



ICS NEWS

Issue N° 6 July 2007

ICS 2007 OUT AND ABOUT IN ROTTERDAM

If you haven't yet registered for ICS 2007, you can register now (www.ics2007.org) and take full advantage of this unique opportunity to explore the dynamic city and world port of Rotterdam and some of the many interesting sights Holland has to offer. Since the ICS 2007 conference venue de Doelen is located very centrally in the heart of the city, many places of historic interest, avant-garde architecture, museums and art galleries are within easy walking distance. For those intent on serious retail therapy or simply in need of a forgotten tube of toothpaste, Rotterdam's main shopping centre with its boutiques and department stores will be right on your doorstep. If you would like advance information on what to see and do in your spare time, take a look at their website



www.holland.com/rotterdam/gb/ & www.rotterdam.info/uk/.

For tourist information about Holland (official name: the Netherlands), the website www.holland.com/global/ is a mine of information. The close vicinity of Rotterdam Central Station to the conference venue means that you can also easily jump on a train to nearby historic Delft, The Hague, Leiden or Amsterdam. Holland is a small, compact country and everything's within reach on foot, by car, bike, canal boat or public transport even if you only have a little time to spare. So make the most of your visit! Read more inside.

National Childhood Continence Charity (ERIC) Wins National Charity Award

ERIC (Education and Resources for Improving Childhood Continence), is a Bristol based charity which provides information and support to children, families and professionals on childhood wetting and soiling. ERIC is now in the final year of its collaborative study with Bristol University's Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC), also known as 'Children of the 90s'. The main aims of the project are to investigate the factors associated with the development of continence, and to evaluate the psychological impact of continence problems. Ultimately this will provide information to help improve the experiences of children with bladder and bowel difficulties.

A recent research paper in the journal *Paediatrics* reported that children with daytime wetting have a higher rate of parent-reported psychological problems than children who are dry during the day.

There is evidence from previous studies for differences in intellectual capacities and neurological functioning between children with and without wetting and soiling problems, particularly between children with nocturnal enuresis and those who are dry at night. Other studies have



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20-24 August 2007

2007 ICS Annual Meeting

Congress Centre de Doelen, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Chair: Ruud Bosch

2-6 September 2007

29th Congress of the Société Internationale d'Urologie, Paris, France

3 September 2007

Workshop Applications Open for 2008 ICS Annual Meeting, Cairo

16-17 November 2007

ICS Education Course Mumbai, India

Coordinator: Ajay Singla

6-8 December 2007

4th PACS Meeting

Marriott El Doha Hotel, Doha Qatar

Chair: Sherif Mourad

7 December 2007

Workshop applications close for 2008 ICS Annual Meeting, Cairo



For more information about all the ICS events shown above, visit the ICS website on www.icsoffice.org or contact the ICS office on 0044 (0) 117 944 4881 or email newsletter@icsoffice.org.



PROFILE

communications



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The ICS office retains the right to edit any material submitted to the newsletter. Please note that not all contributions can be included, but we will endeavour to represent the diverse membership of the ICS. The ICS does not necessarily endorse the products mentioned in the ICS newsletter.

ICS IN ROTTERDAM

The ICS 2007 Annual Meeting will be held in "Concert and Congress Centre de Doelen", Rotterdam, the Netherlands, 20-24 August 2007.



Dear Friends,

The 2007 ICS annual meeting dates are approaching fast. As you will know, the 37th Annual Meeting of the ICS, will be held in Rotterdam from 20 to 24 August, 2007. If you have not yet registered for the meeting, it is not too late...

The ICS scientific committee chaired by Mark Vierhout, the local organising committee and our PCO Congress Consultants have worked hard on preparing a meeting that will be memorable from both scientific and social points of view.

Visit our website to take a look at an overview of the scientific programme and the courses and workshops that are available to you. The quality of the science and the level of discussion are the typical ICS treasures that have again been the main guiding principles in the design of the programme of this year's annual meeting. Indeed these "diamonds" are forever...

Rotterdam, the venue for the ICS 2007 annual meeting, is the second largest city in the Netherlands and one of the biggest seaports in the world. Situated on some of Europe's most important waterways, Rotterdam is known in Dutch as "waterstad" (water city). This seems a most appropriate symbolic reference to the regulation of the waterways in the human body! Rotterdam is the only Dutch city with a skyline. Most of its modern architecture emerged after World War II when Rotterdam was recovering from the devastation of enemy bombardment. For the year 2007 the city of Rotterdam has chosen a special theme: Rotterdam, City of Architecture. Ever since the early 20th century, Rotterdam has been internationally renowned as a centre of modern architecture.

Delfshaven where the "Pilgrim Fathers" began their voyage to the New World after exile in Holland.

Schiphol International Airport in Amsterdam connects to major airports worldwide. From Schiphol Airport travellers can take a direct train to Rotterdam Central Station every 30 minutes. The local airport, Rotterdam Airport (RTM) has connections with several European Cities.

