Notes/news

Forthcoming events

In 2002

- 20-24 Feb 3rd International Congress on Autoimmunity, Geneva, Switzerland
Contact: Professor Yehuda Shoenfeld, 3rd International Congress on Autoimmunity, PO Box 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel
Tel: 9723 514 0018. Fax: 9723 517 5674
Email: autoim02@kenes.com
- 28 Feb-3 Mar 22nd European Workshop for Rheumatology Research, Leiden, The Netherlands
Abstract deadline 15 December 2001
Contact: Professor F C Breedveld, Leiden University Medical Centre, Department of Rheumatology, PO Box 9600, 2300 RC Leiden, The Netherlands
Tel: +31 (0)71 526 3598
Fax: +31 (0)71 526 6752
Email: F.C.Breedveld@lumc.nl
Web site: www.ewrr.org
- 11-15 Mar Tenth Intensive Applied Epidemiology Course for Rheumatologists, Manchester, UK
No previous experience in epidemiology is needed. The course is residential and limited to 25 places
Contact: Ms Lisa McClair, ARC Epidemiology Unit, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PT, UK
Tel: +44 (0)161 275 5993
Fax: +44 (0)161 275 5043
Email: Lisa@fs1.ser.man.ac.uk
- 11-14 Apr OMERACT VI, Bali
Includes two modules: MRI and economics; and four workshops: patients' perceptions, imaging (healing), progressive systemic sclerosis, minimally important clinical difference and osteoarthritis
Contact: Conference Organisers Q2Q, 7 Swann Street, Old Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 6RJ, UK; or Peter Brooks, Faculty of Health Sciences, Level 1, Edith Cavell Building, Royal Brisbane Hospital, Herston 4029, Australia
Fax +44 208569 9555
Email: tony@q2q.co.uk or p.brooks@mailbox.uq.edu.au
- 23-26 Apr British Society for Rheumatology XIXth AGM, Brighton, UK
Details from: BSR, 41 Eagle Street, London WC1R 4TL, UK
Web site: www.rheumatology.org.uk
- 25-28 Apr 4th EULAR sonography course entitled "Practical use of musculoskeletal ultrasonography", Madrid, Spain
Details from: Esperanza Naredo
Email: enaredo@eresmas.com
Web site: www.eular.org/courses and www.sameint.it/eular
- 9-11 May International Congress: New Trends in Osteoarthritis, Milan, Italy
Contact: Organising Secretariat, O.I.C. S.r.l., Via Fatebenefratelli 19, 20121 Milan, Italy
Tel: +39 02 65 71 200. Fax: +39 02 65 71 270
Email: osteoarthritis@oic.it
- 10-14 May IOF World Congress on Osteoporosis, Lisbon, Portugal
Contact: IOF Secretariat, 71 cours Albert Thomas, F-69003 Lyon, France
Tel: +33 472 91 41 77
Fax: +33 472 36 90 52
Email: info@ioflyon.org
Web site: www.osteofound.org
- 26-30 May 5th European Conference on Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, Athens, Greece
Chairman Professor HM Moutsopoulos
Secretariat: Amphitriton Congress Organising Bureau
Email: hmoutsop@med.uoa.gr
Email: congress@amphitriton.gr
- 12-15 June Annual European Congress of Rheumatology, Stockholm, Sweden
Contact: Fred Wyss, Executive Secretary EULAR, Witikonstrasse 15, CH-8032, Zurich, Switzerland
Tel: +41 1 383 9690. Fax: +41 1 383 9810
Email: eular@bluewin.ch
Web site: www.eular.org
Future congresses
EULAR 2003 Lisbon, Portugal, 18-21 June 2003
EULAR 2004 Berlin, Germany, 9-12 June 2004
EULAR 2005 Vienna, Austria, 8-11 June 2005
EULAR 2006 Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 21-24 June 2006
- 27-29 June 10th International Congress on Behçet's Disease, Berlin, Germany, under the auspices of the International Society for Behçet's Disease
Up to eight young investigator awards, each of \$500, will be awarded on the basis of abstracts submitted
Contact: Professor Ch C Zouboulis, Department of Dermatology, University Medical Centre Benjamin Franklin, The Free University of Berlin, Fabeckstrasse 60-62, 14195 Berlin, Germany
Fax: 49 30 84456908
Email: zoubbere@zedat.fu-berlin.de
Web site: www.userpages.fu-berlin.de/~zoubbere
ISBD web site: www.behcet.ws
- 15-18 Aug 29th Scandinavian Congress of Rheumatology, Tromsø, Norway
Contact: Hans Nossent, Department of Rheumatology, University Hospital Tromsø, Norway
Tel: 47 776 27294. Fax: 47 776 27258
Email: 29scr2002@rito.no or revhan@rito.no
- 21-22 Sep Translational Research in Autoimmunity, Pavia, Italy

