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Contents

The International Foundation for Dermatology

- The Community Programme for Common Skin Diseases in Mali

23rd World Congress of Dermatology – Vancouver 2015

- Make a date with us in 2015

Members' Corner

- Cosmetology Dermatology Society (India)
- Chinese Society of Dermatology
- Philippine Dermatological Society

ILDS Certificate of Appreciation

- Professor Tran Hau Khang
- Report on Vietnam from Professor Hee Chul Eun
- Dr. Rosemarie Moser
- Professor Angelika Stary

The International Foundation for Dermatology

The Community Program for Common Skin Diseases in Mali

The International Foundation for Dermatology – The Community Program for Common Skin Diseases in Mali

In most resource poor countries skin disease remains a common problem but it often receives scant support amongst national health agendas and is therefore heartening to see examples of individual initiatives that have made a difference in this context.

One of these is a nationwide program to improve the lot of patients with skin disease in Mali. It was developed and planned by Antoine Mahe from France and Ousmane Faye, a Malian dermatologist, who has been the project co-ordinator and now leader of the programme. As background information Mali is one of the poorest countries with a population of 14 million living in a region covering 1'240'190 km². There is only one referral centre for skin diseases (Institut Marchoux) and 12 dermatologists most of whom work in the capital, Bamako. This original medical training centre in Bamako was an institute whose principle focus was the elimination of leprosy but with declining case numbers of this disease a group of Malian dermatologists decided to develop a national programme to address the problem of poor care for the many patients attending clinics through the country with skin disease. They chose to address the problem through a nationwide education and training system aimed at front line health care workers, who are mainly general medical practitioners and nurses.



A doctor in a Health Centre in Mali

The work started in 2001 with a comprehensive epidemiological study to identify the common problems. This was followed by the development and piloting of a simple algorithm, the first of its kind to help health care workers to identify and treat the commonest skin diseases, focusing on infections such as pyoderma, scabies, superficial mycoses and eczema; because the recognition of new cases now depends on front line health workers the algorithm also included the diagnosis of leprosy. This project attracted the strong support of the Ministry of Health and was financed by the International Foundation for Dermatology (IFD), which also provided methodological help, as well as the Fondation Pierre Fabre and the French, Swiss, and Canadian national dermatology associations.



Dr Faye with course attendees in a teaching session.

In order to train health care workers in the use of the algorithm a national programme of one-day training sessions was provided as a result of which, after evaluation of the education provided, the proportion of patients who benefited from a clear diagnosis associated with appropriate treatment had increased from 42% (before training) to 81% (after training) (Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2005;83: 935–943) with a 25% reduction in prescription costs. In addition, the program's impact on the diagnosis of leprosy was very promising in terms of improvement of disease detection (Lepr Rev 2007;78:11–6). Five dermatologists are currently involved in the project. Training sessions generally involve about 25 to 35 participants and, two to three weeks are needed to perform 9 to 10 sessions for about 400–500 health care workers. Four dermatologists assist the Coordinator by helping to facilitate the training sessions. The head of Department of Dermatology at the University is the internal project supervisor.

To date the programme has trained 2'187 health care providers from 5 of 9 health regions in Mali. This represents nearly 375 doctors, 1'330 nurses and 252 midwives and 230 others belonging to more than 700 primary health care centres. As a result in every primary health centre in Mali, there is now at least one health worker trained in the management of common skin diseases.

A secondary effect of the work has been to increase awareness of skin disease, and patients whose diagnoses are uncertain to the newly trained health care workers are regularly referred to the Dermatology Department in Bamako for management. In addition in 2008 the team established a dermatology residency program to remedy, in the longer term, the shortage of skin disease specialists. This is a four-year study program that will grant each graduating doctor the title of dermatologist. There are currently 18 residents in training.

In addition, in order to ensure that all new graduates, trained in the management of common skin diseases by the end of their study, the algorithmic approach for management of common skin disorders was incorporated into the national undergraduate curricula for both doctors and nurses as part of the learning objectives.

The dermatology initiative will continue, and now Dr Faye and his colleagues are turning their attention to the best means of training health care workers in the recognition diseases that present with signs in the skin and which have potentially serious consequences such as toxic epidermal necrolysis and bullous auto-immune diseases, mycetoma, generalised inflammatory skin disorders and HIV-related skin disease.



