

Letter from Sender Herschorn, ICS General Secretary

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Dear Members,

I am delighted and honored to address you in my new position as General Secretary and member of the Board of Trustees following the very successful Annual Scientific Meeting in Glasgow, Scotland at the end of last summer. Congratulations to Ian Ramsay, Meeting Chair, Laurence Stewart, Scientific Chair, and the local organising committee for a high quality meeting and a very enjoyable experience. The meeting was well attended with abundant representation of the multi-disciplinary and multi-national character of our Society.

As many of you know, the Board of Trustees is the controlling body of the organisation and is responsible for oversight of 13 very active Committees. The Board is also responsible for decision-making and general day-to-day functioning of the organisation in conjunction with the ICS office staff. The Board reports to the membership once per year at the AGM. This year the governing structure of the ICS was changed, reducing the Board of Trustees from the previous 21 trustees to the current nine.

All of the Trustees have distinguished themselves in their dedication and tireless work for the ICS. On behalf of the membership, I would like to thank Heinz Koelbl, Ted Arnold, Dirk de Ridder, Chantale Dumoulin, Mandy Fader, Clare Fowler, Jerzy Gajewski, Limin Liao, Helmut Madersbacher, Jane Meijlink, Christopher Payne, Piotr Radziszewski, Jennifer Skelly, Vasan Srini, and Jean-Jacques Wyndaele for their distinguished service as Trustees to the ICS. I would like to congratulate Masayuki Takeda who was elected as a new Trustee and Jacques Corcos, Adrian Wagg, and Sherif Mourad who were re-elected for another term. I would also like to thank Ajay Singla, Mary Pat Fitzgerald, and Werner Schaefer for continuing in their roles as Trustees as well as Katherine Moore who accepted to function as a Trustee for another year.

Jacques Corcos deserves special thanks from the ICS. Jacques has served as General Secretary for the past 3 years and I believe has

brought stability to the Society. The Committees are all thriving and contributing enormously to the goals of the organisation. In his final address to the AGM, Jacques reported that his three years have included 6000 emails, 15 transatlantic trips to the ICS office – most for only one day, and countless hours of reading and writing on the Trustee forums. His 3-year plan involved grouping the Trustees into 7 task forces to address all of the facets of the organisation. The Task force reports are all in and will be discussed at the winter Trustee Meeting. Jacques also oversaw the initiation of new fellowships, conference travel awards, focused research meetings, lifetime achievement awards, and new abstract and essay awards. His efforts to reach out to various countries and societies have resulted in over 500 newly affiliated members.

Indeed our latest membership figure is now over 3000, an increase of almost 1000 members in the span of 3 years. This is a testament to the health of the organisation and the effective work done by all of the contributing members of the society.

The foundation on which to further build the ICS is very strong. In order to have a clearer picture of the future of our Society, I would like to initiate a 5-year Strategic Planning process, which will be discussed at the next Trustee meeting. This will involve many stakeholders and I hope will result in further consolidation, growth and expansion of the wonderful work of the ICS.

I look forward to working with the other Trustees and the highly skilled ICS office staff over the next few years and communicating closely with you. We are in the midst of challenging economic times, but I am confident that with innovative thinking and healthy questioning and debate that are the hallmarks of our Society we will remain robust.

Sender Herschorn
ICS General Secretary

Below: 2011 ICS Meeting in Glasgow. Piper at Annual Dinner; Ultrasound Workshop



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THE INTERNATIONAL CONTINENCE SOCIETY

The International Continence Society is a registered charity with a global health focus which strives to improve the quality of life for people affected by urinary, bowel and pelvic floor disorders by advancing basic and clinical science through education, research, and advocacy.

Within a global scientific and scholarly environment which supports clinical and basic research in continence and pelvic floor disorders, the ICS strives for excellence in:

- international cooperation through affiliation with the ICS by other national and international societies working in related areas and through collaborative projects.
- global education of professionals by holding workshops and conferences and offering research and travel awards to centres of excellence;
- outreach programs to improve access to continence care for the developing world through education, advocacy and service;
- research by publication of research results at annual meetings, in the journal and by providing research scholarships and bursaries for professionals;
- developing and advancing standards and guidelines for good clinical practice by dedicated committees, educational sessions, and local workshops;
- advocacy and public awareness by developing fact sheets, holding an annual consumer meeting, having accessible information on the web site, and linking with other similar consumer groups.

The International Continence Society is a company limited by guarantee. Registered Office: 9 Portland Square, Bristol BS2 8ST, United Kingdom.

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Pieter Donker 1982	Guus Kramer 2007
Peter Gammelgaard 1983	Paul Abrams 2010
Eric Glen 1985	Walter Artibani 2010
David Rowan 1990	Jacques Corcos 2011
	Josephine Laycock 2011

ICS Lifetime Achievement Awards

Paul Abrams
Josephine Laycock



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ICS MEETING IN GLASGOW – A MULTIDISCIPLINARY SUCCESS



● Jane Meijlink, Simone Crivellaro

DESPITE THE GLOBAL economic recession casting gloom around the world, the 41st annual scientific meeting of the ICS (29 August - 2 September 2011) in Glasgow, Scotland was a bumper year with record attendance for an ICS-only annual meeting. Almost 3000 people from 70 countries descended on friendly and welcoming Scotland for this multidisciplinary event. Many congratulations are due to Ian Ramsay and his local organising committee for this excellent result. The publicity it generated will help to focus attention on incontinence, raise awareness and remove stigmas in the host country as well as worldwide. A big thank you is also due to Laurence Stewart and the Scientific Committee for their hard work, and likewise to the ICS Office staff who handled thousands of emails and phone calls from abstract authors and organised every aspect of the final programme. The 1025 abstracts submitted were also an ICS meeting record: 908 of these were accepted and 287 presented in podium session (38), video session (9), and poster sessions (240). This is a very encouraging achievement.

Well-attended workshops and courses

In recent years, the days preceding the start of the meeting have become increasingly busy with extensive programmes organised by the ICS Nursing and Physiotherapy committees, followed by a wide range of educational workshops and courses spanning two days. In Glasgow, a total of 48 workshops and courses were organised, attended by 1793 delegates. This continues to be a very popular aspect of the annual meeting with a number of workshops fully booked. Two courses and one workshop were webcast and can be viewed online.

State-of-the-art lectures

The three excellent and very different state-of-the-art lectures were all webcast and can be enjoyed online by everyone at their leisure. Anthony R. Mundy (Urology, London) presented the Eric Glen lecture, speaking on "Surgical Management of Male SUI", stressing the role of

the artificial sphincter as a solution to the problem and noting that tissue-engineered striated sphincter looks like being a possibility in the not too distant future. Other options currently available such as slings or adjustable devices were extensively addressed in the dedicated poster and podium sessions. In the David Rowan lecture on "The 'New' Bladder Physiology", James Gillespie (Human Physiology, Newcastle) focused on new insights into bladder sensation, with an emphasis on the important role of the urothelium, noting also that the overactive bladder is still not fully understood. The Tage Hald lecture by Linda Brubaker (Urogynaecology, Illinois) concerned the controversial issue of "Conflict of Interest for Physicians". What is the role of the ICS, she asked, in conflict of interest reporting for clinicians? The best way forward for the ICS, she felt, was always to hold the highest ethical standards for dissemination of the research which will move patient care forward.

Scientific highlights

Abdel-Fattah and colleagues showed in a meta-analysis that single incision mini-slings are associated with inferior patient reported and objective cure rates compared with standard mid-urethral slings in surgical treatment of female stress urinary incontinence. This data was confirmed by many other presentations during the meeting. The award for best basic science abstract was shared this year: Aizawa et al demonstrated that the increased production of endogenous nitric oxide (NO), caused by L-Arginine administration, can inhibit the activation of mechanosensitive afferent nerves induced by bladder contractions, leading to interesting clinical implications regarding the overactive bladder. Sinha et al presented an excellent morphologic description of the external anal sphincter by ultrasound, high resolution and diffusion tensor magnetic resonance imaging and proposed a novel "purse string" morphology of the external anal sphincter muscle. Hagen et al (best clinical abstract award) presented their multicentre randomised trial indicating that pelvic floor muscular training can be effective in reducing prolapse symptoms and should

continued on page 4/...

Photos left to right: 'Bags of Rock' performing during the opening ceremony; Sender Herschorn addressing guests at the Annual Dinner; Guests enjoying the Annual Dinner at the Arches; 'Hands-on' Workshop – Anal Sphincter Tears.



Welcome Address by Baillie Catherine McMaster at the Opening Ceremony

The City of Glasgow honoured the ICS by providing a Civic Reception at the Welcome Reception in the impressive Glasgow Science Centre. Baillie Catherine McMaster, deputising for the Lord Provost, addressed delegates most poignantly at the Opening Ceremony of the 2011 ICS Annual Scientific Meeting in Glasgow.*



"ON BEHALF OF the Lord Provost and the City of Glasgow, I welcome all of you to Glasgow for your 41st Conference of the International Continence Society at our auditorium on the riverside. I understand that there are over 61 countries represented here. What a gathering to share experiences as scientists, researchers in medicine – doctors, physiotherapists, nurses and many others, enjoying the fellowship of colleagues discussing the many forms of treatment, exchanging ideas, exploring drug treatments and new methods to investigate bladder function. Continence has been a

quest you have worked for in order to improve the quality of life for women in pregnancy, in childbirth when problems may appear for the first time and may linger throughout adult life. Later years can be marked with difficulties as the bladder becomes less able to function well. Dr. Ramsay has described the level of excitement that will have you sitting on the edge of your seat when you hear the key papers today. Your intellectual curiosity will be aroused and critical thinking demanded to question new ideas and ways of exploring the treatment and lifestyles for the patient. How important it is to raise interest in the biological and biochemical functions of the bladder. This must be a tribute to our Southern General Hospital in Glasgow where Dr. Ramsay had his team working in a partnership of specialisms. Research sets the paradox of possibilities. Today over 5 million people in UK suffer from an overactive bladder, suffering the humiliation of always needing access to toilets in public places and the restrictive lifestyle framing everyday living.

This is your conference. Your time starts now. Let me suggest from our Celtic heritage a few points of reference to delegates and all participants whilst in Glasgow. You have come to this conference to be inspired. May you be stimulated by new ideas and vision. Remember the quiet world that lives behind each face you see today. May your work connect you in the fellowship of enquiry and problem-solving. May you be challenged by discovery and refine your perception of the task within yourself. Go this journey beyond old limits - delight in the gifts of others. Thank you for your efforts. Enjoy your Conference." ■

Baillie Catherine McMaster, 31 August 2011.

