



The Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010

INFOLETTER 45

February 2006

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 BJD 2006 WORLD NETWORK CONFERENCE in SOUTH AFRICA

The 2006 BJD global Conference will be held on 2-4 November, 2006 at Southern Sun Elangeni in Durban, South Africa. Prof Girish Mody, NAN coordinator in South Africa, modyg@ukzn.ac.za is hosting the meeting.



The theme of the conference will be: **“Strategies for the prevention of bone and joint diseases”**. The meeting will start with a Welcome Reception in the evening, Nov 2. The Conference itself is taking place on November 3 and 4 (Friday and Saturday).

Each NAN will be contacted directly with an invitation to the meeting in Durban to send two persons, the coordinator or another NAN representative and a patient representative. The official invitation and necessary registration information will be sent next month.

The BJD 2006 PATIENT ADVOCACY SYMPOSIUM

Thanks to the success of our first-ever International Patient Advocacy meeting, held last October in conjunction with our 2005 Bone and Joint Decade Network Conference, we were able to secure support to continue this unique programme, and we will soon be inviting delegates to the 2006 Patient Advocacy Symposium. This event will be held on Wednesday and Thursday 1 – 2 November in Durban, immediately preceding the BJD Network Conference on 3-4 November.

All delegates of the patient symposium will be automatically registered for the Network Conference as well, with the prospect of greatly increasing the effectiveness and energy of the NAN meeting itself.

**BJD World Network Conference
November 2-4, 2006 in South Africa**

Venue: Southern Sun Elangeni, Durban

**Keep the dates open and watch for
further announcements on
www.bjdonline.org**

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

Global Minimum Standards of Care for Chronic Pain and Osteoporosis

Based on the outcome of workshops held during the BJD World Network Conference in Ottawa 2005 two groups have started the process of formulating ***Global Minimum Standards of Care for Musculoskeletal Health*** in two crucial areas: the first is ***Chronic Pain***, focusing on evidence-based recommendations to improve treatment effectiveness. And the second is ***Osteoporosis***, specifically, determining risk factors for fracture, strategies for prevention, and the appropriate care pathways.

These documents will be completed and then put forth for global adoption at the BJD World Network Conference in Durban, in November 2006. Prof Peter Brooks, Australia, (p.brooks@uq.edu.au) is responsible for the Chronic Pain group and Assoc Prof Kristina Åkesson, Sweden (kristina.akesson@med.lu.se) for the Osteoporosis group. Both are members of the BJD International Steering Committee.

BJD Pals Website

We're pleased to announce the new BJD PALs (Patient Advocate Leaders) website is days away from its launch! Counting down to a ***March 17 deadline***, the BJD PALs Strategic Group (comprised of Amye Leong, BJD Spokesperson, Ben Horgan, BJD Ambassador & Network Coordinator – Australia, Neil Betteridge, Chair, ARMA and Chief Executive, Arthritis Care UK, Robert Johnstone, President, Arthritis and Rheumatism International and with the help of Sara Martin, BJD Communications Manager) is shaping the website's strategy and compiling the advocacy-focused content.

The objective of BJD PALs is to create a user-friendly website dedicated to advocacy in musculoskeletal issues, and to provide a forum for patient advocates to voice concerns, exchange stories and experiences, and to access resources. To ensure that advocacy issues from around the globe are given equal focus, we have recruited volunteer BJD Pals Reporters from each region of the world to contribute in the form of articles reflecting leadership in the patient advocacy within their country. To date we have enlisted 15 reporters, but more are welcome! If you would like to be involved in this exciting project, please email bjd@ort.lu.se

BJD Symposium in Dubai, UAE

On January 24, 2006 at the Arab Health congress in Dubai there was a BJD session – ***New Treatment of Bone and Joint Diseases***. Presentations were given by Bengt Jönsson, Professor Stockholm School of Economics, Prof Ghassan Maalouf, Dr Wahid Al-Kharusi, members of the Bone and Joint Decade International Steering Committee, and Prof Lars Lidgren, Chair, The BJD International Steering Committee. The presentations will be available on www.bjdonline.org

EUROPEAN COOPERATION ON MUSCULOSKELETAL SCIENCE

On February 15, 2006 in Zurich the major European organisations in rheumatology, orthopedics and patients' organisations met under the umbrella of the Bone and Joint Decade to identify in practical terms cooperation between the major European organisations that would further the goal of making musculoskeletal disorders and musculoskeletal science a priority within the health sector and the scientific community in Europe.

