

ATA-EANM-SNMMI-ETA Conference on Thyroid cancer

Following the first highly productive and successful meeting of the ATA, EANM, SNMMI and ETA in Martinique in January 2018, representatives of the four societies met again on the French island from 8-11 March 2019. As in the previous year, the second Martinique meeting became possible only through the outstanding hospitality and generosity of Drs. Patrick Bourguet and Ciprian Draganescu. To both, the four societies owe a deeply felt gratitude for their endeavours for improving thyroid cancer care worldwide, and for providing a unique forum that facilitated inter collegial and intersociety exchange of thoughts and visions

The 2019 meeting came timely, and just about coincided with the acceptance of the first joint ATA, EANM, SNMI and ETA paper on a common ground of issues around 131-I thyroid cancer treatment. This result of the first Martinique meeting - the so called "Martinique principles" is early online as of 22 March 2019 in the journal *Thyroid*. The aim is to have it accompanied by an editorial in the *European Thyroid Journal*.

Topics discussed at the current 2019 meeting were early postoperative risk stratification, including pretherapeutic nuclide imaging, patient pathways, physics behind dosimetry and issues linked to definition of success of I-131 therapy. Furthermore, the participants engaged in lively discussions on issues that need to be addressed in the future, such as the optimal adjuvant therapy, where dosimetry is useful, indications for post-surgical TSH suppression, impact of genetics on management, and definition of categories of structural disease.

As an outcome of this years' meeting the "Martinique Mission" was formulated:

"The mission of the intersociety working group is to provide a forum to discuss our differences in an open, honest, data-driven, respectful manner. Discussion should focus on areas of agreement and those disagreements which result in meaningful differences in clinical management. The group will propose potential solutions and strategies to address those differences."

It is the firm belief of the participants, that the Martinique mission will be a lasting one. It will thrive through joint meetings, where indicated also incorporating other specialties that are involved in thyroid cancer management.

Along these lines the four societies will remain engaged in deciding on the venue and topics for a third meeting in 2020, with "Selected Controversies in Peri-operative Management" as first suggested topic.

The ETA owes a special thanks to its current president, Dr. Laszlo Hegedüs, who again excelled as moderator and facilitator. While always maintaining his neutral position, he helped greatly to endorse ETA's strong role in thyroid cancer and was unanimously elected by the Martinique 2019 group as "Captain of the Martinique Mission".

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Group photo with “Captain Hegedüs” on the left



The “ETA team” on mission to leave old boundaries behind.