

9th European Congress of Endocrinology

28 APRIL – 2 MAY 2007, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY



ABSTRACT DEADLINE

The closing date for submitting abstracts for ECE 2007 is 5 November 2006

► On behalf of the Program Organizing Committee (POC) and of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC), it is our pleasure to report that the Scientific Program of the 9th European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE) is progressing rapidly.

Over the years the ECEs have become the premier event for endocrinology in Europe and are now held on an annual basis. At ECEs, attendees from all over



Europe, as well as from non-European countries, convene to learn about the latest advances in endocrine research and clinical care from leaders in the field. Scientists, physician-scientists and physicians-in-practice all share their research. The POC and the LOC are working hard to live up to the high standard we are now used to and are confident that both the venue and the program of the 9th

ECE will be attractive to all professionals interested in endocrinology and metabolism.

The 9th ECE will feature seven plenary lectures, 12 meet the expert sessions, 25 clinical and basic symposia, 12 oral communication sessions, and three poster sessions.

The scientific program has already been largely defined and covers the full range of endocrinology from basic research through to translating research into clinical practice. The topics to be covered will include:

- Novel bioactive peptides
- Pheromone, odorant and taste receptors
- Novel hormones
- Advances in adrenal hypersecretory disorders
- Novel bone hormones and regulators
- Pituitary cell biology
- Imaging in endocrinology

Over 100 distinguished international experts have confirmed their participation and will guarantee a high level of science and lectures. Another draw for delegates is the Satellite Symposia, dedicated to the most cutting-edge hot topics. We expect that the scientific contributions submitted for presentation will allow us to formulate a well-integrated programme, in order to have one of the most appealing ECE meetings organized so far. Eighty abstracts will be selected for oral communications, providing the best opportunity for young researchers to present their studies and make their contribution to the advancement of knowledge in endocrinology and metabolism.

The abstract submission deadline is 5 November 2006; please save the date and send your contribution to the 9th ECE. You will be rewarded with a unique opportunity to participate in an outstanding meeting that is all about intellectual interaction, collaboration and new ideas.

Needless to say, one more good reason for delegates to attend is the city of Budapest with its rich history and culture. Conference attendees will experience the warm hospitality of the Hungarian people and can enjoy the famous Hungarian cuisine. Our hope is that the 9th ECE will provide an occasion for informative discussion and debate, and the chance to learn and to take away new ideas for research and for clinical practice. The POC and LOC of ECE 2007 are looking forward to receiving a considerable number of scientific contributions and to welcoming many scientists to Budapest in April 2007.

IDA GERENDAI
LOC PRESIDENT

EZIO GHIGO
POC CHAIRMAN

EDITORIAL

► In the months since the launch of the European Society of Endocrinology, the Executive Committee has been focusing on setting an objective and realistic strategy for the first few years. The key overall aims have been identified as:

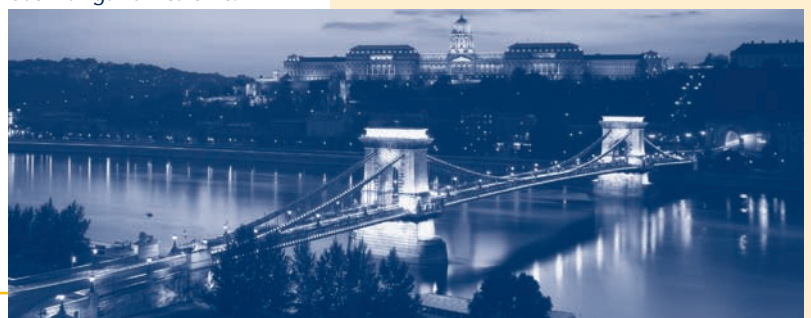
1. To promote research and education
2. To foster interaction between basic and clinical endocrinology
3. To promote high and equitable standards of clinical practice in endocrinology throughout Europe
4. To enhance the visibility and influence of endocrinology to the public and to legislators
5. To ensure that endocrinology is well represented in European fora
6. To facilitate cohesion and collaboration between all areas of endocrinology
7. To support professional activities and aspirations of basic and clinical endocrinologists

