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Second EADV International Spring Symposium
Budapest
29 April - 1 May 2004
www.eadvbudapest2004.com
info@eadvbudapest2004.com
Back to Malta We Go

Exactly two years ago, I visited Malta for the first time. I remember the occasion very well: as your new President, I chaired EADV’s first Spring Board meeting there in most pleasant and hospitable surroundings.

It was there that we launched our Vision and Mission statements and set important priorities for the future. We were aided in these tasks by two very talented specialists in the field of Management and Consultancy: Brad Claxton, with 25 years experience as Chief Executive of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), led the Planning Session whilst the European viewpoints were fed in by Robin Lokerman, Chief Executive of GIC Management based in Brussels. It was widely acclaimed by your Board to have been successful.

Sad, it was the last Board meeting attended by José Camarasa of Barcelona (a Founder member of EADV and recently appointed then as Congress President for Barcelona). I well remember José telling me how stimulating he found the session and he wisely pointed out: ‘Remember Martin, all this will still take some time to achieve.’ Sadly, José died tragically a few months later.

However, we are well on the way to achieving many of the objectives identified at that meeting, such as providing new products like the Symposia programme. Another priority was to increase participation from former Eastern European countries. I was delighted that in Prague, where the attendance topped 6,000, we were able to attract so many younger dermatovenerologists from former Eastern European countries. This was achieved by significant reduction in registration fees and offering more scholarships.

As always, there is more and more to do. Our Board of Directors will again meet in Malta prior to the Spring Symposium and outline more priorities.

I do wish you a profitable visit to Malta. After our work it is Carnival time and we do not have to travel as far as New Orleans or Rio de Janeiro to experience it!

Professor Martin M Black
Editor
My first editorial was entitled “Ensuring Continuity”. Some of you may remember that I was elected as President based on the motto “changing and continuity”. Indeed we are already changing. Changing implies that we have tools and targets.

The tools (some)
The new efficient and democratic governance of the EADV incorporates BEMs and AWGs. BEM stands for Business Executive Meeting which means that the many executive meetings that are necessary for the proper daily governance of EADV are now done through gathering the few Executive Committee (EC) officers involved in a particular task, as often as possible, through telephone conference calls; this saves time, travelling and money. Previous members of the EC would probably think “this is not new”; what is new, is that the process is now officially integrated and, in order to keep the executive process transparent, each BEM is minuted and submitted to the whole EC and then to the Board, in accordance with our Statutes.

AWG stands for Ad hoc Working Group. For each challenge we face, whether small or major, we need a fast, but efficient and democratic, answer. The Ad hoc Working Groups, composed of three Board members, are given a “commando-like” task to focus on a particular problem. Within a month, they should propose their solution to the EC and then attend the next EC meeting for direct discussion. This opens the EC to many Board members who thus become proactively involved in shaping decisions. Some other “tools” will be presented to you in the near future.

2003 targets and their current status
We have identified three targets for 2003.

Changing the Statutes
The situation resulting from the President-Elect election has been of great concern; changing the Statutes in order to ensure this never occurs again is a major target. The AWG (M. Hornstein, J. Houset, A. Rebora) has done a superb job and proposed modifications at the EC meeting on 25 January. These will be presented to the Board and Extraordinary General Meeting in Malta. Hopefully, we will soon have the new Statutes that we have needed for some time!

EADV Congresses
Reshaping the administrative and financial organisation of the EADV Congresses necessitates modifications to the contracts with Congress Presidents. The EADV central office can no longer be facto excluded from the organisation of our congresses. This target has been identified by many, as well as our consultants GIC Management. It is therefore my great pleasure to announce that we have now obtained amendments to the two contracts previously signed (Barcelona and Florence), which will immediately put this concept in to practice. This has been made possible through the open collaboration of Mario Lecha, President of the Barcelona Congress, who must be warmly congratulated for his help.

The Blérot project
You may remember this is a code-name; Blérot was the name of the architect of the EADV house in Brussels. The project implies better use of the EADV house potential through functional networking across Europe. This should allow proper management of all the activities of the EADV, including the EADV Congresses. With the help of the Finance Committee, we have installed a transparent process of accounting. The administrative staff is being reshaped so that the Academy makes the most of the skills and potential of current and future administrative officers. You will be told more in forthcoming issues of the EADV News.

Thus we are changing …

*One never knows what will happen if things are changed, but do we know what will happen if they are not changed?*

(Elias Canetti, The Human Province.)
Prof. Jean-Paul Ortonne, appointed as Editor of the JEADV in October 2002, reports on new initiatives and developments to take JEADV into its next decade of growth.

The Journal of the EADV is the showcase for our academy of medicine. It is one of the major reasons for the existence of our group, as is our annual Congress. Therefore, this is a great responsibility you have conferred upon me, and I am very honoured by it. This mission is even more important in the present context in Europe, dermatology having to defend its autonomy, indeed its very territory.

Above all, I am eager to extend great thanks to Torello Lotti and Derek Freedman who created our Journal and made it live for 10 years, allowing it to enter into the group of publications selected by the Index Medicus with an impact factor which places it within the top 20 dermatological journals.

This transition will bring about a significant change in our habits, but I am confident that together we will know how to manage this essential development in the best interests of the future development of our Journal. The immediate move from traditional postal submission to on-line submission alone is by far the best solution for avoiding a transitory phase where two types of submission would be accepted with the considerable risk of confusion and error.