For registration go to the ICS website (www.icsoffice.org).

Make sure you keep abreast of the latest meeting information by visiting our website www.ics2007.org.

I hope you will come and join us for the 2007 ICS meeting. See you in Rotterdam!

Tot ziens!

Ruud Bosch,

Chair ICS 2007 Annual Meeting



ICS 2007 in Rotterdam – a special welcome for physiotherapists

On Sunday 19th August, the Round Table will be organised from 12.00 to 17.00.

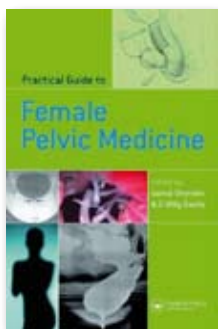
The Dutch Association of Physiotherapy (KNGF) and the Dutch Association of Pelvic Physiotherapy (NVFB) are delighted to have the opportunity of welcoming international physiotherapy to Rotterdam.

On the evening of Wednesday, 22nd August, they will offer all

international physiotherapists visiting ICS a wonderful evening in Dordrecht. Buses will be provided. Every physiotherapist registered for Rotterdam is invited.

If you have any questions or would like information about physio activities, please you can email Marijke Sliker-ten Hove on m.sliker@erasmusmc.nl.

Marijke Sliker-ten Hove



Practical Guide to Female Pelvic Medicine

Edited by Gamal Ghoniem & G Willy Davila

Published by: Informa Healthcare
January 2006

ISBN: 1841843989 Hardback 271 pages

This highly practical, exceptionally user-friendly textbook is well-written and clearly laid out with really useful illustrations, figures and tables and easy for everyone to follow.

The Practical Guide to Female Pelvic Medicine is ideal for urologists, gynaecologists, obstetricians, specialist nurses and physiotherapists and all medical libraries. It features contributions from experts around the world, covering the full spectrum of multidisciplinary female pelvic floor disorders distilled into one practical and readable volume. The areas covered include: the pathophysiology of the female pelvic floor, evaluation and diagnosis of problems, practical management of symptoms and complications that can arise from surgical and medical treatment. An excellent chapter on the assessment of the chronic pelvic pain patient along with a separate chapter on interstitial cystitis form a clear example of the increasing attention being paid to pelvic pain syndromes.

Many women worldwide are affected by pelvic floor disorders, making this book a valuable guide to the different forms of pelvic floor disorders as experienced by clinicians when evaluating and treating their female patients. Definitely recommended.



Regaining Bladder Control - What Every Woman Needs to Know

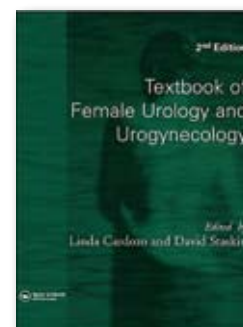
Authors: Rebecca G. Rogers, MD, Janet Yagoda Shagam, PhD, Shelley Kleinschmidt

Foreword by: Ingrid Nygaard, MD.

Published by: Prometheus Books, 2006, paperback

ISBN: 1-59102-416-1

This clearly and sensitively written, down-to-earth book for female patients with incontinence who want to know more and want to understand every aspect of their bladder problem is also an ideal book to be kept on the office shelf to help in your teaching efforts as a health professional. The different types of incontinence are described in simple, easy-to-understand terms. The book details medically sound steps that can improve continence in many women, including behavioural therapy, dietary changes and exercises. Every type of treatment is covered, while practical advice is given to enable the patient to continue a normal lifestyle. Attention is also paid to the impact and financial cost of coping with incontinence. The handy workbook format includes worksheets and self-assessment questionnaires. A very readable and versatile book, useful for everyone.



Textbook of Female Urology and Urogynaecology (2nd Edition)

Edited by Linda Cardozo and David Staskin

Published by: Informa Healthcare April 2006

ISBN: 184184358X Hardback 2 volumes 1400 pages

A second edition of this outstanding reference work on female urology and urogynaecology, which has become the gold standard in the field, was published in April 2006. This 2-volume textbook, written by an international team of experts, is a fully comprehensive guide to the theory, diagnosis, evaluation and treatment of urological and urogynaecological problems in women worldwide. Starting with the history and epidemiology of the subject worldwide, this 2 volume set covers: the basic structure and function of the lower urinary tract in the female, diagnostic evaluation of incontinence and prolapse, the varying forms of both surgical and non-surgical treatment of incontinence, the surgical treatment of genital prolapse, associated disorders including urinary tracts infections, pain and neurological disorders, complex urological and urogynaecological problems, and appendices with guidelines and standard terminology from the ICS.

An indispensable acquisition for every medical library and a key work of reference for urologists, urogynaecologists, gynaecologists, nurse specialists, physiotherapists and pelvic surgeons.

