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October 2014 ISTH ENewsletter

Title: Save with Early Registration for ISTH 2015 Toronto

Don't miss the opportunity to reserve your attendance for ISTH 2015. By registering early, you enjoy [significantly reduced registration rates](#) and the ability to reserve your preferential [hotel accommodation](#) closest to the meeting venue. The event brings together clinicians and scientists from across the world to share the most cutting-edge scientific discoveries and the latest in diagnostic and therapeutic approaches. This is an opportunity to discuss critical issues facing research in a space that fosters networking, collaboration and innovation.

[Register now](#) to receive the Early Registration Congress rate, which will result in substantial savings!

Please note that abstract submissions open on December 1, 2014 and the deadline is February 4, 2015. There is no better place to showcase your best work and interact with peers!

[Many thanks to our industry partners for their confirmed support of ISTH 2015 as supporters and exhibitors.](#)

Quick Links:

[Program At-A-Glance](#)

[Plenary Sessions](#)

[Hotel Information](#)

[Registration Information](#)

[About Toronto](#)

Title: Check Out the State-of-the-Art Symposia Program

We are proud to announce a large number of top-level State-of-the-Art symposia speakers for ISTH 2015 in Toronto. For our next year's congress we have broadened the topics to include transfusion and clinical cardiovascular. Every day during the three full congress days there will be seven parallel State-of-the-Art symposia. Each symposium will have two or three speakers chosen from the best in the field. Every speaker - 53 in total - will also contribute a chapter, corresponding to their lecture,



for the State-of-the-Art 2015 book, which is a supplement to JTH. [Check out the program in advance](#) on the Congress website so that you can plan your attendance at the congress optimally.
-Sam Schulman, ISTH 2015 Congress President

Title: World Thrombosis Day 2014 – Successful Launch and Global Impact

On behalf of the ISTH and the members of the World Thrombosis Day Steering Committee, we would like to say **Thank You** for the incredible support and collaboration we have received from around the world in launching World Thrombosis Day. More than 175 organizations from more than 65 countries organized hundreds of events on October 13. Thanks to the efforts of countless individuals, World Thrombosis Day reached millions around the world! We are truly humbled and amazed by the enthusiasm, numbers, creativity and impact of our inaugural WTD.

Did you miss it?

[Read WTD's Burden of Disease Paper: Thrombosis: a major contributor to the global disease burden published in *JTH* on October 13](#)

[Read the commentary on World Thrombosis Day published in *The Lancet*](#)

Efforts included: press conferences, TV interviews, creative videos, professional seminars, political briefings, the development and performance of a dedicated thrombosis dance in Malaysia, the organization of a WTD marathon in Egypt, a flash mob of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, and public information campaigns on a local market in the Netherlands (just to name a few).

Please visit www.worldthrombosisday.org to review reported activities by country as well as to [browse our photo gallery](#).

Here is just a very brief snapshot of the impact of WTD from a few days after October 13:

- **175+** 2014 WTD partners; already we are receiving requests to participate in 2015.
- **65+** countries took part in WTD awareness building activities on/around October 13; the actual reach is likely much greater!
- **Millions** of people reached around the world via the media for our first day. An early snapshot shows media placements on all inhabited continents around the world!



- **9 million** impressions from a WTD #ClotChat on Twitter with Steering Committee Chairman Dr. Gary Raskob and in collaboration with the American Heart Association and the American Society of Hematology.
- **4 million** impressions with the hashtag #WTDDay14 on Twitter. #WTDDay14 was a no. 1 top trending hashtag on Symplur on October 13!
- **85,000+** impressions via our WTD Facebook page on October 13 alone; it took just four months to grow our network on Facebook to 2,000 likes and 85,000 impressions.

[Watch some WTD informational videos produced and used for WTD 2014.](#)

[Review the findings of the largest international assessment of public awareness about blood clots ever undertaken.](#)

We are expecting to provide a full first World Thrombosis Day Impact Report as part of the next ISTH e-newsletter at the end of November.

Last but not least, we would like to recognize the ISTH World Thrombosis Day Sponsors:

Title: Don't Forget! Renew Your Membership for 2015

With 2015 set to be a landmark year for the ISTH, especially with [ISTH 2015](#) in Toronto and growing educational and training opportunities, secure your ISTH membership now to ensure your benefits continue for the coming year. **And, for a limited time, renew for multiple years to receive a discount!**

New ISTH members – the ISTH multiyear discount applies to you also!