New headings

Given the number of manuscripts which have already been accepted or are pending, an increase in the number of pages published yearly must rapidly be put into place to reduce the delay for actual publication. A very significant increase in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) papers is scheduled. Dr. Gregor Jemec (member of the Editorial Board and Scientific Committee) will be responsible for this heading. A list of titles has already been selected and we are counting upon you to take an active part.

Further thoughts concerning the setting up of new headings are underway but these will not be put into place until after the installation of the on-line manuscript and reviewing system. These new headings will involve close collaboration with the Scientific Committee of EADV.

We also hope to develop close interaction with other associations, notably the UEMS and the European Dermatology Forum (EDF).

I thank you again for entrusting me with this mission. Be assured that I will invest a lot of energy in these projects. Up until now I have put a lot of effort into the development of the EADV and I have the firm intention of continuing for the best of our Academy.

Jean-Paul Ortonne
Editor JEADV
A new feature of EADV News, Country Profile brings you up to date with the development, characteristics and pertinent issues of dermatology or venereology in a chosen country. To introduce the series, Prof. Fenella Wojnarowska, member of the EADV Membership Committee and member of the British Association of Dermatology (BAD), reviews dermatology in the UK.

The United Kingdom has been much influenced by its position as an island. The 20 miles /32 kilometres of sea (English Channel/La Manche) separating it from continental Europe have had a disproportionate effect on its history and also on dermatological practice.

British Dermatology: today

Dermatology in the United Kingdom differs very greatly in the organisation of the speciality compared to most other European countries. The number of dermatologists is very small, about 500 for a population of 60 million. This may partly reflect the fact that it is a monospeciality having separated from venereology in the middle of the last century. In addition, all dermatologists do at least 3 years of general medical training and must obtain Membership of the Royal College of Physicians (MRCP) by passing a written, oral and clinical examination in general medicine before being allowed to commence dermatology training. Dermatology training is now completed in 4 years, although in the past this took up to 6 years. Certification as a dermatologist (the Certification of Completion of Speciality Training - CCST), to allow unsupervised practice and inclusion on the specialist register, is based on completing supervised approved training and there is no exit exam. The membership of the speciality has changed over the years from mostly male to over half of the trainees (registrars) being female. Women are still under represented in university and academic posts, but this is changing.

All dermatologists have a hospital appointment, which may be honorary if they hold an academic university post. The hospital appointments are all funded by the NHS (National Health Service), which is government funded from taxation. It is very rare for a dermatologist to have only a private office-based practice. The patients are all referred, either by their general (family) practitioner or rarely by another hospital specialist, so that some preliminary screening has taken place.

The combination of fair, often Celtic skin, our colonial past and more recently a love of sunshine (Mediterranean holidays) means that management of skin cancers dominates our practice. Hence the practice of dermatology surgery is rapidly expanding, despite our physician based training. Many registrars/trainees go abroad, usually to the USA, for additional surgical training.

Vulval dermatology was pioneered by Elizabeth Hunt (1876-1977) and Marjorie Ridley (1926-2000), and is a rapidly growing dermatological sub-speciality in the UK. This is partially because of the increased number of women dermatologists, as women with vulval problems prefer to see a female doctor and there are many more in dermatology than in gynaecology.

The small number of dermatologists has lead to the inclusion of dermatology nurses in many aspects of patient care. In many centres there are nurse led treatment and follow-up clinics, and nurses performing biopsies, curettage, cryotherapy, laser and other surgical procedures.
The patient support groups are playing an increasing role in providing patient information, pressurising the government for more resources for dermatology and funding research.

**British Dermatology: the past**

Dermatology in the United Kingdom was initiated by a surgeon Daniel Turner (1667-1740) at the beginning of the 18th century with the publication of a book in English on Skin Disease in 1712. The development of dermatology was taken forward by the physician Robert Willan (1757-1812) whose classification of skin diseases was translated into German in 1798. For many years surgeons continued to provide much of the dermatology care. In the 20th century dermatology began to evolve to a form recognisable to us today. Some of the major influences came from John Ingram (1899-1972), who built up a large department, strove for the separation of dermatology and venereology and emphasised that dermatology was a medical speciality. He laid the basis for all UK dermatologists to be trained first in internal medicine with the MRCP diploma. The practice of venereology in dermatology departments was gradually discontinued and abandoned by the 1980s.

Geoffrey Dowling (1891-1976) was one of the most influential and best-loved teachers of dermatology registrars. He inspired many of the senior British dermatologists, although my cohort never had the opportunity to meet him. His informal teaching sessions developed into the Dowling Club, a vital and popular club for the registrars that mixes education with networking and socialising, in the UK and overseas. The Dowling Club has visited many European countries and resulted in many friendships with European colleagues.

The British Journal of Dermatology, founded in 1888 by Malcolm Morris (1847-1924) and Henry Brooke (1854-1919), struggled to continue for many years due to financial difficulties and had to be saved by contributions from its readers and editors.

The British Association of Dermatologists was founded in 1921, with Archibald Gray (1880-1967) as the driving force behind it, and Malcolm Morris was its first President. Over the years, the society has seen much growth and more recently (1995) it purchased, refurbished and decorated, to its present style (see photos), the BAD house in central London.

Many of the early dermatology links with Europe were later superseded by close links with Britain’s former colonies, some of which (Australia and New Zealand) are still strong today.

**British Dermatology: the future**

British Dermatology is changing rapidly. The number of consultants is rapidly increasing, due to increasing patient demand. The number of trainees is too small to fill all the posts so dermatologists from Europe, who have had training in general internal medicine, and from former British colonies, who have similar training, are coming to work in the UK. Our dermatology is becoming more international.