Reviews by Jane Meijlink



Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the editorial team at Neurourology & Urodynamics, I would like to thank everybody for the strong support and many letters which I have received with helpful advice and comments about the journal.

As you will have seen, the journal now has a "new look". We are continuing to progress the development of the journal and in the near future you will be seeing a new font style, which I hope will be easier to read.

We have, with the support of ICS, SUFU and the publisher, gained an extra 300 pages for this year, which will allow us to catch up on the backlog of papers which I inherited.

Thanks to the help and support of the editorial board and reviewers, we have managed to maintain a rapid turnaround on reviews and I anticipate by the end of the year that we should have the time from submission to publication well within a six month timeframe.

The Cochrane Group have agreed to publish summaries of recent reviews in the journal, and as standardisation reports from the ICS become available they will be published as well.

Thanks to the publisher, we have attained access for all ICS members to back issues of the journal online, via your accounts at the Wiley Interscience website 1.

Clearly, in order to continue the high standards of Neurourology & Urodynamics and to maintain a transparent review and publication process, thereby providing the highest academic profile for the benefit of our authors, we have set in place a number of new initiatives:

- 1) We are now formally adopting the 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals' recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) 2
- 2) We have joined the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) 3
- 3) We endorse the CONSORT statement on improving quality of reporting of clinical trials 4, 5
- 4) No papers relating to clinical trials or research projects that prospectively assign human subjects to intervention or concurrent comparison or control groups will be accepted for review by Neurourology & Urodynamics in the future unless accompanied by a statement confirming registration to a public trials registry.
- 5) Clearly the review process needs to take account of an admixture of intellectual, financial, personal and political interests, which are an inevitable part of the environment encountered in editing scientific work. With this in mind we have developed a clear conflict of interest policy, both relating to the review of articles by the editorial team and also asking for objective summarisation of these issues by submitting authors. With this in mind all authors should state all conflicts of interest over the previous two calendar years and the current year. All reviewers should clearly state any conflict of interest, and any conflict of interest in the core editorial team which precludes them from any involvement in the review process for an article.
- 6) Research funding should be clearly specified at the end of the article.

The full instructions to authors can be viewed at, and the disclosure statement downloaded from, the Neurourology & Urodynamics Interscience 'For Authors' page 6.

I am very grateful to Jerry Blaivas for his support during the transition of the editorship and for his recent email which I enclose herewith verbatim: 'You've done in a year what I did not do in 20! Great editorial. Great issue.'

Please continue to support us, and with your help I am sure that we will achieve the highest possible standards and the best publication possible to support workers in this area in achieving scientific and clinical excellence.

With best wishes,

Prof Christopher Chapple
Editor-in-Chief, Neurourology & Urodynamics

References: Article references are available on request from ICS office

ICS EDUCATION

NEWS FROM THE NURSES' EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

A report from the Nurse Education subcommittee summit held in Trondheim Norway which had concentrated on the role of the Continence Nurse Advisor, was presented at the Annual Meeting in Christchurch. Trondheim delegates also discussed clinical and educational competencies for continence nurse advisors as well as the role of research in providing evidence-based education.

The subcommittee considered the challenge of defining continence nursing and articulate the role of a continence nurse advisor. This discussion is ongoing and a web page and list-serve of nurses interested in receiving news are being developed.

The Nurses' Education subcommittee will sponsor an educational course, *"Dementia and Urinary Incontinence: Evidence based Interventions for Frail Elders,"* at the upcoming meeting in Rotterdam. An interdisciplinary panel of speakers will present practical evidence-based information about the care of frail older adults with dementia with the emphasis on preservation of continence and the treatment and management of incontinence.

Special consideration will be given to pharmacological therapy and treatment of other co-morbidities that affect continence in this

population. Selection of appropriate behavioural therapies, including anticipated outcomes and guidelines for the appropriate use of devices and products to contain urine will be presented. Discussion of strategies to relieve care-giving burden will also be presented.

The major goal of the Nurses' subcommittee (chaired by Mandy Wells) is to provide a forum to promote evidence-based continence education and to discuss and make recommendations about educational issues that face continence nurses. The subcommittee also focuses on stimulating clinical and research partnerships and helping members to create international networks to support the education and research missions of the group.

ICS 2007 – Nurses' Education Forum

The Nurses' Education Subcommittee invites ICS nurse members and nurses attending the ICS Annual Meeting to attend its pre-conference meeting called the Nurses' Education Forum on 19th August 2007 in Rotterdam. Working together to identify commonalities in practice, core clinical competencies, and evidence-based practice requires active participation.

Mary Palmer

ABU DHABI EDUCATION COURSE



"The course of ICS was one of the best courses that I have attended." Waleed Al Taweel

Over 100 delegates attended the Educational Course in Abu Dhabi this January. Taking the standard multi-disciplinary approach the overall aims of inviting younger delegates who have not attended ICS Annual Meetings were achieved – approximately one third of those attending were under 40.

