



ILAE Chapters

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AMERICAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Publications

Epilepsy Currents, AES News

Meetings

Annual Meeting and Biennial North American Regional Epilepsy Congress

Summary of Activities

The American Epilepsy Society held Annual Meetings in December (San Diego in 2006 and Philadelphia in 2007). The 2006 meeting was the 1st Biennial North American Regional Epilepsy Congress. Both meetings were very well-attended and provided many thought-provoking sessions. Most of the presentations from the AES Annual Meeting are available on the AES Web site (<http://www.aesnet.org/go/professionaldevelopment/educationalopportunities/online-education/online-education>).

- AES has launched the Resources in Epilepsy Research site (<http://epilepsyresearchresource.org>) which is designed to help match researchers with the proper funding opportunities. This online database is a comprehensive listing of all available funding from nine organizations with instructions on how to apply for funding consideration as well as links to more information. The site also keeps an inventory of all currently-funded research in order to encourage project collaboration and to avoid duplication in research.
- AES has also launched an effort to educate lay people and professionals about post-traumatic epilepsy. This included Web-based materials as well as advocacy efforts.
- The Society updated the look and navigation of its Web site.
- AES has begun an effort to develop a clinical trial to collect data on the bioequivalence of generic drugs.

Research Funding

The Society funded in 2007-2008:

- Milken Family Foundation Early Career Physician-Scientist Awards (7)
- AES-funded Postdoctoral Research Training Fellowships (3)
- AES and Grass Foundation Robert S Morison Fellowship (1)
- Postdoctoral Research Training Fellowship funded by the Lennox Trust Fund (1)
- Postdoctoral Research Training Fellowship funded by UCB Pharma (1)
- AES and Lennox Trust Fund Pre-doctoral Fellowships (4)
- Research Initiative Program (1)
- Research Infrastructure Program (2)
- AES-sponsored Workshops (4)
- Research Recognition Awards (2)
- Targeted Pediatric Partnership (1)

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- Research Infrastructure Program (3)
- AES-sponsored Workshops (4)
- Research Recognition Awards (2)
- Targeted Pediatric Partnership (1)

Educational Activities

- The educational pinnacle of the year is the Society's Annual Meeting, held in December, which provides a myriad of educational opportunities for clinicians, researchers and other epilepsy professionals. In addition, the Society repurposed most of the sessions from the 2006 and 2007 Annual Meetings and put them on the Web site (www.aesnet.org) free of charge. These include Merritt-Putnam Symposium, Presidential Symposium, Annual Course and the AET Symposium, to name a few.
- The Society also offers Audio- and Web-training sessions free of charge, directed to non-physician epilepsy professionals.
- The Society offered a regional "Epilepsy 101" program directed to non-epileptologists in five cities across the country in 2007 and is exploring other models to bring this education to more physician audiences.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

- AES leadership and staff participated in the Epilepsy Foundation's 1st and 2nd annual National Walk For Epilepsy raising money for research.
- Several members also participated in the Epilepsy Foundation's Public Policy Institute learning about advocating to Congress and participated in visits to congress people. The Society is participating in Web-based advocacy efforts of the Epilepsy Foundation.
- Many members are active in national and state Professional Advisory Boards of the Epilepsy Foundation.
- Several research funding vehicles are partnerships with the Epilepsy Foundation.

Future Plans

- This December, the Society will be hosting the 2nd North American Regional Epilepsy Congress in conjunction with the Canadian League Against Epilepsy and the Jamaican League Against Epilepsy.
- New educational efforts include a case study publication that will be distributed several times a year and a Visiting Professor Program where volunteers will deliver education to community hospitals.

Officer Election Date

December 2008

Report By:

M Suzanne C Berry, MBA, CAE

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EPILEPSY SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (ESA)

Meetings

22nd Annual Scientific Meeting, 7-9 November 2007, Adelaide

Summary of Activities

- A new Committee and Melbourne-based Executive took over from the Perth-based Executive in 2007. In 2007, the ESA had 242 members – the membership base primarily consisted of neurologists, nurses, technologists, scientists and psychologists.
- In July 2007, a New Zealand ILAE Chapter, separate from the ESA, was formed. Close working relationships between Australian and New Zealand epileptologists are expected to continue through reciprocal arrangements between the two Chapters.
- The East Timor Epilepsy Project, established in 2004, continued to train East Timorese health workers in diagnosis and management of epilepsy. This project is led by Ernie Somerville with the assistance of several neurologists and epilepsy nurses from Australia. The project is funded by grants from the pharmaceutical industry, the ESA, AusAID and Epilepsy Action.
- After extensive negotiations with national and state-based driver licensing authorities, several states have agreed to pilot a standard form and computer-based decision tree developed by the ESA and ANZAN to assist with determination of fitness to drive in patients with epilepsy, first seizures, and syncope. This is a major step towards removing the onus and potential liability on neurologists for certifying fitness to drive, as well as developing a consistent, nationwide application of the national guidelines for driving and epilepsy.
- The ESA held its Annual Scientific Meeting in November 2007. The meeting featured four international speakers and many local presentations. It was highly successful, with over 200 delegates in attendance.

Educational Activities

- In the financial year 2007, several neurologists from Asia (Jithangi Wanigasinghe from Sri Lanka, Josephine Gutierrez from the Philippines, and Parampreet Kharbanda from India) commenced or finished an ESA-funded 12-month Asian-Oceanian Fellowship in Epilepsy.
- With sponsorship from UCB Pharma and the Molly McDonnell Foundation respectively, the ESA awarded one 12-month Clinical Scholarship and one 12-month Research Scholarship in 2007.
- Six Travel Scholarships were awarded to young investigators to present their research at international epilepsy meetings during 2007.
- Formal training guidelines for neurologists learning EEG were accepted by the Australian and New Zealand Association of Neurologists and the Royal Australasian College of Physicians.
- Several Australian epileptologists participated in epilepsy and EEG workshops in Asia conducted by the Asian Epilepsy Academy in 2007.

Future Plans

- The 23rd Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in Sydney in November 2008.
- The 3rd Epilepsy Master Class will be held in Melbourne in August 2008.

Officer Election Date

The present Executive Committee's three-year term ceases at the end of 2009.

Report By:

Dr A Simon Harvey

AUSTRIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

Mitteilungen der Österreichischen Sektion der ILAE
www.medicalnet.at/oe-sektion-ILAE (4 issues per year)

Meetings

Annual Meetings:

16-18 November 2006 Vienna; 16-19 May 2007

5th Joint Meeting of the Austrian, German and Swiss Section of the ILAE in Basel

Summary of Activities

The Austrian Chapter held their annual meeting 2006 in Vienna and 2007 as a joint meeting of the Austrian, German and Swiss Chapters in Basel. The joint meetings of the German-speaking countries take place every second year, with 700 to 1,000 participants. The Austrian Chapter donated the Herbert Reisner Prize for Clinical Epileptology in 2006 to Lydia Urak and Ekaterina Pataraiia (both Vienna) and Ernst Niedermeyer Prize in 2007 to Giorgi Kuchuchidze (Innsbruck). In addition, two young epileptologists received financial support for a research fellowship in 2006-2007.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

After a disappointing result of a representative survey reporting the attitudes of the Austrian population against epilepsy (Spatt et al. *Epilepsia* 2005, 46:736-742), the Chapter planned several activities to improve the situation. An educational program in close collaboration with the Austrian Ministry of Health was started in schools, to promote knowledge of epilepsy and improve the opportunities for special educational needs of learning-disabled children with epilepsy.

Educational Activities

Regular state-of-the-art lessons on hot topics in epilepsy are held at the Annual Meetings. A patient information brochure is in press and a book with guidelines on diagnosis and treatment is in preparation.

Future Plans

Certification for specialized epilepsy centers and outpatient clinics will be fostered and a new mode of qualification will be introduced this year. The finalization of the guidelines on diagnosis and treatment can be expected 2008/2009. Elections of the Executive Board will take place in autumn 2008.

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Officer Election Date

29 November 2008

Report By:

Eugen Trinka

BANGLADESH EPILEPSY FOUNDATION

Summary of Activities

Bangladesh Epilepsy Foundation (BEF) had an excellent year last year. We have arranged six seminars on epilepsy care and treatment, two national level training programs for general practitioners and one epilepsy workshop with international teaching faculty. This workshop was jointly organized by BEF, ASEPA and Society of Neurologist of Bangladesh. One hundred doctors from all over Bangladesh participated. Dr C T Tan, Dr John Dunna, Dr Lakshmi Nagaragan, Dr Wendyl D' Souza and Dr Ernie Somerville made up the international faculty for this two-day training course. A total of 1,487 new patients and 2,879 old patients were seen by the BEF at the free Friday clinic last year. You all know that Cyclone Sidr slammed the highly vulnerable low-lying, densely populated coastal areas of Bangladesh with heavy rain, winds of up to 220 miles/hr in November 2007. Approximately 31 of Bangladesh's 64 districts were affected by the storm. The storm caused extensive damage to the southern districts as it moved north across central Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) official reports indicated that more than 10 million people were affected by Cyclone Sidr, with a death toll of 3,469 (unofficially 27,000) people, with a further 18,596 missing and 34,508 injured. Material damage is severe, with over 566,000 homes destroyed and a further 845,000 houses were partially damaged. The GoB estimates more than 1.7 million acres of crops are damaged. Over 465,000 livestock are confirmed killed, which represents loss of critical household assets. Extensive damage to roads and public buildings was also reported, including 1,355 educational institutions destroyed and another 7,847 partially damaged. Bangladesh Epilepsy Foundation sent two medical teams to the disaster area to help the victims with treatment, free medicine and other relief materials jointly collected by other local NGOs. A total of 2,145 patients, mostly children and old people, were treated in those medical camps.

Report By:

Dr. Muzharul Mannan

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

Journal of Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology

Meetings

Annual national meetings and regional meetings

Summary of Activities

- Publication: *Journal of Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology* – ISBN 1676-2649 – Available online at:

http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_serial&lng=en&pid=1676-2649.

- Official Web site : <http://www.epilepsia.org.br>.
- Annual Meetings: XXXI reunião da Liga Brasileira de Epilepsia (XXXI Annual Meeting of the Brazilian League Against Epilepsy) held in conjunction with the XXI Brazilian Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology – 11-13 October 2007, in São Paulo – SP.
- XXXII Congresso da Liga Brasileira de Epilepsia – from 11-15 June 2008 in Campinas – SP. National meeting with 600 delegates. During this meeting (as occurred in the previous meetings) there was also a symposium of the Brazilian Chapter of IBE (Associação Brasileira de Epilepsia – ABE) with participation of patients and family members.
- During the period between 2006 and 2008 there were several regional meetings in different parts of the country, focusing on continuous education activities.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

There have been several actions to support the Global Campaign including activities of ASPE (<http://www.aspebrasil.org/>) which is in charge of the Demonstration Project in Brazil, and for a Permanent Educational Program for Educators. We participated in several activities during our National Epilepsy Week (first week of September), which included sites for information in public places, such as Shopping Centers; interviews and educational ads about epilepsy in newspapers, radios and TVs; among many other activities. The Brazilian Chapter of IBE (Associação Brasileira de Epilepsia – ABE) also has been very active in promoting educational activities for the general public. More information can be found in our periodic publication: *Journal of Epilepsy and Clinical Neurophysiology* - ISBN 1676-2649 – Available online at: http://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?script=sci_serial&lng=en&pid=1676-2649 or at the official Web site of Brazilian League Against Epilepsy: <http://www.epilepsia.org.br> which also contains information for the general public and for health professionals.

Educational Activities

In addition to the activities described above, the Brazilian League Against Epilepsy gave support to the very successful LASSE – Latin American Summer School on Epilepsy, first held in February 2007 and the second LASSE in February 2008. The third LASSE is scheduled for next February. Below is an excerpt from the report prepared by the organizer of the LASSE, Dr Esper Cavalheiro: 1st LASSE – Latin American Summer School on Epilepsy “Epilepsy: translating basic knowledge into clinical applications” Santa Monica Hotel and Convention Center in Guarulhos, São Paulo, Brazil, from 4-14 February 2007. Director: Esper A Cavalheiro. Organizers have selected 22 students from Spanish-speaking Latin American countries (Mexico-3, Honduras-1, Guatemala-2, Cuba-2, Venezuela-1, Colombia-3, Peru-3, Argentina-4, Uruguay-3), 22 students from Brazil, three students from Angola and two students from Mozambique totaling 49 students. All but one student (from Honduras) joined the meeting. Their expenses (travel and hotel with full board) have been paid. Air tickets for African students have been provided by their governments. Others: four students from

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Brazil, one from Uruguay and one from Peru attended the meeting as they have paid their personal expenses and no registration fee was claimed. Results: The global impression is that LASSE has exceeded its objectives. The atmosphere was excellent and students have been delighted with the experience. Some have even expressed the feeling that LASSE has given a new direction to their professional life. Several factors contributed to LASSE's success and among them it is important to mention: (a) the hotel location (far from appealing tourist attractions but with good services); (b) teacher's dedication, commitment and generosity; (c) the program that covered different aspects of basic and clinical epileptology allowing a closer interaction of students from these two areas and (d) the open discussion with contributions of all teachers present at the conference room. Some points need to be modified in future LASSE editions: (a) increase time for discussion between each conference; (b) provide more free time for students' interaction and preparation of the research project.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

See above on the Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign.

Future Plans

To continue to support the local IBE Affiliate (ABE) and the Global Campaign, and the educational activities for the general public and health professionals

Officer Election Date

14 June 2008

Report By:
Fernando Cendes

CANADIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

The scientific content of the 2007 CLAE Annual Meeting in Vancouver will be published as a supplement to the *Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences* in 2008.