In order to realize these aims, a number of objectives have been identified over the short term and the medium- to long-term. These are:

Short term:

1. Organizing the annual congress
2. Organizing training courses
3. Publishing and supporting journals and other publications
4. Promoting communication and exchange between endocrinologists in Europe
5. Liaison with disease- and organ-related organizations
6. Collaborating with, and supporting, the European national endocrine societies
7. Promoting endocrinology within European and international organisations
8. Publicizing European initiatives and grant opportunities
9. Enhancing the quality and consistency of clinical training by collaborating with the UEMS

continued on page 2



The Geoffrey Harris Prize

It is our pleasure to announce the 2007 Geoffrey Harris Prize, generously sponsored by Ipsen. This important prize, worth €15 000, is designed for established researchers in the field of neuroendocrinology and is the first of its kind in Europe. Please contact the ESE Secretary for more details:

Professor Philippe Bouchard

Service d'Endocrinologie, Hôpital Saint Antoine, 184 rue du Faubourg Saint Antoine, 75012 Paris, France
Email: philippe.bouchard@sat.ap-hop-paris.fr

The deadline for entries is 31 December 2006 and the award will be presented at the 9th European Congress of Endocrinology in Budapest, Hungary.

10th European Congress of Endocrinology

Berlin, Germany, 3-7 May 2008

The website for ECE 2008 is now up and running at www.ece2008.com.

Make sure you keep checking the site for all the latest conference developments!

The programme organizing Co-Chairpersons are **Annette Grüters**, Vice-President of the German Endocrine Society (Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany) and **Clara V Alvarez**, ESE Executive Committee (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain).

The Congress and Exhibition Office can be contacted at:

INTERPLAN AG

Albert-Rosshaupter-Str. 65, 81369 Munich, Germany
Tel: +49-89-5482340, Fax: +49-89-54823444
Email: ece@interplan.de

Editorial - continued from page 1

In the medium- to long-term:

10. Producing guidelines and consensus statements
11. Providing educational materials, in print or on the web
12. Providing travel and research grants to young endocrinologists
13. Working with the science and general media to raise the profile of endocrinology
14. Providing public information, in print or on the web, either directly or by linking to existing sites
15. Supporting patient advocacy groups
16. Defining the role of clinical endocrinology in common lifestyle-related diseases, such as obesity and type 2 diabetes

It was agreed that it was essential to keep clinical and basic endocrinology together and that collaboration with other international bodies such as the Endocrine Society should be on the basis of friendly competition. Industry should be influenced to bring their hosted delegates to the ECE, rather than to Endo.

In order to achieve these objectives, several sub-committees have been set up and I will discuss these in more detail in the next issue.

STEVEN WJ LAMBERTS

Introducing your new ESE Executive Committee



Bruno Allolio (Webmaster)

Bruno Allolio completed his doctor of medicine degree at the University of Cologne, Germany, and remained as a Clinical Associate and Fellow in Endocrinology in the Department of Medicine until his promotion to the position of consultant. In 1988 he received the Schöller-Junkmann award Deutsche Gesellschaft für Endokrinologie, and in 1992 became Professor of Medicine in the Department of Endocrinology at the University of Würzburg, Germany, where he now heads the Department of Endocrinology and Diabetology.

His research interests include the hypophysis, adrenal steroid synthesis and hypoparathyroidism. He currently serves on the editorial board of the *European Journal of Endocrinology*.

Rolf C Gaillard (European Union of Medical Specialists representative)

Rolf-Christian Gaillard is full Professor at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Lausanne, and Chairman of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, University Hospital, Lausanne, Switzerland.

He is President of the Section and Board of Endocrinology of the European Union of Medical Specialists and is member of the Executive Board of the European Neuroendocrine Association (ENEA). He is also a member of several international journal editorial boards.



Valdis Pirags (Committee member responsible for courses)

Valdis Pirags is Professor of Medicine at the University of Latvia. Currently he is the Chairman of the Latvian Association of Endocrinologists and a Council member of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes. He received his doctoral degree for research on acute stimulation of protein kinase C-beta by glucose in human platelets.

