detected, and no change in albumin levels was detected in SED throughout the storage period.

Conclusion This study has demonstrated that the ATS vials are suitable for provision of SED for clinical use to patients. Feedback is now being gathered from a patient focus group relating to usability of the vials.

**EEBA 2023 Session III – Legal and Ethical Aspects of Corneal Transplantation**

**P23-A137 CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION FOR CORNEAL DONATION BETWEEN LIONS EYE BANK SAAR-LOR-LUX, TRIER/WESTPFALZ IN HOMBURG/SAAR AND LUXEMBOURG**

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**Purpose** With the increasing demand for corneas, eye banks must optimize and extend their sources of tissue donation. On the other hand, corneal transplantation is a specialized procedure performed in hospitals with high quality standards and ideally an integrated eye bank. In this report we would like to focus on an international win-win-win agreement between the Department of Ophthalmology at Saarland University Medical Center (Homburg/Saar, Germany), the LIONS Eye Bank Saar-Lor-Lux, Trier/Westpfalz and the four major non-university hospitals without corneal transplantation competence in Luxembourg.

**Methods** In 2012, at the initiative of the Luxembourgish Ministry of Health and Department of Ophthalmology (Homburg/ Saar, Germany), an international agreement was established with the Centre Hospitalier du Luxembourg (Luxembourg). Administrative and legislative rules were developed. Luxembourgish nursing personnel attended a practical training program for corneal excision at the Department of Ophthalmology in Homburg/Saar allowing them to harvest the two first corneal donors on site by themselves during the first year. In the following years two more hospitals, the Centre Hospitalier Emile Mayrisch (Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg) and the Hôpitaux Robert Schuman (Kirchberg, Luxembourg), joined the cooperation.

**Results** From 2012 until 2021, three hospitals in Luxembourg donated 779 corneas to the LIONS Eye Bank of the Saarland University Medical Center in Homburg/Saar (Germany). In return, 308 Luxembourgish patients have received a corneal transplantation at the Department of Ophthalmology in Homburg/Saar. In 2022, the extension continued and an agreement with a fourth hospital in Luxembourg at the Centre Hospitalier du Nord (Ettelbruck, Luxembourg) was signed providing even more donations.

**Conclusion** The cross-border collaboration for corneal donation and patient treatment has proven to be successful with both numbers of harvested donors and transplanted patients rising. However, international legislation for tissue donation needs to be accurately respected and a quality management system established to provide continuous quality of the donor tissue.