



NEWSLETTER

No 41 – July/August 2000

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR PALLIATIVE CARE

REMAINING ARTICLES FROM THE EAPC CONFERENCE, GENEVA 1999

Société Française d'accompagnement de soins palliatifs (SFAP)

Gilbert Desfosses, President

A common charter to provide companionship and care together
Created in 1990, the SFAP brings together all those who are physically or morally involved in caring for the chronically sick. Its members comply with the ethical principles upheld by the society at both a European and an international level:

- The society works in close collaboration with:
- La Fondation de France (French Foundation)
- La Ligue nationale contre le Cancer (National anti-cancer league)
- L'Association des Dames de Calvaire (Association of the Women of Calvary)
- ASTA Medica Laboratory.

Statutes

Palliative care is an active and integral part of the holistic approach adopted towards the chronically sick presenting with advanced or terminal disease. The aim of palliative care is to alleviate physical pain as well as other symptoms, and to take psychological, social and spiritual suffering into account.

Palliative care and companionship are inextricably linked. They are aimed at the patient as an individual and at his/her family and friends, both at home and in hospital. The training and support of carers and benevolent workers form part of this approach.

Palliative care and companionship treat the patient as a living being and

death as a natural process. Those who provide palliative care and companionship seek to avoid investigations and unreasonable treatments. They refuse to hasten death intentionally, but strive to preserve the best possible quality of life until death and to provide support for the relatives during the period of mourning. They call upon their clinical experiences, teaching and research to apply these principles.

The SFAP has 300 individual members and 150 associations representing some 15,000 voluntary workers.

Role of the organisation

Our role is to provide:

- Scientific research
- Evaluation and accreditation
- PMSI
 - Teaching
 - Regional groups
 - National and international communication
 - Congress organisation
 - Fund-raising
 - Reading committee.

Objectives

- To spread the word of palliative care among carers and increase public awareness
- To bring together all the key players in palliative care at a national level and to co-ordinate these to form interdisciplinary networks
- To encourage and participate in teaching and research
- To represent the palliative care movement among authorities and decision makers
- To co-operate with associations and movements that share the same aims at both national and international levels.

Goals

- To prevent the exclusion of the chronically sick and elderly
- To promote the right for every person to receive timely and appropriate palliative care.

Swedish Association for Palliative Medicine (SFPm)

Peter Strang, President

The SFPm was founded in 1997 as an association for physicians with an interest in palliative medicine and palliative care. The SFPm has approximately 260 members.

The general assembly is held at the beginning of each year and there is a scientific meeting in the autumn.

At the general assembly, a well-known international or national speaker is invited to lecture on an interesting topic.

Several speakers are invited to the general assembly, and members are also invited to present research reports. The SFPm newsletter – *Pall-Bladet* – is regularly distributed to members.

Members of the EAPC Board of Directors

The following members were elected during the General Assembly, Geneva 1999:

Professor Stein Kaasa (President)

is currently Professor of Palliative Medicine at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim. He is a member of the EAPC Research Network, was Chairman of the Scientific Committee for the 2nd ICCCC Conference and was previously





Chairman of the EORTC Study Group on Quality of Life.

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Helene.Flottorp@medisin.ntnu.no (secretary)

Dr Xavier Gómez-Batiste (Vice-president) is Head of the Palliative Care Service at the Catalan Institute of Oncology, Adviser to the Ministry of Health, and Vice-president of the Spanish Society for Palliative Medicine. He trained in medical oncology, and has worked in palliative care since 1987. He has been Director of the Palliative and Geriatric Care Programme in Catalonia for the past five years. He is a founding member of the Catalan, Spanish, and European Palliative Care Societies. Dr Gómez-Batiste was proposed by the Board with a view to him becoming Chairman of a new subcommittee of the Board on policy issues and palliative care.
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rartigas@ico.scs.es (secretary)

Professor Charles-Henri Rapin (Vice-president)

is Chief of the Poliger Department of Geriatrics at the University Hospital of Geneva, Chair lecturer on Ethics and End of Life in Lyon, Associate Professor at the Centre of Bioethics of the Clinical Research Institute of Montreal, Editor of Infokara and Chairman of the working group on ethics of the EAPC. He was Chairman of the Organising Committee and Vice-chairman of the Scientific Committee at the Congress in Geneva.



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Mrs Annette Welshman (Vice-president)

has been Director of Palliative Care Services for the Sue Ryder Foundation in Italy and Albania for the past 15 years. She teaches palliative care to medical and nursing students at three Italian universities, as well as for the European Union in developing countries. She has been a member of the board of the Italian Society for Palliative Care and is a member of two Italian ministry of health commissions on palliative care and the dying.
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Dr Silvio Necchi (Treasurer) has acted as auditor of the accounts of the EAPC for the past ten years (at no cost to the association). Given the complexity of our financial arrangements, particularly in light of the new Italian laws regulating charities, Dr Necchi will be a considerable asset to the EAPC.
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Dr Carlo Peruselli (Secretary) is currently responsible for the Home Palliative Care Unit of the local health service in Lecco. He is a member and Secretary of the Board of the EAPC and Chairman of the Communication Committee with overall responsibility for development of the EAPC website.

