



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

NEWS & VIEWS – JAN. 2003

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ISPRM As A Genuinely Worldwide Organization

Message from the Secretary, Naoichi Chino

Members of ISPRM, I hope that you are excited as I am at the prospect of attending the 2nd World Congress of the organization in Prague, Czech Republic, May 18-22, 2003.

As all of you know, Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine has gained in importance as the world's population has increased both in its longevity and in its number of disabled persons.

In 1999, the International Federation of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (IFPMR) merged with the International Rehabilitation Medicine Association (IRMA) to become the ISPRM (International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine). Under the leadership of its inaugural president, John Melvin, this reorganized body began to grow in numbers and in the scope and significance of its activities. The first World Congress of ISPRM was held in 2001, Amsterdam, under the presidency of W. Peek, and we now await the 2nd World Congress in Prague. Haim Ring, the President of the Congress, is preparing and recruiting participants from all over the world for this event, which is likely to be of the highest importance. Indeed, the coming congress will provide a practical forum for mapping out the future of the ISPRM.

The International Body of the ISPRM now has many ambitious objectives to accomplish. To mention some: (1) to develop collaboration of physical and rehabilitation medicine (PRM), along with the promotion of public awareness worldwide; (2) to promote education and training in PRM particularly in developing countries and territories; (3) to organize international exchange programs between participating countries; (4) to collaborate with other international organizations such as WHO and related medical societies; (5) to raise research funds and (6) to develop the membership.

The sharing of physical and rehabilitation expertise will promote future development in this field. However, we must remember that at this stage the ISPRM, rather like a newborn infant, and has much to do before reaching maturity. The number of active members (national/individual) is insufficient to conduct all the activities that are planned, and the international organization not yet gained adequate funding.

Under these circumstances, the gathering of both Board members and the General Assembly at the Prague meeting of 2003 will be a critical session to the ISPRM's future direction. The conference will also provide us all with the welcome opportunity to get together with colleagues from all over the world, and I am greatly looking forward to meeting with as many participants as possible at the 2nd World Congress in Prague.

Sincerely,

Naoichi Chino, MD, MS, DMSc
ISPRM Secretary
Professor and Chairman, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine,
Keio University School of Medicine, Tokyo, Japan

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INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OF EXPERTS IN REHABILITATION, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

BY PETER DISLER & MARK YOUNG & LUIGI TESIO (under the auspices of the ISPRM)

Spreading rehabilitation expertise internationally, has always been recognised as a priority of the ISPRM, and its predecessors IRMA and the IFPMR. This year, the ISPRM Board recognised the need to formalize this process and appointed a committee responsible for “International Scientific Exchange” comprising Professor Peter Disler, Melbourne, Australia (Chairman), Professor Luigi Tesio of Italy, and Professor Mark Young of the USA.

Over the last few years all the members of the committee have traveled internationally, teaching and speaking at conferences, and all of us have welcomed rehabilitation personnel from other countries who have come to learn with us. The same applies to many members of the ISPRM. However, how does a hospital or country, particularly in an isolated geographical site, decide who is the invited person who will add most value to the program, and will that person be available? Similarly, many rehabilitation programs send people overseas for short or long term training, but have no real way of establishing which is the best place to send them; the result is often repetitive, prolonged a multitude of correspondence, sometimes not graced with a reply, and often frustrating.

The aim of the ISPRM Committee is to help you solve these problems. We will be compiling a list of rehabilitation programs internationally which are willing to receive visitors or trainees, and experts who are prepared to visit. Any person who wants information on these aspects can then just write to the committee (via the Chairman, Professor Peter Disler) and we will try to provide you with the help you need. Your approaches can therefore be limited to people who are known to be enthusiastic and willing to help, minimizing both time lost and frustration.

For those who are interested, the Scientific Exchange Committee would be very grateful if you could fill in one of the following forms (or possibly both!).