** A Baillie is a civic office in Scottish local government*

ICS Meeting in Glasgow continued from page 3 /...

be recommended as a first-line management for prolapse. All awards are listed elsewhere in this issue. An overview of scientific highlights of the 2011 annual scientific meeting can be found in the January 2012 issue of *Neurourology & Urodynamics*, while abstracts accepted for the 2011 meeting appeared in *Neurourology & Urodynamics*, volume 30, issue 6, 2011.

Social events, Scottish dancing and exercise classes

A large number of energetic delegates took part in traditional Ceilidh dancing lessons and while others took a more relaxed approach in pelvic floor exercise classes. On the Tuesday evening, delegates poured over the footbridge spanning the famous river Clyde to attend the welcome reception at the Glasgow Science Centre where Scotland's science, education and technology are presented in unique and inspiring ways. The packed-out, annual ICS dinner was held at

The Arches, an atmospheric Victorian underground art venue located beneath Glasgow Central Station with the trains rumbling overhead. Many overseas visitors made the most of the opportunity to visit the many beautiful sights, lochs and landscapes of Scotland. But did anyone catch a glimpse of the famous Loch Ness Monster...? ■



Photos left to right: guests enjoying Ceilidh dancing at the Annual Dinner; delegates taking part in a 'pelvic floor' exercise class.

FIRST 'ICS MEETS NATIONAL CONTINENCE SOCIETIES' WORKING LUNCH HELD IN GLASGOW

FOCUS ON AFFILIATION

● Jane Meijlink

THE FIRST "ICS Meets Continence Societies" working lunch, held in Glasgow during the ICS annual scientific meeting, was an initiative of the Foreign Affairs Task Force, chaired by Helmut Madersbacher, on behalf of the previous Board of Trustees and in cooperation with the ICS Continence Promotion Committee (CPC).

While the CPC has had years of experience working with associated patient/consumer organisations, an affiliation of national continence societies around the globe has been a relatively new development for the International Continence Society. The ICS believes that through affiliation of other organisations the management of incontinence care can be improved worldwide. Furthermore, the ICS can in this way encourage national continence societies – particularly those being newly created – to be multidisciplinary in their membership and approach. The ICS offers affiliated societies a range of benefits such as participation by affiliated society members in all the activities of the ICS at a reduced membership fee.

An invitation to the lunch was sent to national medical societies, together with national and international patient/consumer organisations, concerned with urinary and faecal incontinence and bladder, bowel and pelvic floor disorders. While many people had registered in advance, more simply turned up on the day or brought along colleagues. Attendees included doctors, nurses and physiotherapists as well as patient/consumer advocates from many different countries.

In addition to a delicious lunch and a perfect opportunity for networking, the programme included three presentations with time for discussion. Retiring ICS General Secretary Jacques Corcos spoke on the history and current status of the ICS, stressing that, while the ICS has a lot to offer affiliate societies, the ICS itself can also greatly benefit from input from national societies and their ideas and suggestions.

Helmut Madersbacher followed with information about affiliation and its benefits, explaining that any international, national or regional organisation with a focus or interest in the field of continence/incontinence (urinary and faecal incontinence and bladder, bowel and pelvic floor disorders) may apply for affiliation with the ICS. Pointing out that the ICS is a unique multidisciplinary scientific society in which urologists, gynaecologists, coloproctologists, geriatricians, rehabilita-

tion doctors, physiotherapists, nurses, social workers, consumers and others collaborate, he emphasised that national continence societies should preferably likewise reflect this multidisciplinary by having members of different specialities, including on their Board. This is currently a problem in some developing countries where incontinence is largely the domain of either urologists or gynaecologists and collaboration between urologists and gynaecologists is not always an easy matter. Language issues can also form a problem, he said, particularly for nurses who sometimes do not speak or understand English so well.

Vasan Srin, CPC chair, then discussed continence awareness initiatives of the CPC and its associated patient/consumer organisations, emphasising that many different disciplines work in the wide field of incontinence, including patient/consumer organisations worldwide. "In promoting continence around the world," he continued, "the CPC's targets include patients, continence organisations, professionals and industry partners; the CPC realises that all of these parties contribute to continence awareness." The CPC has formed an important link for the ICS to these groups and especially the patient organisations. The CPC's multinational and multidisciplinary representation aims to identify broad issues through an international forum that can facilitate translation at a local national level. There is a list of current organisations on the website and information on how organisations can join the CPC network. The speaker explained that the CPC can help and advise with setting up new organisations. Furthermore the CPC encourages networking between the existing organisations.

The floor was then opened to participants who were invited to come to the microphone to express their views and concerns, suggestions and comments and led to a lively interactive discussion.

It is hoped to organise a second working lunch next year in Beijing and that this will be allocated more time, since the amount of time allocated to this first working lunch was really too short. ■

So far, 6 societies are affiliated to the ICS:

PACS – The Pan Arab Continence Society;

IrCS – Iranian Continence Society;

SIFUD – Société Interdisciplinaire Francophone d'Urodynamique

SCU – Columbian Continence Society

The Turkish Continence Society

SUID – Italian Society of Urodynamics



ICS HISTORY BOOK: THE FIRST 40 YEARS 1971-2010

The much awaited ICS history book was officially launched at the ICS meeting in Glasgow, with authors Ted Arnold, Eric Glen and Norman Zinner signing copies at the ICS booth. This is a wonderful historical document with some fascinating old photographs, amazing anecdotes and many words of wisdom. The authors are to be congratulated on doing a splendid job of work for which the Society is most grateful.

The history book can be purchased from the ICS Office either on info@icsoffice.org or by telephone on +44 (0) 117 9444 881. Postage and packaging charges will be added at the time of purchase, in accordance with the delivery address.

There are two versions of the book: the 'deluxe' copy which retails at £38.00 and a paperback version costing £13.95.





Awards winners receiving their prizes, left to right, Suzanne Hagen, Robert Freeman, Becky Clarkson and the team for Best Basic Science Abstract.

ICS 2011 SCIENTIFIC AWARDS AND PRIZES

Hearty congratulations to the following winners of awards announced by the ICS 2011 Scientific Committee in Glasgow.

Award for the Best Clinical Poster

A multicentre randomised controlled trial of a pelvic floor muscle training intervention for women with pelvic organ prolapse. Hagen S, Stark D, Glazener C, Sinclair L, Wilson D, Norrie J, Dickson S, McPherson G, Logan J, Frawley H, Moore K, Walker K.

Award for the Best Basic Science Abstract (Joint)

Effects of L-Arginine on single unit bladder afferent synchronized with rhythmic bladder contractions in the rat. Aizawa N, Wyndaele J, Homma Y, Igawa Y.

Award for the Best Basic Science Abstract (Joint)

Elucidation of Circular Versus "Purse String" Morphology of External Anal Sphincter Muscle Using Ultrasound, High Resolution and Diffusion Tensor Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Sinha S, Bhargava V, Mittal R.

Award for the Best Clinical Abstract Presentation

Open and laparoscopic sacrocolpopexy demonstrate clinical equivalence: one year results from the LAS trial, an RCT comparing the two approaches for treating post hysterectomy vault prolapse. Pantazis K, Freeman R, Thomson A, Frappell J, Bombieri L, Moran P, Scott P, Slack M, Waterfield M.

Award for the Best Non-Clinical Abstract Presentation

Exploring the potential of neuroimaging using near infrared spectroscopy during complex clinical urodynamics. Clarkson B, Schaefer W, Tadic S, Beluk N, Huppert T, Griffiths D, Resnick N.

Young Investigators Award

Pharmacological manipulation of autonomic bladder control in a novel unanaesthetised decerebrate rat preparation. Sadananda P, Pickering A, Paton J, Drake M.

Award for Innovative Research Presented on Nocturnal Voiding Problems

Tamsulosin improves disturbance of circadian regulation of urine production in benign prostatic hyperplasia patients with nocturnal polyuria – a prospective open-label long-term study using frequency-volume chart. Kojima Y, Sasaki S, Hamakawa T, Shibata Y, Imura M, Kubota Y, Hayashi Y, Kohri K.

ICS HONOURS AND AWARDS

The ICS would like to congratulate the following 2010/2011 award winners.

2010 AWARD WINNERS

Conference Travel Awards:

- Harrina Erlianti Rahardjo from Indonesia
- Rhea Heeringa from the Netherlands
- Salimova Leyla from Russia
- Flávia Ignácio Antônio from Brazil

ICS Fellowships

- Neuro-Urology Fellowship 2010 awarded to Dr Christian Persu, Assistant Lecturer at the Saint John Clinical Emergency Hospital in Romania. Fellowship took place at Stanford School of Medicine working with Graham Creasey.
- Clinical Fellowship 2010 awarded to Sunday Adaji, Consultant at Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria. Fellowship took place at Stanford University working with Professor Chris Payne.
- Research Fellowship 2010 awarded to Mary Wilde, Associate Professor at The University of Rochester, USA. Mary's placement will be split between Bristol Biomed Centre and University of Southampton working with Adele Long and Mandy Fader.
- Urodynamics Fellowship 2010 awarded to Fan Zhang, PhD student at Beijing Charity Hospital, China. Fellowship took place in Bristol Urological Institute working with Marcus Drake.

ICS Research Grants

Emerging International multidisciplinary research grant:

Kathleen Hunter, Edmonton; Adrian Wagg, Edmonton and Joanne Booth, Glasgow. The successful research is "Developing a multidisciplinary team to explore the linkage between overactive bladder and falls in older adults." The research will take place in 2011.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS & EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST DEADLINE 1 APRIL 2012

WE NOW HAVE even more committee positions available and are currently looking for expressions of interest for the following positions; further committee member positions may become available at a later date.

