



ICS Newsletter

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Forthcoming ICS Events

ICS 2005 - Montreal



The 35th Annual Meeting of the International Continence Society is rapidly approaching and will be held at the prestigious Palais des congrès Centre in Montreal, Canada. Jacques Corcos, host for ICS 2005 has promised an exciting and informative scientific programme in which results from the latest discoveries and cutting edge research will be presented. In addition the latest practical innovations from the fields of urology, urogynaecology, physiotherapy, pharmacology and urodynamics will be displayed in the exhibition area. Also on offer will be a range of social activities allowing delegates to sample a slice of Canadian culture.

Attendance at the 34th Annual Meeting in Paris reached a record high of well over 3,000 delegates and we hope to attract a similar attendance for the 2005 meeting.

Registration for the Annual Meeting began on the 1st April 2005 and will close in early August 2005. To register for the meeting, please visit the Opus website (www.opus3.com). In order to benefit from the early booking discounted rate, you will need to register before 15th June. ICS members also receive a further substantial reduction in registration fee. Full programme details can be accessed on this website along with details of accommodation and travel arrangements. Abstract submission closed on the 1st April 2005 and the Scientific Committees programme selection can be found at www.icsoffice.org.

Chair of the Publications Committee

In this second edition of the ICS Newsletter we look forward to the meeting of 35th Annual Meeting of the ICS in Montreal organised by Jacques Corcos and his committee which will undoubtedly be an extremely successful meeting. The publication office has been extremely busy over the last six months and a number of initiatives are under way.

Jerry Blavias the founder of NUU and long-standing editor to whom enormous credit is due, has decided to step aside within the next two years and preparations for the appointment of a new editor are being made at present.

The Publication Committee is developing a

comprehensive press pack including briefing Factsheets on a number of common conditions relating to lower urinary tract function for use at the annual meeting.

A major revision of the ICS website both in terms of structure and content is currently under way.

We would very much appreciate any comments which you may have directed to the ICS Office about this newsletter and any other new initiatives, which you feel we could usefully undertake or comments on how we can improve existing publications.

Look forward to seeing you in Montreal!

ICS Educational Course in Barcelona

In November 2005, the International Continence Society will host its first independent educational course. The course will be held at the AC Hotel in Barcelona and hopes to attract young medical professionals seeking to improve their knowledge in the field of incontinence.

The programme is both interesting and varied and is open to ICS members and non-members alike. The course fee is €250 and will cover registration, a drinks reception, lunch on both days, overnight accommodation and breakfast. Participants with alternative accommodation will pay a reduced fee of €100.



If you would like to attend the course please register on line at www.icsoffice.org or contact the ICS office at info@icsoffice.org. Full programme details can also be found on the ICS website. Please note that delegates will have to make their own travel arrangements.

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Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee has recently undertaken the task of assessing the 895 abstracts submitted to ICS for the Annual Meeting in Montreal. Applicants should now have been informed as to the success of their submission.

By April 1, 2005, ICS office had received a total of 895 abstracts. This was the highest-ever number of abstracts submitted for a purely ICS Annual Meeting, showing that it is recognised as the leading scientific meeting on incontinence.

The 12 members of the ICS 2005 Scientific Committee come from a multidisciplinary clinical and basic science background and were asked to review and score an average of 300 abstracts, in order to have at least three reviewers scoring the same abstract. Scores were compiled and analysed. In the first week of May, a 4-day scientific meeting was held in North Hatley, Québec, Canada to put together the scientific programme.



Under the chairmanship of Erick Schick and the guidance of the scientific coordinator Guus Kramer, the members of the Scientific Committee discussed abstracts proposed for rejection, abstracts with high discrepancies in reviewer scores, those reviewed by less than three members of the Scientific Committee or any other abstracts flagged for review.

Unfortunately, 188 abstracts were rejected for not following the abstract submission rules (not being



anonymous, being incomplete, missing subtitles or not conforming with ICS terminology). The scores of each reviewer were calculated, normalized and then compiled.

After two full days of discussion, Programme selection and construction, the committee came up with a preliminary scientific programme.

