Newsletter N° 9/2009



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Letter from Seoul

Enthusiastic involvement from dermatologists of the host country: total of about 640 early bird registrants including 628 Korean members

Registration has been progressing solidly all over the world, particularly in the host country, Korea. 628 Korean Dermatological Association members have shown their enthusiasm and support for the congress by registering early. We ask that you continue to show your support and help make the 22nd World Congress a great success through your registration. Thanks go to all participants who have already registered for the Congress.

Early bird registration available on WCD 2011 website until Dec 31, 2009

Early bird registration is available on the WCD 2011 website until Dec 31, 2009. The early registration fee for ILDS members is 440 USD. The fee for fellows, residents, nurses and accompanying persons is 150 USD and 100 USD for students. Please visit the WCD2011 official website, www.wcd2011.org for more detailed information about registration and an updated program schedule.

The organizing committee makes plans for the inclusion of a publication center containing a non-commercial journal display area in the exhibition

In past World Congresses, participants often found it difficult to find publication-related booths within the exhibition because they were too spread out and overshadowed by the much larger booths of drug and laser companies. Additionally, booth costs allowed for the participation of only a few large publication companies, so only their dermatology-related periodicals were displayed. Therefore, as part of their efforts to improve the overall exhibition of the

22nd WCD for all participants, the local organizing committee has made plans for a specially designated publication center for the 2011 World Congress. In addition to commercial booths for select dermatology-related periodicals, the center will contain a non-commercial Journal Display Area, which will contain only journal samples and related pamphlets. By combining all publication-related displays and exhibits in one area, the committee hopes not only to add convenience for participants, but also to improve overall exposure and promotional benefits for companies. The Journal Display Area will be available to any periodical or publication in exchange for full page WCD advertisements at least three months prior to the congress starting date.

WCD special book, 'Skin and Skin Diseases in Asians'

As with previous congresses, a Special Commemorative Book is being written and developed for distribution to delegates in 2011.

Unfortunately relatively little history and literature on Asian dermatology exists since, prior to World War 2, in many Asian countries the local organizing committee planned to make a book for targeting future instead. As a result, the ILDS has approved the creation of a practical book, rather than a historical one, which addresses current day issues and topics peculiar to Asia. The organizing committee requested that the title of the book be 'Skin and Skin Diseases in Asians' and this title was approved by the ILDS executive committee. The special book will focus on Asian skin and skin diseases that are relatively common among or unique to Asians and will be an ideal introduction for dermatologists all over the world. For the book, 78 chapters were chosen and 92 Asian dermatologists will contribute their writing. All registrants of the 22nd World Congress of Dermatology will receive a CD copy of the book.



23rd World Congress of Dermatology

Letter from Vancouver

www.derm2015.org

Canada Welcomes the World

Vancouver is HOT! We are very proud that Vancouver has, once again, been voted The World's Most Liveable City 2009 by the Economic Intelligence Unit. Vancouver is also host to a great number of world class events and conventions.

The Canadian Dermatology Association held its 84th Annual Conference in Vancouver in July of this year. A number of international guest speakers shared their expertise in themed presentations on women's dermatology, HIV/infectious diseases, photomedicine and connective tissue disease.

Vancouver and Whistler, British Columbia, hosted the World Police and Fire Games this past summer, welcoming over 10,000 fire fighters, police officers, corrections officers and border guards as athletes. In total, 30,000 people attended the Metro Vancouver and Whistler Games at the end of July. The athletes competed in a wide array of sports, ranging from the traditional sports like track and field, football and softball to the offbeat like angling, darts and wrist wrestling.

The World Police and Fire Games had the opportunity to use many of the brand new state-of-the-art facilities that have been built to host the 2010 Olympics, which are now less than 6 months away. Preparation for the Olympics is well-underway, with the building of the official Olympic Media Centre located at the newly-expanded Vancouver Convention Centre. The Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Games will be the first ever to be presented in a covered, indoor facility. BC Place Stadium in Vancouver covers four hectares and boasts the largest air-supported stadium roof in North America.

