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4th EADV Spring Symposium
Saariselkä, Lapland, Finland
February 9-12, 2006

Skin and Climate

Further information:
www.eadv.org/lapland2006
lapland2006@congres.fi
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EADV Office
Avenue General de Gaulle, 38
B-1090 Brussels
Belgium
Tel: +32-2-650 0090
Fax: +32-2-650 0098
E-mail: office@eadv.org

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Editorial

Integrating and Developing Dermatology

The European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology has a particular role in integrating and developing all aspects of dermatology.

Special interests may be integrating or divisive. Dermatology is an integrating special interest because we deal with the interface between the individual and the surroundings. Moreover it is completely legitimate for dermatologists to be interested in biology, psychology and sociology. Some dermatologists will want to study the specific biological mechanisms that underlie skin physiology and pathophysiology; others will have an interest in the many diverse environmental threats to the skin, and yet others in the psycho-social consequences of disease. Clinicians will develop special clinical areas of interest and expertise, to the advantage of patients and colleagues.

At the same time, the number of dermatologists is limited. It is a classical but small medical discipline, and each of us therefore has an obligation to contribute to the common development. In larger groups such as internal medicine, it may be more acceptable for some to provide routine services while others develop specialist fields because the total pool of physicians is so much larger than ours. If you are small you have to move your legs faster if you want to run with the big boys. We all need to be generalists to a greater or lesser extent.

In addition to professional and academic activity, every specialty needs a forum where the members can meet to discuss and develop. There are local forums, national forums and international forums of many kinds available. The European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology has grown over the years to become the leading European forum for continuous professional development; and is now developing further to keep pace with the many requirements of its members. Every member has the opportunity and obligation to participate in this development.

Together as individuals within the EADV we can ensure the advancement of dermatology to the benefit of patients and practitioners.

Gregor Jemec
Editor
Fenella Wojnarowska
Editor

Please send your suggestions, feedback and contributions for the attention of the Editors, EADV News c/o Kevin Saidler, Administrative Officer at the EADV Office via: kevin@eadv.org
Essential Changes
Some of the major aspects in this context are the possibility of allowing mail voting for the members and perhaps also electronic voting within the Board; the varying sites of our general meetings all over Europe do not allow an adequate representation of our whole Academy, even if we use “proxy” votes. The management of the proxy system has led to considerable problems in the past (remember the mass of people queuing up for hours before the general meeting at the Munich Congress!). Also, it does not seem practical that the Board has to meet physically for every single, and sometimes minor, decision to be taken during the life of our Academy. Many things could be organised in a cheaper and faster way by teleconferences or electronic voting.

The most important point, however, is the integration of all of Europe, which is very difficult with the existing Statutes. Keep in mind that within our old Statutes many European countries from the former “East” are not represented in the Board. That is the reason, among others, why the OGM in Florence gave us the task to change the Statutes.

During a three-day “strategic planning meeting on the future of EADV” prior to the Spring Symposium in Sofia, the Board decided unanimously:
1. that EADV should leave Luxemburg, and
2. that EADV should ask the Committee and our lawyer to find out and negotiate the best possible conditions in other countries, preferably Belgium or Switzerland.

I, as the EADV, as a modern society and pan-European platform, wants to take care of the needs of dermatologists in all countries and at all levels of work, be it in the office or at academia, in the hospital, in research or in health administration, it has become clear that the Statutes of our Academy have to be fundamentally renewed.

What was adequate and visionary in 1987 – and it is with a spirit of great respect and thankfulness that I am allowed to state this – seems no longer practical for today’s Academy comprising over 40 countries in Europe and maybe soon reaching 5,000 members within the next few years. That is why the Board and the OGM in Florence decided to give our past Secretary General Frank Powell the task to chair a Committee on Development and Statutes in order to prepare the way for new Statutes.

Many of you will remember that we have tried to change our Statutes in the past and failed to do so, precisely because of the old-fashioned “proxy” rules and very complicated Luxemburg traditions. What became clear to the Executive Committee and the whole Board during the past six months, as a result of the intensive work of this committee, is that as a first step EADV will have to move out of Luxemburg and choose a new “registered office” (“legal seat”) in a country allowing more modern statutes.

President's Perspective

Planning the Future of EADV
In parallel, different options for new Statutes, especially with regard to election procedures and representation of national dermatology communities will be developed and brought to the General Meeting. Many detailed aspects will have to be adapted to the laws of the respective country where we will move our legal seat.

It has to be made quite clear: this “legal seat” or “registered office” has nothing to do with the place of our daily activities which invariably is, and will be, our house in Brussels, where we will be more and more present and want to start lobby work at EU level.

It is also clear that the decision to move out of Luxemburg and into another country is not primarily a “tax” issue, but the motivation is the need for a more practical, less bureaucratic and efficient daily functioning of the Academy!

**Strategic planning (of the) “future of EADV”**

From Monday, 16 May to Thursday, 19 May 2005 the Board convened in Sofia, prior to our 3rd Spring Symposium, for this very intense meeting in order to work on several aspects important for the shape of EADV in the future; the development of new Statutes only being one item on the agenda. We split into three “working groups” on:

- Integration of all of Europe.
- Internal and external cooperation.
- Future activities.

In addition, several committees met and worked very hard coming up with a lot of exiting and new suggestions and proposals.

**Integration of all of Europe**

In order to allow an adequate representation of all countries within the geographically clearly defined borders of Europe (not by the political situation of the EU), we felt the strong wish that every country should have its delegates in a larger Council of National Delegates. It was suggested that those delegates should be elected by a vote from the EADV members within the respective country. There will also be a way to include national societies within the representation of EADV. It remains open as to how many delegates a single country may send, that is: how many EADV members there have to be in a country in order to be allowed to send two delegates? This will be a matter of discussion.

In my personal view, it is absolutely crucial that every country is somehow represented within an official body of this Academy! Naturally, such a Council of National Delegates will be more like a parliament than an executive body, just looking at the number probably ranging between 45 and 60 individuals. Therefore, the actual “Board” should be much smaller, it should consist of maybe 9 to 12 members, including the officers and members at large. It will have to be decided how these individuals shall be elected, either by the Council of National Delegates or by mail vote from the general membership (all members). There is still a lot of work to do; you will be adequately informed about all the possible options which will finally be presented to the membership to vote.

