



European Respiratory
Society

Year of the Lung: European launch



The Year of Lung campaign was launched in Europe on January 30, 2010. For more information see page 8.



Get involved in World Spirometry Day. See page 9 for details.



Success in Kyrgyzstan for the 5th Congress of the Eurasian Respiratory Society. Page 11.



Nikos Siafakas,
ERS President

The European launch of the Year of the Lung

The European launch of the awareness campaign took place on January 30–31, 2010 in Marseille, France, during the Annual Congress of the Société de Pneumologie de Langue Française (SPLF).

The event started with the leadership of ERS and SPLF walking through the exhibition hall holding a placard, lead by a small band to draw the attention of the participants. This was followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a series of short speeches concerning the aims and objectives of the Year of the Lung campaign and plans to achieve them. Emphasis was placed on two events.



1) The visit to the European Parliament by all the Presidents of the National European Respiratory Societies, which will take place in Brussels on April, 13, 2010. All representatives of National Societies who attended the SPLF Congress were invited to participate in the visit.

2) World Spirometry Day. The event will take place globally on October 14, 2010. Although it became apparent that such an event would be difficult to organise in African French speaking countries due to a lack of equipment, it was discussed that the Panafrican Thoracic Society would lead and coordinate these efforts in the African continent.

The European launch of the Year of the Lung was considered very successful due to the collaboration of SPLF and ERS and in particular due to the efforts of the President of SPLF Prof. Etienne Lemarie.

Finally, I wish to state that the objectives of the Year of the Lung are of concern to all pulmonologists across the world and ask you to visit the following link for further information on the Year of the Lung and how to get involved: www.2010yearofthelung.org

Free ERS membership for under 35s

The leadership of ERS is extremely proud to report the creation of a new category of membership: free membership for people under 35 years of age. This was considered an investment in the future of our Society as well as for the future of pulmonology in Europe. This change allows all young doctors and scientists access to the largest respiratory network in the world, which includes educational resources (the

ERS School), current research breakthroughs (Congress), grant applications and the possibility of fellowships.

We believe that by being a member of ERS you become part of the European wide harmonisation of respiratory health. In addition to the new membership category, we plan to create a “young” or “student” committee with representation in the Executive Committee of the ERS in order allow young members to contribute fully to the life of our Society.

The ERS 20th Anniversary

During the 2010 ERS Annual Congress in Barcelona, Spain on September 18–22, the ERS will celebrate the successful 20-year story of the Society. In the same way that we would celebrate the 20th birthday of a member of our family, we are planning to have a party during the opening ceremony of the Congress. Various events will take place during the party including folk songs and dances from all over Europe. The current and past leadership and all ERS staff will attend the event, so we can all come together to remember and celebrate the 20 prosperous years of the ERS. You are all invited to the party and we hope you take part in the singing and dancing competitions between Nations. It is well known that diversity is the strength of Europe and of our Society.

Happy Anniversary ERS!

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TB PAN-NET: evaluating the past and new horizons



Evaluating the past

The ERS School is involved in a European Union (EU)-funded project called TB PAN-NET: a European network for the study and clinical management of TB drug resistance. The project aims to establish an integrated network to address the challenge of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB) that the EU is facing. To reach this objective, a European consortium of partners with extensive experience in the conduct of basic and clinical research relating to MDR-TB, TB control and epidemiology was established in January 2009, which includes 26 centres in 17 different EU and non-EU member states and one centre in the USA. 2009 was very rich in results for the consortium, and the first annual report on project activities was submitted to the EU in February 2010. Evaluation results from the EU are expected by April 2010.

Several events were organised during the 2009 ERS Annual Congress

in Vienna to raise the profile of TB PAN-NET, including a Postgraduate (PG) course on MDR-TB management and a scientific symposium. Moreover, a TB fact sheet for patients was published in 11 languages which can be downloaded from www.european-lung-foundation.org/index.php?id=15198

The following scientific results have been achieved:

WORK PACKAGE 1 - Molecular epidemiology of drug-resistant strains in selected metropolitan settings in Western and Eastern Europe.

