

Psoriasis 2007, 2nd International Congress on Psoriasis

In Paris, Palais des Congr s, June 21-24, 2007, under the auspices of the EADV Psoriasis Taskforce, Professor Luis Dubertret organized successful 2nd International Congress on Psoriasis with some 1000 participants. It was a scientific and clinical event that takes place every third year in Paris, organized alternatively by national psoriasis clubs.

The Congress consisted of plenary sessions, workshops (14 in total) and satellite symposia. The program covered all relevant aspects of psoriasis, as follows: genetics, pharmacogenomics, comorbidity and treatment safety, and cardiovascular risk in psoriasis, with special reference to the management of severe psoriasis manifestations, systemic drugs for psoriasis (retinoids, cyclosporine and fumaric acid as well as biologicals). Special workshops were dedicated to phototherapy, extracutaneous manifestations of the disease,

treatment of psoriasis in children and pregnancy, treatment of psoriasis in specific localizations (anogenital area, nail psoriasis, scalp psoriasis). It was emphasized that no advances in the management of psoriasis could be expected without close and ethical collaboration between practitioners and pharmaceutical industries. The satellite symposium entitled Realizing the Individualized Treatment Opportunity in Psoriasis, sponsored by Wyeth (chairman, Professor Louis Dubertret), caught great attention of the audience. Four experts from Croatia took active part in the Congress, which offered an excellent opportunity for discussion and exchange of experience with colleagues from all over the world. The Congress provided a valuable contribution to the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the famous Parisian Saint Louis Hospital, and was accompanied by excellently organized and attractive social events. The 3rd Congress on Psoriasis will be organized by Professor Sterry (Germany) in three years.

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Munich International Summer Academy of Practical Dermatology

The Munich International Summer Academy of Practical Dermatology took place in Bavarian capital Munich, July 22-27, 2007. It was organized by Prof. Thomas Ruzicka and Prof. Matthias Volkenandt. For more than five decades now, Department of Dermatology, University Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich has been traditionally organizing an intensive one-week practical update (*Fortbildungswoche für Praktische Dermatologie und Venerologie*) for German speaking dermatologists at the end of July. This year, the Munich Week was for the first time organized in English, and it will be so every other year, so the next one in 2008 will be held in German. There were 500 participants from 40 countries from all over the world, including 14 professionals from Croatia, demonstrating that Prof. Ruzicka's idea for Academy internationalization proved full success.

This year's Munich International Summer Academy of Practical Dermatology was highly interesting from the scientific point of view as well as for the attractive social program performed in cooperation with the International Society of Dermatology (ISD). Dr. Luitgard Wiest, ISD Vice-President, took active part in the Opening Ceremony and as a lecturer in workshops and plenary program. The lectures were presented in lecture hall, Audimax, at Technical University, whereas practical courses/workshops and the Meet the Expert Sessions took place at Department of Dermatology, University of Munich. Very important topics were tackled at this year's Academy, on Friday, July 27 in particular: What's new in dermato-allergology, dermatosurgery and lasers, esthetic dermatology, and pediatric dermatology.



The participants with Professors Plewig and Ruzicka on Munich Fortbildungswoche, 2006



Croatian participants with Professors J. Lipozenčić and T. Ruzicka, president of Munich International Summer Academy, at Bavarian Evening in Augustinerkeller.

On July 24, 2007, there was a very successful 2nd Meeting of the Israeli-German Dermatological Group, with brilliant lecturers such as Prof. Peter Fritsch, Prof. Sarah Brenner, Prof. Eva Bröcker, etc. Lunch and refreshment and opening reception for all participants were organized at Technical University. Extraordinary Piano Recital on a Historic Grand Piano 1867 was performed by three Prof. Ruzicka's sons (aged 10, 12 and 14), Michael, Richard and Tommy. Of social events (free of charge), mention should be made of Bavarian Evening at Augustinerkeller on Tuesday, July 24,

2007, confirming once again the well-known Bavarian hospitality and spirit. On Wednesday, July 25, at 3.00 p.m., a boat trip on the Starnberg Lake was organized, followed by light dinner (Bavaria *Brotzeit* at Undosa restaurant at the lake.

We are grateful for sponsorship to ten Croatian dermatologists/venereologists. We also congratulate the organizers for this year's Academy, wishing the same success at the Munich International Summer Academy of Practical Dermatology in 2009.

Prof. Jasna Lipozenčić, MD, PhD