

WORLD NEUROLOGY

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF NEUROLOGY

VOLUME 16, NUMBER 4, DECEMBER 2001

WCN 2005 SYDNEY – AN ALLURING DESTINATION

London WCN 2001 was an outstanding Congress not only in terms of venue and attendance, but importantly in terms of the excellence of the scientific component. The Australian Association of Neurologists acknowledges the challenge and importance of ensuring a successful, well-attended meeting. A World Congress provides delegates with the opportunity to establish and build international contacts and keep abreast of international research and we have undertaken to provide a Congress that will be accessible to neurologists from all over the World.

Having been awarded the honour of hosting a World Congress, the Australian Association of Neurologists has been given a unique opportunity to provide a forum to showcase Australia's neurological expertise and we will ensure delegates experience a rewarding Congress in terms of educational and scientific component. Sydney itself is an exciting, cosmopolitan destination with a range of distinct and diverse characteristics. From the historic



Rocks precinct with heritage buildings amidst a maze of cobblestone streets, unique shops and stunning range of harbour-side restaurants, to Darling Harbour with its extensive range of visitor experiences. Realizing that this is a rare opportunity for many people to visit Australia, the Sydney WCN 2005 will offer an enticing social and accompanying persons programme together with exciting pre and

post Congress tours, to enable delegates and their partners/families to maximize their enjoyment of Sydney and Australia.

Dr. William Carroll
Chairman WCN 2005

Prof. Geoffrey Donnan
President, Australian Association of Neurologists

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

This is my final column as your President.

In August, I attended the Central and East European Stroke Society meeting, as the representative of both the International Stroke Society and the World Federation of Neurology, in Warsaw, as part of the 33rd International Danube Symposium of the Polish National Program for Stroke Prevention and Treatment, and the Cerebrovascular Section of the Polish Neurological Society. A report of this meeting is published in this issue on page 11, to which I add my congratulations to the organizers, the speakers, and the partic-

ipants. The subsequent meeting of the Polish Neurological Society and the EFNS in Lublin, with hosts President Professor Doctor Stelmasiak and his colleagues, which I attended as President of the WFN, was a remarkable event following the spectacular success of the meeting of the World Congress of Neurology in London. Both organizations, with their scientific and educational programs, are moving rapidly in similar directions for the betterment of both.

I have been an officer of the World Federation of Neurology, beginning first in 1982 as Secretary-Treasurer General, then 1990 as Editor of the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, and, finally, President. This 20-year span gives me insights that few

have had and so I conclude my service with some observations about the purpose of the WFN and my hopes for its future.

I acknowledge the tremendous dedication
(cont. on page 4)

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- Editorial
- Tributes to James F. Toole
- WFN Board of Trustees
- Zinc and Brain Ischemia
- WFN Regional News
- WFN Research Group Reports
- Book Reviews & Calendar

Visit the WFN website at <http://www.wfneurology.org>

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PUBLISHING INFORMATION**MANUSCRIPTS**

The Editor is happy to receive unsolicited manuscripts or photographs for consideration, but cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to such material. Manuscripts should

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World Neurology, ISSN 0899-9465, is published by Elsevier Science BV, Molenwerf 1, 1014 AG Amsterdam, the Netherlands; phone: +31 (20) 485 3358, fax: +31 (20) 485 3237; e-mail: p.f.bakker@elsevier.nl

REPRINTS

Reprint requests and all correspondence regarding the journal should be addressed to the Editor. However, back issues of *World Neurology* can be obtained from the publisher.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Notice of change of address should be sent to: *World Neurology*, Editorial Secretariat, 12 Chandos Street, London W1G 9DR, UK. Fax: +44 20 7323 4012; e-mail: WFNLondon@aol.com

Printed by Kay Dee Associates at Chandika Press Ltd, 126 Industrial Area Phase 1, Chandigarh - 160002, India.

EDITORIAL

Dr James F. Toole, fondly known as 'Jim' to his many colleagues, will be completing a most successful four year term of office as President of the World Federation of Neurology on 31st December 2001. While a fellow at Queen's Square Hospital, London in 1956, he saw the creation of the WFN and the installation of its founder President the following year. It is not by luck that he himself subsequently rose to the position of President, having first served WFN in a number of capacities. He has enhanced the prestige of the WFN and under his leadership it has become a more transparent and widely recognized force. He has guided the organization through a period of radical change and steered it from one millennium to another. Under his presidency the concept of a permanent WFN office in London, initiated and developed during the Presidency of John Walton with Frank Rose as Secretary-Treasurer General, has been firmly established.

Jim is a down to earth man who has distinguished himself in research and academic pursuits and who has a wide range of social contacts and friends.

Former President, Richard L. Masland, considered his support as Secretary-Treasurer General a great assistance. Former President Lord Walton of Detchant writes that it was on the initiative of Dick Masland and Jim Toole that *World Neurology* was established. This has today become an organ of mass circulation and communication of the ideology of WFN amongst neurologists throughout the world. Other officials of WFN and friends of Jim, such as Jun Kimura (President Elect), Frank Rose (Past Secretary-Treasurer General), Ted Munsat (Chair-

man, Research and Education Committee), Bob Daroff (Chairman, Finance and Publication Committee) have paid rich tributes to Jim Toole and rightly so. All of us have admired the services he has given to WFN and all of us also hope and pray that he will continue to be involved with the organisation and to enjoy the companionship of his wife, Pat, who has been his constant supporter and, I believe, admirer also. I personally thank Jim for his constant help and encouragement.

The mini elections of WFN are once again highlighted in this issue of *World Neurology*. These are to be completed in the year 2002. The Council of Delegates as usual are given the responsibility of choosing these WFN officials / Trustees. The photographs of those WFN Officials and Trustees already elected are published elsewhere in this issue. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the Trustees, who will be guiding the Federation from January 2002, are all seasoned neurologists and we expect to see further progress under their leadership. It is also likely that more and more countries will come under the WFN umbrella.

The last article in the series on Stroke during 2001 is the manuscript on 'Zinc and Brain Ischemia' submitted by Dennis W. Choi who has clarified the relationship of 'Stroke' with zinc. Zinc is present in all cells of the body, is tightly bound to proteins and serves as both a catalytic and structural agent. The exact role of zinc in relation to the brain has been clearly elucidated in this manuscript.

This issue also contains a report from the 33rd International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences in August 2001. Apart from the academic activities, presentations were made to WFN Presi-

dent James F. Toole and to Franz Gerstenbrand, former President of the EFNS. The special features of this Symposium were the meeting of the European Association of Young Neurologists and Trainees and the 3rd Educational Course of the Central and European Stroke Society which also took place in association with it. Neurology is becoming strong in the countries of Eastern Europe and its progressive role there, together with an awareness of the importance of training young neurologists, has become a unique feature.