In addition, with our involvement in the EADV and other European sub-speciality groups, the links with Europe are strengthening and there will be more clinical and research collaborations in the future. Furthermore, the EADV may be able to encourage research exchanges and exchanges for trainees in the future, so that we may all understand and appreciate the different approaches to dermatology.

EADV News would like to thank Prof. Fenella Wojnarowska for contributing this article. If you would like to share aspects of interest concerning dermatology in your country with other members of EADV, please contact the Editor c/o EADV House at office@eadv.be or fax: 00-32-2 650 0098.
Dermatology in Malta

On the occasion of EADV’s first symposium programme and the gathering of dermatologists from around the world in Malta, Symposium Chairman Joe Pace provides an overview of the history of dermatology in this small but fascinating Mediterranean island.

The practice of dermatology has a long-standing history in Malta as part of general medicine, rather than a specialty in its own right. It was not until the mid-1950’s that dermatology emerged as a stand-alone and recognised discipline. Previously there had been significant venereology content due mainly to the existence of a large military and naval presence. The practice and structure of medicine in Malta has been heavily influenced by the British and strong links still exist. Nevertheless, the specialty developed around the combined practice of dermatology rather than two separate specialties, as was the case in the United Kingdom (see page 4).

Early dermatologists

The emergence of dermatology in Malta in the 1940’s was led by Prof. Vincent Curmi who was succeeded by Prof. Ruzar Briffa, also a poet, who was active in the post war years. Following in his footsteps came Dr. Anton Agius Ferrante, a bachelor and great favourite with students who he treated regularly to traditional fenkata dinners after their examination. He conducted original research in leprosy treatment together with the German Leprosy association and this culminated in the first reported series of patients given multi-drug therapy. Finally, Dr John Agius, who was Malta’s first UK-trained dermatologist and who sadly passed away on the day he was notified of becoming Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh (FRCPE) in 1968.

Link with the UK

Malta is a small island and therefore a small group of dermatologists (nine in total) serves the population of 400,000. All have emerged into practice in Malta today via UK qualifications and training. In the early seventies, Dr. Joe Pace (Chairman of the 1st EADV Spring Symposium) underwent formal training after MRCP (see British Dermatology, page 4) with a Senior Registrar position, Dr. Albert Soler concurrently did the St John’s course and became MRCP, while later Dr. Dino Vella Briffa took a PhD and did research in photo-dermatology at St John’s.

In 1977 the medical dispute with the government of the day saw an exodus from Government and University service. Some stayed in private practice while Joe Pace became Consultant Dermatologist in Tabuk, Saudi Arabia. He returned to Malta and became first Head of the Dermatology Department in 1987 and then its first Chairman in 1999.

Malta Welcomes EADV Spring
Symposium

At that time, several bright young men and women were attracted to the changing dermatology scene and underwent training in the UK before returning to Malta to practice. Michael Boffa, Lawrence Scerri, Charlot Grech, Paul Gatt, Michael Camilleri, and Stephanie Lateo all took the MRCP to be followed by Susan Aquilina. Charlot, Michael and Lawrence did full Senior Registrar training and became accredited in the UK soon to take up consultant positions there. Paul Gatt studied dermato-pathology at Jefferson Medical College with Bernie Ackerman, while young Gozitan Michael Camilleri was recruited by the Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN., USA) where he remains to this day. Lawrence, Michael, and Paul were appointed Consultants in Malta in 1999. Eileen Borg took the Cardiff dermatology course and has since provided continuity and steriling service of both quality and quantity for a number of years in Malta, providing invaluable back up to all Consultants in the department.

Co-operation & developments

Dermatology in Malta has found its place as an area of exciting advances and is attracting the brightest of medical students to its folds. The co-operation with plastic surgeons, rheumatologists, oncologists, and pathologists has led to a service that offers excellent

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While in Malta: what to do and see

A short overview of places to eat and things to do and see, as recommended by the 1st EADV Spring Symposium hosts, Malta's dermatologists.

Restaurants near hotels

Spinola Bay: Bistrot Peppino’s, MeZe, La Dolce Vita, San Giuliano
Balluta Bay: Barracuda

Art Galleries

Several Maltese artists are offering a selection of paintings with a good part of their sell price being donated to the International Foundation of Dermatology (IFD)’s Regional Dermatology Training Centre in Moshi, Tanzania. Consider visiting their studios for quality oils or watercolours after viewing the exhibits at the Intercontinental Hotel.

Neolithic Malta

You will see much of medieval Malta with the magnificence of the buildings of the Knights of St John in Valletta, the Three cities, but do not miss the less well known but unique Neolithic Malta with Ggantia the oldest free standing Neolithic temple in the world, the recently renovated Hypogeum (one of the wonders of the world), and much more. Malta has the greatest concentration of Neolithic remains anywhere.

The Crafts Village

Visit the Crafts Village to see Malta lace being hand made on a loom and watch glass blowers at work. You can also choose beautiful pieces of hand made silver jewellery.

Thirsty?

Try Malta beers (careful, they are strong) and quality wines at one of the wineries (by appointment only). Finish off with a hearty snack of ripe tomatoes, Gozo cheeselets, olives and that ‘oh so delicious' Maltese bread still warm from the oven

In Valletta

Visit the National Museum with its prehistoric remains and remnants of animals that once roamed the land bridge that linked Malta to Europe and Africa.

Visit the War Museum and see the little planes that defied the might of the Luftwaffe in early World War II.