Renew or join before December 31, 2014, to receive a discount on a multiyear renewal! Regular members will receive a discount of 10 USD for a 2-year membership and a discount of 15 USD for a 3-year membership. All other member types will receive 5 USD off a 2- or 3-year membership.

In addition, those who renew before December 15, 2014, will be entered in a raffle to win one of the following: a one-year gift subscription to JTH, a free 1-year extension to your ISTH membership, or an ISTH messenger-style bag filled with great ISTH giveaways!



Your ISTH membership benefits continue to grow and allow you to connect and participate with our ever growing thrombosis and hemostasis community!

Specifically, you will continue to receive:

- Subscription to our highly regarded publication, the Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis (JTH)
- Significantly discounted registration fees for ISTH 2015, SSC meetings and other ISTH-sponsored educational programs and activities
- Access to educational materials, dedicated e-learning courses and webinars
- Eligibility for travel grants to attend congresses and meetings (only Associate & Reach-the-World members)
- Access to the ISTH Career Center online
- Network via the online membership directory
- Eligibility to hold elected and/or appointed offices
- Vote on Society matters and nominate and vote in elections
- Serve on SSC subcommittees and working groups

ISTH membership is valid for one calendar year, unless indicated otherwise, and must be renewed each year to continue receiving benefits. To learn more, [take a look at our membership brochure](#).

Questions? Contact ISTH Membership at membership@isth.org or via phone at +1 919 929-3807.

Title: ISTH Membership Survey Deadline Extension: We Need Your Input!

Deadline extended to November 3. Please take a few minutes to complete our [ISTH Satisfaction Survey](#). Your feedback will give us much needed information for consideration as the ISTH continues to grow its program, activities and membership benefits. **This survey is for members and non-members alike.** Our goal with this survey is to learn more about your overall satisfaction with ISTH programs and activities. With your help, we hope to improve the impact and the value of ISTH. Results will be analyzed and shared with you in early 2015.

Title: Young Professionals Task Force Extends Outreach and Invites Participation

-Submitted by Nicoletta Riva, YPTF Member





ISTH's **Young Professionals Task Force (YPTF)**, created shortly after the ISTH 2013 Congress in Amsterdam, aims to promote clinical, research and educational activities focused on young investigators. Aligned with the Society's mission and programs, we are trying to increase the awareness of the numerous opportunities already offered to young professionals and to facilitate the creation of new activities. Through the use of targeted advertisements and social media, we would like to extend our outreach to as many junior clinicians and researchers interested in the field of thrombosis and hemostasis as possible.

The **Reach-the-World (RTW) fellowship** provides financial support for young investigators from developing countries to perform research or clinical training at host institutes known for their expertise in this area. The ISTH accepted the suggestion of the YPTF to increase the age of the target audience, and this has been extended up to 39 years old. We are also trying to develop a database of potential host laboratories.

The Society has recently begun hosting **online webinars**, which facilitate the educational development through discussions of practical issues in thrombosis and hemostasis and also enable young investigators to ask questions directly to renowned established researchers. Several clinical topics have already been covered, such as pediatric thrombosis, thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura, women and coagulation disorders and von Willebrand disease. Additional subjects, including basic science topics, will soon be explored on a monthly basis. In this regard, we are working on an **Expert/Young Professional Partnership Project**, where early career investigators may partner with the webinar expert professionals in order to develop a project (e.g. write a critical review or other educational activities).

Moreover, the newly-formed **ISTH Guidance and Guideline (G&G) committee** is also eager to have young professionals assisting with the development of new clinical guidelines and guidance statements.

Finally, during the **ISTH 2015 Congress in Toronto**, we would like to organize a meeting for all young professionals to meet and connect. Best evidences in medicine derive from large multicenter trials and this initiative may help to create a network for future international collaborations. The SSC 2014 Conference in Milwaukee was a great occasion for young professionals to meet and interact with established researchers, especially during the "Meet the Mentor" session. We would highly recommend attendance to such meetings in future congresses. The "Trainee Day" at the SSC 2014 Conference provided useful information on how to identify the right mentor, negotiate the first job and plan the career. I also found the talk about how to write an application for a grant particularly helpful.