He is also a member of the Educational Committee of the Italian School of Palliative Medicine.
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Professor Geoffrey Hanks (past President) is currently Professor of Palliative Medicine at the University of Bristol. He has worked as a physician in palliative medicine for 20 years. He was a founding member of the EAPC, Chairman of the Scientific Committees for the 1st and 2nd Congresses, and President since 1995. He stood down as President in Geneva but will serve one further four-year term on the Board of Directors as immediate-past President.
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Debbie.Ashby@bristol.ac.uk (secretary)

Dr Michèle Salamagne

initially worked as an ICU anaesthetist. She has been the Senior Physician of the Palliative Care Unit at Hôpital Paul Brousse at Villejuif (France) since 1990 – the year in which she set up a university degree course in palliative care at the Faculty of Paris XI. She is a founder member of the Société Française de Soins Palliatifs (French Society for Palliative Care) and a founder member of the EAPC, for whom she has worked since 1990. She was a member of the scientific and management committees of the 1990 Paris Congress and the 1992 Brussels Congress. She was also President of the 1999 Geneva scientific committee. She acts as an adviser to the chief editor of the association's journal, *EJPC*, and in





particular to the editorial team of the French language version of the *EAPC Newsletter*.

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Dr Carl Johan Fürst has worked in the palliative care unit at Stockholm Sjukhem since 1992. He trained in medical



oncology and is Associate Professor of Oncology at the Karolinska Institute. He is undertaking ongoing research in palliative medicine as well as educational activities. Dr Fürst was a founding member of the Swedish Association for Palliative Medicine and is a member of the Board. He has also been member of a European Union committee on palliative cancer care and is currently active in national committees to promote palliative care in Sweden. Contact address: Stockholm Sjukhem, Palliative Care Unit, Mariebergsgatan 22, 112 35 Stockholm, Sweden.
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Dr Friedemann Nauck is a Physician in Anaesthesia and Palliative Medicine at the Centre of Palliative



Medicine in the Malteser Krankenhaus in Bonn. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the German Association for Palliative Medicine (DGP) since 1996. His field of expertise is pain and symptom control in terminal cancer. He is a teacher for training courses and education in palliative medicine for physicians, medical students, nurses

and volunteers.

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Dr Tony O'Brien is Medical Director of Marymount Hospice, Cork and Consultant Physician in Palliative Medicine at Cork University Hospital. He has worked full-time in palliative medicine since 1986 and served on the EAPC Board for the past four years. Dr O'Brien is the former Chairperson of the Irish Association for Palliative Care and is currently Chairperson of the Ethics Committee of the IAPC. He was appointed by the Irish Minister for Health to represent Palliative Care at the National Cancer Forum. Contact address: St Patrick's Hospital, Marymount Hospice, Wellington Road, Cork, Ireland.
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Mrs Verena Luchsinger has been Nurse Co-ordinator of the Geneva Mobile Palliative Care Team since 1993, providing consultations for patients in the community, and training for healthcare professionals. Since 1991, she has taken an active part in the organisation and the development of palliative care in Geneva.

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Mr David Oliviere is a Macmillan Senior Lecturer in social work and palliative care with a background in local authority social services,



psychiatric social work and social services management. Before taking up his present post, he worked as Social Work Director at the North London Hospice for nine years, where he developed a special interest in work with children and families and ethnic-sensitive services. He subsequently worked as a Community Care Adviser for ethnic minorities for a local authority. He now teaches loss, bereavement and psychosocial palliative care and has a practice link with Barnet General Hospital Palliative Care Team. Contact address: Middlesex University, Social Science, Queensway, Enfield EN3 4SF, UK.
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Dr Marilène Filbet is Head of the Palliative Care Unit Hospices Civils de Lyon, Supervisor of the University Diploma in Palliative Care at the University of Lyon, and Member of the Board of SFAP. She has taken an active part in the promotion of palliative care, especially in the fields of terminal cancer and geriatric care. Contact address: Hôpital Geriatrique Du Val D'Azergues, 69380 Alix, France.
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News from France and Romania

'I sponsor, you sponsor, we sponsor' – A word of encouragement from the Mobilmed Foundation (the Bucharest mobile palliative care team).

After a relatively long gestation period of 18 months, Mobilmed was created on 14 February 2000. Its headquarters are located at Seminarul Teologie Sanitar Baptist in Bucharest.

The Mobilmed logo symbolises the partnership between Romania and France represented by Cristina Horpos from Bucharest and Bernard Wary from Thionville.



Cristina Horpos attended the last EAPC conference in Geneva. As a result, Yvonne El Masri, (EAPC, Milan), Cristina Horpos (Mobilmed, Bucharest) and Bernard Wary (Pierre Clément Lorraine Association, Thionville) have formed a collaboration.

Educational articles, lectures, books, journal subscriptions (*Palliative Care*, *Bulletin Jalmaiv*) and films have been donated to Mobilmed. Also, in October 2000, Cristina Horpos will spend a week with our mobile palliative care team from the regional hospital at Metz-Thionville (Centre Hospitalier Régional de Metz-Thionville), meeting members of the Pierre Clément Lorraine Association, and participating in the second palliative care seminar at Lorraine.

All the proceeds from this event will be given to the Mobilmed Foundation. This donation will help to recruit the first carers for the Bucharest mobile palliative care team.

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ATTENDANCE FORM

I/we are interested in attending the:
7th Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care
Palermo, Italy, 1-5 April, 2001

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PLEASE SEND DETAILS OF EXHIBITION/SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ☐

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The EAPC would like to express its gratitude to the **National Cancer Institute** for the hospitality received within the Division of Rehabilitation, Pain Therapy and Palliative Care Unit.

We would like to thank Drs Necchi and Sorci, certified auditors of accounts, who have helped with the account-keeping and provided financial advice free of charge for several years.

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