On the third day, the Chair of the ICS Education Committee, Linda Cardozo, helped ensure that the Scientific Committee had produced a well balanced final programme of value to the diverse clinical and non-clinical delegates attending ICS meetings each year.

Chair selection and abstract award selection were completed. Finally, on the fourth day, the committee met one last time to debrief and review the evaluation process.

On a personal note, I feel privileged as a young researcher to have been working with such a competent, efficient and dedicated group. I am proud to see the exceptionally high quality and multidisciplinary nature of the 2005 scientific programme.

I look forward to seeing you during the meeting

Chantale Dumoulin

Local representative of the Scientific Committee

CONFERENCE	ICS	ICS	ICS	ICS	ICS & IUGA	ICS
City	Tampere	Seoul	Heidelberg	Florence	Paris	Montreal
Country	Finland	Korea	Germany	Italy	France	Canada
Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Podium	26	25	37	34	37	34
Poster	224	105	88	96	94	88
Non-Discussion Posters	0	254	385	303	188	271
Video	4	0	16	25	28	18
Read by Title	111	0	15	163	416	289
Rejected	0	0	71	175	204	188
Withdrawn	0	0	20	16	11	7
Total Abstracts Submitted	365	384	632	812	978	895

Digital Archiving of pre-electronic abstracts

From 2005, abstracts from ICS meetings prior to 2000 will be available in electronic format. You will be able to search for these documents and request electronic copies on the ICS website (www.icsoffice.org). There is no charge for this service; the only stipulation is that the documents are cited correctly.

ICS posts

This year's elections for the ICS Scientific Committee Posts of Standardisation Committee Chair, Clinical and Non-Clinical representatives were balloted on the ICS website.

The voting system employed by ICS is known as the single transferable vote; this allows a fair representation of the votes and this is the first time the method has been used practically by the ICS.

PACS - Africa, India, Middle East

The Pan Arab Continence Society (PACS) is a new society founded to highlight the problems of urinary incontinence and pelvic floor dysfunction. The society seeks to implement and encourage both public and professional education into the treatment/management of incontinence. PACS will be working in accordance to ICS guidelines and hopes to extend the service to Africa and the Middle East. ICS looks forward to collaborating with PACS and sharing information on the latest innovative research and scientific discoveries.

The first PACS meeting took place in Cairo in December 2004 and the society will continue to meet annually. Preparations for the second meeting, which will be held in Dubai in December, are already under way and many prominent ICS speakers are expected to attend. The scientific programme covers a variety of topics and includes two lectures presented by eminent guest speakers. We hope you will find time to participate in this exciting new event. For details of the scientific programme and information on abstract submission, registration and available accommodation please visit the PACS website on www.pacsoffice.org or e-mail info2005@pacsoffice.org

ELECTION RESULTS

Scientific Committee Clinical Representative

Term of Office: 3 years from AGM 2005

Prof Gamal Ghoniem (29%)

Scientific Committee Non-Clinical Representative

Term of Office: 3 years from AGM 2005 (2 posts)

**Dr Werner Schaefer (46%) and
Prof Michael Craggs (20%)**

Chair of the Standardisation Committee

Term of Office: 6 years from AGM 2005

Prof Derek Griffiths (54%)

General Secretary's Report

The ICS organization is finding its way

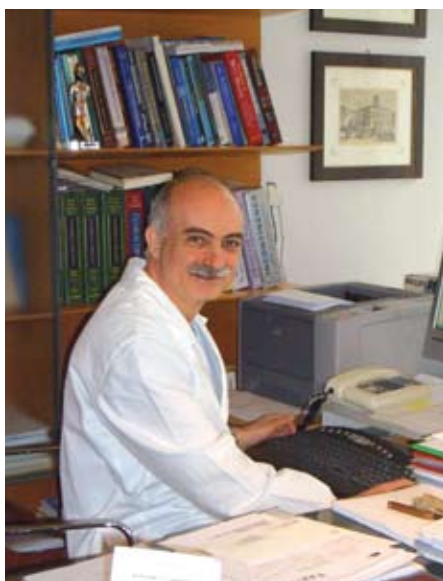
Over the last few years, the ICS Annual Meeting has become a more and more popular event and has witnessed a constant growth in attendance.

