

Dear ISPAD members,

The year of 2009 has been busy for ISPAD. On behalf of the ISPAD Steering Committee, you will below find an update of our activities since the previous Spring Newsletter.

Ljubljana meeting

This meeting was a huge success with 1100 delegates that came from 69 countries. The meeting was held in the friendly ISPAD atmosphere in a charming city where most was within walking distance. Many thanks to Tadej, his local Organizing Committee (Magdalena Avbelj, Nina Bratanic, Natasa Ursic Bratina, Andreja Sirca Campa, Brigita Mali, Tinka Hovnik, Primoz Kotnik, Ciril Krzisnik, Katarina Trebusak Podkrajsek, Mirjam Stopar and Mojca Zerjav Tansek), the local Conference Company and KIT for your hard work in making this happen! We thank especially the platinum sponsors Eli Lilly, NovoNordisk and Lifescan/Animas of Johnson & Johnson, and also our Gold sponsor Medtronic, our Silver sponsor Roche and all other sponsors. A report from the Durban meeting by the roving reporters, Birgit Rami, from Vienna, Austria, and Jamie Wood, Los Angeles, USA, will appear in an upcoming issue of Pediatric Diabetes. You can already access it as an "Early View" through the website of Pediatric Diabetes

Prizes:

ISPAD's prizes for 2009 were presented at the meeting. The ISPAD Prize for Achievement is the Society's highest honor. It is awarded to any individual who has made outstanding contributions in the areas of SCIENCE, EDUCATION or ADVOCACY which have had a major impact on childhood and adolescent diabetes. The ISPAD Prize for Achievement (sponsored by Eli Lilly) may be awarded to members or non-members of ISPAD.

The 2009 Prize for Achievement was awarded to Martin Silink, Sydney, Australia. The ISPAD Lestradet Prize for Education and Advocacy (sponsored by Lifescan) was awarded to Viorel Serban, Timisoara, Romania, and the ISPAD Young Investigator Award (sponsored by Medtronic) was awarded to Jamil Malik, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Dr Oscar Rubio Cabezas, Madrid, Spain, received the Best Oral Presentation Award for presenting "Parental consanguinity strongly influences genetic aetiology in permanent neonatal diabetes". Dr So Jung Lee, Pittsburgh, USA, received the Best Poster Award for presenting "Effects of different types of exercise on insulin resistance in overweight youth: a randomized controlled trial".

Business meeting:

Please see the attached minutes for details.

Steering committee:

Outgoing officers were thanked: Lynda Fisher (outgoing treasurer), Jeremy Allgrove (UK), Claire Levy-Marchal (France), Carmel Smart, Tatsuhiko Urakami (Japan) and incoming were welcomed; Kubendran Pillay (South Africa), Aman Pulangan (Indonesia), Neil White (USA) and Tim Wysocki (USA).

Kenneth Robertson (UK) took over as treasurer after the meeting. The past Treasurer Lynda Fisher was thanked for her contributions.

The abstracts from the meeting can be found for free download at our website

www.ispad.org. The direct link to the abstracts is

<http://www.ispad.org/FileCenter/09-ljubljana-abstracts.html>

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has in 2009 met in London in March, at the meeting of the American Diabetes Association in San Francisco in June and during the days prior to the Ljubljana meeting.

Registration in the UK

We are now registered with the Company Number 6641016 according to the THE COMPANIES ACTS 1985 AND 1989 as COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE with our Charities registration number being 1126927. Special thanks to our treasurer Lynda Fisher for her tireless efforts in this project. Unfortunately all members had to reapply for membership, and this procedure has still not been completed by all members. So if you receive this Newsletter, but no longer get your printed copy of Pediatric Diabetes, it is likely that you have not confirmed the transfer of your membership. You can do so by simply sending an e-mail to our secretariat (secretariat@ispad.org) with the text "Yes, I want to transfer my membership", including your name.

