



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

NEWS & VIEWS – DECEMBER 2004

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A FRIENDLY REMINDER OF THE THIRD WORLD CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE (ISPRM), TO BE HELD IN SAO PAULO, BRAZIL, ON APRIL 10 - 15, 2005.

By **Linamara Rizzo Battistella**, chairperson and **Marta Imamura**, coordinator, **Scientific Committee**

It will be a meeting where experts in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation will share their knowledge and experience, as well as discuss current concepts of disability and future directions for the field.

Our goal is to provide multiple opportunities for participants to interact through discussion of presentations, "get togethers" with experts and lunch sessions to review the current status of mechanism-based treatment. Interactions will hopefully generate ideas for future studies and research collaboration among participants. Hands-on demonstration of new approaches for treating patients with the most common rehabilitation conditions will also be available.

Visit our site: www.isprm.org/brazil

Get prepared for our social programs, which are extensive to the Congress participants' companions, as well as tour opportunities in a country famous for its great natural beauty.

Hospitality is a tradition in Brazil, and our event will be characterized by great social events. Do not miss this unique opportunity; you will not only participate in an excellent scientific meeting, but you will be in contact with colleagues from all over the world in a joyful, brotherly environment, with plenty of music, fine cuisine and nice entertainment.

We will have very special social events, such as:

- 1- Welcome party with a music and dancing show
- 2- Talent show, where participants will display their "other gifts" (further information and registration at the Congress website), followed by a samba school performance.
- 3- Gala Dinner – Mask Ball
- 4- Korean Festival
- 5- Closing cocktail

We have selected excellent hotels with lowest rates and high accessibility. Also, we have prepared great pre- and post- Congress sightseeing programs. Visit our website, register, and bring your family along! Make the most of this opportunity and enjoy those well-deserved vacations in a beautiful country.

We have also prepared an excellent program for your companions, such as:

1. Guided tour visits
2. Brazilian food cooking course
3. Visit to jewelry manufacturer Amsterdam Sauer, followed by a Brazil-designed jewelry show

Join us for strengthening our specialty! Sao Paulo awaits you with wide-open arms!



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THE ISPRM BOARD AND COMMITTEE

By Werner Van Cleemputte

During the Antalya Board Meetings the new ISPRM Board has been installed. Also the Committees have been appointed and installed so that they can become active within the ISPRM from now on.

Please find attached an Excel file including all functions, names and email addresses of all Board and Committee members. We kindly advise you to save this file: it will be useful if you need to contact ISPRM Board Members.

THE NEW ISPRM WEBSITE – ON-LINE ON JANUARY 1ST

By Werner Van Cleemputte

The development of the new ISPRM website is now in its final stage. We will have some very attractive new tools on the website and one of them will be the Membership list. This will enable you all to communicate very easily with all your colleagues - ISPRM Members - over the website. Your address and email address will be published on the site for the benefit of exchange possibilities with your colleagues. However if you do not wish your personal contact details to be published on the website you can inform the Central Office and your privacy will be respected.

[Release data of the completely rebuilt ISPRM website: January 1st](#)

NEW BYLAWS AND POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

By Jose Jimenez & John Melvin

The new By-Laws and Policies and Procedures, approved by the ISPRM Board of Governors during its meeting on September 30, 2004 in Antalya, will be published on the new ISPRM website.

ISPRM MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2005

By Werner Van Cleemputte

You will all receive an invitation to renew your ISPRM membership for the year 2005 in the upcoming days. Your membership is important for the ISPRM, yes even crucial in order to further develop the ISPRM not only financially but also to consolidate the representation of the ISPRM and its members worldwide. Belonging to this society as a member is therefore essential for each individual PM&R specialist and national society.

2005 members will not only receive their membership card but also the Membership Certificate that will be printed on vellum for display in your cabinet.

If any questions about membership should arise, please feel free to contact the Central Office.

THE ISPRM AWARDS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS – REMINDER

By Werner Van Cleemputte

The nomination policy of the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) stipulates that the Awards Committee must make recommendations to the Board of Governors for the Herman J. Flax Lifetime Achievement and the Sidney Licht Lectureship Awards.

The Award Committee, chaired by our Past President Haim Ring, herewith would like to make a [CALL FOR NOMINATIONS](#). ISPRM members in good standing can forward their nominees to the Central Office **by January 31 at the latest**. All nominations must be accompanied by a justification and a short CV of the candidates.

