EU action on skin diseases

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6th EADV Spring Symposium

Rin Grand Hotel Conference Center

Bucharest, Romania, April 23 - 26, 2009

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www.eadv.org/bucharest2009
Not only ‘how’ but ‘why’ is important

Like many other good things communication is open to misuse. Rightly or wrongly, patients are often afraid of being manipulated and, if opportunity equals abuse, they may have good reason for suspicion.

The doctor-patient relationship provides the near perfect setting for manipulation. The first rule of manipulation is to convince your victim that you share a common frame. If a person believes it when told ‘This is a very special relationship’, this sets their mind in a different mode from a more neutrally-worded statement. The doctor-patient relationship is obviously special.

The second rule is to position yourself so as to be perceived as the conduit to the other person’s desires. That is also easy for doctors with regard to patients. It should also appear as though any real solution is exclusively dependent on the manipulator. This too is inbuilt in the doctor-patient relationship. Finally, by the very nature of disease, patients are weak and the weak are open to manipulation.

The only way to reassure patients is by conscientious communication. That is, by being aware of all the small things which may be perceived as manipulation, but without losing sight of our ethical obligation to the patient, which may on occasion be more paternalistic than participatory. When we communicate with patients, be that in a clinical setting or in a research environment, the ethics underlying not only our deeds but also our communication are of the utmost importance. Unless we can we can establish the proper relationship with the patients, many will find the natural authority of the physician suspect.

It is a suspicion that most often starts at the same point as communication. Despite the word’s roots, ‘manipulation’ is nowadays mostly done by words; which is just as well because it is also our words that cure patients of this suspicion.

Gregor Jemec
Editor
International outreach

After only a few months into my term as EADV President, I am extremely pleased at the outlook of the Academy. To begin with, EADV’s website has changed with a new ‘face’ and this is clearly a look towards the future.

Also, with our non-taxable status in Switzerland, I am confident that we have moved forward a major step which will benefit the Academy in the long run.

It is a fact that the global economy is confronted with a crisis. However, EADV memberships continue to grow and in 2008 they reached a record high with an increase of 13% compared to 2007. This is a great achievement indeed, and the National Society Group Memberships have certainly contributed towards the influx of members, with 23 national societies having applied so far.

EADV congresses and symposia are looking up and continue to attract more and more participants at each event. The 17th EADV Congress in Paris was a huge success with approximately 8.000 registered participants, not to mention over 2.000 exhibitors, bringing the total to over 10.000 persons at the meeting.

EADV congresses and symposia are a success story - as much for residents and practitioners and their busy schedules. At times proved difficult for many practitioners and their busy schedules.

On the educational front, the Fostering Programme courses, as well as other educational courses for dermatologists, are a success story - as much for residents as practitioners. A series of fostering courses scheduled for 2009 has received an enormous response with some even being oversubscribed. A side-step from Fostering are the Skills Development Programmes for practitioners, Regional Courses and Visits to Centres of Excellence, all of which display the growing strength of European dermatology, not only within Europe but worldwide.

I am also happy to report that EADV and its international alliances are scaling upwards. Having already strong relations with AAD, these are to be reinforced with forthcoming events such as the EADV/AAD Review Course in June 2009 in Munich, which is a combined effort of both Academies.

Stronger links with Asia

Our links with China are moving forward in their third year of collaboration and each event proves more and more successful, thus building stronger ties. Along the same lines, we hope to establish agreements with dermatological societies in India that will emphasise the growing strength of European dermatology, not only within Europe but worldwide.

Excellence, all of which display the growing strength of European dermatology, not only within Europe but worldwide.

I wish everyone a successful and productive year ahead and look forward to witnessing many more new happenings within the Academy during my term.
Skin diseases pose a significant burden on public health in Europe. It is estimated that at least one quarter of individuals have a skin disease at any one time. The range of these conditions is wide, including inflammatory and infectious processes and cancers such as malignant melanoma. The incidence and prevalence of these conditions are constantly changing, reflecting many variables.

Thus, understanding the epidemiology of these disorders is essential to more efficiently prevent and tackle skin diseases across the European Union.

The European Commission is currently supporting two projects related to skin diseases within the framework of the Public Health Programme: the quantification of sun exposure in Europe and of its effects on health (EUROSUN) and the European Prevention Initiative for Dermatological Malignancies (EPIDERM). The latter agency produced a report on occupational skin diseases and dermal exposure in the EU, last year.

In addition, efforts to tackle the burden of skin diseases in the home and at work are an important component of the work of the two EU agencies, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Working Conditions and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work. The latter agency produced a report on occupational skin diseases and dermal exposure in the EU, last year.

In the area of venereology the European Commission has been following up on the epidemiology of sexually-transmitted diseases (STD) for a long time. In its 2008 report on communicable disease surveillance in Europe, the current data on the surveillance of STD are published by the European Agency for Communicable Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), based in Stockholm, Sweden. This is accompanied by the Community action on STD surveillance “Sexually-Transmitted Infections Surveillance in Europe” (ESSTI).

As regards specific European policies on the prevention of Human Immunodeficiency Virus infections, a Commission Communication on combating HIV/AIDS within the European Union and in the neighbouring countries, has been published in the Official Journal in December 2005 and a new Communication is currently being prepared by the European Commission.

Specialists in skin and venereal disease are key front-line partners in European efforts to prevent and tackle skin and sexually-transmitted diseases.

Your role is vital in emphasising the importance of preventing skin and sexually-transmitted disease, such as bringing home to the European citizen the message of the European Code against Cancer as well as the knowledge and recommendations on sexually-transmitted disease prevention. Together we can help to reduce the impact of skin and venereal disease on the lives of citizens throughout the European Union.

Androulla Vassiliou
EU Commissioner for Health

Where East and West meet, Bucharest will glow this April to give a warm welcome to dermatologists from all over the world attending the 6th EADV Spring Symposium.

The Local Scientific Committee has endeavoured to bring together a rich scientific programme concentrating on the theme of “Skin and Quality of Life” and emphasising the profound and complex influence of skin health on all the aspects of human life.