Looking forward to new upcoming activities aimed at young professionals during the ISTH 2015 Congress, I hope to see you all in Toronto.

For more information on the YPTF, or to get involved, please contact [Lacey Schmeidler](#), ISTH Program Coordinator.

Title: More than 90 Attend First ISTH Education Course in Moscow, Russia

More than 90 participants from across Russia as well as Macedonia, Slovakia, Serbia and Montenegro attended the ISTH Education Course on thrombosis, thrombophilia, DIC and thrombolytic therapy in Moscow, Russia on September 17-19.

First Moscow State Medical University hosted the ISTH sponsored event, which was organized by Dr. Igor Bokarev, Dr. Anton Ilich, Dr. Ludmila Popova, Dr. Tatiana Kondrateva, Dr. Maria Matveeva, and Dr. Ekaterina Shelest.

“The most surprising thing was that we had around 100 participants when we only expected 50-60,” Ilich said. “We are proud that we organized the first ISTH Educational Course in Russia, and we hope this is not the last one.”

Lectures were provided by some of the top researchers in the field of thrombosis and hemostasis, and participants left the event asking when they would be able to attend the next course in Russia.

“All lectures were very interesting and all useful, without exception,” Ilich said. “Some participants were more interested to hear about new understanding of thrombophilia testing from Professor [Frits] Rosendaal. For others, it was the latest data in the hemophilia area from Professor [Nigel] Key. Professor [Alexsandr] Medvedev shared his great experience in surgery treatment of pulmonary embolism, and Professor [Igor] Bokarev presented an exciting lecture about the modern understanding of DIC.”

Educational Courses like this one are part of an ongoing effort by ISTH to increase the opportunity to present information customized to the scientific/medical needs, cultures and learning styles of target participants in different countries around the world.



“These courses are very important, mostly for clinicians,” Ilich said. “Participants have an opportunity in a couple of days to totally update their knowledge in their field of interest. Moreover, they can get information directly from some of the world’s leading specialists. We hope that better educated clinicians will be able to decrease the morbidity and mortality from thrombosis in Russia.”

Educational Courses also advance ISTH’s mission to foster international opportunities for collaboration and growth. “These international events are important steps in the cooperation between different countries,” Ilich explained. “That is very important for the worldwide development of science.”

Read more about speakers and lectures at this event in the [education committee report](#).

If you would like to organize an education course, [you can apply here](#). Or to see upcoming education courses [click here](#).

Title: RTW Fellowships – Deadline Coming Soon!

Don’t forget to submit your application by January 1 for the ISTH Reach-the-World Fellowship program! The program offers eligible participants from developing countries the opportunity to build knowledge and expertise in one or all of the areas of medical care, laboratory methods and/or research. The Society provides fellows with financial support for travel, accommodation and living expenses for a fellowship period of up to four months. **Applications are reviewed June 1 and January 1 of each year.** [Click to learn more and apply!](#) Please share this with your colleagues in developing countries.

The ISTH Reach-the-World Fellowship Program is supported in part by an unrestricted educational grant from Bayer Healthcare.

Title: Sign Up Now! December Webinar on High Throughput Platelet Assays

Sign up for the next ISTH webinar on December 10, 2014! The webinar, titled, “High Throughput Platelet Assays,” will be led by notable speakers Johan Heemskerk (University of Maastricht, The Netherlands) and Tim Warner (Barts & the London School of Medicine & Dentistry, United Kingdom).



The webinar will cover two important topics:

- **Part I:** Born aggregometry to high throughput 96 well plates; which test should we use?
- **Part II:** Monitoring platelet aggregation under flow: from commercial to custom built assays

[>>FREE Webinar registration is now open online here.](#)

[>> Missed a webinar this year? Watch past webinars online for free!](#)

The ISTH Academy, the online education arm of the Society, hosts a series of webinars on practical thrombosis and hemostasis issues that scientists and physicians frequently confront. These webinars allot time for participants to ask questions and cover the latest information on relevant topics.