The Awards Committee will announce its decision at the upcoming ISPRM World Congress in Sao Paolo.



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CONFERENCE NEWS - BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

By **Mohd Taslim Uddin**

Secretary of the Bangladesh Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

The 3rd National Convention and Scientific Conference with the International participation of the Bangladesh Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation was held on October 5th – 6th 2004 at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, Dhaka. This time we had a pre-conference reception and two full days of scientific and social programs. A coloured souvenir was published with the messages from Her Excellency Hon'ble Prime Minister of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and ISPRM president Prof H. Ring. Hon'ble Health Minister, The State Minister, Health Secretary, Director General of Health Services and High Officials of the Bangladesh Medical Association graced the Inaugural Ceremony with their presence. Scientific sessions were attended in large numbers and the cultural soirée was exciting.

Conference summary -

The theme of this conference was “Enrich PM&R – Reach out all Medical Colleges”.

The 3rd National Convention and Scientific conference with international participation has a mission and vision to focus the ideology of the association on a local and international level. It aims at professional development of the specialty and at implementing the developments in the Rehabilitation Health care delivery system of Bangladesh.

Conference recommendations –

1. PM&R should be taught at the undergraduate level
2. Masters/ Fellows and other Postgraduate courses in Medical Rehabilitation can be run in the Postgraduate Institutes
3. Development of trained and skilled paramedical staff e.g. Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Rehab Nurse, Orthotist and Prosthetist for a team work
4. Better patient management through Rehab services
5. Exchange of views and maintain liaison with other international societies to keep updated knowledge and latest developments in the field of rehab medicine
6. Promotion of Bone and Joints Decade
7. Development of an uniform guideline for the prevention and treatment of disability and rehabilitation of the disabled in the society
8. Better patient management with Rehab Team Approach
9. Setup of the “National Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation”.



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DISCUSSION ON TOPICS – A NEW NEWS & VIEWS APPROACH

Nicolas Christodoulou

A new approach for N & V is to have topics to be open for discussion. The following article is a first one in a row and we would like to receive your comments on this article (please forward them by email to info@isprm.org)

IS THERE A NEED FOR PHYSICAL TREATMENT FOR FACIAL PALSY?

By: Tarek S. Shafshak, MD

Professor of Physical Medicine, Rheumatology & Rehabilitation Faculty of Medicine, Alexandria University, Egypt.

There is a relatively high incidence for Bell's palsy in Alexandria, Egypt. It is also common in many Mediterranean countries and other parts of the world. The use of corticosteroids (CS) in Bell's palsy has improved the prognosis (complete recovery was found in about 70% of the control subjects, but in 90% or more of those who received CS). Furthermore, it was found that the success of CS in improving the prognosis of Bell's palsy depended not only on its appropriate dose (1 mg of prednisone /kg body wt for 5-10 days), but also on its early intake. Furthermore, patients treated with acyclovir (400 mg 5 times/day for 7-10 days) and prednisone (40-60 mg/day) were found to have faster and more complete recovery than patients treated with prednisone alone. The new antiviral "valacyclovir" has better gastric absorption and less gastric irritation than acyclovir. The combination of valacyclovir (1 g tds for 7 days) and prednisone (50 mg/day for 5 days) has also been found to be effective in improving the outcome of BP.

Facial muscle protection from injury may be achieved by the use of porous adhesive tape (adherent to the skin and extending from the angle of the mouth to the tragus) to prevent deviation of the mouth to the healthy side during smiling. Eye protection can be achieved by the use of protective eyeglasses (to protect the eyes from dust & light), artificial tears & antibiotic eye ointment (during sleep).

The role of physiotherapy in treating facial palsy or BP may be controversial. Many physical modalities in the form of local heat, massage, exercises and biofeedback training are usually recommended. However, there is still controversy about the role of electrical stimulation. Some recommend TENS and others use interrupted galvanic stimulation. On the other hand, few do recommend electrical stimulation in BP or facial palsy to reduce the cost of treatment or for fear of interfering with reinnervation, but the latter may not be true. Furthermore, the role of some physical modalities [e.g. short wave diathermy (SWD), pulsed SWD and ultrasound (USD) at the mastoid process] may be questionable. Some do not believe in the efficacy of pulsed SWD, besides SWD or USD may have serious hazards on the inflamed nerve during the early stage of BP.