Visit Cordina’s Café on Republic Street Valletta and try the pastries and a cappuccino before going into the magnificent Malta and the Knights Action Exhibition on the other side of the square.

Gozo

Take time off and explore the island of Gozo, a different world where time stopped still. A small number of complimentary tickets for the Gozo ferry are available at the Registration desk.
The driving force behind the 1st EADV Spring Symposium

Coming from a small country and having travelled far and wide, Dr. Joe Pace is acutely aware of the great need for scientific cross fertilisation and has thus been delighted with the bridge core concept for the EADV Symposia. On the occasion of the first-ever EADV Symposium, EADV News profiles its Chairman.

Dr. Joe Pace entered the University of Malta Medical School in 1960 and qualified in 1967 having taken his finals one month after his 21st birthday. Specialisation in medicine started with a position in the diabetic department in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and later in the North Staff Hospital Centre where he became MRCP (UK). On the advice of his mentors Eric Donaldson and Roy Summerly, both astute physicians and superb dermatologists, Dr. Pace took up dermatology and was later appointed Senior Registrar at the Manchester Skin Hospital.

Having returned to Malta in 1977, Dr. Pace and many others went to Saudi Arabia after a serious medico-political problem occurred with the government of the day. Here he developed an interest in leishmaniasis and non-venereal syphilis. Research on the latter won him the Saudi Medical Journal Research Prize in 1982.

Returning home again, Dr. Pace became Head of the Dermatology Department of Malta, centred in the Boffa Hospital in 1987, and subsequently its founding Chairman. He was appointed Adjunct Clinical Professor of Dermatology at Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University Philadelphia and was also a Visiting Professor at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester.

Dr. Pace is the first President of the Maltese Association of Dermatology and Venereology (MADV) and also founded the Psoriasis Patients Association. In 1999, Dr. Pace became President of the Foundation of Medical Services that will effectively be directly responsible for much of Malta’s health care in the immediate future. He continues to lead the Dermatology Department at the University of Malta Medical School and will soon see this unit start an independent existence after the University authorities approved an MADV request for a separate Department from Medicine. Within the new Mater Dei Hospital, Dr. Pace hopes that Dermatology will develop its postgraduate aspect and become a regional force in postgraduate training.

An EADV member since the first Congress in Florence and attendee at every Congress since, Dr. Pace has been a Board member for 5 years and also sits on the JEADV Editorial Board. He is strongly supportive of measures that enhance the standing of the specialty and supports specialist registration and mandatory continuing education. Believing firmly that the standards of European dermatology should be offered and extended outside Europe’s natural borders without any feeling of superiority but as a duty, he has been the driving force behind the development and promotion of the 1st EADV Spring Symposium.

For the first ever EADV Symposium, the team from Malta has attempted to formulate a programme that achieves many ambitious objectives, of which the key features are highlighted below.

Update of quality

The programme is designed to serve as an update of quality to the practising dermatologist. The 1st Symposium has gained recognition by the AAD: nineteen Category 1 Credit Hours. It has also been attributed with the Seal of Quality of “Societa Iberoamericana de Informacion Cientifica”

Three major themes

The programme focuses on three major themes that include regional topics of both local and general interest. For example, a look at the programme and Faculty for the Plenary Session 2 on Sun Care & Skin Cancer suggests a high quality seminar with speakers among the very best available worldwide and of great importance to the region, that relies hugely on tourism. The other two themes are Inflammatory Dermatoses and Skin & Internal Disease.

It is Carnival time in Malta and we will celebrate with a great party on Saturday night 1 March.
International Spring Symposium
ic Highlights

Everyday clinical practice
A creative approach to both Workshops and Lunch meetings allows other areas of major interest and everyday clinical practice to be addressed, such as: vitiligo, live interactive surgical session, paediatric dermatology, dermatopathology, approach to sexual transmitted infections patients, paper acceptance and rejection in major journals, arthropod borne diseases, evidence based dermatology and more.

Expertise of Sister Societies
Full integration of Sister Societies that recognises and utilises their expertise has produced quality programming for general dermatologists. Topics covered include: paediatric dermatology, psycho-dermatology, clinical Mediterranean dermatology, clinical American dermatology, sexually transmitted diseases, allergy and auto-immunity.

Wide participation
A mix of speakers, of both local and international renown, and the encouragement of abstract submission, particularly from the region, has resulted in a programme of diverse and wide participation. Approximately two thirds of the abstracts, which total some 230, are from outside mainland Europe.

Small group interaction
One of the purposes of the EADV Symposia programme is to facilitate greater interaction amongst attendees. Great emphasis has been given to this, resulting in six Workshops and thirty Lunch meetings (15 each day, 30 in all, with complimentary lunch provided for participants).

Other health care professionals
From the outset, the Malta team has encouraged greater involvement from other health care professionals (nurses / pharmacists) that participate in skin care as well as patient support groups. These groups have been offered speaking rights in lunch session format as well as highly attractive registration fees (nurses € 60) allowing them to participate as health care professionals, rather than sight seers. They have responded magnificently and the Nursing Faculty includes persons from the UK, US, and South Africa.

Themed satellite sessions
Another new aspect of this first Symposium is to formulate satellite sessions around a theme to increase learning possibilities and attract industry by offering value and quality. Update on Biologicals is the theme for the 3 satellites.

Overall the Scientific Committee and Organising Committee have focused on delivering a meeting that provides a direct learning experience, reflects some of the pathology of the local region, widens the healthcare alliance against disease, opens up participation to a new audience and provides excellent value for money.