The recent disclosure in the *Journal of Regenerative Medicine* that human embryo stem cells have been created, may hold out some hope for patients and neurologists that a permanent remedy for some of the degenerative neuro-disorders, such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, may be around the corner. Embryonic stem cells are precursor cells which can grow into any kind of cell and human embryo tissue was cloned to provide a source of cellular life, not for the purpose of creating a human being. A human egg cell was scraped of its DNA and replaced with the DNA from the nucleus of an adult cell with the result that the egg started growing as if it had been fertilized by a sperm but became only a ball of cells rather than becoming a baby. The resulting stem cells are differentiated into the type of tissue needed for the patient. This is indeed a great achievement by Advanced Cell Technology Incorporation based at Worcester, Massachusetts, USA. The company took full care that a cloned human could not result from this technology and every country too should enact laws for the total prohibition of human cloning, which should be considered unethical, immoral and be condemned by all. Safeguards are very necessary to prevent the occurrence of such an event. God's creation should be left to God. There have been protests voiced by political and religious leaders against cloning of the first human embryo. But the cloning of a human baby would be more disastrous than the proliferation of nuclear technology. However, while the breakthrough reported by ACT is truly exciting, its utility for degenerative diseases of the nervous system and many other diseases, like juvenile diabetes, must be considered impartially by the scientific community. They should look at the benefits for humanity rather than the commercial gains to be had. Let WFN take a lead in assessing the usefulness of this discovery before it is thrown into the dustbin.

Jagjit S. Chopra
Editor-in-Chief



Jim & Pat Toole with Amar & Jagjit Chopra – XIV WCN 1989 New Delhi.

(Cont. from p. 1)

that I have had from a huge number of colleagues who have volunteered their time, energy, money, and talents to making our organization prosper, while carrying out its mission. Serving longest have been: Past Presidents Richard Masland, John Walton; Vladimir Hachinski, Chair of the Steering Committee; Robert Daroff, Chair of the Publications and Finance Committees; and Franz Gerstenbrand, founder of the European Federation of Neurological Societies. In many different ways, they have complemented each other in creating a more cohesive World Federation of Neurology, by handling the delicate interactions among national societies at the Steering Committee level, WFN finances, including interactions with publishers and Congress Organizers. Dr. Jagjit S. Chopra organized the World Congress of Neurology in New Delhi, India, 1989, with great commitment. Thereafter, he served on the Public Relations and Finance Committees and is now Editor of *World Neurology*. He arranged the very advantageous move of our newsletter from the UK to India and is much admired for his wise counsel.

My wife of 49 years has been a trouper, accompanying me on many trips, during which we made many friends who will last our lifetime. Pat is always a comfort and a confidante, both at home and abroad.

Throughout my 20-year association with the WFN, I have counted on the expertise of Dee Dee Vernon and Kelley Reavis, as well as Sandy McMorris, and Ralph Hicks for the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*. They have kept the financial balances and the paper traffic efficient, accurate, and rapid in its responses, and, more recently, Mr. Keith Newton and Ms. Susan Bilger have administered the organization from the London office very efficiently.

Robert Lisak is constantly improving the quality of the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*.

Todd Troost, as WFN webmaster, has set up a most impressive website, which many people worldwide visit on a continuing basis (see www.wfneurology.org if you have not yet visited it).

I congratulate Dr. Theodore Munsat, Chair of the Research and Education Committee, for the superlative work that he has done in promoting neurology training programs, continuing education, and outreach programs in second and third world countries. The Continuing Education Program has been reshaped and expanded with 25 national societies registered in the program. Frank Clifford Rose, then

Richard Godwin-Austen, have been careful custodians of our finances and provided needed stability in our executive deliberations.

President-Elect Jun Kimura was most careful in working with lawyers to revise and update our Constitution and By-laws and is most efficient and gracious in coordinating a smooth transition between our administrations. I have full confidence that he will lead the WFN to many more successes during the next four years of his office.

I observe that the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) has become a truly global organization with potential to have a worldwide intellectual and scientific impact through its network of national societies, international and regional associations, allied disciplines, and patients' associations. It is charged to improve neurological health worldwide by promoting educational programs, regional and world congresses, traveling fellowships, publication of scientific seminars, etc. The WFN exists primarily to give benefits to all member countries, emphasizing the establishment of neurology in developing and underdeveloped countries, by raising the recognition of neurology within the World Health Organization and other international bodies and, most important of all, supporting educational activities such as fellowships, tutorials, and national and regional educational activities, and increasing the visibility of the WFN. Drs. Matthew Menken and Johan Aarli have been particularly dedicated in these endeavors. For these purposes, we rely on the annual dues of developed countries for the financial underwriting necessary to carry out our mission.

With globalization, it behooves all neurologists, both individually and as corporate groups, to have a major role in world activities. For example, a national society cannot become a member of the World Health Organization but is represented by the WFN. In order to expand its ambitious medical and educational efforts to advance basic and clinical neurological sciences, the WFN must accelerate its growth and worldwide influence. The WFN is the sole fully international neurological organization, which provides membership for 89 national groups representing 24,000 neurologists, as well as linking important regional neurological organizations under its umbrella. The WFN also performs many important functions for its national members, such as:

1. It is a source for the dissemination of neurological educational expertise and

material, particularly to less advanced communities.

2. A focal point for assisting the expeditious development of neurological expertise and services.

3. A neutral forum for the discussion of global, regional and national approaches to neurological illnesses. Developed countries and regions where government and pharmaceutical resources are concentrated are largely directed to neurological problems posed by their own populations; problems which may be incongruent with those faced by less well developed areas of the world. The WFN can provide a voice for these when speaking to governments and international organizations.

4. A presence in the world to represent neurological ethics, including such concepts as brain death, stem cell research, and to represent neurologists who have to deal with health ministries. Collectively, the WFN can become the global clearinghouse by promoting interchange among national societies, where there are different government policies and religious views. For example, the majority of the world does not consider brain death to be the end of human life, so that organ transplantation cannot be performed in many countries. A global platform is necessary and an attempt at resolution of differences is vital. When consensus is reached, the WFN can present "the collective view" of international societies. There is the opportunity to have a voice in global policy-making and to become extremely visible worldwide through the WFN.

5. Starter grants for encouraging developing countries and groups to establish systems and people to disseminate knowledge of the nervous system, functions, and its maintenance.

As a major aspect of this development, the Young Neurologists and Trainees from Central Europe organization has been created and will begin to interact and relate closely with the World Federation of Neurology in its various locations around the world.

In closing, at the recent WCN in London, attendees from the United States, United Kingdom, and many other locations in the world, inquired of me regarding the mechanism by which they could become a member of the World Federation of Neurology. It came as a great surprise to them to be told that they were already members because the WFN is comprised of national societies and the membership of those national societies are automatically mem-



Jim and Pat Toole.

bers, so long as they pay dues of \$5.00 per year per member.

There has been some discussion of what groups constitute members of various national organizations. Do these include paramedical individuals and those physicians from other disciplines who also have membership in the neurological organization of the nation under discussion? This is particularly true of Eastern Europe and Asia, where combinations of neurology, psychiatry, and neurosurgery are the mode. In some locations, more than one organization has joined and it has been

the responsibility of the national organizations to allocate dues, so those members do not pay twice, i.e., pay for each organization that they belong to. These minor problems are easily solved. The more overwhelming one, however, is the fact that the WFN has little name recognition and its members, i.e., the national organizations, do not seem to publicize their membership to the members of their organizations. We need a very vigorous public relations campaign not only to the laity but also to neurologists worldwide, so they can have "ownership" as dues paying members of the WFN and identify

with it. This will be done under the vigorous leadership of First Vice President-Elect Johan Aarli and his Committee on Public Relations.

As part of this effort, I advocate that the WFN restructure its membership to include individuals, as well as national groups, and to establish levels of membership commensurate with contributions to the WFN and to neurology in general.