Six plenary lectures, 17 symposia, 17 workshops and 8 focus sessions, along with forums, poster discussions, free communications sessions and satellite symposia will give the perfect opportunity to physicians, scientists, and patients' representatives to meet and share their perspectives on the world of the skin.

Practical aspects in a wide range of dermatology disciplines, ranging from cutaneous surgery and dermatologic allergology to cutaneous oncology, aesthetic dermatology, STIs and dermatopathology, will be covered by world-renowned experts. Generous space will be reserved for the debates on the theme of quality of life in dermatology, in all its different aspects, from the most recent concepts of preventive dermatology and psycho-somatic interrelations to the latest challenges of teledermatology and evidence-based medicine.

Don’t miss a glimpse into the future, as young dermatologists will meet and present their work within the Junior Session, where prizes will be awarded. Seize the unique experience of the first EADV Master of Dermatology Session, which will give the floor to excellence in dermatology built upon a life-time of serving and advancing dermatology.

Also, do not miss the chance to reunite with old friends and build new relationships as the Symposium will bring together colleagues from Europe and beyond, from South Africa to China and from USA to Australia, for a rich scientific and cultural programme.

Come and discover endless fascinating Romania and, together, let's take dermatology one step further...

Welcome to Bucharest
Bucharest, capital city of Romania and the venue of the Spring Symposium, was once praised as “Byzantium after Byzantium” and was known in the 1900s as “Little Paris”, due to its glorious Belle Époque buildings and a reputation for the high life.

Today, it proudly reasserts its European status and vocation and emerges as a rapidly transforming metropolis, offering its visitors a well-developed business sector, overwhelming architectural diversity, a rich historic tradition and an intense cultural life.

Bucharest is laden with historical charm – from the streets of the Old City Centre, which are slowly being restored, together with its handcrafts and artists' workshops, to the grand neoclassical architecture of the Royal Palace and the exquisite Orthodox churches.
Tinea capitis (scalp ringworm) was once an endemic disease affecting children throughout most European countries. However, with the introduction of griseofulvin and concerted efforts by public and school health authorities to treat infected children, it was reduced to a sporadic disease by the early 1970s.

This was accompanied by a change in the dominant organisms from mainly anthropophilic dermatophytes such as Microsporum audouinii, and in some areas Trichophyton tonsurans, to zoophilic fungi, predominantly Microsporum canis; for many years M.canis was the commonest organism isolated from scalp ringworm throughout Europe.

This pattern has begun to change once more with a new wave of anthropophilic infections, this time dominated in most countries by T.tonsurans, a similar pattern to that seen in the USA, but with other organisms, including M.audouinii, coming to the fore once again. Whereas the focus of this new epidemic in many areas has been on immigrant children, this is not a uniform picture. For instance in children below the age of 11 in South London the prevalence of infection was found to be 2.3%. In 1997, the European Confederation of Medical Mycology surveyed laboratories and detailed the extent of the problem at this stage with the new infections dominating in inner city areas of western Europe, particularly in the UK, France and the Netherlands.

However Microsporum canis remained dominant in rural areas and also further east and south in Germany, Greece and Croatia.

The EADV Mycology Task Force is currently undertaking a new survey, recruiting a team from different parts of Europe to record an up-to-date picture of the current situation.

Questions that we would like to answer are:
1. Has the pattern of tinea capitis in Europe changed further over the past 10 years?
2. Have any specific interventions been undertaken in different countries to reduce the problem?
3. What is the availability of different antifungals effective against the organisms causing tinea capitis in different parts of Europe?

We look forward to working with EADV members in developing this project.

Rod Hay, London (UK)
Genovaitė Lapinskaite, Vilnius (Lithuania)

Dr Hay can be contacted at:
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The gracious neoclassical concert hall of Athenaeum, the symbol of the city, still keeps the echoes of Enesco’s Rhapsodies, while the Royal Palace shelters the National Art Museum with its treasures of early Christian, medieval Romanian and East European art. The Peasant’s Museum and Village Museum around the majestic Herastrau Park tell the tumultuous history and the rich cultural heritage of the Romanian people at the crossroad of civilisations and the Patriarchal Orthodox Cathedral majestically witnesses the strong faith which maintained the unity of the people through centuries of adversities.

As a milestone of the more recent past, the Parliament Palace which, at 3.76 million square feet, is the world’s second largest building, provides a fascinating insight into the megalomaniac vision of Romania’s communist dictatorship.

April is a lovely season to discover Bucharest and Romania. For the extra days off from the busy scientific programme, a variety of tours are available for Symposium participants who wish to go beyond the city limits and discover Romania’s beautiful mountains, medieval castles and world-famous painted monasteries or the Black Sea coast.

We invite you to discover our homeland and our hospitality, to come as a visitor and to leave as a friend!

Prof Dr Dan Forsea
Symposium Chairman
In this first Fostering Training Course on Genodermatoses in Salzburg, 15 participants from 13 countries took part in this mixed theoretical and practical course. A brief introduction was given on Wednesday, 21 January, into the molecular diagnosis, genetic traits and clinical features of Epidermolysis bullosa.

On Thursday, well-known international speakers, Professor John McGrath from London (UK) and Professor Dr Judith Fischer from Paris (France), imparted their knowledge. The practical issues of molecular diagnosis in a genetic disease were also studied.

The course was rounded off on Friday with case reports from the participants and local lecturers and after the final test the participants all finished the course successfully.

Participants’ views

“I had the pleasure of attending the Training Course on Genodermatoses, held on 21-23 January 2009 in Salzburg, Austria. The course took place at EB house in Salzburg, which is considered one of the best Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) centres in the world. There were 14 lovely dermatology residents from different countries in Europe, and I really enjoyed time with them.

The course focused on Genodermatoses, especially on Epidermolysis Bullosa and Ichthyoses, so we had many valuable lectures about genetics, inherited skin diseases and clinical management of patients with EB by Prof Bauer, Prof McGrath and Prof Hintner, respectively. I really enjoyed working in the EB laboratory and would like to thank Mr Klaussegger for the theoretical and practical parts of the molecular diagnosis workshop. In addition, we presented our own clinical cases which were reviewed and discussed which was very helpful. I was especially pleased that my clinical case on Elejalde Syndrome (supervised by Prof Anwar Dandashli MD, Aleppo University Hospital, Syria) impressed my audience as it is really a rare one.