- Organising secretariat: eventi S.R.L., Corso Cavour, 18/20 - 27100 Pavia, Italy
Email: tra@e20pr.com
Web site: www.e20pr.com
Congress web site: www.medicine.ucsd.edu/albani/2001 meeting
- 22–25 Sep OsteoArthritis Research Society International (OARSI) World Congress, Sydney, Australia
Details from: OsteoArthritis Research Society International (OARSI), 2025 M Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington DC 20036, USA
Tel: +1 202 367 1177. Fax: +1 202 367 2177
Email: oarsi@oarsi.org
Web site: www.oarsi.org
- 29 Sep–3 Oct 10th International Congress on Antiphospholipid Antibodies, Sicily, Italy
Deadline for abstracts 1 April 2002

- Details from: Secretariat, 10th International Congress on Antiphospholipid Antibodies, c/o Kenes International, PO Box 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel
Tel: 972 3 5140018/9
Fax: 972 3 5140077 or 972 3 5172484
Email: aps@kenes.com
Web site: www.kenes.com/aps
- 14–17 Oct Eicosanoids and Other Bioactive Lipids in Cancer, Inflammation and Related Diseases, 7th International Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, USA
Details from: Lawrence J Marnett, Biochemistry Department, Vanderbilt University, School of Medicine, Nashville TN 37232-0146, USA
Tel: (615) 343 7329. Fax: (615) 343 7534
Web site: www.eicosanoids.science.eayne.edu

Book review

In the beginning was the diagnosis

Manual of rheumatology and outpatient orthopedic disorders. Diagnosis and therapy. 4th ed. Eds Stephen A Paget, Allan Gibofsky, John F Beary III. (Pp 592; £36-95.) Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams and Wilkins, 2000. ISBN 0-7817-1576-8.

The Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City has for many years ranked high among teaching and research institutions in rheumatology, and is where numerous American and European rheumatologists spent important formative years. This book is co-authored by almost 70 contributors who are or have been members of this institution. They have succeeded in producing a brief, balanced, and rather complete coverage of both common and unusual conditions. There are few illustrations and the text is by necessity dry, so this is not an alternative to an in depth textbook, but rather a complement and help for the student, trainee, and generalist working in their outpatient setting. The former chief of rheumatology at the Hospital for Special Surgery, Charles L Christian, stresses in the foreword "the seamless interface" between orthopaedics and rheumatology, a truth which deserves to be repeated. In practice, in many countries there still are barriers between the specialties, which are detrimental to training and patient care.

The first part of the book is called "Musculoskeletal database", and it starts with the important subject of history and joint examination. Here I would have liked a more practical guide to distinguish between damage and synovitis with the characteristic location of tenderness. The presentation of immunogenetics is an example where brevity may cause confusion. The nomenclature in the chapter on rheumatoid arthritis is up to date, whereas that in the table in the first part of the book is based on that used in the 1980s. It is nice to find a chapter on patient education, an often neglected subject.

The description of regional complaints is adequate and reasonably comprehensive. Details can always be improved. Under carpal tunnel syndrome one might have mentioned the occupational factor so often present in, for example, auto-mechanics. In coming editions I would perhaps devote a little more space to specified tendinitis, bursitis, and entrapment phenomena, which are so common in outpatient practice.

Pharmacotherapy is also covered and on the whole in a good and balanced way; there are, however, misleading statements. In the chapter on rheumatoid arthritis it is mentioned that cyclosporin A is useful in patients who do not respond to methotrexate. This statement is based on one flawed study which used suboptimal doses of methotrexate. And the use of cyclosporin A in psoriasis seems to be particularly dangerous for the kidney.¹ Unresolved concerns about the long term safety of cyclosporin A make the recommendation particularly unwise in a brief text. Another detail concerns the word "Reiter's" syndrome, which in coming editions should be omitted or replaced with "Fiessinger-Leroy's" syndrome in view of Reiter's war time activities and his scientific contribution, which was minor compared with that of the French authors.² Most chapters are both comprehensive and up to date, like those on Raynaud's disease and vasculitis. In the chapter on enteropathic arthritis, the next edition might include the distinction between type I and type II peripheral arthritis, which is important and clinically helpful.³ In the chapter on septic arthritis, joint infection with staphylococci of low virulence and without fever in patients with rheumatoid arthritis should be mentioned.

These few critical remarks should not distract from my, in general, strong praise for a very fine and scholarly product which should and will serve its purpose for years to come. Perhaps coming editions could be made more user friendly by introducing an easier leafing identification of index, contents, and individual chapters—for example, by printing on differently coloured paper, or by other means. And perhaps this book would also do well in translated form, in Spanish, for example, or other languages.

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Lund, Sweden

1 Zachariae H. Renal toxicity of long-term cyclosporin [review]. *Scand J Rheumatol.* 1999;28:65–8.

2 Wallace DJ, Weisman M. Should a war criminal be rewarded with eponymous distinction? The double life of Hans Reiter (1881–1969). *J Clin Rheumatol* 2000;6:49–54.

3 Orchard TR, Wordsworth BP, Jewell DP. Peripheral arthropathies in inflammatory bowel disease: their articular distribution and natural history. *Gut* 1998;42:387–91.