NEWS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN FORUM OF PRM,
Pr. Nicolas Christodoulou, president.

1. The 2008 (7th) Mediterranean Congress is going to be held in Portorose of Slovenia from Sept. 18 to 21. The congress president Pr. Crt Marineck has promised to organize a wonderful congress both for the scientific and social events. Slovenia is a beautiful country promising a very interesting visiting to several unique places besides its Mediterranean coast. You can take all the necessary information from the web site www.medcongress.prm08.org.

2. The official journal of MFPRM and the European White Book of PRM: “EUROPA MEDICOPHYSICA – the Mediterranean journal of PRM” is indexed since 2005. There is a provision for special low subscription fees for the MFPRM members. Also, sending works for publication to the journal, according to the “notice to authors” and other information, one can find at the web site www.minervamedica.it. We have circulated the PDF file of the “White Book on Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Europe” to all our members to use it in their own countries. Also, it can be easily found in Medline and through the Open Access edition of our journal Europa Medicophysica (www.europamedicophysica.org). The complete citation is: Gutenbrunner C, Ward AB, Chamberlain MA. White book on Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Europe. Eura Medicophys. 2006 Dec; 42(4):287-332. (Note: the European White Book has been published as well by the Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine, vol.39, pages1-48, Jan 2007, supplement no.45). Very recently the journal Europa Medicophysica has transformed its name to “European Journal of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine”. It continues keeping the second title “Mediterranean Journal of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine” as a distinctive sign recalling the journal’s important role as a bridge between Southern Europe and North Africa and Middle East.

3. The Euro-Mediterranean Rehabilitation Summer School (EMRSS): Last year the School was organized in Syracuse as well, from the 19 to 23 of November 2007. The main topic of the School was “High Care and Rehabilitation”. The program covered topics of Rehabilitation connected with emergency medicine, osteoporosis, physical therapy, oncology and medicines. About 40 young colleagues, members of the Forum, from Italy, Greece, Egypt, Bosnia, Slovenia, Turkey and Spain met in the centre of the Mediterranean, in Syracuse of Sicily, for a week and were trained both theoretically and practically. They paid only their flying ticket, the rest of expenses being in charge of the local authorities. The general director of the School Dr. Franco Cirillo made all the possible preparations for the best function of the School. According to the questionnaires filled at the end by the attendants, the School was very successful and all the participants benefit a lot. Besides the scientific benefit, a friendship between the colleagues from the Mediterranean countries started, which will help for better understanding of different cultural approaches in the Area. The scientific Board of the School consisted of the president of the MFPRM Nicolas Christodoulou, the president of the Italian Society of PRM Raffaele Gimigliano, of Alessandro Giustini, Marco Franceschini and Haim Ring. The Didactic Committee to this course consisted of Nicolas Christodoulou, Raffaele Gimigliano, Alessandro Giustini, Marco Franceschini and Giulia Letizia. The Faculty, representing the spirit of the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation consisted, in addition of R. Casale, H. Cerrel-Bazo, V. Giustolisi, V. Perciavalle, M. Vecchio, G. Acri, G. Iolascon, C. Bertolini, M. Iocco, D. Giuffrida, P. Tralongo, C. Greco, A. Trovatello, P. Marano, V. Coco, F. Scirpo, M. Cioni and M. Franceschini. Besides the immediate positive feedback, provided by the students, numerous consistent reports flow in, on the students being in touch and making plans for the future. The organizers supported by Salvatore Baio representing the regional academic institutions are already working on the next course to take place this year in Syracuse (20 – 24.10.2008).
GOOD NEWS FROM THE ISPRM 2009 ON REGISTRATION FEES

Şansın Tüzün
Treasurer, 5th World Congress of the ISPRM

On behalf of the Organizing Committee and as the Treasurer of the ISPRM 2009, I am glad to share with you an action we have taken to raise the impact of our congress as well as supporting attendees which may not be able to participate in the forthcoming congress due to their financial inability. We evaluate it as our duty to support the networking among the PR&M professionals of the world and therefore created a special registration category for the countries with gross domestic product (GDP) at purchasing power parity (PPP) per capita below 3.000 USD indicated by the United Nations excluding the hosting country. The recent list can be found on http://unstats.un.org/UNSD/Demographic/products/socind/inc-eco.htm last updated on December 2007. The discounted registration fees are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISPRM 2009 DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION FEES</th>
<th>Until Feb 28, 2009</th>
<th>Feb 28- May 20, 2009</th>
<th>On-site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISPRM Member</td>
<td>315 €</td>
<td>350 €</td>
<td>385 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISPRM Non-Member</td>
<td>385 €</td>
<td>420 €</td>
<td>455 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resident/Student, Paramedical, Allied Health Professionals</td>
<td>210 €</td>
<td>245 €</td>
<td>280 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Istanbul, ISPRM 2009.
23RD ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE FRENCH SOCIETY OF PRM (SOFMER)