Mid-August saw the opening of the much-anticipated Canada Line Rapid Transit System, which connects the Vancouver International Airport to downtown Vancouver in only 25 minutes.

For a preview of Vancouver, tune your television or internet into the Winter Olympics next February.

As we continue to host the world's most prestigious events, we hope to have the opportunity to showcase our Canadian hospitality to the international dermatology community. We look forward to meeting our colleagues from around the world at upcoming international dermatology meetings. It would be an honour for Canada to host the world in 2015

Jerry Shapiro, President Harvey Lui, Secretary-General Larry Warshawski, Bid Director, CDA Liaison Vancouver 2015 World Congress of Dermatology Bid Committee



Letter from Bangalore

Indian Association of Dermatologists, Venereologists and Leprologists (IADVL) a 6000 strong body is keen to host the next World Congress of Dermatology in Bangalore, the IT capital of India. It has already started the preliminary work in this regard. A large contingent of Indian delegates is participating in the ensuing WCD at Seoul, South Korea and also to partake in the bidding process.

Incredible India has a lot to offer culturally, geographically, socially, academically and also it will be a culinary feast. One should never miss an opportunity to visit India for any reason! Its diverse language, geography, culture, food, climate and hospitality is something one should experience first hand! We, the members of IADVL, shall leave no stone unturned to make this event a mega success and an unforgettable event in everybody's life. Rest assured.

Dr. S. Sacchidanand
Convenor, WCD Bidding Committee
Dr. Chetan Oberai
Chairman, WCD Bidding Committee
Dr. V.K. Sharma
President, IADVL (2009)



ICD11

Initial responses to our request for financial support for this project have resulted in generous financial donations being pledged/received to date.

- German Dermatological Society (DDG) Euros 25,000
- European Dermatology Forum (EDF)
 Euros 20.000
- European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV) Euros 20,000
- Philippine Academy of Clinical and Cosmetic Dermatology (PACCD)
 US\$ 2,000.00

These donations reflect the importance attached to the ICD10 Revision project and we would like to commend these Societies on their insight in understanding and foreseeing the worldwide importance of the update of the International Classification of Diseases.

Our budget in support of this project is US\$150,000 per year for the next three years.

Please note that there is considerable lead time between this Newsletter being sent to the publisher and its actual publication. It may be that your Society made its contribution before this Newsletter was printed, in which case please be assured that regular updates of the names of donating Societies will be circulated to all the ILDS Member Societies.

International Foundation for Dermatology

The link between the International Foundation for Dermatology and Médecins Sans Frontières is progressing well. Under the guidance of Peter Schmid we have been able to set up an electronic system of communication whereby MSF field workers in remote areas can get access to dermatological advice from a small team of volunteers. To start with this will be 'email based' as this fits best with the need to assure communication, often under difficult situations, as MSF volunteers are often working in comparatively inaccessible areas such as Darfur. However we hope that this will provide concrete support for the care of patients in areas affected by conflict and natural disasters such as drought.

Scabies remains one of the commonest of all skin diseases in many parts of the tropics whereas in industrialised societies its manifestations are different and are most prevalent in specific groups such as the elderly in institutions such as nursing homes. The problem of scabies in hot environments is compounded by the frequency of secondary infection by streptococci and staphylococci. Prevalence rates have been difficult to estimate given lack of standardised diagnostic criteria but these may reach very high levels, such as over 50%, in the most vulnerable such as infants and children. The impact of secondary streptococcal infections has been assessed over recent years with increasing evidence of a risk of renal damage, presenting as haematuria, which may persist years after infection, in addition to rheumatic heart disease; secondary staphylococcal infection is associated with an increased risk of infant septicaemia. All told this infection, which should be simple to treat, has a high health impact in areas with the highest prevalence.

