Notes and news

4th European congress on back pain

The 4th European congress on back pain (Current concepts and recent advances) will be held in Budapest, Hungary, from 2 to 5 July 1992.

For further details please contact: The Secretariat, Back Pain: Current Concepts and Recent Advances, 4th European Congress, “CARA”, 15 Bedford Road, Moor Park, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 2BA, United Kingdom.

7th APLAR congress of rheumatology

The 7th APLAR congress of rheumatology will be held from 13 to 18 September 1992, at the Nusa Indah Hotel and Convention Centre, Bali, Indonesia. It is organised by the Indonesian Rheumatology Association under the auspices of The Asia Pacific League Against Rheumatism (APLAR) and the International League Against Rheumatism (ILAR). The deadline for submission of abstracts and for early registration is 30 April 1992.

All communications should be addressed to the Congress Manager, 7th APLAR Congress of Rheumatology, Plat L3, Kompleks BN1 1946, Jalan Let Jen S Parman, Slipi, Palmerah, Jakarta 11410, Indonesia.

Low back pain

An international meeting on low back pain will be held from 27 June to 1 July 1992, at the Europe Hall, The Aalborg Convention Center, 9100 Aalborg, Denmark.

For further information please contact: Aalborg Kongres Bureau, Osterå 8, DK 9000 Aalborg, Denmark.

System science in health care

The fifth international conference on system science in health care will be held in Prague, Czechoslovakia, from 29 June to 3 July 1992. Although this conference does not directly concern rheumatology, nevertheless there will be many interesting sections on organisation of medical care which could well prove useful to rheumatologists. It is cosponsored by the World Health Organisation and the Czechoslovak Association for Medical Informatics and System Science.

For further information please contact the Conference Secretariat SHSC '92: PO Box 106, 140 00 Prague, Czechoslovakia. Tel: 422 421822.

International Society for Rheumatic Therapy

The International Society for Rheumatic Therapy (ISRT), in keeping with cooperative efforts towards a new relationship with the International League Against Rheumatism (ILAR), announces its next meeting in Mannheim, Germany, from 10 to 15 May 1992.

In addition to its focus on changing antirheumatic drug treatment and strategy, the programme will concurrently include the 2nd international congress on antirheumatic drug development to be discussed by international regulatory bodies, industry, and research leaders.

For further information, contact (in the United States) Dr Sanford H Roth, Arthritis Center, 3330 N 2nd Street, Suite 601, Phoenix, Arizona 85012, USA. Tel: (602) 234 3434. Fax: (602) 277 9205; or (in Europe) Dr Gerhard L Bach, Innere Medizin und Rheumatologi, Chefarzt der Klinik Auerbach, Heinrich Strasse 4, 6140 Bensheim 3, Germany. Tel: 49 062 51 705 160 or 149. Fax: 49 062 51 787 0325.

Inflammation Research Association

The 6th international conference of the Inflammation Research Association will take place from 20 to 24 September 1992, at the Mountain Laurel Resort and Conference Center, White Haven, PA, USA.

For further information please contact the registrar: Dr Joan M Chapdelaine, IRA Conference, Pharmakon Research International Inc, PO Box 609, Waverly, PA 18471, USA. Tel: (717) 586 2411. Fax: (717) 586 3450.

EULAR epidemiology committee

The European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) epidemiology committee continues to grow in importance, and the first European conference on the epidemiology of rheumatic diseases took place in Dubrovnic, Yugoslavia, in September 1990. Communication with the International League Against Rheumatism (ILAR) has been enhanced through liaison with Peter Tugwell, who is the chairman of its executive committee; the corresponding member of the EULAR epidemiology committee is Alan Silman from the United Kingdom. Of particular interest are studies of Kashin-Beck’s disease and the WHO/ILAR course in epidemiology of rheumatic diseases which took place in Moscow in November 1989. The Rheuma Epidemiology Newsletter has now been published and is distributed to 850 people in 57 countries.

The current changes in eastern Europe have altered the working of the committee to some extent and these areas have been kept under close observation. The ICIDH classification of diseases is being revised by the World Health Organisation and this was discussed at a meeting in Sweden. The African League Against Rheumatism has now been founded and so some countries previously looked after by EULAR have transferred to this organisation. At the end of April 1991 a course in the epidemiology of the rheumatic diseases was organised by the Spanish League Against Rheumatism under the responsibility of Dr Teresa Ruiz Cantero with the participation of the EULAR chairman.

Professor Allander is resigning as chairman and the new candidate for the chairmanship is Professor Heiner Raspe of the University of Lubeck.

3rd International lupus conference

Applications are invited from clinicians and research workers based in the United Kingdom for bursaries worth £150 to cover the cost of registration for the 3rd international lupus conference, to be held at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Hall, London, 13–15 April 1992. Twenty bursaries have been made available by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

Please apply to Dr D Isenberg, c/o Bloomsbury Rheumatology Unit, Arthur Stanley House, 40–50 Tottenham Street, London W1P 9PG, to obtain an application form, which should be submitted by 30 January 1992. The organising committee will adjudicate all forms received by the end of February.