I had the chance to add new experiences to my life by meeting new friends, visiting a new country and beautiful cities (Vienna and Salzburg) and tasting the best food and wine with Prof Bauer and Prof Hintner during the dinner. The course was well organised with perfect food and accommodation, so thank you EADV and Ms I Papp!

Do I think it was worthwhile to come from Syria for this? Yes, I believe it was!”

Mustafa BADAWI MD
PGY-2 in Dermatology & Venereology
Aleppo University Hospital
Aleppo, Syria
“...feel deeply honoured to have the possibility to express many thanks and gratitude to the organisers of the Training Course on Genodermatoses, under EADV’s Fostering Dermatology & Venereology Programme, for giving me the opportunity to participate.

The course was held in EB House, Austria, Department of Dermatology, Paracelsus Private Medical University, Salzburg with Prof Johann Bauer as course chairman. I had heard only the best about EB House Austria, and my impressions confirmed this.

During the course it was emphasised that not only advanced technology and healthcare systems but also one’s love for one’s profession, dedication and will for continuous education are essential. The great quality of the presentations and the precious information offered by the best specialists and their dedication to answering participants’ questions best describes the course.

Additionally, the emphasis was on molecular diagnosis. Both theory and practice were given by A Klausegger and his team in their Laboratory for Molecular Therapy that included “hands-on” sessions with DNA isolation of blood, PCR, restriction enzyme digest and gelelectrophoresis. It was pointed out that mutation diagnostics in epidermolysis bullosa are essential in order to define exact localisation of the mutation as a condition for gene therapy; for prenatal diagnostics as predictive diagnostics are only possible with known mutation; and localisation of the mutation as a prognostic marker for the disease course.

The course was held in beautiful Salzburg which represents Austria’s image in the world known for its cultural heritage and it reminds me of John F Kennedy’s words:

“Behind the storm of daily conflict and crisis, the dramatic confrontations, the tumult of political struggle, the artist, the musician, continues the quiet work of the centuries, building bridges of experiences between peoples, reminding man of the universality of his feelings and desires and despair, and reminding him that the forces that unite are deeper than those that divide.”

Zrinjka Pastar MD
Dermato-venereologist
University Department of Dermatology and Venereology
University Clinical Hospital Zagreb
Zagreb, Croatia

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Call for Tender
Fostering Dermatology & Venereology Courses for Residents

Have you ever considered offering short-term courses (from 2/3 days up to a week) - supported by the EADV and its Fostering Dermatology and Venereology Committee - with the aim of:

- educating a group of selected resident dermatologists and emphasising best practice by recognised experts throughout all of Europe
- celebrating European diversity
- fostering friendships within Europe?

If so, then we look forward to hearing from you! Please note: this offer is only available to EADV members.

Deadlines and tender form: Just download the tender form from [http://www.eadv.org/fostering/](http://www.eadv.org/fostering/) and submit it - duly completed and signed:

- For courses to be held in 2010 - by 6 May 2009 at the latest
- For courses to be held in 2011 - by 2 April 2010 at the latest

Further information available upon request to fostering@eadv.org.
Call for Applications – EADV Scholarships

18th EADV Congress in Berlin, Germany: 7-11 October 2009

1. Michael Hornstein Scholarship
Named after the late friend and distinguished colleague Dr Michael Hornstein, EADV will offer the Michael Hornstein Scholarship to one recipient of each former Eastern European country.

Eligible countries: geographic Eastern Europe: Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

Every EADV scholarship award consists of 1000€ less the fee for a one-year EADV membership according to the status of each recipient. Free registration to the congress is also provided for each winner.

2. John Stratigos Scholarship
Named after the late dear friend and distinguished colleague Prof John Stratigos, EADV will offer the John Stratigos Scholarship to one recipient of each Mediterranean country.

Eligible countries: geographic Mediterranean countries: Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Montenegro, Spain, Syria AR, Tunisia, Turkey

Eligible regions - Rest of the world (except Eastern European and Mediterranean countries already listed above) eg Africa, Arab countries, Asia, Latin America, North America (incl Alaska, Canada), Oceania (Australia, New Zealand etc)

Eligible countries:
America (incl Alaska, Canada), Oceania (Australia, New Zealand etc)

Other grants

The Irish Association of Dermatologists (IAD) – EADV Grant 2009
One (1) successful applicant from Eastern Europe will receive free registration to the 18th EADV Congress in Berlin, Germany. The successful applicant will also get a grant of 500 GBP - kindly provided by the Irish Association of Dermatologists.

The British Society of Paediatric Dermatology (BSPD) Grant - 2009
Two (2) successful applicants from Eastern Europe will receive free registration to the BSPD Annual Meeting in Leeds, England on 6-7 November 2009. The successful applicants will also get a grant of 500 GBP each – kindly provided by the British Society of Paediatric Dermatology.

Eligible countries for IAD/BSPD grants - geographic Eastern Europe: Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine

Eligible countries:

Other criteria to be observed when applying for EADV scholarships and/or IAD, BSPD grants:
• Only candidates who have not previously received an EADV Scholarship, IAD or BSPD Grant can apply
• Candidates who have completed medical school more than 15 years ago are ineligible to apply
• Young dermatologists, trainees or residents will be highly regarded
• Candidates must have adequate knowledge of the English language

AAD Grant - 2010
The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) offers three (3) grants to young dermatologists from Europe to facilitate their attendance at the 68th Annual Meeting in Miami, Florida, USA in March 2010.

Eligible countries: Geographic Europe. The grant consists of 750 USD, free registration to the Annual Meeting and complimentary tuition on a one- or two- day postgraduate course of choice.