Membership

We now (December 2008) have 637 members (47 new members in 2008) with the following distribution:

Africa	41
Asia	80
Europe	335
North America	104
Oceania	33
South America	44
(blank)	
Grand Total	637

"Profession"	Total
Diabetes nurse	11
Dietitian	7
Industry	2
Other	21
Other health care worker	2
Other Health Professional	43
Physician	490
Psychologist	5
(blank)	
Grand Total	581

We know many members have had problems with their passwords, so please contact our secretariat at secretariat@ispad.org if this is the case. Please everyone, log in and check your membership data in the database (Click Members -> My Data). Quite a lot of you are registered as professors, and however nice that may seem, you probably would want to correct it, if this is not the case. And we are missing the profession for some 150 members, not including those who may have the incorrect profession stated. Please enter your date of birth or decade of birth as it is important for us to know the age structure of the membership. For telephone numbers, you should write + and your country number, then the number for calls from abroad, for example mine is +46-522-92000 (omitting the zero in the area code).

Names are different in different parts of the world, so please state if you are male or female – if you let us guess, we might get it completely wrong.

Members who have not paid their membership dues for the past 2 years as of October 2009 have been removed from the membership list. You will still receive the ISPAD e-mails, but your name will not be included in the membership list on the homepage, and you will not receive your printed copy of *Pediatric Diabetes*. If you still want to be a member (which we hope!), please send an e-mail to our secretariat (secretariat@ispad.org) to sort out how to pay your dues. Members that have financial problems paying their dues can apply to our treasurer Kenneth Roberson (kjr@diabetes-scotland.org) for a reduced fee. This may for example be the case for some members from non-high income countries after their first 2 years of free membership have expired. If you don't wish to remain a member, please also let us know so we can remove your name from the mailing list.

Pediatric Diabetes

Our membership journal is now a bimonthly publication, with many special supplements each year. The Impact Factor for 2008 is 2.424, which is an improvement from the 2007 IF of 2.314. PDI is ranked 59th out of 93 journals in the fields of Endocrinology and Metabolism and 19th among 74 journals in the field of Pediatrics.

For access to *Pediatric Diabetes*, log in with your usual login/password combination. Then click on one of the links to the journal (either on the front page, left column, second paragraph or under "Resources" in the menu), and you will be redirected to the homepage of *Pediatric Diabetes* where you can freely download the articles.

Website

The website is now functioning well after the problems with the membership mailing list which I am sure you all remember. My apologies for all the "spam" mail that you received. If you find any links that need updating, please notify the webmaster at webmaster@ispad.org.

World Diabetes Day November 14th

Many ISPAD members around the world participated in this event, and more than 1000 buildings all over the world were lit in blue. Diabetes education and prevention is the World Diabetes Day theme for the period 2009-2013.

The DKA challenge – an ISPAD campaign with IDF approval

Last year's campaign was repeated in some countries, and you are all urged to take part in it again. All cases of DKA at onset are preventable. ISPAD and IDF have produced posters that can be used the same way as in the very successful Italian Parma campaign by Professor Vanelli that brought down the rate of DKA at onset from 78% to 0%. You will find posters for download at www.worlddiabetesday.org/dka. You can translate them for use in your own language (they are produced with InDesign). We encourage you to use them and spread them as much as possible and to find local support for printing where possible.

Science Schools

The 6th ISPAD Science School for Health Care Professionals was held in Ljubljana August 10-12th, just before the annual meeting. The three-day Workshop is designed for health professionals (dietitians, nurses, psychologists, and social workers) who wish to develop a research expertise in young people with diabetes. It was chaired by Professor Alan Delamater, Psychologist from Miami, USA, and Dr. Sheridan Furber, Senior Dietitian from Dorchester, UK. This course was sponsored by Johnson & Johnson. The sixth Science School will take place in Buenos Aires, prior to the annual meeting. Contact the conveners Alan Delamater (adelamater@med.miami.edu) and Carmel Smart (carmel.smart@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au) for further information.