Delegates attended from all over the Middle East plus several ex-patriots currently working within United Arab Emirates. Abu Dhabi was in fine weather and after Friday Prayers the course was started by Linda Cardozo with an outline of ICS Terminology.

Hashim Hashim and Marcus Drake conducted an interactive session on Good Urodynamic Practice asking the audience various questions and debating the answers. Following this

a panel session was conducted surrounding the ICI Algorithms and then Stefano Salvatore closed the day with his How to deal with mixed incontinence talk.

At the welcome reception that followed delegates had the opportunity to enjoy some local flavours and mingle with the speakers, colleagues and exhibitors. Several of the delegates commented in their feedback forms how much they liked meeting different candidates from different areas with the same interest.

Saturday morning continued from the Friday afternoon with a programme of presentations and discussions covering a wide range of areas.

If you would like information of future educational courses, please visit the ICS website (www.icsoffice.org) and follow the links to MEETING AND COURSES.

ICS Education Course – Mumbai, India In Association With The Société Internationale D'Urologie

The next ICS Educational Course will be held in Mumbai, India on 16-18 November 2007 in conjunction with SIU, India Chapter. Ajay Singla from the ICS Education Committee will be coordinating this course.

This course will focus on all aspects of urinary incontinence, urodynamics, pelvic organ prolapse and overactive bladder. All urologists and urogynaecologists are invited to attend this informative workshop given by world-renowned experts in the field. Residents in training and nurses will be offered a reduced registration package.

Since details are still being finalised, please keep checking the website for information.

For further information, please contact Avicia Burchill avicia@icsoffice.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Mumbai is India's largest metro city and home to 13 million people.
- Mumbai is home to India's Hindi film and television industry known as Bollywood. The largest film industry in the world, Bollywood produces 1,000 films per year.
- India has an estimated population of 1.1 billion.
- The republic of India is the world's sixth largest country by geographical area and the second most densely populated country.
- India is a union of twenty-eight states and seven federally-governed union territories
- There are 22 national languages recognised by the Constitution but 844 different dialects are practised throughout the country.
- Sushruta is regarded as the father of surgery. Over 2,600 years ago Sushruta and his followers conducted complex surgeries such as cataract, artificial limbs, caesareans, fractures, urinary stones, plastic surgery and neurosurgery.

According to Mark Twain: *"India is the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of human speech, the mother of history, the grandmother of legend, and the great grand mother of tradition. Our most valuable and most instructive materials in the history of man are treasured up in India only."*

For more information go to: <http://india.gov.in/myindia/facts.php>, <http://en.wikipedia.org>

Review Of The ICS Educational Course - Thessaloniki, Greece

By Wendy Naish (Nurse Consultant- Urology/Continence)

I joined the ICS after the last Annual Meeting, which took place in New Zealand, but was delighted to discover that I could still attend educational meetings in other countries and found myself in Thessaloniki looking forward to the educational meeting that our Greek colleagues were hosting.

The first day's session started with investigation, namely urodynamics and Gordon Hosker covered the important aspects of urodynamic practice.

The sessions after coffee looked at ICI algorithms relating to patients with bladder problems and these were outlined in the following categories: women, men, elderly and neurogenic. The algorithms are a useful guide for clinicians to follow when considering diagnosis and treatment pathways.

The presentations were informative and covered the following: LUTS benefiting from a combination therapy, alpha blockers alone, 5 alpha reductase inhibitors or Transurethral Needle Ablation (TUNA) of the prostate. These presentations served as a reminder of the place of each therapy in the treatment of LUTS related to BPH and Bladder outlet obstruction.

The welcome reception followed the first day's presentations and this is always an idea opportunity to mingle with the speakers and ask them questions about their specialist subject. It is also time to meet new people in the field of continence and of course to catch up with old friends.

Day two included a packed agenda, covering topics such as which tape to use for Stress Urinary Incontinence (SUI), overactive bladder therapy, neurology and the roles of other health professionals, such as nurses and physiotherapists.

Identifying the role of other members of the multidisciplinary team in the management of urinary incontinence has been recognised and inviting both the nursing and physiotherapy disciplines to describe their role in this field took place after the first coffee break.

I thoroughly enjoyed the two days, but felt that there should be some additional mechanism that can quantify the learning that has taken place. Attending a conference is one thing, but measuring learning is another. It may be something the Educational Committee takes on board.



Get Involved In An Educational Course

Due to the continued success of the stand-alone Educational Courses, we are calling on ICS Members to become involved.

We are asking people to submit applications to host a course in their own country. The ICS plans to have at least two or three stand-alone Educational Courses per year in addition to the Annual Meeting. The ICS is especially interested in hosting these courses in underdeveloped/developing countries. The ICS office has developed an application form and guidelines and anyone who is interested can contact Avicia Burchill for this information.

In addition, we would like to increase our pool of speakers whom we can call upon to attend and speak at these meetings. If you are interested, please send your name and contact details together with your main specialist topics to Avicia Burchill.

