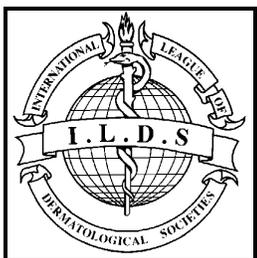


International League of Dermatological Societies

News from the International Committee of Dermatology

June 1999



*International
League of
Dermatological
Societies*

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Dermatology*

Has there been a recent change in your society officers? Please remember to send any changes to include names, mailing addresses, fax and e-mail numbers to the ILDS Secretariat, address listed on page 3.

ICD Task Force Reports

After months of deliberations via electronic communications, special task forces charged with the responsibility of looking to the future presented their reports during the March meeting of the International Committee of Dermatology (ICD). **The ICD urgently requests Member and Affiliated Member Societies to provide their opinions about the following recommendations. Before September 10, please write to the ICD at the ILDS Secretariat, 7045 So. Tamiami Trail, Suite 2B, Sarasota, FL 34231 USA, Fax: 1-941-927-1936.** Society comments will be reviewed at the October meeting of the ICD.

Frequency of World Congresses

There were persuasive arguments both for and against four-year and five-year intervals between World Congresses of Dermatology, but after considered review of the time required to garner resources and to establish the infrastructure, as well as a desire to avoid over-burdening program participants who receive no financial support, ICD members were in favor of maintaining the current five-year interval between congresses.

ICD Nominations Process

The recommended plan for the future includes the following basics: 1) Each Member and Affiliated Member Society would be asked to nominate two individuals from their own society and three from outside their society, and to submit a short CV for each person named; 2) from

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Foundation Update

The International Foundation for Dermatology is a non-profit organization whose principle mission is to improve dermatologic care in rural areas of developing countries. One modus operandi is the model Regional Dermatology Training Center (RDTC). By the end of the 1999 academic year, this center will have trained for Africa some 60 Allied Health Workers capable of organizing dermatology centers and advising governments and universities of their own countries. The center at first served Central, Eastern and Southern Africa but this year there are students from Ghana and Cameroon as well.

The center has seen its parent hospital, The Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center, become a College of the new Tumaini University of Tanzania and a second medical school. Within this University, the RDTC now offers training of dermatologists. This will provide much needed leadership and faculty for the enlarging role of the center as a trainer of Allied Health Work-

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the responses, the ICD would develop the formal slate (not to include anyone who had not been named by a society); and 3) there would be two Assembly of Delegates meetings during the WCD - one to vote on the next congress site and present the official slate of ICD nominations, and the second for the final vote on new ICD members.

Length of ICD Service

Although advantages were found in the current length of service, task force members agreed that a 15-year term for ICD members is quite long. The majority of ICD members preferred two five-year terms.

Retirement from the ICD

The recommendation is that due to the length of service, individuals must be under the age of 60 to be eligible as a candidate for service on the ICD. Additionally, because they serve at the request of the host WCD society, there should be no age limitation for WCD Officers serving as *ex-officio* members and, further, *ex-officio* members under the age of 65 may be nominated for one additional term as a regular ICD member.

Representation from Developing Regions

If there appears to be a need for representation from a particular region, one or more individuals can be co-opted to serve on the ICD on an ad-hoc, non-voting basis.

Requests from Developing Countries for Support

It was agreed to establish “Dermatologists Link”, a service branch of the ILDS, which will request and review proposals from dermatologists and departments of dermatology from developing countries. Dermatologists Link may be of help through providing small grants-in-aid for equipment, teaching materials, training grants, and facilitating attendance at courses and conferences. A maximum of \$5,000 per project will be available if support is approved. Further information was sent to selected societies in mid-April.

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ers, who often work without the support of
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a dermatologist, when they return to their own countries.

The center has received the accolade of the title of a ‘WHO Collaborating Center in Dermatology, STD and Leprosy’.

Leprosy in the Millennium

The field of leprosy must never be forgotten by dermatologists. When the prevalence is low and the disease smouldering in rural and periurban areas, early diagnosis depends on all health professionals recognizing disease in the skin and able to achieve appropriate referral.

At the World Congress of Leprosy in Beijing 1998, after comments by T J Ryan, the following was recommended: ‘Leprosy should also be included in the management of common skin diseases at the peripheral level for which collaboration with the dermatological service is needed, especially for training’. In richer countries, leprosy patients are referred to dermatologists. For poorer countries with a low endemicity, there will be a need to dismantle the vertical leprosy programmes and change to a policy of suspicion at the peripheral level and referral to a specialized level for diagnosis and management of complications. The private and traditional sectors must also be involved in referring suspects.

Since WHO believe that 85% of rural populations attend traditional healers for management of chronic disease, it is the policy of the RDTC in Tanzania to examine all ways to work with traditional healers to obtain early, appropriate management of all skin diseases. The health center then becomes a referral center working with the traditional system and able to refer to specialist centers who should be able to manage the purchase and effective delivery of essential drugs.

Following a special meeting of Leprosy Elimination Advisory Groups (LEAG) with potential partners at the WHO, Geneva, 12-13 April 1999, the recommendation included: ‘New and intensified partnerships must be forged globally, nationally and locally, in order to make the focused strategy as effective as possible, and with a view to actively promoting ownership. Partners should also be sought from other health disciplines and also from sectors other than health’.

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WCD Topic Suggestions Sought

The Program Committee for the 20th World Congress of Dermatology (Paris, July 1-5, 2002), will meet in October to discuss the subjects of sessions on Advances in Dermatology, Frontiers in Dermatology, Symposia, Workshops and Courses. Member and Affiliate Member Societies are urged to submit their topic suggestions before August 15, 1999 to the ILDS Secretariat, 7045 So. Tamiami Trail, Suite 2B, Sarasota, FL 34231 USA, Fax: 1-941-927-1936.