The 2009 Science School for Health Care Professionals

The 2009 ISPAD Science School for Physicians convened under the auspices of the University of Cambridge, at Madingley Hall near Cambridge, between the 15th and 20th of November. Nineteen 'students' training in paediatric diabetes, and representing 17 different countries world-wide, attended this five day event. Supported by a resident faculty team led by Dr Carlo Acerini (University of Cambridge) and other invited internationally renowned experts from the field of diabetes, the students participated in an intensive programme of education including state-of the art lectures and interactive learning sessions. Aimed at advancing their clinical knowledge-base and their academic skills, the programme had students show-casing their research ideas and presenting challenging clinical case scenarios to the attending panel of experts who provided constructive advice and guidance. A social programme, offering insight into some of the scientific and cultural highlights that the city of Cambridge and its university have to offer, complimented what was otherwise considered to be a highly successful and rewarding event that provided students with top-class science in preparation for a clinical academic career in paediatric diabetology.



The 2010 Science School for Physicians will be held in St. Louis, USA with Neil White as convener. The preliminary dates are Sept 12-17. Contact Neil for further information (White_N@kids.wustl.edu).

Postgraduate courses

Regional educational focus persons were appointed in 2007 by former president Stu Brink:

Africa: Areti Philotheou and Larry Deeb

Middle East: Abbas Al-Qadreh and Ken Robertson

Asia: Warren Lee and Louis Low

Latin America: Ethel Codner and Manuel Vera Gonzalez

Former Soviet Republics: Jan Bruining

South Asia: Anju Virmani (appointed by Thomas Danne)

See the business minutes regarding postgraduate courses that have taken place since last year's meeting in Durban. Stu Brink, Lynda Fisher and Jan Bruining represented ISPAD in the first Kraznoyarsk postgraduate course in November 2009.

ISPAD has been represented by members giving lectures at a number of conferences:

- EASD Postgraduate Course in Shanghai, China: Johnny Ludvigsson
- The Childhood Diabetes Symposium organized by the Indonesian Pediatric Society in Bali July 11-12: Aman Pulangan, Maria Craig, Julie Edge, Warren Lee, Loo Lee Ling, Supawadee Likitmaskul, Ragnar Hanas
- CDiC (Changing Diabetes in Children, a Novo Nordisk Corporate Responsibility project) in Zanzibar October 2009: Stu Brink, Warren Lee, Kuben Pillay

- The Conference on Childhood Diabetes organized by AISabah Hospital in Kuwait November 1-3: Thomas Danne, Azza Shaltout, Julian Shield, Ragnar Hanas
- EASD Postgraduate Course in Hanoi November 2008, Vietnam: Johnny Ludvigsson

Planned postgraduate courses:

- Kampala, Uganda (February 2010): Warren Lee, Kuben Pillay, Stuart Brink
- Kingston, Jamaica (March 2010): Ragnar Hanas, Arlan Rosenbloom
- Buzias, Romania (April 2010): Viorel Serban, Stu Brink, Harry Dorchy
- Amman, Jordan (May 2010): Abbas Quadreh and Stu Brink
- Krasnoyarsk, Russia (July 2010): Jan Bruining and Stu Brink
- Lima, Peru (2011): Maria Isabel Rojas and Ragnar Hanas

ISPAD Clinical Practice Recommendations

The 2006-2008 version of the Guidelines were reviewed by the international writing teams, and updated accordingly, adding new references. They are now published as the 2009 Guidelines Compendium in a supplement of Pediatric Diabetes and also as a searchable CD. All chapters are available for free download from our homepage www.ispad.org (click on link in the right column on the first page).

Summarized IDF/ISPAD Guidelines with Standard, Comprehensive and Minimal levels of care will be published in collaboration with IDF during 2010.

Fellowships

Research Fellowship:

This grant of 25,000 USD for members below age 40 is designed to cover expenses for a 6 month's (or longer) visit in an ISPAD member's centre and can be applied for by ISPAD members or other young researchers who wish to study or carry out diabetes related research at a recognized centre of excellence. The individual applicant needs to have a project which can be at least in part accomplished in that time frame, with good science. A letter of support from the member in whose center they will be working should also be provided. This needs to attest to the acceptance of not only the person applying, but the project and the support of the applicant in their center. The recipient will give credit to ISPAD on any publication arising from any work done during the fellowship. If applicants are not members of ISPAD at the time of application they will be expected to apply for membership before the commencement of the fellowship.

