



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

## NEWS & VIEWS – OCTOBER 2006

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### AT THE END OF A TERM – TWO YEARS OF ISPRM LEADERSHIP BY THE FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT OF THE ISPRM

**Linamara Battistella, ISPRM President**

This article has a very special significance: it stands for two years of hard work and great pleasure. The pleasure of sharing, with all members of this Society, the assurance that the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation occupies an outstanding position in the contemporary world. The joy we feel for the opportunity of representing, for these two years, prominent colleagues who fight for the development of science and humanization in providing assistance for people with disabilities.

The satisfaction we have to know that, thank to ISPRM, the topic Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation has had a stronger participation in the agenda of international organizations such as World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Organization (UN). For these reasons, my first word is a word of thanks. Thank you for your collaboration, engagement, sharing and understanding and, since we are talking about international organizations, our special thanks to Gerold Stucki and John Melvin.

During our Board Meeting in Antalya, 2004 I took office as President to ISPRM, and I assumed the commitment to develop an information system that would value the exchange of scientific knowledge and facilitate the access and update of knowledge.

We achieved effectively our goal building up the Educational Website, which makes available bibliographic references, lectures and courses. In addition to that, the 3rd. ISPRM World Congress gathered nearly 2000 participants and happened in a high scientific level (report enclosed).

Therefore, the development of the Educational website responded to our proposal, and we must work in order to make it an always up-to-date web portal of information, science and technology in Rehabilitation. But our concern about information was not restricted to the scientific area. We made an effort to give administrative and finance information transparency and visibility, therefore creating a management website accessible to Board members only, and where you can find the demonstrative of expenses for the ISPRM2005 congress, as well as financial and accounting audit reports of ISPRM accounts published during the 2004-2005 term, the updates on payment of annual membership fees by National Societies and the financial reports in general.

The Management website also comprises the follow-up of the activities of the President's Cabinet and of the activities of the Committees. We have strived to value the activities of the Committees stimulating them to achieve their goals as well, and that they would maintain their activities updated on the website.

The increase of the number of affiliated societies and the expressive raise on the number of individual members demonstrates the credibility of our Society and reflects the work that has been done by our governing body. We must credit this hard work to Marta, Werner and all the Regional Vice-Presidents: Sae-il Chun, Andrew Haig, Matilde Sposito, Abdullah Eyadeh and Christoph Gutenbrunner.



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Table I. Members per country

	Members per Region / Year					
	2001 Amsterdam	2002	2003 Prague	2004	2005 Sao Paulo	2006
Asia	253	147	146	101	93	58
Central and South America & Caribbean	13	17	17	111	131	25
Europe	176	184	258	192	211	154
Middle East & Africa	19	24	11	8	14	9
North America	132	124	109	110	166	99
Oceania	20	27	23	27	33	23

A superficial analysis of this table makes us think that the World Congress stimulates the affiliation of our members, especially in the geographic region where it is organized. This leads us to believe that promoting the Congress is a way to strengthen the image of the Society and, therefore, to strengthen the desire in these members to seek new knowledge and scientific updating, solidifying relationships and establishing international fellowships as well.

We have strived to promote ISPRM all over the world; therefore, during this period we have taken part in National Congresses in several countries, such as Thailand, USA, Peru, India, Spain, Portugal, Venezuela, Argentina and Puerto Rico. It is important to emphasize that this effort did not represent any liability to our Society at all.

Table II. Affiliated National Societies (per region)

<u>Region</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>
Asia	7	7	8	7	7	8
Central and South America & Caribbean	3	3	3	4	16	6
Europe	8	9	13	13	16	13
Middle East & Africa	1	1	3	3	4	3
North America	1	1	1	2	2	2
Oceania	-	-	1	1	1	1

When we observe these data on Table II, we notice a greater stability as for the number of affiliated National Societies, when compared to the variation we observe on the number of individual members in the corresponding regions. This means that the Governing Board of ISPRM must keep a narrow and permanent communication with the presidents of the National Societies, and we must find alternatives to facilitate the payment of annual membership fees, considering that some developing countries have difficulty in paying them.

