WHL NEWSLETTER

News from the World Hypertension League (WHL).
A division of the International Society of Hypertension, and in official relations with the
World Health Organization.

No. 68, December 1999

WHL News

1999 WHO/ISH Hypertension Guidelines

The primary aim is to offer balanced information to guide clinicians, rather than rigid rules that would constrain their judgement about the management of individual patients, who differ in their personal, medical, social, economic, ethnic, and cultural characteristics.

The guidelines are written for a global audience representing communities that vary widely in the nature of their health system and in the availability of resources. The goal of these, however, is universally the same; namely, to lower blood pressure and other risk factors in order to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease.

The full guidelines were published in:

- Journal of Hypertension, 1999; 17: 151–83
- Clinical and Experimental Hypertension, 1999; 21, Blood Pressure, 1999

and are available at:

- http://www.who.int/ncd/cvd/HT-Guide.html

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Scientific News

Algorithm for long-term monitoring of the hypertensive patient

The Slovak League against Hypertension attempted to create a system for long term diagnostic management of the hypertensive patient. The system could help to prevent organ damage due to hypertension. The algorithm is the result of joint efforts of members of the Slovak League. The criteria were discussed at the last annual meeting of the League. The goal was to determine the optimal condition with regard to medical and economical aspects of long term monitoring of the hypertensive patient. This kind of activity is an important function of hypertension leagues.

For further information please contact:

Professor Stefan Farsky
Chairman
Slovak League against Hypertension
Zelená 3, Dom srda
03608 Martin, Slovakia
http://www.zdnetmail.com

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Directory of WHL Members

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<td>Uruguay</td>
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<td>Prof. A. J. Reyes</td>
<td>Inst. of Cardiovascular Theory</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prof. John E. Hall</td>
<td>Dept. Physiology &amp; Biophysics</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Heart Association Council</td>
<td>2500 North State Steet</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Hypertension Association</td>
<td>324 East 30th Street, New York, NY 10016</td>
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<tr>
<td>USA</td>
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<td>Supporting Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Astra Hässle AB, Mülndal, Sweden</td>
<td>Knoll AG, Ludwigshafen, Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bayer AG, Wuppertal, Germany</td>
<td>Merck &amp; Co., Inc, Whitehouse, NJ, USA</td>
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<td>Brocades Pharma BV, AC Leiderdorp, The Netherlands</td>
<td>Nihon Schering KK, Osaka, Japan</td>
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<td>Byk-Gulden, Konstanz, Germany</td>
<td>Omron Healthcare Europe BV, Amsterdam</td>
</tr>
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<td>F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland</td>
<td>Parke-Davis, Morris Plains, NJ, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glaxo Research &amp; Development Ltd, Uxbridge, Middlesex, United Kingdom</td>
<td>Roussel Uclaf, Romainville, France</td>
</tr>
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<td>Institut de Recherche Internationales Servier, Courbevoie, France</td>
<td>Zeneca Pharma UK, Macclesfield, United Kingdom</td>
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WHL Materials

The World Health Report 1999
Making a Difference

"Global leadership and advocacy for health remain critical missing ingredients in the formula for making a difference and conveying evidence to the highest level of government. We need to remind prime ministers and finance ministers that they are health ministers themselves and that investments in the health of the poor can enhance growth and reduce poverty."

Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland
Director-General of WHO

Part 1: Making a difference in people’s lives
1. Health and development in the 20th century
2. The double burden: emerging epidemics and persistent problems

Part 2: Making a difference in the 21st century
3. Meeting the challenges: health systems development
4. Rolling back malaria
5. Combating the tobacco epidemic
6. Making a difference

Copies of the report may be obtained from:
WHO Marketing and Dissemination
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
Fax: (+41) 22 791 48 57
1999, xxi + 121 pages (English and French)
ISBN 92 4 156 194 7, Sw.fr. 15.– / US$ 13.50
Developing Countries: Sw.fr. 10.50
bookorders@who.ch
WHL News continued