Eligible regions:
Rest of the world (except Eastern European and Mediterranean countries already listed above) eg Africa, Arab countries, Asia, Latin America, North America (incl Alaska, Canada), Oceania (Australia, New Zealand etc)

Eligible countries:

Other criteria to be observed when applying for AAD grant:
• Candidates must be EADV members
• Candidates should be under 35 years of age
• Candidates who have not previously received an AAD grant can apply
• Candidates who have completed medical school more than 15 years ago are ineligible to apply
• Candidates must have adequate knowledge of the English language

Required documentation below for application to be submitted only in English for any scholarships and grants listed above:
• The completed Scholarship Application Form
• A CV (one page)
• A current copy of the applicant’s training or specialist certificate
• A letter of support written by the departmental head of the hospital or clinic endorsing the application
• A letter of support written by an EADV member for European applicants and by the head of the national society for non-European applicants endorsing the application
• A copy of an ID with a passport-size photo

Application deadline for all scholarships and grants: 15 June 2009

ATTENTION: Please specify on the application form which scholarship or grant you are applying for!

Further information & the application forms available at: http://www.eadv.org/scholarships/ or upon request by email to Prof N Tsankov – Honours & Awards Committee Chairperson – at scholarship@eadv.org.
The EADV and the Local Organising Committee invite you to join us in Berlin for the 18th EADV Congress, from 7-11 October 2009.

The 18th EADV Congress will be dedicated to the presentation and discussion of the most recent developments in dermatology and venereology. The scientific programme will feature seven plenary lectures, more than a dozen courses, 44 symposia and 31 workshops, bringing together experts in their field who will relate their own experiences and give future perspectives of their topic areas. Together with interactive self-assessment sessions, “What’s New?” lectures, focus sessions and satellite symposia, the Congress programme will give a comprehensive insight into diagnostic and therapeutic developments in dermatology and venereology.

The Plenary Lectures will cover hot dermato-political topics and highlights of dermatological research:

- L Braathen (Ittigen, Switzerland) will “Discuss Guidelines: Sense or Nonsense? Useful or Useless?”
- H Gollnick (Magdeburg, Germany) will give an insight into “The Health Care Perspective of European Dermatology”
- P N Naido (Durban, South Africa) will point out “The Pandemic Next Door - HIV in Africa”
- D R Roop (Denver, USA) will lecture on “The Role of Stem Cells in Skin Disease and Therapies”
- S Schneider (Münster, Germany) will discuss “Nanotechnology as a New Challenge for Dermatology”

In addition to the scientific events at the Congress itself, EADV will continue its successful partnership with specialised dermatological sub-specialty societies who will hold satellite meetings at the Congress Centre on the Wednesday prior to the Congress opening. For detailed information please consult our website at www.EADVBerlin2009.com.

EADV and the Local Organising Committee are pleased to welcome you in Berlin and will do their very best to make this Congress a most memorable scientific, social and cultural experience. We are very much looking forward to seeing you in Berlin.

Prof Thomas A Luger
Congress President 2009

Key Dates to Remember

- Fellowship Application closes
  30 April 2009
- Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts
  31 May 2009
- Early Bird Registration closes
  19 June 2009
- Deadline for Hotel Reservation
  8 July 2009
- Congress Opening Ceremony
  7 October 2009 at 18h30
The first Joint Symposium between EADV and AAD took place during the 17th EADV Congress in Paris in September 2008 and focused on the possible differences between the USA and Europe in the approach to common skin diseases, particularly inflammatory skin disease and skin cancer.

Due to a technical problem, the approaches to non-melanoma skin cancer were only given from the American point of view, by Dr Mary Maloney (Worcester, Massachusetts) who focused on the high risk squamous cell carcinoma and the early recognition by detection of single-cell tumours, especially perineural involvement as indicators for bad prognosis. She also showed the positive predictive value of immunohistochemical keratin-staining in order to gain prognostic information.

Similar approaches
Under the chairmanship of Prof Alberto Giannetti (Past President, EADV) and Dr William Hanke (President, AAD) similarities and differences in the approach to the management of atopic eczema were also discussed. David Pariser MD (Norfolk, Virginia) presented the American view giving 10 tips for the clinical management of atopic dermatitis, from accurate diagnosis to good advice "when everything else fails" (what he called "eczema from hell") and only systemic immunosuppression is available.

Prof Johannes Ring (Munich, Germany), who was supposed to present the European view, admitted in his introduction that there was no such thing and that there is not even a "German" or a "Munich" view and that sometimes he himself is unsure how to approach certain patients. He began by outlining new progress in discovering the nature of the disturbed skin barrier ("dry skin") on the basis of filaggrin mutations and other genetic markers and also stressed the role of the deviated immune response and allergy. He clearly demonstrated that IgE-mediated allergy is not only an epiphenomenon in eczema, but that the "atopy patch test" (APT) can be used as a predictive instrument to show the relevance of environmental allergens specific for the eczematous skin inflammation.

New progress
In the complex management of eczema, which includes much more than the prescription of an ointment or a pill, an educational programme “Eczema School” has been developed in Germany and evaluated in a randomised controlled prospective trial with significant success.

So, in conclusion, the similarities were much more prominent than the disparities. However, some differences with regard to the role of allergy and use of anti-inflammatory agents were detectable.

It was fun for the audience to hear the views from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and we hope to continue this experience also in America at an AAD Congress.

Future projects
There are future collaborative projects that are already in the planning stages. On 25-28 June 2009 we will have a stand-alone meeting in Munich that will be directed by Prof Johannes Ring. This collaboration will provide both US and European speakers in a very lively format. This international collaboration will benefit all participants and will develop the culture of co-operation, benefiting our patients, our members and the global community. (Applications to attend the Munich Meeting can be made at www.eadv.org.)

Prof Johannes Ring (EADV)
Dr Mary Maloney (AAD)
We would like to present to you the top topics and most attended events from the 2008 Paris Congress.

Your CME evaluations have been very valuable for us to establish statistics which are a useful tool for the programming of future EADV Congresses and Spring Symposia.

We only considered for rating and ranking events with 20+ attendees.

The rating of speakers will again not be published.

