

Neurogastro News

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Founded 1982

A Letter from the President

It is my pleasure to inform you that the European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility (ESNM) and your national motility group have recently reached an agreement so you have become a member of the ESNM automatically. Membership rules and fees are organised through your national society. As an immediate benefit you are entitled to an on-line subscription of Neurogastroenterology and Motility, the official journal of the European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility. You are also entitled to a reduced rate for print subscription to the journal, for a reduced registration fee to scientific and educational meetings of the ESNM, and other benefits. We hope you will enjoy being a member of our society, and are looking forward to our next general assembly meeting in Lucern 2008 (see below). Sincerely, F.Azpiroz

Societies under the Umbrella of the ESNM: (January 2007)

- British Society of Gastroenterology, Section on Neurogastroenterology (95 members)
- Dutch Society of Gastroenterology, Motility Section (220 members)
- French Club of Neurogastroenterology and Digestive Motility (150 members)
- German Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility (150 members)
- Italian Group for the Study of Gastrointestinal Motility (150 members)
- Portuguese Nucleus of Gastrointestinal Motility (20 members)
- Romanian Society of Neurogastroenterology (25 members)
- Scandinavian Association for Gastrointestinal Motility (80 members)
- Spanish Digestive Motility Group (150 members)

Collaboration with the AMS, FBG, and IMG

In an attempt to pool resources and unite efforts, the *European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility* and its sister societies have successfully implemented the organisation of one annual joint scientific motility meeting co-sponsored by all societies in the field (*European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility, American Motility Society, Functional Brain-Gut Research Group, International Group for the Study of Gastrointestinal Motility*) as the sole forum for scientific presentation from 2008 onwards. The format of these meetings was tested in Boston 2006, the next will be held in Lucern, Switzerland in 2008 (see below). The societies are currently testing the grounds for new forms of collaboration, including joint sponsorship attempts in times of scarce money, and training and teaching activities for newcomers in the field. As is well known to most of you, all four societies are also represented in the management committee of the Blackwell journal *Neurogastroenterology and Motility*, which is the official journal of the ESNM, AMS and FBG.

The ESNM Meeting 2008 in Lucern

In early November 2008, Lucern in Switzerland will host the second truly international ("all societies") meeting in the field of neurogastroenterology and gastrointestinal motility, jointly co-sponsored by the *ESNM*, the *AMS*, the *FBG* and the *IGM*. The format of the meeting that was successfully tested in Boston in 2006, will include a day with workshops (Wednesday) and three days of sciences (Thursday to Saturday) with symposia on hot topics in neurogastroenterology, both basic and clinical, young investigator fora, poster sessions, and state-of-the-art lectures by leading experts in the field. Chairmen of the program committee that has been formed by the four sponsoring societies, and president of the meeting will be Professor *Michael Fried*, head of the Department of Gastroenterology at Zürich University Hospitals, supported by a world-class board of neurogastroenterologic experts from around the world. Members of the sponsoring societies are entitled to a

(to be cont. on page 2)



cont. from page 1:

The ESNM Meeting 2008 in Lucern

reduced registration fee and other benefits. Procedures for registration will be released soon - **but: mark your calenders now !!!** as we expect 800 or more participants.

Our journal: Neurogastroenterology and Motility

Exciting news about our *Journal Neurogastroenterology and Motility*: a consistent increase in Impact Factor over the last years reaching 2.56 in 2005 and **expected to be around 3.5 for 2006 !!!**

The journal that is the official publication organ of the ESNM, the AMS and the FBG (and in the future also of the IMG) has gained highest reputation for publishing seminal clinical and basic observations of high quality and impact in the field. The new Editorial Team of Jan Tack (clinical Neurogastroenterology), Keith Sharkey (basic Neurogastroenterology) and the Reviews Editor Joe Szurszewski will continue to move the journal to the highest levels. This is also reflected by some noteworthy statistics: the average time from submission to first decision is 3.7 weeks, 8 week from acceptance of a manuscript to on-line publication, the acceptance rate is about 28 % at the moment.

M.S.