It is a disappointment to me that substantial numbers of copies of *World Neurology* do not reach the persons to whom they are addressed but are returned or discarded by the postal systems of various nations. For this reason, I suggest that we have a continuing interaction with national societies to establish more reliable distribution systems and enlarge our website for continuing education.

In a final act of this administration, I have charged an Ad Hoc Committee on Structure and Function, chaired by Dr. Julien Bogousslavsky, to consider successes and failures of this administration and to make recommendations for improvements in subsequent ones, for making the WFN even better in the future because, at long last, there is evidence that our collective neurological voice is being heard worldwide! I suggest that you communicate your ideas for the WFN to his Committee at julien.bogousslavsky@chuv.hospvd.ch.

Ave atque vale!

James F. Toole, M.D.
President WFN

WFN ELECTIONS: NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Nominating Committee of the World Federation of Neurology, having invited nominations from a wide range of individuals and organizations, recommends to the membership through their representatives on the Council of Delegates those listed below as candidates for election as WFN trustees in accordance with the Federation's Memorandum and Articles of Association. The trustee post of Secretary-Treasurer General is being contested in 2002, having been deliberately omitted from the elections held in June 2001 in order to allow overlap between the outgoing and incoming administrations. The current holder, Dr Richard Godwin-Austen, is eligible to stand for re-election and will be doing so. The WFN's Articles of Association (its new 'constitution') created three new posts of 'Elected Trustee' as

part of the management team responsible for running the organization on behalf of the Council of Delegates. The single Elected Trustee vacancy in 2002 arises because the Articles provide for the most senior of the three to retire each year and

stand, if he or she wishes, for re-election. Because the June 2001 elections were the first of their kind, all three Elected Trustees were chosen simultaneously and therefore, in the absence of any seniority, lots were drawn among the three successful

GLAXOSMITHKLINE JUNIOR TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS – 2002

GlaxoSmithKline are again generously providing funding for a number of Junior Travelling Fellowships – each worth up to £1,000 – for young neurologists from developing countries to attend WFN approved congresses in 2002. Applicants should hold a post not above that of Associate Professor and should not be over the age of 42 years. Applications (one clear copy of CV, a letter of recommendation from Head of Department, a covering letter giving name and date of congress for which travel funds are sought and whether the applicant is presenting a paper or poster, plus an estimate of expenses) must be sent to the WFN London Office to arrive by 15 February 2002.

candidates at the 2001 elections with the following result:

Dr Julien Bogousslavsky – 3 years

(serves until 2004)

Dr William Carroll – 2 years (serves until 2003)

Dr Roberto Sica – 1 year (serves until 2002)

Dr Sica therefore retires first and will be standing for re-election.

It is open to anyone to make additional

nominations for either Secretary-Treasurer General or Elected Trustee by

- Securing the supporting signatures of five or more authorised delegates
- Submitting the name(s) of the individual(s) in question to the Secretary-Treasurer General, c/o the London Secretariat office, at least thirty days prior to the AGM (the date of which is likely to be 7 July 2002), specifying the post for which they are a candidate.

Recommended candidates for election:

Secretary-Treasurer General:

Dr Robert Daroff (USA)

Dr Richard Godwin-Austen (UK)

Elected Trustee:

Dr Marianne de Visser (Netherlands)

Dr Asma Fischer (USA)

Dr Amos Korczyn (Israel)

Dr Roberto Sica (Argentina)

Dr Donald Silberberg (USA)

Dr Noshir Wadia (India)

TRIBUTES TO JAMES F. TOOLE, PRESIDENT WFN

I am grateful for this opportunity given to me to honour James Toole. During my presidency 1981–1989 he was a constant supporter. I can honestly say that the advances in strength and programmes of the WFN during that period are directly related to his efforts and contribution. Whatever was accomplished during my term as President was possible because of his support, assistance and initiative.

Jim Toole's services to the World Federation of Neurology have been beyond praise. Many years ago, I came to know well and to admire Jim as a neurologist, not least because of his outstanding leadership of the department at Bowman-Gray Medical School in Winston-Salem, which he led with distinction, but also because of his outstanding contributions to clinical neuroscience, principally in the field of stroke. I had the privilege on more than one occasion of visiting his department as a visiting professor and was greatly impressed with his contributions to teaching and research in our field of medicine.

At a time when I myself was serving as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences* and subsequently as Chairman of the Research Committee of the

WFN, I was delighted when Dick Masland, as President of the organization, chose Jim as his Secretary-Treasurer General, as I knew full well that Jim would prove to be an outstanding Secretary-Treasurer General and indeed this was soon very clearly the case. He brought an exceptional administrative flair to the affairs of the Federation, and it was he and Dick who initiated the idea of publishing a newsletter entitled 'World Neurology', to bring the affairs of the Federation to the attention of neurologists across the world. It was Jim, too, with his dedicated staff who first established a major database of WFN members the world over. When I myself became President of the WFN in 1989, I was delighted that Jim agreed to edit the Federation's official journal, the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, a task to which he devoted, as I had expected, his considerable energies and editorial skills.

My wife, Betty, and I shared many fascinating experiences with Jim and his wife, Pat, in countries across the world when attending WFN meetings. In particular, a splendid evening in Bali at the Asian and Oceanian Congress stands out in the mind. And I could not possibly have been more

pleased when Jim was elected to succeed me at the end of 1997 when my eight fruitful and enjoyable years as President of the WFN came to a close.

In his four memorable years of Presidency, Jim introduced many new initiatives into the WFN's affairs and has led the organization with grace and distinction, culminating in a magnificent World Congress in London in June 2001. The Federation owes him and his wife, Pat, a very great debt of gratitude. His contributions will be long remembered and I am sure that, like me, he will take an avuncular, if slightly distant, interest in the activities of the WFN in the years to come.

John Walton

(Lord Walton of Detchant)
Oxford, UK

Graduation time is upon Dr. James F. Toole after two decades of illustrious service with unparalleled dedication and multifarious accomplishments not only as President but also as Secretary-Treasurer and Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*. During his term in the current office, he established a Secretariat in London, incorporated the Federation under UK Charity Commission, set up the WFN Foundation in the United States, and initiated a number of priority programs of global importance such as education and closer dialogue with the WHO. He was also instrumental in assisting our English colleagues in organizing a most successful WCN 2001 in London. When we took office together four years ago more or less as a stranger to each other, I asked one of our common associates what kind of guy Jim is. He replied, with tongue in cheek, "Jim is not like you", which can have many different interpretations! But now I think I know what is meant because, under his strong leadership, the Federation has undergone unprecedented changes in its structure and orientation with newly iden-



Former WFN President Lord Walton of Detchant (standing, right) with Jim Toole (standing, left).

tified missions. We were indeed fortunate to have him at the helm in this important juncture as his goal-oriented stance mobilized all of us to achieve difficult tasks. Jim, with his wife Pat, also traveled extensively on behalf of WFN, playing a gracious role of goodwill ambassadors. Watching him work as hard as he did, it is with trepidation that I undertake the task of Presidency, which to me is like a set of twin babies: it is dandy if somebody else has it. We will miss his initiatives but he has made our task a bit easier by setting up a new direction in repurposing our organization, which we will follow with renewed enthusiasm. My wife, Junko, joins me in wishing Jim and Pat good health, great happiness and continued success in their future endeavors. We hope our paths will cross often during the year 2002 and beyond.