Nominations for Elected Positions

- Board of Trustees (1 position)
- Continence Promotion Committee Chair
- Neurourology Promotion Committee Chair

Committee Member Positions

- Fistula Committee –
2 x committee member position
- Children's Committee –
1 x Paediatric urologist and 1 x committee member with neurogenic experience in children and adolescents
- Nursing Committee –
2 x committee member position

- Publications and Communications Committee –
1 x committee member position
- Neurourology Promotion Committee –
1 x committee member position

If you wish to express your interest in the above positions, or would like to nominate a member for the elected positions, please contact: info@icsoffice.org

Seed Funding Grant:

The ICS awarded its first Seed Funding research grant to two groups:

- The first group: Rufus Cartwright, Kari Tikkenen, Massimo Mangino, Linda Cardozo and Vik Khullar. The grant is for "Genetic, clinical, social and environmental factors in the natural history of stress and urgency incontinence."
- The second group: Mélanie Morin, Jennifer Kruger, Margaret Sherburn and Hans Peter Dietz. The grant is for "Can pelvic floor physiotherapy improve muscle function in women with a known avulsion injury of the puborectalis muscle?"

Lifetime Achievement Award

Paul Abrams

Honorary Membership Award

Walter Artibani

2011 AWARD WINNERS

ICS Fellowships

- Research Fellowship 2011 awarded to Kari Bo a Professor at Akershus University Hospital, Norway was awarded a one month fellowship placement at the Bristol Urological Institute. Kari's placement will start in 2012
- Urodynamics Fellowship 2011 awarded to Dmytro Mykhailov, Physician at Kyiv City Clinical Hospital, Ukraine comprising a three month fellowship at Dalhousie University, Canada. Dmytro's placement will start in 2012.
- Clinical Fellowship 2011 awarded to Mohan Regmi, Associate Professor at B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences, Nepal comprising a three month fellowship placement at the Helios Clinic, University of Rostock, Germany. Mohan's placement will start in 2012

Conference Travel Awards;

- Simone Botelho from Brazil
- Aishath Mahfooza from the Maldives
- Susan Saga from Norway
- Rebekah Das from Australia
- Helenne Nyamwaro from the United Kingdom
- Becky Clarkson from USA

ICS Research Grants

Seed Funding Grant

The ICS awarded A.J. Kanai and M.J. Drake the Seed Funding Grant for their work "Effect of PDE-5 inhibition on afferent nerves and interstitial cells in overactive mouse bladders." The group will start work towards the end of 2011.

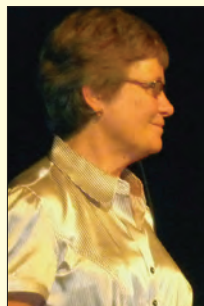
Lifetime Achievement Award

Josephine Laycock

Honorary Membership Award

Jacques Corcos

ICS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – DR JOSEPHINE LAYCOCK



Dr Jo Laycock has made enormous contributions to physiotherapy and continence care and has led the way in pelvic floor research so that it has become the evidence-based practice it is today. She has done this with a lightness of touch emphasizing the science whilst strengthening the science and learning.

She obtained her PhD entitled "Assessment and treatment of pelvic floor dysfunction" in 1992 from the University of Bradford

and was cutting edge at the time in holding a doctoral degree in Physiotherapy. In her 42 year career she has had many accomplishments including the following:

- She first attended an ICS meeting in 1985 and attended annually until her retirement in 2005.
- She was the first physiotherapist on the ICS Board.
- She has actively contributed to pre-conference workshops and papers at the ICS meetings.
- She was a co-author of the landmark paper: standardisation of terminology of pelvic floor muscle function published in 2005.

She is known for her keen interest in clinical questions, critically exploring new ways of assessing and treating the pelvic floor. A great accomplishment was the development and validation of a PFM assessment tool (PERFECT Scale), currently used by many professionals worldwide. She has published extensively in the field, co-edited or contributed to several text books on continence and pelvic floor rehabilitation. For her services to continence, she was honoured by her country in 2001 when she received the prestigious Order of the British Empire (OBE) from the Queen. Dr Jo Laycock has been the catalyst in the worldwide network of pelvic floor physiotherapists. She has mentored, supported and encouraged young researchers and clinicians pursuing careers in continence research, education or continence practice around the world. She drew the attention of the other members of our society – the surgeons, the physicians, the nurses and the engineers – to the contribution of continence physiotherapy. Many healthcare professionals working globally in continence care were trained, guided or influenced by Jo. The ICS Life Time Achievement Award is a well deserved acknowledgement of her work and impact on continence care worldwide.

ICS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AWARD – Dr JACQUES CORCOS



Dr Jacques Corcos was General Secretary of the ICS for the three years from 2008 to 2011. He graduated from Montpellier University in France in 1977, completed his training in surgery, Urology and Tropical medicine at the same institution in 1985. He then served in the French army and is currently Professor of Surgery at McGill University in Montreal and staff surgeon at the Department of Urology at the Jewish General Hospital and Rehabilitation Institute of Montreal. Jacques

is a member of several national and international societies and associations. He has published over 120 medical articles and is the

editor of four books including the textbook Neuro-Urology. He is the founding president of the Canadian Foundation for Research on Incontinence which supports basic and clinical researching in Canada. He is also Chairman of the Ambassadors Club of the Palais des Congr s de Montreal whose purpose is to promote the City of Montreal in the world of science. He has also collaborated with M re-Enfants du Monde (MEM), setting up medical teams for humanitarian and surgical missions to African countries treating women suffering from vesicovaginal fistula, and is Chairman of its Board of Directors.

While General Secretary of the ICS, Jacques made it his mission to promote the scientific activities of the Society. Taking up the challenge of managing a large Board of Trustees, he created task forces led by trustees in order to deliver his agenda. He has promoted the educational mission of the ICS and has encouraged a widening of this to areas where the ICS is less well represented. He has actively encouraged the affiliation of national urological, gynaecological and continence societies to the International Continence Society. He has endeavoured to redefine our relationship with industry so that revenue streams are maintained and has encouraged and rewarded scientific creativity by the creation of new categories of awards. Jacques has steered a steady ship and achieved much over his three years as General Secretary.

ICS HONORARY MEMBERSHIP AWARD – WALTER ARTIBANI



Professor Walter Artibani was General Secretary of ICS from 2003-2007. He obtained his degree in Medicine and Surgery in Firenze, November 1973. He trained as urologist at the Institute of Urology of the University of Padova, working there from 1977, being appointed as Associate Professor of Urology in February 1985. In November 1994 he was appointed as Full Professor of Urology and moved to the

University of Modena where he was the Director of the School of Urology and of the Urologic Unit at the University Hospital. From November 2000 to December 2004 he was Professor of Urology, Director of the School of Urology and chairman of the Urology Unit at the University Hospital of Verona. Since January 2005 he was Professor of Urology and director of the school of Urology at the University of Padova and chairman of the Urology Unit at the University Hospital of Padova. He is now back in Verona as Professor of Urology and head of the Department at the University. He convened the very successful ICS meeting in Florence in 2003. He served on several ICS committees in particular the Scientific Committee for 3 years. During his time as ICS General Secretary, Walter started many of the major initiatives that carry on today, most notably the Education Courses. In 2004 on the steps of the historical Palace of Versailles in Paris during the 2004 combined meeting of ICS and IUGA, Walter indicated that the Executive Committee had decided to compile a historical record of the ICS since inception. He suggested that Norman Zinner, Ted Arnold and Eric Glen might be invited to take on this task. This history book was launched at ICS 2011 in Glasgow. In Christchurch in 2006, the membership accepted his proposal to establish an ad hoc Constitutional Review Committee under the co-leadership of Ted Arnold and Guus Kramer, in order to address political issues. This unrest within ICS proved a difficult challenge for all concerned and led him to resign as General Secretary in 2007. Walter went on to become Vice President of the EAU later that year. ■

Education Committee

Educational Course Reviews

FIRST ICS CADAVER WORKSHOP: “FEMALE PELVIC MEDICINE AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY,” HELD IN PORTO, 4-5 JULY 2011

● M rio Jo o Gomes, Diaa Rizk, Coordinators

AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECT within the scope of post-graduate training has been underway in Porto, Portugal for two years. It started within the field of Pelvic Floor Dysfunction and Chronic Pelvic Pain and was based on the cooperation between the Porto-Cadaver Training Group and the Urology Department of Santo Antonio Hospital and the Institute of Forensic Medicine, Northern Department, in the development of anatomic and surgical training sessions.

This innovative group began to develop projects in liaison with the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and the Institute of Anatomy of ICBAS of Oporto University. The work protocols have taken a multidisciplinary approach with national and international academic partnerships that fosters a conceptual framework. In this context, it was hoped to extend the concept of “Cadaver Training” to the national institutions providing continuing medical education in Porto, relying on this Pilot Group for support and experience.

Recognising the high level of educational and scientific interest raised by this project, the ICS sponsored the first ICS Cadaver Workshop on the theme: “Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery,” which took place on 4th and 5th July 2011 at Santo Antonio Hospital and the Institute of Forensic Medicine in Porto. This event was coordinated by Diaa Rizk and M rio Jo o Gomes and was aimed at young specialists in female pelvic floor surgery from around the world, particularly those working in developing countries. The course combined theoretical and hands-on training sessions. Five candidates from Columbia, Brazil, Honduras, Greece and South Africa were able to attend and provided excellent feedback in Workshop Evaluation Forms and personal e-mail messages to the organisers. Thanks are also due to Ajay Singla and Alexandre Louren o for their excellent contribution to teaching, as well as to Rui Versos for his important role in organising the course and developing the project over the years.

With regard to continuing medical education, the ICS Cadaver Training Workshop was awarded 12 CME European Credits by the European Board of Urology. Furthermore, it was recognised by the American Medical Association with the “Physician’s Recognition Award”. Concerning continuing medical training in Urology in Portugal, the possibility of including the methodology of Cadaver Training in the curriculum of Urology and Gynaecology Residents should be considered.

The concept of cadaver training fosters dexterity in surgical training, by means of an increased acquisition of surgical operating skills, primarily at an anatomic level and subsequently at technical, instrumental and surgical levels. Further Cadaver Training courses will therefore be developed by the ICS and the Porto-Cadaver Training Group in the future in order to assist in improving surgical skills and in promoting new operative techniques in pelvic reconstructive surgery. ■

ICS EDUCATIONAL COURSE, HUE CITY, VIETNAM, 22-26 JUNE 2011

● Joan Ostaszewicz

IN JUNE 2011, the ICS joined the Vietnam Urology and Nephrology Association to convene an education course on incontinence. Held in the historic and very beautiful city of Hue, the forum attracted over 400 delegates, most of whom were urologists. With a population of 87,279,754 in Vietnam, urologists and other surgeons gain considerable experience in their respective areas of expertise. A small number of delegates worked in a rehabilitation facility. They included doctors, nurses and physiotherapists.