23rd World Congress of Dermatology – Vancouver 2015

Make a date with us in 2015

You can now set your calendars for Monday, June 8 to Saturday, June 13, 2015 for the next World Congress of Dermatology in Vancouver. This will be the first WCD to be held in North America since the 18th WCD in New York City in 1992. The 23rd WCD will be the biggest dermatological meeting ever to be held in Canada and all of our colleagues are eager to welcome you in less than 4 years.

Our WCD dates have been carefully selected to minimize conflicts with major international, cultural, and religious holidays, as well as other global dermatology meetings. Vancouver is at its finest between June to August in terms of weather, and it'll be warm and pleasant while you're enjoying everything our special part of the world has to offer. You really don't have any excuse not to come to the 23rd WCD.

Vancouver is Canada's third largest city and is situated on its west coast, serving as a major North

American gateway to the Pacific. More than half of Vancouver's population can speak a language other than English, and this rich multicultural diversity is reflected in the faces you'll see and the different foods you'll be able to eat.

The 23rd WCD Organizing Committee is pleased to announce Simply Eventful Management Inc. as the official professional organizing team for the WCD. Simply Eventful has worked tirelessly with our Canadian bidding team since 2007 to position Vancouver for success, and were with us every step of the way. We are very confident that the ILDS and dermatologists will appreciate Simply Eventful's personalized style of hospitality and superlative organization.



Planning for the scientific program has gotten underway under the capable leadership of Professors Jean Bolognia (USA), Wolfram Sterry (Germany), and Georg Stingl (Austria). The ILDS has invited all international societies to recommend speakers, moderators, and topics for the Vancouver Congress with a special emphasis on rising stars in dermatology. These nominations should be forwarded to the ILDS as soon possible (admin@ilds.org) for consideration by the Scientific Committee. Many of you have already shared your suggestions with us, and we've forwarded these directly to Jean Bolognia.



We had the pleasure of meeting many of the delegates attending the EADV in Lisbon at our WCD exhibit booth. Prof. Picoto and his team did a wonderful job and we are grateful to the EADV for a great social and scientific program. The next stop for our WCD roadshow will be the AAD meeting in March 2012. Please come and share your ideas with us at our exhibit in San Diego.

Jerry Shapiro, President
Harvey Lui, Secretary General

23rd World Congress of Dermatology
www.derm2015.org



Members' Corner

Cosmetic Dermatology Society (India)

The Cosmetic Dermatology Society of India has been conducting successful annual conferences (CosdermIndia) for several years. The 15th annual CosdermIndia was held from September 29 to October 2, 2011 at The Grand Hyatt, Bambolim, Goa.

The faculty comprised a mix of many well known names enjoying international and national fame and upcoming dermatologists who imparted their knowledge based on impressive experience and interest in the field. Several practical sessions were conducted giving doctors 'hands on' training in techniques of administering botulinum toxin, fillers, microneedling, peels, dermatosurgery and clinical photography.

During the congress an insight was given into the various new technologies of body contouring, stem cells technology and other relatively novel topics. Delegates were made aware of the various salon procedures – skin and hair. Dr Andrew F. Alexis (USA) talked about the various differences in skin of colour and the abuse of skin lightening products. Dr Robert Schwartz (USA) gave an insight into Rosacea-diagnosis and management, a condition often missed in dark patients. The current trend of using antioxidants was advocated by Dr Karen Burke (USA). Dr Hassan Galadari (Dubai) imparted pearls in cosmetic dermatology and spoke about demystifying the concept of beauty, an interesting mix of science with humanities. Dr Rekha Sheth spoke on delaying the signs of aging. Several interactive panel discussions were conducted on the perennial favourite topics – Acne, Pigmentation, Hair issues, Antiaging, etc. This year also saw the introduction of a delectable banquet dinner with cocktails and a stunning daredevil live performance of a South African group of nimble-bodied gymnasts performing mind-boggling tricks, a real successful and enjoyable evening.

The next congress will be held from the 13th to 16th of September, 2012 in association with the European Society of Cosmetic and Aesthetic Dermatology (ESCAD) and will have the status of Cosmo-derm XIX, in Mumbai, India. This is an indication of CDSI's increasing international visibility which started with our membership of ILDS and the two sister society meetings we have conducted during the past two consecutive EADV meetings, namely in Gothenberg and Lisbon.