THE PAN AMERICAN HYPERTENSION INITIATIVE (PAHI)

Dr. George A.O. Alleyne, Director, Pan American Health Organization and Dr. Claude Lenfant, Director, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

Hypertension is the most prevalent cardiovascular disease in the Americas. If national prevalence estimates from well conducted epidemiology studies are applied to the Americas, then approximately one in four adults or about 140 million have elevated blood pressure warranting treatment or some form of monitoring. In the Americas, as in most nations, hypertension control rates are less than optimal. Throughout most of the world, less than 1/4 of hypertensive patients are adequately controlled. To address this problem, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) have jointly proposed a Pan American Hypertension Initiative (PAHI). A call for action was issued at the conclusion of a conference on “Global Shifts in Disease Burden: The Cardiovascular Disease Pandemic”. This conference was co-sponsored by the Pan American Health Organization, the World Health Organization, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and the Fogarty International Center. The meeting was held at PAHO Headquarters in May 1998. Nineteen countries in the Americas as well as major scientific organizations participated.

To develop PAHI, PAHO and NHLBI invited potential partners to a joint planning meeting on “Translating Science into Action”. The meeting was hosted by the NHLBI in March 1999 at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. Representatives from Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Uruguay, the United States, and international scientific organizations attended the meeting. The purpose was to jointly prioritize actions to reduce the burden of hypertension in the Americas and to identify areas of mutual cooperation to implement those priorities. The current status of hypertension prevention and control throughout the Region was discussed. The delegates also identified barriers that need to be overcome to make this initiative a reality. The meeting culminated in the development of a joint PAHI statement, outlining proposed activities for the future. The PAHI statement and further information will be posted on the WHL website, www.mco.edu/whl/hist.html.

In addition to PAHO, NHLBI and delegates to the March 1999 meeting, six international organizations have enthusiastically endorsed the joint PAHI statement. The partners have indicated their willingness to collaborate in this international initiative. The international organizations include the World Hypertension League, the Inter-American Society of Hypertension, the Pan American Network of CAREMEN Programs, the InterAmerican Society of Cardiology, the InterAmerican Heart Foundation, and the Sociedad Latinoamericana de Nefrologia e Hipertension.

PAHI’s mission will be directed towards advocacy, raising public and professional awareness and providing a forum for consultation.

Future issues of the WHL Newsletter will feature a summary of the March 1999 planning meeting, progress reports, and articles from different countries on the Pan American Hypertensive Initiative.

People

In October 1999 at the general Assembly of the Israeli Society of Hypertension, Professor J. Reuven Viskoper was elected as president and Professor G. Boner as secretary. The address is: Barzilai Medical Centre, Dept. of Medicine, Ashkelon 78306, Israel.
Tel. (+972) 7 674 5710
Fax: (+972) 7 674 5712
e-mail: revenv@barzi.health.gov.il

In May 1999, Dr. Ilkka Tikkanen was elected for a two-year term as president and Dr. Ilkka Kantola as secretary general of the Finnish Hypertension Society, Turku University Hospital, Department of Internal Medicine, Kiinamyllynkatu 4-8, 20520 Turku, Finland.
Tel. (+358) 2 261 1611
Fax: (+358) 2 261 2030
e-mail: ilkka.kantola@tyks.fi

The Dominican Society of Hypertension accepted a new program for the period 1999–2002. It has five points: (1) Organizing the I. Congreso Nacional de Hipertension de Cuba (see calendar), as coordinators of the Caribbean Society of Hypertension together with the Grupo Nacional de Hipertension from Cuba; (2) A national survey of the prevalence of HTA in older adults (>60 years) together with the Department of Public Health of the Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo; (3) Three short courses on hypertension guidelines for primary care physicians.
People continued

The new address of the **Hellenic Society of Hypertension** is 111, Vas. Sofias Ave., 11527 Athens, Greece.
Tel.: (+30) 1 646 9358
Fax: (+30) 1 640 0767