Grandmaster’s and now Presidential palace:
Opening Ceremony & Reception

St John’s Cathedral, where the Concert preceding the Opening Ceremony will take place
Association Méditerranéenne de Dermatologie (AMED)

AMED is one of the sister societies that supports EADV’s scholarship programme and is organising an afternoon session during the 1st EADV Spring Symposium.

Prof. Bernard Guillot, President of AMED, provides a short overview of the association.

AMED is a scientific society open to all dermatologists from Mediterranean countries. The aim of AMED is to promote collaboration between countries on any topic related to skin disease, especially in the fields of training and of basic and clinical research.

The official languages of AMED are English and French. The society is managed by a large Board comprising all members of the Executive Board, representatives designated by the dermatology societies who participate in AMED and of members elected by the General Assembly. The Executive board is made up of a total of nine members including the President (Prof. Guillot, France), Vice-President (Prof. Hussein, Syria), Past President (Prof. Gürer, Turkey), Secretary General (Prof. Giannotti, Italy) and Treasurer (Prof. Kamoun, Tunisia) each elected for 2 years. A Scientific Committee is responsible for promoting the scientific studies within the association. Its current President is Prof. Katsambas (Greece) who is also Chairman of the EADV Honours & Awards Committee.

Like Prof. Katsambas, many Mediterranean dermatologists are involved in both EADV and AMED. Collaboration between the two societies provides for increased joint initiatives and exchange of information. A recent example is the joint awards programme, whereby EADV provides a grant of €1,000 and complimentary registration to five young dermatologists from Mediterranean countries to profit from EADV’s annual congresses. AMED is responsible for operating the nomination and qualifying process on behalf of EADV. A similar programme (with a grant of €500) has just been extended to allow twenty trainee doctors, members of AMED, to attend EADV’s 1st Spring Symposium (see page 12).

AMED has already held three congresses. The first one in Tunisia, the second one in Italy and the third one in Turkey. The fourth congress will be organized in Montpellier (France), 24 - 26 June 2004. It will be an occasion for dermatologists from the Mediterranean area to exchange views and important research on crucial dermatological topics such as infections, tumours, allergy or wound healing for example.

The Maltese Association of Dermatology and Venereology (MADV)

On the occasion of the 1st EADV Spring Symposium in Malta, Dr. Joe Pace, President of MADV and Chairman of the Symposium, provides a brief profile of this young organisation.

The MADV was founded in 1994 with Dr. Joe Pace as its President, a position he still holds today as a result of re-election. Current Vice Presidents are Doctors Lawrence Scerri and Michael Boffa. Dr. George DePasquale has held the position of Treasurer since 1994.

In spite of its youth, or perhaps with the vitality of youth, MADV has proved a great defender of patients’ rights having been successful in obtaining free medication for patients with certain chronic skin problems and a reduction of import duty on sun blocks of SPF>15, so that they are considered medicinal rather than cosmetic products. The MADV has striven for the formation of a specialist register to safeguard the quality of dermatological care and endorses strongly the concept of compulsory continuing education. It participates actively in Melanoma Monday activities, AIDS related education and other fora related to the speciality.

As President, Dr. Pace holds a seat on the EADV Board (and has done so for the past five years) and the MADV made a successful bid for the first ever EADV International Spring Symposium.

The MADV looks to the future with confidence, boosted by the quality of its

CE.R.I.E.S Research Award

The CE.R.I.E.S (Centre de Recherches et d’Investigations Epidermiques et Sensorielles de CHANEL or The Epidermal and Sensory Research and Investigation Center of CHANEL) is calling for international applications for its 2003 Award for healthy skin research.

The CE.R.I.E.S. Research Award is an annual initiative whose purpose is to honour a researcher in dermatology with a proven track record in the field of fundamental or clinical research into the physiology or biology of healthy skin, and to help fund a future project.
Dermatology in Malta

quality with short waiting times and a fast track service for suspicious pigmented lesions. Clinical research is being carried out in increasing frequency and our dermatologists regularly participate actively in conferences abroad, especially those of EADV and AAD. A Psoriasis Association was founded some years ago with Joe Pace as its President while Michael Boffa chairs the more recently formed Eczema Patients Support group. Current interests include melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer, leishmaniasis, leprosy and quality of life issues.

Role of venereology

Venereology remained a Cinderella subspecialty in spite of Malta’s position that attracted sailors of all nations and now hosts 1.2 million tourists annually, with a small but worrying drug problem. It was only after supreme efforts by the dermatologists that consent was finally given to employ a venereologist and we were extremely fortunate to recruit a physician with wide experience in the British Armed forces. Dr. Philip Carabot has single-handedly built up a Venereology department and somehow also finds time to offer various public education initiatives.

The highest standards

Recently an external assessment of Malta’s Department of Dermatology at the Boffa Hospital was carried out by Dr Roger Allen of the University of Nottingham, and past President of the British Association of Dermatology (BAD), in an effort to streamline both treatment and teaching facilities and prepare ourselves as well as possible for Malta’s imminent entry to the European Union. We insist that our standards must be at least equal to the best in Europe, in spite of out limited size and resources. The very recent agreement by the University Senate to institute an independent academic Department of Dermatology, together with the forthcoming move to the state-of-the-art Mater Dei University Hospital in 2005, provide additional stimuli to bring and maintain our dermatology quality of care to the best level possible.

