Notes and news

Degenerative joint disease

The Tore Nilson symposium entitled 'Etiology of degenerative joint disease' will take place in the main auditorium, Malmo General Hospital, Sweden, from 29 to 30 May 1992. Abstracts will be published in Acta Orthopaedica Scandinavica and the symposium language is English.

For further details please contact: The Tore Nilson Symposium, c/o Professor Bo Nilsson, Department of Orthopaedics, Malmo General Hospital, S-214 01 Malmo, Sweden.

Nurofen pain relief project travel awards

Three travel fellowships of up to £1000 are available to United Kingdom health professionals or researchers visiting symposiums to present work on pain or pain management. Entries will be judged twice a year on 31 March and 30 September. Previous winners have been funded to visit conferences in India, America, and Russia. The scheme is open to United Kingdom based health professionals and researchers not yet holding senior positions whose work has been accepted for presentation.

For further information please write to: Nurofen Pain Relief Project (TF), 4 Cloisters House, 8 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4BG, United Kingdom.

Outcome measures in rheumatoid arthritis clinical trials

A conference on outcome measures in rheumatoid arthritis clinical trials will be held in Maastricht, The Netherlands from 29 April to 3 May 1992. Cost 2000 Dutch guilders (approximately $1200). It will consist of small group discussions using the nominal group technique.

Further details from Dr Maarten Boers, Department of Int Med/Rheumatology, University Hospital, PO Box 5800, 6202 AZ Maastricht, The Netherlands. Tel: 3143 877004. Fax: 3143 875006.

ARC congress bursaries and educational travel awards

Bursaries up to £1000 each are offered to members of the health care professions towards the cost of attending a bona fide national or international congress of their choice provided that it has a clear relevance to the aims and interests of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council. The bursaries will be awarded to candidates who have already submitted an abstract to the congress and had it accepted for presentation, other than by title alone, or to those who have been invited to introduce a session. Recipients will be required to submit a brief report to the ARC education subcommittee after the congress.

Educational travel awards of up to £2000 are offered to members of the health care professions wishing to visit rheumatology wards/units in their specialty for the purpose of studying other methods of care of patients with rheumatic disease. Applicants should have at least three years’ postregistration work experience and have a clear commitment to the health care of patients with rheumatic diseases. Applicants should have made their own arrangements with the units to be visited. A condition of the award is that the recipients write a full report for the ARC education subcommittee and also submit article(s) for publication in their professional journal. The awards may be for partial funding only.

Applications for either award should be submitted on the correct forms and sent to the Research and Education Secretary, Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, Copeman House, St Mary’s Court, St Mary’s Gate, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S41 7TD, United Kingdom. For the congress bursaries, applications should include a copy of the abstract, a brief cv, and evidence that partial funding will be provided from other sources. Completed applications should be sent three to five months before the date of the congress.

Hypertrophic osteoarthropathy

The first international workshop on hypertrophic osteoarthropathy was scheduled for September 1991 in Dubrovnik (Yugoslavia), but because of the civil war it has obviously had to be postponed. It will now take place in Florence, Italy, from 21 to 24 June 1992.

For further information please contact: Organizing Secretariat: Fiorino Viaggi, Congress Department, Via Antonion Gramsci 333-335, 50010 Sesto Florentino, Florence, Italy. Tel: 39 55 4493431. Fax: 39 55 442907. Telex: 572238 Florini.

Computer assisted diagnosis of rheumatic disorders

Dr H J Berenlot Moens of the Jan van Breemen Instituut, who is interested in computer assisted diagnosis of rheumatic disorders and has published papers on this subject, would like to make contact with others of similar interest. He has, for example, developed a computer programme using Bayes’s theorem, which is available for research or educational purposes.

He may be contacted at the following address: Jan van Breemen Instituut, Dr Jan van Breemenstraat 2, 1056 AB Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Pressure sores: a universal problem

The Tissue Viability Society spring conference will be held at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, from 30 to 31 March 1992 and will consider the problem of pressure sores, their prevalence, hospital and community costs and problems, and special mattresses and seating. Workshops will be held on lifting and transfers, wound management policy, mattress testing, and managing cavity wounds.

Further details from the Secretary, Tissue Viability Society, Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, Wilts SP2 8BJ, United Kingdom. Tel: 0722 336262 (Ext 2392).

Spring symposium on back pain

The American Back Society, Columbia Regional Hospital, and Columbia Spine Center will hold a spring symposium on back pain from 6–10 May 1992, at the New Orleans Sheraton Hotel. The course chairman will be Dr Edward H Simmons. Maximum of 24 hours of CME category 1 credit.

For more information contact Dr Aubrey A Swartz, Executive Director, American Back Society, 2647 E 14th Street, Suite 401, Oakland, CA 94601, USA. Tel: (510) 536 9929. Fax: (510) 536 1812.