



# NEWSLETTER

No 44 - December 2000

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR PALLIATIVE CARE

## **EAPC 7th Congress: the latest developments Palermo, Sicily (1–5 April 2001)**

The Palermo Congress is increasingly taking shape. Many internationally acclaimed speakers have been invited to contribute to the scientific programme and will be present in large numbers. We are confident that you will find the scientific programme of great interest.

One hundred and three speakers – coming from the UK, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, the USA, France, Denmark, Israel, Belgium, Canada, Sweden, Norway and Greece – will participate in four plenary sessions and 64 parallel sessions. They will share their experience and knowledge with the many delegates coming from all over Europe and the four corners of the world.

Everyday palliative care is expanding worldwide through integrated medical and social programmes and services, which provide a better quality of life for the patient and family. Speakers from a wide range of specialties will inform and update delegates on all aspects of palliative care, relating to areas such as ethics, communication, controversies in therapeutics, non-cancer conditions, public health policy and organisation, end-of-life care, quality of life, research, bereavement, loss, grief, and work with families and education.

### **Contributors**

The Steering Committee of the EAPC Research Network will also provide a valuable contribution by dealing with subjects such as how to conduct research, research in nursing, ethical dilemmas in research, activities of the Research Network, how to write a paper, critical reading of articles and validated assessment tools.

A special meeting is also planned with the editors of the main international journals on palliative care, allowing the editors to explain the format they require for articles to be published in their journal.

Special prominence will be given to the newest means of communication and latest

developments, such as those on the internet. A live demonstration will be given through a link to different hospitals.

We would like to remind all those who would like to participate that everybody can contribute with their own experiences by submitting an abstract to the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Programme Committee will select the best abstracts and the authors will be given the opportunity to make an oral presentation within the appropriate sessions held by the invited speakers.

If you want to know more about abstract submission (deadline postponed to 30 November 2000), please visit our websites: [www.kenes.com/eapc](http://www.kenes.com/eapc) or [www.eapcnet.org](http://www.eapcnet.org), or see the *Announcement and Call for Papers* booklet, page 9, 'Call for Abstracts'.

### **Health ministers' conference**

During the 7th EAPC Congress, a conference with health ministers of various Mediterranean countries will take place. The official representatives from each country, together with experts in the field, will meet with the common aim of co-ordinating a unified approach to patient care and the planning of palliative care services in their respective countries.

The main purpose will be to collect data and recommend planned and politically viable developments. This will be achieved through periodic meetings between experts, after which, programmes concerning communication, guidelines and standards can be agreed on and applied at an international level. Additionally, a special meeting of representatives from non-European countries will take place as well.

### **Honour and prestige**

Many oncologists have already expressed a great interest in the event. In fact, the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) has declared its support for the 7th EAPC Congress. Consequently, it will award an ESMO MORA Accreditation with a total of 18 points, category 1, to those attending the Congress. This is no doubt a sign of the increasing involvement and interest in palliative care from the world of oncology.



In addition to ESMO, the 7th EAPC Congress has already been granted the patronage of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Cancer Control and Palliative Care, the Italian Cabinet, the Italian Ministry of Health, the Sicilian Health Authority, the National Council for Research, the Italian League Against Cancer, the Italian Association for Medical Oncology (AIOM), the Italian Association for Cancer Research (AIRC), the National Federation of Medical Associations of Surgeons and Dental Surgeons (FNOMCeO), the Medical Association of Surgeons and Dental Surgeons of the Palermo Province (OMCeO), UNESCO, the Italian Society for Palliative Care (SICP), the National Federation of Professional Nurses, Health Workers, Nursery Assistants (IPASVI), the Association for the Assistance of Terminal Cancer Patients (SAMOT). Many more organisations are also lending their support.

But that's not all! An exciting social programme with special surprises awaits you, culminating in a football match, where some of the greatest 'stars' in palliative care will perform!

In addition the delegates will have the chance to enjoy the unique character of Palermo. With its traditions, art, spectacular colours and architecture, Palermo is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe with several attractions including theatres, churches, museums, restaurants and shops, all waiting to be enjoyed.

See you in Palermo, the heart of the beautiful Mediterranean!

*Sebastiano Mercadante, Chairman of the Scientific Committee, September 2000*

### **Conference on research and development in palliative care – Berlin, Germany**

*1st Congress of the Research Network, 7–10 December 2000*

We have great expectations for this conference, and hope that it will help us with our aim to spread information about research activities and to invite healthcare professionals to participate in discussions on research issues.

The Congress has the support and collaboration of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Palliativmedizin (DGP – German Society for Palliative Medicine). The German Association for the Study of Pain (DGSS) and Royal College of Physicians of the UK have also given credit for Continuing Medical Education (CME) for the Berlin Conference.

