



The quarterly newsletter
of the European Society
of Clinical Pharmacy

News

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A Few Words

Caring for ESCP means caring for people, more particularly human beings, who have to cope with health problems. This editorial deals with ESCP and its commitment to patient care.

Time slips through our fingers like the tiny white sand on the beach of Mombasa. The management company MCI left ESCP in mutual agreement after the Edinburgh conference in May 2007. From 2002 MCI moved into the existence of ESCP. During five years both were living together and learned a lot from each other. **The mission of the Society seems to have a strong market value.** With MCI, ESCP continued on the 'elan' of 2000 with the idea of two profitable conferences a year as the main objective. And conferences came: Florence, Lisbon, Valencia, Paris, Prague, Stockholm, Amsterdam, Vilnius, Vienna and Edinburgh. Competence within ESCP and strong networking guaranteed the intellectual success of these scientific meetings. We saw that our proper commitment was an essential condition adjacent to the efforts made by MCI. We learned that networking can only function if ESCP people care about those who are supposed to function in that network. Even strong management cannot care about the responsibility a General Committee has to take on its shoulders. Despite the efforts made, we learned that sponsorship on a European level hardly exists for a Society based on individual membership.

Since MCI left ESCP, the experience is a very curious one. Experiencing it as a president, makes it even more real. It was like a crystallizing process. The General Committee and the other Committees undertook a journey without too much of a preparation. Objectives were set on the short and long term. In

the past, we overestimated the role of e-mails and underestimated **the potential of in vivo meetings.** So a delegation of the General Committee of ESCP went to Istanbul three weeks after Edinburgh. In Istanbul, we were very warmly welcomed. We discussed the contract MCI prepared for us, visited the conference venue and became friends to each other. When coming back for the real conference in October 2007, we felt more at home and worked as partners. In between, the decision was made for Dubrovnik as the 2008 conference venue. By the way, this conference will deal with new pharmaceutical care models and therapeutic innovations. Take your agenda and mark **21, 22, 23 and 24 October 2008** with Dubrovnik as the place to be, joining the ESCP family and enjoying the warmth of a late summer in an historical site on the Adriatic Coast. Although the Scientific Committee of the Dubrovnik conference started its activity in July 2007, the practical preparing of this conference could only take off from October 2007 on. In December 2007 I visited Zagreb as the president of ESCP in order to reinforce the *in vivo* meeting principle. An ESCP delegation visited Dubrovnik on 11 and 12 February 2008. The contacts with the Croatian colleagues and the PCO are promising. Croatia is quite active on the clinical pharmacy site and has strong pharmaceutical professional bodies.

In between we continue the preparations for the **ESCP Oncology workshop in Leuven (from 26 to 28 May 2008)**. The detailed program is available on the website and will be disseminated during the Maastricht EAHP conference. We are aiming at an active audience of 200 attendants. With meetings like the one in Leuven we take up a past tradition in the history of ESCP. Feel free to make the

Caring forever

experience work by coming to Leuven and attending a mix of closely linked plenary lectures, interactive working sessions and oral presentations.

All of us working for ESCP are unpaid volunteers. ESCP is coming on top of our daily commitments as our job has to go on. I just finished the reading of 93 reports made by my last year students. In close consulting with their tutors, the treating general practitioners and the patients, they made medication narrative reports. When going through these utmost interesting stories, I realized that caring cannot be reduced to supporting the optimal use of medicines. Medicines initiate the caring for patients, many times patients without much of a perspective in their lives. For instance the girl of 17, suffering from cystic fibrosis, not being able to go to school, sitting at home... *waiting for the next admission to the emergency department due to new episode of infection ...* as she expressed herself. Or the boy of 15, complaining of heavy pain due to juvenile arthritis, a pain not to cure with the available Disease Modifying Anti-Rheumatic Drugs (DMARDs) or brand new biologicals. It is the story of the lonely elderly patient considering the visit of the pharmacy intern as quite supportive and describing his grieves with an unexpected openness.

People need caring people, especially when being a patient. ESCP is caring for the care by reflecting upon processes and by studying the effect of interventions. Caring for ESCP means caring for an optimal patient environment. We would be glad if you keep joining us in these efforts.

