13th European Congress of Endocrinology

30 April – 4 May 2011, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

The organisation of the 13th European Congress of Endocrinology is well under way; abstract submissions are coming in ahead of the January deadline. On-line registrations and accommodation bookings are continuing to flourish prior to the March early bird deadline and our invitation to join the 25th anniversary celebrations of ECE has been accepted by over 110 invited speakers, debate leaders and meet-the-expert faculty.

The ECE 2011 Programme Organising Committee (POC) has prepared a stimulating programme which is available to view from the congress website: www.ece2011.com. The abstracts for the congress will be available on-line as usual, approximately 3 weeks prior to the congress. Once the abstracts are available, the BioSciPersonalPlanner will allow delegates to plan their time in Rotterdam making an individual ECE 2011 programme which will be available to download into personal calendars i.e. Outlook or Google.

The POC is also, for the first time, reviewing the options to allow e-posters to feature on the congress website as well as digital posters available for viewing on-line.

Continuing a theme from ECE 2010, further efforts have been taken to improve the visibility of the scientific work presented in the dedicated Poster Sessions that have been scheduled to take place daily after the main academic programme. The meet-the-expert sessions have more than doubled in number from last year and the POC has ensured that a basic strand is available to follow throughout the meeting. The sponsored satellite symposia will provide insights into the work of ESE Corporate Members as they share with us in dedicated satellite sessions at the end of the day on Sunday and Monday.

We continue to encourage our Young Investigators and have, once again, extended an invitation to the Young Active Research Group to host a symposium organised by young European physicians and scientists.

ESE continues to work towards a goal to become an enormous force in European science and medicine. We are delighted that at our 25th anniversary congress the ESE President, Professor Eberhard Nieschlag, will give a Presidential address as well as share with us in dedicated satellite sessions at the end of the day on Sunday and Monday. We are very pleased to announce that the 3 winners are:

Dr Djordje Marina from Serbia
Dr Ebo Nieschlag, ESE President
Professor Sophie Christin-Mailer from France

Many congratulations to all 3 winners! We would like to thank all of our members for your continued support, and for taking the time to take part in this questionnaire.
Exhibitors and Sponsors

The Venue

**CONGRESS VENUE:**
Congress Centre De Doelen
PO Box 972
3000 AZ Rotterdam
The Netherlands
00 31 (1) 0217 17 00

**ECE 2011 MAIN ENTRANCE ADDRESS:**
Great Hall Quarter
Congress Centre De Doelen
Schouwburgplein 50
3012 CL Rotterdam

www.dedoeelen.nl

Congress centre De Doelen is the ultimate place for this conference. Set in the heart of dynamic Rotterdam this attractive and multifunctional building houses both a concert hall and a congress centre. The building's functional architecture combines a typical 1960s style with a modern congress complex.

The congress centre is opposite the central railway station and is easy to reach via Rotterdam Airport, Schiphol Airport, only forty minutes away, or using the high-speed rail link from Brussels, London or Paris.

**Where to stay**
Eurocongress International has been appointed as the official hotel accommodation agent for ECE 2011 and will handle all related arrangements. All hotels are located within a reasonable distance from De Doelen, Conference Centre, Rotterdam. Please note that reservations will be processed on a “first come, first served” basis. Due to heavy demand and to the fact that distribution of rooms in many hotels is limited, accommodation cannot be guaranteed after 13 January 2011. For a full list of accommodation options, availability and booking information, please visit the website http://www.ece2011.com/accommodation.aspx

**How to get there**

**AIR TRAVEL**
Rotterdam Airport, which is just 8km from the city centre, is relatively small and features regular flights to many European cities such as Birmingham, London, Manchester and Paris. Regular bus transport is on hand and provides a cheap way to travel into the city centre, with a journey time of just 20 minutes. Amsterdam Schiphol Airport is also relatively close to Rotterdam with good rail links.

**BY BOAT**
From the UK you can reach Rotterdam easily by boat. Travellers can depart from Harwich docks in Hook of Holland using Stena Line and be at Rotterdam Central Station within half an hour. P&O Northsea Ferries from Hull arrives on the Maasvlakte, where a direct bus to Rotterdam is ready and waiting for foot passengers. Once in Rotterdam, the Fast Ferry brings you to the surrounding ‘Drecht’ cities. A water taxi offers you the opportunity to travel easily within the cityscape seen from the water.

**RAILWAY LINKS**
From France, there are up to 7 trains a day connecting Paris to Rotterdam in just over 3 hours. From Belgium, the Thalys network covers all main Belgian cities, providing easy connections. For more information and bookings, please visit www.thalys.com.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**
Within Rotterdam a network of buses, trams, water taxis and metro maintains excellent connections. For further information, please refer to the website http://www.ece2011.com/travel.aspx

**ESE Annual General Meeting**
The Annual General Meeting of the European Society of Endocrinology will be held at 19:00 on 3 May 2011. All ESE members are welcome!
Registration

The deadline for the early bird registration rate is 11th March 2011. On-line registration is available at www.ece2011.com

There is a reduced rate available to ESE members, saving €250 on the registration fee. To be eligible for the ESE members’ rate you must ensure that your membership renewal payment for 2011 has been paid.