His main research interests are molecular medicine and the genetics of endocrine diseases. He has successfully organized several medical congresses and postgraduate courses in the Baltic region, including the 10th European Federation of Endocrine Societies Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology in 2003.

Clara V Alvarez

Clara V Alvarez graduated in Medicine at the University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Upon completion of her PhD, she continued her training at the Institut für Tumorforschung in Marburg, Germany, and later at the Department of Biological and Technical Research, University of San Raffaele, Milan, Italy. Thereafter she moved back to Spain with appointments as Associate Professor in Physiology at the University of Vigo and later at the University of Santiago de Compostela.

For the last eight years she has been heading her own research group focused on furthering our understanding of the basic mechanisms involved in pituitary and thyroid cell proliferation/differentiation. She has published articles in top peer reviewed journals and served on several editorial boards.



Fahrettin Kelestimur

Professor Fahrettin Kelestimur received his doctor of medicine degree in 1979 from the School of Medicine, University of Hacettepe, Ankara, Turkey. He trained in endocrinology at Cerrahpaşa Medical School, Istanbul, and at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, UK. He is an Executive Committee member of the ENEA.

His research interests include neuroendocrinology, reproductive endocrinology and pituitary medicine. He is the author of over 100 peer reviewed scientific articles.

REDUCED SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR ESE OFFICIAL JOURNALS TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ESE

<i>European Journal of Endocrinology</i> €60 Print only	<i>Journal of Molecular Endocrinology</i> €78 Print only
<i>Journal of Endocrinology</i> €120 Print only	<i>Endocrine-Related Cancer</i> €78 Print & online



ECE 2006

1-5 April 2006, Glasgow, UK

In April 2006 the very successful 8th European Congress of Endocrinology was hosted by the United Kingdom Society for Endocrinology at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow.

This very well organized congress had a particularly varied and interesting scientific program, from pioneering basic discipline presentations to lively clinical discussions. Once more, it confirmed that European endocrinology is alive, creative and scientifically sound.

The congress program included a series of prestigious plenary lectures and those of the European Journal of Endocrinology Prize and the Geoffrey Harris Prize winners. All of the clinical management workshops and many of the symposia topic highlights, including 'the endocrinology of psychiatric disease' and 'the thyroid and the heart', were extremely useful and constructive. Moreover, the symposia that correlated basic science with novel clinical applications, such as those dedicated to clinical lessons from G protein-coupled receptors and to the endocrine oncogenesis and management of hereditary tumors, were also very interesting. Other clinical symposia dealt with contrasting aspects of practical endocrinology, such as the controversies in clinical practice in Europe, 'anabolic hormones in sport' and 'green over-the-counter endocrinology'.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- ▶ 2327 delegates from 71 countries
- ▶ 1106 abstracts and 64 oral communications from 53 countries
- ▶ 10 plenary lectures, 22 symposia, 8 oral communication sessions, 5 clinical management workshops, 16 meet the expert sessions, 7 commercial satellites, and 1 young endocrinologist session

Among the oral communications, chosen by a selection of international experts, the sessions dedicated to clinical endocrinology (in particular the communications about pituitary adenomas) and those dedicated to neuroendocrinology and neoplasia were particularly exciting.

The congress poster sessions were also successful, well-designed and noteworthy. In particular, we would like to highlight the wide scope of the posters dedicated to clinical practice, including a number of interesting controversies in modern diagnosis and cure criteria for many different endocrine diseases, and the great number of clinical case reports, in particular those describing critical topical questions or very rare endocrine-related diseases. The news about glucose metabolism and insulin sensitivity reported in various endocrine and non-endocrine diseases in the session dedicated to diabetes was also interesting. Other

remarkable themes were described in the sessions on endocrine disruptors, endocrine neoplasia, neuroendocrinology and development.

A total of six young basic or clinical investigators (up to 35 years) received special awards supported by Novartis (€3000), one young investigator received the British Thyroid Association award (€500), and many other young researchers had travel grants.

The congress provided a vivacious social program, including sports tournaments, the welcome reception at the Glasgow Science Centre, an informal social evening at 'Tiger Tiger', and the formal dinner and lively Scottish Ceilidh at the Hilton Hotel.