Dr. Georges de Korvin and Prof. Alain Delarque  
Delegates for European relationship

Dr. Jean Sengler  
President of the Congress

Prof. Jacques Pélissier  
President of the SOFMER

The French Society of PRM (SOFMER) will hold its 23rd Annual Congress, October 23rd-25th, 2008, in Mulhouse (Alsace). On Wednesday October 22nd, 2008, the day before the Congress, two additional events may attract your attention:

- A free full day course in English about PRM in Childhood will be organized by the French College of Academic Professors in PRM (COFEMER) for French and Foreign trainees.
- An expert conference will focus on “Orientation of stroke patients”. This conference will use the “SOFMER method of consensus” and will be open to the public.

The 2008 SOFMER Congress is organized by the regional group of Alsacian PRM Specialists in close cooperation with the National Board of SOFMER. Our goal is to reflect all the scientific and organizational richness of PRM, at the regional, national and European level. Seven sessions will be organized in parallel during two and a half days. Topics will cover all fields of PRM: musculoskeletal impairment, neurological conditions, pelvic dysfunction, cardio-respiratory and vascular rehabilitation, occupational and vocational rehabilitation, paediatric as well as geriatric specific issues, sports medicine, humanitarian medicine, professional organization in PRM…

Mulhouse is close to Central Europe, at the border of France, Germany and Switzerland. Alsace has an old tradition of cultural exchanges through and along the Rhein valley. No doubt that this will help to amplify the European Dimension of the congress, which was initiated last year in Saint-Malo. Among 1130 registered participants, we counted 96 foreign people coming from 25 different countries.

A partnership has been concluded with the National Societies of Belgium, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Reduced fees will be offered to their members as well as to all European Board Certified PRM Specialists. Very low fees (nearly free registration) will be offered to all PRM trainees, in accordance with the French tradition.

SOFMER has applied again for Accreditation by the European Council of CME, so that participation in the congress will bring CME Credits (more details in a near future).

Two rooms on seven will be equipped with English translation by earphones and abstracts in English can be submitted for a part of the programme. See the Call for Papers.

After the intense scientific exchanges, we will invite you to discover the Alsace region with its special charm and beauty at the end of the vintage season.

We are all looking forward to welcoming you next Autumn in Mulhouse !
EEMS HOSTS DR. KYBANYCH TAKYRBASHSHEV FROM THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC FOR THE IN-DEPTH TRAINING IN CONTEMPORARY PAIN INTERVENTION, TREATMENT AND PROTOCOLS

Dr. Elena Polukhin, Diplomate, American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

In March 2008 Eastern European Medical Society of MN (EEMS) in collaboration with nationwide Russian American Medical Association (RAMA) arranged for medical training and hosted Dr. Kubanych Takyrbashev, a distinguished Medical Officer from Kyrgyzstan. Minnesota became home to Dr. Takyrbashev and he was warmly received during March 16 – 24, 2008. In the past Dr. Kybanych Takyrbashev has overseen the AIDS/HIV medical services in Kyrgyzstan and was eager to come to Minnesota to see the newest procedures in pain intervention, treatments and protocols. During a non-stop week, Dr. Takyrbashev studied with renowned physicians at clinics which include: the Interventional & Integrative Pain Management (Dr. Elena Polukhin, Hennepin Faculty Association), MN Advanced Pain Specialists (Dr. David Schultz, MAPS), Institute for Athletic Medicine, Minnesota Center for Obesity and Pain Management (Dr. Michael Gonzales-Compoy), the Alternative Medicine Clinic and the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Takyrbashev visited the new Collaboration between the EEMS, Slavic Community Center, the Jewish Family Children’s Service in Minneapolis that serves recent Russian-speaking religious refugees from FSU.

As a result of this whirlwind week, a new initiative has been launched between the Eastern European Medical Society (EEMS) and the Kyrgyz Republic Embassy. The goals of this larger program between Minnesota/USA and Kyrgyzstan is to bring more monitored training to Kyrgyz physicians in the field of contemporary pain management, protocols, and rehabilitation. Kyrgyzstan is experiencing challenges as the result of recent political changes, and, its continued transition to a market economy and to democratization. EEMS, RAMA and their medical allies extend concern, expertise and world-class resources to the doctors of primary clinics in three different Kyrgyz ministries.