Gert Laekeman
President



Profit in Istanbul

We are happy to announce that the 36th ESCP congress held in Istanbul last October resulted in a profit for the society. Erik Gerbrands, the treasurer of ESCP, said that he was pleasantly surprised by the net result of more than 20.000 Euro. This is a good sign for ESCP which has taken measures to improve the financial situation.

MEETING PHARMACISTS FROM JORDAN, LITHUANIA AND OMAN

ESCP News met with pharmacists who satisfied the criteria to benefit from ESCP financial support to participate at an ESCP conference.

Salah Aburuz, Jordan



Salah is a pharmacist from Jordan who is currently teaching at the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at the school of pharmacy of Jordan University. Following his undergraduate studies in Jordan Salah took up post-graduate studies at the school of pharmacy at Queen's University in Belfast where he read for a PhD under the supervision of Professor James McElroy.

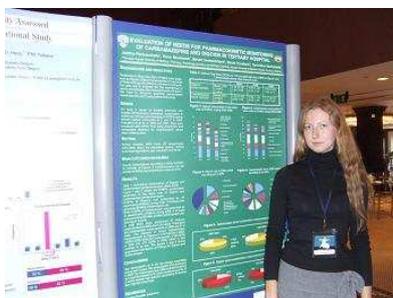
In Jordan Salah participates in the undergraduate teaching programme which consists of 5 years of study leading to a Bachelors degree. For the past two years he is also teaching in the Masters of Clinical Pharmacy post-graduate programme where he co-ordinates the practical attachments for the students in hospital settings. Salah also participates in the six-year teaching programme leading for a Pharm D degree. Jordan University is a government funded university and in Jordan there are other 8 schools of pharmacy. For the Master of Clinical Pharmacy about 10 students graduate per year whereas for the PharmD programme about 60 students graduate per year.

The ESCP conference in Turkey was the first ESCP conference experience for Salah. He was interested to participate in the conference to learn more about European and American programmes in teaching and

research. He is mostly interested in research related to pharmaceutical care of internal medicine and general surgery.

During the conference, Salah presented a paper on drug related problems in hospitalised patients within an internal medicine department. This reported on a prospective randomised study. The occurrence of drug related problems and their outcomes were studied. The clinical pharmacists' recommendations were quantified and the acceptance level measured. It was shown that 95% of the pharmacists' recommendations were accepted by the physicians but only 67% of these were actually implemented. There was a lower number of drug related problems in patients who received pharmacist monitoring than in patients who were in the control group.

Justina Penjauskaite, Lithuania



Justina is a pharmacy student at Kaunas University in Lithuania. She is currently in her final year of the five year undergraduate course for a Master in Pharmacy degree. During this year students are required to undertake practice in a pharmacy and prepare a project.

She is working on a project with Professor Romaldas Maciulatis from the Department of Clinical Pharmacology. She prepared an abstract for the ESCP conference in Turkey which was accepted as a poster presentation.

When she graduates as a pharmacist she is interested to work with companies in Lithuania that are responsible for clinical trials. Most of the students practise in community pharmacies after they graduate. Together with Justina

there are about 100 students who are finishing their studies in pharmacy including 10 foreign students. Justina finds clinical pharmacy a very interesting area. However clinical pharmacy in hospitals is still developing in Lithuania and she does not envisage that it will be possible for her to take up such a position when she finishes her studies next June.

During the ESCP conference she was pleased that she could meet pharmacists from other countries and discuss how clinical pharmacists interventions are perceived by other health professionals. She found the poster viewing session as a very interactive networking time.

The poster presented by Justina dealt with the requirements for pharmacokinetic monitoring of carbamazepine and digoxin in a hospital setting. The annual consumption of digoxin and carbamazepine was studied for a 2600-bed hospital. Occurrence of abnormal serum drug concentration levels was studied. The results showed that there is an insufficiency of serum drug concentration monitoring for patients receiving carbamazepine and digoxin.

Zaher Alsalmi, Oman

Zaher Alsalmi read for an Mpharm degree at the school of pharmacy at John Moors University in Liverpool.

