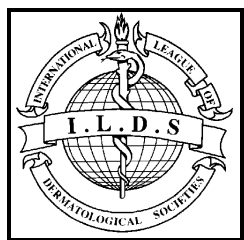


# International League of Dermatological Societies

## News from the International Committee of Dermatology

October 1998



**International League  
of Dermatological  
Societies**

**News from the  
International  
Committee of**

### Message from the ILDS President and Secretary General

We would like to bring you up-to-date on some of the activities of the ILDS and the ICD. At our last meeting in February 1998, we elected Jean-Hilaire Saurat as an ad hoc member of the ICD. Prof. Saurat has been very helpful to the ICD in the past by representing us at various WHO meetings in Geneva. We are often asked to participate in various of the WHO meetings since we are a "nongovernmental organization" member of WHO. We have also asked Prof. Robin Marks to serve as our Treasurer for the ICD and IFD. The ILDS continues to show steady growth with a total membership of 117 members - 96 National Societies and 21 Affiliated (International) Societies.

Prompted by a letter from the British Association of Dermatologists, as well as by discussions of ICD members, we have initiated a review of many aspects of our ILDS/ICD methods of operation. Various subcommittees have been formed to address issues such

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### ILDS Conference "Clinical Dermatology Update" Planned for Florence

Professor Benvenuto Giannotti and the International Committee of Dermatology (ICD) will host an international meeting on clinical dermatology, "Clinical Dermatology Update", March 4 to 7, 1999, in Florence, Italy. The ICD has two major goals in organizing and sponsoring this meeting: to provide an outstanding program with participation by experts from around the world, and to provide a forum through which funds can be raised for

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### ICD Committees Appointed to Address Issues Raised by Member Societies

Subcommittees appointed by the ILDS President, Stephen I. Katz, MD, PhD, have spent the last several months reviewing the many aspects of a variety of concerns:

- Should the World Congress of Dermatology continue to be held every five years - or should the time interval be decreased to every three - four years?
- Is the length of time committee members serve on the ICD (15 years) too long? Should ICD members who announce professional retirement continue to serve on the committee?
- How can the ICD nomination process be improved?
- In what ways can the ICD include representation and assure participation by developing countries? How can we assure that there is worldwide access to ICD activities and resources?

Committees are in the process of preparing reports and recommendations for discussion at the next meeting of the ICD (March 5-6, 1999.)

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## WHO Model Prescribing Information Book Sent to ILDS Member Societies

A complimentary copy of "Model Prescribing Information: Drugs Used in Skin Diseases", published by the World Health Organization with the assistance and consultation by the ICD, is being mailed to Secretaries of Member and Affiliate Member Societies upon receipt of the 1997-2002 ILDS membership assessment. If your society has submitted the membership payment and addresses of current society officers, but has not received a copy of the book, please contact the ILDS Secretariat: (Fax: 1-941-927-1936; e-mail: mtgmgr@gte.net) as soon as possible.

Additional copies of the book may be ordered from WHO Publications Distribution and Sales, Order No. 1150450, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland (Fax: 41 22 791 48 57). The cost is US\$ 31.50 or Sw.fr. 35; in developing countries Sw. fr. 24.50.

## International Foundation of Dermatology Successful Programs Continue

Having completed its first decade of achievement, the IFD looks forward to the next few years of consolidation and development.

Africa was identified 10 years ago as the continent with the greatest needs. Twenty-five countries with a high prevalence of skin disease and sexually transmitted infections had no experts of the skin to advise Ministries of Health or universities about systems of management. The Regional Dermatology Training Center has added more than 50 experts to the English-speaking countries of Central, Eastern and Southern Africa. Some of these are now in very influential positions in their countries.

Such is the success of the program that the Regional Office (Africa) of the World Health Organization has recommended to the HQ in Geneva that the RDTC should be designated a Collaborating Center in the fields of dermatology, sexually transmitted infections and leprosy.

The IFD is now planning to examine the problems and solutions for the high prevalence of skin diseases and STD in the rural areas of Francophone West Africa. The thrust of the program is expected to be teaching nurses and family practitioners from rural Health Centers how to examine the skin and integrate management of skin dis-

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### Message from the ILDS President and Secretary General

as: 1) length of service on the ICD; 2) the nominations process; 3) inclusion of Third World representatives on the ICD; 4) time between World Congresses of Dermatology; and 5) retirement from the ICD. Some of these points are expanded upon in the accompanying article on page 1. Suffice it to say that there has been considerable e-mail communication among the ICD members. Each subcommittee will provide a report within the near future. These will be discussed at our next ICD meeting in March and will then be publicized for input by ILDS members. Also at our February meeting we appointed a committee to address the possibility of developing a "Dermatologists Link" program wherein the ICD can be more helpful to the developing world. We will discuss the committee's proposal and drafts in March 1999.

The ICD members have made a commitment to the forthcoming meeting in Florence, Italy ("Clinical dermatology Update", March 4-7, 1999. More about the meeting is discussed on page 1 of this newsletter). This meeting is meant to be a fund-raiser for the International Foundation of Dermatology Regional Dermatology Training Center in Moshe. Each of the ICD members will fund his/her own travel expenses to Florence, so that the organizers can make a commitment of at least \$50,000 to benefit the RDTC in Moshe. The meeting will be an exciting one providing considerable updated information and will cover a broad breadth of dermatology. We hope many of you will attend the meeting.