The educational programme covered a broad range of topics about incontinence: from surgical to medical and behavioural approaches. Given the main disciplinary background of the audience, the audience was particularly interested in the live recordings of surgery and

urodynamics and in presentations on anatomy, neurophysiology, pathophysiology, diagnostic and pre-operative work-up (including urodynamic good practice), and on surgery for pelvic organ prolapse. Another key topic of interest was the management of patients with neurogenic LUTS dysfunction, an issue that prompted a number of questions about techniques for performing and teaching intermittent catheterisation – particularly in children.

A key message was the need for a comprehensive assessment approach and to adopt non-invasive assessment and management approaches prior to invasive approaches. Within this context, delegates were encouraged to include bladder diary data and to explore patient perspectives alongside clinical symptomatology in their diagnostic workup. As a nurse with a clinical and academic interest in conservative approaches to continence management in frail older adults, it was a great pleasure to contribute to promoting this approach to continence care. I would like to thank the ICS, VUNA, and my colleagues for the opportunity to promote interdisciplinary collaboration to enhance the management of incontinence. ■



Closing Ceremony of the team in Hue City, including Werner Schaefer, Jean Jacques Wyndaele, Gunnar Lose, Joan Ostaszewicz and Helmut Madersbacher.

ICS-SUFU joint session at SIU in Berlin

THE ICS IN conjunction with SUFU held a joint afternoon session during the SIU Annual Meeting at the ICC Berlin in October 2011. Chairs for this shared event were Eric Rovner and Werner Schaefer. The ICS speakers were Werner Schaefer presenting Urodynamics and Biomechanics of Female Incontinence and Ralph Tunn who presented Sonography in the diagnoses of pre- and postoperative bladder dysfunction and current concepts of prolapse surgery. The event was well received by the small group of attending delegates.

5th ICS Educational Course held in China

THE ICS HELD its 5th ICS Educational Course in China on 13 November 2011 in Guangzhou. This event was hosted in conjunction with The Chinese Continence Society (CCS), Chinese Urology Association (CUA) and the Chinese School of Urology (CSU). The course was added on to the OAB & Prostate Diseases Forum 2011.

ICS Educational Course in Cartagena, Colombia

TOGETHER WITH THE Colombian Society of Urology (SCU), the ICS developed an educational course in pelvic floor disorders and voiding dysfunction because in Latin America these pathologies play an important role in the daily practice of urologists, gynaecologists, coloproctologists, psychiatrists, geriatricians and general practitioners, as well as physiotherapists and nurses specialised in this area. The course was held 5-6 August 2011 in Cartagena, Columbia. Course coordinators were Ajay Singla and Mauricio Plata.

ICS Educational Course, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 15-16 July 2011

THIS WAS THE first ICS Educational Course to be held in Porto Alegre, the main city of Southern Brazil, and was organised in collaboration with the Brazilian Society of Urology. This event was an "add-on course" to the SBU-RS International Meeting (Jornada Internacional de Urologia da SBU-RS) and was aimed at urologists, gynaecologists, gastroenterologists, proctologists, nurses, physiotherapists and public health providers. Topics included: Urinary Incontinence (neurogenic and non-neurogenic), Overactive Bladder, Pelvic Organ Prolapse, Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia, Post-Prostatectomy Urinary Incontinence and a multidisciplinary approach.

Other ICS Educational Courses organised in 2011

OTHER ICS EDUCATIONAL Courses held towards the end of 2011 included a multidisciplinary course on male and female incontinence with international speakers during the Biannual International Slovenian Urologic Association meeting in Lasko, Slovenia, 18-19 November 2011. In addition, a one day pre-congress joint SBU/ICS meeting was held in Florianópolis, Brazil on 22 November 2011, with a focus on male incontinence and voiding dysfunction in children. This meeting included urologists, nurses and physiotherapists. In conjunction with the Israeli Urological Association, ICS also held a 3-day course focusing on urology in Eilat, Israel, 13-16 December 2011, aimed at informing young resident urologists, urology nurses and trained certified urologists in state-of-the-art practice and knowledge in the field of bladder dysfunction and incontinence. ■

Continence Promotion Committee

CPC Very Active throughout 2011

● Frankie Bates



Vasan Srinivasan, CPC Chair

ONCE AGAIN THE Continence Promotion Committee (CPC) has had a very successful and busy year. At its meeting in Glasgow, committee chair Vasan Srinivasan presented the updated terms of reference and also suggested that CPC membership should be restructured so as to become lean and efficient with broad representation; this was agreed upon by the committee.

Diane Newman chairs the subcommittee for world continence promotion. Every year the CPC discusses ways of increasing the visibility of World Continence Week (WCW), encouraging patient advocacy groups and especially less developed countries to organise events around the world. WCW is held in the third week of June and 2011 marked the third year of the ICS World Continence Week since its inauguration in 2009. Many countries (such as New Zealand and Australia) have changed their local country awareness week or month to coincide with the ICS World Continence Week. This year was the first in which the CPC made awards for the most innovative projects to create awareness of urinary incontinence worldwide.

Els Bakker, internet subcommittee chair, has great plans to ensure that the CPC micro site is user friendly, while Christa Thiel and her industry liaison subcommittee have responsibility for liaising with industry on behalf of the CPC.

The fistula subcommittee chair is Sherif Mourad who keeps the CPC updated regarding activities of the ICS Fistula Committee and ensuring cooperation and collaboration between these two ICS committees. As chair of the CPC education subcommittee, Frankie Bates' responsibilities include organising the annual Public Forum held each year in the same week as the ICS annual scientific meeting and also organising a CPC workshop each year at the annual meeting.

CPC Workshop

In 2011, the well-attended CPC workshop in Glasgow focused on vesicovaginal fistula (VVF) and was chaired by Sherif Mourad. Speakers and topics included Suzy Elneil who discussed the epidemiology of VVF and preventive measures, Hassan Shaker from Egypt who looked at anatomic aspects and etiology, Els Bakker from Belgium with a wonderful overview of the great benefits of physiotherapy both pre and post operatively to this patient group. Although Alice Emasu from The Association for Re-orientation and Rehabilitation of Teso Women for Development (TERREWODE) was unfortunately unable to make the flight from Uganda at the last minute, the audience was nevertheless able to enjoy a very moving video of young women with this devastating problem in Africa and the wonderful work carried out by "Terrewode" to impact their lives in a positive fashion. Sherif Mourad discussed the work of his group in fixing these problems surgically as well as explaining about his work in training new surgeons to perform repairs. Ahmed Saafan from Egypt closed the workshop with a presentation on dealing with incontinence and the reintegration of patients with VVF.

Public Forum

The ICS/CPC Public Forum was chaired by Julia Herbert, director of the UK Bladder and Bowel Foundation (BBF) and held at the SECC in Glasgow on the Friday evening. This joint venture between the CPC and the BBF focused the attention of the general public and

international medical community on the reality of urinary incontinence. The Public Forum is open to the general public, caregivers and healthcare providers to raise awareness of urinary incontinence. A wonderful agenda and expert speakers were lined up and participants were greeted with a light buffet and drinks while they visited the exhibits. Speakers included the Scottish MP Richard Simpson, urogynaecologist Phil Assassa on new developments in treatment for bladder problems, Lynn Douglas, specialist registrar general surgery, on new developments in treatment for bowel problems, and a dramatic perspective from a sufferer Tim Harvey who asked why there is so much embarrassment and taboo about incontinence, why can't we talk about it and why do we often not even consult a doctor about our incontinence problems?

The CPC looks forward to organizing a successful Public Forum in Beijing in 2012 as well as a CPC workshop focused on spinal cord injuries and neurogenic bladder. The committee will also be working on organising World Continence Week in June 2012.



Dr Sohler Elneil giving a lecture during the CPC workshop.

2011 World Continence Week Awards

Diane K. Newman

The ICS Continence Promotion Committee (CPC) announced the Gold and Silver winners of the World Continence Week (WCW) Awards at the ICS Annual Meeting in Glasgow. Six organisations submitted exemplary proposals of programmes and events held during 2011 WCW (19-25 June). The proposals described a wide range of events and topics including: education, services and public awareness about Continence held in their individual countries. The awardees provided a framework for facilitating communication, exchanging information on Continence Awareness and collaboration through partnerships with other organisations. It was a very difficult task for the committee to decide on the winners, but here they are.

Gold Award: a tie

Two proposals tied for the Gold Award as both of these patient

advocacy groups partnered with other groups to increase the number of events for maximizing Continence Awareness. Through the generosity of SCA Personal Products, who supported the 2011 WCW Awards, each will receive a 2,500 USD prize. The following is a short synopsis of the Gold Award winners:

Continence Foundation of Australia (CFA) submitted by Barry Cahill.

"Exercise and the Pelvic Floor" was the theme of multiple events held in Adelaide, Sydney and through national broadcasts. The CFA partnered with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and the Jean Hailes Foundation of Women's Health so as to reach a wider audience. The CFA conservatively estimated that the national media campaign reached 1.4 million Australians.

Deutsche Kontinenz Gesellschaft, German Continence Foundation (GCF) submitted by Christa Thiel.

This organisation held over 120 events in 86 cities in Germany, through collaborating with health care professionals and continence clinics. Events were held and a media campaign, including print, radio and television, was organised throughout the country. A conservative estimate was that the WCW reached over 20,000 Germans.

Silver Awards

As planned, there were two Silver WCW Award winners as follows:

UroConti Association, Poland (UCAP) submitted by Tomasz Michalek.

The patient advocacy continence association in Poland held its first National Conference on Continence at the Ministry of Health in Warsaw during WCW. They partnered with the World Federation of Incontinent Patients and attracted more than 200 people to the conference. The goal of the conference was to raise awareness of urinary problems and to seek reimbursement for incontinence products. The UCAP felt that WCW was the perfect time to make public officials aware of the situation of people who suffer from incontinence.

WCW-USA submitted by Cheryle Gartley.

This is a non-profit foundation created in 2010 to coordinate WCW events throughout the United States (<http://wcwusa.org/>). For 2011, seven events were held in six states. To increase continence awareness, health fairs, bladder screening at health centres and a TV feature at a Farm and Home Center was conducted. This group created a website that identified the sites of WCW events and added information on a Facebook page.