People who are able to welcome visiting rehab personnel:

Contact Name	
Expertise Offered	
Institution & Address	
Email Address	
Training Program	
Possible Length of Visit	

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People applying for exchange:

Contact Name	
Institution & Address	
Email Address	
Area of Study Requested	
Type of Program Requested (ie. short-term visit, 1 Year, 4 Years, Research Fellowship)	

In order to clarify this I have filled in the table below from my own unit.

Contact Name	Professor Peter Disler
Expertise Offered	Rehabilitation Medicine, neurological, amputee, chronic pain, orthopaedic, musculoskeletal
Institution & Address	University of Melbourne, Royal Melbourne Hospital Victorian Rehabilitation Research Institute at Cedar Court HealthSouth Hospital
Email Address	pdisler@healthsouth.com.au or peter.disler@mh.org.au
Programs Available	Training in Neurological Rehabilitation (excluding Spinal Cord Injury), Amputee Rehabilitation, Chronic Pain Management and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation. Both inpatient and community based facilities are available.
Programs Available	We would welcome people on short term visits, others who wish to undertake 1 to 2 years training (or longer), and people who wish to undertake research or do higher research degrees (Masters or PhD). Foreign Applicants would need to be funded from their home institution.

We would be grateful to receive expressions of interest via email to the Administration Manager, Rehabilitation Program, Melbourne Health – Ms Kathie Vezzoso (Kathie.Vezzoso@mh.org.au), and copied to the ISPRM office. We would prefer if English were used as the primary language, although Kathie is quite happy to handle those written in Spanish.

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NEWS FROM NATIONAL SOCIETIES, MEMBERS OF ISPRM

REQUEST FROM THE ITALIAN SOCIETY

By Alessandro Giustini

In Italy during the next months we shall have a large possibility of public audience for rehabilitation (research, scientific borders, PRM role, multi professional team ...) but in particular for social and health integration to gain quality of life for Disabled person.

In fact 2003 Year for Disabled Person in Europe is in Italy an occasion for our Government to modify many rules and laws according new WHO indication contained into ICF: disabled people as *persons* and no more only as *patients*.

We cannot waste this opportunity to increase our visibility to make more understandable PRM (our formation, activity and competencies on Bio-clinical matters but also on making synthesis of individual, cultural, behavioral, vocational, financial, familiar and surrounding aspects for a global care oriented to Autonomy).

Physiatrist as physician to Disabled. We can promote for example a large cultural and information campaign (press, TV...) on this aspects: better using messages and contents from abroad in an international view (from USA ?)

We need to know if perhaps existing materials are available (videos, films, studies ...) realized in other Countries with this contents and this aims: I hope you can help us by your international knowledge and links ?.

Answers can be sent to alessandro.giustini@ntc.it

NEWS FROM YOUR NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBER OF ISPRM

Please feel free to announce news from your National Society to the ISPRM Central office for publication in this section of the News & Views.

NEWS FROM THE 2ND ISPRM WORLD CONGRESS IN PRAGUE

We are delighted to update you on the progress for the arrangements for this year's 2nd World Congress of the ISPRM. We have received [over 900 abstracts to date from 54 countries](#) and the website is still open for further abstract submissions. Please note however that we can only consider for oral presentation abstracts sent by January 18, 2003.

Please visit the Congress website: www.kenes.com/physical for further updates and for information on additional special educational activities.

We hope to see you in Prague in May and send our greetings for the New Year!

Haim Ring
Chairperson, Organizing Committee

Nachum Soroker
Chairperson, Scientific Committee

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HELP SELECT THE FUTURE ISPRM LEADERSHIP

John L. Melvin, MD, MMSc, Chair, Nominating Committee

Now is the time for all of the members of the ISPRM, both individuals and societies, to commit to participating in the nominating process that will result in the future leaders of the ISPRM.

The process for selecting our future leaders needs to be strengthened in order to increase the number of participants who manage programs and complete projects. We have a core of very effective leaders, but they cannot accomplish all that is needed. The ISPRM has a large Board of Governors. Each member should have the commitment and energy to accomplish some project valued by our members, thus adding value to membership in the ISPRM.