In conclusion, the local Steering Committee organized a productive, interesting and exciting Congress, and we hope that the next 9th Congress in Budapest will be at least as constructive as this one.

CRISTINA RONCHI
ESE MEMBER

PAOLO BECK-PECCOZ
ESE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



POSTER SESSION AT ECE



FROM LEFT: STEVEN LAMBERTS AND JOHN WASS

The European Journal of Endocrinology Prize

The European Journal of Endocrinology Prize is awarded during the European Congress of Endocrinology to a candidate who has significantly contributed to the advancement of knowledge in the field of endocrinology through publication.

The prize consists of a certificate and €7250 plus travelling expenses, and will be presented at the 9th European Congress of Endocrinology, which takes place from 28 April–2 May 2007 in Budapest, Hungary.

Nominations should be submitted to the Chief Editor of the *European Journal of Endocrinology* by 31 December 2006:

Professor Paolo Beck-Peccoz

Istituto di Scienze Endocrine, Piano Terra, Padiglione Granelli, Ospedale Maggiore IRCCS, Via Francesco Sforza 35, 20122 Milan, Italy; Email: paolo.beckpeccoz@unimi.it

For more detailed information please check the websites: www.euro-endo.org and www.eje-online.org or contact the *European Journal of Endocrinology* Milan office at info@eje.it

Update on ESE Membership

The European Society of Endocrinology now has 811 members from 60 different countries. Three hundred and seventy five of these were voted in as members at the Annual General Meeting in Glasgow at ECE 2006 and the remainder will be voted in during ECE 2007 in Budapest next year. In the meantime, these individuals will receive all ESE information and will be eligible to vote at the 2007 Annual General Meeting.

For further details about membership and the application process please visit www.euro-endo.org or contact the ESE Secretariat at info@euro-endo.org.

ECE 2007

Registration & Abstracts

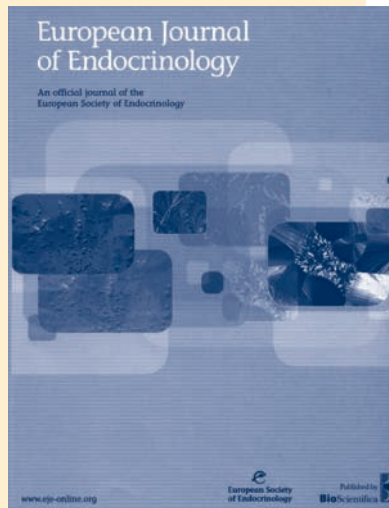
ECE 2007 takes place 28 April – 2 May. Visit the website to fill out the pre-registration form before the rush begins! A second announcement with the official registration and hotel booking form is available on the website. The closing date for abstract submissions is 5 November 2006.

<http://www.ece2007.com>

Stay in touch

The ESE Secretariat would be pleased to hear from you regarding any aspect of ESE activities. Contact Andrea Davis at info@euro-endo.org or on +44-1454-642247.

If you are a member of a national endocrine society as well as an Ordinary Member of ESE you may receive this newsletter twice. If so we apologize for the duplication and ask that you pass a copy to a colleague.



What's hot in EJE?

Frequency of the metabolic syndrome in obese Spanish pediatric population

M LÓPEZ-CAPAPÉ, M ALONSO, E COLINO, C MUSTIELES, J CORBATÓN AND R BARRIO

European Journal of Endocrinology 155(2) pp 313-319

Childhood obesity in Europe is on the increase, particularly in Spain. Obesity in both children and adults is associated with a group of metabolic disorders including dyslipidemia, hypertension and glucose intolerance. Collectively these form the metabolic syndrome (MS) which is considered a risk factor for development of cardiovascular disease. One factor that is consistently implicated in the development of MS is insulin resistance (IR), which is strongly associated with obesity. Unlike MS in adults, there is currently no standard definition of pediatric MS because so little is known about its diagnostic criteria and prevalence.

Although several studies have attempted to assess the prevalence of MS in pediatric populations, the inconsistent criteria adapted from adult diagnostic tools have produced discrepancies in the frequencies reported. Cross-country comparison is confounded by differences in population characteristics such as ethnic background, age and severity of obesity. In this study López-Capapé and colleagues set out to establish the prevalence of MS in obese Spanish children and assess its common components in order to develop standardized criteria with which to diagnose the syndrome.