The Board was accompanied in this intense work by the chairmen of our major committees, the members of the Committee on Development and Statutes and three representatives from the new member states in Central Europe (Anna Gorkiewicz-Petkov, Poland; Sarolta Karpati, Hungary; Nicola Tsankow, Bulgaria).

**Internal/external cooperation**

It has become clear in our daily work that many things in our Academy move too slowly and are too complex, for example attracting new members and keeping our members (“membership renewal”). It should not be necessary to constantly “renew” our membership! Instead, we should just have to pay our annual fee and stay members until, at an OGM after several warnings, a member may be formally excluded if he or she has not paid over a certain amount of time. Of course, a member who has not paid will not get any privileges. At present, we are losing more than 500 members per year just due to the administrative rules connected with our present Statutes.

>>> Continued on page 4
Servicing the Dermatology Community

Task Forces
The existing committees of EADV are “structural” in nature (dealing with finances, science, membership, awards). The Board felt that we should allow many more colleagues within Europe and within all the sub-specialties of our discipline to become active in their fields of interest. Therefore, “tasks forces” were installed and are devoted to actual problems within our discipline. These task forces should be the natural partners to liaise with existing sub-specialty societies within Europe, to be platforms regarding possible position statements, to be partners of our PR Committee with regard to contact with journalists and finally make suggestions to the Scientific Committee regarding the programme of our congresses and symposia.

Furthermore, regarding external cooperation, it was welcomed as a first step that our task force “Cooperation EADV-AAD” has already been active. There will be more activities with respect to the international scene (ILDS) and also in the direction of Africa and Asia.

Future activities
Regarding the future activities, the newly started Fostering Dermatology Programme is at the centre of our work. With considerable speed, its committee has presented a very attractive programme which will already start in July 2005 with courses in Dermatopathology (in Gent, organised by Jean-Marie Naeyaert) and in Microbiology (in Vienna, organised by Erwin Tschachler), followed by a course on Bullous Disease (organised by Fenella Wojnarowska in London, prior to the Congress).

There will be more activities and you will be informed on a regular basis.

Johannes Ring
President
The Finnish Dermatological Society invites colleagues to the 4th EADV Spring Symposium, "Northern Lights" in Saariselkä, the main ski and congress centre in Finnish Lapland, located about two hundred kilometres north of the Polar Circle, in the middle of Europe's largest nature protection area.

Main theme
The main theme of the 4th EADV Spring Symposium will be Skin and Climate. It highlights the unique character of the Symposium venue, an example of how life can be safe and comfortable in the latitudes of a sub-arctic climate. Although normally cold, the weather conditions are stable and safe. The hotels and hotel-standard apartments are built according to arctic standards – to guarantee cosy temperatures. To avoid any concerns of cold weather, every delegate will be equipped with warm arctic clothing (clothing rental included in the registration fee).

Scientific programme
The scientific programme is adapted to the main theme covering topics from a more clinical viewpoint, but without compromising the science. The content of the scientific programme is planned according to the guidelines of EADV under the supervision of the Scientific Programming Committee. The Symposium is preceded by a one-day Fostering Dermatology course on Cryosurgery for 20 trainees, who will get free access to the Symposium as well.

Saariselkä, the symposium venue
Complete with its own international airport in Ivalo, busy local traffic and advanced telecommunications technology are characteristics of Saariselkä. To guarantee the most exotic experience, the Symposium will be held in February, with one metre of snow on the ground and one metre of ice on the lakes. It is the best time to enjoy the features of life in Lapland, especially the spectacular Northern Lights. The days of the Symposium are immediately before the start of the local high season, with lower pricing for accommodation and good availability and capacity of leisure activities as well.

Leisure programme
Saariselkä is an excellent place for cross-country skiing with hundreds of kilometres of tracks, many of them illuminated in dark hours. Reindeer, husky and snowmobile safaris are "a must". Also post-congress tours to St. Petersburg and Murmansk in Russia will be organised. We have reserved free time for leisure activities during the extended lunch breaks.

We hope that you will not miss this unique opportunity to enjoy the northernmost EADV Symposium and to experience the glowing northern lights!

Raimo Suhonen
President 4th EADV Spring Symposium

Important Information
We recommend early registration as well as early hotel and flight bookings to guarantee preferred choice of accommodation and better availability of flights to Ivalo Airport.

Exhibition bookings and registrations Ongoing
Deadline for abstract submission (for poster presentations) 15 September 2005
Deadline for reduced registration fees 15 October 2005
Dr. Jørgen Ronnevig, recently elected as representative of Norway to the EADV Board, provides a brief overview of the healthcare structure and practice of dermatology in Norway.

Healthcare system

In 1998, Norway spent 7.5% of its GDP on health care compared to the U.S. expenditure of 13.6% of its GDP. Norway has had a single-payer national health insurance system since 1966. The National Insurance Act guarantees citizens universal access to all forms of medical care. Norway’s health system is funded by progressive income tax, and from block grants from central government. Patients are responsible for co-paying some physician visits, approximately $20. Patients are also responsible for co-paying prescription drugs, up to $216 per year. Once that level of expense has been reached, prescription drugs are covered at 100%. All hospital care is covered at 100%.

Dermatology and science

In Norway dermatology is combined with venereology, as in the other Scandinavian countries, a tradition that dates back through the centuries. Dermatologists such as Armaur Hansen and Caesar Boeck are world-renowned due to their scientific contributions in Leprosy (Hansen’s disease) and in Boeck’s Sarcoidosis. For quite some years, however, dermatology has been outside the focus of scientific and technological development. Resources have been scarce whereas health care costs have increased in other fields of medicine. Norway has had a constant scarcity of all types of physicians for at least 25 years. A parallel lack of dermato-venerologists has been evident with a geographical distribution that has left major parts of the country with no, or very few, dermatologists. In 2004 there were 140 dermatologists in Norway, of which 70 worked in private practice and 28 in hospitals, with 17.3 dermatology beds per 1 million inhabitants.