Jun Kimura
President Elect-WFN
Kyoto, Japan

I have known Jim Toole for several decades, long before I was the UK delegate to the World Federation of Neurology (WFN) more than twenty years ago. He had been joint Secretary-Treasurer General with Armand Lowenthal and I succeeded him in 1989. During his tenure the newsletter was edited by the president, Professor Richard Masland (whom I succeeded as editor in 1989). Since 1997 the newsletter is excellently edited by Professor Jagjit Chopra. Jim invited me to visit him in Winston-Salem where the administrative functions of the WFN had been housed. He continued to serve on the Management Committee of the WFN as Editor of the *Journal of Neurological Sciences*, the scientific journal of the WFN. We continued to work together closely during this period. Armand Lowenthal retired in 1993 so that the job of Secretary-Treasurer General changed significantly and the administrative staff of the WFN increased, firstly by a secretary in 1993 followed by an administrator (Keith Newton) in 1997. The office was established in London under Jim's presidency in 1998. Initially funds were low but with the increasing success of Congresses in which the WFN shared the profits, sufficient monies were accumulated to pay for the headquarters and its staff. The World Con-

gress of Neurology held in London in 2001 attracted 6,700 participants and was the largest ever (c. 5,000 in Buenos Aires in 1997, over 3,000 in Vancouver in 1993 and over 2,000 in Delhi in 1989). The WFN share of the profits of the London Congress is substantial, so that the future position of the WFN is assured.

During Jim's presidency the aim for the WFN to become a corporate body was realized. Before this time the Management Committee met every year and the Council of Delegates met only every two years but, with its incorporation, the Council now meets every year with a quorum of 15. Under Jim's presidency, the WFN has gone from strength to strength with the Research Groups becoming more active. I have little doubt that he will hand over a flourishing organization to his successor, Professor Jun Kimura and the future of the WFN is bright with the ever greater promise of consolidation, prestige and influence.



F. Clifford-Rose
Former Secretary-Treasurer General
London, UK

At the end of the calendar year 2001 James Toole will complete his term as President of the World Federation of Neurology. Jim has been one of those all too few neurologists who has understood the significance of the global nature of our specialty and the importance of personally contributing to its growth. This global perspective, all the more important since the recent rise of international terrorism, has been a motivating force for this academician whose career has included sub-

stantive contributions to countless aspects of academic and scientific neurology. Jim was born in Atlanta, Georgia and educated at Princeton, Cornell, Queen Square and the University of Pennsylvania. He is most firmly identified with the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, North Carolina where he has been since 1962. In addition to his exemplary and unflinching service to world neurology through the World Federation, he has made major and singular contributions to the fields of neuroimaging, cerebrovascular diseases and our understanding of the implications of neurologic disease in world leaders. He has worked tirelessly for many years to have the World Health Organization recognize the field of neurology as a discipline worthy of standing on its own feet; a task which has yet to be completed. He has been elected President of the American Neurologic Association and the American Society of Neuroimaging as well as serving on innumerable national and international scientific and administrative committees.

His devotion of time and energy to the World Federation of Neurology deserves special recognition by all neurologists. It has been my great privilege to work closely with Jim over the past several years as he has led an effort which has resulted in major changes and new directions for this organization. Jim has tirelessly served the WFN for over 20 years in many capacities including Editor of the *Journal of Neurological Sciences*, Secretary General, Management Committee member and during the last four years as President. In this last capacity he has guided the organization in establishing the first permanent home in London and constructing a new constitution as a U.K. based charity corporation. Under his leadership the WFN has modernized with an active website, new communication procedures, a larger committee structure and a series of creative educational programs directed primarily at

MINUTES OF COUNCIL OF DELEGATES AND WFN COMMITTEES

For many years it has been the tradition to re-print the Minutes of meetings of the Council of Delegates and of WFN Committees in the *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*. At their meeting in San Diego in April 2000, the WFN Management Committee considered whether this should continue, given the fact that its prime purpose is to serve as the Federation's academic forum presenting high quality neuroscience. The Management Committee therefore decided to discontinue the practice and, instead, add these Minutes to the WFN website. Members who are interested may access them there. Members without Internet access may still receive copies of the Minutes of the Council of Delegates or of any WFN Committee by writing to or faxing the Administrator at the London Secretariat Office.

developing countries. Jim will be leaving the Presidency of the WFN at the end of his term, undoubtedly to continue his peripatetic activities in national and international neurology to the benefit of all of us and all of our patients. He can leave with the knowledge that he has indeed made a difference and for this we all thank him and wish him well.

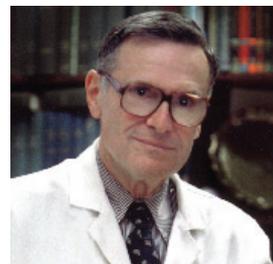


Theodore L. Munsat
Chairman, Research & Education
Committee, Boston, MA, USA

I have known Jim Toole longer than most neurologists. In 1959, as a third year med-

ical student at the University of Pennsylvania committed to becoming a psychoanalyst, I came upon a young (34 year old) Assistant Professor of Neurology who, along with a few other stellar clinicians, redirected me out of the ethers into a career in Neurology. His lectures (usually without slides in those years) were sparkingly crisp, and his patient encounters displayed confidence and compassion. During my senior year, after being accepted into a Neurology residency at Yale, I took an elective preceptorship under Jim. Jim went to Winston-Salem in 1962, where his career blossomed, as will be noted elsewhere in this issue of *World Neurology*. We saw each other at the usual meetings, and maintained a close personal friendship, enhanced by a good friend of Jim and Pat in Winston-Salem, who was my wife's favorite aunt. Our relationship became intermeshed when, in his capacity as Secretary-Treasurer General of the WFN, he had me appointed as a member

of the Finance Committee in 1985, and Chair of the newly formed Publications Committee in 1987. In 1999, we combined the committees. Thus, I've worked extremely closely with Jim throughout his tenure as Secretary-Treasurer General, Editor of *JNS*, and President of the WFN. His energy level, enthusiasm, and administrative skills are unsurpassed. The WFN, our specialty, and the public's health are all in his debt.



Robert B. Daroff
Chair, Finance & Publication Committee,
Cleveland, OH, USA

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ZINC AND BRAIN ISCHEMIA**Introduction**

The brain's regrettable vulnerability to ischemic injury appears to reflect not only a brisk metabolic rate and dependence on externally supplied glucose, but also a propensity for its own inter- and intracellular signaling mechanisms to become harmful under ischemic conditions. These mechanisms are normally responsible for information processing, but in the ischemic brain they hasten energy failure and enhance final pathways to cell death. These pathways include free radical production, the activation of catabolic enzymes, plasma and internal membrane failure, programmed cell death, and inflammation. The neurotransmitter most strongly linked to promoting ischemic

brain injury is the amino acid glutamate, which mediates fast excitatory synaptic transmission throughout the brain and which can, upon ischemia-induced build-up in the extracellular space, be neurotoxic (excitotoxicity). Loss of tissue perfusion is followed within minutes by ATP depletion and cell membrane depolarization; the latter triggers sustained glutamate release from neurons and glia, leading to overactivation of postsynaptic glutamate receptors and consequential lethal disturbances in ionic homeostasis. Much attention over the last 15 years has focused upon the toxic importance of excess Ca^{2+} entering via glutamate-activated, *N*-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor-gated channels, as well as via voltage-gated calcium channels and reverse

NEW WFN TIE

One of the many success stories of the London World Congress was the launch of the new WFN silk tie, a reversal (blue 'Circle of Willis' on a red background) of the traditional tie worn by WFN members for a number of years now. For those who missed the opportunity to acquire this souvenir of a memorable Congress when in London or who could not attend WCN 2001, ties are available from the London Secretariat Office at the same price as the blue version £20.00 (U.S.\$30.00) Ladies scarves (blue only, 31×31 inches) are also available for £30.00 (US\$50). Orders with payment to: WFN Secretariat, 12 Chandos Street, London W1G 9DR, UK.



operation of the $\text{Na}^{+}\text{-Ca}^{2+}$ exchanger. But more recently, evidence has been emerging that a "dark horse" culprit – another divalent cation, Zn^{2+} – may be responsible for a portion of the damage previously blamed on glutamate and Ca^{2+} (Lee et al 1999a).