He practised as a clinical pharmacist with experience both in surgical and medical wards. In January 2006 he finished his Master in Clinical Pharmacy course at the school of pharmacy of the University of Strathclyde. He has now returned to Oman where he is in charge of the clinical pharmacy section and a clinical pharmacist with the cardiology unit at the Royal Hospital in Muscat, the capital city.

Within his practice, Zaher participates in the development of protocols and guidelines for cardiology wards, in tracking programme for pharmacy students and in the training of health professionals practising at the hospital.



Who's who

Piera Polidori



Piera Polidori has joined the ESCP General Committee as a member representing Italy. Piera holds a degree in Pharmacy and a postgraduate degree in Hospital Pharmacy and Nutritional Science. She also attended several postgraduate masters' courses in Oncology, Clinical Nutrition, Pharmacoeconomics, Epidemiology and Pharmacy

Management. In 2006 she did an International Fellowship on Clinical Pharmacy at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, USA.

Piera worked as a hospital pharmacist in Rome, Italy. In 1999 she started her experience as Clinical Pharmacist at the Mediterranean Institute for Transplantation and Advanced Specialized Therapy (ISMETT): a joint venture between the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and two Italian public hospitals in Palermo, Italy. In 2000 she became Director of the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at ISMETT (www.ismett.edu).

Since 2004 she has been holding different positions within the Italian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (SIFO) namely as a member of the Scientific Committee, National Coordinator of Risk Management Area, reviewer of "Bollettino SIFO" and other international journals such as the "Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics". She

was instructor/Scientific Committee member in several regional and national courses and symposia on compounding, nutrition, clinical pharmacy, risk management, and oncology pharmacy. She was a speaker at a number of national and international conferences and she has published more than 50 articles over the past five years. At ISMETT Piera developed the first model of Clinical Pharmacy in Italy since 1999.

"ESCP is an important and interesting organization focused on Clinical Pharmacy. As a member of the GC, I hope to contribute to the continuous development of clinical pharmacy in Europe. Collaboration among pharmacists coming from different countries and development of collaborative research projects are fundamental for successful and better care for European patients".

Piera Polidori
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Invitation from the president

Dear Colleagues,

Cancer comes on a sudden. It disturbs an individual life. It changes relations. It makes perspectives disappear. It is like the water in a quiet pond that starts streaming in directions we do not control.

The burden of the oncological patient can be alleviated by caring. Attention and patience will be of great help when we are approaching someone who has to live with the complexity of cancer.

We can ask ourselves what the place of the clinical pharmacist can be in the highly professional technical environment. Where do we see a possible complimentary role for the clinical pharmacist? Medical doctors, nurses and therapists have well defined roles, supported by their proper skills. Their activities in institutional and ambulatory care are well perceived.

The purpose of the first ESCP international workshop on the theme « the Oncological Patient and the Clinical Pharmacist » is to facilitate instruction and reflection.

Plenary lectures will guarantee the update of our knowledge. Optimal clinical results and quality of life of the patient must go hand in hand, with a pharmacoeconomic dimension as a background.

The workshop will offer ample time for reflection and discussion about the role of the clinical pharmacist in the approach of the oncological patient.

The workshop is organized in the University Hospital « Gasthuisberg » in Leuven. More than 7600 people are involved in order to make care happen in 'Gasthuisberg'. The place is an ideal venue to stimulate generation and transfer of knowledge for the benefit of patients.

Only 10 minutes downtown and 15 minutes from the international airport of Brussels there is the city of Leuven.

Since the founding of the university in 1425 Leuven has been an attractive intellectual centre. Magnificent architecture takes us back to the

15th and 16th century. Lovely pubs and pleasant restaurants are close by and favor meeting with young students.

Learning, reflecting and socializing: we are ready to welcome you for an unforgettable event!

Gert Laekeman
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Chair and President of ESCP





Research studies at ESCP conferences

ESCP News presents some of the projects in the area of Pharmaceutical Care that were presented during an oral communication session at the 36th ESCP annual symposium held in Istanbul.

