Background: Harmonization of nomenclature and diagnostic criteria in toxicologic pathology has been a goal of pathologists working in the profession for many years. Early initiatives were undertaken by the STP in the United States and by the RITA data base group (Registry of Industrial Toxicology Animal-data) in Europe. Their efforts resulted in a number of internationally recognized publications: SSNDC: Guides for Toxicologic Pathology and the WHO/IARC International Classification of Rodent Tumors. In 2005, the STP and European Society of Toxicologic Pathology (ESTP), in conjunction with RITA, developed a collaborative process to review, update, and harmonize existing nomenclature documents and databases. In 2006, the British Society of Toxicologic Pathology (BSTP) and the Japanese Society of Toxicologic Pathology (JSTP) joined the initiative, so that the project has become truly global.

Objectives:
• Produce publications for each rodent organ system and select non-rodent species that provide a standardized nomenclature and differential diagnosis for classifying microscopic lesions observed in toxicity and carcinogenicity studies

New Mission:
• Serve in advisory role for the FDA Standard for the Exchange of Nonclinical Data (SEND) initiative. FDA has indicated a preference to utilize microscopic pathology terminology developed by INHAND as these terms will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.
• Two representatives from GESC sit on the SEND Controlled Terminology Team to assist with mapping INHAND terminology to SEND codelists of preferred terms and reviewing requests for new terms.

Structure
• Global Executive Steering Committee (GESC) with representation from major societies of toxicologic pathology
• 15 organ system working groups (OWG) defined by GESC

Completed Organ Systems:
• Respiratory System (Toxicol Pathol. 37 (7 Suppl):5S-73S)
• Hepatobiliary System (Toxicol Pathol. 38(7 Suppl): 5S-81S)
• Urinary System (Toxicol Pathol. 40 (4 Suppl): 14S-86S)
• CNS/PNS System (Toxicol Pathol. 40 (4 Suppl): 87S-157S)
• Mammary, Zymbal’s, Preputial and Clitoral Glands (Toxicol Pathol. 40(6 Suppl): 7S-39S)
• Male Reproductive (Toxicol Pathol. 40(6 Suppl): 40S-121S)
• Soft Tissue (J Toxicol Pathol. 26 (3 Suppl): 1S-26S)
• Integument (J Toxicol Pathol. 26 (3 Suppl): 27S-57S)
• Female Reproductive (J Toxicol Pathol. 27 (3&4 Suppl): 1S–107S)
• Digestive System (J Toxicol Pathol. 29 (3 Suppl): 1S–47S)
• Skeletal System (J Toxicol Pathol. 29 (3 Suppl): 49S–103S)
• Endocrine System (J Toxicol Pathol. 31 (3 Suppl): 1S–95S)
• Special Senses (J Toxicol Pathol. 31 (3 Suppl): 97S–214S)

In Progress:
• Lymphoid and Hematopoietic System (ready for publication)
• Non-rodent

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