ICS Educational courses are intended to be not-for-profit courses

aimed at young healthcare and allied professionals who may experience difficulty in obtaining funding to attend the ICS Annual Meeting. The course registration fee will be kept at a low cost to encourage attendance by those seeking to improve their knowledge specifically in the field of incontinence. All ICS Educational Courses are open to both ICS members and non-members. The format is usually to hold the course over one and half days and the programme covers ICS standardisation of terminology plus topics which are of interest to the local delegates. There is normally a mixture of international and local speakers and we try to ensure that the course is as multi-disciplinary as possible.

If you are interested in coordinating or speaking at a course, please contact Avicia Burchill, ICS Education Coordinator at avicia@icsoffice.org.

CONTINENCE WORLDWIDE: NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

The CPC was established in 1993 as an ICS committee to promote continence awareness throughout the world through its National Continence Organisation members (47 organisations in 33 countries). These organisations from the countries listed below can be accessed through the ICS CPC website at www.continenceworldwide.com.

Australia Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, China, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, United States.

CPC MISSION STATEMENT

CPC goals are to promote awareness through its National Organisations members, and to provide a forum to support the formation of individual public and patient-based organisations in interested countries.

CPC'S NEW INITIATIVE – PUBLIC FORUMS– THE FIRST AT ICS 2007 IN ROTTERDAM

The CPC announces a new initiative - hosting "Public Forums" - aimed at raising awareness and discussing subjects relevant to continence awareness. The idea of a Public Forum was introduced by CPC chair Diane Newman at the 2005 ICS CPC workshop in Montreal. She felt that an ICS CPC supported "Public Forum" would increase the ICS's profile with the public while assisting national organisations with patient advocacy programmes and providing the general public with information about urinary incontinence. The plan is to hold the first ICS-CPC sponsored Public Forum on 25 August 2007, immediately following ICS 2007.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD ITALY

The Federazione Italiana Incontinenti (FINCO), together with the Italian Ministry of Health, secured a directive from the President of Ministers Council that declared June 28th of every year to be "Open Hospital" Day, a national day for the prevention and cure of incontinence on which every hospital and clinic taking part is open for a free medical consultation for patients. FINCO has also collaborated with the Society of Urological Oncologists (SIURO) in focusing on this day to encourage men to be screened for prostate cancer.

POLAND

The Polish patient association UROSTO reports that "NTM – to Live a Normal Life Program" - a strategic partner for the association - published in 2006 "A Guide to Incontinence for Family Doctors," including a list of outlets where patients can have their orders for absorbent products confirmed by the provincial branches of the National Health Fund. It also lists clinics offering urodynamics testing nationwide. It has been distributed successfully to more than 7,000 family physicians across Poland.

FRANCE

Femmes Pour Toujours, the first consumer association of its kind in Europe for women over 40, continues its activities aimed at regionalising its outreach in France through organised delegations. It places a strong emphasis on disease prevention. It has recently developed a "Collectif de Partenaires" aimed at assembling medical experts with patient representatives and industry partners around specific health pathologies. Its website receives over 30,000 visitors

a year. It also responds to over 1,500 telephone calls a month, offering anonymity to callers, Femmes Pour Toujours responds 24/7.

USA

The National Association for Continence (NAFC) has published another booklet in its series of disease specific publications, "Continence Care for People Living with Spinal Cord Injury." A PowerPoint summary is being posted on its website. Also recently completed is a brochure covering "Stress Urinary Incontinence in Men Following Prostate Cancer Surgery" and "Bedwetting in Older Children/ Nocturnal Enuresis in Adults."

The Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates (SUNA) Board of Directors convened a task force to develop a Bladder Health Promotion community awareness programme.

Several SUNA members as well as representatives from NAFC and the Simon Foundation were led by Sue Lipsy to develop this programme. A PowerPoint presentation discussing bladder health, urinary tract infections, urinary incontinence and bladder cancer was developed. This presentation was launched at the SUNA Annual Conference in October 2006 in Kansas City, Missouri. Also included in this programme is a bladder health patient education fact sheet. This programme is available free of charge from the SUNA website at www.suna.org.

DENMARK

Since it was established in 1987 the Danish Continence Society has been committed to promoting understanding of incontinence among patients and the general public. Through public meetings, its magazine KontinensNyt ("News about Incontinence"), a range of literature available through general

FROM THE ICS CONTINENCE PROMOTION COMMITTEE

practitioners, pharmacies, libraries and other public places and a free hotline, the Society tackles the practical, medical and social implications of incontinence in men, women and children. In 2005 the Danish Continence Society set up a national telephone hotline – Inkontinenslinien - for persons seeking anonymous information on incontinence. Before its launch, 25 incontinence counsellors (urotherapist, physiotherapists and incontinence nurses) underwent training. Our intention was to establish a standardised background for counselling.