- Preparation of the standardised form for the collection of clinical, microbiological and socio-demographic information (case report form).
- Design of the first version of the multifunctional web-based molecular database that combines automated strain identification with clinical and geographic information.
- Strains for external quality assessment (EQA) agreed.

WORK PACKAGE 2 - Characterisation of novel mutations involved in drug-resistant phenotype and virulence markers.

- Mapping mutations conferring drug resistance.
- Increasing the performance of extraction protocol and increasing the sensitivity and downgrading

the biorisk of handling material.

- Monitoring response to therapy by molecular assays through propidium monoazide pre-treatment.
- Alternative biomarkers: small RNAs.
- Transcription regulatory network in sensitive and resistant strains analysed.

WORK PACKAGE 3 - Development and standardisation of EQA for drug-resistant TB and expansion of capability for culture- and molecular-based techniques for drug-resistant TB.

- Drug susceptibility testing (DST) for first- and second-line drugs (1st round) on 20 selected strains (solid, liquid; molecular methods).
- Strains subcultured and shipped to all involved centres of the network. Data analysis is ongoing. A questionnaire for analysis of discrepant results has been prepared.
- SMI selected H37rv and one clinical Beijing strain to perform the laboratory generated mono-resistance. Selected drugs are ofloxacin, capreomycin and ampicillin. The fluctuation method is used to generate mono-resistance strains. Analysis procedure completed and strains subcultured on drug containing solid medium 7H10. Mono-resistances will be confirmed by MIGT (automated culture; Becton-Dickinson, Franklin Lakes, NJ, USA).
- The preparation of panels for rapid molecular DST has started.

Impressum

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TB PAN-NET: evaluating the past and new horizons (cont.)



WORK PACKAGE 4 - Development of integrated sites for clinical and diagnostic trials of new drug applications, new diagnostics and development of markers for treatment success, and identify clinical and social factors including HIV as markers of resistance.

- Epidemiology TB, HIV and TB+HIV in the region.
- Assessment of existing clinical and laboratory infrastructure (human resources, equipment and beds) necessary to assemble an MDR cohort.
- Assessment of laboratory capacity to reliably perform microscopic, culture tests, first- and second-line DST, molecular testing, safety levels, quality control and workload.
- Assessment of infection-control methods.
- Assessment of existing ability to collect samples, logistics of sample transport to central site and ability to export samples/cultures/DNA.
- Assessment of financial accounting, existing ethics committees and legal aspects.

- Current HIV testing policy and methods used.
- Identification of site-specific needs necessary to assemble and follow-up an MDR-/XDR-TB cohort to assess biomarkers and to conduct clinical trials of drugs and diagnostic equipment.
- Clinical trials training course implemented and supported by the Health Protection Agency's National Mycobacterium Reference Unit and the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics.

WORK PACKAGE 5 - Training on TB management, control and research.

- Task analysis and training materials developed and tested.
- Re-test; final draft materials submitted for partners' comments; final version available by May 2010.
- The ERS will use different modules for PG Courses; training of facilitators will be organised in September 2010 (ERS Annual Congress, Barcelona).

WORK PACKAGE 6 - TBNET: clinical research on TB drug-resistance in Europe.

- Clinical databank to enrol patients with MDR-/XDR-TB in different regions of Europe ready for pilot-ing.
- Ethical approval granted at the coordinating centre.
- Study protocol at the final stage of development.

WORK PACKAGE 7 - Dissemination and information sharing.

- Creation and regular maintenance and updates of the project website (www.tbpannet.org). The website is composed of a public section and a

Partners restricted area. Partners restricted area is only accessible to the project partners, while other areas of the site are of interest to the public.

- Publication of two articles about the TB PAN-NET project in the ERS Newsletter.
- Organisation of the scientific symposium "TB PAN-NET an integrated approach for controlling MDR-TB spread in Europe" (60 participants) at the 2009 ERS Annual Congress.
- Support in the organisation of the 6-month Scientific and Management Board Meeting on September 15, 2009 in Vienna.

Moving to new horizons

The first Annual Meeting will be organised in Lubeck, Germany on May 25-26, 2010 in collaboration with P1-USR and P3-FZB. More than 80 specialists from high-burden countries will be attending this meeting to share their findings and research results.