A recent dialogue between the ILDS/IFD and WHO and Merck has initiated a growing focus on this problem. In particular, recent evidence from studies in the West Pacific has shown the benefits of using a single dose regimen of ivermectin for community control of scabies. The study by Lawrence and co-workers (Lawrence G, Leafasia J, Sheridan J, et al: Control of scabies, skin sores and haematuria in children in the Solomon Islands: another role for ivermectin. Bull World Hlth Org 2005;83:34-42) demonstrated a dramatic fall in scabies infection rate and an accompanying drop in the prevalence of haematuria.

A collaborative programme is evolving between these three groups to assess the extent of the problem by estimating prevalence and specific risk groups in poorer countries, the risk of serious disability through renal involvement and the obstacles to progress. The objective of the discussion is to investigate the possibility for developing population-based treatment programmes along with a rationalisation of the essential drugs list.

The IFD has also taken over responsibility for the Community Dermatology Journal, which is distributed without charge to poor countries. It is edited by Paul Buxton assisted by an enthusiastic editorial team. Readers interested in the Journal can access back numbers on the IFD website (www.ifd.org). Paul is always looking for contributors to the journal whose aim is to provide continuous education in dermatology to a wide audience whose access to conferences, journals and journal clubs is limited.

Roderick J. Hay

Members' Corner



Serbian Association of Dermatovenereologists



Professor Ljiljana Medenica President of the Serbian Association of Dermatovenereologists

Serbian Journal of Dermatology and Venereology

After a period of over 80 years of existence, the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia, established on 17th December 1927 in Belgrade, has changed its official title to the Serbian Association of Dermatovenerologists as proposed by General Assembly of the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia on February 17th, 2007 in Belgrade.

Founding of the journal of the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia was realized through efforts of three Slovenian dermatologists: J. Fettich, A. Kansky and S. Bunta. In 1974, they founded a journal Acta dermatovenerologica lugoslavica (Acta derm lug), published by the Association of Derma-tovenereologists of Yugoslavia. Acta Derm lug appeared during 18 years, four times yearly (except in the period 1985-1986 when volumes 12 and 13 were not available) in Serbian and Croatian languages. The Editors-in-Chief from 1974-1991 were dermatologists from former Yugoslavia: J. Fettich (1974–1983) from Ljubljana, J. Lalošević (1984–1987) from Belgrade, and A. Kansky (1988-1991) from Zagreb. After the outbreak of civil war in former Yugoslavia, Editor-in-Chief of the Acta Derm lug

A. Kansky transferred the Editorial office from Zagreb to Ljubljana and continued with publishing of the *Acta Derm Jua* (1).

Editor-in-Chief of Acta derm lug, A. Kansky, changed the name and renewed the registration of the Acta Derm lug in 1992, to Acta Dermatovenerologica Alpina, Pannonica et Adriatica (Acta Dermatovenerol Alp Panonica Adriat). Acta Dermatovenerol Alp Panonica Adriat (ISSN 1318–4458 NLM ID: 9422563) published by Dermatovenereologic Society of Slovenia started to appear in 1992 in Ljubljana and thus continued as Acta Derm lug (2).

Nevertheless, in the 1992, the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia still existed even during the turbulent times and the isolation in ninetieth decade of the 20th century, due to great efforts of dermatovenereologists from Serbia. However, after the outbreak of civil war in former Yugoslavia, according to the financial and technical problems, publishing of *Acta Derm lug* was stopped.

After 4-year-pause, *Acta Derm lug*, published by the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia, appeared again in 1996. Editor-in-Chief was I. Dostanic. *Acta Derm lug* vol. 19, issue No. 1 was published (3), but during the following year inade-

quate care was dedicated to the regular appearance of the journal.

During the XV Congress of the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia which took place in Belgrade in 1996, General Assembly of the Association elected a new Editor-in-Chief of *Acta Derm lug*, M. Nikolic from Belgrade. In 1997 the Editorial Board was moved to the Institute of Dermatovenereology in Belgrade. *Acta Derm lug* vol. 20, issues No. 1 and 2 were published (4, 5). Soon after that publishing activities of the Association of Dermatovenereologists of Yugoslavia ended.