This may be due to the active contribution of a core group of worldwide experts, as well as a number of impressive achievements in the management of incontinence, which is greatly improving the interest in this field compared to ten years ago.

This growth raises a challenge in terms of our Society's organization and in relation to developing a strategy for the years to come.

Undoubtedly, the scientific activities are the core driving engine of the ICS, and the primary goal is to continue to improve the scientific quality of the Annual Meeting. The Standardisation Committee's reports and a very close cooperation with the ICI guidelines are a reflection of this scientific activity.

Today's challenge is in the areas of Communication and Education. ICS activities must be more widely promoted and in particular, there is a need for coordinated educational activities in our field of interest. These are the two major targets of our present strategy.



In this process, the ICS has been strengthened by the management guidance of Vicky Facey. It was also decided to have a permanent PCO for the Annual Meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all in Montreal.

Walter Artibani.

Obituary Tage Hald

Professor Tage Hald died unexpectedly on the 29th of November 2004 at hospital in Sofia, Bulgaria. He suffered a cerebral haemorrhage whilst on a flight to visit his daughter and sadly never regained consciousness.

In 1969 as a senior registrar he established one of the world's first urodynamic laboratories and thus began a life long commitment to the study of lower urinary tract dysfunction. He was truly an inspirational figure and his students benefited greatly from his enormous knowledge in this field. His scientific output over the decades was prolific and resulted in numerous peer reviewed publications.



Professor Tage Hald played a key role in the creation of the International Continence Society in 1971 and in 1973 presided over the third Annual Meeting of ICS in Copenhagen. In 1973 he also became the first Chairman of the Standardisation Committee. This committee has subsequently produced more than 20 reports which have created a set of standardised definitions accepted worldwide.

Professor Tage Hald was in a class of his own, uncompromising in his fight for what he thought was right, and considerate in relation to patients and colleagues. To his friends he was loving and faithful. He finally retired in 1999 hoping to devote more time to his family and leisure pursuits. We will miss Tage Hald and our sympathy goes to Birgitte and to all his family.

The complete obituary for Professor Tage Halds can be found on the ICS office website (www.icsoffice.org).

3rd I.C.I. Book Available Now

As you may be aware the 3rd 'Bible' on Incontinence is now available. The proceedings of the 3rd International Consultation on Incontinence is available to ICS members at a very special 40% discount.

Book – Usual Price 150€; ICS Members Price 90€

CD ROM – Usual Price 50€; ICS Members Price 30€

To request an order form, email editions21@wanadoo.fr or call +33 1 45 03 31 96

It comes as a hard backed, twin volume book with over 1,700 pages, a detailed index and an interactive CD ROM.

Evidence-Based Urology

The ICS instigated the International Consultation on Incontinence and is committed to evidence based urology as exemplified by the Cochrane library which has provided a number of authoritative evidence based reviews of both medical and surgical therapies for the treatment of bladder filling and voiding disorders. The proceedings for the Third International Consultation on Incontinence carried out under the leadership of Paul Abrams are currently being published. The next International Consultation on Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia will be in Paris between the 24th and 27th June and will apply a similar evidence based approach to the diagnosis and management of patients presenting with symptoms suggestive of bladder outlet obstruction as a consequence upon benign prostatic hyperplasia.

Innovations such as this have lead to evidence based recommendations on treatment but it is clear that a number of organisations both national and

international have also produced guidelines. The ICS has been instrumental working in collaboration with the European Association of Urology, American Urology Association and the Société International d'Urologie in setting up an important innovative which aims to rationalise the evaluation of the evidence base at an international level co-ordinating a collation of existing guidelines from various sources and incorporating them into one evidence based approach to the management of disorders of bladder filling and voiding. A recent meeting attended by the executives of each of these organisations was held at the time of the European Association of Urology Meeting in Istanbul and further meetings have been arranged to initiate this important programme which will proceed under the chairmanship of Paul Abrams working in close collaboration with the CUD Group coordinated by Saad Khoury.