Data from all calls have been registered in a web-based database. Despite a limited budget, the number of contacts is constantly increasing and has doubled since the start.

INTERNATIONAL

International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (IFFGD). Many individuals who contact IFFGD face the prospect of life severely limited by bowel dysfunction or incontinence. Our goal is to empower our members with information about their condition and encourage them to be an active participant in their healthcare decisions.

Through our library of educational fact sheets and brochures, we offer overviews of treatment options, management strategies and practical advice for daily living. During the summer of 2007, we will make this information even more accessible with a new series called "Easy Read from IFFGD". The first two brochures of the series will soon be available by mail and online at www.aboutIncontinence.org. "Changes in Bowel Control at Childbirth" and "Bowel Incontinence

and Aging" assure readers they are not alone in their struggle with incontinence. Although IFFGD began as a resource for individuals affected by faecal incontinence, it soon became apparent that a larger community existed that desperately needed support. IFFGD has grown to address issues surrounding functional gastrointestinal disorders, bowel continence, gastrointestinal motility disorders, and paediatric GI conditions.

The International Painful Bladder Foundation (IPBF) is a voluntary organisation active worldwide, with a focus on painful bladder syndrome/interstitial cystitis and associated disorders. The IPBF is currently conducting an international survey among urologists and gynaecologists into the diagnosis and treatment of PBS/IC and economic/cultural influences per country (questionnaire can be downloaded from www.painful-bladder.org). Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

The World Federation of Incontinence Patients (WFIP), a growing primarily European-based patient advocacy group, aims to encourage every nation to establish its own organisation, protect the rights of patients, including choice and access to treatment, guaranteeing the harmonisation of healthcare standards, promoting awareness, prevention, rehabilitation programs, and integrated multi-disciplinary intervention and enhancing quality of life of persons with incontinence. Specifically within the European Commission, the WFIP is advocating that each national government provide a supply of quality personal care products for management needs, free access to prescription drugs,

access to physical rehabilitation, public health education for all ages, certification of all healthcare professionals and incentives and subsidies for more public toilets. It is engaging in discussions with the European Commission to promote improved product test methods, broader coverage/reimbursement for options to patients, and more consistent standards from country to country.

Recent activities from around the globe

- On the occasion of their 20th anniversary, the Urotherapeutic Society, Nordic held their annual conference 9-11 May 2007 in Nynäshamn, 60 km south of Stockholm, Sweden. An "Open House" for the general public in Nynäshamn was held during one evening together with Sinoba, an independent internet society for people with incontinence or bladder problems.
- On April 19-20, 2007 The Simon Foundation for Continence arranged a ground-breaking conference "*Innovating for Continence – the engineering challenge*". This aimed to stimulate fresh thinking on improving technologies for continence care. It was chaired by Dr Alan Cottenden, a world-renowned British engineer who has dedicated his career to the field of incontinence.

In future editions we will present more updates on activities around the globe as well as information about recent or forthcoming meetings.

David Fonda

COMMITTEE NEWS

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) was formed during ICS 2006 in New Zealand and was charged with the task of reviewing the ICS Articles of Association and Bylaws.

The Committee has focussed on the ICS Articles of Association and Bylaws relating to the structure of the ICS, terms of office for Committee Chairs and Trustees, the relationship with industry, transparency and disciplinary issues. The CRC has been looking at the language used to make the content more accessible to the international membership of the society.

The committee met in Padova, Italy in early June, and has suggested some recommendations to the Trustees and the Advisory Board for change which were made available to the membership for feedback. The Trustees will review the recommendations and develop a Special Resolution before the end

of July. With the required 21 days notice given to members, this will be presented for voting at the AGM in Rotterdam. You can still view them on the ICS website.

The recommendations discussed by the CRC after review by legal advisors will be circulated to the ICS membership and available on the ICS web site, before voting takes place at the ICS AGM in Rotterdam, August 24th 2007. As a Special Resolution from the Trustees/Advisory Board provided to members with the statutory 21 days notice for presentation to the AGM does not allow discussion or amendment, voting is for or against the entire Resolution as a whole. However ICS members will have the opportunity to ask questions on the Special Resolution and the reasons for suggested changes at an information session arranged by the CRC on Tuesday 21st August 1600-1900 in Rotterdam.

Constitutional Review Committee

Chairs

Ted Arnold & Guus Kramer

Members

Walter Artibani

Jacques Corcos

Michael Craggs

Michael Halaska

Paul Hilton

Gordon Hosker

Bernard Jacquetin

Gunnar Lose

Dianne Newman

Chris Payne

Werner Schaefer

Marijke Slieker-ten Hove

Anthony Stone

Lewis Wall

Osamu Yamaguchi

THE ICS & PELVIC FLOOR PHYSIOTHERAPY

Pelvic floor physiotherapists are represented in several committees within the ICS and form around 10 % of the total ICS membership. Physiotherapists can be found in the Advisory Board, Education Committee (EC), different scientific committees and the Continence Promotion Committee. Three physiotherapists were also actively involved in developing the Standardisation of Terminology on pelvic floor musculature. Our goal is to have a physiotherapist in every committee in the ICS.