To find candidates for the Board of Governors that can achieve this vision, the Nominating Committee is asking for nominees from our membership. The Executive Committee has decided that the next elections for these positions will be during its meetings in 2004. This should provide ample time for members to submit carefully documented nominations for consideration. The Board will decide the deadline for the submission of nominations at its meeting in Prague, but will likely require them well in advance of the elections so that the Nominating Committee can complete the deliberations necessary to provide a single slate of the best nominees. Therefore, it is best that those providing nominations begin the preparation of their supporting documents soon.

The Board of Governors at its 2004 Meeting will elect the following positions.

Executive Committee

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Vice President for Asia & Pacific
- Vice President for Central and South America
- Vice President for Europe
- Vice President for Middle East & Africa
- Vice President for North America
- Member at Large Representing Societies
- Member at Large Representing Individuals

Members at Large Representing National Society Members (one for each)

Members at Large Representing Individual Members (equal to above)

ISPRM Education and Development Fund

Board of Director Member (2004-2008)

Letters of nomination should include the following information, as the Nominating Committee will consider these items in arriving at its recommendations of single candidates for each position.

Previous accomplishments within ISPRM

Previous accomplishments within IRMA or IFPM&R

Other accomplishments in PM&R nationally and internationally

Lectures given at ISPRM and ISPRM endorsed Congresses

Regularity of attendance at ISPRM Congresses

Regularity of attendance at Congresses with ISPRM Board Meetings

Commitment to assume the responsibilities for which nominated

Commitment to attend the meeting at which the election takes place

Commitment to attend Board meetings during tenure on the Board

Paid up individual membership

Gender

This is an opportunity for the ISPRM to achieve its goals through integrating the efforts of physicians throughout the world. Please add your efforts through participating in the nominating process. Thank you for your help.

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Upcoming Meetings and Congresses



2nd World Congress of the
International Society of Physical and
Rehabilitation Medicine – ISPRM
Prague, Czech Republic, May 18 - 22, 2003

The 2nd World Congress of the ISPRM Hilton Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic, May 18-22, 2003. Please contact Haim Ring (hiring@post.tau.ac.il) for further information.

For updates, registration, accommodation and papers submission please visit: www.kenes.com/physical

- **4th International Copenhagen Symposium on Chronic Pain**, January 25-26, 2003, Copenhagen, Denmark
bdp@bdp.dk
- **American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons Annual Meeting**, February 5-9, 2003, New Orleans
www.aaos.org
- **7th Annual Meeting of the Biofeedback Foundation of Europe**, Udine, Italy. February 16-22, 2003
www.bfe.org
- **5th South Asian Confederation of Anaesthesiologists/1st South Asian Regional Pain Societies Congress**
Dhaka, Bangladesh, February 18-20, 2003; www.sacbd2003.com
- **American Academy of Pain Medicine 19th Annual Meeting**, February 28-23, 2003, New Orleans, Louisiana
www.painmed.org
- **Annual Meeting of the Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine**, March 5 to 8, 2003, Boracay
Regency, Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan, Philippines. www.eparm.org
- **Australian Pain Society 24th ASM/New Zealand Pain Society 10th ASM**, March 9-13, 2003; Christchurch,
New Zealand. www.apsoc.org.au
- **ISAKOS 2003, International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine**
March 10-14, 2003. Auckland, New Zealand. www.isakos.com
- **The 22nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Pain Society**, March 20-23, 2003, Chicago, Illinois
Visit www.ampainsoc.org/meeting/
- **The Association of Academic Physiatrists Annual Meeting**, March 26-30, 2003, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Visit: www.physiatry.org also for call for papers and posters
- **The European Congress on Sports Medicine** will be held in Hasselt, Belgium, May 14-16, 2003
Visit www.medicongress.com for all detailed information and on-line abstract submission and registration.