Speakers may ask for their personal data by sending an e-mail to:
cme-cpd@eadv.org

TEN BEST ATTENDED TOPICS:
1. New Insights and New Therapies in Vitiligo (PL05)
2. What’s New in Therapeutics? (WN02)
3. Alopecia (S06)
4. Rosacea and Seborrheic Dermatitis (W28)
5. Evidence-based Medicine: from the Evidence to the Patient (PL06)
6. What’s New in Paediatric Dermatology? (WN 03)
7. What’s New in Clinical Dermatology? (WN 01)
8. Acne (S13)
9. Adverse Drug Reactions (S18)
10. Atopic Dermatitis (PL04)

TEN HIGHEST RATED EVENTS:
1. Genetics (W26)
2. Dermoscopy-A: Basic (C10)
3. Pathomechanisms in Cutaneous Contact Skin Reactions (TY06)
4. Dermato-Surgery Live (COSA)
5. Test Yourself in Dermoscopy – interactive (TY03)
6. Evidence-based Medicine: from the Evidence to the Patient (PL06)
7. Melanocytic Naevus (W35)
8. Dermoscopy-B: Advanced (C15)
9. Hemangiomas and Vascular Malformation (S28)
10. Test Yourself in Internal Medicine (TY05)

The ranking reflects, in an exemplary manner, the wide range of our specialty and what our members consider relevant for their daily practice.

From the CME point of view as well, the Paris Congress was a great success with well deserved thanks to Prof Pascal Joly and his team!

Note: due to scanning problems outside the control of EADV staff, a few events could not be included in the statistics and some of our members’ CME certificates contained errors. We apologise.

On behalf of the CME-CPD Committee
Dr Jean-Paul A Gabbud
Chairman
jgabbud@bluewin.ch

Successful session at Paris Congress

On the basis of the new EADV Statutes, junior members have a special status within the Academy. This was first reflected at the Vienna Congress, organised by Erwin Tschachler, where the junior members got a special symposium for themselves.

With great success this was repeated at the Paris Congress (organised by Pascal Joly) where under the chairmanship of Prof Erwin Tschachler, Prof Deedee Murrell and Prof Johannes Ring the best posters of junior members were selected out of around 140 posters and presenters were invited to give an oral presentation at the junior members’ symposium. Furthermore, they received a personal gift in the form of a dermatoscope at the end of the session.

Junior members represent an important part of our Academy. EADV has decided to further promote special activities for junior members at our congresses. Prof Thomas Luger will therefore organise an event for junior members at the Berlin Congress in October 2009.

Update from the CME-CPD Committee

And the winners are... the “Derm-Ven Oscars”, Paris Congress 2008
At the recent EADV Congress in Paris, you might have noticed our Media Workshop in the programme. This is now becoming well established and we received a lot of positive and encouraging feedback from participants.

Again, we followed the adage “learning by doing” and used practical exercises with microphones and cameras in order to set the participant in an almost real interview situation with a journalist. The training objective was to spread dermatological messages in public relations and focused on the knowledge and skills transfer.

As we had to limit the number of participants due to the technical equipment, we were happy to have had so many requests. In the end, three very talented groups of about 6 people were moderated and trained by Dr Klaus Fritz, Chairman of the Media & PR Committee, Dr Colm O’Mahony and Dr Myrto Trakatelli, both members of the Committee.

A big ‘thank-you’ must also go to the company VideoArt which helped us with the technical part of the workshop.

Mark your calendar for the next Media Workshop at the EADV Congress in Berlin, Germany! We look forward to seeing you there.

Dr Klaus Fritz, Chairman
Dr Colm O’Mahony
Dr Myrto Trakatelli

The work during the entire workshop was organised in a perfect way. The participants were split into three groups, each chaired by one of the Media and PR Committee members Dr Klaus Fritz, Dr Myrto Trakatelli or Dr Colm O’Mahony. I was in Dr Trakatelli’s group and she conducted interviews either in French or English according to the participants’ request. “Learning by doing” interviews with each participant on 3 different topics were commented on in depth by Dr Trakatelli, who has a proper professional background in this matter, together with her vast theatre experience. I was most grateful for her fruitful comments.

Especially because I am interested in the psychological aspects of dermatology and realise that putting one’s time and energy in order to shape somebody for the better could be also difficult for the interviewer. This was reflected by one of the participants who said that his friends watching his interviews never pointed out to him so many mistakes. I would like to express my great thanks to Drs Fritz, Trakatelli and O’Mahony and to Stefanie Blum for organising this most useful workshop – I have learnt a lot. Please do continue!”

Dr Anna Zalewska (Poland)
The Ethics Committee last met on 18 September 2008 at the Palais de Congrès in Paris, attended by Hans W Rothenborg (DK, Chairman), Anne Kobza Black (UK), Antonio Picoto (P) and Lucio Andreassi (I). Committee Secretary Michael Waugh (UK) was excused.

The discussion centred on:

1. The urgent need for implementation of earlier recommendations from our committee regarding the need for speakers and presenters of posters at our meetings to make statements regarding possible conflicts of interest.

   “A workshop well conducted indeed. It was a good idea to divide the participants into groups so that everyone got a chance to be in front of the camera. In these times it is good to have dermatologists who are trained to handle media interviews so that the professional viewpoint gets to the public. It may not be a bad idea if the duration of the workshop is increased so that more doctors could be trained.”

   Dr Soma Prashant (India)

   “Thank you for this interesting workshop, I enjoyed it very much, I think it is very interesting, and practical. I think there is a great need for this. I hope that on other meetings I will be able to attend again.”

   Dr Zsuzsanna Szalai (Hungary)

   “Thanks so much! The session was the best I attended at the EADV. I had no change to suggest. Keep it for next time is my recommendation.”

   Dr Anne Bouloc (France)

   “I found the Media Workshop very interesting and helpful to train myself to be able to communicate my ideas as a dermatologist to the average person in a clear way.”

   Dr Hector Murakami (Peru)

   “The workshop was indeed very useful and informative. But I wish to say that it would have been better if there were lectures as well.”

   Dr Maya Vedamurthy (India)

   “First of all I would like to thank you once again for giving me a chance to participate in such a perfectly planned, most informative and fruitful workshop. Congratulations to you all! We are all looking forward to the next one in Berlin!”

   Dr Korina Tzima (Greece)

   “It was a real pleasure to attend the EADV media training and I found it extremely helpful, very educational and also very professional. The tips were also very good. I would like to thank you very much for your efforts in making sure it happened!”

