



Report on the Activities of the WFN Research Group ALS/MND 2015

Chair: Prof. Dr. A. C. Ludolph

We achieved the following goals and performed the following activities:

1. We continued the close collaboration of the WFN Research Group for ALS/MND (Prof. Dr. Albert C. Ludolph) and the WFN Research Group for Aphasia and Cognitive Disorders (Prof. Dr. Thomas Bak, Prof. Dr. Facundo Manes)

The following activities were done collaboratively:

- a. Organization of educational programs worldwide (including activities in Ecuador, the EAN/Berlin and on the WFN meeting in Santiago de Chile)
- b. A screening test for frontotemporal deficits in ALS has been translated into Chinese and Mongolian language. The first papers are being published. (Abrahams S, Newton J, Niven E, Foley J, Bak TH. Screening for cognition and behaviour changes in ALS. *Amyotroph Lateral Scler Frontotemporal Degener.* 2014;15:9-14).
- c. The first meeting of the collaborative group for ALS and FTD at the European Academy of Neurology took place in Berlin 2015. A collaborative educational program was performed in Quito (Ecuador) in January 2015.
- d. The NiSALS-Group (Neuroimaging Society in ALS/FTD) has successfully completed a number of papers which communicate the methodology of data acquisition in ALS (Kassubek).

2. Revision of the El Escorial Criteria

The process to revise the El Escorial Criteria has been finished. The paper appeared in the *Journal Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Frontotemporal Degeneration* (Ludolph A, Drory V, Hardiman O, Nakano I, Ravits J, Robberecht W, Shefner J; WFN Research Group On ALS/MND. A revision of the El Escorial criteria - 2015. *Amyotroph Lateral Scler Frontotemporal Degener.* 2015;16(5-6):291-2.)

3. Support for the ALS Journal in 2015

The Editorship for Prof. Orla Hardiman has been renewed and members to the the Editorial Board were added representing an attempt to strengthen collaboration with the WFN group on Aphasia and Cognitive Disorders.

4. The Website of the research group is in place and is working. WEBSITE

5. Internal matters

- a) Prof. Ryuji Kaji replaced Prof. Imaharu Nakano who died in July 2014
- b) We organised a WFN meeting / symposium in Orlando at the ALS/MND meeting in December 2015. The half day symposium was concerned with clinical trial issues.

6. Listing of active members

- **Albert Ludolph:** University of Ulm, albert.ludolph@rku.de, since 2010-today.
- **Orla Hardiman:** Beaumont Hospital & Trinity College, oral@hardiman.net, since 2010-today.
- **John Ravits:** Research University of California, jravits@ucsd.edu, since 2010-today.
- **Jeremy Shefner:** St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, Jeremy.Shefner@DignityHealth.org, since 2010-today.
- **Liyang Cui:** Peking Union Medical College Hospital, pumchcuily@sina.com, since 2014-today.
- **Ryuji Kaji:** Tokushima University Hospital, rkaji@clin.med.tokushima-u.ac.jp, since 2015-today.
- **Adriano Chio:** Universita di Torino, achio@usa.net, since 2014-today.



Prof. Dr. A. C. Ludolph