Chinese Society of Dermatology

The 3rd World Congress on Genodermatology National Convention Centre, Beijing. 12-14 June 2012

- Hotel: National Convention Centre Hotel
- Host: Chinese Society of Dermatology
- President: Xuejun Zhang (Anhui Medical University, Hefei, China)
- Co-organizers: Maurice van Steensel (Maastricht University Medical Center, Netherlands)
- Eli Sprecher (Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Israel)
- Xue Zhang (Peking Union Medical College, China)

Brief introduction:

The success of the second World Congress on Genodermatology in 2010 has convincingly shown that those who work in genetic skin disorders appreciate a focus for reflection. Modern biology is moving faster than ever before and this is nowhere more obvious than in modern genetics. Our ever-increasing insight in signaling pathways governing growth and development is starting to be translated into the clinic. So many changes need to be put into perspective if genodermatologists are to make the best use of them in research and clinical practice.

Encouraged by the enormous success and enthusiastic feedback from colleagues around the world, it has been decided to organize the Third World Congress on Genodermatology in the beautiful city of Beijing, China. The meeting will take place from June 12th to 14th, 2012 and this time we will follow a more thematic approach in order to better organize the vast amount of information available to us.

Important dates:

1st April 2012 Deadline abstract submission
1st May 2012 Deadline for Registration

Call for abstracts:

The Scientific Committee would like to encourage authors to submit their abstracts. Please submit your abstract in one of these 10 categories:

- Complex genetic syndromes with cutaneous affection
- Blistering diseases
- Disorders of keratinization and cornification
- Disorders of hair, nails and teeth
- Metabolic diseases with cutaneous affection
- Methods
- Naevi and naevoid malformations
- Tumor disorders
- Vascular and lymphatic disorders
- Miscellaneous

Abstracts must be written and presented in English. All abstracts should be sent to the secretariat by email (csdnetad@gmail.com) before 1st April 2012, and should be well organized as title, authors, affiliations, keywords, and text (including purpose, methods, results and conclusion, not exceed 250 words). No references, tables, charts or drawings are allowed.

Abstracts can be submitted for:

- Oral presentation only
- Poster presentation only
- Oral or poster presentation

Secretariat:

Xianyong Yin (Anhui Medical University, Hefei, China)
Tel.: 86-551-5138576 (F)
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More Information available at
www.cmcsd.org/wcg2012.



Philippine Dermatological Society

Linkages, conventions and the regional conference of dermatology 2012

The Philippine Dermatological Society (PDS), in cooperation with the Women's Dermatologic Society (WDS), held its 35th PDS Annual Convention last May 19 and 20, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila in Quezon City, Philippines. The theme, 'Dermatology Focus: Woman and Child', was very relevant for the Philippine setting, women being the majority of dermatology patients in the clinics. The collaboration was a success with 931 attendees, mostly members of the PDS, and a delegation of 90 participants coming from India.

A total of 20 lectures were given by the nine WDS representatives consisting of Profs. Wilma Bergfeld, Jean Bologna, Suzanne Connolly, Marcia Ramos-Silva, Dedee Murrell, Suzanne Olbricht, George Reizner, and Drs. Christine Poblete-Lopez and Wendy Roberts; and accomplished Philippine lecturers, Drs. Evangeline Handog, Arnelfa Paliza, Emily Soriano and Agnes Thaeibtharm.

The convention was an enriching one, with a wide range of topics presented, from the controversy of in-office dispensing, childhood dermatoses, updates on acne, drugs in pregnancy, polycystic ovarian syndrome in dermatology, toxic erythema of chemotherapy, and skin malignancies in women, to the ever popular cosmetics subjects like topical skin rejuvenation and hand rejuvenation in the elderly.

This joint activity of the PDS and the WDS was truly memorable, highlighting the value of international cooperation and academic exchange.

In the same light, the Philippine Dermatological Society will host the 20th Regional Conference of Dermatology (Asian-Australasian) on February 20-23, 2012 with the theme 'Emerging Concepts and Paradigm Shifts in Dermatology'. This biennial conference is a meeting among dermatologists in the Asia-Pacific region, and counterparts from all over the world. It promises to be a lively forum for academic and clinical interchange of ideas and viewpoints on various topics in Medical Dermatology, Pediatric Dermatology, Lasers and Light, and Procedural Dermatology. Speakers from the US, Europe and Asia will be featured.

For more information, please visit the Regional Conference of Dermatology website at:
www.rcd2012.com

ILDS Certificate of Appreciation

Professor Tran Hau Khang
Report on Vietnam from Professor Hee Chul Eun

Certificate of Appreciation to Professor Tran Hau Khang

Professor Tran Hau Khang is the Director of the National Hospital of Dermatology and Venereology in Hanoi, Vietnam and also Chairman of Vietnamese Society of Dermatology. He is not only a leading dermatologist in Vietnam and also has contributed much to the regional development of dermatology. On December 16th, 2011 a Certificate of Appreciation of the ILDS was awarded to him at the Dermatological Scientific Meeting held in National Hospital of Dermatology and Venereology in Hanoi (see related photograph). It was a great pleasure to participate the ceremony and to perform this important mission on behalf of ILDS. Nearly 230 people were attended at the meeting and it was the first occasion that a Vietnamese dermatologist received this important award. Therefore, everyone congratulated Professor Khang sincerely at the ceremony.