The CPC hopes that these yearly awards will increase continence awareness and assist ICS members to celebrate WCW by planning events that will bring to the forefront bladder and bowel issues. The CPC would like to extend its appreciation to SCA Personal Products for their generous support of these Awards. ■

Ethics Committee

ICS Leading the Way

● Edward Stanford



Edward Stanford,
Ethics Chair

Disclosure of affiliations

At the annual meeting in Glasgow there was a change in leadership of the Ethics Committee as Clare Fowler completed her term. Most notably under her term as Committee Chair, ICS implemented a policy in which each and every presentation is preceded by a disclosure slide. The slide was completed in the speaker ready room when slides were downloaded for presentation. This mechanism of adding a slide to the beginning of each presentation went very smoothly at this year's meeting; however, this effort is a work in progress. The purpose of the disclosure slide is not to act as a 'full disclosure' document and is only specific to the particular abstract being presented. ICS is clearly a leader in this effort as one of the first international medical societies to require this of all presenters. All members of the ICS leadership (Board members and Committee members) are required to complete full disclosure of their affiliations to maintain transparency within the organisation. We applaud Clare Fowler's able leadership. She will be a hard act to follow.

Ethics lectures

Each year it is the goal of the Ethics Committee to organise a lecture on a timely topic related to medical ethics. This year we were proud to have Linda Brubaker speak to the membership on conflicts of interest for physicians. In Beijing, Karl-Dietrich Sievert is planning a panel discussion on stem cell use in pelvic surgery. This is a topic that will certainly affect our specialty and will likely be a topic that will generate discussions for decades to come. We hope to bring a balanced discussion to the annual meeting. Another topic under consideration is the introduction of 1st world technology

to lesser developed areas. With the recent USFDA patient awareness update about the use of synthetic mesh in pelvic prolapse surgery, the Committee anticipates that ICS will be asked to extend its leadership and knowledge on this patient safety issue. We invite suggestions from the general membership on topics they wish for the Committee to consider.

Expressions of interest welcome

The membership of the Committee is represented by Urologists, Gynaecologists, Geriatricians, Nurses, and Physiotherapists who serve 3-year terms. The Committee is always looking for able-bodied members willing to contribute their time and effort. At the end of 2013, five members of the current committee will be rotating off. If any ICS members are interested, please put your name forward to the ICS office.

Canvassing

A topic of discussion at this year's Ethics Committee meeting was the canvassing for votes by members nominated for elected positions. As you know, the general membership voted at the meeting to allow canvassing. While the Ethics Committee members had mixed feelings about this practice, the membership at-large has however spoken. Any canvassing during the election cycle in the form of emails will need to be self-generated. The general membership of ICS should be reassured that our email addresses and personal details will not be released to candidates by the ICS office.

The Ethics Committee feels very positive about how ICS as a society is evolving in its efforts to promote advances in pelvic floor disorders in a comprehensive manner. ■

Nursing Committee

Successful Nurses' Forum in Glasgow

● Sharon Eustice

THE ICS NURSING Committee is delighted to report a successful full-day Nurses Forum 2011, held prior to the annual scientific meeting in Glasgow. The meeting was supported by the Association for Continence Advice (ACA), a UK professional membership organisation. Over 50 nurses from different parts of the globe gathered here to share practice and research projects. The morning session included an ACA presentation on its research findings on continence education for UK undergraduate students entitled 'A survey of continence undergraduate education (SECURE)'. The ACA also presented the 'Teenage Pelvic Floor Guide' which was designed to give teenagers detailed information on the pelvic floor muscles. This colourful and dynamic booklet is being considered for publication in different languages. Joan Ostaszewicz presented two papers on reuse of catheters for intermittent self-catheterisation and leg bags in the community, which led to a useful debate on international differences in accessing products.

Each of the Nursing subcommittee chairs led sessions on work programmes that have flourished since the previous meeting in 2010 and also research abstracts were presented. Notably an important paper was presented by Jennifer Skelly on the profile of the continence advisor from an international perspective and the underpinning evidence base. The keynote speaker was Sharon



Mandy Wells,
Nursing Committee Chair

Wood, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Neurourology and Sexual Function, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, UK who delivered a thought-provoking and inspiring session on 'Addressing the Bladder, Bowel and Sexual Healthcare needs of veterans resulting from injuries sustained in the Afghanistan war'. We look forward to crafting and delivering a robust programme for 2012 and hope to see many more nurses attending in Beijing.

This year has seen a change of faces on the Nursing Committee. Mandy Wells, Chair of the ICS Nursing Committee expressed her sincere thanks to those members standing down from the committee, who were key founders and commended their driving force. These are: Katherine Moore, Mary Palmer, Janice Paterson, Anne Vinsnes, Jean Wyman, Karou Nishimura and Ronny Pieters. Four new members were welcomed: Wakako Satoh, Maria Helena Baena de Moraes Lopes, Kathleen Hunter and Sharon Eustice. The subcommittees continue to be very active in the areas of Research (chaired by Kathleen Hunter), Practice (chaired by Jennifer Skelly), Education (chaired by Donna Bliss) and Communication (chaired by Sharon Eustice).

We will endeavour to continue building on the excellent work that has emerged from the Nursing Committee for the benefit of our patients/carers/families and current and future ICS nurse members. ■

A Profile of the Specialist Role of Continence Nursing: an International Perspective

● Jan Paterson

FROM 2009 TO 2011, a working party for the Practice Subcommittee of the ICS Nursing Committee undertook work that led to the development of a draft profile of the specialist role of continence nursing from an international perspective. The members of the working party were, Jan Paterson, Jennifer Skelly, Joan Ostaszewicz and Lesley Hanson. The work was supported by Mandy Wells, Chair of the ICS Nursing Committee, Dan Snowden and Jenny Ellis.

The role profile was developed from the analysis of three national and one international organisational-based competency standards and ongoing communication and consultation with ICS nursing members through face-to-face meetings, ICS Nurses' Forums and email. It also encompasses and was informed by work undertaken by members of the previous nursing education sub-committee from 2005 until 2007 that included the identification of 4 levels of continence nursing practice across nations and a survey of ICS nurse members around some aspects of their educational preparedness and practice settings. To date, written comment from ICS nursing members from Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, United Kingdom, India, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, South Korea and the USA has provided information for the profile.

The full profile includes the following role definition:

"A continence nurse specialist is a Registered Nurse with a broad base of nursing experience combined with specialised theoretical and experiential knowledge of incontinence that allows for complex decision making across all of the determinants of health to inform their promotion of continence and management of urinary and faecal incontinence"

This was presented for consideration and comment at the ICS Nurses' forum and the ICS Nursing Committee's AGM in Glasgow. It was subsequently posted on the ICS Website inviting further consultation and comment. Comments received are now being reviewed and changes to the profile are being made as appropriate by the members of a working party of the Practice sub-committee of the ICS Nursing Committee.

The draft scope of practice will then be sent to all ICS nursing members for final ratification and validation in the form of a Delphi study. Participants will be invited to indicate through the use of a Likert scale with open ended comment how closely each element of the profile reflects their practice as a continence nurse specialist.

Once the study has been completed and recommended changes made as appropriate, the "profile of the continence nurse specialist role: an international perspective" will be presented to the ICS Nursing Committee for endorsement with the recommendation that the document be placed on the website and publication of the process of its development published in a peer review journal. ■

Standardisation Steering Committee

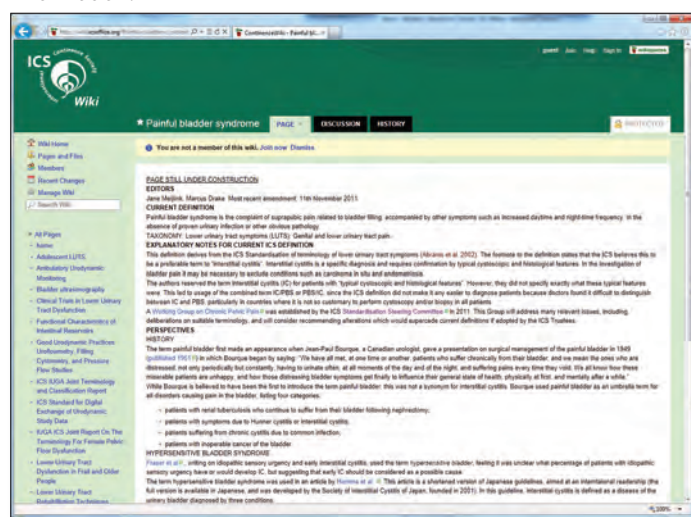
The SSC Sets the ICS Wiki Ball Rolling

● Marcus Drake



Marcus Drake, SSC Chair

WE'RE EXCITED TO have started work on an approach that we believe will greatly help people in their clinical and academic activity. Wikipedia is a concept most of us are familiar with, as an online evolving resource which is an excellent starting point for finding information, and which allows people to contribute further information.



The ICS has set up its own Wiki and the Standardisation Steering Committee (SSC) is getting the ball rolling. This means that any question on terminology or lower urinary tract function can start from the same point- simply go to the easily accessible Wiki! To begin with, you may not find exactly what you are looking for, but the gaps will steadily be filled, as we ask anyone finding a gap to flag it up as a question, and anyone with the answer to contribute it. The question and answer will go to an Editor (a Standardisation Steering Committee member or nominee) to be checked and refined, and shortly after will be publicly available. By accumulating information in this way, we can envisage rapid development of a remarkable resource. We have started with the current standardisation documents, and steadily we will accumulate separate pages for every urinary, bowel and pelvic floor symptom, and all the situations ICS members come across in their professional activity. Each page will steadily assimilate comprehensive information. For example, a symptom page will include current definition, previous definitions, related symptoms and syndromes, examples, controversies, translations into other languages, clinical/research priorities, and anything else relevant.

A Wiki is a very inclusive approach and through it anyone interested and with a valid opinion can make their voice heard. This has to be contrasted with a much less user-friendly situation previously. For

example, someone wanting to find the definition of a term might end up doing a literature search, achieving several "hits", having to trawl through a few PDFs (if they were entitled to access them and could remember their logins), and then having to read the PDFs in the hope of successfully identifying the current definition. This worst-case scenario was off-putting and contrary to the SSC's aspirations to engage all the relevant medical community and wider stakeholders in the standardisation dialogue. Now, finding what you need to know is easier, and you can pass on your opinion to the place where it can make a difference.