Also, the academic positions outside the capital have struggled with vacancies as the recruitment to research has been very low for many years. The lack of interest in science is a major challenge in society. Financing and rewarding science is seen to be difficult in a country that is more pre-occupied by football players, ski-heroes and business tycoons than hard working scientists. Over the last decade, a number of skilled academics have left their academic university positions and gone to work in the more prosperous private practice in dermatology.

As there is no political agreement to increase health budgets we all have to meet the challenge of increased productivity and effectiveness where patients and diseases have become part of the product-line. However, the demand for dermatology service in society at-large is increasing due to many factors, such as: the increasing number of elderly with cancer, the increasing incidence of dermatological drug reactions and an increasing occurrence of eczema and allergic diseases.

Access to care

The system of the family doctor provides the entrance into dermatology care for Norwegian patients. Minor ailments will be cared for by the general practitioner and more complicated and serious cases referred to a practising dermatologist or to an outpatient clinic at one of the five university hospitals. A few major regional hospitals also have outpatients clinics although there are no dedicated dermatology beds within these hospitals. Admission to a university hospital is normally through a practising dermatologist but patients referred from general physicians also have access to both the outpatient clinic and the hospital beds.

Compared to the other Scandinavian countries, Norway is short of almost 50 dermatologists in order to fulfil the goal of one specialist per 40,000 inhabitants. Thus, for years vacant positions have been open to dermatologists from abroad. Mostly these have been Scandinavians working for shorter or longer periods with only a few settling permanently. The projections for the next 15 years seem to show an additional shortage of dermatologists within the next 5 years due to pension-leave by a major number of colleagues.

Training

It is a major task for the dermatological society in Norway to secure the training of an adequate number of dermatovenereologists. Most practising dermatologists work in a one-doctor office together with nurses and secretaries depending upon the size of the patient population and the range of services delivered by the dermatologist. The auxiliary personnel is well trained and is in charge of many procedures including UV-light treatment, baths, treatment of verrucas and leg ulcer, to mention a few.
The Norwegian dermatology nurses have their own association engaged in the development of competent care-givers. Also, other auxiliary personnel have their respective association with a similar goal.

The training of dermato-venereologists is carried out within university departments in a 4-year programme that may start after the 1.5 year internship has been accomplished. Six months of science in a dedicated programme and a further 6 months in other fields (e.g. internal medicine and rheumatology) account for an additional compulsory training in order to obtain a licence.

The Norwegian Dermatological Society was founded in Oslo in 1915. The annual meeting of the society in April includes the general assembly and a 1.5 day scientific programme. There will normally be 3 other meetings throughout the year mostly at the university hospital departments in Oslo.

Treatment

Laser treatments within dermatology have mainly been confined to the university departments in Norway. A few dermatologists offer laser treatment advertised towards the general public but the major initiative in this field seems to be outside the specialty organised by private investors in high-profile business-driven cosmetology clinics.

There are very few dermatologists within the field of cosmetology. This has not been a major issue in the training of dermatovenereologists. Also, traditional dermatology has been under-covered for years in Norway with reasonably good revenues for the practising dermatologist.

References:
A Day in the Life

To be a Norwegian Dermatologist

Dr. Tor Langeland, Norway, shares his experiences as a practising dermatologist in Norway.

After a pleasant ten-minute walk through the Garden of the Royal castle to my clinic in the centre of Oslo, I see the first patient at 8 o’clock in the morning. Each day I see about 20 patients. My work at the office is usually finished between 3 and 4 o’clock in the afternoon. I work four days a week at my office. On Fridays, I let a colleague - who is otherwise doing research work - use my office.

I run a one-doctor practice and have two secretaries to assist me. The earnings come from three different sources; the health authority, who pays a fixed monthly fee; the rest comes from an honorarium per patient, partly paid by the patient himself and partly by the social insurance system, which is public and mandatory in Norway.

The majority of private dermatologists in Norway work in this way. A typical Norwegian dermatologist will do dermatological surgery, light therapy (UVB), photodynamic therapy and allergy-testing. Cosmetic procedures will not be carried out within the public system.

Patients, who want to see a private dermatologist working on a contract with the health authority, have to be referred by another doctor, usually a GP, at least for their first visit. Patients suffering from chronic diseases, such as psoriasis and atopic dermatitis, may continue visiting me, as long as it is necessary.

Following most visits, a report has to be sent to the patient’s GP. A national intranet for health providers has been developed in Norway. Therefore, we are now able to send our reports electronically to the remitting doctor. The full effect of this “electronic highway” will become a reality in a year or two, when most health providers in Norway, hopefully, will have been connected.

Concerning research, my special interest is atopic dermatitis. Our clinic has participated in several studies within this field, specifically over the last few years in clinical trials with topical calcineurin-inhibitors.

Being a Norwegian dermatologist is for me a good life, providing me with interesting and challenging work. In general, living in Norway means easy access to unspoiled nature, both an exiting coastline and wonderful mountains, providing many attractive choices for spending spare time and relaxing from work.

Board members eligible for re-election

According to EADV’s electoral customs, standing Directors eligible for a further term of office will need to be proposed and seconded by two Ordinary members from their country and then be accepted by the Board and General Assembly. If other persons are validly nominated in similar fashion, a formal election will be carried out during the Ordinary General Meeting in October during the 14th EADV Congress in London. The following Directors are eligible for a further two-year term:

- Bourke, John (Ireland)
- Caputo, Ruggero (Italy)
- Claudel, Jean-Paul (France)
- de Rie, Menno (Netherlands)
- Fernandez Peñas, Pablo (Spain)
- Fritz, Klaus (Germany)
- Jemec, Gregor (Denmark)
- Joly, Pascal (France)
- Larkö, Olle (Sweden)
- Lug er, Thomas (Germany)
- Naeyaert, Jean-Marie (Belgium)
- Peserico, Andrea (Italy)
- Picoto, Antonio (Portugal)
- Scerri, Lawrence (Malta)
- Suhonen, Raimo (Finland)
- Tschachler, Erwin (Austria)
- Wojnarowska, Fenella (United Kingdom)
Board Elections 2005

**Board member non-eligible for re-election**

Where the standing Director is ineligible for a further term of office, nominations will need to be made on the same lines as above and a formal election carried out if more than one valid nomination is received. The following Director is not eligible for re-election:

- **Borradori, Luca (Switzerland)**

**Deadline for nominations: 31 August**

Nominations, using the EADV Proposal Form, must reach the EADV office in Brussels by 31 August. Note that only EADV members fully paid up by 31 August 2005 can be proposed, be proposers, and vote in the London General Meeting. Countries having over 100 members (Ordinary and Honorary) on 31 August 2005 will qualify for a second Board Director.