BJD eLecture Series

February

The Degenerative Lumbar Spine from the Surgeon's Point of View

Prof Dieter Grob, BJD Ambassador and Chief of the Department of Spinal Surgery at the Schulthess Spine Centre in Zürich, Switzerland, examines the therapeutic cascade for the degenerative lumbar spine from surgical decompression, through to instrumented and un-instrumented fusion in the light of new trends such as motion preservation. His eLecture also takes into account patient-reported outcomes. To view this webcast, log on to www.bjdonline.org or go directly to <http://www.musconline.org/default.aspx?contid=1464>

March

Bone Cement in Total Hip Arthroplasty

Dr Jian-Sheng Wang, Biomaterials and Biomechanics Laboratory, Dept of Orthopaedics, University Hospital, Lund, Sweden, presents a review of current thinking improving efficacy of bone cement used in THA.

To view this webcast, log on to www.bjdonline.org or go directly to <http://www.bjdonline.org/default.aspx?contid=1487>

BJD Faculty Recommended Reading List

February's 'Must-Read' list of our Faculty's top-picks in the current literature is now online, including some full text articles; available at <http://www.musconline.org/default.aspx?contid=1474>

NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK NEWS

AUSTRALIA: Work has started on a directory which will enable persons concerned with bone and joint diseases to understand and to access to all areas of health services and support nationwide relevant to their conditions. The directory will give accurate descriptions of all specialty physicians, allied health, support services, both government and private sector, as well as up to date contact details for all.

BJD Australia will host the **BJD 2007 Patient Advocacy and World Network Conference**.

The meeting will be held on the Gold Coast in Queensland.

Save the dates:

2007 Patients Meeting on **October 10-11**

2007 Network Conference on **October 12-14**

For more information please contact Mr Ben Horgan, NAN Coordinator, convenor@bjd.org.au

BRAZIL: Dr Marcos Musafir, member of the BJD International Steering Committee gave information related to RTI (Road Traffic Injuries) Forum Santiago – January 2006. Latin American Road Traffic Injuries have been reduced with some success, due to the fact that the union and public awareness are increasing.

Around 60 participants from 24 Countries from Latin America and The Caribbean represented by official governmental agencies and NGOS were at the meeting.

The discussion was guided to develop a positive agenda for future meetings and actions, related to RTI research, data, communication, care, knowledge and behaviour change.

The next Forum will be in September in Costa Rica. The focus is to stimulate changes to reduce traffic accidents and injuries. For more information mmusafir@uol.com.br

CANADA: The BJD Canada team has identified the following priorities for the remainder of the Decade:

- Enhance Musculoskeletal Education for health professionals by shaping the university curricula.
- Reduce wait times for musculoskeletal surgery through the formation of Knowledge Networks. Through these networks the BJD Canada will partner lead orthopaedic surgeons with government ministers to develop workable solutions across Canada. Once the Networks are established, additional stakeholders (i.e. patients, other health professionals, university deans, etc.) will be added to ensure the right mix for solution development.
- Partner with USBJD to deliver annual or twice annual Young Investigator Workshops to train new investigators in the skills needed to be successful researchers.

For updates on BJD events in Canada, please visit www.bjdcanda.org.