Acupuncture and magnetic pellets in combination with medical and physical therapy were reported to be effective, but the real efficacy of these modalities needs further assessment. Besides, there were some reports about chiropractic manipulation with high-voltage electrotherapy in BP. The relation between chiropractic manipulation of the cervical spine and BP is unclear.

It is evident from this review that there is controversy about the efficacy of physiotherapy in treating facial palsy or BP. Also, we hope that any future animal or human experiment on the efficacy of electrical stimulation would focus on the appropriate parameters (including the intensity, frequency & pulse duration) of the used electrical current to have a firm conclusion on their real efficacy. I suggest the development of a facial nerve group (with the help of the ISPRM) that include many physiatrists from different countries to investigate the real efficacy of physical treatment in Bell's palsy. Thus, we may overcome the contradictory views; and may agree on a universal scientific protocol for managing facial palsy.

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THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

NEWS & VIEWS – DECEMBER 2004

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Please feel free to submit articles for the News & Views and to take part in our Editorial Board.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

Congresses with the ISPRM logo are endorsed by the ISPRM and offer reduced fees to ISPRM Members

- 26th Annual Conference of the **Indian Association of Sports Medicine**, 6-9 January 2005, Chennai, India. Contact: jssandhu2000@yahoo.com



33rd Annual Conference of Indian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, 27-30 January 2005, Bangalore, India - visit: <http://nimhans.kar.nic.in/iapmrcon2005>

ISPRM CENTRAL OFFICE:

WERNER VAN CLEEMPUTTE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

www.isprm.org

Address Waalpoel 28 / 34 - B-9960, Assenede, Belgium - Phone +32 9 344 39 59 - Fax +32 9 344 40 10 - isprm@medicongress.com



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NEWS & VIEWS – DECEMBER 2004



Meeting of the Biofeedback Foundation of Europe (BFE), February 22-26, 2005 Hasselt, Belgium, visit www.bfe.org



3rd ISPRM World Congress - April 10-14, 2005 in Sao Paulo, Brazil,
www.isprm.org/brazil

- **6th World Congress on Brain Injury – IBIA**, in conjunction with the 13th Annual Meeting of the **Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM)**, 5 – 8 May 2005, Melbourne, Australia – www.icms.com.au/braininjury
- **2nd State-of-the-Art in Chronic Low Back Pain Symposium**, 10-13 May 2005, Bodrum (Turkey). Visit: www.vitalmedbodrum.com
- **ISSLS 2005**, Annual Congress of the **International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine**, 10-14 May 2005, New York: contact Margareta.Nordin@nyu.edu – www.issls.org
- **Headache and Facial Pain, May 20-22, 2005, The Royal Sonesta Hotel, Cambridge, MA**, Visit: www.med.harvard.edu/conted
- **3rd International Conference on Bone and Mineral Research & 5th International Osteoporosis Symposium**, Second WHO-Collaborating Center Asian Regional Conference on Osteoporosis, organized under the auspices of the International Osteoporosis Foundation, May 23-27, 2005, Xi'an, China, information: www.china-osteofound.org/en/
- **Principles and Practice of Pain Medicine**, June 22-26, 2005, The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston Visit: www.med.harvard.edu/conted
- **11th World Congress on Pain (IASP)**, 21 – 26 August 2005, Sydney, Australia – www.iasp-pain.org
- **4th ISPO Central and Eastern Europe Conference**, 22-24 September 2005, Belgrade, Serbia & Montenegro – information at 4.ISPOCEECBELGRADE@eunet.yu
- **67th Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 27 – 30 October 2005 Phoenix, USA – www.aapmr.org
- **4th World Congress of Neurorehabilitation**, Hong Kong, 12-16 February 2006, visit www.wcnr2006.com
- **World Parkinson Congress**, 22-26 February 2006, Washington. USA, Contact: info@worldpdcongress.org
- **ISSLS 2006**, Annual Congress of the **International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine**, 13-17 June 2006, Bergen, Norway: contact issls@medicongress.com – www.issls.org
- **6th Mediterranean Congress of PM&R**, 18-22 October 2006, Vilamoura, Portugal. Visit www.the.pt



4th ISPRM World Congress – June 10 - 14, 2007 in Seoul, Korea - NEW DATES

5th ISPRM World Congress – May 9 -13, 2009 in Istanbul, Turkey

Please feel free to announce your upcoming congresses in this agenda by sending an email with all relevant information to the Central Office.