Another big difference comes with less of a fanfare, but is still highly significant. The SSC has reviewed the process by which its Standardisation documents and Guidelines are developed and instituted several fundamental changes. The aspirations are to move to a transparent, inclusive and evidence-based approach to developing new standards. How this is being achieved is described in an imminent publication in *Neurourology and Urodynamics*, with Peter Rosier as the first author, which is already available through the SSC's web page at www.icsoffice.org. The SSC is therefore no longer an exclusive club developing new standards; it has become a body which guides expert Working Groups as they develop the new standards semi-autonomously. Any ICS member can suggest a new Working Group, and all ICS members are eligible to apply for membership, or to chair it. Obviously, a realistic chance of a successful application will require credible expertise in the Group's subject! The first such Working Group, chaired by Ragi Doggweiler, has already started work on Chronic Pelvic Pain. You can see the Working Groups' members and activities on the SSC web pages on the ICS website. Now that the process is in place, the SSC intends that many more such Working Groups will rapidly be established. ■

Standardisation Steering Committee



Physiotherapy Committee

A Flourishing ICS Physiotherapy Committee

● Beth Shelly

THE ICS PHYSIOTHERAPY Committee partnered with the UK Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Women's Health (ACPWH) for a full day of programming and learning on the Sunday before the annual meeting began. The ACPWH annual conference began the day with two scientific presentations. The keynote speaker, Britt Stuge, presented on treatment of pelvic girdle pain and the development and implementation of the European Guidelines on Pelvic Pain. The Margie Polden Lecture was given by Diane Stark on the role of physiotherapy in the management and prevention of pelvic organ prolapse with some results from the award winning POPPY trial. The afternoon was opened by the past chair of the ICS physiotherapy committee Marijke Van Kampen and other committee members' providing updates on current committee and society business. The physiotherapy committee welcomed its new chair Helena Frawley and looks forward to continued growth of the committee. We also thanked Marijke Slieker for her many years on the committee (she will continue to represent physiotherapy on the ICS Education Committee). Marijke Slieker shared a very interesting and fun history of the ten years of the Physiotherapy Round Table, documenting its progression from an informal gathering to our current structure of scientific presentation and small group workshops. This history will be expanded and posted on the Physiotherapy Committee web page.

Scientific presentations this year included Percutaneous Tibial Nerve Stimulation for Overactive Bladder Syndrome (Jenny Sheppard), Access to Experience in Women's Health for UK Student Physiotherapists (Doreen McClurg), Using Real Time Ultrasound To Assess Post Prostatectomy Male Pelvic Floors (Irmna Nahon), Rectal Balloon Training as Add-on Therapy To PFM Training in Adults with Fecal Incontinence (Esther Bols), and Potty Training (Alexandra Vermandel). The State-of-the-Art Lecture was presented by Marijke Slieker on Pelvic Organ Prolapse. The meeting continued with 14 small group workshops led by physiotherapists, covering a wide range of PT topics. Each leader presented a case report and lead discussion of evidenced-based evaluation and treatment. Handouts can be found on the ICS Physiotherapy Committee website.

Physiotherapy was represented at the ICS 2011 annual scientific meeting with nine workshops chaired by physiotherapists and many other workshops with physiotherapy speakers. Some of the workshops chaired by physiotherapists included: Antenatal And Postpartum Pelvic Floor Muscle Training In Prevention Of UI (Kari Bo), Practical Treatment / Management Of Lower Bowel Dysfunction (Julia Hebert), Successful, Established And Innovative Concepts Of Pelvic Floor Rehabilitation (Bary Berghmans), Prolapse: Room For Conservative Therapies (Helena Frawley), State-of-the-Art Pelvic Floor Assessment (Fetske Hogen Esch), and Physical Therapies for Urinary Incontinence: From The Young Adult to the Elderly Patient (this workshop is available on webcast).

Posters and platforms also featured many physiotherapy papers. The prize for best clinical abstract was awarded to Suzanne Hagen and colleges for the UK POPPY trial (abstract 129 A Multicenter randomized controlled trial of a pelvic floor muscle training intervention for women with pelvic organ prolapse). Chantal Dumoulin presented a small sample of a video used in teaching pelvic floor muscle examination to physiotherapy students. Two pelvic floor exercise classes led by physiotherapists were well attended and physiotherapists participated in meet-the-experts.



Helena Frawley,
Physiotherapy Chair



ICS Physiotherapy Committee - Glasgow 2011

Physiotherapy involvement in the International Continence Society was highlighted with the award of the second ICS Lifetime Achievement Award to Jo Laycock at the Gala dinner Thursday night. Jo has certainly contributed greatly to the advancement of physiotherapy in pelvic floor dysfunction and we are grateful for her work. We would like to thank all the organisers and speakers at this successful meeting. ■



Jo Laycock receiving her Lifetime Achievement award

Improving Pelvic Floor Muscle Training Adherence Strategies: from Theory to Practice – A State-of-the-Science Conference

Sponsored by the ICS Physiotherapy Committee

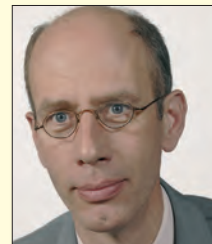
● Chantal Dumoulin

A STATE-OF-THE-SCIENCE CONFERENCE entitled *Improving pelvic floor muscle training adherence strategies: from theory to practice* was organised and sponsored by the physiotherapy committee of the International Continence Society from 26-27 August, 2011 in Glasgow, Scotland, UK. Chaired by Chantale Dumoulin, Helena Frawley and Doreen McClurg, the conference brought clinicians and researchers together to share knowledge and facilitate discussions

Urodynamics Committee

Urodynamics Committee Initiates Teaching Modules

● Peter Rosier



Peter Rosier,
Urodynamics Chair

THE NEW – now official – ICS Urodynamics Committee was among the first to gather in Glasgow, with a meeting in the early hours of the Monday morning. As you will have read in previous issues of ICS News, the initiative for this new ICS Committee was launched in Toronto in 2010 when Jacques Corcos invited me to rebuild the ICS School of Urodynamics. I found a group of excellent, dedicated members to help me in the provisional phase and, through the ICS membership election, I subsequently received the mandate to continue this endeavour as chair of the new Committee. I am proud and indebted to you for that. However, we did not travel all the way to Glasgow simply to look back in time...

Teaching modules

We decided that we wanted to push hard on developing new, high quality teaching modules. Teaching modules that are based on both evidence where available and on clinical experience. Teaching modules that are ideally applicable throughout the entire world. Teaching modules that give an understandable and unambiguous basis for good clinical practice with regard to diagnosis and management of patients with lower urinary tract dysfunction, lower bowel dysfunction and/or sexual or pelvic floor dysfunction.

Working groups on different topics with membership input

While we certainly have many ideas of our own about modules, we greatly appreciate hearing yours too. Professor Krhut from the Czech Republic was the first person outside our committee to propose an idea and is currently finishing his 'pad testing' module. Members of the Committee set up working groups to produce modules on 'postvoid residual urine', 'pressure flow analysis in elderly males' and 'video cystometry (concentrating on the video element)'. Topics such as 'cystometry in children', 'cystometry in patients with spinal cord injury' or for example 'treatment with clean intermittent catheterisation' will certainly follow. I am mentioning these to whet your appetite for what you can expect in the following years! We will of course ensure that the 'basic' topics in urodynamics that you all expect, and are probably waiting for, will be developed as soon as possible. But we will also allow the development of modules that you probably did not expect. And I feel quite certain that you too will have original and relevant ideas.

Modules manual

Our committee has compiled a manual to produce the modules. It can be found on the ICS website and you will see that you will have to put forward your initiative proposal to the Committee, then outline your topic and provide a list of a few people that you are considering including in your working group. You will receive comments from the Urodynamics Committee regarding your plan and the composition of your working group and finally you will be authorised to create the module. The module will be a slide set that represents the core of your educational message accompanied by a short manuscript (to be considered for publication in *Neurourology and Urodynamics*) that provides the background for the teaching module. This manuscript will not predominantly repeat the content of your teaching, but will rather provide the background as to 'why and how' you selected the content for the teaching module. The actual content of your teaching will be on the slides that you make. The committee has additionally decided to aim for 'webcasted' presentations of the modules. We hope to record the first modules already at the next ICS annual scientific meeting. These modules will ultimately be made available to all of you via the ICS website.

So to summarise: all future ICS Urodynamics Committee teaching modules will consist of a slide set with the educational content, plus a published background manuscript and – ideally – combined with a presentation available via the internet.

The committee has also discussed providing the ICS Education Committee with the standard ICS teaching modules. In addition, we aim to cooperate with other relevant national and international professional associations and societies in the future, not only to disseminate ICS standards and good clinical practice education, but also with accreditation, certification and clinical audit in perspective.

I would like to assure you that our Committee is fully able to help you to develop your ideas into a valuable ICS teaching module. We encourage all ICS members to provide their input and experience in this new educational system. We welcome all contributions and will take them all into account. ■

continued from page 14 .../

regarding the challenges encountered in pelvic floor muscle (PFM) training adherence, and strategies to address this problem. The main conference objectives were 1) to identify existing evidence-based research on PFM training adherence and strategies that improve adherence, 2) to establish priority areas for future research on adherence strategies, 3) to identify and promote various adherence approaches and strategies that should be incorporated into research protocols and daily clinical practice, and 4) to reach consensus on optimal methods to achieve long-term adherence with PFM training.

The panel of experts comprised 18 invited speakers from Australia, Belgium, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, The Maldives, Taiwan, The Netherlands, USA and the UK, and encompassed several disciplines: clinical and research physiotherapy, nursing, health psychology, patient education, general practice and urology. During the first day, we discussed definitions and adherence theories: from self-efficacy to motivational interviewing. On the second day, we looked

at strategies to improve adherence for different populations (men, women, pregnancy, postnatal, elderly) and different types of PFM dysfunctions (POP, urinary incontinence, faecal incontinence). Finally, we discussed how to improve and integrate PFM training adherence strategies into clinical practice, technology supporting adherence and the ethical perspective.