Joseph L. Pace  
Secretary General

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**EADV PROPOSAL FORM for BOARD MEMBERS**

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(NAME of candidate) (EADV membership number)

is proposed by................................................................. ................................................................. .................................................................  

(Member’s name and EADV membership number)

and seconded by................................................................. ................................................................. .................................................................  

(Member’s name and EADV membership number)

as Board Member to represent ................................................................. .................................................................  

(Country)

Signature of proposed Member ................................................................. .................................................................
```

Please enclose a 1 page CV of the proposed candidate. Send the completed Proposal Form, together with 1 page CV, to: Joseph L. Pace, MD, Secretary General, EADV House, 38 Avenue General de Gaulle, B-1050 Brussels, Belgium.

Fax: +32-2-650 0098, e-mail: office@eadv.org

To be received by: 31 August 2005
Many people were sceptical of the EADV Board’s decision to appoint Sofia as the host of the 3rd Spring Symposium. Furthermore, later most of the Board members admitted that only a few were aware of the reality in this country. The double meaning of “Balkan” was also stressful. Originally the Balkans was considered a dangerous crossing point of various cultures and lifestyles. But this is a part of Europe that bears the most outstanding features of its ancient history and is highly tolerant of different religions and traditions.

The meeting of cultures
The Bulgarian state was established in 681 and it is the only state of the early Middle Ages to retain its original name to the present day. Bulgaria was also the first, and for four centuries the only state, to decree by law (in the year 893) the language of the people to be the official written and spoken one in the Christian church. Throughout history all great cultures – Prehistoric, Thracian, Hellenic, Roman and Byzantine – helped to shape modern civilization in these lands. The archaeological findings confirm the high standards of medical service and curing art on the Bulgarian territory. The ruins of many medical spas and asclepians prove the importance and popularity of medical treatment of the population in these times.

Dermatology can be considered the forerunner of all medical sciences. This might be due to the availability and proximity of pathologic changes, making the skin accessible for early diagnosis in the past and scientific research now and in the future. Biblical references are one of the reasons that in ancient times the first diagnoses described were dermatological. Even in the Bible, God tested many sacred figures with skin afflictions and dermatological diseases. One typical example is the suffering of Job.

With the 3rd EADV Spring Symposium coming to fruition in May 2005, a new celebratory event for the scholarships ceremony also materialised.

For the first time, the customary ceremony took place as an afternoon cocktail event and proved very successful. So successful in fact, that we will consider adopting this new fashion for the bi-annual scholarship ceremony in future.

Formalities began with the Chairman, Andreas Katsambas welcoming everyone and introducing the EADV officers attending the event. Amongst them was the EADV Secretary General, Joseph Pace, who gave a small introduction and welcomed the attendees also; Awards Committee member Lucio Andreassi and EADV Treasurer-Elect Jon Hjaltalin Olafsson were present and assisted the Chairman in presenting and congratulating the winners with their awards.

It was good to see Raimo Suhonen, President of the 4th Spring Symposium in Finland in 2006, attend the meeting to get an early taste of what is to be expected next year. Additionally, AMED President, Bernard Guillot joined the celebrations and was warmly welcomed.

Having awarded the AMED scholarship recipients, the Chairman explained the origin of the Gerda Frentz Fellowship, named in memory of the late friend and colleague, and asked for one-minute's
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DERMATOLOGY

Recently Bulgarian dermatologists have published a proposal for the International Day of Dermatology. Curiously this day was appointed to be 19 May, which is celebrated by the Orthodox Church as Job’s day. The very same day, by a lucky coincidence, happened to be the first day of the 3rd Spring Symposium. Therefore, at the meeting of the History of Dermatology Society held on this date, a decision for recognition of 19 May as the International Day of Dermatology was taken. A special icon depicting “St. Job” was made by nuns in a monastery near Sofia. It was dedicated to the event and had the mission to protect and support all dermatologists and their patients worldwide.

SILENCE TO COMMENORATE GERDA FRENTZ

Perhaps it was the warm and friendly atmosphere, or the end of the day, when most can unwind and enjoy a glass or two of tasty fruit punch, nibbling on the variety of snacks whilst chatting with colleagues and creating new friendships. Nonetheless, it was indeed another pleasant afternoon, a successful celebration and evidently enjoyed by all present.

Andreas Katsambas
Chairman Honours & Awards Committee

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony took place in the great Hall 1 of the symposium venue and was attended by more than 2,000 people. The Symposium was opened by a welcome message from the President of the Republic of Bulgaria. Professor Ring cordially greeted the audience and expressed his deep respect to the local organizers and the EADV Board for the success of the meeting. He once again stressed that the exciting days in Sofia further showed the need of integration of all Europe and all dermatologists, from all countries and levels; from office, academy, research and health administration. “I wish us all to gain a little bit of the true silence to commemorate Gerda Frentz before continuing with these presentations.

Last but certainly not least, it was a pleasure and an honour to welcome the EADV President Johannes Ring, who managed to come at the right time and was greeted with a loud applause. Photos and more photos were taken, the cocktail buffet opened and it was time to relax. Everyone mingled and laughter could be heard from various corners of the room.
Sophia – a little bit more wisdom in dermatology during these days,” he concluded.

**Scientific highlights**

The first full day, 20 May, offered an intensive scientific programme, rich in interesting topics discussed throughout 23 individual sessions. Of particular note were the case presentations of the Bulgarian Dermatological Society, of which the high scientific level was recognised even by Prof. Otto Braun-Falco. The discussions in Connective Tissue Diseases, Acne, Photodynamic Therapy, Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Contact Dermatitis, Climatherapy, Inherited Skin Diseases, Patient-Doctor Interaction, Immunodermatology, Atopic Dermatitis, Urticaria, Phlebology, HPV, Dry Skin, Lasers in Dermatology, Dermatopathology, Pemphigus, and Aesthetic Dermatology fields were led by the most prominent specialists and world known experts. Prof. Burg opened Pandora’s box of cutaneous lymphomas in a plenary lecture. Gene therapy approaches in dermatological disease were reviewed by Prof. Stingl, and Prof. Orfanos compared the contemporary achievements in the treatment of malignant melanoma. Biologicals in the treatment of psoriasis were presented in the satellite symposia of Wyeth, Serono and Schering-Plough.