Title: Internal customer satisfaction with pharmaceutical care



Presented by: Carmen Canete, Spain
Main findings: The pharmacy services offered from a Hospital Universitari Joan XXIII are ISO 9001/2000 certified. A questionnaire was developed to be administered on a yearly basis to physicians and nurses to assess satisfaction with pharmacy services provided. The questionnaire was implemented in the departments of internal medicine, orthopaedics and paediatrics. Nurses recommended an improved drug dispensing system and longer hours of pharmacy services. Both professionals appreciated professionalism, accessibility and competence of the pharmacists.

Title: Improving the quality of consultations for non-prescription medicines



Presented by: Margaret Watson, United Kingdom
Main findings: Since 1980, 70 prescription-only medicines have Outcome of patients with acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in first complete remission treated with allogeneic transplantation: an intention-to-treat analysis of clinical trials been re-classified to non-prescription medicines. The aim of the study was to test the suitability of using simulated patients to improve the quality of consultations. Three simulated patients visited 20 community pharmacies. Pharmacists appreciated the simulated patient visits and wanted feedback from the person who made the visit. They found the exercise most useful to pharmacy counter assistants.

Title: Causes of heart failure exacerbation leading to hospital admission



Presented by: Elin Lehnbohm, Sweden
Main findings: The study evaluated patient compliance with recommended therapy, patient knowledge on medication and treatment received by 47 patients. Using the Morisky 4-item scale, it was calculated that 60% of the patients were highly compliant while 6% showed low compliance. Patients reported that they monitored their weight (30%), ate salty food frequently (17%), and contact a health professional if a sudden weight gain occurs (28%). Patients were unaware of what to do when they experience exacerbation of symptoms of heart failure. In many patients a low dose of the medication was prescribed.

Title: Treatment of strongyloides stercoralis hyperinfection syndrome in immunocompromised patients with ivermectin



Presented by: Cecile Raignoux, France
Main findings: Strongyloidiasis is a nematode infection presenting with minor gastro-intestinal effects such as diarrhea and abdominal pain, cough and pruritus. It is a chronic infection. In immuno-compromised patients, there is a higher risk of extensive larval infiltration in the lungs resulting in pneumonia, asthma-like symptoms and in the intestines leading to frequent bowel obstruction. This infection in immuno-compromised patients is associated with an increased mortality. In France ivermectin is not available as a parenteral preparation for human use. The subcutaneous formulation for veterinary use was administered to two patients. The condition of one of the patients improved and he was discharged after two months.

Title: Evaluation of buccal aerosol Aequasyl for xerostomia in a geriatric ward



Presented by: Celine Mongaret, France
Main findings: Aequasyl is a medical device which consists of a mixture of oxidized glycerol trimesters which provides a lubricating effect. The study consisted of a one year evaluation of use of the product in elderly patients with xerostomia. Clinical efficacy was evaluated after 14 days by measuring occurrence of buccal symptoms in 19 patients who were using the product four times daily. An 84% improvement in ability to speak and 58% improvement for chewing was reported.

Title: Clinical pharmacist impact in collecting patient medication history admitted in rheumatology department



Presented by: Emmanuelle Orru Bravo, France
Main findings: During a six month period, 154 females and 83 males with a mean age of 61 years old were admitted to the rheumatology department at Hospital Bichat Claude Bernard in Paris. At admission 89% of the patients had medication modified.

Modifications were due to unintentional dose omission or incorrect dose (25%) and withdrawal of anticoagulation treatment (75%). The intervention of the clinical pharmacists helped in collecting a realistic patient drug history on admission and in treatment review.



Research studies at ESCP conferences

.../...

Title: Descriptive analysis of pharmaceutical interventions in surgical inpatients



Presented by: Mareike Kunkel, Germany

Main findings: Since 2004 clinical pharmacy service has been implemented in three surgical wards at the Johannes – Gutenberg – University Hospital in Mainz, Germany. The aims of the study were to evaluate pharmacists intervention and identify occurrence of drug related problems in a six month period. During the period studied, 3679 patients were admitted to the clinics and drug related problems were identified in 610 (17%) patients.

Pharmacists interventions amounted to 970 for which a physicians acceptance rate of 96% was obtained. The pharmacists interventions related to patient safety. The results indicate that carrying out pharmacist-led medication review in surgical patients was a useful method to detect drug related problems.

