



The Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010

INFOLETTER 39

February 2005

Dear Bone and Joint Decade supporting organisation and friend,

On behalf of the BJD Steering Committee I am pleased to report to you of the latest achievements in regard to the initiative.

Lars Lidgren, Chairman of the Steering Committee

The 2005 BJD Annual World Network Conference in Canada

The Conference will be held on October **26-29 October, 2005 in Ottawa, Canada.**

Dr James Waddell, NAN coordinator in Canada, waddellj@smh.toronto.on.ca is hosting the meeting.

Each NAN will be contacted directly with an invitation to the meeting in Ottawa to send two persons, the coordinator or another NAN representative and a patient representative to the meeting.

We have been given the possibility to have a BJD patient education meeting in Ottawa, arranged by the Bone and Joint Decade and supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Novartis. The meeting will be designed for maximum 50 patient representatives and will take place on October 25 (whole day) and October 26 (half day).

***BJD World Network Conference
October 26 – 29, 2005***

Will take place in ***Ottawa, Canada***

***Keep the dates open and watch for
further announcements on***

<http://www.boneandjointdecade.org>

Please contact the BJD Secretariat bjd@ort.lu.se for any enquiries.

2005 BJD Symposium in Bydgoszcz, Poland

On April 21-24, 2005 the Polish National Action Network will host a BJD Symposium in Bydgoszcz, Poland with international participation.

The title of the symposium is:

Epidemiology, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of musculoskeletal disorders in Poland and the Global view: Perspectives for the coming 5 years

For more information please contact Prof. Jacek Kruczynski, NAN coordinator, e-mail: jacek@rose.man.poznan.pl or visit website: http://www.ekonferencje.pl/system/system_start.php3?ekonf=4561

Simultaneous translation, Polish-English, provided during the Symposium

BJD to honour research in OA

The Bone and Joint Decade is delighted to announce the BJD Award and Scholarship for clinical and experimental cartilage research in osteoarthritis, sponsored by the International Gelita Health Initiative.

One award of 25 000 Euros and three scholarships of 2500 Euros each will be instituted to honour and support the research of scientists working on projects related to clinical and experimental cartilage research in osteoarthritis.

Please visit www.boneandjointdecade.org for further details of how to apply.

NATIONAL ACTION NETWORKS NEWS

AUSTRALIA: To continue the outstanding work of raising awareness of musculoskeletal health in Australia, the Australian NAN is planning to host a National Consensus Meeting in 2005. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the BJD committee, and health professionals, to review the impact of the BJD on the community over the last half of the Decade. It will also be used as a forum to determine the direction and activities of the BJD over the next half of the Decade, so musculoskeletal health continues to be addressed in Australia. In addition to this, each of the states will host research days, lecture seminars, and provide information through the media to continue to meet the aims of the Decade.

BJD Australia update report is available on www.boneandjointdecade.org/Australia.

For more information please contact Prof Peter Brooks at p.brooks@mailbox.uq.edu.au

BANGLADESH: Professor M. Amjad Hossain, Chairman of the Bangladesh Chapter reported that Bangladesh with a population of 140 million is proud to join other countries of the world in full filling the aims and objectives of the Bone and Joint Decade initiative. Please find an Annual Report www.boneandjointdecade.org/Bangladesh or contact amjad@bol-online.com

CANADA: The Canadian NAN is well underway for the 2005 BJD World Network Conference in Ottawa. They are delighted to announce that they will be pairing this conference with two other Canadian conferences, the Canadian Arthritis Network (CAN) Annual Conference and the Canadian Summit on Arthritis Standards for Prevention and Care (SAPC). These conferences will follow immediately after the BJD Conference at the same venue and they expect that there will be much sharing amongst the participants of each.

Denis Morrice, Canada's Ambassador to the BJD, is already meeting with lead Canadian officials at both the provincial and federal levels of government and positioning the Bone and Joint Decade for influencing policy decisions.

BJD Canada continues to publish quarterly newsletters in both English and French, which feature submissions from researchers, clinicians and patients. Electronic copies are available on the international website (www.boneandjointdecade.org) and on the Canadian website (www.bjdcanada.org)

The sponsors for the Bone and Joint Decade meeting include the Canadian Institutes for Health Research/Institute for Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis, The Canadian Chiropractic Association, Pfizer Canada and Stryker Canada. The Canadian NAN continues to invite additional sponsors. For more information please contact Dr James Waddell, waddellj@smh.toronto.on.ca or Hazel Wood, Project Coordinator, Eastern Canada, hwood@rehabresults.com

INDIA: BJD India has launched its official website www.bjdindia.org with several features pertaining to patients, doctors, and burden of disease to promote BJD activities in India on 19th December 2004. The website was inaugurated by Prof. T K Shanmugasundaram (Chennai), BJD International Ambassador & Former Chairman, the India NAN.