The National Societies must be constantly induced and stimulated to participate through invitation to courses, through enquiries about the development of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine and through the participation of members of our Board in their national and regional scientific activities.

Besides promoting the ISPRM, it is necessary to guarantee an active management with shared responsibilities and, for that, this Governing body organized six meetings over the web. These Online Meetings had immediate results on several issues such as the approval of the audit reports, the implementation of the Educational and Management websites, diplomatic issues concerning the admission of new National Societies such as Chinese Taipei and a differentiated system for the affiliation of the Italian Society. This way of contact between the members of the Executive Board was greatly motivating, allowing the President to share ideas and responsibilities.

Each Meeting would last no longer than one hour, and an effort was made to schedule them at the most convenient date and time for all participants, considering the Greenwich Meridian Time. An Agenda was developed and sent by the Central Office to all participants in advance, so that every issue would be settled effectively after a brief discussion with no waste of time.



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### *Conclusion*

- Information is our most valuable tool: it is our spinal cord and allows visibility and transparency to actions of scientific and administrative character.
- ISPRM website needs a differentiated treatment.
- We must keep the enthusiasm of individual members through constant and up-to-date scientific communication
- We must value and strengthen our relationship with the National Societies by taking part in their scientific activities.
- We need to develop a Business Plan of Institutional Sponsorship. ISPRM has an Executive Committee consisting of 15 people. We can set up our goal in terms of getting one sponsor for each member of this Committee. The idea of annual sponsorships of approximately 1000 euro could represent 15000 euros per year, to be used for expenses International Exchange and Development Fund and other expenses as determined by the Board.
- The online meetings with the President's Cabinet proved to be effective, and should be maintained on a bimonthly basis.

### THE ISPRM IN EUROPE

**Christoph Gutenbrunner**

One year after my election as a Vice President for Europe I would like to report on the core activities of the ISPRM in Europe during the last 12 months. One focus of my work was to establish regional conferences. Two initiatives have been started.

The first was to create a series of conferences in the region of the Alps. The first event took place last year in Bolzano, Italy. The German, the Austrian and the Italian Society took part. It was a very constructive meeting, combining scientific education and conceptual discussions. The next meeting will take place in 2007 in Innsbruck. This meeting will include the Swiss Society - so that we have a real Transalpine initiative.

The second initiative was to form a Baltic Forum. Because of the heterogeneity of the region this is a major task. However, in September 2007 a first Baltic conference is planned. The Swedish Society will organize this meeting. Beforehand there will be one meeting of the Scientific Committee in Riga in June this year.

May I take the opportunity to invite you to take part in the first Baltic conference in Stockholm. Please, tell me if you agree to have a Board Meeting to invite the Board of the ISPRM there, too.

The third core activity concerns the number of member states. In cooperation with Werner we succeeded to gain the Societies of Switzerland, Sweden, United Kingdom and Serbia and Montenegro as members of the ISPRM. Unfortunately, up to now, the French Society did not join. However, I am in contact with the President of the French Society who promised me to foster the discussion in the French Board.

Last, but not least, we started an initiative to beat for one of the next world congresses to be held in Central Europe. The Austrian and the German Society already decided to cooperate to have a joint bidding. During the last meeting of the UEMS PMR-section and the European Society a questionnaire has been distributed.

More than 20 European countries agreed with this initiative and supported a congress site in the center of Europe (probably Berlin or Vienna). There will be no competing biddings. The Italian and the Swedish who were interested refrained from bidding in favour of a co-organized European initiative. Maybe we could have a coordination concerning the congresses 2013 and 2015. May I ask you to give me your opportunity about such an initiative and coordination with China.

I hope that we will be able to further promote the ideas of the ISPRM in Europe and hope for your support for the initiative to have one of the world conferences in Central Europe during the next decade.



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### THE ISPRM IN CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA

Matilde de Mello Sposito

My work during two periods as Vice president for Central and South America & Caribbean was focused in bringing the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) to the Latin American countries making it known and recognized as an international organization that represents the interests of physiatrist medical doctors. We also worried about stimulating Latin American societies filiations to ISPRM, as well as the individual members filiations. At least we also focused on stimulating ISPRM' support to national and international scientific events throughout Latin America.