Hot Topics in Neurogastroenterology

Under the auspices of the European Society of Neurogastroenterology and Motility (ESNM), the Sahlgrenska University Hospital in Göteborg, Sweden will organize a symposium on "Hot Topics in Neurogastroenterology" on August 30 and 31, 2007. This event, that has found surprisingly strong support from the industry (AstraZeneca, Novartis, Solvay Pharma, Abbot, and Alimenta Diagnostics) and that was put together by Magnus Simren, member of the Steering Committee of the ESNM, will resemble both local and national experts from our Scandinavian sister organisation, the Scandinavian Association for Gastrointestinal Motility, as well as speakers from the ESNM membership. Symposia are planned on the topics *Inflammation and functional gastrointestinal disorders*, *Mechanisms behind symptoms in patients with functional gastrointestinal disorders*, *Gastroesophageal reflux and functional oesophageal disorders*, and *Management of patients with severe motility disorders*. Costs for participation will be 1000 SEK (or: 110 €). Further information can be requested from the the local organizer of the meeting, Magnus Simren (magnus.simren@medicine.gu.se). Registration will last until August 15, 2007. So: **Get ready to spend your summer vacation in Sweden, and visit to Göteborg in late August !!!**

This could be SPACE for YOUR announcement

If you are organising a meeting or course, and would like to announce this to a greater audience such as the membership of the ESNM, you may use this space or more by sending your text to the editor of the newsletter, paul.enck@uni-tuebingen.de. We will of course also publish announcements of positions open, and search for positions from personally known individuals.

Next Issue (June 2007): We will start a series on profiles of national neurogastro societies, will give you some more details on the 2008 Lucern joints ESNM, AMS, FBG and IMG meeting, on the hands-on course, and more

A first-ever event: ESNM hands-on course

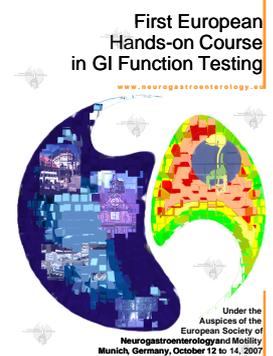
With the ESNM and its sister organisations (AMS, FBG, IMG) moving into one common scientific meeting per year, hands and brains (and purses) are freed to think about alternative educational activities, and a hands-on course of GI function was on our wish-list for very long.

This fall, the wish comes through: Munich will see the **First Hands-on Course in GI Function Testing, dated October 12th to 14th, 2007** (Friday to Sunday), one week after the Oktoberfest has ended. While many would prefer to have an excuse to travel to Munich during the Oktoberfest, accomodation and participation certainly will be much easier this way.

Venue site will be the University Hospital Munich-Grosshadern at the southwestern city border, but well connected to the city (airport, main train station) by public transport. A limited number of 250 seats are available for the seminar and will be booked on a first-come basis; a restricted number of 15 participants for each of the 8 hands-on groups will be accepted, and two series of courses will take place each afternoon; hence, each registrant can only book one hands-

on course. Details will be given well in advance, and via the new website (www.neurogastroenterology.eu). Registration fee will be 250 € for the seminar and 50 € for one hands-on course for members of the ESNM, while non-members will pay an additional 50 €. Informations on local hotels will be provided via the website, but travel and hotel booking will not be organized. Munich is an attractive city even without the Oktoberfest, and early hotel registration is advised.

Mark your calenders, registration starts March 2007 !



British Society of Gastroenterology Workshop

(Jointly under the auspices of: Neurogastroenterology & Motility Section GI Physiology Associates Group)

Assessment of gut biomechanical properties: relevance to gut function in health and disease.

Friday 22nd June, 2007, John Ellis Lecture Theatre, Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, London

The aim of this workshop is to highlight the physiological and clinical importance of acquiring biomechanical data, and to contextualise how such information contributes to our understanding of the pathophysiological mechanisms underlying functional gastrointestinal disorders. A 'live link' barostat demonstration will be included, focussing on practical aspects of study design, and the interactive involvement of delegates is to be encouraged. For details contact Ms Jacqueline Harbour at Queen Mary University of London: <j.s.harbour@qmul.ac.uk or +4402073777606>