The External course on "Tuberculosis at time of emerging drug resistance" will be organised by the ERS School team on May 27-29, 2010 in Borstel, Germany. This course is aimed at clinicians in training with an interest in respiratory medicine/infectious diseases, microbiology specialists, clinical immunologists, clinical epidemiologists and internal medicine specialists. More than 10 bursaries/sponsorships will be offered to applicants from high-burden countries. To register please visit: www.ersnet.org/schoolcourses

For more information on the project please visit: www.tbpannet.org

Educational round-up

A new way to catch your Breathe

As part of the ERS School's ongoing efforts to make *Breathe* online as accessible and user-friendly as possible, new articles are now available in HTML web format, as well as the traditional PDF. The new format is more flexible and easier to read on screen, and will enable more interactivity to be introduced in the future. And of course, the PDFs will still be available for users who wish to download or print them. Look out for more improvements to *Breathe* in the coming months: highlights planned for 2010 include the introduction of standard operating procedures for common techniques and a series on orphan diseases.

School Courses

ERS School Courses have started a successful year with the first course in Clinical Exercise Testing fully booked 2 months before the event and many more on the waiting list to attend. The ERS programme for 2010 hopes to fulfil the educational needs of its members and experts in respiratory medicine across Europe. The list of events includes a range of educational programmes as follows:

- **Cystic fibrosis**
March 18–20, 2010
Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- **Occupational respiratory disease for the clinician**
April 15–17, 2010 | Izmir, Turkey
- **Tuberculosis at times of emerging drug resistance (TB PAN-NET)**
May 27–29, 2010
Borstel, Germany
- **Noninvasive positive pressure ventilation**
October 7–9, 2010
Hanover, Germany
- **Sleep medicine**
To be confirmed
Antwerp, Belgium
- **GRACE workshop: hot topics in lower respiratory tract infection**
Coming soon

For more information about ERS School Courses please visit:
www.ersnet.org/schoolcourses

2010 ERS Annual Congress

Planning for the educational programme for the 2010 ERS Annual Congress in Barcelona is well underway. This year, the ERS School hopes to achieve its most successful year to date. All Postgraduate course titles

and 'Meet the Professor' seminars are available on the ERS website, focusing on a range of hot topic areas in respiratory medicine. The School Committee has worked hard to ensure that the educational programme at Congress will focus more on interactive teaching styles using the latest technology and innovative teaching methods.

CME-accredited case reports



In February 2010, the ERS School launched a new series of interactive, CME-accredited, online case reports on paediatric respiratory medicine. Based on a video presentation of the patient, history and clinical findings, the user is led to a diagnosis and potential treatments. After working through a case study and passing a short multiple-choice test at the end, the user can print out a CME certificate. A new case in this series is published weekly. For full details go to:
www.ersnet.org/cases

The next HERMES Examination will take place on Saturday, September 18, 2010, at the ERS Annual Congress in Barcelona, Spain. Registration is ongoing and will close on May 30, 2010. The registration process is explained in more detail at: <http://hermes.ersnet.org>



European Respiratory Journal: Editors' selection Selection for March: Volume 35; No. 3

1. Guidelines of the European Respiratory Society and the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons for management of malignant pleural mesothelioma. A. Scherpereel, P. Astoul, P. Baas, *et al.* pp. 479–495.
2. Idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis: a disease with similarities and links to cancer biology. C. Vancheri, M. Failla, N. Crimi, *et al.* pp. 496–504.
3. SCH527123, a novel CXCR2 antagonist, inhibits ozone-induced neutrophilia in healthy subjects. O. Holz, S. Khalilieh, A. Ludwig-Sengpiel, *et al.* pp. 564–570.
4. Relationship of immunodiagnostic assays for tuberculosis and numbers of circulating CD4+ T-cells in HIV infection. L. Leidl, H. Mayanja-Kizza, G. Sotgiu, *et al.* pp. 619–626.
5. Therapeutic implications of the pathophysiology of COPD. P.T. Macklem. pp. 676–680.