During this occasion, I had a chance to communicate with several Vietnamese dermatologists and would like to briefly introduce about Vietnam as well as Vietnamese Society of Dermatology including the National Hospital of Dermatology and Venereology where Professor Khang works.



Professor Tran Hau Khang on the left with Professor Hee Chul Eun

General information about Vietnam

Vietnam is located in Southeast Asia, with a total area of approximately 331'210 km². It is bordered by China to the north, Laos to the northwest, Cambodia to the southwest, and the South China Sea – to the east. The land is mostly hilly and densely forested, with field covering no more than 20%. Geographically, it is composed of 3 regions: North, Centre and South. While Ha noi is the capital city and it is also the administrative center. Ho Chi Minh City (former Saigon) in the South is an economic center. The population is approximately 85.8 million in 2010, of which the Viet or Kinh ethnic groups occupy over 85% of the whole population

Historically, Vietnam has been an agricultural society with predominantly rice cultivation. However, thanks to the economic reform since 1986, private ownership has been encouraged by the government in industries and commercial sectors in addition to agricultural field. And several new industrial zones have been opened recently. The GDP in 1990s was achieved around 8% in annual average and it had been flourishing continuously at an annual rate of growth around 7% between 2000 and 2005, and 6.8% in 2010, which suggests that Vietnam is a nation with one of the world's fastest growing economies.

Medical training

There are 11 medical faculties or universities in all over Vietnam and about 4'000 new doctors are coming out per year. To be a dermatologist, doctors have to study at least one year for training in dermatology after 6 years under graduate medical education.

The Vietnamese Society of Dermatology

The Vietnamese Society of Dermatology was founded on the 6th September 1961 under the umbrella of Vietnam General Medical Association. Since 2009, the society has become formally a member of the ILDS with more than 600 members from 63 provinces throughout Vietnam.

Important Activities in Dermatology

There are several annual dermatological related activities as follows.

- Organizing the dermatological meetings every three months
- Annual scientific conference in dermatology
- Skin forum every two months
- Training course in dermatology for practitioners
- The Vietnamese Journal of Dermatology is published every 3 months and the active editor-in-chief is Professor Tran Hau Khang

The National Hospital of Dermatology and Venereology

From 1982 to 2009, The National Institute of Dermatology and Venereology has contributed much for the development of Dermatology in Vietnam and it was based on the Dermatological Department of Bach Mai Hospital. From 2009, the National Institute of Dermatology and Venereology renamed as the National Hospital of Dermatology and Venereology (NHDV)

Major Missions of the NHDV

The major missions of the NHDV are as follows.

- The NHDV is a dermatological referral center with 100 beds and approximately 1'000 dermatology out-patients visiting per day from Hanoi or even more remote areas of Vietnam. Out of a total of 210 medical staff 65 are dermatologists. Half of the dermatologists were trained abroad in countries such as Thailand, Japan, France and the USA.
- Research activities involving dermatology and venereology
- Training staff specialized in dermatology and venereology
- Health education on dermatology and venereology
- Technical guidance concerning the elimination of leprosy and sexually transmitted infections as well as the care of skin diseases in Vietnam.

Although it was a very short stay in Hanoi, I can sense that Vietnam is changing rapidly in a certain direction. It seems to be true that many Asian nations enthusiastically follow a similar track such as South Korea has pursued for the past 50 years: from a traditional agricultural society through a rapid industrialization and finally to a high-tech society. What ever the end result may be, it will be very exciting and also challenging not only to Vietnamese dermatologists but also to all the Vietnamese.

Hee Chul Eun, Professor
Department of Dermatology Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea
Board Member of the International League of Dermatological Societies

Dr Rosemarie Moser Professor Angelika Stary



Rosemarie Moser (2010) and Angelika Stary (2011) having been presented with their ILDS Certificates of Appreciation in Linz, Austria, November, 2011. The Certificates were presented by Klaus Wolff on behalf of the ILDS.

I. to r. Josef Auböck, President of the Austrian Society of Dermatology, Angelika Stary, Rosemarie Moser and Klaus Wolff.