When we began our work the Latin American countries associated to ISPRM were only two: Brazil and Porto Rico. Since then another 12 countries became associated: Bolivia, Costa Rica, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. Nowadays we are second biggest country bloc inside ISPRM only smaller than the European group

### THE ISPRM IN NORTH AMERICA

By Andrew Haig

The US, Canada, and Mexico comprise an important membership within ISPRM, yet their needs are different than those of other member groups. Important differences include:

A highly developed and very large rehabilitation infrastructure in geographic isolation from the rest of the world.

The presence of only 3 national organizations in this region.

The relative affluence of the region.

As a result, ISPRM membership from this region is attractive to physicians who have a personal interest in international issues. This includes those who were immigrated from elsewhere, those who volunteer in developing regions, and those who have academic needs for networking outside of North America. Recent politics have resulted in increased interest in international collaboration among physicians, especially physicians in specialty training.

Actions taken:

**Membership Drive:** We arranged to have a free ISPRM booth at the AAPMR annual meeting in Philadelphia in 2005. Tom Haig volunteered to staff it, and Andy Haig covered his travel expenses. At the last minute Werner Van Cleemputte was able to attend and man the booth. A number of members signed up or paid back dues.

**Special Interest Group:** Promotion of ISPRM is one of the goals of the International Rehabilitation Special Interest Group of the AAPMR. The SIG was able to have a number of presentations related to international issues at the 2005 AAPMR Annual meeting. ISPRM President Linamara Battistella addressed the SIG meeting attended by approximately 50 individuals. Emmanuel Yeboah, the Ghanaian amputee/athlete who is the subject of the movie "Emmanuel's Dream" also addressed the group, encouraging American support of rehabilitation in developing countries. Andy Haig was re-elected president of the SIG.

**2006 AAPMR meeting:** This meeting is held in Hawaii in November 2006, has a theme of 'East meets West', which may be compared to the ISPRM meeting 6 months later in Seoul, with a theme of 'West meets East'. ISPRM and SIG leadership strongly encouraged the AAPMR to collaborate and plan with the Seoul meeting. We offered to sponsor a social event for international visitors, but the AAPMR chose not to do this. We recommended a number of courses that would take advantage of the proximity to Asia. Although the Academy cut down on the number of SIG initiated courses for this meeting, there will be some discussion of international issues. I do not know if ISPRM will have a booth in Hawaii. The crossover discount for AAPMR has increased ISPRM membership, apparently.



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**Rural/Developing World Rehabilitation Journal.** Recognizing that there are few venues in which rehabilitation science related to rural or underserved areas are published, we have been working with Taylor and Francis, as well as a number of aid agencies, to develop an on-line journal. As a trial, Andy Haig was asked by Editor Dave Muller to edit two special editions of ISPRM's journal Disability and Rehabilitation. These have been highly successful in terms of number and quality of submissions. A sponsor may be forthcoming, and we may also take smaller steps within Disability and Rehabilitation.

**International Experience for Resident Physicians.** We have joined with the Resident Physician's Council to petition the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation to allow specialists in training to do some of their work outside of the US. Board President Kate Stolp was highly supportive, and recently it was announced that American residents can do a limited amount of their training outside of the US.

**Increasing visibility.** In working to develop a rehabilitation program in Ghana, we have made connections with the office of outgoing UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. They indicated that Dr. Annan would entertain an invitation to speak on the need for medical rehabilitation around the world. The formal invitation and letters of support are with Dr. Annan's office at this point.

**Future Agenda:** The AAPMR meeting in Hawaii may have lower attendance due to distances, but the attendees will be more international in interest, so we may recruit more members. We need to develop stronger planning relations with the 3 national organizations. Issues include membership strategies, increased international exposure, and increased lobbying for funding of international rehabilitation research, and support of careers in international rehabilitation.

### THE ISPRM IN ASIA

By Sae-Il Chun

#### 1. Launching a new organization of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in the Asian Oceania Region

At ISPRM 2005 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, delegates of each member countries from Asian Oceania region had a brainstorming session to launch a new organization of physical and rehabilitation medicine in order to enhance and facilitate the collaboration within the region for promoting and developing the specialty of PRM.