Access the *ERJ* online: www.erj.ersjournals.com

Meet the new ERS Conferences and Seminars Director

During the 2009 ERS Annual Congress, a new Conference and Seminars Director was elected: Prof. Oliver Eickelberg. Oliver has been an active ERS member for many years and the ERS is confident that he is the right person for this new and challenging position within the Scientific Committee. We asked him about his objectives for the coming years and what developments he aims to make within the ERS.

Personal information

ERS function: ERS Conferences and Seminars Director (2010–2013)

Name: Oliver Eickelberg

Address: Munich, Germany

Current occupation: Chairman of Experimental Pneumology at the Comprehensive Pneumology Center and Director of the Institute of Lung Biology and Disease at Helmholtz Zentrum München and University of Munich

Sources of inspiration: Nature, which has simplified complexity. The people I work with at my centre. A timeless song

Hobbies: Science, music, reading, surfing and soccer

Pillar values: Transparency, accountability, independence and having an open mind



What were your main motivations when applying as Conferences and Seminars Director?

“Contributing to the Lung Science Conference to make it shine worldwide is a special and valuable privilege. Coordinating these events with ERS Research Seminars will enhance synergisms and reduce redundancies. In my view, this function is at the heart of shaping the scientific landscape in our field.”

How do you perceive the ERS?

“The ERS is a warm and dynamic society, with members from a multitude of nations within and outside of Europe. It is a world-leading society that is regarded as a platform for science, teaching innovation and clinical excellence.”

Which objectives would you like to achieve during your mandate as Conferences and Seminars Director?

“Being able to highlight three thematic topics from 2011 to 2013 will bring together excellent scientists and physicians across the ages and nations, attract junior scientists to our field, and advance knowledge in respiratory medicine. During my mandate I will seek to continue to improve the Lung Science Conference in four distinct ways: by presenting scientific excellence, enhancing career mentoring, facilitating scientific networking, and improving scientific marketing.”

ERS history

“I have been an ERS member since 1992 and have undertaken numerous responsibilities. First, I was a member of the EU Working Group on Deaths in COPD, a Coordinator of Eurovent Concerted Action and a member of the ATS/ERS Taskforce on Outcomes in COPD. Currently, I’m involved with the assessment of ERS submitted abstracts for the Annual Congress and am Chair of the EU COST Action B29 on COPD exacerbations. As an expert in my field I also regularly contribute to ERS events. My clinical and research interests are the causes and mechanisms of COPD exacerbations, home oxygen therapy and noninvasive ventilatory support.”

Scientific Round-up

Future Research Seminars

"Managing the lung of the extremely low gestational age neonate in the delivery room"

Barcelona, Spain
September 18, 2010

The aim of this Research Seminar is to discuss, as an international team of experts, new data on the physiology and pathophysiology of the lung (research data as well as clinical) in order to find an evidence-based consensus on how to best facilitate the respiratory support of extremely low gestational age neonates, possibly stratified by gestational age, and formulate ERS neonatal recommendations. The seminar will also allow participants to identify areas where research objectives are urgently needed. As a result, international collaborations for future research will be started in order to answer such questions in large, multi-centre trials.



> More information on www.ersnet.org/ELGAN

"The role of small airways in obstructive pulmonary diseases"

Amsterdam, the Netherlands
October, 15–16, 2010

The aim of the Research Seminar is to bring together international experts in chronic obstructive

pulmonary disease (COPD) and severe asthma to discuss important aspects of small airways disease including pathology and pathophysiology, measurement and diagnosis, and clinical and therapeutic implications. The expected outcome will be a better understanding of the mechanisms, clinical assessment and therapeutic implications of small airways disease in asthma and COPD, which will be presented as a state-of-the-art review article to be published in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.



> More information on www.ersnet.org/OPD

"Novel insights in pulmonary fibrogenesis: from bench to bedside"

Athens, Greece
November, 12–13, 2010

The aim of this seminar is to offer general discussion on emerging clinical and scientific concepts in pulmonary fibrosis.

On the first day, we will evaluate advances in autoimmune and idiopathic fibrosis in parallel, with regard to both pathogenesis and treatment. The participants will be exposed to the latest thinking on diagnostic and prognostic evaluation, monitoring, and current and novel treatment approaches in idiopathic and autoimmune disease. Recent important clinical statements and studies will be covered in detail.