Meetings

- The 2006 CLAE Annual General Assembly was held on 16 June 2006 at the Palais des Congrès de Montreal during the 2006 Canadian Congress of Neurological Sciences;
- The 2006 3rd Canadian Epilepsy Research Initiative meeting was held from 29 September to 1 October 2006 in Markham, Ontario. The theme of the conference was "Contentious Issues in Epilepsy: A Canadian Perspective";
- The 1st North American Regional Epilepsy Meeting was held from 1-5 December 2006 in San Diego;
- The 30th Anniversary 2007 CLAE Meeting was held from 2-4 October 2007 in Vancouver. During this occasion, Dr Juhn Wada – a founding member of CLAE, was honored;
- The 2007 CLAE General Assembly was held 4 October 2007 during the 2007 CLAE Annual Meeting.

Summary of Activities

- New Board:** At the General Assembly in June 2006, a new Board was elected: Dr S Wiebe (Past President), Dr L Carmant (President), Dr R Wennberg (President-elect), Dr D Nguyen (Secretary-Treasurer), Dr M Sadler (Education Director), Dr Moeller (Trainee Representative).
- Meetings:** The Canadian Epilepsy Research Initiative (CERI), a branch of our CLAE, met in 2006 and is preparing another meeting in 2008. The goal of CERI meetings is to develop research projects aimed at answering questions which will have an impact on stakeholders. They also promote collaborative research across the country. The 2007 CLAE Annual Meeting took place in Vancouver with a well-appreciated scientific program.
- Membership:** Our list of members and their coordinates was updated.
- CLAE Web site:** Payment of membership dues is now available online using Pay Pal services. Our Web site was completely rearranged with an improved look and ease of use.
- Fundraising:** In order to support community work, research and educational programs, the CLAE has been working on a major fundraising campaign entitled "Don't turn your back on epilepsy". Our first step was to join forces with the Canadian Epilepsy Alliance. With seed money from the Savoy Foundation and donations from Board members and Past Presidents, we have worked on creating a permanent fundraising infrastructure to support our national and international programs, to help develop Canadian National Priorities and to increase the visibility of epilepsy across Canada. We hired a public relations person who has worked with her Web-based team to improve our Web site and promote our 2008 "Out of the Shadows Campaign". Malvina Klag has initiated a fundraising campaign which will first target selected significant donors.
- Task Forces:** Four Task Forces were created which will provide us with reports that can be used for lobbying to Provincial Governments across the country. Dr Taufik Valiante is in charge of Regional Epilepsy Networks, Dr Jorge Burneo of Disparities in Epilepsy Care, Dr Nizam Ahmed of Telemedicine, Dr David Steven of Standards for telemetry care and access, and Dr Lorie Hamiwka of Educational Needs for Children with Epilepsy.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

- The CLAE has been able to help create an ILAE Chapter in Haiti.
- Through the Hispaniola project, CLAE in conjunction with the North American Commission, is working hard to open an epilepsy clinic in Port-au-Prince Haiti. In addition to the \$6,500 support given by the ILAE to the cause, the CNSF Foundation agreed to support our efforts with another \$6,000. The clinic will be operated by a neurosurgeon from Haiti, as there is no neurologist in Haiti. A pediatrician will be trained in EEG at Sainte-Justine Hospital and an EEG technologist will be trained in the Dominican Republic and will do an additional month at Stellate, where she will become familiar with the EEG machine given to this project by Stellate.

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3. The CLAE is also supporting a project to eradicate neurocysticercosis in the Dominican Republic and the development of the first Epilepsy Surgery Center in Santo Domingo, scheduled to open in March 2008.

Educational Activities

1. The 2006 3rd Canadian Epilepsy Research Initiative meeting was held from 29 September to 1 October 2006 in Markham, Ontario. The theme of the Conference was "Contentious Issues in Epilepsy: A Canadian Perspective".
2. The 42nd Annual Congress of the Canadian Neurological Sciences Federation was held in Edmonton on June 2007. The CLAE epilepsy course was held in Edmonton on 20 June 2007.
3. The 30th Anniversary 2007 CLAE Annual Meeting was held from 2-4 October 2007 in Vancouver. It contained oral platform presentations and invited speakers. Dr Juhn Wada, a founding member of the CLAE, was honored for his significant scientific contributions.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

1. The Canadian Epilepsy Alliance was voted as our representative on the IBE. CEA officials had a first meeting with IBE officials at the ILAE meeting in Singapore.
2. We have organized a CEA-CLAE patient information day prior to the 2007 CLAE meeting on 1 October 2007.
3. On 2 October 2007 both boards met to discuss further collaborations in patient education, research, fund-raising, advocacy, and lobbying.
4. CLAE and CEA are working together on the "Out of the Shadows Campaign" which will be launched in 2008 as well as the First National Concert for Epilepsy to take place in 2009.

Future Plans

1. Following the success of our 2007 CLAE scientific meeting in Vancouver, it was decided to organize a bi-annual CLAE scientific meeting which would alternate with the North American Regional Epilepsy meeting.
2. Our "Out of the Shadows Campaign" will be launched in 2008. The approach to fund-raising will be first to sensitize patients and families to the campaign by posters and a pin fundraiser at epilepsy clinics across the nation. Once we have Canadians across the country talking about our efforts, we will hold a National Epilepsy Concert.
3. The 2008 Canadian Neuroscience Federation meeting will be held in Victoria, BC in June 2008. In addition to the epilepsy course and the video session, we will be holding our general assembly in Victoria.
4. The report from Dr Ahmed was published. We are hoping to publish in 2008 our first two Task Force reports: Regional Epilepsy Networks (Taufik Valiante) and Disparities in epilepsy care (Jorge Burneo).
5. The next CLAE biannual meeting planned for 2009 will be held in Calgary.

Officer Election Date

Elections will take place at the next General Assembly on 18 June 2009 in Victoria, BC.

Report By:
Dang Nguyen
Secretary-Treasurer

CHINA ASSOCIATION AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

Clinical Guidelines: Epilepsy fascicule (Chinese);
Comprehensive Textbook of Epilepsy (Engel): Chapter 291

Meetings

Three academic meetings and training courses

Summary of Activities

1. Compile Clinical guidelines epilepsy fascicule;
2. Organized celebration of "International Epilepsy Caring Day" in 36 cities;
3. Social awareness activities in ten provinces;
4. Compile "Proper technique in managing epilepsy patients in urban communities";
5. International exchange activities (WHO HQs; Italy; Netherlands; and Singapore);
6. Academic meetings and training courses supported by ASEPA;
7. WHO collaborative projects in Suburb Beijing;
8. Government supported project in rural area of 15 provinces (free treatment of about 20,000 GTCS patients with phenobarbital).

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Government supported project in rural area of 15 provinces (free treatment of about 20,000 GTCS patients with phenobarbital)

Educational Activities

Three training courses supported by ASEPA on:

1. Advances in diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy;
2. Quality of life with epilepsy patients;
3. Pre-operation evaluation.

Activities in conjunction with local IBE-affiliate social awareness activities in ten provinces.

Future Plans

1. 7th AOEC in Xiamen, China;
2. Clinical guidelines publicities in another ten provinces together with social awareness activities;
3. WHO 2008-09 biennial collaborative project in Tibet;
4. Continue rural project in 15 provinces;
5. Three training courses supported by ASEPA;
6. National EEG/Electrophysiology Conference in September 2008;
7. Second "International Epilepsy Caring Day";
8. Second Asian Epilepsy Conference on Epilepsy Surgery in October 2008 in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province.

Officer Election Date

October 2009

Report By:
Shichuo Li
President, CAAE

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COLOMBIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Summary of Activities

The Colombian League Against Epilepsy changed the Board of Directors. The new President is Dr Daniel Nariño, from Bogotá. The Secretary is Dr Orlando Carreño from Medellín. These new dignitaries are organizing the XV National Congress that is scheduled for 28-30 September 2008 in Medellín. We invite everybody to visit our page: www.epilepsiacolombia.org for full information.

We initiated the preparation of the Law Project against discrimination to people with epilepsy. There is a nice reception in the Colombian Parliament for this transcendental step. Hanneke de Bour (Global Campaign Against Epilepsy) and Carlos Acevedo (Executive Director for Latin America) have been invited and kindly accepted to chair the parliamentary session. Colombia will be the first country around the world that has this dreamed initiative.

We continued the education program in epilepsy around the country through conferences to many students.

The Colombian League Against Epilepsy, that owns a Neurological Hospital devoted to epilepsy surgery, must transfer this organization in order to separate the new Board of Directors. For this reason, it was necessary to create a new organization with the same philosophy (non-profit institution, a Foundation): Fundación Centro de Epilepsia. So we are working hard.

Jaime Fandiño-Franky, MD
Past President

CROATIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Summary of Activities

1. Epilepsy: can children live as others.
2. Postgraduate course: Preventions in pediatrics, Proceedings, Slavonski Brod 16-18 March 2007; 48-57.

CYPRUS EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Summary of Activities

We have participated as co-organizers in the 2nd and 3rd Panhellenic Epilepsy Congresses.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Presented the topic of SUDEP during the Panhellenic Congress 2007.

Educational Activities

Booklet on epilepsy for patients

Future Plans

Epilepsy Day to be organized around the International Day with a distinguished speaker to be invited

Officer Election Date

January 2009

Report By:

Savvas Papacostas
President

DANISH EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Publications

www.epilepsiselskabet.dk

Meetings

Two scientific meetings per year

Summary of Activities

Two scientific meetings per year. Report of working group on recommendations regarding treatment with vagus nerve stimulator. Working on national database about epilepsy treatment. Referee for national guidelines on antiepileptics.

Educational Activities

Two annual scientific meetings. Lecture competition for young researchers at the Annual meeting. Epilepsy course for junior doctors in collaboration with the Danish Epilepsy Center.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Regular meetings (twice a year) attended by the Board of the local IBE and the Board of the Danish Epilepsy Society

Future Plans

National guidelines for the treatment with vagus nerve stimulator, Baltic Epilepsy Summer School in Denmark in 2008. Extended collaboration with the Epilepsy Societies in the Nordic Countries involving Finland

Officer Election Date

March 2008

Report By:

Noémi Becser Andersen
Chairman

FINNISH EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Summary of Activities

Our main activity in 2006 was the 7th European Congress on Epileptology which was organized in Helsinki 2-6 July. Our Society worked together with the Scientific Advisory Committee to create a scientific program, which concentrated, among other issues, on epileptogenesis and brain maturation in epilepsy evolution. Finnish Epileptology Symposium focused on "Unverricht-Lundborg disease: in Finland and elsewhere." Progressive myoclonus epilepsy of Unverricht-Lundborg type, EPM1, is most prevalent around the Baltic Sea, especially in Finland, but is also relatively frequent in the western Mediterranean region. This symposium addressed the current knowledge of the

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molecular genetics, phenotype variation, clinical evolution and update on treatment of this rare disease.

Wider overview of rare or so-called 'orphan diseases' in epilepsy and the possibility to treat these rare disorders with specifically developed 'orphan drugs' was given in this Congress in a unique symposium dedicated to this important issue.

This Congress provided Finnish epileptology with a unique opportunity to increase general knowledge about epilepsy, as together, with the Finnish Epilepsy Association (FEA, the Chapter of IBE) we made a very successful publicity campaign during the Congress and gained lot of visibility in media. The population of Finland is 5.2 million inhabitants, and we have 56,000 persons who have diagnoses of epilepsy (38,000 on active medication). During the Congress and directly after we gained 126 hits in media with the circulation of 7.5 million (July-September 2006).

In 2007 the Finnish Epilepsy Association (the Chapter of IBE) with the support of experts of the Finnish Epilepsy Society arranged education for health care professionals and panel discussions for audiences in collaboration with a Finnish film about epilepsy (*A year of a Wolf*) done by a famous Finnish movie company. The focus in the film is in experiences of epilepsy as an illness. These activities are a part of the WHO/ILAE/IBE Global Campaign Against Epilepsy: Out of the Shadows in Finland. During this activity 149 hits were in media with circulation of 11.2 million (January-February 2007).

In 2006 we re-started the educational tours around the country. Ten educational meetings were arranged locally as evening meetings. These tours were continued during 2007. The whole neurology and pediatric neurology team working in the district was invited and each meeting gained an audience of 30-80 people. Two national educational meetings were arranged in 2007. In March the topic was "Epilepsy and mental retardation" in Helsinki and in October the topic was "Epilepsy beyond seizures" in Tampere dealing with cognitive and other co-morbid problems of epilepsy and also progression of epilepsy.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

The Chapter has focused to increase professional awareness of epilepsy as a treatable disorder. All our educational meetings are part of the Global Campaign and in major meetings we arrange press conferences to increase public awareness.

Members of the Chapter participate in the national effort to create guidelines for the treatment of epilepsy in Finland. In 2006, "The Treatment of Prolonged Seizure and Status Epilepticus," and in 2007, "The Treatment of Epilepsy in Children and Adolescents" and "The Treatment of Febrile Seizures" were published and are available on the Internet in Finnish.

The Chapter has also been an active participant in the discussion of reimbursement policies of new antiepileptic drugs and epilepsy surgery in Finland. The goal is to increase the equal availability of the new drugs and surgery for epilepsy patients regardless of their economic situation or community they live in.

Educational Activities

Described in the Summary of Activities

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Collaboration between ILAE and IBE Chapters in Finland is close and each year at least one of the educational meetings is arranged together.

Most of the Global Campaign activities and other public activities arranged by the IBE Chapter always have experts invited from the ILAE Chapter.

Future Plans

The Finnish Epilepsy Society and the Finnish Epilepsy Association are going to improve knowledge of epilepsy and equal access to high-quality care by joining their forces in building a new Web site.