Zinc neurotoxicity

Zinc, the second most abundant transition metal in the human body, is present in all cells, for the most part tightly bound to proteins such as metalloenzymes and transcription factors where it serves catalytic and structural roles. In the brain, there is an additional substantial pool of chelatable Zn^{2+} , largely localized to synaptic vesicles in glutamatergic nerve terminals (Frederickson, 1989). This synaptic Zn^{2+} is released in a Ca^{2+} -dependent fashion with depolarization, and can alter the behavior of several transmitter receptors and voltage-gated channels, including in particular NMDA receptors. Zinc directly inhibits NMDA receptor activation, but then subsequently may trigger a lasting Src kinase-mediated upregulation of the same receptors (Manzerra et al 2001). The normal functional significance of such Zn^{2+} signaling is presently unknown, but experience with accidental acute oral Zn^{2+} chelation in adults has suggested that the signaling Zn^{2+} pools may be especially labile, and that profound disturbances in mentation result from their depletion (Henkin et al 1975).

BRAIN AWARENESS WEEK

Brain Awareness Week is a major international effort organised each year by the European Dana Alliance for the Brain (EDAB) to communicate the progress, promise and benefits of brain research to a wider audience not only in Europe but in countries as far afield as Asia, Australia and Africa. It has been organised by EDAB since 1998 and it becomes more successful every year. EDAB help to stage hundreds of events that inform the public and policy makers, in many different ways, of the importance of brain research and the advances in treatment and rehabilitation. Participants are individual members of the public, medical and science professionals and organisations ranging from hospital and university departments to charities. Taking part in Brain Awareness Week helps organisations, no matter how big or small, to gain greater recognition as part of a global campaign. Next year's Brain Awareness Week will take place from 11–17 March 2002. To find out more, contact Lisa Cokayne-Naylor on +44 (0)20 7937 8771 or email edab@which.net.

Whatever the normal function of brain Zn^{2+} , one can expect that the same pathological conditions that promote excess transmitter glutamate release will concurrently promote excess transmitter Zn^{2+} release from the same excitatory nerve terminals. Experiments with cultured neurons have revealed that exposure to concentrations of extracellular Zn^{2+} plausibly attained in the ischemic brain – circa 50–100 μM – can kill central neurons, especially if the neurons are depolarized (Choi and Koh 1998). The first step in Zn^{2+} -mediated neuronal death, like Ca^{2+} -mediated neuronal death, appears to be excess entry across the plasma membrane, likely through depolarization-activated voltage-sensitive Ca^{2+} channels, transport exchange for intracellular Na^+ , and glutamate receptor-gated channels (especially Ca^{2+} -permeable alpha-amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazolepropionic acid (AMPA) receptors. Utilizing the low affinity Zn^{2+} indicator, Newport Green, my laboratory has estimated that intracellular free Zn^{2+} concentrations in neurons subjected to toxic Zn^{2+} exposure may reach 300 nM, a concentration far in excess of the binding affinity of many macromolecules for Zn^{2+} . Normal resting intracellular Zn^{2+} concentrations may be essentially zero (Outten and O'Halloran 2001), so such abnormal Zn^{2+} availability may lead to perturbations in many processes. Key among these may be energy production, as Zn^{2+} inhibits glycolysis in large part due to blockade at the level of glyceraldehyde-3-dehydrogenase. The nature of the neuronal death that ensues depends on the intensity of Zn^{2+} exposure – at lower concentrations, apoptosis results, whereas at higher concentrations, neurons develop massive cell body swelling and undergo necrosis.

This process of Zn^{2+} -induced neuronal death likely occurs in the ischemic brain. The idea that Zn^{2+} neurotoxicity might contribute specifically to ischemic brain damage was raised by Tonder et al (1990), who demonstrated that transient global ischemia in rats was associated with depletion of Zn^{2+} from hippocampal mossy fibers, and the abnormal appearance of Zn^{2+} in the cell bodies of degenerating target CA3 or hilar neurons. The connection between Zn^{2+} and ischemic neuronal death was strengthened by the observation that Zn^{2+} translocation from presynaptic terminals into selectively vulnerable postsynaptic neuronal cell bodies occurred in a widespread fashion throughout several other brain regions, including cortex, striatum, amygdala, and thalamus, and that this Zn^{2+} translocation occurred prior to neuronal degeneration (Koh et

WFN ZAMBIA PROJECT – WFN NEUROLOGICAL INSTRUCTOR FOR AFRICA

As part of the WFN Zambia Project (Director: Dr. Gretchen Birbeck, Chair, WFN Education Committee's Sub-committee on Education of Non-neurologists), the WFN has agreed with Chainama College of Health Sciences in Lusaka, Zambia to supply a neurological training instructor for their Clinical Officer programme. There are no neurological specialists in Zambia; what care there is available being delivered by Clinical Officers (paramedics) who attempt with insufficient resources to cover all healthcare areas. The WFN seeks a neurologist volunteer willing to spend up to a month in Lusaka in order to impart his or her knowledge and expertise. The volunteer's airfare will be covered by the WFN and Chainama College will be able to offer modest accommodation and subsistence. Any WFN member interested in this opportunity is asked to contact the Administrator at the WFN Secretariat, 12 Chandos Street, London W1G 9DR, UK (Fax: +44 (0)20 7323 4012; e-mail: WFNLondon@aol.com), indicating relevant experience, by 28 February 2002.

al 1996). Furthermore, intracerebroventricular injection of the membrane-impermeant chelator CaEDTA (ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid saturated with equimolar Ca^{2+} , which does not bind extracellular Ca^{2+} but will avidly bind Zn^{2+}) prior to ischemia produced a marked reduction in Zn^{2+} translocation into selectively vulnerable neurons, and also reduced the delayed death of these neurons.

It is possible that toxic Zn^{2+} translocation may also contribute somewhat to focal ischemic brain injury, although in this setting it is probably much less important than glutamate-induced Ca^{2+} overload. Rats subjected to mild transient middle cerebral artery occlusion (MCAO) exhibit early Zn^{2+} translocation, followed by delayed cerebral infarction reaching completion 3 days after the insult (Lee et al 1999b). Intracerebroventricular administration of CaEDTA prior to ischemia attenuated Zn^{2+} translocation and delay infarction, but this protective effect was lost completely when infarct volume was measured at a later time point, or if the duration of ischemia was increased. These observations suggest that toxic zinc translocation may accelerate the development of cerebral infarction following mild transient focal ischemia, and that perhaps inhibition of zinc toxicity may increase the time available to administer a more definitive neuroprotective therapy.