On the second day, the emphasis

will be on laboratory science with the central theme being research developments in the investigation of the pathogenesis of fibrosis. The aim is to make current thinking on key candidate pathways in fibrogenesis, including pathways of coagulation, epithelial mesenchymal transition and bone marrow involvement, accessible to participants.

Participants will gain knowledge from recent data to improve the routine investigation and management of their patients; and will be inspired to develop their own research interests in clinical science.

Participants will have a working knowledge of the range of candidate pathogenetic pathways in pulmonary fibrosis.



> More information on www.ersnet.org/fibrogenesis

ERS funding opportunities

Apply for a short-term fellowship or a Visiting Professorship. Access to Europe's finest training and research facilities, benefit from ERS networking opportunities for training and research projects and join the ERS Association of Fellows sharing your experience with others.

> More information on www.ersnet.org/fellowships and www.ersnet.org/visiting-professorships

Deadline for application: April 1, 2010.

Congress Scientific programme

In February, the Barcelona Programme Committee met in Geneva to finalise the symposia lectures to be presented at the 2010 ERS Annual Congress. A comprehensive programme is being prepared in the field of lung health and disease which will include all the latest developments in clinical diagnosis and treatment.

Barcelona 2010 Programme

Submit your proposals for clinical trials and lunchtime sessions

- Presentations of clinical trials can be presented during the ERS Annual Congress. These sessions, included in the scientific programme, will receive prominent visibility and recognition for studies impacting clinical practice. The clinical trial sessions are reserved for presentation of recently completed clinical trials.
- Lunchtime sessions are less formal and more interactive sessions with alternative formats such as pro/

con debates, "How to..." sessions, etc. Their duration is, at maximum, 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Deadline for submitting proposals: April 8, 2010

More information and submission forms available <http://www.erscongress2010.org/1065-clinicals.htm>

Late-breaking abstracts

Do you have newsworthy and cutting-edge information you would like to present at the 2010 ERS Annual Congress? Do not miss the opportunity to submit your late-breaking abstract from May 1, 2010. The best late-breaking abstracts will be selected and accepted for

presentation at the Barcelona Congress. More information at www.erscongress2010.org

2011 ERS Annual Congress in Amsterdam

Symposium proposals

Symposia are scientific sessions with a standard format of four presentations with different speakers covering the same topic under the lead of two chairs and are usually 2 hours in duration.

Deadline for submitting proposals: April 8, 2010.

For more information and submission forms contact scientific@ersnet.org

Year of the Lung: European launch



The launch of the 2010 Year of the Lung campaign in Europe took place on January 30, 2010 at the annual conference of the French-language Society of Pneumology, Société de Pneumologie de Langue Française (SPLF), in Marseille.

Speaking at the European Launch, Prof. Nikos Siafakas emphasised that:

“there is an urgent need for the European Commission and Member States to provide increased resources for research for improved patient care and quality of life”.

He also added that:

“most respiratory diseases are both preventable and treatable – treatment

however is very costly, and effective prevention policies in the EU and worldwide are severely lacking.”



Hundreds of millions of people suffer every day from lung diseases and they cause almost 20% of all deaths worldwide. Increased awareness about lung disease is vital,

Year of the Lung: European launch (cont.)

because they are affecting an increased number of people every year and account for a socio-economic burden of €102 billion due to lost working days in Europe alone. The 'Big Five' lung disorders are lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD), pneumonia, tuberculosis (TB) and asthma.

Under the direction of President Nikos Siafakas, the ERS is responsible for European activities during the Year of the Lung. The main objectives are to:

1. Increase awareness for lung health and to initiate action in communities worldwide, and advocate for resources to combat lung disease.
2. Reinforce the need to provide increased resources for basic and clinical research, and support and improve education for respiratory health professionals.

3. Convey the message that most respiratory diseases are treatable, and that prevention is highly cost effective.

4. Spread the message that clean air is a fundamental human right and should be recognised as such.

5. Promote a modern image of science and the widespread access to new basic knowledge in respiratory medicine.

The ERS issued a press release on the occasion and has sent out letters to national respiratory societies, as well as European umbrella organisations representing patient organisations requesting them to join this global effort.

