

Executive committee of EASD

Re: Application for formation of a Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) Study group

The undersigned cordially propose to establish a new study group called NAFLD Study Group. The background, rationale, aims and proposed constitution are described below.

Background and rationale

Stimulated by the excellent 17th EASD Oxford Hagedorn workshop in Oxford this summer, many of the participants expressed an interest in forming a NAFLD Study group. NAFLD is currently the most common liver disorder both in the US and Europe. The fatty liver may progress to non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH), which markedly increases the risk of cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma. NAFLD is the hepatic manifestation of the metabolic syndrome and characterizes the majority of patients with type 2 diabetes. In recognition of its importance in diabetes the upcoming 4th Edition International Textbook of Diabetes (Wiley) includes for the first time separate chapters on NAFLD and NASH.

NAFLD is a topic which appears on programs of both meeting in hepatology and increasingly so in diabetes. However, hepatologists and diabetologists rarely attend the same meetings although interaction between the two specialities would benefit both. The hepatologists should become aware of the metabolic complications and increased cardiovascular risk associated with NAFLD and the diabetologists should be able to identify patients who are at risk of developing advanced liver disease. Such a Study Group does not previously exist.

Aims of the NAFLD Study Group

1. To advance our understanding of the prevalence, diagnosis, pathogenesis, prevention and treatment of NAFLD.
2. To enable hepatologists and diabetologists and other specialists in cognate disciplines to interact.

The proposed constitution of the NAFLD Study Group is attached below.

We undersigned ie 10 current members of the EASD warmly support formation of a new NAFLD Study Group within the EASD.

24th september, 2012

Constitution for the NAFLD Study Group

1. The Study Group is/shall be called the Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease Study Group, hereinafter referred to as the (NAFLD Study Group).
2. The NAFLD Study Group shall be a Study Group of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes, hereinafter referred to as the EASD.
3. The aim of the NAFLD Study Group is to bring together researchers working in the field of hepatic insulin resistance and NAFLD in diabetes and hepatology to exchange research experiences in the study of prevalence, diagnosis, pathogenesis, prevention and treatment of NAFLD, promote discussions and education during regular meetings. The NAFLD EASD Study Group may work actively for establishment of European and International collaborative studies and act as a reference group for EASD in matters related to fatty liver and diabetes.
4. Membership of the NAFLD Study Group shall be open to all members of the EASD and such other persons as the committee of the NAFLD Study Group consider eligible. Officers of the - NAFLD Study Group *Executive Committee are valid members of EASD*. A list of the Study Group's officers and committee will be sent annually to the Secretary of EASD, as part of an annual report.
5. With the exception of members who are not members of the EASD, all members may be nominated for any office of the NAFLD Study Group.
6. The membership fee (if any) of the NAFLD Study Group shall be an amount as determined by its Annual Meeting.
7. Administration of the NAFLD Study Group is in the hands of the NAFLD Study Group Committee; this Committee consists of *a Chairman, a Vice Chairman, a Treasurer and a Secretary*. For the NAFLD Study Group, the elected officers (Chairman, Vice-Chair/Secretary/Treasurer) will be members of the EASD. The board will additionally include 4 other elected members, preferably but not necessarily hepatologists. The term of Executive and board members is 3 years. Member of the board can be re-elected 2 times. Proposals for executive and other board members will be made by the undersigned 10 current active members of the EASD and by senior and junior participants of the Hagedorn-EASD NAFLD workshop after approval of formation of the NAFLD Study group by the EASD. The NAFLD Study group meetings will be organized in connection with EASD meetings. Each participant will be responsible for any additional cost involved in attending these meetings, Hopefully EASD can announce to its members the program of the NAFLD study group and allow the possibility to use a room at the venue of its annual meeting for such gatherings.
8. An Annual Report of the Study Group activities shall be compiled and sent to the Executive committee of EASD.

9. The finances of the Study Group shall be managed at the discretion of the Committee in pursuit of the aims of the Study Group (para. 3 above). Proper books of account shall be kept by the - NAFLD Study Group Treasurer.
10. Should the Study Group wish to engage in publication involving guidelines or statements, the EASD Panel for Overseeing Guidelines and Statements must be contacted beforehand.
11. The group may cease to be the NAFLD Study Group of the EASD either by a decision at the Annual Meeting of the NAFLD Study Group or by a decision of the Executive Committee of the EASD.
12. In the event of the Group being dissolved, all surpluses, debts and liabilities shall be discharged to a charitable diabetes account after agreement from the EASD executive.

List of participants

EASD active members

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Non EASD current member

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