[Be sure to register for the last webinar of 2014!](#)

Additionally, ISTH Academy has held four previous webinars in 2014, which are now available to download and listen to for free! See the topics below:

Advances in Pediatric Thrombosis
Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (TTP): New Insights in Pathogenesis and Treatment Modalities
Women and Coagulation Disorders
von Willebrand Disease (VWD): New Insights

Simply go to <http://www.prolibraries.com/isth/>, create an account, and then view the webinar.

Title: ISTH Guidance Development Process – Proposals for Topics Invited

The ISTH, particularly through the excellent work of our [Scientific and Standardization Committee \(SSC\)](#) and its subcommittees, has developed recommendations to provide guidance on specific clinical (therapeutic and/or diagnostic) questions of broad interest and applicability to the ISTH membership and wider medical/scientific community. The ISTH invites our colleagues from around the world to submit requests and/or proposals for the development of guidance documents.

To help with this goal, the Society has developed a new process for guidance submission under the leadership of the newly reconstituted [Guidelines and Guidance Committee](#). Guidance documents produced by the ISTH are brief, focused statements of informed opinion on the diagnosis and management of disorders of hemostasis and thrombosis by experienced clinicians who are recognized authorities in the field and well acquainted with the existing medical and scientific literature. These statements are primarily intended to provide direction to practitioners



for the management of disorders which lack data from randomized clinical trials for high level evidence based recommendations.

[Please read here more information on the development process of guidance documents, the Guidelines and Guidance Committee as well as how to propose topics for guidance development.](#)

Title: SSC Subcommittee on Platelet Physiology Opens Project to Gather Information on Patients with PT-VWD

Only 53 patients have been reported with platelet type von Willebrand disease (PT-VWD) worldwide. Most of these patients included in the PT-VWD registry www.pt-vwd.org are currently inaccessible with limited follow up. Information about the disease is still lacking, particularly with respect to bleeding phenotype and severity of bleeding symptoms, phenotype-genotype correlations, standardized platelet aggregation-based testing and the need for routine DNA analysis for diagnosis. The [SSC Subcommittee on Platelet Physiology](#) is opening a new project designed to address this need.

This project aims to gather detailed information about the clinical and laboratory phenotypes of patients with PT-VWD as well as the current treatment practices, challenges and complications. New, non- previously explored information about pregnancy and pregnancy-associated complications with this disease will be sought.

PT-VWD remains underdiagnosed and sometimes misdiagnosed. The correct identification is critical to the treatment decision and life-threatening bleeding can occur if not diagnosed/treated appropriately, particularly at times of hemostatic challenges such as surgery, pregnancy and childbirth. Moreover, there is evidence to suggest that abnormalities beyond the bleeding condition may be associated with PT-VWD.

Over the years it has proven extremely difficult to capture the required information about these patients and worldwide cooperation is critical to gather the information required to support evidence-based diagnosis and management of this functional platelet defect.

To help in this effort, [take this survey](#).





Title: SSC Control of Anticoagulation Subcommittee Launches Anticoagulant Nomenclature Standardization Project

Oral anticoagulation options have exploded in the past few years. In addition to warfarin, we now have the option of using dabigatran, rivaroxaban, apixaban and edoxaban for a variety of clinical thrombotic disorders. When compared to warfarin and other vitamin K antagonists, these new medications have specific targets of action which allow for more predictable and consistent activity. Initially described as novel/new oral anticoagulants (NOACs), it was quickly realized that these medications will not be new forever. Additionally, there have been reports that the NOAC abbreviation may have serious consequences, since it could be interpreted as “NO AntiCoagulation,” when quite the opposite is intended.

To help address this issue, the [Control of Anticoagulation Subcommittee](#) of the SSC is currently in the process of developing a recommendation for a uniform nomenclature to describe this new class of oral anticoagulants. Proposed suggestions include non-vitamin K oral anticoagulants (NOACs), target specific oral anticoagulants (TSOACs), direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs), and others. Input from a multi-national group of thrombosis and anticoagulation experts will help to inform this guidance statement. Results of the survey and initial recommendations should be available in 2015 at the ISTH meeting in Toronto.