Report By:

Reetta Kälviäinen

LFCE – LIGUE FRANCAISE CONTRE L'EPILEPSIE (FRENCH CHAPTER)

Publications

EPILEPSIES (www.revue-epilepsies.fr)

Meetings

Journées Françaises De L'Epilepsie – JFE Lyon 13-15 November 2008

Summary of Activities

- In 2006 the LFCE organized its Annual Meeting in Strasbourg (Prof Hirsch) as a joint meeting with the German Chapter. In 2007 the Annual Meeting (JFE 10th anniversary) was organized in Nice (Prof Thomas) and was preceded by the "Claudio Munari workshop" organized in collaboration with the Italian Chapter.
- The "Henri Gastaut Prize" (LFCE with the support of Sanofi-Aventis) was attributed in 2007 to Prof Pierre Jallon.
- The Journal of the French Chapter *EPILEPSIES* (Editor-in-Chief Dr Michelle Bureau) was indexed in 2007 and became the official vector of several French-speaking ILAE Chapters.
- The Web site www.lfce-epilepsies.fr was further developed.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

In 2006 the LFCE in collaboration with several associations, all grouped within the Comité National d'Epilepsie (CNE) organized the National Epilepsy Day. Several activities took place in a number of regions. The operation will be repeated in 2008.

- The LFCE, via its journal *EPILEPSIES* edited in French, actively contributes to the dissemination of current knowledge in the field of clinical epileptology.
- The LFCE actively supported the actions of the Commission on European Affairs and the EAC.

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Educational Activities

- The LFCE together with the University of Nancy (Prof Vespignani, in charge of the Education Committee) and in collaboration with all main universities organizes a two-year teaching course (Diplôme Universitaire d'Epileptologie) that includes training courses in university hospital departments as well as several options (pharmacology, epilepsy surgery, psychosocial issues, fundamental research). During the last two years the course was again very well attended.
- The LFCE in collaboration with the pharmaceutical industry offers every year a number of grants for research in clinical and fundamental epileptologie and the "J. Roger Medico-Social Grant".

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Collaboration with IBE affiliates (Association Française pour les Epilepsies and EPILEPSIE-FRANCE) is mainly accomplished via the CNE. IBE affiliates and the FFRE are systematically invited and represented at the Annual LFCE Meeting.

Future Plans

- The LFCE is currently conducting a prospective evaluation of the needs for epilepsy care in France. The project was initiated by Prof de Toffol (President 2006-2007).
- The Scientific Commission (Coordinator Prof Rylin) is conducting a research project on Mortality and Epilepsy. The LFCE will use part of the 26th IEC income to fund research projects in the field of epilepsy.
- Late 2007, following the elections of the LFCE Executive, the Commission for French-speaking countries was reinforced. The Commission develops a number of projects and works in close collaboration with EUREPA.
- The Executive Office of the LFCE was elected in November 2008, following the election of the Administration Council.

Alexis Arzimanoglou
President of the LFCE

GERMAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPTOLOGY

Publications

Zeitschrift für Epileptology

Meetings

May 2007

Summary of Activities

In 2007, the German Society for Epileptology gave substantially more financial support for young investigators in the field of Epileptology. Also the project of EURAP will be supported over the next years. The Otfried-Förster-Stipendium was newly created: This bursary can be applied for by individuals wishing to link clinical and experimental work. The DGfE will fund proposals of theoretical epileptologists wishing to expand their clinical knowledge, and conversely, clinical epileptologists aiming to gain experimental experi-

ence. Costs for 50% of personnel expenses (up to 35,000 euros) will be covered for up to one year, provided the home institution will cover the other 50%. The German Society discussed the problems with aut-idem antiepileptic medications and published recommendations. New financial systems for outpatient clinics for epilepsy patients have been implemented by the government; the German Society produced certification rules for those outpatient clinics. The Otfried-Förster-Prize was dedicated to Professor Erwin-Josef Speckmann from Munster for his work in the field of experimental epileptology. Mrs Gisela Schüler and Mr Rupprecht Thorbecke have been nominated as new honorary members of the Society for their work in social topics of epileptology. The German Society for Epileptology moved from its office in Bielefeld to Berlin and now resides together with the German Society of Neurology in Berlin, sharing both logistics and lobbying power. The German "Tag der Epilepsie" in October 2007 in Dresden was supported by the German Society. A number of local actions were organized in the center of Dresden and many people were attracted to the event, being interested in different aspects of epileptology. The German Society for Epileptology celebrated its 50th birthday in 2007.

Officer Election Date

2009

Report By:

Dr Thomas Mayer

GREEK LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Meetings

Panhellenic Congress of Epilepsy once per year

Summary of Activities

- 2nd Panhellenic Congress of Epilepsy "Epilepsies: diagnostic and therapeutic approach" 10-12 November 2006, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Thessaloniki;
- 3rd Panhellenic Congress of Epilepsy "Epileptic and non-epileptic events in children and adults" 09-11 November 2007, Ledra Marriott Hotel, Athens, Greece. Participants: 600.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Global Campaign 2006, "Out of Shadows" Greek League Against Epilepsy organized a special session on the 12th of November 2006 within the framework of the 2nd Panhellenic Congress of Epilepsy. Chair: Athanasios Covanis, Konstantinos Sitzoglou. Topics included: SUDEP – Speaker: Savvas Papacostas; Global Campaign "Out of the Shadows" – Speaker: Philip Lee; Epilepsy and Quality of Life – Speaker: George Zacharakis.

Educational Activities

In 2007, the Greek League Against Epilepsy decided to establish the organization of educational workshops in order to promote the advancement of education and practice in the field of epilepsy.

- 1) 1st Educational Workshop, "Epilepsies and Pharmacoresistance" 9-11 February 2007, Montana Hotel, Karpenisi, Greece. Participants: 50. The scientific program of the aforementioned workshop

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included a variety of lectures on the subject of "Epilepsies and Pharmacoresistance" and managed to bring together a scientific group of distinguished speakers in order to exchange views and ideas on the field of epilepsy.

- 2) 2nd Educational Workshop, "Epilepsies: Basic Rules Regarding Classification and Management" 21-23 September 2007, Le Meridien, Limassol, Cyprus. Participants: 50. Greek League Against Epilepsy in cooperation with Cyprus Epilepsy Society organized the 2nd Educational Workshop on Epilepsy. The scientific program of the aforementioned workshop included a variety of lectures on the subject of "Epilepsies: Basic Rules Regarding Classification and Management." This workshop was a fruitful opportunity for professionals in both countries to meet together and discuss current issues in the field of epilepsy.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Global Campaign 2007, "Out of Shadows" Greek League Against Epilepsy organized a special session on the 11th of November 2007 within the Employment legislation framework of the 3rd Panhellenic Congress of Epilepsy. "Across the member states for people with disabilities with reference to any statistics concerning prejudices against employment opportunities for people with disabilities across Europe," Speaker: Gay Mitchell. "When there is a will there is a way," Speaker: Marion Clignet, Chair: Giuliano Avanzini, Philip Lee. "Parental needs of children with epileptic seizures and family management issues," Speaker: Thalia Valeta and Athanasios Covanis.

Future Plans

- 3rd Educational Workshop, "Frontal Lobe Seizures" 29 February-2 March 2008, Xenia Palace Hotel, Portaria, Pilon, Greece. Participants: 50;
- Educational Workshop, "Epilepsies of parietal and occipital lobes" 4th Panhellenic Congress of Epilepsy 14-16 November 2008, Alexandroupolis, Greece and 4-6 July 2008, Dolphin Bay Hotel, Syros, Greece. Participants: 50.

Officer Election Date

10 November 2007

Report By:
A Covanis
President

GUATEMALA LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Summary of Activities

- 1) First Session of the programming of the activities of the whole year 2007.
- 2) Approval of the year 2007 Plan.
- 3) First Scientific activity basic and academia aspects of epilepsy.
- 4) Organization of the different subchapters of the Chapter Guatemala International League Against Epilepsy.
- 5) General programming of the yearly activities of each subchapter of ILAE.
- 6) Manufacturing of the educational materials for patients.
- 7) Manufacturing of educational materials for patients and their families.
- 8) Manufacturing of educational materials for school teachers and students.
- 9) Creation of video materials for patients, relatives, teachers and general practitioners.
- 10) Production of audio material for patient and physician education on epilepsy.
- 11) Production of video material for the general public about epilepsy.
- 12) Special planning for activities for elementary school teachers, materials about epilepsy.
- 13) Inauguration in all the subchapters in Guatemala in different status or departments of specialized clinics for the attention of patients with epilepsy.
- 14) Special training courses about epilepsy diagnosis and management of Neurology Residents in the areas of Pediatric Neurology, Adult Neurology and Clinical Neurophysiology; these activities with the support of State University of San Carlos de Guatemala.
- 15) Once per month activities in the subchapters and in the headquarters of the League scientific meetings with specialists in the neurological branches; topics covered different aspects in the management, treatment and research in epilepsy.
- 16) Joint meeting once a month with the neurological associations and epilepsy organizations with the support of the Continuum of the World Federation of Neurology discussing topics about epilepsy and other related topics of the neurological sciences.
- 17) Monthly meeting of the Commission of Continuous Medical Education of the College of Physicians of Guatemala projecting to all the organized medical community of Guatemala in topics of epilepsy management and guidelines in epilepsy for the physicians that are not neurologists.
- 18) Participation in electronic teaching courses for physicians through the country of Guatemala through Internet and through the Web page www.Neurologiaparatodos.com.
- 19) Participate in courses given at a distance on our Web page about epilepsy topics and increase awareness about the prevalence, incident and importance of the correct management of the epilepsies.
- 20) At monthly intervals members of the League and the Bureau delivers lectures about epilepsy and related basic neuroscience topics in the subchapters spread all over the country of Guatemala.
- 21) Active participation in research projects about social, academia and clinical aspects of epilepsy in different areas of interest.
- 22) Participation in courses for the neurological residents and other professionals interested in electrophysiology, specially supporting the knowledge in interpretation of electrodiagnostic tests in the field of the neurosciences.
- 23) Jointly with the Neurology and Neurophysiology Residency programs of the University of San Carlos participating in a joint effort for developing protocols for treatment and management of epilepsy.
- 24) Direct participation through the Neurology residency program.
- 25) Our organizations are deeply involved in the development of the epilepsy surgery programs in Guatemala.

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- 26) Joint participation with the School of Psychology of The University of San Carlos in the development and support in the area of Neuropsychology.
- 27) Planning of the monthly activities about epilepsy for the general population that are not medical physicians.
- 28) In the subchapter of Coban Alta Verapaz at 250 kms from Guatemala City, the local committee with the help of the city government and local organizations is involved at the present in the construction of a multi-clinic facility in the area of epilepsy with practical and modern facilities. It is expected, once finished, to be a pioneer project in Guatemala and Central America. Expected to be completed in the last trimester 2008.
- 29) With the Guatemala Red Cross we have an agreement of mutual cooperation for joint projects in the field of epilepsy and neurological diseases, the organizations involved are Chapter Guatemala ILAE, Chapter Guatemala IBE, Neurology training program of the University of San Carlos of Guatemala. The League runs an epilepsy clinic in the headquarters of the Red Cross to attend epilepsy patients. The Neurology residency program provides a medical Neurology Resident, the Red Cross provides the facilities and modern equipment of Brain Mapping and EEG also supplies para-medical personnel.
- 30) The Red Cross has this year purchased first class equipment for Brain Mapping and EEG.
- 31) A cooperation agreement has been signed between the Chapter Guatemala, International League Against Epilepsy, the International Bureau for Epilepsy, The Neurology-Clinical Neurophysiology Residency programs of the University of San Carlos, and the Guatemala Red Cross. The main general objective is to pursue an integral concept of health. Health is not just the absence of disease but a complete sense of well-being socially, medically and economically according to WHO.
- 32) Guatemala is a multilingual pluricultural society; 21 languages are spoken in addition to the official language Spanish less than half of the population know to read and write. A very innovative process was started with Dr Henry B Stokes who for the first time in the country made a set of audio CDs in ten different languages with the help of local communities. This material is instrumental for teaching epilepsy to many rural communities in their own languages. A large number of CDs were produced and distributed with a special grant of \$5,000 that was awarded by the IBE International Bureau for Epilepsy. A second phase of this process is being implemented for the near future. This is also a joint venture between IBE and ILAE national Chapters.
- 33) Meetings: Each year for the last 25 years the Chapter Guatemala of ILAE and the Chapter Guatemala IBE and the Guatemalan Association of Neurological Sciences organizes with its fellow societies from Spain the Iberocentroamerican Congress of Neurological Sciences and Epilepsy with the participation of professionals from Central America, Latin America, USA, and Europe.
- 34) Local organizations of the subchapters all over the country are made up of: physicians, teachers, prominent members of the community, social work-

ers, patients and relatives of patients. Monthly meetings are scheduled.

Officer Election Date

January 2009

Report By:

Dr Henry B. Stokes

HONG KONG EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Summary of Activities

Scientific meetings:

- 26 January 2007, 2nd HKES-UCSF Video Conference Prince of Wales Hospital
- 5 March 2007, "New Challenges in the Management of Pediatric Epilepsies," Professor Lieven Lagae, University Hospital Leuven, Marco Polo Hotel, Kowloon
- 5 July 2007, The Epilepsy Awareness Day – Symposium on Quality of Life in Childhood Epilepsy Queen Mary Hospital
- 6 July 2007, "Improving quality of life - beyond seizure control," Professor Steve Schachter, Harvard Medical School Sheraton Hotel, Kowloon
- 14 July 2007, Symposium on advances in medical and surgical treatment of epilepsy, Sheraton Hotel, Kowloon
- 10 November 2007, Joint symposium with The Hong Kong Neurological Society Ltd, Hotel Shangri La, Kowloon
- 10 November 2007, Seminar on Neuropsychological Aspect in Epilepsy: Theory and Practice, Tuen Mun Hospital

Details of individual symposium are as follows:

Scientific symposium on advances in medical and surgical treatment of epilepsy was on 14 July 2007. Speaker was Prof Christian Elger. The meeting was sponsored by Pfizer. Program included: "Advances in medical treatment of epilepsy" by Christian E Elger; "Case presentation I (four cases)" by Jason Fong, Howan Leung, WK Chak and Colin Lui; "Workup and outcome of surgery for non-lesional refractory epilepsy" by Christian E Elger; and "Case presentation II (four cases)" by Eva Fung, Ada Yung, Howan Leung, and WK Chak .