Further to this conference, Dr Helena Fawley and the other conference chairs, supported by the ICS IT team, developed two surveys on adherence, one for the general public and one for health professionals, which were posted on the ICS website. Participation was high: more than 500 health professionals and members of the public completed the surveys. Based on the results of the surveys and the conference, the faculty is currently developing a Consensus Statement on this topic, and preparing 3 publications co-authored by members of the expert panel. The anticipated publication date is mid-2012. ■

Fistula Committee

The ICS Fistula Committee Builds Further on Its Success

● Sherif Mourad



Sherif Mourad, Fistula Chair

Committee developments

AT THE MEETING of the ICS Fistula Committee in Glasgow, it was decided to dissolve the associate member category and combine all members into one main committee. This led to a number of changes being made in the tasks assigned to individual committee members. While Jane Meijlink regrettably had to step down from her committee membership, USA urologist Sophie Fletcher kindly agreed to take over the role of documentation, providing updates for the newsletter and the Fistula Committee "microsite". The Fistula Committee's sub-committees in different parts of the world were encouraged to start their activities as soon as possible in line with activities already in progress in Africa. It is hoped to hold a Fistula Workshop in Latin America in the near future.

Inadequate instruments and facilities

Our committee has noted that an obstacle to training is that instruments and facilities available to many surgeons are exceedingly inadequate. This kind of equipment is available at far lower cost outside North America and Europe. We therefore propose identifying a basic instrument set, cystoscopes, a basic urodynamic machine, lighting and suction equipment. We could then raise funds from individuals and organisations who may want to support fistula work in this way. At the same time, we could establish minimum standards for facilities receiving the donated equipment so that we can assure donors that the equipment will be well utilised.

Surgical videos now online

The committee has been working hard on its "microsite" on the ICS website where you can now find more information and e-Learning resources including videos of surgical repairs.

The ICS Fistula Surgical training course in Chengdu, China.

Limin Liao, subcommittee chair for China, organised an ICS fistula course in May 2011 in collaboration with the Chinese Continence Society. Sherif Mourad was invited to perform live surgical training for fistula repair. Two live surgeries were performed and transmitted directly to the conference room where the entire audience was able to follow every step of the procedure, with translations provided by Limin Liao and other Chinese professors. Sherif Mourad then gave a presentation on the possible complications of fistula repair, followed by a lively interactive discussion. Follow-up reports from China showed that the two cases are now completely dry and doing very well.

3rd ICS Workshop to be held in Luxor, April 2012

After the great success of the 2nd ICS Fistula Repair workshop that took place in Kampala, Uganda, the Fistula Committee is now preparing cases for the 3rd ICS workshop that will take place in Luxor, Egypt on April 5-7th, 2012.

ICS Fistula Centre planned in Uganda

The Fistula Committee is planning a large-scale project in Kampala, Uganda by creating an ICS Fistula Centre in the main university hospital. Sherif Mourad is currently discussing and negotiating with the Ugandan government and Ministry of Health for the logistics of the project. We expect many organisations to help donate to the

project which is intended as the main referral centre for cases in East Africa.

ISOFS 2012

The next ISOFS (International Society of Obstetric Fistula Surgeons) conference will be held in Bangladesh in November 2012, based on the theme of Bringing Evidence and Sustainability into Management of the Obstetric Fistula. ■

AFRICAN FISTULA & CONTINENCE SOCIETY NOW ICS AFFILIATE



The recently established African Fistula and Continence Society (AFFCS), a society concerned with voiding dysfunction, urinary incontinence, female urology and fistula, is now affiliated to the ICS. Its plans include setting up regional training centres in Africa and organising training programmes, working in collaboration with international organisations including the ICS.



Dr Sherif Mourad performs vaginal fistula surgery, teaching techniques to workshop attendees.



Dr Mourad ensuring equipment is ready for the workshop to commence.

Neurourology & Urodynamics Update

Dear Colleagues,

I WOULD FIRST like to thank Karl-Erik Andersson for his strong support and stepping in as temporary Editor in Chief after my illness in June, and to all the colleagues around the world who have written to me. I have been overwhelmed by the friendship and support of all concerned. Happily I am now able to continue my role as Editor-in-Chief of the journal.



Chris Chapple

I would once again like to thank the reviewers and acknowledge the names of the Top Ten Reviewers of 2010, who have also been added to the Editorial Board: Apostolos Apostolidis, Rufus Cartwright, Francisco Cruz, Marcus Drake, Clare Fowler, David Ginsberg, Ann Hanna-Mitchell, John Heesakkers, Philip Smith and Frank van der Aa. We will shortly be announcing the *Top Ten Reviewers of 2011*. The journal will continue to seek new, enthusiastic reviewers and any suggestions of suitable colleagues within your institutions would be welcomed.

I also would like to acknowledge the Associate Editors for their hard work and support and acknowledge the major contribution that was made to the journal by Ron van Mastrigt and also Linda Brubaker who, due to other commitments, have stepped down from Associate Editorship. They have both made a huge contribution to the journal and I look forward to their continuing support as reviewers and contributors. I would like to welcome both Rob Pickard and Mickey Karram who have now joined the team in their stead.

In addition, I would like to thank the Editorial Board for their extremely helpful and insightful comments at the annual Editorial Board meeting at the International Continence Society in Glasgow in September. I believe the current policy of the journal provides a robust foundation upon which we should continue to build. The journal has improved its impact factor, which is extremely encouraging, despite our increase in published pages. The level at which it reached its zenith previously was as a consequence of the 2002 ICS standardisation report. We have published two ICS/IUGA standardisations one each in 2010 and 2011, which will hopefully contribute similarly to the future impact factor, while there are currently more standardisation papers in review and in the pipeline.

The journal has also reduced submission to decision times, with it now taking an average of 27 days for a first decision, and 50 days for revised papers to get a final decision. Thanks to additional financial support from ICS, SUFU and Wiley-Blackwell we have been able, as you will have noticed, to publish additional pages during 2011 to reduce our paper publication time and in 2012 we hope to have this down to less than six months. Please note that papers are published online soon after acceptance and we are working to further streamline this process.

As you appreciate 'things don't just happen, they need to be made to happen' and I wish to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of Jen Tidman, the editorial assistant, who runs the journal office. Over the last year, Jen has been working on improving the journal's online portal, including improved instructions and email templates, extending the review invitation response deadline as per the editorial board's previous request, amending manuscript types and file designations for authors and other requested tweaks for all users. In the future we will be updating the journal's website on Wiley Online Library, implementing plagiarism checking, electronic copyright transfer agreements and disclosure forms.

The board have requested more use of electronic interaction. I would like to bring it to the attention of all readers that they can currently get automatic e-alerts for the journal, but because of the data protection regulations we can't send this out to you unsolicited. You can sign up for these e-alerts by going to the journal's page on the Wiley Online Library (tinyurl.com/EalertsNU). We have also launched news feeds for the journal on both Twitter and Facebook which you may wish to sign up to (twitter.com/NeuroUroUrodyn and facebook.com/NeuroUroUrodyn).

At the Editorial Board meeting, in addition to general discussion relating to policies, a crucial point which was raised is that we need to reduce the number of papers accepted. My policy with the other Associate Editors has been to try and provide the journal as a platform for the membership of the societies affiliated with us, as well as other readers who want to publish interesting and important new developments in the field of functional urology and coloproctology. Currently our acceptance rate is about 57% but we are now working to reduce this down to around 40%. I look forward to hearing from you relating to this.

Another issue from the board related to the perceived high cost to authors for colour images in the journal, which was felt might deter contributors for submitting to N&U. As a result we have discussed this with the publisher, who has kindly agreed to reduce colour charges to \$250 per page in 2012 (a reduction from the previous charges of \$950 for the first page and \$500 for each page thereafter).

Once again I would strongly encourage you to write to me with any comments you may have relating to the journal. In particular I would be very happy to receive thoughts on controversies and critical issues, and of course if anyone has any review articles that they would like to submit, please do get in contact (neuroUroUrodyn@btconnect.com) to discuss whether the subject matter is appropriate. Please do liaise with the journal office and both Jen and myself, along with the Associate Editors, as we would be happy to discuss any matters with you. ■

With best wishes,

Chris Chapple, Editor-in-Chief

Editor-in-Chief, Neurourology & Urodynamics

'Bid to host for 2016'

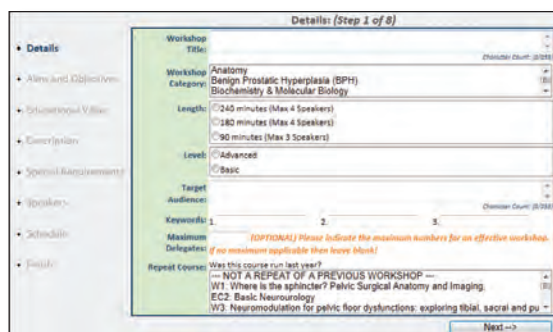
Bids to host ICS 2016 are now invited. Deadline for applications is April 1st 2012. If you wish to have more information or a discussion about future bids then please do not hesitate to contact the office on +44(0)117 944 4881 or to e-mail info@icsoffice.org.

Web & Media

● Dominic Turner, IT Director, ICS Office

2012 Workshops Submission and Review

The latest version of the workshops submission and review system provides authors with a method of identifying their previous workshops and giving reviewers the ability to review workshop proposals with easy access to previous evaluations and participant feedback.



ICS 2012 Workshop Submission Wizard

ICS 2011 Workshops and eLearning

In-house filming of the ICS 2011 Workshops in Glasgow was carried out for the first time by ICS, allowing us to massively increase the number of hours of workshops we were able to film in conjunction with our webcast provider, Prous Science.