In the Education Committee, the physio member is also chair of a sub-education committee (PhsEC) for physiotherapists. Several physiotherapists are active in this committee and come from



different countries worldwide. Every member of this committee plays an active role in education in his or her own country. In this committee our main assignment is to ensure that sufficient interesting subjects are provided in the field of education in the form of courses and workshops at every meeting.

ICS members can put forward proposals for workshops and we are particularly happy to see an increase in physiotherapists submitting workshop proposals. The EC organises the educational courses while the PhsEC is responsible for a physiotherapy educational course. However, the course is always focused on a multidisciplinary public. The course to be presented in Rotterdam will focus on the state-of-the-art in evaluation of pelvic floor musculature. Various members and non-education committee members will be presenting the different aspects of this area of diagnostics.

The Education Committee is also organising stand-alone courses, as already given for example in Barcelona, Sao Paulo and Abu Dhabi. An ICS physiotherapist was involved in the programme in all of these countries. We are happy to say that a number of physiotherapists

have already offered their time and effort for this type of ICS course in the future.

But this is by no means all: the international pelvic floor physiotherapists are active in more areas. Every year (this year for the 6th time) physiotherapists have organised a Round Table on the Sunday afternoon prior to the conference, where physiotherapy committee members and the Advisory Board representative (until this year Prof. Kari Bo) report on their activities. Exchanging experiences on different aspects of pelvic floor physiotherapy is always a feature of this Round Table. We hope to link up international physiotherapists, to start up research or to encourage them to participate in international multi-centre trials. At a big conference it is great to "meet and greet" and networking has proven to be particularly worthwhile.

Another area on which the PhsEC is focusing its attention is education in the field of pelvic physiotherapy. Due to the fact that the level of education differs so much per country, we are first working on linking different colleagues who are responsible for education and discussing the competence profile of a pelvic physiotherapist. A draft profile will soon be placed on the ICS website and colleagues from all over the world will be invited to comment. It will include a proposal for differentiating levels of education. This will help researchers from all over the world to explain exactly what has been done when pelvic floor muscle training is used in a study. In the meantime one of the members of the PhsEC is preparing a questionnaire to study the levels of pelvic floor physiotherapy education in the different countries which are members of the World Congress of Physical Therapy (WCPT).



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reported increased rates of neurological soft signs, delayed developmental milestones, poorer visuomotor and spatial perception and reading problems associated with bedwetting.

There is also evidence that children who soil have lower scores on some subtests of the Weschler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC) and for specific problems with reading, spelling and arithmetic.

The aim of the study was to investigate whether there are differences in the intellectual capacities of children with and without wetting and soiling problems. It found that children who wet the bed are characterised by reduced IQ scores on the WISC compared to controls, even when children with an IQ<70 are excluded.

Bedwetting was particularly associated with reduced Performance IQ and lower scores on the Performance subtests. Performance IQ reflects innate intellectual abilities and is largely influenced by neurological and biological factors. The evidence found in this study for differences in innate intellectual abilities between children with and without bedwetting supports the belief that nocturnal enuresis is a genetically determined maturational disorder of the CNS.

The findings are especially interesting because children with bedwetting show the most evidence for cognitive differences compared to controls.

When children with and without soiling or daytime wetting were compared there was less evidence for differences in

intellectual capacities. In daytime wetting and soiling the CNS is involved to a lesser extent, as influences from bladder and gut play a greater role.

ALSPAC will provide an overview of their research at ERIC's 5th International Conference Challenging for Change in Childhood Continence: Engaging, Educating, Empowering... at the University of York on 3rd & 4th October 2007. Contact www.eric.org.uk

In April 2007, ERIC was declared the overall winner of a GlaxoSmithKline IMPACT Award, in association with the King's Fund, to recognise excellence in community healthcare amongst small-to medium-sized UK charities.

Professor Eric Thomas, chair of ERIC's management committee, said:

"This is a huge achievement for Penny Dobson and all those who work with her to address an issue that blights so many lives but is not easy for people to talk about. I am proud to be associated with such an enthusiastic and effective team."

Penny Dobson, Director of ERIC, said:

"We are thrilled to be the overall winner, which brings into focus this hitherto neglected area of child health. It will also help ERIC to take important steps forward in its development."

ERIC

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Tel: 0117 9603060. Helpline: 0845 370 8008 (Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm). Email: info@eric.org.uk

Further information on the ALSPAC study is available on <http://www.alspac.bris.ac.uk>.

CONTINENCE FOUNDATION OF THE NETHERLANDS (CONTINENTIESTICHTING NEDERLAND)

In the Netherlands, about half a million people suffer from some form of urinary incontinence. Proper care for all these patients is possible only if sufficient funds can be allocated to this problem. The care for these patients is costly; the use of medications, diapers and incontinence pads and catheters plays an important role in this respect.