Joint symposium with The Hong Kong Neurological Society Ltd A joint symposium with The Hong Kong Neurological Society Ltd. in the annual scientific meeting of HKNS, was held on 10 November 2007 at Hotel Shangri-La, Kowloon. The Chairpersons were Dr Jason Fong, Dr Patrick Kwan. The program included: "Individualizing antiepileptic drug therapy for patients with epilepsy" by Prof Kore Liow of Via Christi Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita, US; "Epilepsy Pharmacogenomics – Promises and Challenges" by Dr Patrick Kwan of Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong; and "Acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine for the treatment of epilepsy" by Dr Daniel KL Cheuk of Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong.

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Seminar on Neuropsychological aspects in Epilepsy, Theory & Practice on 10 November 2007. This seminar was co-organized by Tuen Mun Hospital and Hong Kong Epilepsy Society and chaired by Dr NS Kwong and Dr TS Fong. Neuroimaging of epilepsy and pediatric epilepsy surgery were also covered in the topics. The meeting was sponsored by Janssen Cilag. The program included: "Opening Ceremony" by Dr Albert Lo, Dr NS Kwong and Dr TS Fong; "Neuropsychological model of brain function" by Prof Tatia Lee; "Neuropsychological assessment" by Ms Florence Kwok; "How imaging detects brain function in epilepsy" by Dr YC Wong; "How epilepsy affect developmental brain? How epilepsy surgery affects cognitive outcome?" by Dr WK Chak; "Psychiatric problems in epilepsy protocol of psychiatric assessment for epilepsy surgery" by Dr TS Lai; "Case Discussion" presented by Dr Kate Leung, Ms Florence Kwok, Ms Eliza Lau and Dr Lucia Tsang.

Educational Activities

First Neurophysiology course was offered for neurology trainees. It was co-organized with The Hong Kong Neurological Society Ltd. The course was on 17, 18 and 31 March 2007. For the Electroencephalography session on 31 March, there were 31 individuals registered. Drs Jason Fong, Patrick Kwan, Howan Leung, Andrew Hui and Colin Lui were the speakers. The course was welcomed by the audience. Course materials were uploaded onto the Web site of HKNS Ltd. The program, chaired by TH Tsoi/ KK Lau included: "Basic principles Montages/localization" by Jason Fong; "Normal variants" by Patrick Kwan; "Application & different patterns of epileptic disorders" by Jason Fong; "Non-epileptiform patterns" by Howan Leung; "Brief introduction to video EEG" by Andrew Hui; and "Quiz" facilitated by Colin Lui, Patrick Kwan, and Jason Fong.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

The Epilepsy Awareness Day – Symposium on Quality of Life in Childhood Epilepsy – was a single day symposium organized by Department of Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine, QMH and Community Rehabilitation Network and co-organized by Hong Kong Epilepsy Society and was held at the Underground Lecture Theater 2, New Clinical Building, QMH on 5 July 2007. The program included: Prof Gabriel Ronen, Department of Pediatrics, McMaster University; Dr Winnie Yam, Private Pediatrician; Dr CW Fung, Specialist in Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, QMH; Ms Anchor Hung, Medical Social Worker, The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation Community Rehabilitation Network.

Future Plans

Participation in global research and more collaboration with IBE Chapter to promote public awareness of epilepsy

Officer Election Date

January 2009

Report By:
Colin Hiu-Tung Lui

HUNGARIAN EPILEPSY LEAGUE – (HEL)

Publications

The frontal lobe, as the common structure of neurology and psychiatry, by P Halász (eds.). 2006, *Guideline of Epilepsy Care*, by P Rajna (eds.). 2007.

Meetings

In 2006: Meeting of HEL, Pécs

In 2007: Meeting of HEL, as a Section of the Hungarian Clinical Neurophysiologic Society Conference, Pécs

Summary of Activities

In 2007, we published the detailed form of the Epilepsy Protocol (Guideline of Epilepsy Care). The protocol contains the diagnostic, therapeutic, rehabilitation and care giving recommendations, and defines the rules of personal and institutional conditions of epilepsy care. The officer election process was held in 2007. J Jerney President, Z Szupera Secretary, J Janszky President-elect, P Rajna Past President. The ILAE passes the organization of the 28th International Epilepsy Congress to the HEL in 2009 in Budapest.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Patronizing and supporting the Valentine Epilepsy Days every year on 14 February. Publications for patients and their families about epilepsy. The Richter Pharmaceutical Company, in cooperation with the HEL announces a competition for award of new methods to improve the quality of life for people living with epilepsy, every year.

Educational Activities

- Regular educational courses and workshops on epilepsy in Győr (yearly).
- Richter Academy about the modern diagnostic and therapeutic methods in epilepsy, Budapest.
- Brain Day, with focusing on epilepsy, Zalaegerszeg.
- Teaching course for different specialties about the brain areas involved in epilepsy, Budapest.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

The IBE General Assembly ratified the membership application of the Association for the Future of People with Epilepsy in Hungary in 2007. HEL Continues helping with the organization by having an umbrella function and coordinating the local societies as well as patronizing the Valentine Epilepsy Days.

Future Plans

To continue the regular educational courses. The 28th International Epilepsy Congress will be held 28 June – 2 July in 2009 in Budapest. It is a great challenge for the HEL to help organize a successful and memorable Centenarian Congress, in association with the ILAE.

Officer Election Date

2011

Report By:
J Jerney and Z Szupera

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INDIAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Publications

EPILEPSY INDIA (Newsletter)

Meetings

Annual Conference

Summary of Activities

The Indian Epilepsy Society (IES) held its Annual Conference on 3 and 4 October 2007 in Hotel Taj President, Mumbai. It was attended by over 400 persons. There was an Oration given to Prof Ruben Kuzniecky, USA, who spoke on cutting edge neuroimaging. There was a mini-symposium on interesting case presentations by Drs R Kuzniecky, Simon Harvey, K Radhakrishnan and P Satishchandra followed by a quiz. There were invited lectures by Prof Martin Brodie and Prof Ong Lai Choo. There was a pre-conference update on pediatric epilepsies which was sponsored by ASEPA. Nearly 200 pediatricians/physicians/neurologists attended a full day program where the notable speakers were Drs Simon Harvey, Shinichi Hirose and Ong Lai Choo. After deliberations of over two years the IES has formed a core group of 16 members to finalize 'Guidelines for Epilepsy Management in India (GEMIN)'. The group has had two separate meetings in January and April, 2008. The first draft of the guidelines was reviewed in the meeting held in April, 2008. We propose to finalize the guidelines in the next three months and hopefully the guidelines will be formally released during the next Annual Conference of the IES in October 2008.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

International Epilepsy Day celebration each year on 17 November

Educational Activities

The IES has formed a core group of 16 members to finalize "Guidelines for Epilepsy Management in India (GEMIN)". The group has had two separate meetings in January and April 2008. The first draft of the guidelines was reviewed in the meeting held in April 2008. We propose to finalize the guidelines in the next three months and hopefully the guidelines will be formally released during the next Annual Conference of the IES in October 2008.

Activities in conjunction with local IBE affiliate

Annual Conference International Epilepsy Day each year on 17 November

Officer Election Date

October 2008

Report By:

Satish Jain

Secretary-General, IES

ISRAELI CHAPTER OF ILAE

Summary of Activities

Conferences: Two national conferences: January 2007, keynote lecture: D Schmidt (Berlin); April 2007 – guest

lectures: H Weiner, R Kuzniecky, D Yoshur, A Kanner, R Goodman. Case presentation meetings twice a year.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

- Assistance for the Israeli patients association: consultations
- Web: Q & A, editing the scientific part
- Lectures in patients' association meetings
- Activities to help inclusion of new AEDs/devices/procedures into the "medical basket" (Levetiracetam; VNS, Video-EEG Monitoring)

Officer Election Date

January 2008

Report By:

Prof Uri Kramer

ITALIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

Bollettino della Lega Italiana contro l'Epilessia

Meetings

Chapter's National Congresses: Pisa 3-6 June 2006; Reggio Calabria 29 May to 1 June 2007

Summary of Activities

The Italian Chapter has been mainly involved in organizing activities devoted to the improvement of knowledge, medical care and specialist training in the field of epileptology. These activities have been pursued by the Commissions and working groups of the LICE, as detailed below:

- Commission for the guidelines, with the elaboration and publication (*Epilepsia* Vol 47, Suppl 5, 2006) of three guidelines concerning the therapy of status epilepticus in adults, the diagnosis and treatment of the first seizure, and the generic products of antiepileptic drugs. Further documents prepared during the last two years concern the guidelines on febrile seizures and a consensus statement on epilepsy and pregnancy.
- Commission for genetics, with the organization of two meetings per year devoted to the presentation of families and discussion of the research projects (on familial temporal lobe epilepsies, severe myoclonic epilepsy, familial cavernous angiomas with epilepsy, pharmacogenomic study of pharmacoresistance, familial juvenile myoclonic epilepsy, familial eyelid absence epilepsy, etc.), gathering the interest and collaboration of many epileptologists and geneticists at a national and international level.
- Commission on surgery for epilepsy, with the organization of a forum for the discussion of the anatomico-electro-clinical characteristics of clinical cases of possible neurosurgical interest and elaboration of guidelines on the different aspects of surgery of epilepsy.
- Commission on videos, with the collection of informative videos on different seizure types and elaboration of appropriate tools for the didactic presentation of the material (DVD on neonatal seizures, DVD on parieto-occipital seizures).

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- Working group on epilepsy and pregnancy, supporting the prospective European study on pregnancies in epileptic women (EURAP study).
- Working group on quality of life, with the elaboration and validation of an original questionnaire for patients and caregivers, and publication of the results of the study.
- Working group on basic sciences, promoting the organization of meetings with the aim to fill the gap between basic scientists and clinicians in the field of epilepsy.
- Working group on neonatal convulsions, with the organization of a network among interested clinicians with the aim to collect information about specific etiological problems (e.g., neonatal vascular pathology).
- New working groups have been also instituted (neuropsychology – with the elaboration of a protocol on neuropsychological testing of epilepsy in adults and children, epilepsy and the elderly, psychiatric aspects of epilepsy, neurophysiological techniques in epilepsy).

The Italian League has also promoted a competition among the students of the Experimental School of Cinematography of Rome to carry out four short movies on epilepsy, which will be used to promote the knowledge of epilepsy in the next Campaigns Against Epilepsy. The Italian Chapter has also confirmed under its authority a number of centers for epilepsy. More information on the Chapter's activities can be found on the Web site www.lice.it.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

The Italian Chapter has supported the Global Campaign in 2006 and 2007 by promoting a number of activities concentrated around the first Sunday of May, declared Epilepsy Day by the Italian Ministry of Health. The activities in different regions were prepared in conjunction with patient associations and focused on correct information on the disease through the media and a direct contact with the citizens in the city squares and schools. The aim was to improve knowledge about epilepsy and increase public awareness of the disease. We also devoted a specific section in our Web site containing any information on the disease and the various events taking place in each region and town. A press office was also created to coordinate the relationships with the media and the different activities and events. In detail: 2006: organization of a specific meeting with press conference in Rome (5 May 2006), 2007: organization of the first "Maratonina" in April 2007 at the presence of testimonials from the sporting world.

Educational Activities

- The Italian Chapter has promoted a number of educational activities including: Annual multicenter meeting in Rome (20 September 2006 and 8-19 January 2007), gathering epileptologists (mostly young doctors training in neurology) from different epilepsy centers with a program focused on the interactive discussion of clinical cases and scientific papers (journal club).
- Annual video-EEG course for technicians and epileptologists (Catania, 29-31 October 2007).
- Claudio Munari workshop: Verona, September 2006 and Nizza, (in conjunction with the French Chapter) November 2007.

- Production of an interactive atlas of electroencephalography in epilepsies.
- Course on medical writing (Rome, 21-22 June 2007).
- Other educational activities have been performed in conjunction with the regional sections, which operate in the various administrative areas of the country under the leadership of a regional coordinator.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

In 2006 the Epilepsy Day was organized in conjunction with the local IBE affiliate (Italian Association Against Epilepsy).

Future Plans

Future plans of the Italian Chapter include:

- Strengthening of the research into the causes and treatment of epilepsy.
- Further support for young doctors and specialists interested in improving their knowledge of epilepsy.
- Promotion and support of the epilepsy services in the country.
- Promotion and support of legislation and regulations in favor of people with epilepsy.
- Collaboration with the health authorities to develop high standards for epilepsy care throughout the country.
- Elaboration and diffusion of guidelines aimed to improve the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy.
- Organization of the national Congress.
- Organization of courses, meetings and conferences on epilepsy.
- Encouragement of contributions and donations to be used for the statutory aims of the Society.
- Strengthening of the relationships with the International League Against Epilepsy and other national and international organizations involved in the care of people with epilepsy.

Officer Election Date

5 June 2008

Report By:

Dr Roberto Michelucci

JAPAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Publications

Epilepsia (3 publications a year)

Epilepsy & Seizure (annual publication)

Meetings

Congress of the Japan Epilepsy Society

Summary of Activities

1. Membership and Public Relations Affairs Chair: Eiichi Maru. By using e-mails, it became possible to communicate more effectively and interactively.
2. Committee of English journal *Epilepsy & Seizure* Chair: Kousuke Kanemoto. Since we only had the official journal in Japanese, the members had less opportunity to introduce their activities to the world. In January 2008, we launched a new publication *Epilepsy & Seizure*, the new medical online journal of epilepsy. It allows open access to all to review/submit articles from the moment of publication. To achieve a high academic standard of journal, *Epilepsy &*

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Seizure welcomes international editors from all over the world.