The Kyrgyz Republic Embassy and EEMS has already presented grants to IREX, the State Department and the Gates Foundation for this initiative. The Kyrgyz Embassy will also be submitting grants to the National Institute of Health to support the initiative. EEMS is also finalizing the curriculum for three more doctors from Kyrgyzstan to receive training in our collaborative facilities later this year.

The long-lasting collaboration will include, but not be limited to Kyrgyz medical doctors training in the United States. The Kyrgyzstan Victory Day (May 9, 2008) pain abatement project will target the needs of 4,000 beloved survivors and widows in Kyrgyzstan, which is the size of Minnesota with a population of 5.3 million ex-patriots, refugees and members of more than 50 ethnic and language groups. After the Victory Day campaign, EEMS and its Minnesota partners will reconvene at a week-long seminar to assist the Kyrgyz doctors with advanced case, and pain management techniques at the Issyk Kul lake resort this summer. A hoped for outcome is the development by Kyrgyzstan physicians of a pain management facility that will continue to provide updated medical education. We believe that this united effort with the three ministry-based clinics will help Kyrgyzstan create a national health care system.

EEMS and RAMA previous experience in humanitarian work in developing states and training of health care professionals from South America, Middle East and former Soviet countries, proves that trainees benefit in acquiring new knowledge, and, thanks to the social part of the workshops, both American and visiting counterparts enrich themselves tremendously in understanding different cultures and creating networks. These networks serve as bridges between nations and promote peoples diplomacy.

EEMS is completely in debt to Dr. Constantine Starchook, Dr. Elena Polukhin of the Hennepin Faculty Associates, Mike Zolik of the Institute for Athletic Medicine, Dr. Michael Gonzales-Compoy of the Minnesota Center for Obesity management, Dr. David Schultz of the MAPS Interventional Pain Clinic, and many others for providing hands-on experiences to Dr. Takyrbashev. As well, we thank our partners in the Coalition for Coordinated Service, Gedaly Meeroovich of the Slavic Community Center, Margie Earhart of the Jewish Family and Children’s Service of Minneapolis, Jocelyn Ancheta of Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Leonid Gricheiner of the Zerkalo Russian-language newspaper and RAMA Board of Directors. Of course, we extend our thanks to all of the countless people who helped Dr. Takyrbashev feel welcomed. He returned to the Kyrgyz Embassy with enthusiasm, new skills, and a commitment to continue our Global Exchange Program.
**NEWS FROM THE BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION**

Mohd Taslim uddin

The Bangladesh Association of PMR will have her 5th National convention and Scientific Conference BAPMRCON2008 during November 15-16, 2008 at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

We are expecting international and nationally reputed physiatrists to be participating and will be presenting their research works. A coloured Scientific, social and cultural programs are being organised. November in Dhaka is fantastic in regards to weather and heritage. We encourage ISPRM, AOSPRM, Europe Society and other regional and national level Officers to join and encourage us. We would be proud to welcome you all during the conference. Kindly note that international participants (with spouse) presenting a paper will be our guest of honour with courtesy registration and accommodation. Expecting you to be with us and waiting to welcoming you during the conference.

**UPCOMING ISPRM BOARD MEETINGS – MARK YOUR AGENDA**

The next ISPRM Board Meetings will be organised combined with the European Congress on PM&R, 3-6 June 2008 in Brugge, Belgium.

Please mark your agenda as follows:

- ISPRM President’s Cabinet Meeting:  
  Tuesday, June 3 - 09-11 hrs (on invitation only)

- ISPRM Executive Committee Meeting:  
  Tuesday, June 3 - 11.00-13.00 hrs (on invitation only)

- ISPRM Board of Governors Meeting Part 1  
  Tuesday, June 3, 13.30 – 17.30 hrs

- ISPRM Board of Governors Meeting Part 2:  
  Friday, June 6, 13.30 – 17.30 hrs

All meetings will take place at the unique Governor’s Residence (1st floor) located at the Grand Place (building with all the flags on the left when you look to the Belfry).