Title: Patients' report of depressive symptoms in relation with perceptions and adherence



Presented by: Marcel Bouvy, The Netherlands

Main findings: The study aimed to investigate whether illness and treatment perceptions were associated with depressive symptoms in patients starting treatment for cardiovascular disease. Sixty-two patients completed the questionnaire which consisted of the Illness Perception Questionnaire-Brief, Beliefs about Medicines Questionnaire, the Medication Adherence Report Scale and the Centre for Epidemiological Studies Depression Scale.

Results showed that depressive symptoms correlated with concerns about medication but not with self-reported adherence which was relatively high at 65.6%.

Title: Identification of drug interactions in hospitals: computer screening vs bedside recording



Presented by: Hege Salvesen Blix, Norway

Main findings: The objective of the study was to compare two methods for identification of drug interactions namely the computer-aided screening and the prospective bedside recording. The computer screening method identified interactions in 544 (66%) patients out of 827 patients reviewed. With the bedside recording interactions were identified in 73 (9%) patients. In 10 patients were identified during bedside screening which were not identified with the computer screening.

The results showed that computer screening overestimates occurrence of drug interactions particularly because of the difficulty to identify clinically relevant drug interactions.

Title: Monitoring of repeat prescriptions for asthma by pharmacists and general practitioners



Presented by: Henk-Frans Kwint, The Netherlands

Main finding: Pharmacists discussed complaints of asthma symptoms and use of asthma medication with patients calling for repeat prescriptions for asthma medications in a community pharmacy. Use of short and long-acting beta-agonists and of inhaled corticosteroids was monitored. Monitoring of repeat prescriptions by the community pharmacist resulted in an increased number of patients achieving asthma control and a decreased use of short acting beta-agonists.

Title: Belgian health authorities and clinical pharmacy projects



Presented by: Hugo Robays, Belgium

Main findings: The Federal Ministry of Social Affairs and Health Care in Belgium has launched a campaign to fund projects in clinical pharmacy up to a sum of 1 250 000 Euro. The selection criteria were clinical relevancy, reproducibility of clinical and economical outcome, outcome indicators and multidisciplinary approach.

Eight projects from 112 hospitals were submitted of which 28 were selected to receive funding. The initiative triggered response from Belgian hospitals to develop projects to elaborate on clinical pharmacy services provided.

Title: Pharmacist intervention at the pain clinic



Presented by: Lilian Azzopardi, Malta

Main finding: Pharmacist intervention at the pain clinic at St Luke's Hospital was assessed. Patient compliance with medication, patient knowledge about their condition and medications were used as main outcome measures.

After the pharmacist intervention, the number of patients who did not comply with the prescribed medication because they forgot to take it decreased by 11%. Patients found the pharmacist counseling session and the patient treatment charts very useful.



What does ESCP have to offer you ?!!

Education and training

First and foremost ESCP offers high quality education and training for clinical pharmacists. Each autumn in October we arrange a scientific symposium which attracts both new and experienced pharmacists from all over Europe and beyond. At each symposium there is a main theme and at this year's conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia it will be "Pharmaceutical care models and therapeutic innovations". We also look forward to go to Switzerland in the autumn of 2009.

This May a scientific workshop called "The oncological patient and the clinical pharmacist" will be arranged in Leuven, Belgium for a maximum of 200 participants. Based on the experiences from this workshop, similar events will be staged as a regular ESCP-event in the springtime.

Attached to the conferences we often arrange one-day masterclasses on specific topics. Last year a very well attended class regarding basics in pediatric pharmaceutical care was arranged. Another popular feature is our 3-day educational courses on patient centered teaching. These have been arranged on several occasions either as stand alone courses or attached to one of our conferences.

Back in 2004 we for the first time arranged a joint educational course with EAHP (European Association of Hospital Pharmacy) on the theme "Safety at the patient's bedside". This was very well received, especially since it was aimed at our Eastern European members.

Another joint venture is the forthcoming ESCP-ACCP (American College of Clinical Pharmacy) congress to be held in April 2009 in Orlando, Florida. Of

course we hope to see many of you around over there!!