The template structure and initial contents of the Indian Website were created under supervision of Dr. Arvind Chopra (Rheumatologist & National Secretary, India NAN, Pune). Dr. A Chopra will continue to be the website manager. In due course of time, a website management team of professionals from different specialties will take over the maintenance & updating. The press release from the occasion can be found on www.boneandjointdecade.org/India

NANs – own websites

Australia, Austria, Canada, India, Norway, Sweden, Thailand, and USA already have their own websites. The new Bone and Joint Decade Society Portal (see below) will also be able to provide a web presence for NANs that currently do not have a website. Contact Dr Göran Magyar (goran.magyar@ort.lu.se) for further information and discussions.

KENYA: Please visit

www.boneandjointdecade.org / Networks/Kenya and you will find a few speeches from the unveiling of the Government endorsement for the Bone and Joint Decade Declaration. For more information contact Dr Omondi Oyoo, geomondi@hotmail.com



Unveiling of BJD declaration, Dr Oyoo, Dr Ogwel and Dr Nyikal

THE NETHERLANDS:

A round-up of Dutch efforts in 2004

The information and facts known about approximately 600 exercise programs for MSC were collated and valued in 2004. The internet site with all the information available will be launched at the end of March 2005.

The Dutch BJD distributed a 'back book' among 8000 general physicians and 2000 corporate doctors in the beginning of January. Within a month they had over 750 requests for more! The reactions are very positive!

2005

For the upcoming years a new plan has been written describing the goals for the next years. The goals are related to improving research, education, care and awareness.

One of the projects is to implement Fracture Nurses in the Emergency Rooms of the hospitals. This specialised nurse can track down people older than 55 years with a fracture for an examination of osteoporosis. Identifying people is a chance to treat them and to prevent a next fracture with all the consequences.

In another project the aim is to establish collaboration between the orthopaedic surgeons and rheumatologists in research. For each goal plans with the activities, planning and budget will be written. For more information please contact Els van der Wallen, Project Coordinator Dutch NAN (e.vanderwallen@erasmusmc.nl)

USA: Please find an extensive USBJD Newsletter for December 2004/January 2005 at www.usbjd.org/rd/index.cfm?Newsletter

Change of NAN coordinator in The Netherlands, The Philippines and Thailand

The Netherlands

The Dutch BJD started the year with a change in chair, ***Dr. Peter van Roermund***, orthopaedic surgeon, has succeeded Prof Mieke Hazes, who will still be involved in the board of the Dutch BJD and in the BJD International Steering Committee as well. We welcome Dr van Roermund e-mail p.vanroermund@wkz.azu.nl and at the same time we thank Mieke Hazes for her excellent work in the Dutch NAN.

The Philippines

The BJD National Action Network (NAN) in the Philippines is named as the Philippine Council for the Bone and Joint Decade (PCBJD).

2004 The Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation Medicine was the host organization and Dr Bee Giok Tan-Sales was the chairman of the Council. We thank Dr Tan-Sales. ***Dr Ester Penserga*** (egpen@yahoo.com) representative of Philippine Rheumatology Association is the current Council Chairman of the PCBJD for 2005. We welcome Dr Penserga.

Thailand

Dr Mongol Vatanasuk started-up the Bone and Joint Decade in Thailand with several important encouraging activities and raised the awareness for musculoskeletal disorders in Thailand. Dr Vatanasuk has now stepped down as NAN coordinator in Thailand and we thank him for all the work he has done in the Thai NAN.

Dr Thamrongrat Keokarn

(rcost@loxinfo.co.th) is the new NAN coordinator leading the Bone and Joint Decade Participating Organizations of Thailand. We welcome Dr Keokarn.

Our current status:
94 BJD National Coordinators
58 Supporting Governments
56 National Action Networks

EFORT

A major update on achievements during the Decade written by Sara Martin, BJD Communications Manager, was published in the latest EFORT Newsletter www.efort.org.