The 2009 fellowship was awarded to Mari Pulkkinen, Helsinki, Finland for the project "IGF-1 as a Mediator of Metabolic Control in Type 1 Diabetic Patients" to be performed at Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

Clinical fellowship:

This is the Alan Drash Clinical Fellowship for ISPAD members below age 45 and is currently for 5,000 USD. It is intended for spending time (approximately 6 weeks) at a center of excellence to learn programmatic issues, clinical care, setting up a program, learning how to set up a clinical study, etc. This needs to be done at an ISPAD centre of excellence. The ISPAD member needs to send a letter of support for the applicant, indicating what that individual will be doing in their program. The applicant needs to state the reasons for choosing that center, and a description of their objectives and goals.

The 2008 Alan Drash fellowship was awarded to Dr. Oburo Ofumbi Geoffrey, Pediatrician from Kampala, Uganda for a clinical visit with Dr Kaushik Ramaiya in Dar el Salaam, Tanzania.

Applications for 2010 fellowships:

Applications including CV, current place of employment, outline and goals of intended project should be submitted by e-mail to the Secretary General. Please see the attached invitation for further details. Deadline for applications of both fellowships is June 1st, 2010, and they will be announced in the spring newsletter. The decision will be taken by the steering committee in connection with the ADA meeting. A report should be published on the ISPAD website within 1 year after completed fellowship.

.Future Annual Scientific Meetings

- ISPAD 2010 in Buenos Aires, Argentina (Olga Ramos), October 27th to 30th, www.ispad2010.com
- ISPAD 2011 Miami, U.S.A., (Alan Delamater) in November
- ISPAD 2012 Izmir, Turkey (Damla Göksen, Sukran Darcan)
- ISPAD 2013 Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt (Mona Salem)

Bids for the 2014 meeting should be sent to The Secretary General of President before June 1st, 2010. Details of the application procedure can be supplied by our secretariat (secretariat@ispad.or). The final decision for the venue of the 2014 meeting will be taken at the Advisory Council meeting in Buenos Aires.

Travel grants

We know that many that many participants will need to apply for a visa for Argentina, and that this can be a difficult process that takes a long time. From past years, we have learned that several participants who were awarded travel grants did in the end not make it to the meeting because of such problems. We therefore decided to announce special travel grants with an early application, so that the visa process can be finished in time for the meeting.

These grants are reserved for participants from the non-high income countries on the World Bank's list (currently <\$11,456, see <http://go.worldbank.org/D7SN0B8YU0>). They include economy travel, housing and free registration. Apply by e-mail to the Secretary-General with a CV, stating your current position and work for children with diabetes. There will be an application fee of USD 50, which will be returned upon arrival in Buenos Aires. The deadline for application for these travel grants is March 1st, 2010.

We introduced a new abstract category for the Ljubljana meeting: "Diabetes project in developing country", and this will continue in Buenos Aires. This means that there is no need for a formal scientific study design for submitting an abstract in this category. It is not necessary to submit an abstract to apply for the above described travel grants, but participants submitting such an abstract will be prioritized when applying for a travel grant.

Regular travel grants will also be available, and can be applied for when you submit a scientific abstract to the Buenos Aires meeting.

Access to Essential Diabetes Medicines

The Life for a Child program (www.lifeforachild.org) is helping increasing numbers of children thanks to insulin donated mainly by Eli Lilly. Novo Nordisk is distributing insulin to children in need through their own channels. ISPAD has pledged structural support and assistance in the training of pediatricians and healthcare professionals in childhood and adolescent diabetes through its membership network. Please contact the ISPAD steering committee or

Graham Ogle (Graham_Ogle@hopeww.org) from Life for a Child if you are interested in helping with such issues.

EURADIA

Carine de Beaufort has been appointed Liaison officer for European affairs by the President Thomas Danne. EURADIA is an alliance between NGO (non-governmental organizations) and industry. DIAMAP is a road mapping with establishment of documents on all research in diabetes. This major action has been honored by the EU Commission. European members are encouraged to register their research projects at www.diamap.eu. Carine has also represented ISPAD at the European Academy of Paediatrics.