We also aim to train clinical pharmacists in how to do research. This year we will do that through a series of workshops at our October-symposium in Dubrovnik.

Publications

In addition to the peer-reviewed journal *Pharmacy World Science* (PWS) we also offer to our member the Newsletter you are now reading. PWS is an important journal as it publishes studies from most of the European countries on pharmacy, pharmaceutical care practice etc. **You will also find the abstracts from the conferences in this journal.**

Last year we published a revised version of our well renowned "Guidelines on successful scientific presentations". Then we also finished a "Glossary of terms in clinical pharmacy". Both of these publications may be obtained from the Secretariat.

To benefit our French- and Dutch-speaking colleagues we have made available the database *Cybele* on drugs in pregnancy and lactation. This may be accessed through our website (www.escpweb.org).

Besides, to our members we offer subscriptions on the journals from *Adis* at 10% discount and also material from *PSAP* at discounted prices.

Research

In recent years a number of successful research projects have been carried out under the auspices of ESCP, see table. Due to its multinational character it is possible for ESCP to organize

research across Europe. In the future we therefore aim to conduct more research. Hence, you are encouraged to contact the ESCP-secretariat to present your research-ideas.

Table: Recent research projects

- SFIM project (Severe Fungal Infections Management and outcome), ESCP-Rco hospital pharmacy project: 10 centres in 6 countries
- Eurocox (community):
- CARPE DIEM project: The clinical pharmacy pilot evaluation – development and implementation of efficient screening and monitoring in diabetes: 5 centres in France
- Drug related problems identified by European community pharmacists in patients discharged from hospital: community pharmacies from 5 different countries

Please contact the Secretariat for further information on these projects.

The ESCP-website (www.escpweb.org)

The best way to explore its contents is to go there yourself! To wet your appetite we would like to draw your attention to links to the program for the Leuven-workshop mentioned above and the 1st announcement for the autumn symposium in Dubrovnik. You will also find links to abstracts and video presentations from past conferences on the site.

As a member you will also find lists of the other members on the site. This may be useful with regard to among other things networking.

Franck Jorgensen
teppe35@hotmail.com
Vice President

Publications

The ESCP has a number of publications available for its members.

First of all there is the **Newsletter** you are now reading. This newsletter appears 4 times a year in PDF format and is the 'internal publication' of our association.

Our members also automatically have a free subscription to the scientific peer-reviewed journal **Pharmacy World Science** (PWS) and access to its archives on the Internet. PWS is an important journal for European clinical pharmacy and is published by Springer SBM.

Apart from many articles on community and hospital practice, pharmaceutical care and clinical pharmacy practice, it also publishes the abstracts of all ESCP conferences, and the abstracts of all conferences of the United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association.

Last year we published a revised version of our renowned "**Guidelines on successful scientific presentations**", and we also finished a "**Glossary of terms in clinical pharmacy**". Both of these publications may be obtained from the ESCP Secretariat (info@escpweb.org), or there ESCP desk at conferences.

For the benefit of our French- and Dutch-speaking colleagues the database **Cybele** on drugs in pregnancy and lactation was made available through our website (www.escpweb.org).

Additionally we are able to offer our members 10% discount for the subscriptions to the **ADIS pharmacy journals** (such as *Drugs* and *Drugs & Ageing*) and also publications from *PSAP* at discounted prices.

J.W. Foppe van Mil
jwfvanmil@planet.nl
Publication committee chair



The 37th ESCP European Symposium Clinical Pharmacy

« Pharmaceutical Care Models & Therapeutic Innovations »

Libertas Rixos Hotel
Dubrovnik, CROATIA
22-24 October 2008

Tuesday 21 October : evening lecture and welcome reception

Symposium President: Maja Jakševa-Mikša, Croatia

Scientific committee

Lilian M. Azzopardi, *Malta*
Marcel Bouvy, *The Netherlands*
Vesna Bačić Vrca, *Croatia*
Cecilia Bernsten, *Sweden*
Jelena Filipović Grčić, *Croatia*
Steve Hudson, *United Kingdom*
Marie-Caroline Husson, *France*
Sam Salek, *United Kingdom*
Anthony Serracino-Inglott (Chair), *Malta*
Foppe van Mil, *The Netherlands*
Maurice Zarb-Adami, *Malta*