Finally, this newsletter is going to the Presidents and Secretaries of each of our ILDS member societies. We hope that each of you will share the news from the ICD with each of your members. Please feel free to extract any information from this newsletter that you feel your members would find helpful. Hopefully, in the future, we will be able to electronically transmit this newsletter to all of you.

Stephen I. Katz, President  
Takeji Nishikawa, Secretary-General

Publication of **The Directory of ILDS Member Societies** has been delayed, due to the Secretariat's inability to obtain from so many member societies the most recent information about their Society Officers. **Please see that the ILDS Secretariat (Fax: 1-941-927-1936) receives the names, postal and e-mail addresses and fax numbers for your society's President, Secretary and Treasurer, as soon as possible.**

## ILDS Membership Continues to Grow

The ILDS Secretary-General, Dr. Takeji Nishikawa, announced the approval of four new member societies: The Croatian Dermatological Society; the Dermatological Society, Jerusalem Center; the International Society for Skin Imaging, and the Latin American Society of Pediatric Dermatology. The membership of ILDS now includes 96 national societies and 21 international (Affiliate Member) societies.

## The Cochrane Collaboration

The Cochrane Collaboration is an international initiative concerned with randomized control trials and the collection of evidence based medicine. A Cochrane Skin group was registered in the UK in December 1997. The current Chairman is Hywal Williams and the Secretary is Kayode Adetugbo. The group has received financial support to appoint a coordinator and a part-time trials search coordinator. Systematic review of treatments in psoriasis and eczema are under way.

The group is "firmly pursuing and facilitating international involvement", especially in the USA, and will develop a web site.

A rationale for a prospective register of trials has been developed and collaboration with nurses and consumer groups is planned. Quality assessment tools and outcome measures in dermatology are considered generic for the Cochrane Skin Group. Information on the Cochrane Collaboration can be obtained from:

Cochrane Skin Group Coordinator  
 Fax: 44 115 970 9003  
 E-mail: Kayode.Adetugbo@nottingham.ac.uk

**Share ICD News with Your Society Members**  
 Societies are urged to copy any or all of the information contained in this newsletter for distribution to members.

## Marks Named ILDS Treasurer

As a result of recommendations made at the first meeting of the new ICD in Sydney (June 1997), an ad hoc committee was charged with reviewing the financial structure of the ILDS. The committee's report was presented to the ICD in February 1998 and approval was given to:

- (1) centralize funds in the U.S. with Dermatology Services Incorporated (a subsidiary of the American Academy of Dermatology) to serve as the finance office.
- (2) pursue an exemption from paying taxes as a not-for-profit agency.
- (3) exercise more formal financial controls.

When the new 1997-2002 ICD Officers were named, the position of Treasurer remained open until the financial review was completed. Upon acceptance of the report, the ICD unanimously agreed to name Robin Marks, MBBS, Professor of Dermatology at St. Vincent's Hospital in Fitzroy, Victoria, Australia, as the ICD Treasurer.

## 19th WCD Funds Support New Education Foundation

Dr. Robin Marks, who served as the President of the 19th World Congress of Dermatology (June 1997, Sydney), reports that the organization has now completed all the mopping up operations and finalized the accounts before officially closing off the affairs of the Congress. The Proceedings have been completed and are due out in the very near future. They will be a very attractive record of current thinking in dermatology at the end of the 20th Century. After making the appropriate payment of dues from the Congress to the ILDS, there was a surplus after all the accounts had been paid. This has been incorporated into a new Australian Dermatology Research and Education Foundation. A set of guidelines has been established on use of these funds to support participation in future World Congresses, as well as being a resource for support of education and research programs in dermatology. This is a first for Australian Dermatology.

*Important  
Addresses for  
you attention*

## **Important Addresses**

### **ILDS Secretariat**

ILDS  
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 above, 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: ryan@ermine.oxford.ac.uk

*Secretary:*  
Professor Ramon Ruiz-Maldonado  
National Institute of Pediatrics  
Apartado Postal 101-16  
Mexico 04530 D.F., Mexico

Fax: 52 5 606 63 65  
E-mail: rrm37@sedet.com.mx

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eases into **Successful Programs Continue**

general health services as well as with traditional medicine. A site visit hosted by WHO is planned and a report will be presented for decision-making next year.

Funding for these projects is a challenge. The IFD seeks scholarships for students (\$4,700 per annum for the two-year program in Tanzania) and salaries for Course Directors which will be needed. The generosity of several national and international societies accounts for the success of the program to date. All Societies will receive letters and documents describing the achievement and the needs that have yet to be met.

The Chairman (Professor Terence J. Ryan) and Secretary (Professor Ramon Ruiz-Maldonado) of the IFD welcome advice from ILDS members. They would be interested to receive protocols which facilitate rural health care for consideration on the future agenda of the IFD. Their postal and e-mail addresses and fax numbers

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### **“Clinical Update”**

the Regional Dermatology Training Center in Moishi, Tanzania. The conference will focus on recent developments in, and contemporary approaches to, current clinical dermatological issues.

Program details, registration and accommodations forms may be obtained from the conference Secretariat:

C.S.S.  
Viale G. Mazzini 70  
50132 Florence, Italy

Tel: 39-055-248.02.02  
Fax: 39-055-248.02.46  
E-mail: css@mega.it