To help achieve this, and further develop and attain our vision of being a centre of excellence for the Mediterranean, we will also greatly benefit from arrangements made with strategic partners abroad. The public profile of the speciality remains high, although excessive attention to the cosmetic aspect could conceivably affect this in the future.
Members of the EADV
Honours & Awards Committee
Andreas Katsambas (GR) Chairman
Lucio Andreassi (I)
Frank Powell (IRL)
Johannes Ring (D)
Diane Roseeuw (B)
Kristian Thestrup-Pedersen (DK)

Prof. Andreas Katsambas, Chairman of the EADV Honours & Awards Committee, reports on new EADV Scholarships that facilitate the participation of young trainee dermatologists in the 1st EADV Spring Symposium.

In our continuing effort to benefit younger European dermatology colleagues, the Academy considered it worthwhile to extend the reach of the scholarship programme to include the Spring Symposium. Traditionally, grants and complimentary registration have been made available to enable young trainees to attend the EADV Annual Congresses. Now, additional scholarships have been added to facilitate participation in the first EADV Spring Symposium.

One of these, is the AMED scholarship which was initiated for the first time in 2002 and was aimed at supporting trainee doctors of Mediterranean countries who are members of the Mediterranean Dermatological Association (AMED), see page 10. Five young colleagues attended the 11th Congress in Prague as a result of these EADV grants of €1,000 per person and complimentary registration. Now, thanks to additional grants (€500 per trainee) from EADV, twenty successful applicants (who have been qualified by AMED) are able to attend the Spring Symposium in Malta.

Additionally, the Gerda Frentz Fellowship has also been extended to include the Spring Symposium. Through this programme, now in its third year, EADV also offers a €1,000 grant and complimentary attendance for successful applicants. The Fellowship has now been awarded to twelve young dermatologists who have been selected by CEEDVA to participate in Malta.

The customary scholarship meeting will take place during the Malta Spring Symposium on Saturday 1 March 2003 between 18:15 and 19:00. Here, each winner will receive their award whilst sharing this moment with other young colleagues and, at the same time, have the opportunity to meet with some of the EADV officers who will also be present.

Andreas Katsambas
Chairman
Scientific Committee Reviews Up-coming Programmes

Members of the EADV Scientific Committee
John Hawk (UK), Chairman, ESC
Gregor Jemec (DK), Vice-Chairman, ESC
Thomas Luger (D), Secretary, ESC
Lucio Andreassi (I), ESC
Michel de la Brassinne (B), ESC
Mario Lecha (E), Ex Officio, ESC
Torello Lotti (I), Ex Officio, ESC
Joe Pace (Malta), Ex Officio, ESC
Attilla Horvath (H), Ex Officio, ESC
Ove Back (S)
Ole Christensen (N)
Jose Diaz-Perez (E)
Anthony Egan (IRL)
Americo de Figueirido (P)
Pascal Joly (F)
Peter Steijlen (NL)
Alexandros Stratigos (GR)

The EADV Scientific Committee is tasked with ensuring that EADV produces scientific programmes of the highest quality and relevance. Below, Chairman John Hawk provides an overview of how the committee functions.

Scientific programmes of high interest and quality, along preferably with a local flavour, are essential to the continuing major success of EADV Annual Congresses, and to ensuring a similar outcome for the new and exciting EADV Spring Symposia. The EADV Executive Committee therefore set up, very early in its existence, a permanent and highly important Scientific Committee to ensure programme quality, variety and stability appropriate for its large and diverse EADV membership.

Structure
This committee comprises delegates chosen and replaced every three years (although eligible for re-appointment once) from each of the main EADV constituent countries. It currently comprises thirteen national representatives, along with two ex-officio EADV Executive members, some five or six further ex-officio members from each of the known future venues of EADV Annual Congresses and Spring Symposia, as well as a co-opted member with expertise in venereology when required.

Meetings
These representatives generally meet once a year at the Annual Congress to discuss their views on future EADV scientific programmes, develop and maintain a centrally held list of suitable speakers from each country, elect five members of the so-called Executive Scientific Committee (ESC) from amongst their number every three years, and discuss other matters of EADV scientific importance. The ESC on the other hand is the major force behind ensuring that EADV scientific programmes are suitable for their meetings. This group currently gathers during each Annual Congress and Spring Symposium as well as at each Annual Congress and Spring Symposium venue some fifteen to eighteen months prior to the meeting in question, to compile as far as possible that meeting’s programme. Thus, as soon as a meeting venue is selected by the EADV Board some two to three years beforehand, a Local Scientific Committee (LSC) for the meeting is appointed by that country’s organising body to develop an early provisional programme and then to organise a formal local meeting with the ESC.

Guidelines & oversight
To assist the local scientific committees, the ESC has compiled rules for the composition of scientific programmes and sponsored satellite symposia, as well as conference timetable guidelines and the above-mentioned list of suitable speakers, each with their suggested subjects. In addition, a list of programme topics is available from previous meetings as a further guide to each new programme. At the following special local ESC assembly, the preliminary programme in question is then planned in detail to near finality, followed by a conference centre site visit to confirm its suitability for the programme. The almost complete programme is ultimately refined by e-mail between the local scientific committee and ESC as required, or if necessary at subsequent Annual Congress and Spring Symposium ESC meetings.

Recent local ESC meetings have been in Barcelona, Spain, in March 2002, to plan the 2003 Barcelona Annual Congress, and in Budapest, Hungary, in December 2002, to plan the 2004 Spring Symposium. A visit to Florence is scheduled for April 2003 to determine the programme for the 2004 Congress.

We look forward to hearing from you!