3. Drug Investigation Affairs Chair: Makiko Osawa. In cooperation with the Japan Society of Child Neurology, Japanese Society of Clinical Neurophysiology and Epilepsy Surgery of Japan, we have been trying to make a formal request for the approval of new antiepileptic drugs and introduce the new tests in a social insurance system.
4. International Affairs Chair: Sunao Kaneko. A number of our members participated in the 27th Congress of International Epilepsy Society held in July 2007. The representatives of each Chapter had the Chapter Convention. We submitted several proposals and confirmed Japan-Asia cooperation. As a result of our efforts, JES Scholarship was inaugurated for the young researchers in Asia-Oceania and the 1st candidates were selected. In 2008 they start their internship programs in Japan.
5. Practice Guideline Chair: Tateki Fujiwara. Practice Guideline has established eight guidelines on Epilepsy; each of them is on the JES Web site.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Cooperation with Japan Epilepsy Association

Educational Activities

Activity promotion and education of young researchers, Chair: Yoko Ohtsuka. At the 41st Congress of the Japan Epilepsy Society in Fukuoka, we had the 2nd ceremony for the Best Poster Awards for the young researchers.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

JES Regional Groups were organized and they started operations in Tohoku, Kanto-Koshinetsu, Kinki, Chugoku Shikoku, Kyusyu and Hokkaido districts.

Future Plans

Cooperation with AOEO and ILAE

Officer Election Date

18 October 2008

Report By:

Masako Watanabe

Secretary-General Japan Epilepsy

SOCIETY OF EPILEPTOLOGISTS OF LITHUANIA

Meetings

Chapter meetings: "Generalized idiopathic epilepsies: rarity or commonness?" in Vilnius, Feb 2006; "Partial epilepsies – classical facts and controversies" in Kaunas, Nov 2007; "Neurophysiologic diagnosis of intractable epilepsy" in Kaunas, May 2007".

Summary of Activities

- Organization of annual conferences with participation of experts in the field from other countries. In 2006 President of ILAE Professor Peter Wolf was invited to visit a Chapter and to participate at the Annual Meeting. The Lithuanian Chapter was the host and co-organizer of the 1st Baltic Sea Summer

School on Epilepsy (BSSSE, organized by ILAE Commission of European Affairs) on 19-23 August in Druskininkai with 33 participants from 12 countries.

- Chapter has initiated establishment of Lithuanian Society of Clinical Neurophysiology and Neurosonology in May 2007.
- Regular contacts with the health authorities regarding availability of antiepileptic drugs. New President and Chapter Board was elected in October 2006.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Promotion of epilepsy-related problems by inviting mass media to the organized events and publishing in press.

Educational Activities

- Annual conferences with participation of experts from Europe.
- Practical course for EEG technicians with participation of colleagues from Finland.
- Participation at BSSSE.
- Regular postgraduate courses on epilepsy for neurologists and child neurologists at university hospitals.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Conference "Challenging psychosocial rehabilitation for epilepsy patients" in Vilnius, November 2006, organized by Lithuanian Association for Integration of People with Epilepsy (LESIA) which is a new IBE associate member in collaboration with Epilepsie-Zentrum Bethel, Germany. Joint Conference organized by Lithuanian Chapter and IBE Chapter for patients and caregivers on different aspects of comprehensive management of epilepsy in Kaunas, May 2007.

Future Plans

Co-organization and hosting of 2nd Migrating Course in Epilepsy in June 2008. Annual conferences of the Chapter. Further development of epilepsy rehabilitation, EEG services, surgery and education.

Officer Election Date

October 2006

Report By:

Nerija Vaiciene

MACEDONIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

Epilepsy (journal of Macedonian League)

Meetings

Seminar on Diagnosis and Treatment of Epilepsies with Regional Participation, September 2007 in Ohrid

Summary of Activities

Educational courses on EEG, June 2006 in Dojran and October 2006 in Skopje

Seminar on Diagnosis and Treatment of Epilepsies with regional participation, September 2007 in Ohrid.

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Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Publishing informative brochures on different aspects of epilepsies

Future Plans

Congress of Macedonian Neurological Association with regional participations, one of major topics being epilepsy and EUREPA seminar, September 2008 in Ohrid

Officer Election Date

2008

Report By:

Emilija Cvetkovska

MALAYSIAN SOCIETY OF NEUROSCIENCES (ECM)

Publications

Epilepsy Council of Malaysia

Meetings

May 2006, August 2006, November 2006, January 2007, March 2007, May 2007, July 2007

Summary of Activities

In line with ECM's objectives of 1) promoting education, training of health professionals in care of epilepsy patients, 2) promoting research in epilepsy and 3) continuing to improve care in epilepsy management, ECM conducted a series of educational lecture tours to health professionals all over Malaysia, embarked on two research studies. One study was entitled "Epilepsy Registry: An epidemiology, descriptive study of epilepsy in tertiary neurology clinics in Kuala Lumpur" and the other study was "Socioeconomic and psychological impact of quality of life in Malaysian patients with epilepsy". ECM is also in continuous discussion with the Ministry of Health on the need for HLA-B*1502 screening. ECM initiated a school epilepsy awareness program in conjunction with the Ministry of Education to educate the school counselors on epilepsy.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

1. School epilepsy awareness campaign initiated in mid 2007;
2. Educational lecture tours to health professionals throughout 2006 and 2007;
3. Epilepsy Awareness campaign via public forum, media campaign, epilepsy newsletter and Web site www.epilepsy.org.my.

Educational Activities

Year 2006 – a total of 13 lectures to health professionals were conducted.

Year 2007 – a total of 15 lectures delivered to health professionals. The topics of lecture are:

1. Current medical management of epilepsy
2. Management of epilepsy in pregnancy
3. Seizure semiology
4. Long-term treatment of epilepsy
5. How to stop antiepileptic drugs
6. Fits of faints?

7. Differentiation of seizure types: have you made the right diagnosis?
8. Epilepsy: pre-surgical evaluation
9. Unusual and atypical features of epilepsy
10. Management of partial epilepsy
11. Management of status epilepticus
12. Optimizing the management of epilepsy
13. Management of idiopathic generalized seizure
14. Managing epilepsy in children
15. Epilepsy in special populations

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

1. School epilepsy awareness program
2. Epilepsy Awareness campaign

Future Plans

1. Continue the educational lecture tours to smaller district hospitals.
2. School epilepsy awareness program – to follow through. The plan is to have the program throughout Malaysia.
3. Epilepsy Awareness campaign – to reach wider public.
4. Setting up a Task Force to discuss the issue of HLA-B*1502 allele and recommendations.
5. To embark on a prevalence study of HLA-B* allele among Malaysians.

Officer Election Date

29 June 2006

Report By:

Annie Tan

ECM Secretariat

EPILEPSY SOCIETY OF MALTA

Summary of Activities

- Participation in seminars and awareness-raising activities on epilepsy.
- Lectures on epilepsy for various healthcare professional students and social workers.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

- Invited to speak on radio and TV media on reducing stigma associated with epilepsy.
- Printed new ID cards and diaries for persons with epilepsy.

Educational Activities

- Poster Presentation at Malta Medical School Conference, December 2007.
- Multi-Disciplinary Conference in Epilepsy for general practitioners February 2008 with over 200 participants.

Activities in conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

- In-service training course for teachers in conjunction with Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association and Ministry for Education, July 2007.
- Epilepsy for Nurses in conjunction with Caritas Malta Epilepsy Association and Malta Union of Midwives and Nurses, November 2007.
- Participation in Grundtvig project Education in Epilepsy for PAMS – Malta concluding meeting, April 2007.

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Future Plans

Promote better access for persons with epilepsy in primary healthcare. Promote better diagnostic facilities and therapy in tertiary health care.

Officer Election Date

2010

Report By:
Janet Mifsud
Secretary

MONGOLIAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Publications

"The current situation of the Epilepsy care in Mongolia" for the scientific meeting, held on the occasion of 60th Anniversary of Department of Neurology of Health Sciences, University of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, 2007.
"The status of health education on epilepsy in some provinces of Mongolia" 27th International Epilepsy Congress, *Epilepsia*. "The Mongolian plan to overcome epilepsy treatment gap and improve epilepsy care" *Neurology Asia* 2007;12 (Supplement 1): 48-50.
"Mongolian experience and contribution" Workshop in Psychosocial Issues of Epilepsy, Shanghai, 2007.

Meetings

In March 2008, Mongolian Epilepsy Society and National Epilepsy Center of Japan (with participation of Dr Yushi Inoue) organized a workshop on "Epilepsy in Children – clinical and therapeutic approach" in Ulaanbaatar for neurologists, psychiatrists and child neurologists of rural and urban area of Mongolia.

Summary of Activities

In 2006, the Mongolian Epilepsy Association, with the Epilepsy Center and Mongolian Epilepsy Society started an enhanced health education workshop on epilepsy among the general public and the professionals who looked after epilepsy in the district levels ("Quality of Life"). In March 2007, Mongolian Epilepsy Society and National Epilepsy Center of Japan (with participation of Dr Yushi Inoue) organized workshop on "Diagnosis and treatment of Epilepsy" in Ulaanbaatar for neurologists, psychiatrists and child neurologists of rural and urban area of Mongolia.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

As a follow-up of the recommendations, made from the study conducted by MES and MEA with the support of WHO in 2004 on "Present situation health care for people with epilepsy in Ulaanbaatar," Mongolian Ministry of Health included epilepsy in the list of diseases that is treated free-of-charge in 2006. Whereas previous to the study, the AEDs were given free only to patients under the care of psychiatric hospitals, the neurologists in provincial and district hospitals are now also allowed to prescribe the free AEDs to patients with seizures. The issue of free treatment was ratified by the Parliament of Mongolia in 2006 and was included in the Renewed Health and Insurance Law of Mongolia. The renewed law provided new opportunity and assistance in improving quality of life and better epilepsy care for people with epilepsy.

Educational Activities

Dr B Munkh-Och (young doctor) from MES and MEA trained in the Department of Neurology, Kaohsiung Chang-Gung Medical Center, College of Medicine, Chang-Gung University of Taiwan with the support and supervision of Dr Shung-Lon Lai (2007-2008). MES and MEA are implementing "Quality of Life" program and have organized training in three provinces of Mongolia and provided the assistance to the people with epilepsy and their family members and doctors and nurses on the aspect of health education and training. The Quality of Life program involved eight lectures with drama and video presentations and consulting to the patients.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

In 2007, the Mongolian Epilepsy Association started the Promising Strategies Program of the IBE. The aim was to improve public health education on epilepsy among the population.

Future Plans

Expansion and development of Epilepsy Care; continuation of "Quality of Life" Charity action for all provinces and major settlements; elaboration of the epilepsy clinical guidelines; develop epilepsy surgery in Mongolia.

Officer Election Date

June 2006

Report By:
A Tovvudorj MD

NEPAL EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Meetings

- Executive Board meeting every month
- CME on various aspects of epilepsy every three months

Summary of Activities

- Regular CME every three months
- Executive Board meeting every month
- Pediatric Epilepsy workshop sponsored by ASEPA in 2007
- Many members of Society attended AOEC in Kuala Lumpur in 2006 and recently in Xiamen, China

Educational Activities

- Awareness program in the form of FM radio talk program
- TV talk program
- Regular CME for the update of the members and others on epilepsy related matters

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Work in harmony with Nepal Epilepsy Association (IBE affiliate) regarding awareness programs and management of epilepsy patients.

Future Plans

- To develop a national protocol for management of epilepsy
- To conduct EEG workshop in early 2009
- To develop a chapter Web site with full information

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Officer Election Date

January 2009

Report By:

Dr J P Agrawal

President

NEW ZEALAND LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (NZLAE)

Meetings

November 2007

Summary of Activities

Officially recognized as national Chapter at the 27th International Epilepsy Congress in Singapore, July 2007. Article promoting NZLAE in the NZ Medical Journal.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Successfully obtained funding for vitamin supplements for children on the ketogenic diet. New Zealand (NZ) does not have access at present to Levetiracetam. We have been working with the funding arm of the NZ Ministry of Health and UCB Pharma to get the drug made available.

Educational Activities

Promotion of buccal midazolam as a treatment option for out of hospital seizures. Teaching session held at the NZ annual pediatric meeting November 2007. Further teaching activities planned for 2008.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Collaboration with the lay organization "Epilepsy New Zealand" to raise the profile of epilepsy in NZ. We have met with the National Executive and agreed to check information booklets and provide a medical opinion on epilepsy whenever it is requested. Joint promotion of buccal midazolam with production of a DVD promoting its use.

Future Plans

Promotion of research into the management of epilepsy; in particular, the use of the Internet to enroll patients for trials comparing antiepileptic drugs in specific syndromes. Further collaboration with the lay organization "Epilepsy New Zealand" to raise the profile of epilepsy in NZ. Further efforts to obtain access to Levetiracetam for NZ patients.

Officer Election Date

November 2009

Report By:

Peter Bergin

President

NICARAGUAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Meetings

Annual symposia with doctors

Summary of Activities

Every year an Epilepsy Symposia took place in Managua, Nicaragua.

Participation in the 4th Latin American Congress of Epilepsy in Guatemala, 2006

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

One member of the Chapter is involved in the Health Department Commission with the choice of antiepileptic drugs. Epilepsy is officially recognized as a chronic condition allowing patients to get antiepileptic drugs by health national services and social security services.

Educational Activities

The organization of periodic symposia on epilepsy diagnostic and treatment with participation of pediatric, internist and general doctors. Regular participation in national and international Congresses. Conferences and meetings for medical students.

Future Plans

To continue educational activities with general doctors and specialists focusing in primary medical attention. To promote epilepsy surgery in Nicaragua.

Officer Election Date

Every four years in February

Report By:

Jorge Martinez Cerrato

NORWEGIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Summary of Activities

The Norwegian Chapter of ILAE has about 200 members – mainly neurologists, pediatricians, neurophysiologists, nurses and neuropsychologists.