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- The **2nd World Congress of the ISPRM**, Hilton Hotel, Prague, Czech Republic, May 18-22, 2003. Please contact Haim Ring (hring@post.tau.ac.il) for further information. Visit: www.kenes.com/physical
- 11th Annual Scientific Meeting of the **Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine (AFRM)** Rehabilitation in the Decade of Bone and Joint, Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hobart, Tasmania, 23-26 May 2003. Contact: DC Conferences, PO Box 571, Crows Nest NSW 1585, Australia, afrm@dcconferences.com.au
- 6th Int. Symposium on **Paediatric Pain: Pain in Childhood**, 15-19 June, 2003, Sydney, Australia ISPP2003@dcconferences.com.au
- **Fifth Brazilian Congress of Pediatric Orthopaedics**, June 18-21, 2003. Belo Horizonte, Brazil sternick@gold.com.br
- 2nd Interdisciplinary Congress on **Spine Care**, 10-13 August 2003, Chicago, USA: www.worldspine.org
- 4th Congress of the **European Federation of IASP Chapters**, September 2-6, 2003, Prague, Czech Republic Visit www.pain2003.cz
- 14th Annual Clinical Meeting of the **American Academy of Pain Management**, September 3-7, 2003 Denver, Colorado. Visit www.aapainmanage.org
- XI Congress of the **International Headache Society**, September 13-16, 2003; Rome, Italy www.i-h-s.org
- **Rehabilitation International Assembly and Regional Conference**, September 29-October 4, 2003, Durban, South Africa.
- **EuroSpine 2003**, Annual Congress of the Spine Society of Europe, Sept. 30-Oct 4, 2003, Prague www.eurospine.org
- 19th National Congress of the **Turkish Society of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation**, October 4 - 8, 2003, Atlantis Hotel, Belek, Antalya. www.ftr.kongresi.org
- **Annual Scientific Meeting of the Southern Pain Society**, October 17-19, 2003; 2003, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- The **Southern Pain Society 2003 Annual Scientific Meeting** in Conjunction with the **Puerto Rico Pain Society: Pain Topics in the Tropics**, October 17-20, 2003 - **3-Night Bahamas Cruise** on Royal Caribbean's Sovereign of the Seas. E-mail: southernpain@continuingeducation.net, Visit: www.continuingeducation.net
- **AMLAR CONGRESS** - Asociacio Medica Latinoamericana de Rehabilitacion, will meet in Panama city, November 24 - 28, 2003. Contact: Dra Maricela Landires Iglesias, apdo 402 zona 15 Las Cumbres, Panama City.

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- **SpineWeek 2004**, May 30 – June 05, 2004, Porto, Portugal – Combined meeting of the Leading Scientific Spine Societies being the **International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine – Spine Society of Europe - Soc. Ibero-latino-americano de Columna Vertebral – Cervical Spine Research Society – Brazilian Society for the Pathology of the Spine – Asia Pacific Orthopaedic Association, Spine Section**
Visit www.medicongress.com
- **The European Congress of the FEMPR**, May 2004 in Vienna
Dr. Michael Quittan, michael.quittan@univie.ac.at
- **8th European Congress of Research in Rehabilitation**, June 13-17, 2004, Ljubljana, Slovenia
crt.marincek@mail.ir-rs.si
- **11th World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)**, 1-6 August 2004
Hong Kong: ispo@pctourshk.com
- **Rehabilitation International Assembly and World Congress**, August 9-13, 2004; Oslo, Norway.
www.RI-Norway.no
- **3rd World Congress of the World Institute of Pain**, 22-25 September 2004, Barcelona, Spain
info@clinicadeldolor.com
- **43rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the ISCOS, International Spinal Cord Society**, 27-30 September 2004, Athens, Greece. Visit www.triaenatours.gr
- **5th Mediterranean Congress on PM&R**, , September 30 -October 2004, Antalya, Turkey, conduct Pr. Tansu at Arasil, tansu@surf.net.tr

Reminder: the 3rd ISPRM World Congress will be organised May 18-22, 2005 in San Paolo, Brazil and the 4th ISPRM World Congress will take place in 2007 in Seoul, Korea.

Please feel free to announce your upcoming congresses in this agenda by sending an email with all information to the Executive Director

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