A task force was formed on April 14, 2005 and agreed to hold the 2nd Task Force meeting at the time of 4th WCNR (World Congress for Neuro-Rehabilitation) in Hong Kong in 2006.

The Hong Kong Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine hosted the 4th WCNR on February 12-16, 2006 in Hong Kong and this was followed by Annual Symposium of CARM (Chinese Association of Rehabilitation Medicine) at Zhuhai, China. Those delegates who participated in 4th WCNR in Hong Kong went to Zhuhai and attended the 2nd task force meeting.

Outline of 2nd Task Force Meeting at Zhuhai, China 2006

\* Date: February 17, 2006

\* Present: Chang-il Park (Korea, Advisor and President elected ISPRM) John Olver (Australia), Nghien Nguyen Xuan (Vietnam), Zaliha Omar (Malaysia), Ajit Varma (India), Akai Masami (Japan), Rey-Matias Reynaldo (Philippines), Tai-Ryoon Han (Korea), Sae-il Chun Korea, Chairperson), Karen Chua (Singapore), Peni Kusumastuti (Indonesia), Sukajan Pongprapai (Thailand), Rosiana Pradanasari (Indonesia, Observer), Jianan Li (China), Leonard S.W. Li (Hong Kong, SAR) and Simon Tang (Chinese Taipei).

\* Name of the Organization: All delegates agreed that the name "Asian Oceania Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine" (AOSPRM) would be the most appropriate name for the new organisation.

\* Structure and Constitution: AOSPRM could function as a regional branch of ISPRM, the Constitution of which could be modified to be applicable in our region for the AOSPRM.

Interim Cabinet of AOSPRM:

A temporary cabinet should be formed to facilitate the establishment of the AOSPRM, till the by-laws are established and office-bearers are elected into office in June 2007 after the ISPRM meeting in Seoul, Korea.





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Composition of the Interim Cabinet :

Advisor: Chang-Il Park (President-elected ISPRM)

Chairman: Sae-Il Chun (Regional Vice-President of ISPRM)

Secretary General: Leonard S.W. Li (Hong Kong, SAR)

Assistant Secretary (Website master): Reynaldo Rey-Matias (Philippines)

Education Chair: Akai Masmali (Japan)

Executive members: John Olver (Australia), Jianan Li (China), Nghien Nguyen Xuan (Vietnam), Zaliha Omar (Malaysia), Ajit Varma (India), Tai-Ryoon Han (Korea), Karen Chua (Singapore), Peni Kusumastuti (Indonesia), Sukajan Pongprapai (Thailand), Simon Tang (Chinese Taipei).

\* Other items (membership dues, website, sponsorship, scientific meetings, new member countries) were discussed.

\* Official announcement of the establishment of the new organization will be made at the 5th World Congress of ISPRM in June 2007 at Seoul Korea.

### 2. Recruitment of new member country

Mongolia has established a new organization of PRM (Mongolian Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine) with approximately 150 members headed by professor Baljinnyam, M.D. They will join AOSPRM as well as ISPRM.

3. Each society of member countries in Asian Oceania Region are very active in their academic, scholarly, and organizational function especially in Australia, China, Japan, Korea, India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Philippines, and Singapore.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

By Jose Jimenez

In reference to the article published by Dr. Battistella in the News and Views of September 2006, regarding Bioethics, I would like to submit the following comments.

I agree with Dr. Battistella's remarks about the need for bioethics. It is generally accepted that the origin of this term is from the Greek *Bios* (βίος) and *Ethikos* (ἠθικός), the latter from the same root of *Ethos* (ἦθος).

*Bios*, βίος refers to life. *Ethikos* (ἠθικός), literally means 'theory of living' while *Ethos* (ἦθος) in Greek means "place of living, starting point, disposition and from there in some instances it is also translated as character".

The modern English word 'ethics' originates from the Greek *Ethikos* (ἠθικός), which in 'rhetoric' it can also be used to mean "moral competence", and, in this context, Aristotle already broadened its meaning to encompass expertise and knowledge.

