

Dr. Marra referred to radio-recurrent prostate cancer as a mismanaged, non-infrequent epidemic during the presentation "Radio-recurrent prostate cancer, what's next?". He said, "Men should be not denied a curative option indiscriminately as up to one on two can be cured. Salvage radical prostatectomy has improved although its morbidity is still very significant." Focal salvage strategies have interesting outcomes in terms of disease control and relatively low complications and are under investigation. Knowledge of radio recurrent disease should be improved and its pathway should be rethought, from diagnosis to patient selection as current criteria are suboptimal."

**"The metabolic evaluation of patients who have urinary stones is paramount in the prognosis of the disease."**

**Georgia**

The ESU course "Update on the treatment of renal stones and on surgery for BPH" took place on 1 October 2023 in conjunction with the national congress of the Georgian Urological Association (GUA). Around 265 participants attended meeting and the course in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.

Course Chair Prof. Athanasios Papatsoris (GR) and fellow speaker, Dr. Aleš Petřík (CZ), provided the following central messages of their presentations:

• **EAU Guidelines recommendations on metabolic evaluation for urinary stone patients**

The metabolic evaluation of patients who have urinary stones is paramount in the prognosis of the disease. Metabolic evaluation includes basic and specific metabolic studies, both blood and urine, as well as stone analysis. Specific metabolic evaluation is recommended in high-risk stone patients.

• **Endoscopic combined surgery for urinary stone treatment**

Endoscopic combined surgery for urinary stone treatment enables urologists to treat stones in both the kidney and the ureter, facilitate percutaneous access, and achieve a quicker

stone-free status. However, there is a need for more staff and equipment.

• **Which laser for indications in urolithiasis and benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)**

Lasers are necessary for lithotripsy during retrograde and percutaneous stone treatments. Various settings (e.g. energy, frequency, pulse) are used for different stone composition and techniques. Although experience with Holmium lasers is more prevalent, Thulium lasers are recently used in more and more centres. Comparative studies evaluating relevant efficacy and safety are ongoing.

Fellow experts who comprise the local course faculty, Dr. Aleksandre Ujmajuridze (GE) and Dr. Shalva Mshvildadze (GE) shared that the success of the course was thanks to the interesting topics covered and expertise of the presenters. They said, "Both speakers were excellent in delivering the information, stimulating the interactive discussions, and answering questions from the audience even after the presentations. On behalf of the Executive Board of the GUA, we thank the EAU and the faculty for this excellent course."



The faculty members of ESU courses comprise the best in their fields. Pictured are the course faculty members of the course in Hungary

**Uzbekistan**

Around 300 participants attended the ESU Course "Surgical therapy of Benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)", which commenced on 6 October 2023 during the national congress of the Scientific Society of Urologists of Uzbekistan in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

The Chair of the EAU Section of Uro-Technology, Prof. Dr. Ali Serdar Gözen (DE), led the course and presented vital updates together with Dr. Ioannis Goumas (IT) and Assoc. Prof. Giorgio Bozzini (IT). Their presentations included topics such as the current EAU Guidelines recommendations; technological options for endoscopic prostate enucleation; transurethral resection; and deliberations on laparoscopy/robotics for large prostates, to name a few.

**Vital conclusions**

Some of the key takeaways of the presentations included the latest EAU Guidelines recommendations for the management of benign prostatic obstruction (BPO)-related lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS), more specifically, an overview of surgical treatment. The



Prof. Ahmed Said Znbi, President of the Tunisian Urological Association and local faculty member of the ESU course in Tunisia

recommendations underlined the importance of evaluating the quality of evidence of current literature.

In addition, there is a growing interest in ultra-minimally invasive treatments (Ultra MIS) at present which is driven by urologists, patients, and companies. However, most of these treatments lack of high-quality evidence and longer follow-up.

The ESU course also underscored that there must be a balance among the quality of the evidence, patients' values and preferences, and patient counseling in the decision-making process that lead to a surgical treatment.

For more impressions of the ESU course held in Uzbekistan, click [here](#) to read Dr. Bekhzod Ayubov's report.

**Other ESU courses in Europe**

This year, numerous ESU courses such as the aforementioned, have been integrated into important urological events across Europe. For additional coverage and various perspectives, read the reports of the ESU courses held in [Hungary](#) and [Tunisia](#).