John Hawk
Chairman

The Scientific Committee is at your disposal to help maintain the high quality of your scientific programmes, so please contact any of your national members or the Scientific Committee Chairman (c/o EADV House at office@eadv.be or fax: 00-32-2 650 0098) if you have any questions relating to your country, or if you feel you can suggest changes of advantage to the EADV membership as a whole.
Prof. Mario Lecha, President of the 12th EADV Congress in Barcelona, provides an insiders’ view of the theme and programme development.

For the 12th EADV Congress in Barcelona, the late Prof. José Gimémez-Camarasa† proposed the theme ‘Building a New Dermatology’, based on the fact that dermatology and venereology, like all medical specialities, should stay in line with the fast-moving scientific advances and developments of the 21st century.

Up to date & challenging

EADV is committed to continuous medical education and its primary goal is to provide dermatologists and venereologists from across Europe with the necessary tools to ensure that their knowledge is permanently up to date. The Local Organising Committee and the Local Scientific Committee of the 12th EADV Congress have kept this idea in mind, together with the vision of Prof. Giménez-Camara† (who sadly passed away a year ago), while designing a diverse and broad reaching programme, including all of the most challenging aspects of our speciality related to diagnosis, clinic and management of cutaneous diseases without forgetting research and its application to patient care.

All embracing

On the other hand, there is no doubt that dermatology and venereology is growing steadily. New sub-speciality societies, workgroups and taskforces have been founded and have produced useful results in specific fields. The EADV must aim to become their common frame and continue to house their meetings in the most productive way.

Continual growth

As we have seen over the years, EADV congresses grow from strength to strength. The only thing that is likely to hold back their development in the future is limitation of space or lack of time. Each year, we aspire to improving the programme and make the congress the most important dermatovenereology event in Europe.

The 12th EADV Congress in Barcelona is no exception. We will provide our members, and those of sister societies alike, with all the necessary ingredients for a profitable and innovative participation.

We look forward to welcoming all those who aspire to ‘Building a New Dermatology’, in Barcelona from 15 - 18 October!

Mario Lecha
Congress President

Important Dates

It’s not too late to submit your abstract! **Deadline for receipt - 30 March.**

If your abstract is accepted, you will be notified by 15 June.

**Register before 30 June** and benefit from early registration reductions.

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<tr>
<th>Before 30 June</th>
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<tr>
<td>EADV Members</td>
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Detailed information, on-line abstract submission and registration at:

Member in the News

New Editor for JEADV

At the OGM in Prague in October 2002, Prof. Jean-Paul Ortonne took over from Prof. Torrello Lotti and Dr. Derek Freedman as Editor of the JEADV.

Prof. Jean-Paul Ortonne’s medical education was taken at the University of Lyon and he graduated with an MD degree in 1974. Following a year and a half in internal medicine training, he took three years of Dermatology residency training at the University of Lyon (Department of Dermatology - Chairman: Prof. Thivolet). In 1975-1976, he worked as research fellow at the Department of Dermatology of Harvard Medical School (Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston-USA - Chairman: T.B. Fitzpatrick).

His academic career began at the University of Lyon, as an Assistant Professor of Dermatology in 1976. In 1978, he was appointed as “Chargé de Recherches” by INSERM (Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale), at the Research Laboratory of the Department of Dermatology-University of Lyon. Two years later, he was asked to take the responsibility of Chairman of the new Department of Dermatology of the University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis, and was appointed as Professor of Dermatology at this University. In 1982, he created the "Laboratoire de Recherches Dermatologiques" at the University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis, appointed in 1994 as an official Research Unit by INSERM, U 385 INSERM "Biologie et physiopathologie de la Peau". In collaboration with CIRD (Centre International de Recherche Dermatologique-Valbonne), he also created a Center of Clinical Pharmacology applied to Dermatology (CPCAD) in Nice, which is now a completely independent structure.

Prof. Ortonne's major medical interests are in the areas of melanin pigmentary disorders, mostly vitiligo and pigmentary genodermatoses. His major research interests include the biology of melanocytes and melanin pigmentary disorders, dermo-epidermal junction and clinical pharmacology in dermatology. Of these, he is best known for his work with vitiligo. His group described a new component of the epidermal basement membrane, initially called nicein (now known as Laminin-5), that is involved in the pathogenesis of Junctional Epidermolysis Bullosa (JEB).

He was a founder member of the French Society for Dermatological Research and was President of this organization in 1984 and 1985. He was simultaneously a member of the Board of Directors of the “Société Française de Dermatologie et de Vénéréologie” (President in 1996) and was President of EADV from October 1996 to 1998. He is now member of the International Committee of Dermatology. He organized the 7th Annual EADV Congress in Nice (October 1998) as Congress President and co-organized the 20th World Congress of Dermatology in Paris (July 2002) as Secretary General.

Prof. Ortonne is author or co-author of more than 400 clinical or research papers. He is author of a monograph “Vitiligo and other hypomelanoses of Hair and Skin” and is co-editor and co-author of the recent textbooks “The Pigmentary System and its Disorders” (1998) and “Mechanisms of Suntanning” (2002). He is also co-author of a monograph “Photodamaged Skin” (1999). Prof. Ortonne was co-editor of the Journal of Dermatological Treatment (1998-2002).

We are delighted to have the perspective, experience and knowledge of Prof. Jean-Paul Ortonne as the continuing driving force behind JEADV and wish him great success in his new position as its Editor.
Spring Symposium

Two years ago the EADV Board met in Malta to consider the possibility of holding a second Meeting each year. The Board was very conscious of the fact that there were already many educational events both in Europe and internationally, and did not want to add another similar type of Meeting to this list. They were also conscious that the successful formula of the EADV congresses was not simply going to be transplanted into producing a second EADV Congress. However, it was apparent that major congresses, held in large cities throughout Europe, were very expensive events for attendees from regional areas of Europe. Also, these congresses had evolved into major meetings with a strong international flavour and in many respects were similar to the American Academy of Dermatology Annual Meetings, held only in cities with major congress facilities. The need to hold smaller, regional, more closely interactive meetings was recognised.

