn (cca 1 Eur), coffee with milk or espresso around 10 kn (cca 1.5 Eur), soft drink around 12 kn (cca 1.7 Eur), small beer about 15 kn (cca 2 Eur).

Marjan hill is a small hill (highest point 178 m) with forest and recreational facilities. It is highly recommended to go to Vidilica – the observation point above Split. It is about 15 min walking uphill from the city center. When you get there, you will be rewarded with fantastic views of Split, sea and islands. And, of course, there is a café there.

Meštrović gallery houses works of a world renowned Croatian sculptor Ivan Meštrović. The gallery and surrounding park are truly worth a visit. Take the bus #12 from Riva to get there.

Bačvice beach is only 10 min walking away from the city center. It is a beautiful sandy beach, with a Blue Flag. This is not one of the beach resorts, and it does not have any mega hotels. A good place to relax, have an ice cream, or – a drink in one of numerous bars along the beach.

Islands Brač and Šolta are one hour away with a ferry from Split. Island Hvar is two hours away. Going to islands would require a day trip and staying in Split more days before or after the meeting.

Cities of Trogir and Omiš are one hour away from Split by local buses. Those are beautiful historical cities, pearls of Adriatic. Popular tourist attractions further away from Split are national parks Krka and Plitvice Lakes, city of Dubrovnik and city of Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Visiting those places requires at least a full-day trip.

6. Public transport in Split

Split has bus lines numbered from 1 to 19. Day buses 1 through 18 run from 05:00 to 23:00. There is only one night bus, number 19, which runs on Fridays and Saturdays. Maps and schedules for each line can be found at their respective stops. Tickets can be purchased on the bus for 11 kn or from kiosks near each bus stop for less. The company that operate Split's buses is called Promet Split, so make sure the kiosk has that name on it before trying to buy a ticket. Split is covered by one zone, so a ticket is good for one trip anywhere in the city. Sukoišanska is the main station from which you can catch buses for Trogir, Omiš, the airport and other destinations outside of Split. Sukoišanska's ticket office operates from 06:00 to 20:00 on weekdays, 06:00 to 12:00 on Saturdays and is closed on Sunday. To contact the Sukoišanska station, dial (021) 48 06 56. For general information regarding bus services, call (021) 40 79 99.

http://www.promet-split.hr/
7. Taxis
The simplest way to call a taxi is to dial 970. The starting fee for a taxi trip is 20 kn, with a 10 kn fee added per kilometer and 2.5 – 10 kn added per each piece of luggage. There is no additional charge for traveling at night. Taxis wait in front of most major hotels, Firule and Križine hospitals, at the ferry port, at the main bus station and near the Riva.

8. Practical tips
Tap water in Split is potable. Numerous public places have water fountains with potable water as well.
Currency is Croatian kuna (HRK). The exchange rate is approximately 1 Eur = 7.5 HRK. There are many currency exchange offices around Split and your hotel might also provide this service. Split is generally a safe city, but exercise caution and common sense. Protect your valuables.
Official language is Croatian.
Majority of population is Croatian (90.4%), Catholic and conservative. Population of Croatia is 4.2 million.
Croatia joined EU on July 1, 2013.
Useful links:
http://www.split.info/
www.croatia.hr
www.visitsplit.com
Map 1. Walking from bus/train station to hotel Dujam (1.8 km, cca 25 min)
Map 2. Walking from hotel Dujam/Art to the city center (Diocletian’s palace)