In the afternoon of the same day the Scholarship Ceremony was held and 21 young dermatologists were granted financial support with the kind contribution of the EADV Board. We believe that their future professional careers will profit from this aid.

On the second symposium day seven major sessions, six workshops and four lunch-time sessions were held. The second instalment of the case presentations of the Bulgarian Dermatological Society proved a high standard of rare clinical manifestations and atypical syndromes. The new advances in diagnoses and treatment of autoimmune bullous dermatoses, iatrogenic dermatoses, pigmentary, nail and hair disorders, Adamantiades-Behcet disease, paediatric dermatology and pruritus were discussed. Emphasis was given to dermatosurgery, skin cancer causation and treatment, alternative approaches in dermatology, photodermatology and teledermatology. The topics discussed in the plenary lectures delivered by Profs. Black, Griffiths and Piguet were most interesting. The keynote speech of Prof. Dubertret was dedicated to working out a Patient Based Algorithm in treatment, while Prof. Saurat introduced a new term in dermatological literature discussing the problem of dermatoporosis.

**Closing remarks**

At the closing ceremony of this most successful scientific meeting Prof. Ring acknowledged the high level of clinical education, excellent organization and the very friendly spirit of the Bulgarian people. Bulgaria, he said, is a vivid dynamic country with a very active dermatological community.

Can Bulgarian dermatologists have certain precedence over German dermatologists? Yes, on the football field it seems. This was proved on the morning of 19 May, with the result of the friendly football match being 5:3.

At the end, the delegates expressed their feelings of gratitude for the warm hospitality, fruitful professional contacts and pleasant experience in Bulgaria.

Bulgaria was a well deserved success that exceeded everyone’s expectations.

We look forward to meeting again at the 14th EADV Congress in London in October.

Don’t forget to book for Lapland 2006!

Prof. Nikolai Tsankov,
President of the 3rd Spring Symposium
Return of the Prodigal Daughter

Make way! Make way for the Prodigal Daughter! I’m coming back to the EADV fold. I suddenly realised how much I had missed it for the last eight years. You see, I have been in hibernation.

Interestingly, hibernia is the Latin for winter, whilst Hibernia is the name the Romans gave to Ireland when they made a reconnaissance trip here a couple of thousand years ago. The weather, just as today, was cold, damp and miserable. They didn’t stay long and settled for invading the (slightly) more clement weather in Britannia. Only those tough and determined Vikings had what it took to sail up the Liffey and the Shannon in their long boats and forge inextricably strong bonds between us. Visit the Viking museum in Copenhagen and you will see that half the material there is about Ireland. Such links are constantly renewed by those who enter, and take part in, the EADV in the spirit in which it was founded.

EADV and my origins

The EADV was born out of the UEMS, in the late 1980s, when the board members of the latter body had the vision to see that it was not only aspirational, but possible and desirable, to have a European Academy equal and opposite to its American sister, the AAD. Many scoffed and said it couldn’t be done, but who’s laughing now? The EADV has come of age and is here to stay. Hats off to those founder members!

I, too, came to the EADV via the UEMS. I was the Ireland Observer to the Board for quite a number of years and loved every minute of it. I was fortunate enough to visit many beautiful cities putting in their bids to host the annual meeting, while making notes to help in our bid to host a meeting in Dublin. I attended the first Academy meeting in fabulous Firenze, presided over by the great Prof. Emiliano Panconesi. I thought I had died and gone to heaven with the sheer beauty of that city. I stayed in the EADV until we, the Hibernian contingent, had secured and hosted the meeting in Dublin in 1997. What a brilliant week we had on campus in University College Dublin with forays into town of an evening for “craic” (fun) and guinness. I was so exhausted afterwards that I took a little rest – like Rip Van Winkle – from which I have just woken up.

The European influence

I now realise that life is so dull without meeting one’s European counterparts: the divine French, some with les elegantes moustaches, who greet a lady colleague with a kiss on the hand – ooh la la! One could sit and listen to them recite a telephone directory in marvellous Gallic tones and still beg for more. And I long to rekindle old acquaintances with the gracious Greeks who have eons of civilisation, philosophy and history built into their very fabric; not to mention being hailed with, “Ciao, bella bimba!” - even if one were a teeny bit past the first flush of youth – by an Armani-attired, warm and affectionate Italian dermatologist. What fun it is to sit between a Flemish and a Walloon dermatologist in Brussels and get caught in the cross fire of good-natured banter. The practical and precise Germans, the frolicking Finns – well, after the first six pints, anyway, all those gorgeous, welcoming and hospitable colleagues from the Iberian peninsula, and, ever mindful of our great Secretary General, the marvellous Maltese – I miss them all.

I’m coming back to the EADV, cap in hand, sorry I ever left and so looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. There are ten new member countries in the EU since last I was in the fold – wow! Just think of the conferences to attend in even more exotic places. I see the EADV as a forum venue in which to share and exchange, not only academic knowledge, but also to forge friendships and exchange cultural ideas. Come to think of it, that’s something the AAD can’t provide and so, perhaps, we have the edge on them, after all.

And so, until I see you all soon, may I wish you:

Slainte! Cheers! Na zdrowie! A votre santé! Prost! Skol!

Dr. Sarah Rogers
Dublin, June 2005
Skin and Sexual Health
The Challenge for Europe

Delegates attending the 14th EADV Congress in London will enjoy the most extensive and diverse scientific programme at this year’s Congress. Prof. Martin Black, Congress President provides a brief overview.

It will take place in ExCel, London’s new waterfront conference and exhibition centre with all the facilities for a large congress.

Scientific programme
The form of plenary lectures, symposia, workshops, lunchtime sessions, satellite symposia and new interactive symposia will outline all the latest developments in dermatology and venereology. There will also be four What’s New sessions, looking at the latest developments in dermato- logical research, medical dermatology, surgical dermatology and venereology.