The Board has 11 members and the Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Board has three meetings each year.

The Annual Meeting took place at Lillestrøm (near Oslo) in September with about 130 active participants.

Prior to the meeting the satellite symposium "Gender Issues in Epilepsy" was arranged with outstanding international speakers. The symposium collected about 160 participants and resulted in a theme number in *Seizure* in March 2008.

The symposium "Cognitive Function in Refractory and Easy-to-Treat Epilepsy" took place during the Annual Meeting of the Norwegian Neurological Association in November.

Report By:

Dag Aurlien

Secretary

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EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION OF PAKISTAN

Summary of Activities

The Epilepsy Association of Pakistan, through the auspices of the Comprehensive Epilepsy Control Program of Pakistan (CECP) focuses on provision for quality 'holistic' treatment to patients with epilepsy and creating epilepsy awareness among the masses. This was achieved through the various indigenously devised CECP projects.

National Epilepsy Center (NEC):

The National Epilepsy Center is the landmark project of CECP which started functioning in April 2007. This epilepsy care center, built through the gracious donation of a philanthropist family, is providing quality 'holistic' services at a token cost to patients with epilepsy in Pakistan. This center is expected to become a center of excellence in epilepsy management, research and public health education in the country.

- The outpatient clinics were started in April 2007.
New patients registered: 580
Follow-up patients: 677
- Consultation Charges
April – November 2007: Free
December 2007 to date: Registration = Rs 20/- (USD 0.28)
Consultation = Rs 30/- (USD 0.43)
All consulting doctors provided free services.
- Drug bank established in October 2007 through donations. Fifteen days of medicines for a token cost of Rs. 30/- (USD 0.43). This is only 8% of the actual cost. Remaining is paid through donations received. A total of 766 patients were given medication.
- Two EEG laboratories set-up through gracious donation of a philanthropist family started functioning in November 2007. EEGs done on 132 patients.
Charges: NEC registered patients Rs 300/- (USD 4.28)
Outside referral: Rs 1000/- (USD 14.28)

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign Satellite Epilepsy Centers

These centers provide near-home epilepsy care and facilitate epilepsy awareness in the neighborhood. In 2007, eight new health care facilities were given the status of a Satellite Epilepsy Center bringing the total to 63 in Pakistan.

Free Epilepsy Camps:

In 2007, Free Epilepsy Camps (FEC) were held in eight cities and towns. Free consultation and counseling by the volunteer doctors was provided to 1,230 patients with epilepsy. This field event is also an important epilepsy awareness activity. One week prior to a FEC an intensive awareness campaign is launched via banners, handbills, print media, cable TV and a loud-speaker-mounted vehicle in the area of the camp.

School Awareness Posters:

These posters have been specially designed to spread awareness about epilepsy among school children. A total of 1,659 school awareness posters were placed in

schools in various cities/towns of all four provinces of Pakistan. This task was undertaken by a courier company.

Epilepsy Awareness through graffiti:

A pedestrian bridge in the main market area of Karachi was painted with the slogan 'Epilepsy is a treatable disorder' in Urdu with the kind support of the Town Counselor. Many previously untreated epilepsy patients and family members were motivated to come and seek advice at the NEC after reading this message.

Educational Activities

Epilepsy CME Workshops:

In 2007, two-day intensive epilepsy management workshops were held in Rawalpindi and Lahore in which leading primary care physicians participated. Workshops were also held in four more cities/towns of Punjab, training local GPs of the region in diagnosis and management of epilepsy.

Future Plans

In a developing country like Pakistan lack of awareness is the major reason for a significant treatment gap. As in the past, we will continue to focus on activities to reduce the existing treatment gap through public health education. We have through our various indigenously designed health education projects addressed this issue very successfully but have yet a long way to go.

Officer Election Date:

November 2008

Report By:

Prof Hasan Aziz
President

PANAMANIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Summary of Activities

The activities of the Panamanian League Against Epilepsy are confined to the aspects of physician practice, education for patients and their families and to their doctors, and activities of operation for the center of surgery of epilepsy in Colombia.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

The League Against Epilepsy was reorganized in Panama, with two new members: Dr David Dondis and Dr Nelson Novarro. Multiple activities related to the education of patients and relatives throughout the country and education participation in radial mass media have been realized. In some regions welfare donations of antiepileptic medicine have been received for needy patients. Educational activities directed to the doctors focusing in diagnosis and treatment have been programmed. Also the qualification-training of a neurosurgeon in functional neurological surgery was coordinated in Argentina. The cases of symptomatic epilepsy that deserve surgery are sent to the group of epilepsy surgeons in Bogota, Colombia, with good results.

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Educational Activities

The educational activities were oriented toward three areas: patients and relatives, doctors of primary and secondary attention, and Congresses with national and international guests. A hospitable educational activity was held to commemorate the Latin American Day of Epilepsy with conferences for patients and relatives. The exhibitors were the neurologists who work in our institutions of the Box of Social Insurance. The participation of the patients and their relatives was very active. In the city of Panama, a Latin American Congress of Neuropediatrics was held 25-27 April 2007. Dr Brown Noris of Flagge had active participation. In this event, local physicians and non-physicians participated as much as international physicians. International participants included representatives from the United States, Chile, Spain and Central American countries. The event agenda varied in medical and surgical aspects, and included much discussion and interaction among participants. In the Hospital Santo Tomás/Ministry of Health, administrative and educational activities have been held with clinical application. The educational activities were mainly focused on patients and their families. From January to December 2007, eleven weekly programs were held with approximately 480 people attending. These were held in waiting rooms of the neurology offices and educational information was distributed to the public. As far as the education for the doctors, this was emphasized in the clinical direction – welfare. The Panamanian participation in the celebrated days of epilepsy in Guatemala was accomplished in 2007.

Future Plans

Our emphasis has been organizing an educational agenda for patients and their families and local conferences for the doctors. These activities will be accomplished in the month of September 2008, in the capital city and the more important rural areas. We also plan to participate in Congresses related to epilepsy to continue to promote the medical welfare activities in our clinics of epilepsy of our hospitals. Also we wish to create a center of epilepsy of reference, where a specialized medical evaluation can be accomplished in the standard more recent diagnoses and to be able to offer a surgical alternative.

Officer Election Date

May 2008

Report By:

Dr David Román Dondis Camaño
Neurologist

PERUVIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Meetings

National Congress 1-4 November 2007 Cuzco

Summary of Activities

- Epilepsy Course for residents with Cayetano Heredia University, four credits from April to September 2007
- Epilepsy Course for patients Ins. Neurological Sciences December 2007

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

It will be scheduled in September 2008

Educational Activities

For residents and patients

Future Plans

Reorganized the IBE-Perú; we just elected a new Delegate Dr Luis Deza.

Officer Election Date

18 December 2008

Report By:

Patricia Campos

General Secretary

PHILIPPINE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (PLAE)

Main Goals of the Year

- I. Update membership and encourage active participation of all members in all PLAE activities.
- II. To strengthen the National Support Group, the EAAL.
- III. To appoint the following chairpersons to the following committees:

Regular Committees

- I. Ways and Means – Dr Josephine Gutierrez
- II. Membership – Dr Herminigildo Gan
- III. Research and Epilepsy Registry – Dr Leonor Cabral-Lim
- IV. Continuing Medical Education – Dr Anna Berroya
- V. Lay Education – Dr Glicerio Alincastre
- VI. Advocacy and Support Group – Dr Ana Javelosa and Dr Lourdes Ledesma

Activities

- I. National Epilepsy Awareness Week 2006
Chair, Dr Marlyn Ortiz
 - A. "Pinoy Olympics" – Dr Godfrey Robeniol, Chair
 - B. Epilepsy Poster Making Contest – Dr Martha Lu-Bolaños, Chair
 - C. 2nd Epilepsy Exemplar Awards – Dr Hazel Paragua, Chair
 - D. Health Forum – PLAE members
 - E. 1st National Epilepsy Camp in Iloilo City – Dr Cynthia Demaisip, Chair
- II. National Epilepsy Awareness Week 2007
 - A. "Epilepsy Ko, Sagot Ko To"
 - i. 1 September Evaluation of Epilepsy Manager Program
 - ii. 2 September First Search for the "National Epilepsy Idol"
 - iii. 4 September Health Forum Conference with Trimedia
 - iv. 7 September "MD's Chefs on Display"
 - v. Lay Fora in the following institution
 1. Philippine General Hospital
 2. University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center
 3. Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center
 4. Philippine Children's Medical Center

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Special Projects

A. Epilepsy Manager Program (EPM)

1. EMP Pilot: Pampanga
2. EMP Iloilo 200
Done in four towns, Graduated four Epilepsy Managers
3. EMP Negros Occidental 2007
Done in four towns, Graduated three Epilepsy Managers

B. Epilepsy Exemplar Awards

- 1st Epilepsy Exemplar Awards given to six Awardees
- 2nd Epilepsy Exemplar Awards given to six Awardees

C. Epilepsy Partners: Chairs, Drs Ana Javelosa and Hazel Paragua

Launched during the Epilepsy Awareness Week 2007 with benefit dinner (1,000 per Plate) "MD's Chefs on Display": This aims to raise funds for buying antiepileptic drugs for deserving indigent patients.

Epilepsy Friendly Institution

- A merger between PLAE, EAAI and Pharmaceutical Companies initially done in Iloilo City. This is the brainchild of Dr Cynthia Demaisip

Ongoing projects

- BRIDGES (PAVES)
- Lay Education (PAVES)
- PLAE Epilepsy Registry and Research
- Biennial Epilepsy Congress
- PLAE Webpage Updates

Prepared by:

Herminigildo H. Gan, MD
Secretary 2006-2007

POLISH SOCIETY OF EPILEPTOLOGY

Publications

Our members published their studies mostly in the official journal of the Polish Society of Epileptology (PSE), edited quarterly with an English summary. Each issue includes two to three original studies of Polish or foreign authors, case reports, review papers, and a chronicle about PSE activities and pieces of information. Studies on epilepsy were also published in neurological and pediatric journals edited in 2006 and 2007 in Poland: *Polish Journal of Neurology and Neurosurgery*, *Child Neurology*, *Pediatrics*, *Neurological Current*, *Practical Neurology*, *Neurology* (Polish edition), *Pol. J. Environ. Stud.* and *European Journal of Neurology*, *Epilepsy and Behavior*, *Brain*.

Meetings

The V Congress of the Polish Society of Epileptology Warsaw 21-23 September 2006. The XXth Conference on Epilepsy of the Polish Epilepsy Society 24 -26 May 2007 Warsaw

Summary of Activities

In 2006 and 2007, the Polish Chapter of ILAE (Polish Society of Epileptology) continued its activities in four directions: scientific, educational, organization and supporting patients and their organizations in Poland. The Polish Chapter has been mainly involved in organ-

izing activities devoted to the improvement of knowledge and specialist training in the field of epileptology. These activities have been pursued by the working groups of the Polish Society of Epileptology, as detailed below:

- Working group on epilepsy and pregnancy, supporting the prospective European study on pregnancies in epileptic women (EURAP study).
- Working group on quality of life, with the elaboration and validation of an original questionnaire for patients and caregivers.
- Working group on videos, with the collection of informative videos on different seizure types and elaboration of appropriate tools for the didactic presentation of the material.

The V Congress of the Polish Society of Epileptology – Warsaw 21-23 September 2006. This meeting, in which outstanding Polish epileptologists and invited guests from abroad gave lectures on leading topics, presented the current state of the art and highlighted the perspectives and hopes for the near future. During this Congress the new Board of PSE was elected.

- The XXth Conference on Epilepsy of the Polish Epilepsy Society. This was held in Warsaw between 24 and 26 May 2007 with international contributions. The national experts on various fields of epilepsy were invited to give lectures. The topics covered were: "Epilepsy and pregnancy," "Video-EEG diagnostic values in different types of epileptic syndromes" and "Non-epileptic events". A very important session was devoted to quality of life problems especially the impact of communication between the medical doctor and patient. Other topics were: "Are the benign epileptic syndromes really benign, optimization of AED treatment" and "New radiological techniques and their use in patients with epilepsy". The Conference was quite a success – over 400 participants, very interesting lectures and platform presentations, livable and substantial discussion.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

An important part of our activities in 2006 and 2007 were contacts with the Ministry of Health and National Health Fund. The main problem was the reimbursement for patients of new AEDs in refractory epilepsy. Finally in November 2007 Levetiracetam is free for patients with epilepsy.

Educational activities

The Polish Chapter created the program of Polish Epileptology School which held its first session at the beginning of 2008. Its aim is to provide young trainees in epileptology with principles of basic and clinical epileptology. Polish members of ILAE were involved in collaborative research enterprises including EURAP on pregnancy registries and surveys on mortality.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

The cooperation with patients' organizations, e.g., the organization of Polish People Suffering from Epilepsy was intensified in 2006 and 2007. At the moment in Poland, there exist 14 organizations of patients (nine of them are district Chapters of Polish People Suffering from Epilepsy established in 1985).

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Future Plans

Future plans of the Polish Chapter include:

- Organization of the National Congress.
- Organization of courses, meetings and conferences on epilepsy. The extensive preparations for the XXIst Conference in Warsaw in 2008 are now in progress.
- Further support for young doctors and specialists interested in improving their knowledge of epilepsy.
- Promotion and support of legislation and regulations in favor of people with epilepsy.
- Collaboration with the health authorities to develop high standards for epilepsy care throughout the country.