   Dr Wanda Robles (UK)

2. As a new point, it was discussed and unanimously agreed by the four members present, that we will recommend to the Board, that is becomes STATUTORY POLICY that “The interest of the EADV should take priority over personal and national society interests especially for members of the Board and the Executive Committee”

3. In accordance with the last report from our committee, Hans Rothenborg retired as chairman at the end of the meeting, since his term of office had come to an end. He will stay on as acting chairman until the Bucharest meeting.

On behalf of the committee

Hans W Rothenborg MD
“My name is Ettore Minutilli and I am a dermatologist working in private practice and at the Department of Surgical Sciences at the Catholic University of Sacred Heart in Rome (Italy). Because my principal interest is dermatosurgery, particularly skin cancers, I applied for the EADV Fostering Programme to visit a European Centre of Excellence and was accepted to attend the Skin Cancer Centre run by Prof Eggert Stockfleth at the Department of Dermatology-Venereology-Allergology Charité - University Berlin, from 17-21 November 2008.

On the morning of the first day, as I travelled from my hotel to the Charité Campus Mitte, I understood immediately the high prestige of the university as the surrounding streets were named after and had monuments to renowned scientists who had worked there in the past. Once I arrived in Skin Cancer Centre Charité, on the 3rd floor of the building dedicated completely to the dermatological sciences, Prof Stockfleth’s secretary, Janine Schweiger, had already planned my scientific sessions during the entire internship.

I attended surgical lists run by Dr Sylke Schneider in the morning and a laser workshop given by Dr Maja Hofmann in the afternoon, discussing new techniques applied to their patients. The next day, I attended consultations given by Dr Uwe Trefzer to patients suffering from metastatic melanoma treated with iv high-dose interferon-alpha or chemotherapy, according to the stage of their advanced disease, suggesting possible new clinical trials and future scientific collaborations.

On 19 November, the whole day was dedicated to visiting patients admitted to the hospital, together with Prof Sterry, Dr Schulze and young colleagues coming from other countries, fostering friendships around the world. The next morning, I attended consultations given by Dr Matthias Steinhoff to patients suffering from cutaneous lymphomas and in the afternoon, consultations given by Dr Susanne Astner to patients suffering from vascular malformations, discussing new therapeutic approaches for these diseases.

Every day before lunch there was a review of all interesting cases seen in the department. On my last day I visited dermatological services sited in Charité Campus Benjamin Franklin, together with

Dr Bernhard Lange-Asschenfeldt and my Italian colleague Dr Valentina Siddi, in the morning and laboratories in Charité Campus Mitte, together with Dr Jurgen Eberle, in the afternoon, before saying goodbye to Prof Stockfleth and Prof Sterry.

The aims of my EADV Fostering Programme were achieved and future scientific projects for the next EADV Congress in Berlin were made together with these kind German colleagues. I hope that other young dermatologists can also benefit their careers through this wonderful initiative.

Thank you very much to the EADV Fostering Committee and Skin Cancer Centre Charité!

Ettore Minutilli MD

Visit to a Centre of Excellence in Berlin

Dr Ettore Minutilli (centre) with Dr Susanne Astner and Dr Matthias Steinhoff in the Skin Cancer Centre Charité
Ayse Akman (Turkey)

“My name is Ayse Akman. I was born in 1974 in Balikesir, Turkey. I graduated from the School of Medicine, Osmangazi University, Turkey in 1997 and completed my residency of four years in the Department of Dermatology at Cukurova University, School of Medicine, Adana, Turkey. During that time, I especially gained experience in the diagnosis and treatment of cutaneous leishmaniasis, pemphigus and Behcet’s diseases. For the past 18 months, collaborating with Professor Soner Uzun, I have been working on autoimmune bullous disorders.

I had the chance to work with Professor Jean-Claude Bystryn at New York University, mainly focusing on pemphigus. I took a dermatopathology course and studied the limitations of desmoglein ELISA assays. After I had completed my compulsory utility in Nevsehir, I began working in the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at Akdeniz University, School of Medicine, Antalya, Turkey in 2004. Our city is located in the Mediterranean coastal region. The weather in summer is hot with mild, rainy conditions in winter. Therefore, I have come across many mycotic infections involving deep forms, cutaneous leishmaniasis as well as skin cancer, especially melanoma.

In our department, I have been working on autoimmune diseases especially Behcet’s Disease, pemphigus and melanoma with Professor Erkan Alpsoy, phototherapy with Professor Ertan Yilmaz and laser with Associate Professor Ozlem Dicle. I am a member of the Turkish Dermatology Society, Society of Investigative Dermatology (SID), and EADV. SID gave me the opportunity to take an Albert M Kligman Fellowship. I hope to join a fellowship programme and collaborate with other dermatologists in Europe.

My wishes for EADV are for it to become a network to provide possibilities for scientific exchange and clinical skills training. I hope that the Academy will organise symposia and congresses on specific topics, gathering together young dermatologists and authors to be able to share their experiences in their fields.”

Madalina Geanta (Romania)

“I studied medicine at the Carol Davila University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, where I graduated in 2006. What attracted me towards dermatology was the fact that it is so deeply connected to many other disciplines: internal medicine, pathology, paediatrics, infectious diseases and plastic surgery.

In Romania, it takes 5 years of postgraduate study to become a dermatologist. Resident positions are obtained after a highly competitive national exam, the residents choosing their specialty by rank. The training scheme consists of 3 years of actual dermatology training, the other 2 years being dedicated to the study of other subjects, such as internal medicine, general and plastic surgery, infectious diseases and allergology.

Throughout our training, not only do we learn how to diagnose and treat various conditions, but we also perform dermatosurgical procedures. At the end of the 5-year curriculum, we must all pass a final written and oral examination, so that we can become certified specialists.

I am now a third-year resident in one of the oldest dermatology clinics in the country, Scarlet Longhin Clinical Hospital of Dermatology in Bucharest, whose head of department is Simona Roxana Georgescu.