BJD Musculoskeletal Portal Update

The BJD MSeC office is pleased to announce that the Decade's web presence, currently www.boneandjointdecade.org and www.bjdonline.org, will undergo a massive redesign this Spring, with a fresh start for the BJD's new musculoskeletal science portal planned for June 30, 2005.

The MSeC portal, in particular will be updated and upgraded. While the old portal served us and the 12 participating MSeC societies well over the last four years, we're now ready to take our collaborations to a new level, and to do so we will need a more technically advanced, and modern web structure. Dr Göran Magyar, BJD MSeC Executive Director is working with a leading Swedish IT company to develop this new venture.

Watch for more information regarding the launch of our new site in June and let us now if you are interested in joining.

BJD eLecture Series

As part of the Bone and Joint Decade eLecture series which features a keynote lecture each month, we are very proud to announce ***Associate Professor Gunnar Hägglund***, from Lund University Hospital in Sweden. Dr Hägglund presents ***CPUP: a Follow-up Programme for Managing Children with Cerebral Palsy***. His talk illustrates complications associated with spasticity and muscle imbalance, and then goes on to detail the multidisciplinary management and follow-up programme which incorporates early intervention aimed at reducing spasticity, treating contracture and preventing hip dislocation, and which has resulted in dramatic improvements in outcomes over the period the programme has been in place. To view the lecture, please visit <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/eLect/FEArch/GH/GH-imp.html>.

Other recent eLectures include:

- Dr Andrew Bamji, Consultant Rheumatologist from Sidcup, Kent in the UK, and prominent member of the British Society for Rheumatology's External Relations Committee presents discusses ***Digital Imaging in Rheumatology***. Please go to <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/eLect/FEArch/AB/AB.html> to view the webcast.
- Prof Rebecca ten Cate, Paediatric Rheumatologist from the Leiden University Medical Centre in The Netherlands presents ***Modern Medical Treatment of Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis***. See <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/eLect/FEArch/RTC/RTC.html>
- Dr Ivar Rossvoll, from Trondheim University Hospital in Norway, discussing ***Fractures of the Thoracolumbar Spine***. See <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/eLect/FEArch/IR/IR.html>

BJD Faculty 'Must-Read' List, February

The latest edition of the ***BJD Faculty Recommended Reading List***, spotlighting key articles published recently in the field of musculoskeletal science, is now available at www.bjdonline.org. This month our Faculty has produced a wide-ranging hot-list comprising topics such as vertebral fractures, knee OA and the identification of arthritis genes. Be sure to check it out! Access to the full-text pdfs of this month's recommended articles is via the File Cabinet.

Orthopaedics and Rheumatology Events

For a comprehensive listing of key orthopaedic and rheumatology meetings in 2005, visit http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/eLect/WebRes/index_files/Page337.htm

For more information or access to the BJD portal (www.bjdonline.org), please contact Dr Göran Magyar, BJD MSeC Executive Director, at Goran.Magyar@ort.lu.se or Sara Martin, BJD Communications Manager, at smartin@skynet.be.

ARTICULUM Essay Prize in Musculoskeletal Medicine for Medical Students

The ***ARTICULUM*** Medical Student Prize, valued at £500, will be awarded for what is judged to be the best essay written by medical students that gives an account of a piece of work that has given them a better understanding of an aspect of the impact of arthritis and other musculoskeletal conditions and how to improve musculoskeletal health.

Read more at

<http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/news/default.html>

The Annual Meeting of the International Society of the Study of the Lumbar Spine (ISSLS)

is being held in New York City May 10-14, 2005. For more information please visit www.boneandjointdecade.org/Meetings

ACT NOW!

The BJD Action Week

October 12 – 20,

Every year

Start planning for the Action Week 2005 already today!

The days are:

October 12 - World Arthritis Day

October 16 - World Spine Day

October 17 - World Trauma Day

October 20 - World Osteoporosis Day

SOCIETY UPDATE - IMPORTANT

Please fill in the enclosed Society update form and send it to the BJD Secretariat, bjd@ort.lu.se.

It is important for us to have a current email contact address in order to communicate with, and keep all groups who are part of the Bone and Joint Decade informed. We would like to have up-to-date information. If you have resigned as an officer or president and wish to stay on our mailing list, we welcome your continued participation. Simply add the new official contact person for your organisation.

The Bone and Joint Decade Secretariat

If you have any questions or need any assistance please feel free to contact Agneta Jönsson, bjd@ort.lu.se

Next Infoletter

Will be sent out on April 29, 2005. For information to be included, please submit before April 15.

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