In June 1999, Dr. Yung-Zu Tseng was elected as president and Dr. Jiunn-Lee Lin as secretary general of the **Taiwan Society of Cardiology** for a two-year term. The address is: 5F, No. 4, Sec. 1, Jen-Ai Road, Taipei 100, Taiwan, Republic of China.
Tel.: (+886) 2239 64 656
Fax: (+886) 2239 64 658
e-mail: tsoc@mail.hato.com.tw

Professor P. Sareli was elected for a two-year term as president of the **Southern African Hypertension Society**, Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, Dept. of Medicine, PO Bertsham 2013, South Africa.
Tel.: (+27) 11 933 9295
Fax: (+27) 11 938 6945
e-mail: PSARELI@iafrica.com

**Impressum**

The objectives of the WHL are to promote the detection, control and prevention of arterial hypertension in populations. The World Hypertension League (WHL) is a federation of leagues, societies and other national bodies devoted to this goal. Individual membership is not possible. The WHL is a division of the International Society of Hypertension (ISH), and is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Secretariat:
Medical College of Ohio, Dept. of Medicine, P.O. Box 10008, 3000 Arlington Ave, Toledo, OH 43699-0008, USA
Phone: (+1) 419 383-6016, Fax: (+1) 419 383 5360
E-mail: gmohnollen@mco.edu
Internet: http://www.mco.edu/whl

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P. Sleight (Oxford), President
C. Lenfant (Bethesda), President Elect
D. Ganten (Berlin-Buch), Past President
L. Lisheng (Beijing), Vice-President
P.J. Mulrow (Toledo, Ohio), Secretary General
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A. Chockalingam (Ottawa), Adviser, Patient Education Project
M.M. Ibrahim (Cairo), Adviser, Developing Countries

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J. Pötzsch, Editor; E. Pisch, Editorial Assistant

**Editorial Office:**
Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC) Robert-Rössle-Str. 10, 13125 Berlin-Buch, Germany,
Phone: (+49) 30 9489 4533, Fax: (+49) 30 9489-4589
E-mail: poetzsch@mdc-berlin.de
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**Calendar**

**2nd International Conference on Cardiovascular Genomics**
January 31–February 1, 2000
Miami, FL, USA

**Information:** Cambridge Healthtech Institute, 1037 Chestnut Street
Newton Upper Falls, MA 02464, USA
Fax: (+1) 617 630-1325

**5th Scientific Meeting of the Hypertension in Diabetes EASD Study Group**
May 19–20, 2000
Paris, France

**Information:** Dr. Peter T. Sawicki,
Heinrich-Heine University, Dept. of Metabolic Diseases, PO Box 101007,
40001 Düsseldorf, Germany
Fax: (+49) 211 811 8772

**1st Cuban Congress on Arterial Hypertension and 4th Caribbean Meeting on Arterial Hypertension**
June 14–16, 2000
Havana, Cuba

**Information:** Dr. M. Ðelfín Pérez Caballero,
“Hermanos Ameijeiras” Hospital
San Lázaro No. 701, Havana, Cuba
Fax: (+537) 335036

**15th Annual International Interdisciplinary Conference on Hypertension**
July 15–18, 2000
Las Croabas, Puerto Rico

**Information:** ISHIB, 2045 Manchester Street, NE, Atlanta, GA 30324-4110, USA
Fax: (+1) 404 875 6334

**III Latin American Congress of Hypertension**
November 1–4, 2000
Caracas, Venezuela

**Information:** Dr. Manuel Velasco (LASH)
PO Box 76333, El Márquez
Caracas 1015-A, Venezuela
Fax: (+58) 2 321 4385

**7th International Symposium on Hypertension in the Community**
December 4–6, 2000
Herzelia-on-Sea, Israel

**Information:** Symposium Secretariat
Carmel Organizers of Conferences & Events
PO Box 1912, Ramat Gan 52532, Israel
Fax: (+972) 3 575 3107