Becoming a junior member of EADV in 2007 opened an entire new world: access to the members’ section of the website, online access to JEADV, reduced registration fees at EADV events, a travel scholarship to attend the AAD Congress this year, taking part in Fostering Dermatology courses, first in Sofia (Sexually-Transmitted Diseases) and afterwards in Berlin (Autoimmunity and Psoriasis). Thus, I was able to meet residents from all over Europe and exchange experience, to learn some of the latest findings in dermatology and to watch instructive clinical cases being presented.

One of my aims is to become involved in clinical research, in order to enhance my understanding of dermatological disorders. With this in mind, I started a Master’s course in Biostatistics, at the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, hoping that the knowledge gained will bring me closer to this goal.

As the next EADV Spring Symposium will be held in Bucharest, I’m looking forward to welcoming here all of the new friends I’ve made thanks to EADV and to help them discover my world!”
Syphilis is a sexually transmitted treponematosis. Globally, it accounts for about 3% of all STIs, estimated by the World Health Organization. However, many countries of the former USSR have experienced major epidemics of syphilis in the 1990s. The beginning of the 21st century also saw a rise in syphilis morbidity in western countries as well, especially among gay and HIV-positive men. Congenital syphilis is an international maternal health priority.

If the 19th century was the era of the syphilis clinical discovery in terms of its clinical characterisation, then the 20th century was the era of syphilis scientific discovery: Roux, Metchnikoff, Schaudin, Wassermann, Erlich, Fleming and many others have contributed to our understanding and management of the infection. The last major discovery of the 20th century was the revealing of the genome of treponema pallidum in 1998 by a group of scientists from Texas, USA.

Americans are also pioneers in syphilis epidemiology, launching the world’s first syphilis elimination effort in 1999.

What can we expect in the near future? Are we going to see a decline in the global STI morbidity in times of a global economic crisis? Yes and no. “Yes” in the developed world and “no” in the developing. And when the crisis is over, it will probably be the reverse. What are our tasks in between? One of the major task for all European countries is to establish a common STI policy and standards and support STI science and clinics.

EADV, with its venereology branch, should be an active player in the global STI arena.

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State Of The Art In Dermatology: EADV/AAD Review Course

**25-28 June, 2009**
Hotel Maritim in Munich, Germany

Course chairpersons: Johannes Ring (EADV) & Mary Maloney (AAD)
Applications will be received up to 19 June, 2009 as long as places are available
Course registration fee: 300 Euros for EADV/AAD members, 450 Euros for non-members
Number of places: 200 - allocated on a first come-first served basis, register early!
Course language: English, CME accreditation: tbc
Further Information & the application form available at: [www.eadv.org](http://www.eadv.org)
EADV has launched its new home page. This is the culmination of intense work after our contract with our previous partner finished. It has been a hectic year, trying to make all the changes with minimal disruption for our members and users. The Website Committee has been involved, but nothing would have been possible without the work of the EADV Board, Executive Committee and staff.

Online CME
The new platform will facilitate the expansion of new services, mainly with the integration of EADV Congress presentations and registrations. We are enthusiastic about this option and we hope to implement it as soon as possible. The new system will enable us to set up one of our most long-awaited projects, online CME. EADV will provide the content and administer the CME points. In addition, the records of all CME points awarded to our members in EADV meetings and online CME will be stored on our servers. This is also exciting news.

Changes
Unfortunately, we have had to renounce some of the services we provided to our members. The most relevant is the webmail. The service has been shut down and the users have been informed. The Forum has also been closed down. We apologise to the members that used these services. We have to discuss and plan their future with the new providers.

We want to encourage you to visit the EADV website, and explore the new layout. All the contents are there, the headlines, news from congresses and scholarships, the Virtual Library, the presentations from our meetings, the press corner... and we have launched a new space: Patient Corner.

The new platform gives us new exciting and powerful tools that will allow us to enhance our website. We look at EADV's online future with increased optimism.

Prof Pablo F Peñas
Chairman
Website Committee

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**Board Member Profile**

**Martino Neumann**
(The Netherlands)

Martino Neumann has been Professor of Dermatology and Venereology at the Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum, Rotterdam, since 2002. He began his medical studies at the Rijksuniversiteit Leiden before specialising in dermatovenereology at the Gemeentelijke Universiteit Amsterdam, where his doctoral thesis was on the "Relevance of fluorescence techniques in immunological mediated skin disease." From 1997-2001, he was Professor of Dermatology and Phlebology at the Universiteit Maastricht. Before that, he worked at the district hospital Elkeriek in Helmond, The Netherlands.

Prof Neumann’s special research interests are in skin and light, dermatoncology and dermatophlebology and his current research topics include evidence-based phlebology and non-melanoma skin cancer.
Update from the Membership Committee

New membership categories

Two years ago, EADV moved its country of registration from Luxembourg to Switzerland. The move was motivated by a need to improve certain operational aspects of the Academy, not least the eradication of the archaic system of proxy voting during elections.

This move, however, also meant that the Academy alters its membership structure such that it opens its doors to all interested applicants, not necessarily dermatology/venereology-related practitioners. According to Swiss law, this rather contentious clause will enable EADV to drastically minimise substantial unforeseen tax dues, in turn saving the Academy from financial crisis and hence ensuring its survival, as well as a healthy budget for worthy causes such as medical education.

All new members in the voting categories will be eligible to vote after one year of membership. This new measure was introduced in order to minimise the possibility of one-off strategic applications connected with elections.

New measures
The application form has been simplified to make it easier for potential applicants. For security reasons applicants are now required to forward a copy of their passport or ID card. Those applying online will subsequently be asked to confirm their intention to join EADV in a further communication by post. In view of the new ordinary category which has effectively opened the Academy’s doors to the public at large, the number of specialist endorsers that is required with each application has been increased from two to three.

It will be interesting to see what will happen next to the pattern of the Academy’s membership following such radical changes. We shall, of course, have to keep an open mind and be ready to act according to future trends in order to safeguard the Academy’s interests and what it stands for.