That is, on the basis of its origin, "bioethics" studies, or should study, the broad aspect of life with expertise, knowledge and moral competence. Unfortunately there is disagreement about the scope for the application of ethical evaluation to issues involving biology. Some bioethicists would only include the morality of medical treatment, technological innovations, and the timing of medical treatment of humans. Other bioethicists would broaden the scope of ethical evaluation to include the morality of all actions that might help or harm organisms capable of feeling fear and pain.

These differences have not been resolved as they are generally the result of different interpretations of what is "moral" and "acceptable behavior", which in turn is related to the different philosophical schools of the proponents.

It is not the purpose of my comments to initiate a debate about what should or should not be included in the scope of bioethics but only to recognize the existence of these differences.



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I have, however, some difficulty understanding in what context the word “Pathos” is being used by Dr. Battistella on her presentation and I wonder if she would be kind enough to clarify this point. I quote “...’PATHOS”, was immoral and supernatural.” Pathos (from the Greek πάσχειν paschein) means "to suffer" and it is generally used to indicate suffering of a "being" or to describe that one of his/hers/its systems/organs “is suffering and does not function properly” such as in “pathology”. I realise that in rhetoric, Aristotle also used “pathos” in reference to "emotion" and as one of the three modes of persuasion in rhetoric (along with ethos and logos), but I have difficulties with pathos being "immoral".

Note: The Wikipedia was consulted for some of the definitions and origins of the Greek words mentioned above.

### RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE BY HENK STAM

The Department of PRM of Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, the Netherlands, offers the opportunity of two Research Fellowships in 2007. These are for a period of 6 months each.

The fellowship is open for physiatrists, residents in PRM, and PRM-related health care professionals who want to improve their skills and experience in research and patient care in one of the top ranking PRM departments in Europe. Projects on pediatric, neurological, orthopedic rehabilitation and rehabilitation technology are available. Free transportation and accommodation will be provided and an appropriate reimbursement is available.

#### Information for Candidates

The Erasmus Research Fellowship aims to support the exchange of doctors or researchers in the field of PRM.

The Department of Rehabilitation Medicine offers a 6 months fellowship (January - July or July -December). Candidates are invited to participate in one of the research programs: - Development, validation and application of ambulatory monitoring of activity in several patient groups - Traumatic Brain Injury - Physical Capacity and Training - Gait analysis in CP and other pathology - Spinal Cord Injury, Stroke - Transition from childhood to adulthood - Hand trauma and congenital hand disorders

Travel expenses and accommodation will be reimbursed and a proper salary will be provided. There will also be an opportunity to participate in selected patient care activities. The candidate is expected to perform research activities with supervision and coaching by one of the senior research staff members. The 6 months period has to result in a paper in an international journal. Candidates that are interested in the fellowship are kindly invited to send a letter of recommendation by their supervisor, a C.V. and a letter of application.

More detailed information can be obtained from Prof. H.J. Stam, MD, PhD. Application letters, including a C.V. and a letter of recommendation should be sent to [h.j.stam@erasmusmc.nl](mailto:h.j.stam@erasmusmc.nl) or to Prof.H.J. Stam, MD, PhD, Dept. of Rehabilitation Medicine, Erasmus MC, P.O. Box 2040, NL-3000 CA Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Or via [h.j.stam@erasmusmc.nl](mailto:h.j.stam@erasmusmc.nl)  
Information can also be found at <http://www.erasmusmc.nl/rehabilitation/>

### NEWS & VIEWS EDITORIAL BOARD

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



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### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

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

- Congresses on **Stroke** [http://www.internationalstroke.org/s\\_content.php?id=fb2002-03-04-1020](http://www.internationalstroke.org/s_content.php?id=fb2002-03-04-1020)
- Congresses on **Neurology** [http://www.eurostroke.org/esc\\_main%20links.htm](http://www.eurostroke.org/esc_main%20links.htm)
- Congresses on **PM&R** <http://www.prm-calendar.org/Default.aspx>