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Franciska Desplenter, *Belgium*
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Jacqueline Grassin, *France*
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Iva Jankovic, *Croatia*
Nikola Kujundžić, *Croatia*
Georges Zelger, *Switzerland*

31 March 2008
Registration open

31 March 2008
Abstract submission
open

27 June 2008
Abstract submission
deadline

1 September 2008
Early bird registration
deadline

22 October 2008
Late registration
deadline

To learn more about the
programme and register, visit:
www.escpweb.org
or mail
info@escpweb.org

Invitation from the President of ESCP

Dear Colleagues,



Flying back from Dubrovnik, where we made a inspection trip, I started to muse when carefully eating my 'paprenjak'. This tiny biscuit gets its sweet-peppery flavor from a mixture of walnuts, pepper and honey. It tells us something about the history of Croatia. Many times foreign invaders took away the honey, and left the pepper.

The theme of the upcoming ESCP conference in Dubrovnik can be symbolized by the ingredients of the 'paprenjak'. Indeed, when therapeutic innovations have to be considered in a caring environment, we have also a mixture rich in flavor. The walnuts are standing for the brains. That is what th Paracelsus thought us in the 16 century according to his *signatura* theory: if the brain and the walnut are morphologically similar, eating the latter will benefit the former. Brains are needed to go for the discovery of new therapeutic agents, or using

the existing ones on an innovative way. When our health deteriorates, we can experience difficulties to cope with an uncomfortable situation. It is like the pepper invisibly mixed with a dish we have to swallow. The honey stands for the caring. It can be the care delivered by applying clinical pharmacy.

In October forthcoming, the historical city of Dubrovnik will become the place to be for all of us. On top of the scientific program, you may enjoy the late gentle Croatian summer and the marvellous scenery of a pearl on the Adriatic Coast. Our Croatian friends and colleagues are ready to welcome us and their hospitality will add to the warmth of the ESCP family.

See you in Dubrovnik,

Gert Laekeman,
President of ESCP



From July 1st on the International Office of ESCP is being transferred from Brussels to Buitenpost in The Netherlands:

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2008

For Your Diary

26-28 May	Leuven (Belgium)	Workshop on Oncology
22-24 October	Dubrovnik (Croatia)	37 th ESCP European Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy
2009		
23-25 April	Orlando (USA)	Joint Meeting ESCP—ACCP
October	Switzerland	38 th ESCP European Symposium on Clinical Pharmacy

New members

Belgium	Franciska Desplenter	Leuven
Croatia	Danijela Huml	Zagreb
.....	Vesna Rosovic-Bazijanac	Rijeka
Cyprus	Eleni Georgiadou	Nicosia
Egypt	Prof. Labiba El-Khordagui,	Alexandria
Estonia	Olga Sapacheva	Tallinn
Germany	Martina Hahn	Coelbe
.....	Oliver Schwalbe	Berlin
Greece	Nikolaos Antonelos	Athens
Iceland	Elin Jacobsen	Reykjavik
Jordan	Rania Haddadin	Amman
Latvia	Valdis Pirsko	Riga
Nigeria	Thomas Ochiemhen	Lagos
Portugal	Nuno Machado	Amadora
.....	Prof. Dr Carlos Sinogas	Pavia
.....	Dr Sandra Mimoso	Parchal
.....	Marta Machado	Faro
.....	Isabel Alves	Loule
Romania	Mrs Cubolteanu	Focsani
Serbia and Montenegro	Vanja Rakic Banovic	Vrbas
Spain	Juan Abellon-Ruiz	Cordoba
Switzerland	Karin Kaeser	Winterthur
Turky	Ms Elif Sabah	Ankara
Ukraine	Oksana Hrem	Lviv
.....	Dr. Oksana Lopatynska	Lviv
.....	Dr. Lyubov Zaruma	Lviv
.....	Prof. Andriy Zimenkovsky	Lviv

Announcements

ESCP

European Society of Clinical Pharmacy

ESCP News is published by ESCP

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