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**MORE THAN 1100 PARTICIPANTS REGISTERED**
NEWS & VIEWS EDITORIAL BOARD 2007-2008
During the board meeting related to the ISPRM World Congress in Seoul in June 2007, the ISPRM Board of Governors has appointed the following Editorial Board for the ISPRM News & Views
Editors Nicolas Christodoulou - chrisfam@logosnet.cy.net & Werner Van Cleemputte – Werner@medicongress.com
Co-editors Haim Ring, Leonard Li,
Linamara Battistella, Chang-il Park, Martin Grabois, Mark Young, Joel A. Delisa, Andrew Haig, Christoph Gutenbrunner, Anton Wicker, Stefano Negrini, Jorge Lains, Jianan Li, Tarek Shafshak, William Micheo

Please feel free to submit articles for the News & Views and to take part in our Editorial Board.
**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PHYSICAL AND REHABILITATION MEDICINE**

**THE RESULT OF THE MERGER AND INTEGRATION OF IRMA AND IFPMR**

**NEWS & VIEWS – MAY 2008**

**JOURNAL OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE**

*(one of the two official journals of the ISPRM)*

**Issue 6, June 2008 (Volume 40)**

- **Linking health promotion with physiotherapy for low back pain: A review**
  Kadija Perreault

- **Comprehensive rehabilitation at Beitostølen Healthsports Centre: Influence on mental and physical functioning**
  Cecilie Røe, Håkon Dalen, Mette Lein, Erik Bautz-Holter

- **Assessment of motion in the cervico-thoracic spine in persons with subacute whiplash-associated disorders**
  Lina Bunketorp Käll

- **Altered interpretation of neck proprioceptive signals in persons with subclinical recurrent neck pain**
  Isabelle Paulus, Simon Brumagne

- **Manual therapy in addition to physiotherapy does not improve clinical or economic outcomes after ankle fracture**
  Chung-Wei Christine Lin, Anne M Mosley, Marion Haas, Kathryn M Refshauge, Robert D Herbert

- **Worker's compensation and return-to-work following orthopaedic injury to extremities**
  Wen-Hsuan Hou, Jau-Yih Tsauo, Ching-Hua Lin, Huey-Wen Liang, Chung-Li Du

- **Specific exercises reduce brace prescription in adolescent idiopathic scoliosis: A prospective controlled cohort study with worst-case analysis**
  Stefano Negrini, Fabio Zaina, Michele Romano, Alessandra Negrini, Silvana Parzini

- **Relationship of glenohumeral elevation and 3-dimensional scapular kinematics with disability in patients with shoulder disorders**
  Fouad Fayad, Agnès Roby-Brami, Vincent Gautheron, Marie-Martine Lefèvre-Colau, Sylvain Hanneton, Jacques Fermanian, Serge Poiraudeau, Michel Revel

- **Barriers to and facilitators of everyday physical activity in persons with a spinal cord injury after discharge from the rehabilitation centre**
  Maaike Vissers, Rita van den Berg-Emons, Tebbe Sluis, Michael Bergen, Henk Stam, Hans Bussmann

- **Quantification of reaction forces during sitting pivot transfers performed by individuals with spinal cord injury**
  Dany Gagnon, Sylvie Nadeau, Luc Noreau, Patrick Déhaïl, Denis Gravel

- **Positive emotion following a stroke**
  Glenn V. Ostir, Ivonne Berges, Margaret Ottenbacher, James E. Graham, Kenneth J. Ottenbacher

- **Kinematics of the contralateral and ipsilateral shoulder: A possible relationship with post-stroke shoulder pain**
  Martijn Niessen, Thomas Janssen, Carel Meskers, Peter Koppe, Manin Konijnenbelt, DirkJan Veeger

- **Functional recovery differs between ischaemic and haemorrhagic stroke patients**
  Vera PM Schepers, Marjolijn Ketelaar, Anne JM Visser-Meily, Vincent de Groot, Jos WR Twisk, Eline Lindeman

- **Organizing human functioning and rehabilitation research into distinct scientific fields**
  Mark P Jensen, Deborah Karthín

- **Publishing in physical and rehabilitation medicine: A European point of view**
  Franco Franchignoni, Gerold Sticki, Susana Muñoz Lasa, Veronika Fialka-Moser, Guy Vanderstraeten, Michael Quittan, Lajos Kullmann

- **Response to the Letter to the Editor by Franco Franchignoni et al.**
Two supplements are now available online:

*Supplement 46, May 2008 (Volume 40)*
Abstracts: Asian Oceania Conference of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

*Supplement 47, June 2008 (Volume 40)*
Abstracts: 16th European Congress of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

**Articles are accessible for ISPRM individual members**
UPCOMING MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

ISPRM World Congresses

• 5th Congress June, 13 - 17, 2009 Istanbul, Turkey
• 6th Congress June, 12 - 15, 2011 San Juan, Puerto Rico
• 7th Congress June 2013 Beijing, China