Implications for neurology

For starters, work needs to be done to understand how Zn^{2+} signaling contributes to normal brain function. Are there any disorders of mentation due to abnormalities in this system? And the hypothesis that Zn^{2+} mediates neuronal death after ischemic insults – as well as after certain

other acute insults, such as trauma, or prolonged seizures – raises the prospect of new strategies for neuroprotective intervention. The approach utilized successfully in rat models of ischemia – immediate delivery of an extracellular Zn^{2+} chelator to the cerebrospinal fluid might itself prove feasible in patients resuscitated after in-hospital cardiac arrest, if emergency neurosurgical services are available. However, further study will be needed to determine whether adequate delivery to vulnerable neurons can be achieved by such means in human brains, which are of course much larger than rat brains.

A more tractable method for inhibiting cellular Zn^{2+} overload may be to administer a membrane permeable Zn^{2+} chelator, capable of crossing into the brain after systemic administration. Most likely, such a membrane permeable chelator would need to have only limited affinity for Zn^{2+} , capable of binding only dangerously high levels of Zn^{2+} , but not disturbing intracellular Zn^{2+} homeostasis or depriving metalloenzymes of their Zn^{2+} requirement. Another attractive approach may be to interfere with the pathways by which Zn^{2+} enters neurons, in particular L-type voltage gated Ca^{2+} channels. Indeed, reduction of toxic Zn^{2+} influx may underlie some of the inconsistent beneficial effects of voltage-gated Ca^{2+} -channel antagonists observed in animal models of transient global ischemia. Further delineation of the precise routes responsible for toxic Zn^{2+} influx may permit greater reduction in this toxic Zn^{2+} overload. Other possible approaches would be 1) to reduce Zn^{2+} storage in, or release from, nerve terminals; or 2) to improve the ability of postsynaptic neurons to recover Zn^{2+} homeostasis after toxic overload, for example by modifying neuronal Zn^{2+} transporters to improve the extrusion or sequestration of in-

tracellular Zn^{2+} , or by upregulating intracellular Zn^{2+} -binding proteins such as metallothioneins.

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Dennis W. Choi, MD, PhD
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO, USA

WFN REGIONAL NEWS

Report from the 33rd International Danube Symposium

The 33rd International Danube Symposium for Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education took place in Lublin, Poland, from 29 August to 01 September, 2001. The Symposium, held under the auspices of the Polish Minister of Health Care, Professor Grzegorz Opala, gathered together 320 participants from 21 countries, mainly from Belarus, Slovakia, Ukraine, Germany, Hungary, Croatia, and Poland. During 10 scientific sessions, 43 invited speakers summarized the new achievements in management of stroke, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, dementia, and Parkinson's disease.

The Symposium was preceded by four teaching courses on: Botulinum Toxin Treatment, Progress in Treatment of Status Epilepticus, Neurosonology, and Evoked Potentials. Participants were especially interested in the practical display of botulinum toxin injections. After the teaching courses the YNT (The European Association of Young Neurologists and Trainees) meeting was held under the leadership of the President of the YNT, Dr. Konrad Rejdak (Poland).

During the Opening Ceremony, diplomas giving honorary membership of the Polish Neurological Society were awarded to Professor James F. Toole, President of the World Federation of Neurology and Professor Teofan Domzal (Poland). Also during the ceremony the University School of Medicine in Lublin honored Professor James Toole and Professor Franz Gerstenbrand, Past President of EFNS and Honorary President of the Danube Symposium, with 50th Anniversary medals of the University School in Lublin, in recognition of their active co-operation. Honorary Danube lectures were delivered by Professor James Toole (USA), Professor Irena Hausmanowa-Petrusewicz, Honorary President of the Polish Neurological Society (Poland), Professor Laszlo Vecsei, Secretary General of the Danube Symposium (Hungary) and Professor Tomasz Trojanowski, President of the Polish Neurological Society (Poland).

Updating all general neurologists, especially the young European neurologists, on new trends in neurology is the main goal of the Danube Symposium. For many years, the Danube Symposium has been held either in Krems, a small city near Vienna in Austria, or alternately in one of the other countries on the Danube river.

Therefore Austria has assumed the role of a 'bridge' linking Eastern and Western Europe. This year it was the privilege of Poland to organize the 33rd Danube Symposium, even though the Danube does not pass through Poland.

Anna Szczepanska-Szerej, Joanna Wojczal, Kinga Buraczynska,
Dept. of Neurology, University School of Medicine, Lublin, Poland

Central and Eastern European Stroke Society

The Central and Eastern European Stroke Society (CEESS) was founded in 1995 at the initiative of Professor Zoltan Nagy from Budapest. 16 states from this region, which up to the 1990's had been politically and economically isolated from the Western World, formed the Society. According to data published by the World Health Organization mortality and incidence rates of stroke were very high in these countries. In contrast to Western Europe there has been little improvement over the last 30 years. We are also conscious of how much there is to be done in this area in our countries. We need to improve stroke management and also develop stroke research. The aim of forming the Central and Eastern European Stroke Society is to create a working group to discuss our problems and establish collaboration with our western colleagues. Among the activities of the CEESS are educational courses where lecturers and researchers from all over Europe come together to share their knowledge and experience.

The 3rd Educational Course of the Central and Eastern European Stroke Society took place in Warsaw, Poland, from the 25th to the 28th of August, 2001, and was organized in collaboration with the 33rd International Danube Symposium of Neurological Sciences and Continuing Education, the Polish National Program for



During the scientific session of the 33rd International Danube Symposium in Lublin, Poland. From the left: Prof. Laszlo Vecsei (Hungary), Prof. Franz Gerstenbrand (Austria), Prof. James Toole (USA) and Prof. Zbigniew Stelmasiak (Poland).



Group photograph taken at the 3rd Educational Course of the CEES, August 2001, Lublin, Poland.

Stroke Prevention and Treatment of the Cerebrovascular Section of the Polish Neurological Society. The course was organized under the chairmanship of Prof. A. Czlonkowska, from the 2nd Dept. of Neurology of the Institute of Psychiatry

and Neurology in Warsaw, Poland, and by the efforts of her co-workers, especially Drs M. Niewada and A. Kobayashi. 91 participants from 11 countries of this region took part in the conference. The Organizing Committee decided to focus

on Stroke Prevention. Each afternoon there were six workshops in three smaller groups. Prof. J. Toole, President of the World Federation of Neurology, gave an opening lecture on 'Neurology of the Future' and led the workshop on 'Vitamin Intervention for Stroke Prevention'. Prof. F. Gerstenbrand, the former President of the European Federation of Neurological Societies and Danube Symposium, gave a lecture on 'Large Infarction of the Middle Cerebral Artery: Clinical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Aspects'. Among the other lecturers from abroad were the President and founder of the CEES, Z. Nagy, the President Elect of the CEES, M. Brainin (Austria), and several others from various countries. 18 delegates from Poland also delivered lectures. During the course, Prof. Nagy completed his term of chairing the CEES, and was succeeded by the President Elect, Prof. Michael Brainin, who took over chairmanship.