The two-day programme offers four lectures in plenary and two round-table discussions. Eighteen sessions will focus on topics of interest in research and evaluation, not only on pain and symptom management, but also on other areas of palliative care such as ethical considerations or psychosocial needs.

Three of these sessions are reserved for free discussion. In four other sessions we have tried to amalgamate lectures from invited speakers and oral presentations from submitted abstracts.

On Saturday 9 December three of the parallel sessions will be delivered in German to increase the impact of the conference on the local area around Berlin. A refresher course is available on 7 December 2000 to provide up-to-date recommendations and reviews for participants.

Fifty-three speakers (13 female, 40 male) from Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the USA have been contacted. Six speakers have declined to participate due to lack of time.

The following professions and specialties are represented among the speakers: physicians, nurses, social scientists, ethicists, social workers; anaesthesiology, neurology, oncology, pain therapy, palliative medicine, pharmacology, psychiatry, psychosomatic medicine and statistics.

One hundred and sixty abstracts have been submitted, showing the increased interest in research among palliative care specialists.

The Soros Foundation has made available a grant to support participants from Eastern European countries who need funding. The President of the EAPC, Stein Kaasa, will directly administer this grant.

*Dr Lukas Radbruch, Chairman of the Scientific Programme Committee; Dr Franco De Conno, Chairman of the Research Network*

### **News from the International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care**

The International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care (IAHPC) is pleased to announce that it has appointed Liliana de Lima to the position of Executive Director following the retirement of Dr Bette Michael.

In addition, the IAHPC Office has moved to Professor Eduardo Bruera's Department at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston; Professor Bruera is Chairman-elect of IAHPC. The new contact details for IAHPC are: Liliana De Lima, MHA,



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## News from the EAPC Education Network

The EAPC Educational Committee, at its last seminar on 5-6 May 2000, decided to send out a questionnaire considering education to:

- The Committee members (*B Burucoa*)
- The Board of Directors (*H Blumhuber*)
- The national representatives (*list to be updated by B Wouters*)
- The participants of the Palermo Congress (*B Burucoa and S Mercadante*)
- EAPC members:

through the website (*C Peruselli*)  
through a letter from the EAPC  
(*H Blumhuber*).

This questionnaire aims to:

- Publicise the Education Network and the Educational Committee
- Get to know the interests and needs of members
- Consider the best way to work in the future.

Please fill in the questionnaire overleaf and return it to Dr Marilene Filbet at the address indicated on the questionnaire.

Thank you for your time in supporting the distribution of this questionnaire.

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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.

**Executive Officers:**  
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Franco DE CONNO

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**We would like to thank the official financial sponsors of the EAPC in 2000:**



JANSSEN-CILAG



Zambon Italia



## For those interested in the Education Network, please fill in this questionnaire

In order to develop the network, we need your help and participation.

Thank you very much for answering this questionnaire; it will help us to meet your needs and expectations.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PROFESSION: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIALTY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### SERVICES PROVIDED IN YOUR CENTRE

please tick appropriate box(es)

- ☐ Hospice (independent)
- ☐ Hospital palliative care ward (inpatient)
- ☐ Day hospital (day care)
- ☐ Outpatient clinic/service
- ☐ Palliative care consultation service in a hospital
- ☐ Home care service
- ☐ Telephone consultation service (patient follow-up)
- ☐ Telephone consultation service for community doctors and nurses

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### MAIN FIELD(S) OF ACTIVITY

please tick appropriate box(es)

- ☐ Cancer ☐ AIDS ☐ Geriatrics ☐ Teaching ☐ Other

### SPECIAL INTEREST(S)

please tick appropriate box(es)

#### Education

- ☐ Objectives
- ☐ Curriculum
- ☐ Methods
- ☐ Validation
- ☐ Evaluation
- ☐ Teachers: criteria and training
- ☐ References and bibliography
- ☐ Strategies towards stakeholders

Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### Levels

- ☐ Undergraduate
- ☐ Postgraduate

#### Specific training for

- ☐ Doctors
- ☐ Nurses
- ☐ Social workers
- ☐ Psychologists
- ☐ Physiotherapists

### THEMES

please tick appropriate box(es)

- ☐ Palliative care ☐ Death
- ☐ Family ☐ Holistic pain
- ☐ Team ☐ Pain
- ☐ Ethics ☐ Other symptoms
- ☐ Bereavement ☐ Communication
- ☐ Volunteers

Other \_\_\_\_\_

### WORKING METHODS

I am interested in: please tick appropriate box(es)

	<i>participate</i>	<i>organise</i>	<i>co-ordinate</i>
<b>Work group</b>			
Local			
Regional			
National			
International			
<b>Seminars</b>			
<b>Congress</b>			
<b>Exchange by:</b>			
Letter			
Fax			
Email			

### Please return this questionnaire to:

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