**4th ISPRM World Congress – June 10 - 14, 2007 in Seoul, Korea – [www.isprm2007.org](http://www.isprm2007.org)**

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

**6th ISPRM World Congress – June, 4 – 9, 2011 in San Juan, Puerto Rico**

- **22<sup>nd</sup> Congress of the Latin-American Medical Association**, November 8-12, 2006, Veracruz, Mexico, contact [jmguzman@avantel.net](mailto:jmguzman@avantel.net)
- **41st ASM of Japan Medical Society of Spinal Cord Lesion**. November 9-10, 2006, JASCol Keisie Hotel Miramare, Chiba, Japan – visit [www.miramare.co.jp](http://www.miramare.co.jp)

**68th Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, November 9-12, 2006, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA – [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org) – Reduced registration fees for ISPRM members offered

- **9th Asian Federation of Sports Medicine**, November 19-22, 2006, Riyadh-Saudi Arabia. Info [info@afsm2006.com.sa](mailto:info@afsm2006.com.sa)
- **Joint World Congress on Stroke**, October 26 – 29, 2006, Cape Town, South Afrika. Info [www.kenes.com/stroke2006](http://www.kenes.com/stroke2006)
- **Combined Meeting of the South African and Belgian Knee Societies**, Oct 29-Nov 5, Cape Town, South Afrika. Info [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)
- **Injuries and Dysfunction of the Spinal Cord in Children**, 29 Nov-2 Dec, Orlando, USA: contact: [lvogel@shrine.net.org](mailto:lvogel@shrine.net.org)

## 2007

- **National Congress of the New Zealand Rehabilitation Association and National Institute of Rehabilitation Research**. 16-18 February, Rotorua Convention Centre, Rotorua, New Zealand. Visit: [www.creative-events.co.nz](http://www.creative-events.co.nz)
- **3rd Annual Update Symposium on Clinical Neurology and Neurophysiology**, 19-21 February, Tel Aviv, Israel. Info [meetings@isas.co.il](mailto:meetings@isas.co.il)
- **17th Annual Convention of the Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine**, 28 Feb - 1 March, Marco, Hotel, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines. Info: [cemby@yahoo.com](mailto:cemby@yahoo.com)
- **1<sup>st</sup> European Meeting on Rehabilitation Medicine in Physical Activities, Sport & Spa** 22-25 March, Bad Hofgastein, Salzburg, Austria. Visit [www.emrmpa.org](http://www.emrmpa.org) or contact Veronika Fialka-Moser at [emrmpa2007@medacad.org](mailto:emrmpa2007@medacad.org)

**ISPRM CENTRAL OFFICE:**

**WERNER VAN CLEEMPUTTE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**[www.isprm.org](http://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](mailto:isprm@medicongress.com)





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- **13th National Congress of the Italian Medical Society of Paraplegia**, 15-18 April, Udine, Italy, visit [www.somipar.it](http://www.somipar.it)
- **1<sup>st</sup> European Meeting on Rehabilitation Medicine in Physical Activities, Sports and Spa**. 22 – 25 March, Bad Hofgastein, Salzburg, Austria. Visit [www.emrmpa.org](http://www.emrmpa.org)
- **4<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the Cuban Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Society**, March 26-30, Havana, Cuba. Visit [www.disabilityworld.org/07-08\\_01/conferences/pmrconf.shtml](http://www.disabilityworld.org/07-08_01/conferences/pmrconf.shtml) or contact [jorge.martin@infomed.sld.cu](mailto:jorge.martin@infomed.sld.cu)
- **19th Annual Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Board Review Course** (80 CME credits) of Kessler Medical Rehabilitation Research and Education Corporation (KMRREC), April 18-27, Westminster Hotel, Livingston, New Jersey. Info: [cdavide@kmrrec.org](mailto:cdavide@kmrrec.org)
- **45<sup>th</sup> Congresso SERMEF (Spanish Society on PM&R)**, May 22-25, Tarragona, Spain – Congress in Spanish only info: [m.velazquez@torresparado.com](mailto:m.velazquez@torresparado.com)
- **Implementing the Evidence - 15th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine**. May 22- 25, Sydney, Australia. Info: [AFRM@racp.edu.au](mailto:AFRM@racp.edu.au)
- **ISSLS 2007**, Annual Congress of the **International Society for the Study of the Lumbar Spine**, 12-17 June, Hong Kong. Contact: [issls@medicongress.com](mailto:issls@medicongress.com) – [www.issls.org](http://www.issls.org)
- **7th World Congress on Brain Injury, IBIA**, 17-21 June, Jerusalem, Israel: Contact: [ibia07@kenes.com](mailto:ibia07@kenes.com)
- **46th ISCOS ASM and 10th NoSCos Congress**, 27 June-1 July, Reykjavik, Iceland. Visit: [www.sci-reykjavik2007.org](http://www.sci-reykjavik2007.org)
- **12<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics**, July 29 - August 3, Vancouver, Canada. Visit: [www.ispo.ca/congress](http://www.ispo.ca/congress)
- **9th Congress of European Federation for Research in Rehabilitation (EFRR)**, 26 to 29 August, Budapest, Hungary. Theme: "Partnership in rehabilitation research"- Contact: Prof. Lajos Kullmann, [l.kullmann@rehabint.hu](mailto:l.kullmann@rehabint.hu)
- **69<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 27-30 September, Boston, USA – visit [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org)