SWEET project

A process of accreditation of centers of reference (COR) in the European Union through site visits is being developed. The IT tools for data collection and extraction are ready and will be installed in the centres during the first part of the year. The results of the first site visits and the data collection will be discussed at the next SWEET meeting in Paris in April 2010. SWEET is planning an establishment as an independent legal entity on the model of EURADIA where of course ISPAD would be closely involved but which would also allow IDF, FEND PCDE, Foundations and Corporate partners to have their place in this as well.

St Vincent Declaration

The 20th Anniversary of the St Vincent Declaration meeting in Glasgow, UK 21 – 23 November 2009, was postponed due to low registration, presumably because it was preceded by three important large conferences in September and October (FEND, EASD and IDF).

ISPAD Rare Diabetes

More than 50 % of children diagnosed before 6 months of age are positive for the Kir 6.2 or SUR1 genetic analysis, or have abnormalities of the imprinting of 6q. Between 6 months and 1 year the pick up rate is much lower, only 1-3%. Dr. Andrew Hattersley's lab in Exeter will perform this analysis free of charge in children with onset < 6 months (but you have to pay for transport of the specimen to the UK), regardless of the current age of the child. See the website www.diabetesgenes.org and <http://projects.exeter.ac.uk/diabetesgenes/rarediabetes/index.htm> for further information.

IDF activities

The IDF Consultative Section for Childhood Adolescent Diabetes has been upgraded to a Task Force. ISPAD met with IDF President Jean-Claude Mbanya at the IDF meeting in Montreal for discussions. Denis Daneman has been nominated to lead this Task Force. Toni Moran has been appointed as ISPAD's representative in IDF's Task Force for Insulin.

HbA_{1c} Consensus meeting

ISPAD contacted IFCC and then IDF to invite the stakeholders of the 2007 HbA_{1c} Consensus to a new Consensus Meeting. IDF hosted this meeting in Montreal. The following statement was unanimously agreed upon:

1. HbA_{1c} test results should be standardized worldwide, including the reference system and results reporting.
2. The IFCC reference system for HbA_{1c} represents the only valid anchor to implement standardization of the measurement.
3. HbA_{1c} results are to be reported by clinical laboratories worldwide in SI (Système Internationale) units (mmol/mol – no decimals) and derived NGSP units (% - one decimal), using the IFCC-NGSP master equation (DCCT units).

5. HbA1c conversion tables including both SI (IFCC) and NGSP units should be easily accessible for the diabetes community.
6. Journals are strongly recommended to require that submitted manuscripts report HbA1c in both SI (IFCC) and NGSP/DCCT units.
7. The above consensus recommendations apply through 2011, when they will be discussed again at the next consensus meeting at the IDF meeting in Dubai December 2011.

Alan Drash Memorial

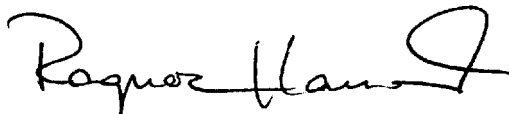
Allan Drash, one of the leaders of ISPAD (formerly ISGD), has recently passed away. He has been a brilliant scientific advisor for many ISPAD members, a great educator to all those involved in diabetes care and an outstanding advocate for all issues concerning children with diabetes. He served on the first ISGD Advisory Council from 1976 – 1980, and was the second president of ISGD for two terms from 1981-1984-1987. Graduates of the Pittsburgh program headed by Allan Drash for more than a quarter century populate an astounding number of academic positions and especially division chief positions, and include many distinguished members of ISPAD. In 2006 he was awarded our highest honor, the ISPAD Prize of Achievement.

He will be remembered to those upcoming ISPAD generations not only for his numerous achievements but also through the ISPAD Allan Drash Fellowship. Starting in 2006, ISPAD has been awarding an annual 6 week clinical fellowship for applicants below 45 years in his name.

Distinctions

Professor Zvi Laron has been bestowed with the degree of Knight, First Class, of the Order of the White Rose of Finland, for his extraordinary achievements in the fields of diabetology and endocrinology, and in particular for his merits in incorporating Finnish scientists to the international diabetes research network

With very best wishes to you all for relaxing holidays and a prosperous 2010,



Ragnar Hanas
ISPAD Secretary General
Dec 22, 2009