Dr Lawrence Scerri
Chairman
Membership Committee

The recently approved revised categories of membership comprise:

**Specialists**
European certified dermatologists/venereologists or non-European dermatologists/venereologists certified in Europe, voting €150

**Ordinary**
Any European national who accepts the principles and the purposes of the EADV and who is accepted by the Board according to art. 4 of the statutes, voting €170

**Junior**
European dermatology/venereology trainees of any age or certified dermatologists/venereologists below 35 years, voting €75

**International**
(a) Specialist - Non-European certified dermatologists/venereologists, non-voting €150
(b) Scientist - Non-European scientists holding PhD or equivalent in dermatology/venereology, non-voting €150
(c) Junior – Non-European dermatology/venereology trainees, non-voting €75

**Honorary and founding**
Granted by the Board to distinguished persons who have performed particular meritorious services to EADV, voting No fee

**Retired**
Former specialist members who have reached the age of 65 years and have retired from active professional practice, non-voting €75

**Supporting organisations**
(a) Companies - which are particularly active in the field of dermatology/venereology, non-voting €1000
(b) National societies – Non-voting, fee according to number of society members

All membership categories are entitled to paper and electronic versions of EADV News and JEADV, except: international junior members who are eligible for electronic versions of the JEADV only, companies who receive the JEADV hard copy only, and national societies who have special agreements with EADV.
Dear friends,

Many of us have recently been to the AAD meeting in San Francisco where the record attendance was a great and welcome surprise, since a substantial decline was expected in view of the current economic situation. As the priest at St Patrick’s Cathedral said during his sermon, “Things must be looking up if the Academy is here in such numbers!” Apart from the science, the EADV party was hugely successful with a magnificent venue overlooking the bay and thanks are due to the sponsors and to Nancy Induni who organised the event.

Membership changes

We hope and trust that the record attendance at AAD will hold for our EADV meetings this year. In a few weeks we shall meet in Bucharest where Dan Forsea and his hard-working team will, I am sure, give us a meeting to be proud of and Congress Berlin in October will surely be a superlative meeting.

Our paying membership in 2009 is currently showing a decline. While we usually see a decline during non-election years, this year’s figures may be aggravated further by the recession and the abolishing of the electronic membership, as well as a misunderstanding of the concept of Society membership. This issue will be no doubt addressed in detail by the Membership Committee and the Board of Directors. The recommendations for Statutes changes made by the Board in Paris concerning privileges for new applicants have been under study by the Statutes Committee for some time and their recommendation for a decision by a General Meeting is expected shortly.

On the plus side, we are receiving an increasing and most welcome number of applications from countries hitherto poorly represented, in particular from Russia which, together with an application to hold a Symposium in Moscow, illustrates the increasing interest Russian dermatologists have in EADV.

More representative

You will be please to hear that the reasonable concerns voiced about inappropriate applications for membership have happily turned out to be unwarranted and to date only one perfectly qualified new applicant for this category has been admitted to Ordinary membership. The additions to the Statutes adopted by the Board will, after acceptance by the General Meeting, make it even more difficult for such a situation to occur. Meanwhile we should however explore ways in which to bring into EADV both dermatology nurses’ associations as well as patients’ representatives, both of which will serve to enrich EADV and help it fulfil its mission statement even more successfully.

Our Board committees are now practically complete and the newly-elected members take over in Bucharest. We congratulate them and are most grateful to them for offering their services to EADV. Concurrently, a big vote of thanks goes to outgoing members for their sterling work which makes a major contribution to the workings of our Academy.

Joseph L Pace
Secretary General

Please send your suggestions, feedback and contributions to EADV News Administrative Officer, Stefanie Blum at: stefanie@eadv.org
Send your pictures to EADV News ...

Send us pictures of dermato-venereology practice to: stefanie@eadv.org

A selection of these images will be published in upcoming issues of EADV News.

Important note: Pictures must be submitted in eps, jpg, or tif format. Please ensure that your pictures are high resolution images: 300 dpi

Back scratchers

Manfred S Rothstein MD FACP, a dermatologist at the Fayetteville Dermatology Clinic in North Carolina (USA) has a world-famous collection of back scratchers. In his dermatological office there are hundreds of back scratchers from all over the world and in each practice room there are many varieties to see. He has an official statement from the Guinness Book of Records that he has the world’s largest collection. Dr Rothstein has been working in his dermatological practice for more than 30 years and many patients bring new back scratchers to him when travelling around the world. It is possible to view the collection by contacting his office. I visited him in 2007 and we had a great discussion about pruritus and therapy options with behaviour treatment of itch by using back scratchers. In 1965, even Playboy showed a model with a back scratcher on its cover! Dr Rothstein is a very friendly and highly enthusiastic dermatologist and hopes he can inspire European dermatologists to start their own collections of whatever dermatology-related items interest them!

Text and photos: Prof Dr Uwe Gieler, Germany
PLAYBOY cover photo: courtesy of PLAYBOY © by Playboy.com, Inc

Calendar of Events

> 2009

6th EADV Spring Symposium
Bucharest, Romania
23-26 April 2009

12th World Congress on Cancers of the Skin
Tel Aviv, Israel
3-6 May 2009

10th International Congress of Dermatology
Prague, Czech Republic
20-24 May 2009

15th International Congress on Photobiology
Düsseldorf, Germany
18-23 June 2009

2nd World Psoriasis & Psoriatic Arthritis Conference 2009
Stockholm, Sweden
24-28 June 2009

State of the Art in Dermatology: EADV/AAD Review Course
Munich, Germany
25-28 June 2009

13th Congress of the European Society for Dermatology and Psychiatry (ESDaP)
Venice, Italy
17-22 September 2009

Photodermatology Meeting & Photopatch Test Course
Krakow (Cracow), Poland
18-19 September 2009

European Congress on Anti-Aging & Aesthetic Medicine (ECAAAM)
Mainz/Frankfurt, Germany
October 2009

18th EADV Congress
Berlin, Germany
7-11 October 2009

11th IUSTI World Congress
Cape Town, South Africa
9-12 November 2009

11th World Congress of Pediatrics Dermatology
WCPD 2009
Bangkok, Thailand
17-20 November 2009

> 2010

7th EADV Spring Symposium
Cavtat, Croatia
13-16 May 2010

19th EADV Congress
Gothenburg, Sweden
6-10 October 2010
Berlin 2009
18th Congress of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology
7-11 October 2009, ICC Berlin
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