

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