We urge ERS members to spread the message to your local societies, foundations and lung advocates about the 2010 Year of the Lung awareness campaign,



and recommend them to use this unique opportunity to launch and publicise their activities in the name of the 2010 Year of the Lung.

For more information on the European Year of the Lung activities please visit: <http://alturl.com/p466>

To get more involved in Year of the Lung activities, go to: www.2010yearofthelung.org

World Spirometry Day: October 14, 2010

World Spirometry Day is a Year of the Lung initiative aimed at raising the awareness of lung health worldwide. The European Lung Foundation (ELF) will assist institutions interested in taking part in the world event, using its knowledge and expertise of carrying out mass lung function testing since 2002. The ELF will also coordinate PR coverage and press releases to help raise the profile of respiratory disease in the media.

Each national society and patient association will have the opportunity to support the event by offering spirometry testing using the facilities available in local hospitals. Larger events will also take place in each country to increase visibility and attract media attention.

Why is spirometry important?

The main aim of spirometry testing is to identify members of the local population who may not have been previously diagnosed with a lung condition. It gives local citizens the opportunity to test their lungs for free and to raise awareness of lung health in general.

Doctors will be on site to offer advice in the event of discovering abnormal results. Individuals in this category will be given a letter addressed to their general practitioner requesting that further tests, confirmation of the findings and follow-ups are performed so that any abnormal lung function can be treated to improve quality of life.



Take part in World Spirometry Day and help raise awareness of lung health in your country!

For more information, please visit: www.yearofthelung.org

ERS Assembly and Group elections 2010: results

This year's first round of Assembly and Group elections has involved 36 candidates for 22 Assembly and Group positions, representing 19 different countries. We would like to thank all candidates for their commitment and willingness to serve the Society.

The election of dedicated leaders is

essential for our vitality in the future and gives you a chance to contribute to Society life. The high number of votes cast in these Assembly and Group elections has clearly shown the dedication of our members. We would like to thank all members who nominated candidates or who took part in voting for their representative.

The success and progress of our

Society depends on the enthusiasm and active participation of all our members and, in particular, of the ERS Officers. We would like to thank all Officers finishing their mandate on September 22, 2010 for their hard work and commitment, and would like to wish all newly elected Officers every success in their new roles within the Society.

Assembly/Group	Position	Elected candidate	Mandate begins
Respiratory Intensive Care Assembly (2)	Assembly Head	Dr Paolo Pelosi	22.09.2010
Cell and Molecular Biology Assembly (3)	Assembly Head	Prof. Thomas Geiser	22.09.2010
Cell and Molecular Biology Assembly (3)	Assembly Secretary	Prof. Bruno Crestani	22.09.2010
Molecular Pathology and Functional Genomics Group (3.01)	Group Secretary	Dr Marcin Skrzypski	22.09.2010
Mechanisms of Lung Injury and Repair Group (3.03)	Group Chair	Prof. Dr. Stefan Uhlig	01.02.2010
Mechanisms of Lung Injury and Repair Group (3.03)	Group Secretary	Prof. Martin Kolb	22.09.2010
Pulmonary Circulation and Pulmonary Vascular Disease Group (4.04)	Group Chair	Prof. Andrew Peacock	22.09.2010
Pulmonary Circulation and Pulmonary Vascular Disease Group (4.04)	Group Secretary	Dr Anton Vonk Noordegraaf	22.09.2010
Inflammatory Airway Diseases and Clinical Allergy Assembly (5)	Assembly Secretary	Dr Ildiko Horvath	22.09.2010
Airway Pharmacology and Treatment Group (5.01)	Group Secretary	Dr Gaetano Caramori	22.09.2010
Monitoring Airway Disease Group (5.02)	Group Chair	Prof. Antonio Spanevello	22.09.2010
Monitoring Airway Disease Group (5.02)	Group Secretary	Dr Stylianos Loukides	22.09.2010
Cystic Fibrosis Group (7.03)	Group Chair	Dr Anders Lindblad	22.09.2010
Cystic Fibrosis Group (7.03)	Group Secretary	Prof. Dr. Nicolas Regamey	22.09.2010
Paediatric Respiratory Infection and Immunology Group (7.04)	Group Secretary	Dr Jonathan Grigg	22.09.2010
Thoracic Surgery Assembly (8)	Assembly Head	Prof. Annette Boehler	22.09.2010
Thoracic Surgery Assembly (8)	Assembly Secretary	Dr Dragan R. Subotic	22.09.2010
Thoracic Surgery Group (8.01)	Group Chair	Prof. Stefano Elia	22.09.2010
Thoracic Surgery Group (8.01)	Group Secretary	Prof. Adelheid End	22.09.2010
Transplantation Group (8.02)	Group Chair	Prof. Andrew Fisher	22.09.2010
Transplantation Group (8.02)	Group Secretary	Dr Federica Meloni	22.09.2010
Physiotherapists Group (9.02)	Group Secretary	Dr Fabio Pitta	01.02.2010