**EuroSpine 2007, 2-5 October 2007, Brussels, Belgium  
Heizel Congress Center – visit: [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)**

- **Annual Congress 2007 SOFMER (French Society on PM&R)**, 4-6 October 2007, Rennes, St Malo, France (lectures in French only) - contact [gdekorvin@cpa-sante.com](mailto:gdekorvin@cpa-sante.com)

**6th Interdisciplinary World Congress on Low Back Pain, 7-10 November 2006,  
Barcelona, Spain. Visit [www.worldcongresslbp.com](http://www.worldcongresslbp.com)**

- **The Best of Both Worlds: Partnerships in Rehabilitation 2007**, hosted by Epworth Hospital and Royal Talbot Rehabilitation Centre, 14th-16th November 2007, Melbourne, Australia. Visit [www.rehab2007.com](http://www.rehab2007.com)

**4<sup>th</sup> National Convention and Scientific conference of the Bangladesh Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (BAPMRCON 2007), November 15-16, 2007;  
Dhaka, Bangladesh. Contact: Mohd Taslim Uddin [taslim@bdcom.com](mailto:taslim@bdcom.com)**



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE

THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR

## NEWS & VIEWS – OCTOBER 2006

2008



**First Asia and Oceania Congress of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (AOSPRM), May 15-19, 2008, Beijing, China. Info: [www.aocprm2008.com](http://www.aocprm2008.com)**



**European Congress on Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, 4 - 7 June 2008, Brugge, Belgium - visit [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)**

- **1st World Congress on Pain**, 17-22 August 2008, Glasgow, Scotland – visit [www.iasp-pain.org](http://www.iasp-pain.org)
- **7<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Congress of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine**, 18 - 21 September 2008, Potorose, Slovenia  
Contact: Prof. Crt Marinček [marincek.crt@mail.ir-rs.si](mailto:marincek.crt@mail.ir-rs.si)
- **European Congress on Shoulder Surgery – SECEC 2008**, 18-20 September 2008, Brugge, Belgium – visit [www.medicongress.com](http://www.medicongress.com)
- **5<sup>th</sup> Regional Central European Conference of the Int Soc for Prosthetics & Orthotics**, 19-21 September 2008, Pontrose, Slovenia – visit [www.ce-ispo2008.org](http://www.ce-ispo2008.org)



**AMLAR 2008 3-6 November 2008 - including the meeting of the Latinoamerican Society of Paraplegia, Hilton Conrad Hotel and Convention Center, Punta del Este, Uruguay – Contact Hugo Nunez Bernadet [anhunez@adinet.com.uy](mailto:anhunez@adinet.com.uy)**

- **70<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly of the AAPMR**, 20-23 November 2008, San Diego, USA – [www.aapmr.org](http://www.aapmr.org)
- **AMLAR 2008**, November 2008, Punta Del Este, Uruguay – [www.surmedfi.org.uy](http://www.surmedfi.org.uy)



**17<sup>th</sup> European Congress on Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, 23 - 27 May 2010, Venice, Italy**

**Please feel free to send us an email with your upcoming congresses for publication in this agenda**