Professors Jean Revuz, 20th World Congress President, and Jean-Paul Ortonne, Secretary General, report that the Organizing Committee is making excellent progress in raising financial support to meet budget expectations. Interest in Sponsorship opportunities and exhibition stand reservations has been most gratifying.

Information about the congress is available from the 20th World Congress of Dermatology Secretariat, c/o SOCFI, 14, Rue Mandar F, 75002 Paris, France, Fax: 33 (01) 42 33 54 70, e-mail: socfi@socfi.fr.

Clinical Dermatology Update Raises Funds for RDTC

A special moment was observed during the recent ICD meeting when Professor Benvenuto Giannotti, chair of the Clinical Dermatology Update meeting in Florence, announced that over \$60,000 had been raised for the International Foundation of Dermatology's (IFD) Regional Dermatology Training Center in Moshi, Tanzania. The Update congress provided an outstanding program featuring experts from around the world in a series of symposia which focused on recent developments and clinical dermatological issues. The faculty included

ICD members who funded their own travel in order to maximize the fund-raising effort. Abstracts presentations, poster sessions, exhibits and an entertaining social program rounded out the successful event.

Societies interested in hosting future fund-raising meetings to benefit the RDTC should contact Professor Jose Mascaro, Fax: 34 93 227 5438.

ICD-10 Dermatology Application

In an effort to provide its members with useful information as early as possible, the ICD will make available to requesting societies a diskette copy of the *Application to Dermatology of ICD10*, prepared by Doctors Suzanne Alexander, Mervyn Elgart and Alan Shrank and copyrighted for the ILDS. The diskette contains files in both ASCII and WordPerfect-8 formats and can be used with any IBM-compatible computer. **Please note that the Dermatology Application is not approved for use in the USA.**

There is no charge to Member and Affiliate Member Societies who request a copy. Send requests to the ILDS Secretariat, address below.

Important Addresses

ILDS Secretariat

7045 So. Tamiami Trail, Suite 2B, Sarasota, FL 34231 USA
Fax: 1-941-927-1936 E-mail: mtgmgr@gte.net

ICD Officers

President: Stephen I. Katz, MD, PhD
Secretary-General: Takeji Nishikawa, MD
Treasurer: Robin Marks, MBBS

Use the ILDS address, fax and e-mail numbers of the **ILDS Secretariat** to communicate with the ICD officers.

IFD

Chairman: Professor Terence J. Ryan
Oxford Brookes University, Oxford Centre for Healthcare Research
44 London Road, Headington, Oxford OX3 7PD, UK
Fax: 44 1865 485 297 E-mail: jmwoodman@brooks.ac.uk

Secretary:

Professor Ramon Ruiz-Maldonado
National Institute of Pediatrics, Apartado Postal 101-16
Mexico 04530 D.F., Mexico
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Actions From the March 1999 ICD Meeting

The International Committee of Dermatology had the opportunity to meet during the Clinical Dermatology Update congress in Florence, Italy, March 4-7, 1999. (See related story on page 3). Committee actions included the following:

- Requested the Finance Committee to review the dues structure and assessment strategies.
- Agreed to develop an ILDS web site with links only to the IFD, the WCD and Member and Affiliated Member Societies. Societies will receive details as plans progress.
- Directed that a revised *Manual of the International League of Dermatological Societies* is to be completed by the end of July 1999.
- Approved the Associazione Italiana Dermatologi Ambulatoriali as a new national Member Society, and the European Dermatology Forum as an Affiliated Member Society.
- Agreed to make *ICD-10 Dermatology Application* available to requesting societies.
- Received reports from the Task Forces assigned to study key ILDS issues. (See story on page 1.)

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IFD Need for Funding

The International Foundation for Dermatology requires funding for its successful activities. It is gratifying that dermatologists and their societies are increasingly supportive.

The British Association of Dermatologists, the Japanese Dermatological Association and the American Academy of Dermatology have led such support over several years. This year, thanks to the initiative of Professor Benvenuto Giannotti in organizing Clinical Dermatology Update, several Italian societies (Associazione Dermatologi Ospedalieri Italiani, Associazione Italiana Dermatologi Ambulatoriali, Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze, Fondo Amici della Dermatologia dell’Azienda Ospedaliera, Società Italiana Dermatologi e Venereologia, Centro Veneziano Dermatologia Psicosomatica di Venezia and the meeting itself) have contributed the magnificent sum of \$51,000. At the same meeting in Florence, the Nordic Dermatology Association provided \$10,000 and the Hellenic Dermatologic Association \$1,000.

A request for support of scholarships for the students at the RDTC at \$4,700 per annum for two years has been forwarded to members of the ILDS.

Future Program

The International Foundation for Dermatology was founded in 1987. It has always sought advice from all members of the ILDS about its future program. A paper recently circulated to the Board of the IFD covering suggested task forces will be discussed in Paris in October.

It can be obtained from the Chairman of the IFD, Professor T J Ryan, Oxford Brookes University, OCHRAD, 44 London Road, Headington, OXFORD OX3 7PD, UK, (e-mail: jmwoodman@brookes.ac.uk).

Any suggestions concerning the future activities of the IFD will be welcome.

Please Share ICD, ILDS, and IFD News with Your Members

Keeping Member Societies advised of ICD happenings has always been a challenge - and informing the individual dermatologists who are members of each society would be quite impossible without your help. We urge you to copy any or all of the information contained in this newsletter and share it with your membership. It is important to us that information reaches as large an audience as possible. We will very much appreciate your assistance in this endeavor.