Each ERS member can join up to three scientific groups but can only take part in elections for their first-choice affiliation. The high number of votes cast in the elections for Assembly and Group positions indicates an extremely active membership showing their support of their future leaders.



5th Congress of the Eurasian Respiratory Society

Discussing and seeking solutions to the most serious respiratory problems in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia was the main aim of the 5th Congress of the Eurasian Respiratory Society, which was held in Kyrgyzstan in the memory of Academician Mirsaid Mirrakhimov – an outstanding scientist and doctor of our time.

Respiratory diseases are a serious medical and social problem in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia due to their high prevalence and morbidity. High mortality rates are caused by the lack of access to modern life-saving technology. Thousands of people suffer daily from severe respiratory diseases that are rarely diagnosed and, as a result, patients get improper or insufficient therapy and become exposed to a higher risk of exacerbations or even death. The Eurasian Respiratory Society Annual Congress aims to help doctors improve their skills in respiratory medicine, introduce new diagnostic and treatment techniques and implement joint integrative scientific projects.

The Congress was very successful with a large number of delegates attending from 17 countries around the world. Leading experts and directors of successful medical respiratory centres worldwide attended the event.

Scientific excellence

The scientific programme was packed and was highly relevant to respiratory doctors. Of great interest was the discussion over international and national recommendations on the treatment of patients with respiratory disorder, of varying severities. Special attention was given to informing clinicians on modern diagnostic systems and new life-saving technologies for the hospital and domiciliary treatment.

Workshops of the European and Eurasian Respiratory Societies, symposiums, roundtables and master classes on the most important problems of respiratory medicine were organised throughout the Congress. Discussions regarding cooperation with the ERS were continued at the

Personal highlights of the Congress are described as follows by participants.

Ms U.A. Abdullaeva, Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic

It is the reality that respiratory diseases in adults and children are one of the main medical and social problems in Kyrgyzstan because of the high prevalence rate. This is why the 5th Congress of the Eurasian Respiratory Society was an event of a great importance for Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia.

“The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic would like to outline the strengthening relationship and support by the ERS, which is the uniting force for leading experts, experienced clinicians and practising doctors.”

Only through combining our efforts and mobilising all resources available, will we manage to make positive steps in solving such a serious medical and social problem as respiratory diseases.

Former President of the ERS, Prof. J. Gerritsen (the Netherlands)

I am very happy to be part of such an important forum. The ERS is highly motivated in cooperation and

2009 ERS Annual Congress where agreements were made to support the “Respiratory Medicine” international journal which was launched in 2007 in Kyrgyzstan. Annual regional workshops and future research seminars were also discussed. Kyrgyzstan was represented at the National Village

is ready to provide comprehensive support to the development of respiratory medicine in Central Asia. There were positive discussions regarding the organisation of special educational and research projects and an extension of grant support to the Kyrgyz Government. I would like specifically to mention the hospitality, friendliness and kindness throughout the Congress.

Prof. G. Viegi, Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD) planning group member (Italy)

We have witnessed a very important event; there were many useful meetings and discussions regarding cooperation in the framework of GARD and other initiatives. We are ready to render any assistance and I hope that, in the near future, Kyrgyzstan will be taking a more active part in internationally financed respiratory medicine projects.



exhibition at the ERS Congress which allowed us to demonstrate recent achievements in respiratory medicine. The participants were pleasantly surprised and scientists worldwide were able to see that we have potential and now they are ready to actively cooperate with us.