The purpose of this was to hold a significant European dermato-venereology educational event in a part of Europe that might not have the capacity to host a major congress, which now attracts more than 6,000 participants. Thus the concept of the Spring Symposium was born, and we are here in Malta two years later to experience the fruits of our deliberation and the organisers’ hard work. As we can see from the programme there is a strong Southern European, Mediterranean and African influence on the programme which Joe Pace has integrated with the contributions from international attendees. We wish him every success in this major venture which was entrusted to Joe because of his recognised capabilities as an efficient organiser, his enthusiasm and capacity for hard work, and the splendid facilities of Malta. We wish him every success with this venture which will be repeated in 2004 in Budapest in Hungary.

We hope that these smaller, intimate, outreach symposia will give opportunities to dermatologists and trainees in regional areas of Europe to interact with their international colleagues, present their research and discuss dermato-venereology problems which pertain to their particular areas of Europe. If we are successful with these groundbreaking meetings we hope to repeat the formula in other venues throughout Europe.

A Website for the EADV

The establishment of a dynamic professional website is now recognised to be a basic requirement of most major associations or societies. The EADV website is undergoing a major review at the moment. We hope that in coming months we shall have our membership database on-line, to allow members to review their personal details and amend these as required. We also hope to facilitate payment of membership fees using an e-commerce facility which will be safe and secure. We intend to keep our members updated via the web on upcoming events within our Academy. There will also be the facility for educational material to be posted on the web and chat rooms can be established for societies with special interests, or dermatologists who wish to communicate on a particular subject, or seek advice in regard to clinical matters, drug therapy, or other information.

We will also establish a facility for registration of individuals who wish to attend Congresses or Symposia on our website. At present this is done in each country by the local Professional Congress Organiser. In future this will be done through the EADV House, increasing efficiency and ensuring continuity from one educational event to another. We will also develop the capability of all abstracts to be submitted online to the EADV House for these to be processed by an individual who will have special duties in this area.

In addition, we will have an EADV members only section which will be accessible to current EADV Members, an on-line version of EADV News and establish links to other sister societies. In the future on-line educational course modules and virtual congresses are a possibility!

New Statutes

As you know on 27 February at the Intercontinental Hotel in Malta there will be an Extraordinary General Meeting to review the statutes of the EADV. There are several reasons why the Statutes are up for review at this time. Firstly, our address within Luxemburg has changed and this has obliged us to initiate a change in our Statutes. Secondly, recent elections have highlighted the administrative difficulties and other problems which pertain to the mechanism of voting for President-Elect at the OGM. This includes the allowance (in our Statutes currently) on members to use proxy votes. On this issue, it was felt that it would be much more democratic to allow each member to cast his/her vote by mail. This way, members unable to attend the OGM would still be able to cast their votes personally, ensuring much more participation of the membership in the democratic events within our Academy. Other changes were required to include the new category of Affiliated Membership in our Statutes, clarify the election process of the Board of Directors and their term of Office and the composition of the Executive Committee.

The Statutes were sent to each member of the EADV together with the last EADV News, and the proposed changes were mailed separately. I hope you have had the opportunity to study these and I look forward to your contribution at the Extraordinary General Meeting.

Dr. Frank C. Powell
EADV Secretary-General
Important Reminders

12th EADV Congress

Abstract submission before 30 March 2003
Register before 30 June to benefit from early registration reductions
www.unicongress.com/eadv2003

Invitation to Members

All EADV members are invited to the:

EADV President’s Cocktail
at 19:00
Friday 21 March 2003
Golden Gate Salon B1
Hotel Marriott, San Francisco, USA
During the AAD Annual Meeting

Calendar of Events

> 2003

EADV Extraordinary OGM
Congress Centre, Malta
12:15
27 February 2003

AAD 61st Annual Meeting
San Francisco, USA
21 - 26 March 2003

2nd International Symposium on Molecular Diagnostics & Skin Gene Therapy hosted by Academy of Sciences, Dusseldorf
Dusseldorf, Germany
27 - 29 March 2003

10th International Congress of ESDaP
Brussels, Belgium
8 - 10 May 2003

3rd World Congress of International Academy of Cosmetic Dermatology (IACD)
Beijing, China
15 - 17 May 2003

SDS Annual Meeting
Glasgow, Scotland
6 - 7 June 2003

12th EADV Congress
Barcelona, Spain
15 - 18 October 2003

BSPD 18th Annual Symposium and AGM 2003
Dublin, Ireland
14 - 15 November 2003

> 2004

2nd EADV Spring Symposium
Budapest, Hungary
30 April - 1 May 2004

2004 ISD International Congress on Dermatology
Beijing, China,
19 - 22 May 2004

4th AMED Congress
Montpellier, France
24 - 26 June 2004

13th EADV Congress
Florence, Italy
17 - 21 November 2004

> 2005

14th EADV Congress
London, UK
12 - 15 October 2005
European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology

Barcelona 2003
BUILDING A NEW DERMATOLOGY

12th Congress

General Secretariat
unicongress

Scientific Secretariat
McCann-Erickson

15-18 October 2003

www.unicongress.com/eadv2003