Their findings suggest that the most important predictor of MS is IR, which is significantly associated with the prevalence of other MS disorders such as hypertension and impaired glucose metabolism. Importantly, IR is a good predictor of MS independent of age, ethnicity and severity of obesity, making it a key diagnostic component of MS.

López-Capapé and colleagues' results provide evidence that changes to glucose metabolism and insulin sensitivity associated with pediatric obesity increase the risk of developing MS and cardiovascular disease. As such, glucose metabolism and IR should be monitored closely in the young obese population.

ESE thanks the following organizations for providing unrestricted grants to support the setting up of the new Society: **Aventis, Eli Lilly, Ferring, GSK, Ipsen, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Pfizer, Roche, Serono**

ESE News

This document is available on the ESE website at www.euro-endo.org/news/news.htm.

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The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of ESE.

Editor


Professor Steven Lamberts
Erasmus Medical Centre, Dept of Internal Medicine, 40 Molewaterplein, 3015 GD Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Tel: +31-10-4635960; Fax: +31-10-4634937
Email: s.w.j.lamberts@erasmusmc.nl

ESE web site

www.euro-endo.org

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Forthcoming Meetings and Courses

Lobbying in the EU - How to Represent and Defend your Interests in Brussels

Brussels, Belgium, 2-3 October 2006

Contact: James Wilmott, Epsilon Events Ltd, 12 Coopers Yard, Curran Road, Cardiff Bay, CF10 5NB, UK. (Tel: +44-2920-642 704; Fax: +44-2920-642 742; Email: jwilmott@epsilonvents.com; Web: www.eulobbying.com).

77th Annual Meeting of the American Thyroid Association (ATA)

Phoenix, USA, 12-15 October 2006

Contact: Patrice Dickens. (Tel: +1-703-998-8890; Fax: +1-703-998-8893; Email: admin@thyroid.org; Web: www.thyroid.org).

ENEA 2006 - 12th Meeting of the European Neuroendocrine Society

Athens, Greece, 21-24 October 2006

Contact: ERA Ltd, 17, Asklipiou St, 10681 Athens, Greece. (Tel: +30-2103-634944; Fax: +30-2103-631690; Email: info@era.gr; Web: www.enea2006.com).

World Congress on Controversies in Obesity, Diabetes and Hypertension (CODHy)

Berlin, Germany, 26-29 October 2006

Contact: Michal Pink, Comtec, 9, Rue du Baigneur, 75018 Paris, France. (Tel: +33-1-70-36-78-20; Fax: +33-1-70-36-78-21; Email: codhy@codhy.com; Web: www.codhy.com).

197th Meeting of the Society for Endocrinology

London, UK, 6 November 2006-7 November 2006

Contact: Shirine Borbor, 22 Apex Court, Woodlands, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 4JT, UK. (Tel: +44-1454-642210; Fax: +44-1454-642222; Email: conferences@endocrinology.org; Web: www.endocrinology.org/SFE/conf.htm).

IDF 2006 - 19th World Diabetes Congress

Cape Town, South Africa, 5-7 December 2006

Contact: Congress Unit, International Diabetes Federation, Avenue Emile De Mot 19, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium. (Tel: +32-2-5431631; Fax: +32-2-5385114; Email: WorldDiabetesCongress@idf.org; Web: www.idf2006.org).

ESE POSTGRADUATE COURSES - SAVE THE DATES

2nd ESE Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology

Kosice, Slovakia, 12-14 October 2006
Contact: Ivica Lazurova, 1st Department of Internal Medicine, Medical Faculty, University Košice, Trieda SNP 1, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia (Tel: +421-55-640-3516; Email: lazurova@central.medic.upjs.sk; Website: www.ese-slovakia2006.sk).

3rd ESE Postgraduate Course in Clinical Endocrinology

Wroclaw, Poland, 20-23 September 2007
Contact: Andrzej Milewicz (Email: milewicz@endo.am.wroc.pl).