WFN RESEARCH GROUP REPORTS

Neurogenetics Research Group

Our main educational activity in the year 2000 was a full-day symposium held on May 6 in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology in San Diego, California. This symposium was held at the Centre for Molecular Genetics at the Medical School Campus of the University of California at San Diego in La Jolla, California, and was sponsored by Glaxo-Wellcome Canada. The morning session consisted of a symposium on clinical, genetic and molecular aspects of disorders of cortical migration and organization chaired by myself and by Dr. Joseph Gleeson, the local organizer of the meeting, and a speaker in the symposium. This was followed by a luncheon business meeting and an afternoon of free communications. The other activities of the Research Group included submission of three symposia on Neurogenetics to the Program Committee of the London meeting, two of which were accepted, including one full day symposium on Neurogenetics. In addition, a number of other symposia related to neurogenetics were suggested, many of which were accepted in modified form. However, in contrast to previous meetings, the Neurogenetics Research Group was not involved in the actual organization of these symposia.

As Chairperson of the Research Group, I was also involved in reviewing abstracts on topics related to neurogenetics for the

London Meeting. With respect to our finances, the current balance is approximately US\$1,000.

Dr. Eva Andermann

Director, Neurogenetics Unit
Montreal Neurological Hospital & Institute
McGill University, Canada

Research Group on Neuroimaging Year 2000

Since our February 2000 report, the Research Group on Neuroimaging has led the following activities:

Mailing to the National Delegates of the WFN encouraging new members

A note was sent to all the National Delegates of the WFN informing them of the activities of the Group and encouraging them to nominate new members for the Research Group on Neuroimaging.

Proposal of Neuroimaging Symposium for the 2001 Congress

Instead of a symposium organized solely by our Group, the Neuroimaging Group worked with the Neuroradiology Group to offer a symposium on the neuroimaging of Alzheimer's disease. The Group also arranged for a presentation on brain imaging by magnetic resonance imaging at super-high field (8 Tesla), with a lecture by Dr. Alayar Kangarlu, one of the pioneers in the development of this revolutionary technique.

Survey of Functional Neuroimaging Training Sites

This survey continues. In collaboration with the Neuroimaging Section of the American Academy of Neurology, the Research Group undertook a survey of programs that train physicians and particularly, neurologists, in the performance of functional brain imaging. The survey instrument was posted at http://neurology.nymc.edu/nirgwfn/functional_training.htm

Research using functional neuroimaging is providing important information not only on the normal function of the brain, but on the distribution and nature of several neurological disorders, including Alzheimer's. For this reason, the Research Group wants to facilitate training of qualified individuals in the techniques of functional neuroimaging.

Financial Statement

Dr. Kurt Jellinger continues to be the Treasurer of the Research Group. As indicated in the previous report, there were no funds in the treasury for 1999. No funds have accrued, neither expenses paid since his report. The costs of putting up the Web site for the Group (<http://neurology.nymc.edu/nirgwfn/>) and of the different mailings have been borne by my office.

As the Group expands, we hope to have some funds available.

Dr. Joseph C. Masdeu

Professor and Director of Neurological Sciences
University of Navarre, Spain

WFN JUNIOR TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS 2001 – REPORTS

I am grateful to the WFN Committee for awarding the 2001 WFN Junior Travelling Fellowship that enabled me to attend the XVII World Congress of Neurology held in London. The scientific program of the conference contained a very wide range of topics such as Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Neuromuscular Disorders, Epilepsy and Dementia. The session on Stroke was highly informative especially regarding the controversies in management. I was very much impressed by the emphasis laid by various experts on the role of Stroke Units in improving the outcome of stroke patients. A comprehensive update on newer modalities of treatment in Dementia, Multiple Sclerosis and Headache disorders were highlighted in the symposiums. The poster sessions gave me an excellent opportunity to interact with researchers from different countries. It was a great pleasure to watch the Neurological Tournament, especially the finals. It was an opportunity to present two of my papers 'Iatrogenic Meningitis following Lumbar Puncture' (poster) and 'Prevalence of Neurological Diseases in Slums of Ludhiana city'.

Dr. Jeyaraj D. Pandian
Christian Medical College
Ludhiana, India

Thanks to a Glaxo Junior Fellowship 2001 I have taken part in XVII World Congress of Neurology in London, 17-22 June 2001. I found that most interesting were the smaller half day symposia on Critical Care in Neurology, Coma and Stroke. I appre-

ciated the closer contact with us, the audience, there than in the main sessions with about 1,000 people in one hall. I learnt new information on stroke regarding thrombolysis, pathogenesis and epidemiology of stroke. I met not only new friends among neurologists from abroad but also have kept closer contacts with Czech participants. I have also taken part in the so called "Fun run" in Hyde Park (in the non-competitive 5 km run I was the second to finish it) and other social events organized during the Congress.

Zdenek Novotny
Neurological Department
District Hospital
Pardubice, Czech Republic

BOOK REVIEWS

Memory Disorders in Psychiatric Practice

Editors: German E. Berrios and John R. Hodges
ISBN: 0 521 57671 7
No. of Pages: 520
Price: £39.95 (US\$64.95)
Publication date: 2000
Publisher: Cambridge University Press

Memory complaints are a common presentation of psychiatric as well as neurological ailments. This book illustrates psychiatric and organic aspects of memory disorders with a multi-disciplinary approach. There are 23 chapters contributed by more than 30 experts of international repute. The first part of the book deals with historical and neuro-biological accounts of the memory. It is followed by frequent memory disorders seen in clinical practice. These include neurological syndromes of dementias, transient global amnesia, amnesic syndrome and psychiatric aspects of memory dysfunction seen in functional psychosis and depressive pseudo-dementia. Among the specific topics reviewed in the last part are paramnesias, *deja-vu*, confabulations, flashbulb and flashback memories, Ganser syndrome and the problems of recovered, false and feigned memories. The chapter of legal aspects of memory disorders is relevant to a wide variety of legal issues. It is a welcome addition to already existing excellent books on memory. It highlights a psychiatric approach to memory complaints and will interest Psychiatrists, Clinical Psychologists and Neurologists involved in

the care of amnesic patients.

Assistant Editor

Thrombolytic Therapy for Stroke

Editor: Patrick D. Lyden
ISBN: 0-896-03746-0
No. of Pages: 410
Price: US\$125.00
Publication Date: March 2001
Publisher: The Humana Press

This book is a classic and worth reading by anyone who is a practising general physician, a neurophysician or the one working in a stroke unit and treating patients of acute ischaemic stroke. The utility and limitations of Thrombolytic Therapy are discussed threadbare. This book presents multiple viewpoints including the critical analysis and views of Dr. Lou Caplan, an authority on treatment of stroke patients in chapter 13. The book is divided into four major parts and consists of 18 chapters. The first part of three chapters is devoted to background and basic investigations. Part II discusses the scientific rationale and clinical trials in 8 chapters including the intravenous thrombolytic therapy for acute ischaemic stroke. Part III of 7 chapters is on using thrombolysis for acute stroke and Part IV contains illustrative cases. Twenty three authors have contributed to this book, all of whom are well known personalities engaged in the management of stroke patients. It is a useful book for the centers treating patients of stroke and also a very knowledgeable piece of information for general physicians.

Editor-in-Chief

Esclerosis Lateral Amiotrofica y Enfermedades Relacionadas

A true measure of the intellectual and economical inroads being achieved in the neurological and rehabilitation sciences in South America is this volume on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and other Motor Neuron Diseases edited by Roberto EP Sica and Alberto Dubrovsky. They have assembled a national roster of scientific, clinical and rehabilitation expertise to provide the world with the first monograph concerning amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and other motor neuron diseases in the Spanish language. Their task is a tribute

(cont. on page 16)

BOOKS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The London Office of the WFN Secretariat keeps a stock of neurological text-books that have been received for review in *World Neurology* and can be forwarded to institutional/departmental libraries in developing countries. A list is available on application to the Administrator. If you are interested in any of the books and can either collect them when visiting London or pay for the mailing costs (postage can be expensive) please let us know.