Chris Chapple, Chair Publications Committee.

Publication Committee

www.icsoffice.org



This is a newly formed committee and work has now begun on projects to increase the society's profile and productiveness.

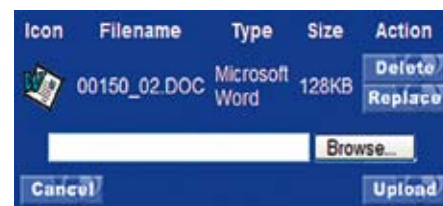
Chair: Chris Chapple. **Committee members:** Jerzy Gajewski, Heinz Koelbl, Daniela Marschall-Kehrel, Jane M Meijlink, Susie Orme, Piotr Radziszewski, Stefano Salvatore; (not in picture) Walter Artibani.

ICS office: Carole Sales, Rebecca Mogg, Dominic Turner (not in picture).

The ICS website is undergoing some dramatic changes. The key objectives are to make the systems more user-friendly and tailored to the requirements of Members, Professionals and Public alike.

Over the next two years the website will be redeveloped by the IT Manager (Dominic Turner) under the ICS Publications Committee's guidance.

The membership system will also be brought up to date, allowing members to have more control over their details. Other exciting features for members will include discussion forums and chat facilities.



Recent updates to the website include the Document and Voting systems. The new Document system allows ICS staff to upload articles of interest onto the Society's website and gives online users direct access to this archive.

Future developments will also enable members to upload relevant information onto the website which can then be shared with both members and non-members alike.

Name	Votes Cast
Prof A Patel	24% (30/124 votes)
Prof M Schmidt	45% (56/124 votes)
Prof J Smith	31% (38/124 votes)

Education Committee

The ICS Education Committee is responsible for promoting and organising ICS educational activities and ensuring that the quality of courses and workshops keep to the standards set by the International Continence Society.

The chairperson of the Education Committee, Prof Linda Cardozo, also works closely with the Scientific Committee to ensure the annual meeting scientific programme is balanced and interesting.

There are currently places available on the ICS Education Committee and applicants should contact Rebecca Mogg at the ICS office becca@icsoffice.org for more information.

Press Pack

For the first time the ICS is producing a press pack and brochure. The press pack will be available at the ICS annual meeting in Montreal and will contain a number of informative fact sheets written by prominent members of the ICS. Subjects covered will include interstitial cystitis, pelvic pain syndromes, bladder over activity and prolapse. There will also be information on the history of the ICS and details of how to use the secure on-line membership facility.

If you would like a press pack please visit the ICS office at the annual meeting in Montreal or contact the ICS office on info@icsoffice.org

ICS Office Update

New Education Co-ordinator

Maxine Wall, Education Coordinator recently left the ICS to join her family in Ghana. During her time at ICS Maxine coordinated and evaluated a number of courses and workshops, implemented new educational initiatives and assisted in the formation of the Publications Committee.

On the 3rd of May Rebecca Mogg joined the ICS as the new Education Coordinator. Rebecca will be responsible for assisting the ICS education committee, evaluating courses and workshops at ICS Annual Meetings and will organise the new ICS educational course in Barcelona in November.

The ICS office team now consists of (see picture) Vicky Facey (Administrative Manager) (right), Carole Sales (Administrative Co-ordinator) (left), Dominic Turner (IT Manager) (centre rear) and Rebecca Mogg (Education Co-ordinator) (centre front).



Hospital Awards

Mapping Clinical Excellence

Continence Care Team of the Year

Would you like to enter your continence care team for the Hospital Doctor Awards 2005? For further information on entry please contact Kathy Lambert on 0800 5877601 or email kathy.lambert@rbi.co.uk

Editorials from members in developing countries

We would like to receive contributions to our newsletter from members who live in developing countries. It can cover any aspect of your work and can be a day in your life, research that is taking place and/or the most common health issue in relation to incontinence in your locality.

Tell us about your community or the communities you are working with and health facilities available. Please email your contributions to becca@icsoffice.org.

ICS Partners



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