ICS 2011 Glasgow Workshops: Staff member Chris Angle from the ICS Office filmed four more workshops over two days in HD for the purpose of converting them to accredited ICS eLearning courses:



Pelvic Floor Muscle Training – State of the Science Seminar

A very successful state of the science seminar was organised and ran at ICS 2011 by a working group of physios. The ICS Office provided IT support for this activity with:

- Online forums for a literature review and discussion
- Public and Professional Surveys on SurveyMonkey
- DVD publication of video recordings of the entire seminar including the handouts

DVD Publications of the Seminar for Participants:

Joint ICI-ICS Products Advisor Project

Work continues on the ICI-ICS Joint project to create a continence products advisor website that would provide independent evidence-based advice, tips, feedback and references for patients and professionals. The aim of this site is allow people to find out more about the pros and cons of different kinds of continence products

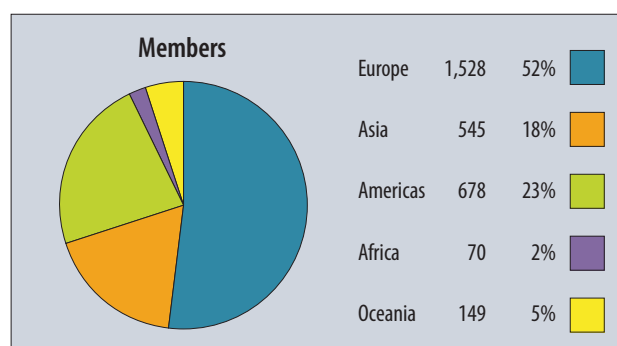
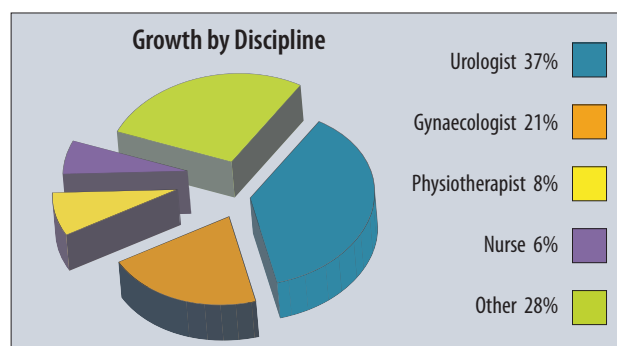
and hopefully find a combination that will work best for them. This is in stark contrast to the majority of sites from manufacturers that concentrate on a single brand.

The project will use the latest algorithms and evidence from the ICI Committee on Products Research:



ICS Goes from Strength to Strength

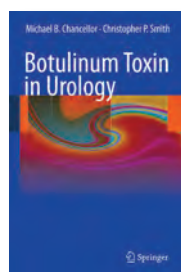
ICS Has continued to grow in 2011 with Membership closing at Glasgow at an all-time high (just short of 3,000). ■



Glasgow meeting led to a large number of new UK members in 2011

Book Reviews

by Jane Meijlink, Jerzy Gajewski



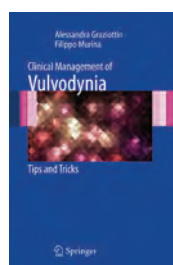
BOTULINUM TOXIN IN UROLOGY

Authors: Michael B. Chancellor & Christopher P. Smith

Publisher: Springer-Verlag 2011, Hardcover. 207 pp. ISBN 978-3-642-03579-1; e-ISBN 978-3-642-03580-7

Price guide: € 99.95

This first edition book on botulinum toxin (BoNT) is devoted to its medical applications in the genitourinary tract. It is divided into four parts and eleven chapters. Part I *Rationale and Safety for BoNT* with 2 chapters provides basic information on its safety and mechanism of action. Part II on the *Bladder*, with four chapters, focuses on bladder indications for BoNT: neurogenic detrusor overactivity, idiopathic overactive bladder, interstitial cystitis/painful bladder syndrome and paediatric applications. Part III (2 chapters) on *Prostate and Pelvic Floor* discusses prostate and sphincteric applications. Non-urological indications and worldwide perspective of BoNT usage are presented in part IV on the *Role of BoNT in Medicine*. The chapters are complemented by 3 appendices with useful instructions for patients and staff with appendix 3 covering nursing issues with botulinum toxin. All the chapters have been written by two pioneers of this treatment in urology, Michael Chancellor and Christopher Smith. All information is supported by extensive references. The text is complemented with numerous easy-to-read tables, and very well designed figures and graphics, some in colour and some black and white. This concisely written, practical, hands-on book is an excellent source of information for all involved in BoNT treatment, including students, residents, fellows, physicians and nurses.



CLINICAL MANAGEMENT OF VULVODYNIA – TIPS AND TRICKS

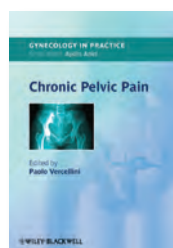
Function, Dysfunction and Management According to the Integral Theory

Authors: Alessandra Graziottin, Filippo Murina

Publisher: Springer-Verlag, 2011, Hardcover. 87 pp. ISBN: 978-88-470-1925-6. Price guide: € 99.95

This small volume (only 87 pages) will be very welcome to all involved in this often neglected field.

The authors note that while vulvodynia has undoubtedly always been around, the condition was not officially recognized until 1898, was overlooked for more than 80 years and then resurfaced in gynaecological texts in the 1980s. There is an interesting discussion on names and definitions here, with the authors explaining that until now vulvodynia has been used to describe unexplained vulvar pain. The authors suggest that the term vulvodynia “should include all types of vulvar pain. It is the physician’s responsibility to make a differential diagnosis among the different biological etiologies of vulvar pain, focusing on pathophysiology and the histology of vulvar tissue.” The book also addresses vulvodynia and dyspareunia, postpartum dyspareunia and vulvodynia, evaluation of vulvar pain, pathophysiology, how to make a comprehensive diagnosis of vulvodynia and its comorbidities and how to treat. Treatment is limited to chapter 8 (pages 68-78). I would suggest that any future revision of this book should consider devoting more space to treatment. Perhaps useful also to know that the content of this book in English is based on the Italian *Vulvodinia* (2011) by the same authors.



CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN

Editor: Paolo Vercellini

Publisher: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011, paperback. 196 pp. ISBN: 978-1-4443-3066-3. Price guide: \$ 79.95

This practical guide to diagnosing and treating chronic pelvic pain in women forms part of the *Gynaecology in Practice* series edited by Aydin Arici and has chapters contributed by a number of well-known experts. While aimed at gynaecologists, it is useful reading for anyone involved in chronic pelvic pain. While the design and layout is slightly dull with few illustrations (only a few black and white of limited quality), making it visually a bit unwelcoming, there is nevertheless much valuable information here on diagnosis, management and psychogenic causes. Writing on the neurobiology of CPP, Jennifer Gunter notes there may be more than one pain generator in CPP patients in addition to changes in the central nervous system that enhance pain (central sensitization). The chapter on the *Differential Diagnosis of Chronic Pelvic Pain* by CPP expert Fred Howard is very thorough, emphasising that “the history and physical examination are powerful diagnostic and therapeutic tools, and it would be difficult to overstate their importance in the evaluation of a patient with CPP”. There are many potential causes of CPP and identifying these may be no easy matter, making diagnosis tailored to the individual patient essential. Chapters include Endometriosis, Pelvic Infections, Bladder Pain Syndrome, Musculoskeletal Causes, Alternative Treatments and more. This is also available as an E-book.

ICS Annual Scientific Meeting

15-19 October 2012, Beijing, China



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

IT IS WITH great pleasure that I invite you to join us in Beijing, 15-19 October 2012, for the 42nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Continence Society (ICS). This will be the first time that the ICS annual scientific meeting has visited China, and only the third time it has been held in Asia. On behalf of the local organising committee and all ICS members in China, I warmly welcome you to Beijing, a city that offers a blend of ancient and modern.




Limin Liao

With its history spanning more than 3,000 years, Beijing is both a tribute to China's long and proud history and a gateway to its future. The capital city of China during the Liao, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties, Beijing has long been the country's cultural, political and diplomatic centre. Today, it is an international metropolis, home to nearly 20 million people from all walks of life. In addition to 7,300 cultural antiquities and historic sites and more than 200 spectacular sights – including the world's largest palace, the Forbidden City, as well as the Great Wall, the Summer Palace and the Temple of Heaven – Beijing boasts an impressive ultra-modern skyline, a reflection of its rapid economic development. During the 29th Olympic Games in 2008, Beijing had the opportunity to display its unique and enchanting charisma to the whole world.


Beijing Capital International Airport (BCIA) is China's largest and most sophisticated airport. Travelling to and from Beijing is simple and convenient. Sixty-six airlines operate 102 domestic and 123 international air routes at the BCIA. The airport is located 25 km from the city centre and connected by easy transportation. It takes only 11 minutes by Airport Express train to reach the city centre. Other transportation services such as shuttle bus and taxi are also available. The venue for this meeting is the China National Convention Center (CNCC), which is China's largest and newest international conference centre with perfect facilities in a prime location. It lies in the magnificent Olympic Green Park to the north of Beijing and is around 30 minutes' drive from the airport.

The social programme that we have organised will give you every opportunity to enjoy many aspects of Chinese culture. A wonderful Welcome Reception will be held at the CNCC where I hope you will have pleasure in meeting old friends and making new in an atmosphere of Chinese music, Beijing opera and traditional performances. The Bird Nest Restaurant has been selected for the Annual ICS Dinner. The Bird Nest was the main venue for the 29th Olympic Games in 2008. It hosted the opening and closing ceremonies as well as track and field events. After the Olympics, it became a national landmark for sports entertainment. The Bird Nest Restaurant is located on the 3rd floor of the stadium, with an amazing view overlooking the Bird Nest. You can enjoy Chinese food and take a tour of the Bird Nest before or after the dinner. I also invite you to join an "ICS Olympic Marathon Run" along the route of the Olympic Marathon in the Olympic Park.

The Scientific Committee will provide an excellent scientific programme of the highest standard. You can enjoy the best of education




42nd Annual Meeting of the
International Continence Society (ICS)
15 - 19 October 2012, Beijing, China
国际尿控协会(ICS)第42届年会



Continence – dispel the myths, reclaim the balance

www.ics-meeting.com



and science during two days of workshops and courses, followed by three days of podium presentations, state-of-the-art lectures and a wide variety of posters on view.

The ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius said: "It is such a delight to have friends coming from afar!" October, with its fragrant scent of Osmanthus, is the golden season in Beijing. I greatly look forward to seeing you in Beijing at this perfect time of the year.

孔子曰：“有朋自远方来，不亦乐乎！”
在这丹桂飘香的金秋十月，北京欢迎您

Limin Liao

Chair, ICS Annual Scientific Meeting 2012

Visa Application

Participants are requested to check with the Chinese Consulate or diplomatic mission in their home country for visa requirements. It is the responsibility of the participant to obtain a visa if required. Please note that the process for Chinese Visa applications can take a few weeks, so make sure you plan ahead.

For further visa advice please visit the ICS 2012 Meeting site on <http://www2.kenes.com/ics/meeting> then follow the tab for 'Meeting information' then 'General Information'.