

7. San Sebastian 1992

About 80 people attended the workshop in San Sebastian held at the Kutxa Conference Centre under the presidency of Adolfo Valls-i-Soler.

Roger Spragg from San Diego was an invited speaker on the topic of surfactant treatment of ARDS. In addition, there were reports of several completed multicentre trials: Dutch-Swedish prophylaxis, French prophylaxis and Curosurf 4 trials. The group from Bilbao presented the design of a side-hole catheter for delivering surfactant and basic science was not forgotten. There were talks on the structure of SP-A, the surface properties of Curosurf and how surfactant modulates phagocyte function. Some studies on animals included assessment of surfactant and infection and phospholipids composition in experimental congenital diaphragmatic hernia.

The welcome dinner was held at a typical Basque restaurant in the Old City where Bacalao al Pil.Pil was served. Another meal was held at a local cider house where Adolfo proposed that the tie he was wearing which was adorned with pink pigs should become the official Curosurf Family tie. The farewell dinner was at the Palacio Miramar where the Spanish dictator Franco used to spend his summer holidays.

After the workshop there was another meeting across the border in Biarritz entitled New Trends in Neonatal Respiratory Support and Surfactant Replacement. This was held at the magnificent Hotel du Palais which was built by Napoleon III for his Spanish wife Maria Eugenia de Montijo. At this meeting there were sessions on basic and clinical aspects of surfactant therapy for RDS, ARDS and other lung diseases. Liquid ventilation and ECMO were covered in another session.



ADOLF VALLS-I-SOLER (THE PRESIDENT) AND PETER GRONECK LISTEN INTENTLY TO A SPEECH