Officer Election Date

September 2006

Report By:

Joanna Jędrzejczak

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (LPCE)

“Liga Portuguesa contra a Epilepsia”

Summary of Activities

1. 2007 was the first year of independence between the LPCE and the EPI – Associação Portuguesa de Familiares, Amigos e de Pessoas com Epilepsia (EPI), the Portuguese patient association, which took its place as the Portuguese Chapter in the IBE, in Singapore. The LPCE kept its financial and technical support to the EPI contributing to its work. The LPCE did participate in the first “Jornadas de Epilepsia” of the EPI and in several other initiatives of the EPI.
2. The newsletter *Notícias da Epilepsia* is now a joint adventure between both organizations and has increased its publication from two to three times a year.
3. The *Livro Básico de Epilepsia*, a reference comprehensive book made exclusively by Portuguese authors, was presented in our meeting in March and it's an instrument to disseminate the knowledge on epileptology to all general practitioners and all other technicians with interest in improving their expertise in this area.
4. A second workshop on epilepsy surgery was organized in September, with all the five groups interested in developing epilepsy surgery, with the publication of two documents: one concerning the financial aspects of the future activity in this area and the other with the minimum conditions determined to implement a center for this activity. The LPCE also tried to influence the development of a National Program for Epilepsy Surgery, contacting the different involved authorities at a regional and national level, including contacts with the Portuguese Ministry of Health.
5. The process of certification of the Portuguese Centers and Professionals was developed with the inclusion of the Serviço de Neurologia of the Hospital de Santa Maria in Lisbon, in the support network of EUREPA and the application of the Consulta Multidisciplinar de Epilepsia do Centro Hospitalar do Porto – Hospital de Santo António, Porto.

6. The second part of the “Training the Trainers” course and the Basic Epilepsy Course on Epilepsy, supposed to be held in Maputo, Mozambique, integrated with the activity of the Lusophone Section of EUREPA, was postponed to 2008, due to local difficulties.
7. The site of the LPCE is being reorganised with the support of Pfizer and we hope to have it in full activity during 2008.

Educational Activities

1. Active support to all the education initiatives of the EPI
2. 19th National Meeting of the LPCE in Vale de Lobo, Algarve, in March, with the participation of more than 250 technicians in this area and together with the 2nd Meeting of the Portuguese and the Brazilian Leagues.
3. Participation in an educational activity in the National Congress of Primary Care Medicine, in Vilamoura, Algarve, in March.
4. Several Regional Meetings took place during the year as the “Epilepsia na Ordem”, organized by Epicentro of Porto or the “Epilepsia ao Café” and the 2007 edition of the “Curso de Epilepsia da Unidade de Monitorização de Epilepsia e de Sono dos HUC”, organized by the Epicentro of Coimbra.
5. In October we had the 3rd Hispano Luso Meeting of Epilepsy, in Sevilhe.

Report By:

Prof José Manuel Lopes Lima

President

SLOVAK LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (SLAE)

Publications

Five articles in Slovak/Czech language

Meetings

Two meetings

Summary of Activities

- Annual Congresses on epileptology in cooperation with Czech League against Epilepsy.
- Postgraduate courses on epilepsy.
- Postgraduate courses on child neurology epilepsy.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

- Appearances on TV.
- Articles on epilepsy.
- Press conference on epilepsy.
- Direct input into newly prepared legal regulation on the driving license for epilepsy patients.

Educational Activities

- Postgraduate courses on EEG under Slovak Medical University.
- Weekend courses on epileptology.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Name of local IBE branches is AURA. SLAE is cooperating with their educational activities – questions and answers.

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Future Plans

Cooperation with health and medical board of the Parliament

Officer Election Date

May 2005

Report By:

Vladimir Donath

SLOVENIAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

Summary of Activities

The League's activity in 2007 has been rich and in a certain way different compared to previous routine: lowered level of comprehensive care in the country related to the untoward blend of longlasting poor staffing of doctors and new political moves in the organization of medical care reached a point where the League's EC and patients' representatives felt responsible to raise alarm in the media and to contact and pressure politicians in order to stop further deterioration. This activity represents an additional burden on the Chapter's members.

- a) Comprehensive Care – deteriorating situation in Slovenia: several meetings with Ministry of Health, followed by a professional/organizational focal group meeting: On Comprehensive Care in Slovenia (one-day workshop for ten professionals, ten service users writing their basic views to approach the media and politics on the issue), open public meeting stressing alarming and unacceptable deterioration of epilepsy care in the state tertiary hospitals (worsened access to care, waiting lists, fragmentation of professional services, absence of tertiary adult epilepsy program). In addition: delays in accepting legislation on epilepsy and driving, needed coordinated project on employment by Ministry of Labor and Ministry of Health, needed coordinated project with Ministry of Education (teaching teachers about epilepsy, administering AEDs to stop seizures at schools with no nursing staff). Result: A Task Force nominated by the Ministry of Health, mainly comprising members of the League's Executive Committee, National Board of Neurology and Institute of Occupational Medicine to produce proposals on further development of epileptology in the country
- b) Teaching seminars, workshops, postgraduate courses under the auspices of EUREPA and Slovenian Medical Chamber (30 participants from Slovenia, Croatia, Macedonia, France, Germany, Czech Republic)
 - Pharmacoresistant temporal epilepsy, VNS, epilepsy and migraine (international), two days (guest: D Parain)
 - Seizure semiology workshop (international), two days (guest: C Elger)
 - 2nd Practical Epilepsy Summer School (international), three days (guests: P Chauvel, JP Vignal, P Marusič)
- c) Planning European accreditation of the tertiary Center for Epilepsy (two closely linked units for pediatric/adolescent and adult age), including invitation to the League's President to participate in the Task

Force at the Department of Neurology nominated to prepare proposals to stop further deterioration of services for PwE at the tertiary facility

- d) Promoting epilepsy research: visits to research units, clinical and basic neuroscience, discussion of possible common projects, preparing future common research

Other Ongoing Projects of the League

- a) Education about epilepsy: for schools, chronic institutions (for the severely handicapped, for the elderly), for patients, parents (newly diagnosed, children with special needs, legal aspects)
- b) Tutoring and mentorships to undergraduate students on topics about epilepsy
- c) Psychosocial counselling work (weekly telephone hotline)
- d) Publishing: flyers (about the League, on First Aid), Epilepsy Identity Card, *The Focus (Žarišče) Bulletin Quarterly*, e-Forum
- e) Self-help groups, coordination and logistics/financial support to local programs
- f) Volunteer project: student/lay accompanying for patients with epilepsy travelling for health abroad, well supported by professionals often acting on volunteer basis themselves
- g) "Counselling Unit of the League" in development: individual personal and anonymous e-mail counselling (medical, psychological, legal, social issues); needs not covered in psychosocial issues and cognitive rehabilitation
- h) Epilepsy and driving, epilepsy and public transportation: Task Force active on the League's initiative and participation (lay and professionals)
- i) Working with media, and with public (The Brain Awareness Week), presenting the League with other non-governmental humanitarian and professional associations
- j) International activity (Report on Epilepsy and Social Issues in Eastern Europe, sending juniors to international epilepsy schools, proposing a new candidate for a certified EUREPA trainer from Slovenia, EU research proposals)
- k) Cooperation with and support for the IBE activities and common projects
- l) Miscellaneous: reacting to actual events in public sphere, in the media, on the market (AED availability), claiming and supporting new drug registrations

During 2007, new statutory connections have been created with the Associations of Chronic Patients, with the Slovenian Brain Council (observer status). The League was approached by other associations of neurological patients (MS, Parkinson's) claiming better care in a common endeavor before the Department of Health. Creation of a more formal link was discussed with the Slovenian Medical Society (in order to represent more widely the League's activity among doctors).

Report by:

Igor M Ravnik

President

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SPANISH LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY

The meetings provided by Liga Española Contra la Epilepsia in 2007:

- Annual Meeting LECE, Madrid
- Epilepsy Conference by ALAMCE Foundation
- Epilepsy Course, Madrid 2007
- Epilepsy Conference by AELCE Foundation

SWEDISH EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Educational Activities

- Annual Course: Status Epilepticus, Lund 9-10 November 2006
- Seminar: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Epilepsy, Uppsala 16 April 2007
- Workshop on Cardiac Symptoms and Epilepsy, Linköping 18 October 2007
- Workshop on Pre-surgical work up, in collaboration with Lund and the Cleveland Clinics, 10 October 2007
- Annual Course: Pharmacotherapy of Epilepsy: From Present Practice to Future Prospects, Stockholm 8-9 November 2007
- Symposium: Epilepsy and Children: School and Learning, Göteborg, 23 November 2007
- Activities in conjunction with other ILAE Chapters
- Meetings with Board members from Finnish, Danish and Norwegian Chapters
- Participating with tutors and students in the Baltic Sea Summer School, Lithuania 2007

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Members of the Society have participated as speakers in the local IBE campaign "Epilepsy Train".

Future Plans

- Workshop "Infantile Spasm – State of the Art" 17 October 2008.
- The Annual Course 2008 will be held in Gothenburg 13-14 November with the purpose of making an inventory of ongoing scientific projects in Sweden and to promote translational research. There will also be a one-day course with the theme "Who benefits from epilepsy surgery?"

Officer Election Date

14 November 2008

Report By:
Eva Kumlien

SWISS LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (SLGE)

Publications

- Journal "Epileptologie" (Epileptology), publication four times a year, 52 pages each, with information about new developments in epilepsy research and treatment (for professionals, 2,000 copies).
- Newsletter "Epilepsie News", publication four times a year, six pages each, with information about the activities of the League and about epilepsy (for laymen, 32,000 copies in German, 7,000 copies in French and 4,000 copies in Italian).
- Brochure on "Epilepsy and Insurance" in German (9,000 copies), French (3,000) and Italian (2,000).

One new information leaflet on "Epilepsy and Driving Fitness" in German (7,500), French (2,000) and Italian (1,000 copies).

- Annual report in German and French (1,000 copies in 2006, 1,300 copies in 2007).
- Brochure on events of the Swiss League Against Epilepsy in German and French (7,000 copies). Joint Annual Meeting of the Swiss League against Epilepsy and the Swiss Society for Sleep Research, Sleep Medicine and Chronobiology in Tschugg, 10-11 May 2006.
- Ten new information leaflets about epilepsy in German (8,000 copies each), French (2,000 each) and Italian (1,000 copies each).
- One new information leaflet on "Epilepsy in the Elderly" in German and French.
- Brochure on events of the Swiss League against Epilepsy in German and French (4,000 copies).

Meetings

- Joint Annual Meeting of the Swiss League Against Epilepsy and the Swiss Society for Sleep Research, Sleep Medicine and Chronobiology in Tschugg, 10-11 May 2006.
- 5th Joint Meeting of the German, Austrian and Swiss Chapters of the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) in Basel, 16-19 May 2007, organized by the Swiss Chapter. With 1,100 participants a very successful event.

Summary of Activities

- Three annual events in different cities, for laymen, with several lectures by epilepsy experts. Main Topic: "Life with Epilepsy".
- Special day for patients and their relatives. Topic: "Epilepsy and Complementary Therapies".
- TV-Spot "Mitenand" for the German part of Swiss TV
- Giving away of the award for the best dissertation of the year in the field of epilepsy research.
- Giving away of the grant for the most promising study in Switzerland in the field of epileptology.
- Awarding Professor Kazimierz Karbowski with the first Tissot medal, offered by the Swiss League against Epilepsy.
- Special day for patients and their relatives. Topic: "Epilepsy and Relationships".
- TV-Spot "Ensemble" for the French part of Swiss TV

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

2006

Main event on the "Day of Epilepsy", 5 October, in Zurich. Topic: "Epilepsy and Art". Open to laymen and professionals, accompanied by a campaign in the media.

2007

Main event on the "Day of Epilepsy", 5 October, in Berne. Topic: "Epilepsy and the Elderly". Open to laymen and professionals, accompanied by a campaign in the media.

Educational Activities

2006

Three annual events in different cities for professionals, with several lectures by epilepsy experts. Lectures for the staff of the pharmaceutical industry.

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2007

Three annual events in different cities, open to professionals, with several lectures by epilepsy experts. Lectures for the staff of the pharmaceutical industry.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

2006

Main event on the "Day of Epilepsy", October 5, in Zurich. Topic: "Epilepsy and Art". Open to laymen and professionals, accompanied by a campaign in the media.

- Special day for patients and their relatives. Topic: "Epilepsy and Complementary Therapies".

2007

Main event on the "Day of Epilepsy", October 5, in Berne. Topic: "Epilepsy and the Elderly". Open to laymen and professionals, accompanied by a campaign in the media.

- Special day for patients and their relatives. Topic: "Epilepsy and Relationships".

Future Plans

Publication of a series of DVDs for professionals and laymen.

Officer Election Date

Spring 2010

Report By:
Daniela Erb

TAIWAN EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Meetings

Annual meeting of Taiwan Epilepsy Society (TES)

Summary of Activities

- Annual meeting of Taiwan Epilepsy Society.
- The 3rd & 4th annual "Care about patients with epilepsy" essay contest awards ceremony.
- Joint annual meeting of Taiwan Neurology Society and TES on antiepileptic drugs.
- Symposium of optimizing treatment for patients with epilepsy (Northern, Middle, Southern Taiwan).
- Summer camp for children with epilepsy and their families.
- The 11th & 12th annual drawing contest of patients with epilepsy and going for an outing.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

- Participation of the 6th Annual Meeting of AOEC-2006.
- Participation of the 7th Annual Meeting of ILAE-2007.
- Participation of AES-2006 & 2007.

Educational Activities

- Epilepsy training course for young neurologists (adult and child).
- Epilepsy education for school teachers and administrator (Northern, Middle, Southern Taiwan).

- EEG teaching workshop (Northern, Middle, Southern Taiwan). Epilepsy education for nurses (Northern, Middle, Southern Taiwan).
- Educational program of common neurological problems focusing on epilepsy for general physicians.

Activities in conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

The 11th & 12th annual drawing contest of patients with epilepsy and going for an outing. Summer camp for children with epilepsy and their families.

Future Plans

Active participation of promoting education program including EEG training and epilepsy surgery in Asian area. Promote "Epilepsy Ambassador" participation in local educational program for patients and public to remove stigma of the disease.