For more information please contact Dr James Waddell, NAN coordinator, waddellj@smh.toronto.on.ca

CHINESE TAIPEI: Dr Chung-Tei Chou, NAN coordinator, has highlighted two major events for the Bone and Joint Decade taking place 2006. The first one is "Education Lectures in Rheumatic Diseases for the Public" which is

scheduled from April to May in ten different sites of Taiwan Island. The second is "Bone and Joint Decade Day", which will be held in the middle of October. For more information please contact Dr Chou, hychen4@vghtpe.gov.tw

GREECE: In news from the Greek BJD Network, we are pleased to report that the BJD and musculoskeletal issues were discussed in the National Parliament (October 2004). In the coming year the NAN will plan to organize a research funding campaign and a TV panel discussion series on BJD issues with nationwide broadcasting. It is also worth noting that the General Secretariat for Research and Technology approved a proposal for issuing grants related to Musculoskeletal Health problems. The letter was signed by the Chairmen of all academic Orthopaedic Departments in the country, and major publicity of BJD issues will be given at Orthopaedic and Rheumatology Congresses in 2006.

For more information please contact Dr Konstantinos Malizos, NAN Coordinator, malizos@med.uth.gr or visit www.boneandjointdecade.org

HUNGARY: A *Workshop for core-set validation of the International Classification of Function (ICF)* was organised by the Institute for Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich, and the Hungarian NAN at Budapest, Hungary, on the 10th of February 2006.

The participants were from Croatia, Hungary and Slovakia. The workshop was chaired by Szilvia Geyh, Munich. The ICF developed by the WHO seems to be a useful tool for assessing results of rehabilitation.

Booklet series published for patients by the Hungarian NAN.

The topic of the December issue of the Journal "Rehabilitáció" (Rehabilitation) was: ***Rehabilitation of patients suffering osteoporotic fractures.***

The Bone and Joint Decade has now a separate section in the most popular teaching journal for general practitioners, Háziorvosi Szemle (*Family Doctor's Review*) published in 10.000 samples. The Bone and Joint Decade Section publishes teaching articles for diagnosing and treating musculoskeletal diseases for the general practitioners.

For more information please contact Dr Géza Balint, bjd@t-online.hu

LEBANON: Dr Yasser Yaghi, NAN coordinator, has been appointed as President of the ***Lebanese Program for Prevention and Care of Accidents and Musculoskeletal Diseases.*** The objectives of this office are to implement policies for prevention and care of these conditions and to collaborate between Ministries of Public Health, Social Affairs, WHO and NGO's.

NAN Lebanon is preparing for the 1st National Forum for Amputation in Lebanon, which will be held on April 29, 2006. Doctors, patients and NGO's are invited to attend. The objective of the meeting is to create a national registry for amputation and amputees in Lebanon. More details about the meeting will be available on the website:

www.bjdlebanon.org

For more information please contact Dr Yasser Yaghi, yasseryaghi@hotmail.com

NEW ZEALAND: The New Zealand Nan has produced a small leaflet intended as a guide to orthopaedic surgeons, and fracture clinic staff to remind them about the possible underlying cause of fractures they treat-*Osteoporosis.*

This leaflet has been developed as result of the Osteoporosis Awareness Survey carried out in 2003, where it was clearly

identified that surgeons quite rightly treat the fracture as presented but often do not consider osteoporosis as a reason for the fracture. The leaflet suggests that one person in a clinic is given the responsibility to ensure fracture patients are referred for checking whether osteoporosis is present (and therefore treated accordingly), to prevent a future fracture.

The NZ NAN held their annual half day meeting at the end of February and consideration was given to a programme of activities for the remainder of the year. This will include a strong presentation to Medical Schools to increase musculoskeletal teaching in the medical curriculum, patient network support, and fund raising in the hope that the NAN itself can continue with some specific tasks, rather than rely totally on the initiatives of the individual members of the NAN.

For more information please contact Mr Kim Miles, kmiles-nzoa@paradise.net.nz

SLOVAKIA: Prof Jozef Rovensky, NAN Coordinator, has sent an extensive report of activities of Slovak Rheumatological Society in 2005 and also reported on BJD activities concerning osteoporosis in 2005. Please visit the BJD website www.boneandjointdecade.org for further information or please contact Prof Rovensky at rovensky@nurch.sk

SLOVENIA: Dr Radko Komadina, NAN coordinator reported on planned activities in the Slovenian NAN.