Registration rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Early bird Registration</th>
<th>Standard Registration</th>
<th>On-site Registration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESE members</td>
<td>€500</td>
<td>€600</td>
<td>€650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-members</td>
<td>€750</td>
<td>€850</td>
<td>€900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESE member Fellow/Student/Nurse</td>
<td>€250</td>
<td>€350</td>
<td>€400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member Fellow/Student/Nurse</td>
<td>€500</td>
<td>€600</td>
<td>€650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accompanying Person</td>
<td>€100</td>
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<td>€150</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please note: On-site registration is available, subject to place availability. It is strongly recommended that you register in advance for the meeting. Payment will be required at the time of registration.

The registration fees for ESE Members / non-members / Fellows / Students / Nurses includes:
- Access to all congress sessions and commercial exhibition
- Delegate bag including all congress materials and a name badge
- Endocrine Abstracts
- Entrance to the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception
- All refreshment breaks during the congress

Registration does not include accommodation, tickets to the social events (unless stated) or optional excursions.

The registration fee for an accompanying person includes:
- Entrance to the Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception
- Access to the commercial exhibition
- All refreshment breaks during the congress

Further details are available at www.ece2011.com/registration.aspx

NEW FOR 2011

ESE Meeting Grant

ESE offers 50 Meeting Grants per year worth up to €400 each for ESE members to attend an ESE meeting.

ESE Meeting Grants are made as a contribution towards the total cost of attending either the annual European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE) or an ESE Training Course in accordance with the eligibility criteria. (For full details please visit http://www.euro-endo.org/prizes/about_prizes_meeting.htm)

Journal of Endocrinology

Travel Grants

The Journal of Endocrinology offers Travel Grants of €300 each to ten young scientists attending the European Congress of Endocrinology. Applicants must be a current member of ESE, under 35 years of age and be resident in a country that is not classified by the World Bank as a high income country. The travel grants are available for attendance at the annual congress if the applicant has submitted an abstract. Full details of the eligibility criteria can be found at www.ece2011.com/awards.aspx

Group registration

Special registration procedures apply for group registrations. Please use the group registration link available at www.ece2011.com/registration.aspx

CME Credits

ECE 2011 will be credited with CME points from UEMS.

MUST SEE AT ECE

Saturday 30 April 2011

17:30–19:30 OPENING CEREMONY

Geoffrey Harris Prize Lecture

SUPPORTED BY IPSEN

The 2011 Geoffrey Harris prize will be awarded to Professor Ezio Ghigo. Professor Ghigo’s lecture is titled GREHILIN: a neuroendocrine and/or metabolic story?

European Journal of Endocrinology Prize Lecture

Sunday 1 May 2011

08:30–09:15 PLENARY LECTURE 1

Disorders of sex development (DSD)

T Ogato (Japan)

17:05–17:50 PLENARY LECTURE 2

Insulin Signalling

R Kahn (USA)

Monday 2 May 2011

08:30–09:15 PLENARY LECTURE 3

Targets for the management of diabetes in 2011

J Christiansen (Denmark)

17:05–17:50 PLENARY LECTURE 4

Gonadotrophin signalling health and disease

I Huhtaniemi (Finland)

Tuesday 3 May 2011

08:30–09:15 PLENARY LECTURE 5

Endocrine hypertension

W Young (USA)

17:05–17:50 PLENARY LECTURE 6

Neurosteroids as regenerative agents in brain: Therapeutic implications for cognition and neurodegenerative disease

R Brinton (USA)

Wednesday 4 May 2011

12:30–13:15 PLENARY LECTURE 7

Genetics of bone disease

S Ralston (UK)

OBITUARY

Mario Serio

A few weeks ago, on 11 November, Mario Serio passed away in a tragic accident whilst out hunting with his dogs on what he called “his mountain” in the surroundings of Subbiano, a village close to Arezzo, Tuscany. Mario was born on 12 February 1937 and was Professor Emeritus of Endocrinology at the University of Florence where, starting from the early seventies, he fostered and educated a very well known group of basic and clinical endocrine scientists. In 1992 he was one of the founding members of the European Academy of Andrology, in 1999-2001 he was President of the Italian Endocrine Society and then, in 2004-2006, President of the Italian Society of Medical Andrology. Mario was a passionate scientist and teacher and was loved by all his co-workers, especially the youngest ones. He will be deeply missed by his family and his Italian and international colleagues and friends.

GIANNI FORTI
Most clinical endocrinologists would perceive that the progression of euthyroidism to overt autoimmune hypothyroidism (Hashimoto’s thyroiditis) is slow whilst the transition to overt autoimmune hyperthyroidism (Graves’ disease) is far more rapid. However there is a paucity of studies testing this hypothesis. Effraimidis et al, conducted a nested case-controlled study within the prospective Amsterdam autoimmune thyroid disease (AITD) cohort study in which 790 healthy euthyroid women with family history of AITD were followed for five years. Thyroid function tests were assessed annually. The results of their study suggests that progression to overt autoimmune hypothyroidism is gradual taking several years, whilst the progression to overt autoimmune hyperthyroidism is faster, occurring within months.