



2015 Report of the Neuroepidemiology Group of the WFN

The Neuroepidemiology section of WFN has been especially particularly active, as in the past, in the area of teaching and research.

The involvement of members of the WFN in the neurological group to the Global Burden of Disease project has been an important new asset on the activity of the WFN group. The neurological group has been led by Valery Feigin, Auckland NZ, and Giancarlo Logroscino, Bari Italy has been chairing the Parkinson's disease group. Several members of the group have been actively involved in projects concerning neurological diseases, using new estimates of burden like DALY, that take into account both disability and premature deaths. There has also been active participation to general projects on risk factors and mortality. Lately the dataset for motor neuron diseases has been developed and for the first time in the review paper that is yearly published on the Lancet data on mortality from motor neuron disease will be reported.

Dr Logroscino has been also promoting of a new initiative within the GBD to have national data for neurological diseases in selected countries (Italy will be probably the first).

In the WFN meeting in Santiago 2015 a special section "the changing epidemiology of dementia" was organized by the WFN neuroepidemiology group (Chair: Logroscino and W. Rocca, Rochester, MN; US) with the participation of Dr P.M. Preux, Dr Adesola Ogunniyi, Dr Carlos Ketzoian.

The group has succeeded to get a small pilot grant to develop an epidemiologic course in low income countries. The first country where the WFN neuroepidemiological group has decided to implement the course will be in Cambodia.

The overall goal is to train neurologists interested in neuropidemiologic research and support their research activities. The chair of the course will be Giancarlo Logroscino and Pierre Marie Preux, Limoges, Fr.

We plan to organize a special course in Albania, for neuropsychologists and neurologists, with the Dementia group, directed by Thomas Bak, Edimborough. This will set up an network for research for rare dementias in Albania, pursuing the application of a model already established in Apulia, South Italy.

We will report a financial statement we get the transfer for the course in Cambodia. The money will be transferred directly to the Cambodian Neurological Association.

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