



4th EULAR COURSE

on Basic and Advanced Capillaroscopy in Rheumatic Diseases

September 09th-11th, 2010 - Genova, Italy

PRESENTATION OF THE COURSE

Call for registration > 4thcapillaroscopy@elsevier.com - Deadline for registration July 10th, 2010

Introduction

Nailfold capillaroscopy (NC) is a safe, non-invasive routine way for the microvascular investigation. The NC is a tool that allows to distinguish between primary and secondary Raynaud's phenomenon (RP) the best clinical marker of microvascular dysfunction. Several connective tissue diseases show characteristic NC patterns including systemic sclerosis (SSc), dermatomyositis (DM), mixed connective tissue disease (MCTD) and antiphospholipid syndrome. The NC supports the early diagnosis of connective tissue diseases. Therefore, the NC has become a dynamic tool that further increases the armamentarium of the rheumatologist. NC is fundamental to explore the microvascular system and is considered useful in monitoring the progression of the microangiopathy, in assessing the disease severity and in establishing the risk of a more aggressive disease evolution as well as to monitorize the effects of therapies.

Educational objectives

The course is intended to teach the attendees the proper methodology and practical use of the capillaroscopic investigation of the nailfold bed in normal and pathological conditions at two levels of expertise.

Attendees meeting the NV analysis from the beginning ( **Basic Course**) and attendees already advanced and previously trained in the NV investigation ( **Advanced Course**).

The **Basic attendees** will learn how to distinguish the different NC patterns characterizing the major connective tissue diseases associated or not with secondary RP. The **Advanced attendees** will improve their basic skillness with integrated lessons on practical application of NV in case resolution and therapy follow up and updated integrations to their expertise on the field.

Participants of both courses will be involved in theoretical and practical capillaroscopic sessions involving rheumatic patients. At the end of the course the basic attendees will have learnt the use of the capillaroscopic tools and will be able to recognize and describe all the major NC patterns. At the end the advanced will have improved their skillness in NV by making diagnosis on living clinical cases and discussing the prognostic value of NV in the disease follow up.

Following the exciting results of the First 3 Courses, each one including a total number of 100-120 attendees from whole Europe, the Fourth Course should be replicated and will be specially devoted to trainees and young rheumatologists. A CD and a Syllabus with the major topic discussed will be offered. In addition, a network for the online discussion of the observed patterns with the experts will be organized and offered to the participants to the Course.

Course organization

The Course will include morning and afternoon sessions each day. The practical sessions will be supported by the full availability of several videocapillaroscopies for the direct analysis of the nailfold bed in living patients. Expert tutors will show the technique to basic attendees. In addition, each day the described patterns will be discussed during the practical sessions.

The results of the multiple choice questionnaires collected at the beginning and at the end of the Course will be analyzed by a panel of experts including the speakers of the day, who will critically discuss the participants' answers from the perspective of evidence-based medicine and their own clinical experience.

Some common sessions grouping together both course levels, on general and updated introductory topics as well as on conclusive perspectives will be organized.

Registration is open to all member countries of EULAR and in the world.

A special rate is dedicated to trainees and young rheumatologists (Available under 35 years old. A letter of confirmation of Trainee status from the Head of Unit must accompany the registration form).

This Course will apply for both national and european credits as happened for the previous 3 courses. The Course should be run successive editions in different European Countries.

Congress Venue

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Speakers

The speakers will mainly include the major European experts on the matter, including some specialists already involved during the Symposia on Capillaroscopy that have been held during the last 4 Annual EULAR Meetings.

Course opening / Course closing

Thursday, September 09th, 2010
Saturday, September 11th, 2010

Official language

The official Conference language will be English. Simultaneous English ↔ Italian translation will be provided.

CME credits

Application will be forwarded for both national and european credits.

- 14.30 - 18.30 **B A** **MICROCIRCULATION: THE STATE OF ART – Plenary Session**
- 14.30 - 14.50 The rheumatology in Europe
 14.50 - 15.00 EULAR and education
 15.00 - 15.20 Introduction and presentation of the course: the basic and advanced modules
 15.20 - 15.50 The microcirculation in the rheumatic diseases
 15.50 - 16.00 Questions and answers
 16.00 - 16.30 Pause
 16.30 - 16.50 The Raynaud's phenomenon: more than a clinical symptom
 16.50 - 17.10 The methods of evaluation of the microcirculation
 17.10 - 17.30 Questions and answers
 17.30 - 18.30 INTERACTIVE SELF - ASSESSMENT "BEFORE"
 20.30 Dinner