Officer Election Date

24 March 2007

Report By:
Ching Shiang Chi

EPILEPSY SOCIETY OF THAILAND

Publications

Epilepsy Digest

Meetings

24-25 July 2008

Summary of Activities

During the past two years, The Epilepsy Society of Thailand had various activities involving physicians and patients with epilepsy. These activities were:

1. Annual Scientific Meeting 2006 and 2007
2. A two-day EEG Workshop in July 2006
3. One-day epilepsy conference for general practitioners in provincial hospitals, four times in 2006 and five times in 2007
4. Consolidation of the third version of *Epilepsy Guideline* in 2006
5. EEG Textbook in Thai language 1st edition, 2006
6. Epilepsy Day for parents and patient in January of each year
7. School visit and teacher education program

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Epilepsy Association of Thailand, which is the main organization in association with The Epilepsy Society of Thailand, set up an education program and school visits in 2006 and 2007. In addition, Annual Meeting with the patients and parents with the main objective in improving knowledge to the patients and parents was organized in January of each year. Epilepsy Day for parents and patients in January of each year. School visit and teacher education program.

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Educational Activities

Annual Scientific Meeting in 2008 and 2009 EEG Workshop in 2008. Epilepsy Lecture trip to provincial hospitals.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Parents and Patient Education Conference annually in January

Future Plans

1. Annual Scientific Meeting in July 2008
2. A two-day EEG Workshop in July 2008
3. Epilepsy Day in five provincial hospitals
4. Reorganization of the Editorial Board of the *Epilepsy Digest* (Official bulletin of the Epilepsy Society of Thailand)
5. Newsletters and Advice for self care to the parents and patients.
6. Research in Epilepsy Care in Thailand by questionnaire survey by July 2008

Officer Election Date

15 June 2009

Report By:

Anannit Visudtibhan, MD

TURKISH EPILEPSY SOCIETY

Publications

Epilepsi, quarterly journal

Meetings

6th National Congress on Epilepsy, 4-7 June 2008 (www.epilepsi2008.org)

Summary of Activities

1. "Epilepsy Days" organized every two years by the Society was held on 4 May 2007, in Istanbul. The topic of this year was "Epilepsy and the Legal Issues". Legal issues, the laws, social issues and the rights of patients with epilepsy were discussed by physicians and legal practitioners.
2. Monthly scientific "Armada" meetings of the Society have continued during 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 academic year periods. We celebrated the 10th year of these meetings in 2007. Speakers from abroad or from various Turkish universities have given talks on clinical and basic science topics related to epilepsy.
3. The official scientific journal of our chapter, *Epilepsi*, continued to be published as it has been since 1995.
4. The 6th National Congress on Epilepsy is organized to be held in Izmir-Çesme, 4-7 June 2008, with international contributions. The scientific program of this Congress is available on our Web site (www.epilepsi2008.org). Awards will be given to the best poster and oral presentations to support young scientists working on basic or clinical sciences doing research on epilepsy.
5. The Epidemiology Commission of the Society launched the "Epilepsy Incidence Study in Eskişehir" under the supervision of Prof Dr Oğuz Erdinç from Eskişehir Osmangazi University.

6. The Commission on Epilepsy Genetics started a study on "Linkage analysis in absence epilepsies in Turkish population" and this study will be completed in 2008.
7. A "Working Group on Status Epilepticus" was set up this year to develop a national protocol for the interventions and treatment in status epilepticus. The working group aims to create a platform for neurologists and physicians from anesthesiology and emergency medicine departments that are involved in the treatment of status.
8. Supports: Three young researchers were supported by Turkish Epilepsy Society funds to attend the 27th International Epilepsy Meeting in Singapore that was held in 2007.
9. Awards: The Turkish Epilepsy Society has decided to give awards for the best original research articles on epilepsy in basic and clinical sciences that were carried out in Turkey. The awards will be presented at the National Meetings. The first awards will be given this year, at the 6th National Congress on Epilepsy, 6 June 2008. To support young scientists working on basic or clinical sciences doing research on epilepsy. Best poster and oral presentations have been given during National Meetings.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

1. A national campaign was organized during National Epilepsy Week in June 2007. Our members talked in live radio and TV broadcasts to give information about epilepsy. Brochures and posters were distributed throughout the country. The Web site (www.turkepilepsi.org.tr) was redesigned so that patients and families can get detailed information about epilepsy. The documentary film CDs were distributed.
2. The national campaign will be repeated this year. Radio spots on epilepsy will be broadcast several times a day to get attention on the subject. Posters will be displayed in buses and subways in Istanbul and Ankara.
3. A painting competition for children with epilepsy was organized with the support of Sanofi Drug Company. Awards were presented at the "Epilepsy Days" meeting on May 2007. This competition was repeated this year with the support of the drug company and awards will be presented during the National Epilepsy week in June 2008. Paintings will be posted on the Web site and will be displayed in different locations through out the country.

Educational Activities

1. An original comprehensive textbook on epilepsy in Turkish written by Turkish experts under the supervision of the Turkish Epilepsy Society was recently published.
2. Regional meetings in Anatolia (e.g.: Eskişehir, Van) were held for the clinicians working in different cities and nearby. Seminars and interactive case discussions constituted the contents.
3. Two documentary films on epilepsy, named *Epilepsy* and *Against the Storm*, were prepared by the Society with the support of drug companies. One targets the public and includes general information about

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epilepsy. The other is about the history of epileptology in Turkey. They were copied onto CDs and distributed throughout Turkey.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Members of Executive Committee joined the local seminars organized by the patient groups.

Future Plans

We expressed our interest to host the 10th European Congress of Epileptology in 2012 in our country.

Officer Election Date

5 June 2008

Report By:

Rezzan Gülhan Aker
General Secretary

EPILEPSY SOCIETY UGANDA (EPISOU)

Meetings

We have held a series of local meetings since the inception of the Society in 2006.

Summary of Activities

1. EPISOU was formed in February 2006. Members formulated the Bylaws and the Constitution.
2. We were formally registered as a non-governmental organization with the National Board of Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republic of Uganda on 2 February 2007.
3. We were officially inaugurated as a Chapter of the ILAE in Singapore on the 11 July 2007 at the ILAE General Assembly.
4. The President of the Chapter, Dr Kakooza, presented a poster on epilepsy and HIV/AIDS at the 61st Annual Meeting of the American Epilepsy Society in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 30 November – 4 December 2007.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

1. As a Society we endeavor to correct misinformation about epilepsy and increase its awareness and how it can be treated through radio talk shows and print media (local newspaper articles and regular bulletins).
2. We have held meetings with the principal medical officer in charge of mental health in the Uganda, Ministry of Health to explore ways of addressing the treatment gap. Currently the drugs Phenobarbitone and Carbamazepine are available in some health units.
3. The President of the Society made contacts with colleagues in the United States who helped set up links with Abbott Pharmaceuticals. This company has donated Depakote tablets to the Pediatric Neurology Clinic at Mulago National Referral Hospital.

Educational Activities

1. We hold continuing medical education sessions, tutorials and case presentations with medical students and staff at Makerere University Medical School and Butabika Regional Mental Hospital.

2. We have occasional talk shows on local FM radio stations on epilepsy patient care and management.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

1. We conducted a joint media conference meeting on 29 June 2007 in which we educated journalists and the public about epilepsy, its causes, challenges of people living with it and how to care for a person with an epileptic fit.
2. We are planning to run a mobile clinic caring for patients with epilepsy who are members of the Epilepsy Support Association of Uganda (ESAU) the local IBE affiliate. Members of EPISOU will provide free medical consultation.

Future Plans

1. To create awareness about epilepsy and encourage the public to be supportive to Patients with Epilepsy. We plan to target ten primary schools within Kampala, have talks with the teachers and pupils on epilepsy types, causes, prevention, management and referrals.
2. To develop information, education and communication materials on epilepsy. We plan to print posters and stickers on key messages about epilepsy sources of funding.
3. To run regular affordable community outreach clinics in Kampala and its suburbs in conjunction with ESAU, the local IBE affiliate. We intend to have two outreach clinics targeting 100 patients per station. Drugs will be provided through a drug bank run by ESAU and the EPISOU members will provide free medical consultation.
4. To conduct research studies to identify the needs of Ugandan people with epilepsy at the national and professional levels. Application for funding of proposals will be sought from Makerere University and Ministry of Health.

Officer Election Date

February 2010

Report By:

Dr Angelina Kakooza-Mwesige

UK CHAPTER

Summary of Activities

The UK Chapter held a very successful Annual Scientific meeting in Southampton in 2008. Over 300 health professionals with a special interest in epilepsy attended. The Chapter has developed a basic science flavor to the meetings, whereby young basic scientific investigators present their work. A prize of £1000 is awarded to the best presentation. The ILAE UK Chapter Teaching Weekend for Specialist Registrars (SpRs) was held in October 2007. As usual it was oversubscribed, with over 150 SpRs attending. The next Teaching Weekend will take place in October 2009.

Educational Activities

Under the aegis of the ILAE UK Chapter a primary care interest group has been set up which held its inaugural meeting in Leeds in June 2007. The meeting was a success and the interest group plans to meet twice yearly – once at a stand alone meeting and once at a

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session during our annual scientific meeting. The ILAE UK Chapter has been in discussion with other UK epilepsy groups to set up a UK-wide epilepsy research network.

Future Plans

The next ILAE UK Chapter Annual Scientific Meeting will be held in October 2009 in Sheffield. Further development of the Chapter's Web site.

Officer Election Date

Autumn 2008

Report By:
Secretariat

URUGUAYAN LEAGUE AGAINST EPILEPSY (LUCE)

Publications

Revista Uruguaya de Epilepsia Vol 17(1) – 17(2)

Summary of Activities

During 2006 and 2007 our Chapter basically continued its regular activities both in the scientific and medical area (local publication, adviser of Neurological Institute on the field, support to the Epilepsy Surgery Program, promotion of training for interested colleagues, participation in local, regional and international epilepsy meetings) and those included in our social program devoted to patients with epilepsy (information and practical guides, social assistance, groups for patients and relatives coordinated by psychologists). Some additional effort has been devoted to the organization of the next Latin American Epilepsy Congress that will be held in Montevideo, 5-8 November 2008.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

Besides our already mentioned social program, members of our Chapter participated in radio and TV activities explaining different aspects related to the life of people dealing with epilepsy and the yet unsolved problem of myths and prejudice.

Educational Activities

We started to organize, together with National Education authorities, a specific program directed to train and update secondary school professors on the management of adolescents with epilepsy. Some of our members participated in regional educational activities (LASSE) either as faculty or assistants.

Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

In 2007 both LUCE (ILAE Chapter) and AUCLE (IBE Chapter) organized charitable activities and participated in public diffusion programs, seeking support for the Project of a "House of People with Epilepsy", where we are planning to add educational and training activities to our social program.

Future Plans

Our future plans include the development of some specific educational and research activities in coordination with other countries (USA, Belgium) specially devoted

to improve our Epilepsy Surgery Program and to introduce Vagal Nerve Stimulation in the country. In the social area, we expect to achieve our goal of improving our social program, increasing the number of patients and including new activities.

Officer Election Date

31 May 2008

Report By:
Patricia Braga

YUGOSLAV UNION OF LEAGUES AGAINST EPILEPSY

Publications

Series of Proceedings "Selected Epilepsy Topics VIII-X" dedicated to the educational cycle of Epilepsy School; Guidelines and Recommendations of epilepsy treatment with brand name and generic AEDs.

Summary of Activities

- Educational cycle of Epilepsy School courses (two, lasting 3-4 days in Serbia and Montenegro).
- EEG-epilepsy workshop (three days, targeted to the neurophysiologists of Serbia and regional countries).
- Participation to the Project of EURAP.
- Series of lectures, workshops and round-tables on brand-name and generic AEDs resulting in Recommendations issued by YU Chapter on that topic.
- Collaboration with a number of other national ILAE Chapters, especially with regional Leagues.

Summary of Activities in Relation to Global Campaign

- Educational and public-awareness activities of Leagues in press and visual media (local, country, region).
- Lectures on a) Epilepsy and sporting/physical activities b) Stigmatization of school children c) Difficulties in professional occupation and driving license procedure.
- Summer camp for leisure, sporting activities and friendship of patients with epilepsy.
- Work on the national Epilepsy Register.

Educational Activities

- 8th Epilepsy School, has taken place in Niška Banja (Serbia), on 1-4 June 2006.
 - 9th Epilepsy School, was organized in Becici (Montenegro) during 5-7 October 2007.
 - 10th Epilepsy School has taken place in Divcibare (Serbia) during 27-29 June 2008.
- All courses cited above are accredited in EUREPA.
- Regional EEG workshop: "Clinical EEG in the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsies" Vršac (Serbia), 29 September – 1 October 2006. (sponsored by Sanofi-Aventis, Hemofarm concern)
 - 1st Migrating Course on Epilepsy, Babe (Serbia), 27 May – 3 June 2007 (ILAE, EAC, Yugoslav ILAE Chapter).



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Activities in Conjunction with Local IBE Affiliate

Selection and supervision of epileptic children and adolescents participating in “Episport” project targeted to patients who are interested in sporting activities. There were no activities of the local IBE affiliate.

Future Plans

1. 11th Epilepsy School, Subotica (Serbia), June 2009
2. Initiation of the national *Journal of Epilepsies*, edited by League
3. Further work on the National Epilepsy Registry
4. 3rd YU Epilepsy Congress – Belgrade, 23-26 April 2009
5. Summer camp for leisure, sporting activities and friendship of children and adolescents, lasting 7-10 summer days in 2009 (Divcibare, Serbia)
6. Series of one-day meetings on brand-name and generic AEDs in Serbia and regional countries
7. 12th Epilepsy School

Officer Election Date

25 April 2009

Report By:

Prof Dr Nebojsa J Jovic

Chapter President