Amongst the new sessions on offer is the highly successful ‘Test Yourself’ clinical sessions introduced in Florence. In addition, new update sessions chaired by esteemed European colleagues from across the continent have been introduced. Topics include: Unusual Antibiotic use in Dermatology - Penicillin’s, Tetracycline’s, Rifamycins, Update on Difficult Aspects of Syphilis and Update on Lyme Borreliosis. Other sessions available include: Acne, the post antibiotic era and Psoriasis Today.

The EADV has a strong STD element and hopes to attract members of the newly formed British Association of Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) organisation as well as venereologists from across Europe and the world who may not have attended earlier congresses.

The Plenary speakers come from the cream of dermatology and venereology across the world and include Robin Marks, Marcus Conant, Jonathan Weber, Fiona Watts, Jean Revuz and Wolfram Sterry.

At your leisure
For those who have some time to spare, exploring London is a must. Located in the heart of the developed Docklands area in East London, ExCel enjoys good transport links from central London and is close to the River Thames, Greenwich and Tower Bridge.

Tours and excursions are being organized through ‘Golden Tours’ and should be booked via Expotel. This can be done online at www.expotel.com/eadv2005

There are a variety of options available. Gain a new perspective on London by taking a ride on the British Airways London Eye - the world’s highest observation wheel and London’s fourth tallest structure. There are 32 fully enclosed, high tech capsules, each accommodating up to 25 people taking 30 minutes to complete one full 360 degree rotation.

Alternatively, see London from the water on the 50-minute Thames Circular sightseeing cruise. Other sights include Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London and St Paul’s Cathedral. If you wish to go further afield, trips to Windsor Castle, the Cotswolds and Canterbury can also be booked.

It’s not too late to register!
Register before 30 September 2005 and save up to €100 off the standard on-site registration fee.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Before 30 September 2005</th>
<th>On-site</th>
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<td>€650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>€850</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse*</td>
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<td>€170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying Persons</td>
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<td>€120</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* The applicant’s Registration Form must be accompanied by written proof of status.

For more information and to register please visit: www.eadv2005.com
**Servicing the Dermatology Community**

**European Journal of Pediatric Dermatology**

**Origins**

The European Journal of Pediatric Dermatology was born in 1991 as a direct descendant of “Pediatric Dermatology News”. The latter was founded in 1982. Its English edition is a postgraduate journal of the European Society for Pediatric Dermatology, whereas its Italian edition is the official organ of the Italian Society for Pediatric Dermatology (SiderP).

**Purpose**

The Journal is aimed at increasing the cooperation between pediatricians and dermatologists. This is why 1/16 of each issue contains a popular Book of Pediatric Dermatology.

**Circulation**

500 copies in Italy, 180 in Europe, 100 in other countries.

**Indexation**

Covered by EMBASE/Excerpta Medica from 1994 and SIIC database. [www.dermatologiapediatrica.com](http://www.dermatologiapediatrica.com)

**Selected papers over the last 3 years**


**Contact details**

Ernesto Bonifazi  
Chief Editor  
Via Bitritto, 131  
70124 Bari, Italy  
Tel: +39-0805061485, Fax: +39-0805054467

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**Important information**

A fellowship scheme has been introduced to enable underprivileged delegates to register at a reduced rate. If you wish to apply for this scheme, please send a copy of your CV and a covering letter, making clear your reasons for wishing to attend the meeting, to: London EADV Congress Secretariat, 4 Fitzroy Square, London W1T 5HQ, UK or email eadv@bad.org.uk

So far, some 1.800 abstract submissions have been processed and it is hoped that around 1.500 posters will be displayed at the Congress.
How to Structure Modern Patient Information?

Comprehensive patient information (PI) should encompass both illness-specific information and practical guidelines for daily management and must always acknowledge the starting point of the patient. Solveig Esmann, B.A. (Relaxation and Psychomotor Therapy) M.A. (Psychology and Educational Studies) outlines the key elements.

When a patient seeks further information this is done in an individual setting. Every patient has a history, some knowledge and a personal experience of coping. It is of great importance to acknowledge that the patient already has formed an opinion and it may differ from that of the health personnel. If this is neglected, it can have a detrimental effect on PI. If the patient doesn’t agree with the given advice or is eagerly trying to share his/her points of view, it may obstruct the perception, which is a prerequisite for cognition.

Tactics for eliciting information
Interviews or questionnaires can be used to uncover topics of general importance to the patients. An open-ended interview with a group of 5-6 patients lasting approximately 2 hours or an open-ended questionnaire will often yield a variety of disease related topics. The topics are identified through analysis of the statements:
- Which topics do the patients find important?
- Why are they important?
- How do the patients cope with these topics?

The topics can then be included in the PI. In general, themes such as daily activities, emotions and psychology - sports activities, sexuality, family, job, etc. - are of interest. Besides aiding the structuring of PI this process provides insight into both the good and the bad habits of patients, which may be of clinical interest.

Communication essentials
The PI must be targeted. Some information will necessarily be more useful for young people than for adults and vice versa. In the same way patients having mild symptoms may need different information compared to patients with severe symptoms. The differentiated information can be contained in one comprehensive PI if the needs of specific groups are appropriately highlighted.

"Comprehensive PI is always characterized by understanding, empathy and cooperation."

It is essential to give the emotions associated with the illness some attention in the PI. Show empathy even if restricted by practical constraints. Patients are comforted by the knowledge that others have had similar problems and have managed these successfully. Coping strategies can therefore also be learned through PI.

For PI to be comprehensive it should also touch upon complementary therapy and provide balanced comments from a scientific point of view. Many patients are attracted by complementary therapies, but often find health-personnel dismissive on the subject. Being dismissive does not promote communication or help the patient.