- 08.30 - 14.00 **B A** **INTRODUCTION TO THE CAPILLAROSCOPY**
- 08.30 - 08.50 **B** Microvessels and rheumatic diseases
A Fingers to be chosen or avoided for NVC analysis
 08.50 - 09.10 **B** Capillaroscopy: materials and methods
A Searching the best lens magnification in NVC analysis
 09.10 - 09.30 **B** When to perform the capillaroscopy
A Correlating blood flow and nailfold videocapillaroscopy
 09.30 - 09.50 **B** How to obtain good capillaroscopic pictures
A Detection by capillaroscopy the shift from primary to secondary Raynaud's phenomenon
 09.50 - 10.00 Questions and answers
 10.00 - 10.20 **B** Capillaroscopy in healthy subjects and different ages
A Correlation of biomarkers of endothelium dysfunction and matrix remodeling in patients with systemic sclerosis
 10.20 - 10.40 **B** The most important capillaroscopic parameters
A Blood flow evaluation in microvessels
 10.40 - 11.00 **B** The videocapillaroscopic technique
A Angiogenesis: its role in tissue reparation
 11.00 - 11.30 Pause
 11.30 - 13.00 **B A** PRACTICAL SESSIONS TEACHING THE USE OF CAPILLAROSCOPY (*Faculty*)
 13.00 - 14.00 Working Lunch

- 14.00 - 16.20 **B A** **CAPILLAROSCOPY AND RHEUMATIC DISEASES UNDERSTANDING CAPILLAROSCOPY**
- 14.00 - 14.15 **B** Mistakes in capillaroscopy
A The prognostic value of nailfold capillary changes for the development of connective tissue disease in children and adolescents with primary Raynaud's phenomenon
 14.15 - 14.30 **B** Capillaroscopy in Raynaud's phenomenon
A Validation and scoring of the scleroderma pattern
 14.30 - 14.45 **B** Capillaroscopy in systemic sclerosis
A Optimizing the images during the capillaroscopic analysis
 14.45 - 14.55 Questions and answers
 14.55 - 15.10 **B** Capillaroscopy in dermatomyositis and mixed connective tissue disease
A More severe nailfold capillaroscopy findings and antiendothelial cell antibodies in SSC and other selected CTD
 15.10 - 15.25 **B** Capillaroscopy in systemic lupus erythematosus
A Antibodies and capillaroscopy in systemic sclerosis
 15.25 - 15.40 **B** Capillaroscopy in antiphospholipid syndrome
A Mistakes in capillaroscopy
 15.40 - 15.50 Questions and answers
 15.50 - 16.20 Pause

- 16.20 - 19.30 **B A** **CAPILLAROSCOPY AND RHEUMATIC DISEASES UNDERSTANDING CAPILLAROSCOPY**
- 16.20 - 16.35 **B** Capillaroscopy in juvenile connective tissue diseases
A Capillaroscopy and skin ulcers in scleroderma
 16.35 - 16.50 **B** Capillaroscopy in diabetes mellitus
A Capillaroscopy and pulmonary hypertension in scleroderma
 16.50 - 17.05 **B** Capillaroscopy of dermatological/rheumatic disorders
A Role of endothelin and sex hormones in the pathophysiology of tissue fibrosis
 17.05 - 17.20 **B** Controversies in capillaroscopy
A Teaching capillaroscopy to young fellows
 17.20 - 17.30 Questions and answers
 17.30 - 17.50 **B** Treatment of Raynaud's phenomenon: new insights and developments
A Capillaroscopy and guide lines for the diagnosis of early scleroderma
 17.50 - 18.20 **B A** Role of endothelin in digital ulcers
 18.20 - 18.30 Questions and answers
 18.30 - 19.30 **B A** PRACTICAL SESSIONS WITH CLINICAL CASES (*Faculty Interactive*)
 21.00 Dinner

- 08.30 - 12.30 **B A** **CAPILLAROSCOPY, CLINICAL CORRELATIONS AND PERSPECTIVES – Plenary Session**
- 08.30 - 08.45 Capillaroscopy in different microvascular conditions
 08.45 - 09.00 Computerized nailfold video capillaroscopy - a further tool for assessment of Raynaud's phenomenon
 09.00 - 09.15 Correlations between capillaroscopy and serological findings
 09.15 - 09.30 Correlations between capillaroscopy and clinical findings
 09.30 - 10.30 PRACTICAL ISSUES and questions.
B A PRACTICAL ISSUES, Proposals
 10.30 - 11.00 Pause
 11.00 - 11.30 INTERACTIVE SELF - ASSESSMENT "AFTER"
 11.30 - 11.45 INTERACTIVE SELF - ASSESSMENT SOLUTION
 11.45 - 12.00 PERSPECTIVES AND WEB SITE: future development of an online network
 12.00 - 12.30 General discussion