With the aim of satisfying scientific, professional, educational, health-pedagogical and other needs of the Association members as well as wider medical community, Serbian Association of Dermatovenere-ologists started to organize and establish publishing activities once again. New scientific-professional

journal of the Association under the title Serbian Journal of Dermatology and Venereology (Serb J Derm Venereol) was established.

Serb J Derm Venereol published by Serbian association of Dermatovenereologists will come out four times a year in English language. Serb J Derm Venereol issue No. 1 and No. 2 published in March and June 2009 (6, 7). Contents of the Serb J Derm Venereol is as follows: editorial, original studies, review articles, professional articles, case reports, letters, conference reports, in memoriam and forthcoming events. Beside hard copy of the Serb J Derm Venereol, e-version will be also available (www.udvs.org).

We hope that Serb J Derm Venereol with its international Editorial Board will attract authors all over the world willing to share their experience and knowledge in the field of basic and clinical dermatology and venereology.

References

- 1 Acta derm lug 1991;18:165-227.
- 2 Acta dermatovenerol Alp Panonica Adriat 1992;1:39.
- 3 *Acta derm lug* 1996;19:1–80.
- 4 Acta derm lug 1997;20:1-64.
- 5 Acta derm lug 1997;20:65–136.
- 6 Serb J Derm Venereol 2009;1:1–56.
- 7 Serb J Derm Venereol 2009;2:57-96.

Update from the Administrative Officer

ILDS Certificates of Appreciation

Richard John Graham Rycroft M.D.

Skin, plants – and poets

During the recent international workshop on Plants and Skin held in Odense, Denmark, and chaired by Drs. Evy Paulsen, Klaus Ejner Andersen and Lars Kristensen, the ILDS Certificate of Appreciation Award was presented to Dr. Richard Rycroft, former editor of Contact Dermatitis, by Kristian Thestrup-Pedersen.

The Award read: This Certificate is awarded to Richard John Graham Rycroft M.D. in recognition of his outstanding contribution to dermatology, both nationally and internationally, and, in particular, through his work as Editor of Contact Dermatitis.

The workshop started in the fields of the University, where plants were looked at, discussed etc. Interestingly, Professor Lars Kristensen mentioned that through selection, growth conditions etc., plants could yield more than genetically modified plants. A large amount of work is done to select variants which can feed the world's fast growing population.

Dr. Chris Lowell from Bath gave excellent introductions to the various clinical pictures arriving from contact with plants – from the needles of the cactus to more sophisticated plant-induced cases of eczema. Most plant dermatitis are 'irritant' and sun-light is an additional factor. But did you know that around 1/3 of fire fighters in California cannot participate in fighting the devastating forest fires because they are allergic to poison ivy?

Dr. Richard Rycroft gave a lecture on Plants and the Poet – a most stimulating journey on how much

poetry includes plants – the 'rose' being the utmost symbol of beauty and love.

Plants are with us – not only from birth to grave, but as physical signs of the beauty of life.



Richard Rycroft (left) being presented with the ILDS Certificate of Appreciation by Kristian Thestrup-Pedersen

Professor Roberto A. Estrada M.D.



Jorge Ocampo-Candiani (left) presenting the ILDS Certificate of Appreciation to Roberto Estrada at the opening ceremony at the RADLA Congress in Mexico City.

The Award read: This Certificate is awarded to Professor Roberto A. Estrada M.D. in recognition of his outstanding contribution to dermatology through his work in Mexico and through raising the consciousness of the importance of dermatological disease as well as epidemiological research of diseases affecting public health.

ILDS Membership Dues

Several Societies have not yet submitted their outstanding membership dues. If you are unsure as to whether your Society has, indeed, updated its membership of the ILDS, please ask the Administrative Office to confirm your Society's status.

It is vitally important to keep your membership up to date as, if this is not the case, your Society will be forfeiting its right to participate in the global affairs of the ILDS.

ILDS Society Membership Details

It would be extremely helpful if all Societies could check their entries on the ILDS website (www.ilds. org). If there is anything incorrect or out of date, please advise the Administrative Office which will make the changes to the database and the website.