Finally it is helpful for patients to know where they can obtain further information, how to get in contact with other patients and to give an overview of possible other sources of support. A list of links to homepages and addresses is often very useful for the individual.

Eyes grow weary and lose focus if they only stare at one point for a long time. In the same way it is important to change the focus of PI now and then. Disease specific information will be perceived and remembered better if it is related to daily activities. Opportunities for questions and comments should be provided in any lecture or class, and may even be included in written material. Variation, activity and pauses are all important pedagogical tools.

The amount of oral information a person will be able to remember varies, indicating that any teaching session should include frequent breaks and be of an adequate duration. Each person is endowed with individual learning-ability and different personal characteristics that provide not only a certain identity, but also a certain way of acquiring and remembering information. Comprehensive PI is therefore always characterized by understanding, empathy and cooperation.

The three C’s of modern comprehensive patient information
Coping
Cognition
Cooperation

Solveig Esmann
Research Assistant,
Department of Dermatology
Roskilde Hospital, Koegevej 7-13
DK - 4000 Roskilde, Denmark
E-mail: rsses@ra.dk
Membership Application Form

Please provide all professional information and certificates as requested on both sides of this form and have it endorsed (signed) by two Ordinary EADV Members in good standing. Please enclose payment to ensure processing of your application. Your payment will not be deducted until you have been accepted as an EADV member.

### Personal Details

**PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT**

- **Last name:**
- **First name(s):**
- **Position/Title:**
- **Specialty:**
- **Date of birth:** [day] / [month] / [year]
- **Nationality:**
- **Address:**
- **City:**
- **Country:**
- **Post Code:**
- **Telephone:** [country code] / [area code] / [number]
- **Fax:** [country code] / [area code] / [number]
- **Email address:**

### Membership Subscriptions

EADV Member benefits include:

- Subscription to the Journal of the European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology (JEADV)
- Substantial discounts to attend all scientific meetings organised by EADV (Annual Congresses & Spring Symposia)
- EADV News, a regular newsletter to update you on Academy activities and opportunities
- Voting rights (Ordinary Members only)
- Membership only access on EADV website <www.eadv.org>.

### Eligibility & Guidelines

You are eligible for membership in the European Academy of Dermatology & Venereology, provided you conform to one of the member categories listed below. Only Ordinary and Honorary members have the right to vote. Membership is valid for one full calendar year (1 January – 31 December) irrespective of the month you join the Academy. Application for membership will be accepted up to 31 August. Applications received after this date will apply to the following calendar year. When you join, you will receive the issues of the JEADV and EADV News published within the calendar year that your membership has commenced.

### Membership Categories

- **Ordinary Member**
  - Fee: € 115
  - You may apply to become an Ordinary Member of the EADV if you are certified and practising as a dermatologist or venereologist in a European country consistent with EADV statutes.

- **Corresponding Member**
  - Fee: € 115
  - You may apply to become a Corresponding Member if:
    - you are certified and practising as a dermatologist or venereologist outside Europe
    - you are a doctor or specialist in another field and not certified as a dermatologist, but with a particular interest in skin or venereal diseases.

- **Trainee Member**
  - Fee: € 50
  - A Resident or Trainee in dermatology or venereology may apply to become a Trainee Member of the Academy for the duration of their training. Upon certification of completion of training you will be eligible to apply for Ordinary or Corresponding membership (Attach certificate of proof of current trainee position See over).

- **Retired Member**
  - Fee: € 50
  - Practitioners of dermatology and venereology, aged 65 or over, who have been ordinary members of the EADV and have now retired from activity in the specialty may apply to become Retired Members.

- **Associate Member**
  - Associate membership (Sponsor) is available to organisations active in the field of Dermatology and Venereology. Please apply to the EADV Administrative Officer for details.
## Curriculum Vitae

### Education

**Physician's Degree:**
- Month: 
- Year: 
- Institution:  
- Country:  

**Dermatology/Venereology Degree:**
- Month: 
- Year: 
- Institution:  
- Country:  

**Non-physician's Degree:**
- Month: 
- Year: 
- Institution:  
- Country:  

(Specify):  

**NOTE:** Enclose copy of specialist certificate / certificate of training / certification of Retired Status - As applicable

**Present position:**  
- Institution or hospital (Name):  
- Private Practice  
- Company  

### Professional Experience

1. **Postgraduate medical / other professional training:**
   - Name of Institution / Hospital:  
   - Nature of training:  
   - Dates:  

2. **Medical experience / other professional experience:**
   - Nature of practice or experience:  
   - Location:  
   - Dates:  

3. **Teaching / research experience:**
   - Name of the institution or hospital:  
   - Brief description of experience:  
   - Dates:  

Member of national Dermatological society or association or other national organisation (specify):

**Endorsed: 2 Ordinary members of EADV**

- Name:  
  - Membership No:  
- Name:  
  - Membership No:  

### Method of Payment:

- Bank transfer: ING BANK - Ave Louise 358 - B-1050 Brussels - Belgium  
  - BIC: BBRUEBBB - IBAN: BE10 3101 4438 6004  
- By credit card:
  - Visa  
  - Eurocard/Mastercard  
  - American Express  
  - Diners Club  

- Card Number:  
- Expiry Date:  
- Month:  
- Year:  
- Name (as appears on card):  

### Signature of applicant member:

- Date:  

---

**Please return completed application form duly signed with copy of specialist certificate.**

EADV Administrative Office - Avenue General de Gaulle, 38 - B-1050 Brussels - Belgium  
Tel: 32-2-650 00 90 - Fax: 32-2-650 00 98 - E-mail: office@eadv.org - Web site: www.eadv.org
The EADV Website (www.eadv.org) should be the collection and focal point of all necessary information for our society and membership. The aim of the Website Committee is to develop the website to reach this: superb functionality and attraction.

During this past winter remarkable progress has been achieved. The layout has been amended to help in finding important topics. Databases are better and sooner updated, and the abstracts of the past congresses are found on the website. An EADV News archive has been opened. Applications for membership, membership renewal and membership directory are available on-line. The number of pictures will be further increased.

During the Sofia Symposium the Committee discussed many new ideas for the further enhancement of the site: new organisation and layout; a different look to the free access and members-only sections; member e-mail; new functionality of the less used Forum and even a tele-meeting option.