Meetings Calendar / Deadlines

ERS School Courses 2010

- >March 18–20, 2010 (Rotterdam, the Netherlands)
Cystic fibrosis: basic
- >April 15–17, 2010 (Izmir, Turkey)
Occupational respiratory disease for the clinician
- >May 27–29, 2010 (Borstel, Germany)
Tuberculosis at times of emerging drug resistance (TB PAN-NET)
- >October 7–9, 2010 (Hanover, Germany)
Noninvasive positive pressure ventilation
Contact: school@ersnet.org

ERS Research Seminars 2010

- >September 18, 2010 (Barcelona, Spain)
Managing the lung of ELGAN in the delivery room
- >October 15–16, 2010 (Amsterdam, the Netherlands)
The role of small airways in obstructive pulmonary disease
- >November 12–13, 2010 (Athens, Greece)
Novel insights in pulmonary fibrogenesis: from bench to bedside
Information: www.ersnet.org/research-seminars
Contact: scientific@ersnet.org

See page 7 for more information on future ERS Research Seminars

ERS events

- >March 26–28, 2010 (Estoril, Portugal)
Eighth ERS Lung Science Conference
Information: <http://dev.ersnet.org/48-LungScienceConference.htm>
- >September 18–22, 2010 (Barcelona, Spain)
ERS 20th Annual Congress
Information: <http://dev.ersnet.org/883-barcelona-2010.htm>
- >September 24–28, 2011 (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
ERS 21st Annual Congress

Non-ERS events

- >March 17, 2010 (Antalya, Turkey)
ESTS School of Thoracic Surgery
Information: www.estsschool.org
Contact: sue@ests.org.uk
- >March 22–26, 2010 (Edinburgh, Scotland)
Edinburgh Sleep Course
Information: www.sleep.scot.nhs.uk/education.html#med
Contact: rlriha@hotmail.com
- >April 12, 2010 (London, UK)
Basic and Clinical Allergy
Information: www1.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/about/divisions/nhli/nhli_events/shortcourses/events/
Contact: academicevents.nhli@imperial.ac.uk
- >April 21, 2010 (Hull, UK)
9th International Symposium on Human Pepsin (ISHP) –

reflux and its consequences:
key opinions in laryngeal, pulmonary and oesophageal manifestations

Information: www.hull.co.uk/reflux
Contact: info@hull.co.uk

- >April 21, 2010 (London, UK)
Asthma and COPD
Information:
www.smi-online.co.uk/events/overview.asp?js=4&ref=3203
Contact: zphilbey@smi-online.co.uk
- >April 24, 2010 (Dubai, United Arab Emirates)
III World Asthma and COPD Forum
Information: www.wipocis.org
Contact: info@wipocis.org
- >April 26, 2010 (London, UK)
Advances in Respiratory Medicine
Information:
www1.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/about/divisions/nhli/nhli_events/shortcourses/
Contact:
academicevents.nhli@imperial.ac.uk

- >April 28, 2010 (Lausanne, Switzerland)
Swiss Society of Pneumology. Annual Assembly
Information: www.congrex.ch/sgp2010
Contact: basel@congrex.com
- >April 28, 2010 (Geneva, Switzerland)
2nd European Lung Cancer Conference
Information: www.esmo.org/events/lung-2010-iaslc.html
Contact: lungcancer2010@esmo.org

- >April 29, 2010 (Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada)
Canadian Respiratory Conference 2010
Information: www.lung.ca/crc
Contact: ctsinfo@lung.ca
- >April 29, 2010 (Sorrento, Italy)
1st International Congress on Controversies in Allergology Immunology
Information: www.kenes.com/allergy-immuno
Contact: allergy@kenes.com

Deadlines

- >HERMES examination 2010
Registration is now open for the 2010 examination taking place on Saturday 18, 2010. Submit your application at: <http://hermes.ersnet.org>

To keep up-to-date on all ERS activities in 2010 please use the NEW ERS calendar which can be found at www.ersnet.org/planner