[Learn more about the project online here.](#)

Title: Call for Participants in Pregnancy Study by SSC Subcommittee on Women's Issues

The SSC Subcommittee on [Women's Issues in Thrombosis and Haemostasis](#) is currently looking for participants in its study: **The use of TEG/ROTEM in Pregnancy and Pregnancy Associated Complications.**

There is evidence from literature that Thromboelastography® (TEG®) and Thromboelastometry (ROTEM®) may not be used in full capacity to diagnose/monitor pregnancy associated coagulopathies. This worldwide survey will provide a chance to gather data about the current practice of TEG/ROTEM during normal pregnancy, pregnancy associated complications, or during the postpartum period.

>>[For more information, visit the SSC Subcommittee on Women's Issues in Thrombosis and Hemostasis project page here.](#)



Title: New SSC Communications in the *Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis (JTH)*

The SSC publishes official reports, recommendations and deliberations regarding practical matters of research standards, methods and nomenclature in JTH. In October 2014, the following subcommittees published recommendations in JTH:

Subcommittee on Haemostasis and Malignancy: [Prevention of venous thromboembolism in hospitalized medical cancer patients: guidance from the SSC of the ISTH](#)

Subcommittee on Factor VIII, Factor IX and Rare Coagulation Disorders: [An international collaborative study to establish the World Health Organization 2nd International Standard for Factor VII Concentrate: communication from the SSC of the ISTH](#)

Subcommittee on Factor XIII/Fibrinogen: [Value assignment to the WHO 3rd International Standard for Blood Coagulation Fibrinogen Plasma \(09/264\): communication from the SSC of the ISTH](#)

[Find the full list of the latest SSC Communications online here.](#)

Title: JTH Editors' Picks for October & Call for Papers

The JTH is the official journal of the Society and is the leading medical journal in the fields of thrombosis and hemostasis. Its current impact factor is 5.55.

Editors Pieter Reitsma and Frits Rosendaal welcome submissions to JTH and encourage you to click here to submit your clinical or basic research to one of the highest ranked journals in the field of hematology! <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jth>

>>[To access the JTH Editors' Picks for October 2014, click here.](#)

Did you know?

You can find **past ISTH Congress abstracts** (years 2003-2014) [online via the JTH website.](#)



Sidebar Content:

Title: Important ISTH 2015 Deadlines

Abstract Submission Opens: December 2014
Abstract Submission Deadline: February 4, 2015
Early Registration Deadline: March 11, 2015
ISTH 2015 Dates: June 20-25, 2015

Title: ISTH Membership - New Members for September 2014

Thank you to our new and renewing ISTH members. With your membership, we continue to work toward our mission of advancing the understanding, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of thrombotic and bleeding disorders. Your support doesn't end with becoming a member though. We hope you'll continue to support the ISTH throughout the year by participating in surveys, attending events, volunteering for committees and subcommittees and much more.

Please welcome our new members; see our comprehensive list online.

Title: ISTH Team Welcomes Luke Blount

The ISTH is pleased to announce that Luke Blount has joined its expanding marketing team as Content Specialist. Luke will act as the primary content creator, writer, and communication strategist for the ISTH. He is an award-winning writer and videographer with a decade of experience in communications and public relations. Previously working as a Communications Specialist for a large nonprofit organization in Texas, USA, Luke also holds a Bachelor's degree in Professional Writing. In addition to his background in communications, Luke served two years as an AmeriCorps VISTA helping rebuild homes in Galveston, Texas, USA, after Hurricane Ike. A native Texan, Luke recently moved to North Carolina, USA, with his wife, Nikki.

Title: Future ISTH Education Courses Calendar

[Belgrade, Serbia](#)

April 13-17, 2015

[Ampang, Malaysia](#)

April 25-26, 2015



Title: Related Meetings Calendar

[5th Transfusion Medicine Congress in Belgrade](#)

November 6-8, 2014. Belgrade, Serbia

[Portuguese Society of Hematology Annual Meeting](#)

November 20-22, 2014. Lisbon, Portugal

[Australian Vascular Biology Society 2014 Scientific Meeting](#)

November 26-28, 2014. Adelaide, Australia

[56th Annual Meeting and Exposition of the American Society of Hematology](#)

December 6-9, 2014. San Francisco, CA, USA

[Hemostasis & Thrombosis Congress in Dubai UAE](#)

January 22-23, 2015. Dubai, UAE

[Maastricht Consensus Conference on Thrombosis](#)

February 11-13, 2015. Maastricht, the Netherlands