New ideas for the development of the EADV website are welcome. The Website Committee is ready to discuss new proposals. The heavy and mostly unnecessary Congress and Symposium abstract books could be replaced by filing the abstracts in the EADV website only. This means change to historical habits and may cause discussion. The website, and modern and future technology, may also help in reducing the costs for EADV – less travel, less printing and better access to all necessary information.

Raimo Sunhonen
Chairman
This article was written in Belgrade where I was invited to the 1st Congress of the Association of Dermatovenerologists of Serbia and Montenegro. While a longer article of assessment and appreciation will doubtless appear in due course, the active participation of a significant number of EADV members, including past president Martin Black, and the marvellous reception given to us by those present, demonstrated the wisdom of extending EADV towards becoming the truly pan-European organization for Dermato-Venereology.

The saying that “medicine knows no frontiers” was also at the forefront with the bringing together - for the first time in years - of colleagues from the same region who had become separated by circumstances. Once again, as in Istanbul and Sofia previously, I was extended the courtesy of addressing the participants about what EADV is all about and its future intentions. This was very well received and will be a regular feature of my future visits to academic meetings.

Only two weeks earlier, we had participated in the splendid success that was Sofia. Organisation, scientific level, audio visual assistance, accommodation, hospitality - all went almost without a hitch ! In particular, Nikolai Tsankov et al achieved their stated aim to provide quality and excellence to colleagues from the region. These voted with their feet, attending in large numbers, and confirming that the Symposium concept is here to stay. I understand that a number of countries are preparing bids for the academic meetings of 2009/2010.

Preparation of EGM

Sofia also meant very hard work for the EADV leadership and Board of Directors. All arrived in Sofia a day earlier than usually expected, to have ample time to debate and eventually to decide on the crucial issue of which country is best suited to be EADV’s future country of registration. The background has been explained in the EGM notice you have received and it now remains for the unanimous recommendation of the Board to be ratified by an EGM (a second one will be needed if the July 27 meeting is not attended by 2/3 of the voting membership). Following ratification a number of changes will need to be made to the draft statutes currently being put together by the Statutes Committee relative to the new country of registration.

Once finalised, these again will need to be discussed and confirmed at Board level initially and then go through the legal aspects required of a change in Statutes, that is: at an EGM. It is expected that the Statutes “white paper” will be published in good time for the membership at large to study and comment about it. This way, many difficulties can be addressed even before the EGM that should confirm our joint opinions after which we can immediately proceed to activate these changes: primarily elections for Board representatives for all “new” EADV countries together with new structures for governance.

The YES vote!

Since there is no reason whatsoever for anybody to block decisions that both the Board and the OGM have taken unanimously, I must state, on a strictly personal basis, that I would find it very difficult to continue giving my energies to EADV were these changes, fundamental for the future of EADV, to be rejected without sufficient and grave reasons.

Knowing how we all have the future of our specialty at heart, this consideration is probably superfluous but I feel that this opinion needed to be expressed.

Joseph L. Pace
Secretary General
### Important Dates

**Tenders for Future EADV Congresses**  
Deadline 31 August 2005

**Nominations for Board Elections**  
Deadline 31 August 2005

**14th EADV Congress**  
Reduced registration fee  
Deadline 30 September 2005

**4th Spring Symposium**  
Abstract submission  
Deadline 15 September 2005

**Early bird registration**  
Deadline 15 October 2005

### Important Reminders

**EADV Annual Congress 2009 and 2010**  
EADV members are invited to submit tenders for hosting the Annual EADV Congress in 2009 and in 2010. Tenders must be submitted to the EADV Office by 31 August 2005.

### Calendar of Events

#### > 2005

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th World Conference on Melanoma</td>
<td>2 - 9 September 2005</td>
<td>Vancouver, BC, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Congress of Baltic Association of Dermato-Venerologists</td>
<td>8 - 10 September 2005</td>
<td>Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congress of the European Branch of the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI-Europe)</td>
<td>8 - 10 September 2005</td>
<td>Moscow, Russia</td>
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<tr>
<td>35th Annual ESDR Meeting</td>
<td>22 - 24 September 2005</td>
<td>Tübingen, Germany</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th EADV Congress</td>
<td>12 - 16 October 2005</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
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#### > 2006

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>1st Congress of the International Dermoscopy Society</td>
<td>9 - 12 February 2006</td>
<td>Naples, Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th Congress of the Mediterranean Association of Dermato-Venerology</td>
<td>08 - 10 June 2006</td>
<td>Damascus, Syria</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th EADV Congress</td>
<td>4 - 7 October 2006</td>
<td>Rhodes, Greece</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congress of the European Branch of the International Union against Sexually Transmitted Infections (IUSTI-Europe)</td>
<td>19 - 21 October 2006</td>
<td>Palais des Congres de Versailles, France</td>
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#### > 2007

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<tr>
<td>16th EADV Congress</td>
<td>16 - 19 May 2007</td>
<td>Vienna, Austria</td>
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<td>12th Congress of the European Society for Dermatology and Psychiatry</td>
<td>14 - 17 June 2007</td>
<td>Wroclaw, Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st World Congress of Dermatology</td>
<td>1 - 7 October 2007</td>
<td>Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th EADV Congress</td>
<td>17 - 20 September 2008</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The Theme: Skin and Sexual Health – The Challenge for Europe

The Time: October 12th to October 16th 2005

The Place: The ExCeL Exhibition Centre, London Docklands, London

‘Come to London in October 2005 and you will be the recipient of a high quality CME update in everything relevant to our speciality. A warm welcome is assured and many of you will leave having made new friends.

I very much look forward to welcoming you personally.’

Professor Martin Black
President of the 14th EADV Congress

For further details:

• www.eadv2005.com
• eadv@bad.co.uk

EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF DERMATOLOGY AND VENEREOLOGY
ACADEMIE EUROPEENNE DE DERMATOLOGIE ET DE VENEREOLOGIE
A non profit association / Association sans but lucratif