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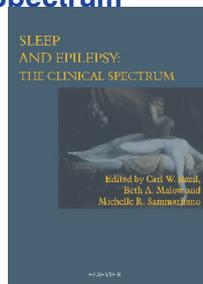
Edited by: Carl W. Bazil, Beth A. Malow and Michele R. Sammaritano

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54th American Academy of Neurology
13–20 April 2002, Denver, CO, USA

16th Annual APSS meeting
8–13 June 2002, Seattle, WA, USA

Xth Int. Congress on Neuromuscular Disorders
7–12 July 2002, Vancouver, BC, Canada

8th Int Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
20–25 July 2002, Stockholm, Sweden

10th World Congress on Pain (IASP)
7–22 August 2002, San Diego, CA, USA

14th European Congress of Clinical Neurophysiology (IFCN)
24–28 August 2002, Barcelona, Spain

The 9th Int Child Neurology Congress (ICNA) & 7th Asian and Oceanian Congress of Child Neurology
20–25 September 2002, Beijing, P.R. China

Joint ECTRIMS/ACTRIMS Meeting
18–21 September 2002, Baltimore, MD, USA

ECNP Meeting,
5–9 October 2002, Barcelona, Spain

American Neurological Association
13–16 October 2002, New York, NY, USA

6th Congress of the European Federation of Neurological Societies (EFNS)
26–29 October 2002, Vienna, Austria

Society for Neuroscience
3–7 November 2002, Orlando, FL, USA

Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disease Annual Meeting
1–3 December 2002, New York, NY, USA

American Epilepsy Society Annual meeting
6–11 December 2002, Seattle, WA, USA

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The Official Journal of the Association for Research in Nervous and Mental Disorders

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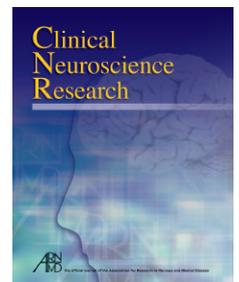
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(Cont. from page 13)

to the world-wide efforts that will be required to limit the personal, familial and social devastation caused by these diseases. There is careful framework for the classification, nosology, diagnostic and clinical features of motor neuron diseases in chapters 1-4. Chapter 5 integrates the known epidemiology of motor neuron diseases, especially ALS, worldwide with features unique to South America, particularly Argentina. A welcome addition, is the careful review in chapter 6 on post-polio motor neuron diseases which highlights clinical insights regarding the effect of aging in bringing out some of the symptomatology. In chapter 7, provide a timely and up-to-date review of this ever changing field which serves to reinforce the well-referenced neuropathological review by Sevlever.

This Spanish-language source book in the diagnosis and treatment of ALS and other motor neuron diseases summarizes the clinical expertise and experience of many contributors regarding the treatment and management of patients with these disorders. The chapter on respiratory management by De Vito and Suarez provides state of the art information and is referenced with classic and current literature citations. The role of physical therapy, speech-swallowing therapy, assisted communication, psychological support and patient organizations and support groups are well-summarized and presented in an up-to-date and useful fashion. Pharmacological treatment and potential neuroprotective treatment approaches as currently understood are summarized well.

Benjamin Rix Brooks

Director, ALS Clinical Research Center
University of Wisconsin
Madison, WI, USA

Non-Epileptic Seizures

Editors: John R. Gates, A. James Rowan
ISBN: 0-7506-7026-6
No. of pages: 323
Price: Not known
Publication date: 2000
Publisher: Butterworth-Heinemann

This book is the outcome of two major conferences on non-epileptic seizures held in 1990 and 1996. These meetings brought together experts from neurology, psychiatry and neuropsychology to develop a consensus perspective on this group of complex disorders. The first part deals with epidemiology and diagnosis of non-epileptic seizures both in children and

adults. The differential diagnosis of various paroxysmal neurologic events, which may mimic an epileptic seizure, is well discussed. It is followed by psychological and neuropsychological evaluation of the patients with non-epileptic seizures. There is good comparison of patients with epilepsy and non-epileptic seizures for neuropsychological performance, cognition and quality of life. The assessment and treatment of non-epileptic seizures in children is deliberated in the third part. It includes uncommon conditions of Munchausen syndrome by proxy and Svengali syndrome. The last part highlights psychiatric aspects of patients with non-epileptic seizures. There is an alternate proposal for nosology and differential diagnosis. It summarizes the treatment of an adult patient. This book represents a synthesis of current knowledge of non-epileptic seizures from multiple disciplines. It will be of great interest to psychiatrists, neuropsychologists and neurologists involved in the care of epileptics.

Assistant Editor

CALENDAR

* = Meeting endorsed by the Continuing Education Committee of the WFN

2002

* Advanced Approaches in Parkinson's Disease

25-27 February 2002 (provisional)
Havana, Cuba.
Contact: c/o Dr Melvin Yahr, Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York
Fax: +1 (212) 534 -3163

54th Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Neurology

13-20 April 2002
Denver, CO, USA
Contact: c/o American Academy of Neurology, Mrs. Judy Larson
Tel +1 612 623 8115
Fax +1 612 623 3504
<http://www.aan.com>

* 1st Mediterranean Congress of Neurology

26-28 April 2002
Limassol, Cyprus
Contact: Congresswise Ltd., PO Box 57468, 3022 Limassol, Cyprus
Tel: +357 5 749919
Fax: +357 5 749744
E-mail: congress@congresswise.com

6th Congress of the European Society for Clinical Neuropharmacology

14-18 May 2002
Budapest, Hungary
Contact: Prof. Dr. László Vecsei, Department of Neurology, Szent-Györgyi Uni-

versity Medical School, P.O. Box 397,
H-6701 Szeged, Hungary
Tel.: +36 62 455 597
Fax: +36 62 455 597
E-mail: vecsei@nepsy.szote.u-szeged.hu

11th European Stroke Conference

29 May - 1 June 2002
Centre International de Conférences,
Geneva, Switzerland
Contact: MCI Congress, Rue de Lyon
75, 1211 Geneva 13, Switzerland
Tel.: (41-22) 33 99 624
Fax: (44-22) 33 99 621
E-mail: esc@mci-group.com
<http://www.mci-group.com>

6th European Headache Congress

26-30 June 2002
Istanbul, Turkey
Contact: Flaptour, Cinnah Caddesi No.
42, 06690 Çankaya, Ankara, Turkey
Tel.: 90- 312 442 07 00
Fax: 90 - 312 440 77 99
E-mail: flaptour@6thehf.org

Annual Meeting of the American Association of Neurophysiologists

19-24 June 2002
Denver, CO, USA
Contact: Dr. Joseph Parisi
Tel.: +1 507-284-3394
Fax: +1 507-284-1599
E-Mail: aanp@mayo.edu

Xth International Congress of Neuromuscular Diseases

7-12 July 2002
Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Contact: Congress Secretariat, #645 -
375 Water Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada
V6B 5C6
Tel.: +1 (604) 681-5226
Fax: +1 (604) 681-2503
E-mail: congress@venuewest.com

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