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. 115, October 2007

WHL News

Report from the WHL Executive Board Meeting in conjunction with the 17th European Meeting on Hypertension in Milan, Italy

The WHL Executive Board Meeting 2007 was held in Milan, Italy, on June 17th. In addition to several organisational issues to be solved related to the assumption of office of the new President of WHL, Liu Lisheng, and the Secretary General, Arun Chockalingam, various important topics were on the meeting agenda.

First of all, the entire board gratefully and whole heartedly thanked Patrick Mulrow for his dedicated services to WHL as Secretary General. He reported to the Board that by September this year, all transactions will be completed and handed over to the new Secretary General Arun Chockalingam so that the new Secretary’s Office can take over all its duties.

The next topic was the upcoming WHL Council Conference in Beijing on November 16th 2007.

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WHL Announcements

Next year’s World Hypertension Day will be celebrated on May 17, 2008 under the following theme:

“Measure your Blood Pressure – at Home”

The WHL Executive Board agreed on this topic as it supports WHL’s efforts to raise public awareness about hypertension. In addition, the selected theme will resonate with WHO’s major campaign to promote home blood pressure monitoring. The WHL Board requests that all WHL member societies actively participate in promoting the World Hypertension Day 2008, a fourth in the series since 2005. Each society should develop programs specific for its country. Societies that participate in World Hypertension Day will receive a special certificate commemorating their participation.

Remember – prevention-detection-treatment are the cornerstones for any successful hypertension program.

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In her new function as President Liu Lisheng invited the Board to the WHL Council Conference on November 16th which will be held in conjunction with the 6th Asian-Pacific Congress of Hypertension. She informed the Board that the Chinese Hypertension League offered a generous contribution of two nights of accommodation in Beijing, complementary registration and up to $500 USD to one representative from each of the WHL members attending the council conference.

Another topic was the World Hypertension Day (WHD). This activity was regarded as an important tool in creating and raising hypertension awareness. Reports from 32 countries who celebrated WHD were received. Consequently, WHD should be continued. The Executive Board reconfirmed May 17th as the WHD in 2008 and the subsequent years.

Finally, the revised and revamped WHL website was presented to the Board. It is planned to provide more information on member league activities on the website. As a first step, the WHD reports from member countries will be posted. Another aspect of the new website is the option to register for the electronic WHL Newsletter delivery.

Anja Kroke
Editor, WHL Newsletter

World Hypertension Day 2007

Activity Report from Turkey

The Turkish Society of Hypertension and Renal Diseases was founded in 1995 with the aim to increase awareness of hypertension and renal diseases in Turkey. The society has made several activities to reach this aim, including various regional meetings in Turkey, annual congresses of hypertension and renal diseases which started in 1999. A nationwide study of hypertension prevalence (main findings published in Journal of Hypertension, 2005; 23: 1817–1823) and hypertension related renal damage (i.e. microalbuminuria and reduced glomerular filtration rate) was initiated.

In 2006, the society started to celebrate “World Hypertension Day” (WHD) for the first time. This year, as being a part of World Hypertension League, the society has made all the activities with great ambition.

Fig. 1: Turkish version of WHD-2007 leaflet
At the WHD, the president of the Society (Prof. C. Turgan) attended a very well-known and highly watched “live” health program (called Recete) in the state television (Turkish Radio and Television). The program has been broadcasted every weekday, for the last 2 years, lasting one hour. The agenda of the whole program was WHD and its importance. A board member of the Society (Prof. O. Karatan) attended another “live” health program on the same day in another nationwide television channel (Channel A). The topic was again WHD.

The society is planning various activities for next year’s WHD. As soon as the theme is cleared, the society will finalize its preparations.

The major activities were:

1. The society has translated and adapted the “WHD 2007” leaflet (Figure 1) prepared by WHL into Turkish language. The leaflet was sent to more than 2,000 physicians, health reporters of all the daily newspapers and various health magazines. It was also put onto the society’s website (Figure 2).

2. In the morning of WHD, the society held a press conference (Figures 3 + 4). The conference has been covered by several nationwide television channels, newspapers, websites and health magazines.

3. On the webpage of the society, a question and answer platform has been prepared for the public to answer their questions related to hypertension and renal diseases. This platform has been announced in the press conference and attracted immediate public attention. Several questions were sent to the website since then.

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People

In June 2001, the board of the Hellenic Society of Hypertension changed. Dr. V. Votteas is President, Drs. D. Athanassiades, A. Tourkantonis, P. Toutouzas and N. Lefkos are Vice Presidents and D. Stamatis is General Secretary. The address of the Society is: Vas. Sophias 111, 2nd Floor, 115 27 Athens, Greece.

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Electronic Newsletter Delivery
http://www.worldhypertensionleague.org

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).

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Lawrence Beilin (Perth), Vice-President
Peter Sleight (Oxford), Past President
Arun Chockalingam (Vancouver), Secretary General

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Michael Alderman (New York)

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M. Mohsen Ibrahim (Cairo), Developing Countries
Jörg Pötzsch (Berlin), Communications

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Calendar

WHL Council Conference
in conjunction with the 6th Asian-Pacific Congress of Hypertension and 9th International Symposium on Hypertension and Related Diseases
November 16–19, 2007
Beijing, China

Information: Secretariat c/o Xinye He
Fu Wai Hospital, Beijing 100037, China
Fax: (+86-10) 6835 1990
E-mail: info@apsh2007.com

13th World Congress on
Clinical Nutrition (Nutri-Heart)
January 29–February 1, 2008
Xalapa, Mexico

Information: Dr. E. R. Silva Hernandez
Institute de Ciencias Basicas
Universidad Veracruzana
Xalapa, Mexico C.P. 9192
E-mail: esilva@uv.mx

International Conference
on Fixed Combination in the Treatment
of Hypertension and Dyslipidemia
February 7–10, 2008
Budapest, Hungary

Information: Fixed ’08 Secretariat
c/o Paragon Conventions
18, Avenue Louis-Casai, 5th Floor
1209 Geneva, Switzerland
E-mail: fixed@paragon-conventions.com

9th Nordic Public Health Conference
June 11–13, 2008
Östersund, Sweden

Information: Swedish National Institute of Public Health, Forskarens väg 3
83140 Östersund, Sweden
Fax: (+46-63) 199 602
E-mail: info@fhi.se

22nd Scientific Meeting of the
International Society of Hypertension
and 18th Meeting of
the European Society of Hypertension
June 14–19, 2008
Berlin, Germany

Information: Hypertension 2008
Conference Secretariat c/o K.I.T. GmbH & KG
Kurfürstendamm 71
10709 Berlin, Germany
Fax: (+49-30) 24603-200
Website: http://www.hypertension2008.com