The BJD Slovenia and the BJD Hungary will together have a Hungarian-Croatian-Slovenian meeting on March 10. They want to organize a South-East European osteoporosis prevalence and treatment study. In March the Slovenian minister of health will be informed again about the EULAR initiatives applicable to Slovenia.

The 7th Eurotrauma Congress 2006 will be held from 14-17 May in Ljubljana. The main topic will be Gerontologic trauma and

Fragility fractures. Prof James Waddell, Canada, will be one of the invited speakers. For more information please contact Dr Radko Komadina, sbcrdi@guest.arnes.si

SWEDEN: The Swedish NAN, The Association Bone and Joint Decade, had its Annual meeting on February 24, 2006 in Stockholm, during which there was a symposium: "How to make life easier for people with arthritis". For further information please visit the website www.rorg.se or contact Lena Öhrsvik, NAN coordinator, lena.ohrsvik@home.se

USBJD invited to host BJD Global 2009 meeting

The U.S. Bone and Joint Decade has been invited and accepted to host the BJD Global Network Conference in 2009. A Task Force and preliminary plans are being drawn up. This meeting will bring together healthcare professionals and patients from BJD networks in sixty countries. For more information on USBJD activities please find the USBJD eNewsletter of December 2005 at www.usbjd.org or contact usbjd@usbjd.org

Change of NAN coordinator in Portugal

Dr Antonio Aroso Dias has announced that the new Portuguese National Action Network Coordinator is Professor Jaime Branco (e-mail: jaimedb.med2@fcm.unl.pt).

Prof. Jaime Branco is a very active Rheumatologist, Director of the Service of Rheumatology (Hospital Egas Moniz, in Lisbon), past-President of the Portuguese Society of Rheumatology (SPR), and local President of the Annual European Congress of Rheumatology (EULAR, 2003 in Lisbon).

Dr Aroso Dias is sure that the new National Co-ordinator, together with the Portuguese Committee for the Bone and Joint Decade (Chairman: Dr. Domingos Araujo) will further advance the BJD in Portugal.

After 6 years as National Co-ordinator Dr Aroso Dias is proud to have implemented some strategies concerning the "*Bone and Joint Decade 2000-2010 GLOBAL DECLARATION*", that he signed in the Rio de Janeiro Annual Meeting (13th September 2002), namely, the "National Programme Against Rheumatic Diseases" published by the Health Minister, just implemented and running through 2004 to 2010, and the official endorsement of the Bone and Joint Decade by the Health Ministry, Prof. Antonio Correia de Campos

For the next two years, the most important projects of the Portuguese NAN will be:

- *Prevention of Road Traffic Accidents*
- *Hip fractures: a global epidemiological evaluation*

We would like to extend our thanks to Dr Antonio Aroso Dias for his excellent work in the Portuguese NAN as from the start of the Decade and at the same time we welcome Dr Jaime Branco.

Our current status:
95 BJD National Coordinators
60 Supporting Governments
60 National Action Networks

NEW BJD COORDINATOR IN SOUTH KOREA

Dr Yeong-Wook Song has taken over as BJD coordinator of South Korea succeeding Prof Soo-Kon Lee. Korea has not yet established a BJD National Action Network. Dr Song is currently in charge of Korea Research Council of Rheumatism and hopes to make it a core structure for a network. He plans to obtain participation from several other societies.

For more information please contact Dr Yeong-Wook Song, ysong@snu.ac.kr

ACT NOW!

The BJD Action Week

October 12 – 20,

Every year

Start planning for the Action Week 2006

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 on April 28, 2006. For information to be included, please submit before April 15.

Contact us:

The BJD Secretariat

Phone: +46 46 17 71 61

Fax: +46 46 17 71 67

E-mail: bjd@ort.lu.se

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