Despite the prevalence of urinary incontinence, relatively little research is being done to create new effective treatments and to improve existing ones. Scientific research is expensive, very expensive. In the Netherlands there are no foundations that specifically support research into the problem of incontinence. CSN was founded to change this.

A first goal of CSN was to facilitate bringing an important international congress, the annual meeting of the International Continence Society, to the Netherlands. During this congress, which takes place from 20 to 24 August in Congress center "de Doelen" in Rotterdam, national attention can be gained for the problem of urinary incontinence. CSN will then continue to financially support scientific research and to supply objective information to patients and caregivers.



Prof. Dr. Ruud Bosch, Chairman CSN

CONTINENCE IN POLAND

NTM - To Live A Normal Life

In Poland, for a long time incontinence was considered to be a social taboo. In 2002 a group of journalists, patients and doctors started the NTM project. NTM is an acronym for incontinence in Polish. The motto of the project is: "To Live a Normal Life". During the past four years, the originally small project led to the start of a large organisation founded by unrestricted grants from industry.

Working within the project is the patient organisation UroConti (previously UROSTO) which is an association for patients with lower urinary tract problems. Local branches of UroConti concentrate on promotion of pelvic floor gymnastics and educational activities realised by invited speakers. The project has its own journal NTM (published quarterly) and web page (www.ntm.pl), as well as a telephone helpline.

The NTM project started the first Polish billboard campaign informing the community about incontinence. The campaign was coordinated with press and media activities (over 800 papers published so far and over 90 television and radio programmes devoted to incontinence). All this activity resulted in unification of the pad market and attracted the interest of politicians. In 2005 the first meeting of The Polish Parliament Health Care Committee was held, devoted entirely to the problem of incontinence. Currently the main priorities of the project are the further development of the patient organisation, the campaign for reimbursement of anticholinergic drugs in Poland (at present not reimbursed at all) and the education of both doctors and patients (realised mainly via electronic newsletters).

Piotr Radziszewski

ICS NEWSBOARD

ICS ELECTIONS

Children's Committee Chair Wendy Bower
 Education Committee Chair Werner Schaefer
 Ethics Committee: Other Clare Fowler
 Ethics Committee: Geriatrician Mathias Pfisterer
 Ethics Committee: Gynaecologist Gunnar Lose
 ICS Treasurer Ajay Singla
 ICS/IUGA 2010 Chair Sender Herschorn & Harold Drutz
 Publication & Communication Committee Chair Jerzy Gajewski
 Scientific Committee: Allied Health Professional Kari Bo
 Scientific Committee: Clinical Representative Yasuhiko Igawa
 Standardisation Committee Chair Dirk de Ridder



International Continence Society
 38th Annual Meeting
 20 - 24 October, 2008, Cairo, Egypt



How to ... Register For the Annual Meeting

It's easy on the website

To register for the Annual Meeting, just follow these simple steps and remember, if you register early, you get a bigger discount on your registration fees.

- Step One:** Go to www.icsoffice.org and Click on MEETINGS AND COURSES link on the home page.
Step Two: Click on the option to ICS 2007.
Step Three: Then click on DELEGATE REGISTRATION.
Step Four: Select the balloon that suits you.
Step Five: Complete the on-line form and pay.

The registration is organised by Kenes International and payment must be received by 31st July to benefit from the on-line registration rate. Registration is available on-site in Rotterdam.

WEBCASTS

The ICS conducts a wide range of activities to ensure that its members stay current on the latest research and best practices in the field of urology. Webcasts offer the possibility of hearing and seeing scientific lectures with their synchronised slide presentations. Forty-eight hours after the actual sessions end, these webcasts are posted on the web allowing you to access these key sessions and presentations whenever and wherever you want.



Educational Course in Poland

March 2008

Full details will be available shortly.
 Check www.icsoffice.org for details.

ICS/IUGA 2010

TORONTO, CANADA

Chairs: Sender Herschorn
 and Harold Drutz

ICS News - calling for contributors

If you enjoy writing for an international readership and have something of special interest in the field of incontinence about which you might like to write for ICS News, please contact:
newsletter@icsoffice.org

If there is something you would like to read about in ICS News, please let us know.

CPC Public Forum in Rotterdam

The Continence Promotion Committee is launching the first Public Forum at ICS 2007 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Its aim is to raise continence awareness and continue its work to tackle the stigma attached to this sensitive subject. It will encourage local people to come along and have the opportunity to listen to the experts and become more informed.

DOCUMENT SEARCH ON THE WEBSITE

You can find all ICS documents on the ICS website in the documents section. Documents such as committee minutes, newsletters and ICS articles of association and bylaws are all available on this page.

You can define your search by category or author and you can choose to view most documents in either word or PDF format.