Conferences on:

• Stroke www.internationalstroke.org/s_content.php?id=fb2002-03-04-1020
• Neurology www.eurostroke.org/esc_main%20links.htm
• Neurorehab www.wfnr.co.uk/docs/events.htm
• Spine www.spine.org/calendar/hass_future_events.cfm
• Brain Injury www.internationalbrain.org/content.php?pages=congress
• Osteoporosis www.iofbonehealth.org/meetings-events.html

2008

European Congress on Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, 3 - 6 June 2008, Brugge, Belgium - visit www.medicongress.com

ISPRM BOARD MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THIS CONGRESS

• 7th Combined Congress of the Spine and Paediatric Orthopaedic Sections (APAIO), 4-7 June, Jeju Island, Korea. Visit www.spapoa2008.net
• 3rd Course on Knee Arthroplasty (Lyon Course), 13-15 June, Brugge, Belgium – visit www.medicongress.com

World Congress of Medical Hydrology, 25-28 June 2008, Porto, Portugal visit www.ismh08.org

• 1st Herzogenaurach Dysphagia Conference, 4-5 July, m&I Fachklinik, Herzogenaurach/Germany. Visit www.dysphagia-conference.org
• XVII Congreso Ecuatoriano de Medicina Fisica y Rehabilitacion, 30 July-2 August, Quito, Ecuador: Info gwbocca@hotmail.com
• 24th Annual Congress of the Colombian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, August 13-16, Medellin, Colombia – Visit http://congresoascmfr2008.homestead.com or Contact: ascmfr@gmail.com
• 1st World Congress on Pain, 17-22 August, Glasgow, Scotland – visit www.iasp-pain.org
- Two week Training of Trainers in CBR programme in 25 August - 5 September, Alphen aan den Rijn, The Netherlands. Contact Huib Cornielje h.cornielje@enablement.nl


- 47th Annual Meeting of ISCos, 29 August-3 September, Durban, South-Africa. Visit www.iscos.org.uk

- 17th Annual Meeting of European Society of Movement Analysis for Adults and Children (ESMAC) 8-13 September, Antalya Turkey. Contact: Gunes Yavuzer. Visit: www.esmac2008turkey.org

- 4-week International Course in Management of Disability and Rehabilitation. 15 September - 10 October. The Netherlands. Visit: www.enablement.nl

- 7th Mediterranean Congress of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, 18 - 21 September 2008, Portoroze, Slovenia - Contact: Prof. Crt Marineck marineck.crt@mail.ir-ry.si – visit: http://medcongress.prnr08.org/home/


- 5th World Congress on Neurorehabilitation (WFNR). 24-27 September, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, contact traceymole@wfnr.co.uk


- 23rd Annual Congress of The French Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine, 23-25 October + additional meetings on 22 October, Mulhouse, France. Visit http://www.sofmer.com


- World Congress on Osteoporosis, 3-7 December, Bangkok, Thailand, visit www.iofbonehealth.org

2009

- IAPMRCON 2009 – National Congress of the Indian Association on PM&R, 16 – 18 January at Kolkata, West Bengal, India.: Contact: rathinhaldar@yahoo.com

- 20th Anniversary of the International Center of Neurological Restoration (CIREN), 9-13 March, Palacio de las Convenciones, La Habana, Cuba. Contact rm2009@neuro.ciren.cu, Visit: www.ciren.ws
• First World Congress on Spina Bifida Research and Care Location: Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort Orlando, Florida Date: 15-18 March. Info: raustin@sbaa.org

• 9th European Congress on Clinical and Economic Aspects of Osteoporosis and Osteoarthritis, 19-21 March, Athens, Greece, visit www.ecceo9.org

• Rehabilitation 2009 – 5th Congreso of the Sociedad Cubana de Medicina Fisica y Rehabilitación, 6-10 April. Havana, Cuba - Contact: ventas10@avc.cyt.cu

• 19th EWMA Conference (European Wound Management Association), 20 – 22 May, Helsinki, Finland. Info follows


2010

• World Congress on Osteoporosis, 5-8 May, Venice, Italy, visit www.iofbonehealth.org

17th European Congress on Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, 23 - 27 May 2010, Venice, Italy

• 13th World Congress on Pain, 29 August-3 September, Montreal, Canada. Visit www.iasp-pain.org

ISPRM Members can send us an email with their upcoming congresses for publication in this agenda